



27 March 2024

Dear Kate Elliot-Turner
Ivybridge Town Council
Town Hall
Erme Court
Leonards Road
Ivybridge
Devon
PL21 0SZ

MEMBERSHIP TO THE DEVON ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS 2024/25

The Devon Association of Local Councils Ltd is a not-for-profit membership organisation, supporting and representing the interests of local (parish and town) councils in Devon. There are over 360 parishes in Devon which represent approximately 540,000 electors. We are proud to have over 95% of local councils in our membership in 2023/24, including yourselves, and we look forward to your continued membership in the year ahead.

Local councils are the tier of government closest to our communities, providing a democratically accountable voice, along with structure and leadership to deliver local services and champion what matters to local people.

The purpose of DALC is to empower and support local councils in Devon to serve their communities effectively, promoting good governance, community engagement and partnership working. Through our services, we aim to strengthen the capacity and impact of local councils. We do this through a range of services including:

- **Up-to-date advice and guidance** by email and phone through our dedicated and highly experienced team, with access to further finance, HR and general legal advice via the National Association of Local Councils (NALC).
- **Regular updates and information** on local government matters via our website and weekly e-bulletins. Including access to legal briefings, publications, and toolkits on a wide range of topics.
- **Training and development** for councillors and clerks to grow their knowledge and skills, including support for achieving the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CILCA). We also support the improvement and development of councils via the Local Council Award Scheme.
- **Opportunities to engage** with DALC, and other councils, to influence and leverage our collective voice to represent the sector to stakeholders and partners, advocating for topics, change, and/or initiatives that address local needs and priorities.
- Access to, and influence over, a national family of county associations and a national body, working together with a **strong voice raising the profile of local councils** to vocalise and progress matters of interest to our sector.
- **Being part of an organisation of mutually supportive councils**, able to help one another, share issues and inspire each other, with regular opportunities to network and discuss topics of interest locally, and nationally (via NALC's network groups).

Full details of our services to member councils can be viewed in our [Member Service Level Agreement](#).

How to renew your membership for 2024/25

Your membership fee for 2024/25 will be £1,643.00. An invoice for this fee will be sent separately and can be expected in early April. **Please do not pay your fee until you have received the invoice.** *Please note that invoices will still be generated for those paying via their district council (only applicable to Mid Devon and Teignbridge areas) but will be marked as paid once the district payment is received.*

To confirm your membership for the coming year, please complete our [membership renewal form](#) to update your council's details and confirm method of payment.

It will be helpful to us if you could **return this form by Friday 31 May 2024** to confirm that you would like to continue your membership. Please note, if this form and payment has not been received by 31 July 2024 your membership will automatically cease and you will no longer be able to access our services.

Ways to get involved with DALC in 2024/25

- [Sign up for our e-bulletins/register for our website](#) – available to both councillors and officers so you can keep informed on matters effecting local government, as well as news, events and surveys.
- [Share stories of your activities](#) with us so we can celebrate the incredible work of local councils.
- Respond to our consultations, surveys and polls, to assist DALC in being a strong representative voice for local councils in Devon.
- [Book onto our training courses](#) and continue your personal/professional development.
- [Help shape DALC's governance](#). Attend our AGM and use your vote, or consider nominating someone for the Board of Directors to be part of the strategic management of DALC.

Take part in our Annual Survey 2024

To support Devon's 400+ parishes, it is important that we understand our members, keep abreast of current trends, and identify any areas of support our members may need for the year ahead.

Please can you spare 10 mins to [complete our annual survey](#) and help us capture useful information about your council, and your thoughts on DALC's services.

If you have any queries about the contents of this letter, please call 01392 241131 or email enquiries@devonalc.org.uk

Kind regards



Cara Stobart, County Officer

Devon Association of Local Councils Ltd

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