

LARGER COUNCILS COMMITTEE DIRECT ELECTION NOMINATION FORM

Title	Mrs
First name	Jennifer
Surname	Childs
County association	Kent
Council name	Folkestone Town Council
Precept	873,950
Electorate	34925

Which seat on Larger councils' committee are you applying for (please mark appropriate box)	
Elected Clerk (4 seats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Super councils' network (2 seats)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elected councillor (8 seats)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Explain why you are standing for this committee (250 words max)
<p>I am passionate about the role our tier plays in contributing to the improvement of quality of life of our residents but often feel we are the forgotten tier of local government and our contribution is not taken seriously, this has been particularly evident since the pandemic began.</p> <p>I am committed to supporting local councils reach their full potential and bench making success, and I am often called upon by my peers to provide support and share good practice and would like the opportunity to highlight the important work of our tier at national level.</p>

Please outline three key achievements, skills or experiences that are relevant to the position applied for (250 words max each)
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I am a qualified clerk with over 12 years' experience holding CiLCA, Community Governance and currently studying an MA in Public Leadership & Management. I am a fellow of the Society of Local Council Clerks.

I have taken a newly formed town council from rented rooms through to ownership of the town hall and secured over £3m of funding for the community including developing a new museum, delivering large scale events, installing public realm CCTV and devolution of multiple assets including 8 parks.

I have led my council to be a twice qualified quality gold council and supported others in their quest to become qualified and I sit on NALC's award panel.

Declaration	
I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information given on this form is correct and can be copied and distributed to other NALC members.	
Signature	
Date	22/09/21

LARGER COUNCILS COMMITTEE DIRECT ELECTION NOMINATION FORM

Title	Mr
First name	Carl
Surname	Hearn
County association	DEVON
Council name	Tavistock Town Council
Precept	£800,326.00
Electorate	10,000

Which seat on Larger councils' committee are you applying for (please mark appropriate box)	
Elected Clerk (4 seats)	x
Super councils' network (2 seats)	
Elected councillor (8 seats)	

Explain why you are standing for this committee (250 words max)
<p>I have served for the past two years on the NALC Larger Councils' Committee, attended regularly and actively participated. If re-elected I would welcome the opportunity to see through some of the initiatives I have been involved with. That includes championing the sector to stakeholders (including for changes to enable funding directly from Government to local Councils), whilst making the case for the sector as public sector partner, place shaper and service provider. Also the provision of up to date support and tools to larger Councils, their Councillors and staff, to help improve performance and grow capacity to best support and represent our communities.</p>

In my tenth year with Tavistock Town Council I currently serve as Chairman of the Devon Branch of the SLCC, and Vice-Chairman of the SLCC National Forum. I am an active contributor to our County Association Larger Councils' Committee and have in the past served on a NALC County Association Executive Committee. With experience in management and governance at all tiers - town, district, county and unitary I have successfully contributed to, and led on, local, regional and national projects in local Government at each level. My career has been characterised by partnership working in roles associated with governance and probity in local Government. I would welcome the opportunity to continue to work with, and on behalf of, larger Councils to help NALC develop and promote its offer of support to larger Councils in these times of opportunity and change. Thank you for considering my application.

Please outline three key achievements, skills or experiences that are relevant to the position applied for (250 words max each)

Through membership of the Larger Councils' Committee promoting and supporting measures to improve performance management in the sector, such as peer review for those larger Councils that wish to take it forward. This is an initiative which was progressing well prior to Coronavirus, and one I would very much like to see through. Not least, as the ability to demonstrate good performance (relevant, economic, efficient and effective services) - both to our communities and stakeholders, becomes increasingly relevant to organisational and sector credibility as an ever growing range of services are devolved to and/or taken on by larger local Councils.

Serving as Project Lead and steering group chairman, working with the business and heritage communities using the General Power of Competence to successfully deliver a five year third party town centre regeneration grant scheme (£2.2m before additional landowner contributions). Delivered to plan and to budget for the improvement of commercial and public realm assets in the town. The first and only Town/Parish Council to partner successfully with the National Lottery Heritage Fund to deliver such a scheme using the GPC in the role of accountable body.

Serving as the local Council sector representative working with the County Council to design and develop a successful bid into the Delivering Differently programme of the Ministry of Justice/Department of Communities and Local Government (prior to the departmental name change) for £100,000. A Government funded initiative to identify national good practice on how Councils and their communities could become best placed to deal with the impact of localism and public service cuts and participating in the design of the County locality offer.

LARGER COUNCILS COMMITTEE DIRECT ELECTION NOMINATION FORM

Title	Mrs
First name	Shar
Surname	Roselman
County association	Bucks and Milton Keynes ALC
Council name	Newport Pagnell Town Council
Precept	£953,996
Electorate	18,124

Which seat on Larger councils' committee are you applying for (please mark appropriate box)	
Elected Clerk (4 seats)	✓
Super councils' network (2 seats)	
Elected councillor (8 seats)	

Explain why you are standing for this committee (250 words max)

As a councillor for 9 years, and a Town Clerk for 15 years, I've managed a staff as large as 60 personnel and have previously sat on the NALC Larger Council's Committee. I've written the 'NALC Procurement toolkit' and 'A practical guide to devolution', which are available on the NALC website and I've worked with NALC to open up the Best Practice Visits to all Councils.

I've undertaken huge tenders such as one for leisure services, valued at £1,340,000 p.a. Assets worth £13.7M have been transferred from our principal authority so I've written business plans, legal clauses, leases, licences, and undertaken cash flow analyses and latent demand surveys.

I've given presentations on risk analysis and risk profiling at conferences, run financial risk management courses and been the internal auditor for smaller councils.

The Newport Pagnell Neighbourhood Plan received national recognition. Now we're ahead of the curve in developing our third Neighbourhood Plan based on the High Street– timely, given changes to planning legislation, use classes and more permitted development rights.

But of far more importance is what I can do to help your parish if I sit on the NALC LCC. My commitment to you is:

1. To support NALC in making representations on the Local Government Financial Settlement to avoid parish precept 'capping' and to lobby for grant funding opportunities to be opened up to parishes.
2. To work towards getting stronger support, recognition and legal binding for Neighbourhood Plans.
3. To help parishes with problems for which there is no stock answer.
4. To always be available to you.

I would be very grateful if you felt you could vote for me as your representative.

Please outline three key achievements, skills or experiences that are relevant to the position applied for (250 words max each)

I have had to develop significant marketing and persuasion skills, because these days town councils are not only about providing services, but also about promoting those services to ensure income as well as making the Council's vision and values clear using a variety of social media tools. This has been particularly challenging during Covid-19, when millions of pounds of income ceased to exist, the Government issued edicts that contractors must be paid, but Government grants were issued to principal authorities and not to parishes. My velvet-lined boxing gloves have made regular appearances and I believe that NALC can play an important role in lobbying Government officials to change their mindset that parishes cannot receive grant funding. We've lost out on funding for parks, play areas, town centres, leisure, sports and so much more.

Capex, project management, health and safety, CDM, property maintenance and life cycle planning are all necessary skills when managing an extensive property portfolio. It is important that NALC understands the daily challenges being faced by councils, such as those caused by Brexit and Covid combining to increase construction costs by over 10% in just the last 8 months. I see my role at the NALC LCC as one of sharing the difficulties parish councils are facing with NALC, so that the main initiatives and activities of NALC coincide with the evolving needs of their membership.

Excellent knowledge of finance is critical to any Town Clerk, and especially in larger councils. Financial regulations are only part of the job, and these days risk analysis is equally important. Larger councils need officials working for them who can truly meet the challenge of being managing directors of medium sized businesses, particularly with the scope of services increasing through devolution. For example, parish councils now provide youth services, services for the

elderly, food banks for the hungry, clubs and activities for the lonely, they meet social needs particularly in deprived area, and form the backbone of the community. They undertake carbon-footprint analysis on their businesses and create pressure on communities to move forward towards a greener agenda. NALC can and does play an important role in sharing this vast experience between its membership. I have and would continue to work with NALC to help to share such expertise and in helping parishes to understand the costs and other implications of the strategic choices they take in setting their own vision.

Declaration	
I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information given on this form is correct and can be copied and distributed to other NALC members.	
Signature	<i>Shar Roselman</i>
Date	15 09 21

LARGER COUNCILS COMMITTEE DIRECT ELECTION NOMINATION FORM

Title	Chief Executive
First name	Mark
Surname	Smith
County association	Wiltshire
Council name	Chippenham Town Council
Precept	£3,406,852
Electorate	27,930

Which seat on Larger councils' committee are you applying for (please mark appropriate box)	
Elected Clerk (4 seats)	x
Super councils' network (2 seats)	
Elected councillor (8 seats)	

Explain why you are standing for this committee (250 words max)

I would be delighted to serve another term as one of the 'Clerk' representatives on the NALC Larger Councils Committee, representing the Clerks from the largest councils in the country. I have over forty years' experience, working in County Unitary, Unitary, Metropolitan Borough, County and District Council settings, and for the last four years I have been immersed in the parish sector at Chippenham Town Council. I'm passionate about making things better for our residents and communities, through the provision of efficient and effective local services. My early formative years were spent as a local authority manual worker in a frontline delivery setting and progressing through the ranks up to Deputy Chief Executive at a district council. Following this I held a dual Director role with Wiltshire County Council and Kennet District Council, whilst helping to form Wiltshire Unitary Council in 2009 as a member of the One Council for Wiltshire Programme Board. I then spent four years at Wiltshire Council as Director of Neighbourhood Services.

After working at Wiltshire Council, I spent two years working through my own consultancy company, working for a wide range of private and public sector clients as a Project Manager and Interim Director. I'm an accredited Peer Review 'Officer Peer' with the LGA and have taken part in numerous Peer Reviews. Immediately prior to joining Chippenham Town Council, I worked at Reading Borough Council with responsibility for Transport, Highways, Waste & Streetscene, with Capital programme responsibility of c£35M and revenue responsibility of c£20M per annum.

I commenced in my current role as Chief Executive at Chippenham Town Council May 2017. I'm proud of several major achievements, including the transfer of significant assets from Wiltshire Council to the town council in 2019. Since then, I have helped many town councils who are considering embarking on a similar journey and several large principal councils who have plans to pass services and assets to towns and parishes. During 2018 I led on the development of the first ever Peer Challenge Review in the sector, bringing the LGA & NALC around the table to make it happen. I continue to believe that towns and parishes, particularly larger councils have a unique role in serving our residents and communities at a local level. Chippenham Town Council has a precept of £3.2M and gross revenue budget of over £4M and an increasing population that shall reach over 50,000 by 2026.

The parish and town sector is a broad church, I therefore consider that it is important that the Larger Council Committee represents the interests of those larger councils, some of whom are approaching the equivalent scale of small district councils in terms of budget, population, and scale of operation. My observation is that in a sector of over 10,000 councils, the larger councils are on the periphery of NALC's interest, that is why it important that we are represented effectively at the Larger Councils Committee.

I'm keen to see the National Agreement on Salaries and Conditions of Service of Local Council Clerks reviewed and the artificially suppressed ceiling at SCP 62 removed. The agreement was last reviewed in 2004 and is reminiscent of a time long gone and is clearly not reflective of the current post unitary environment that most of us now operate in, managing multi-million pound organisations, with up to a hundred staff, and organisations that have more in common with district and borough councils rather than average parish council (*I stress that this is not for my own personal benefit, my role has recently been subject to an independent positive JE review*).

If I am elected as a committee member for a second term by my peers, I shall do all possible to ensure that the larger town and parish councils and importantly the Clerks at those larger councils have a voice and are heard. I shall do all possible to ensure that NALC are an effective voice for our sector and in particular the larger town and parish councils and become more effective at lobbying government for parity with regard to grant funding. We also need effective sanctions against dysfunctional councillors, who bully and harass officers on a regular basis. NALC really do need to step up to the plate on these issues, I shall force debate about these matters at the Larger Councils Committee.

Please outline three key achievements, skills or experiences that are relevant to the position applied for (250 words max each)

Broad Experience - I believe that my broad experience at a senior level in local government including the last four in the parish sector will continue be particularly relevant to the work of the committee. I remain well connected to bodies such as the LGA and Government departments and understand the tension, pressures and drivers within local government and the wider public sector. My honours degree at law provides me with a firm grasp of the legal aspects affecting our sector, with the ability to provide advice and guidance to the larger councils committee, when required.

Change Management – I have a firm grasp of the issues with regard to legislative and structural change, I was a member of the ‘One Council for Wiltshire’ Programme Board and worked directly with the Implementation Board to help to create a brand-new county unitary council in 2009. I had responsibility for the Frontline Workstream and lead over 1000 staff through a transition programme and the next four years leading the transformation of frontline services. Whilst at Reading Borough Council, I merged three departments into one and delivered £5M of savings and efficiencies over a two-year period. I believe that is fair to say that on a whole range of measures, I have through my leadership of the council’s c80 staff transformed Chippenham Town Council into one of the most successful high achieving councils in the parish sector.

Working with Stakeholders and Partners – I have long held the belief, that local government in all of its forms can’t work in isolation, we increasingly have to work in collaboration with our partners and stakeholders to ensure the best outcomes possible for our residents and communities. Throughout my career, I have worked tirelessly to develop a reputation as someone that partners want to engage with and work collaboratively. Since taking up my role at Chippenham Town Council, I have developed meaningful working relationships with a wide range of partners and stakeholders, I have provided mentoring and coaching to Clerks in other councils and provided advice and support to countless other town councils and principal councils across the country.