

# QUIZ

Q1: According to the 2011 Census of England and Wales, what percentage of people are classified as white British?

Q2: Councillors from an ethnic minority accounted for what percentage of councillors in LGA's Councillor Census in 2013?

Q3: According to the LGA's Councillor Census in 2013, what percentage were female?

Q4: In 1997 the average age of councillors was 55, but what was it in 2013?

# QUIZ

Q5: 17 candidates stood for election for 12 seats on London's first ever local council in 2014 at Queen's Park. How many were female? And how many were elected??

Q6: Workington town Cllr Andrew Lawson was recently elected to the Larger Councils Committee, but how old is he?

Q7. According to the Councillor Commission 2016 survey what percentage of parish and town councillors are aged under 45?

Q8. According to the Councillor Commission 2016 survey what percentage of parish and town councillors classified their employment status as retired?





# WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

- Feedback from our councils and councillors
- NALC Strategic plan agreed at AGM in October 2016
- Priority 3G ‘Establish diversity commission to look at representation in sector and within NALC’
- Action 3(7) Diversity Commission and review of NALC governance
- Support stronger local democracy manifesto objective of encouraging more people to become councillors

# **DIVERSITY COMMISSION MEMBERS**

- Cllr Sue Baxter, NALC (chairman)
- Andrew Fazeley, Fawcett Society
- Katie Fielding, Wiltshire Association of Local Councils
- Helen Keen, Local Government Association
- Cllr Angela Singhate, Queen's Park Community Council





# PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Undertake an assessment of the diversity of local councillors in relation to their age, gender, ethnicity, disability and sexual orientation
- Explore the diversity of local councillors involved in the governance of county associations and NALC
- Consider the challenges and work done by other organisations including the Local Government Information Unit/Fawcett Society, Magistrates Association, LGA and Councillor Commission to tackling diversity
- Make recommendations for the actions, including policy and legislative changes, needed to address the Commission's findings



# FIRST MEETING HEADLINES

- Underlying principles: diversity is a good thing, is a statutory requirement, makes business sense and representativeness really matters – about being representative of a place not the whole country
- Needs buy-in from sector and councillors: using events, publications, role models, social media, newsletters and bulletins – telling powerful and impactful stories and going beyond just engaging the usual suspects
- Information and research: on positives of diversity, barriers, baseline of what our councillors look like, draw on other studies, refresh and develop new tools and resources

# **WORK PROGRAMME AND TIMESCALES**

First meeting of Diversity Commission: March 2017

Research phase: April 2017 – October 2017

Interim report: NALC annual conference October 2017

Develop new tools and resources: October 2017 onwards

Final report: NALC annual conference October 2018

Local elections: May 2019

Evaluation and reflection: May 2019 – December 2019

# HELP US & GET INVOLVED

- Reflections on project objectives, timescale and issues so far?
- Tell us what you need to help you promote and increase diversity in your local council or county association
- Support our research by sharing information, experiences and responding to calls for evidence, act as sounding board & pilot Councillor Census survey
- Be ambassadors and champions for local council councillors!
- Get in touch at [diversitycommission@nalc.gov.uk](mailto:diversitycommission@nalc.gov.uk)

“The Diversity Commission is not a solution for tomorrow, but a solution over time.”

- Cllr Sue Baxter, chairman of NALC’s Diversity Commission

## QUIZ ANSWERS

Q1: White was the majority ethnic group at 48.2 million, 86%, within this ethnic group, with White British the largest group at 45.1 million, 80.5%.

Q2: 96% of councillors were white and just 4% came from an ethnic minority background.

Q3: 67% of councillors were male, 32% were female. The proportion of female councillors has increased from 29% in 2001.

Q4: In 2013 the average age had increased to 60.

# QUIZ ANSWERS

Q5: 11 and 7

Q6: Andrew is 25!

Q7: Only 4% of parish and town councillors are aged under 45

Q8: 43% of parish and town councillors classified their employment status as retired