Will I receive any form of training?
Initial training will be available to all Councillors and a range of activities will be made available throughout each year

Training includes basic functions of the Council, Councillor skills, Local Government and current major issues to help you fulfil your duties as a Councillor

Will I receive any other support?
Tavistock Town Council staff are committed to help you to fulfil your duties. The Clerk and his team will be pleased to help you and answer your questions

WHICH COUNCIL DOES WHAT?
Tavistock Town Council services include markets, Town Hall, play & recreation areas, allotments, burials, commercial and residential properties and responsibility for areas of the public and natural realms.
West Devon Borough Council delivers social housing, environmental health, planning, economic development, (most) car parks, Council Tax, elections, revenues & benefits, street cleaning & waste collection.
Devon County Council delivers education, social services, transport, highways (including on-street parking), waste disposal, libraries & trading standards.

WHAT DO I DO NEXT?
All Tavistock Town Council seats are up for election on 6th May 2027.

This offers you an opportunity to stand as a representative of your community. The election process begins on TBC, 2027, when the official Notice of Election is published.

You will need to submit nomination papers to the Borough Council by 4pm on date TBC. For more information on the election process or to order a nomination pack, please contact the West Devon Borough Council Electoral Services.

ELECTORAL SERVICES
West Devon Borough Council, Kilworthy Park
Tavistock, Devon PL19 0DZ Tel: 01822 813665 Email: elections@swdevon.gov.uk

COME AND MEET US...
Tavistock Town Council will be holding an information evening in the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock. This will give an outline of the role of a Councillor, including how the Council operates, together with an opportunity to ask questions.

We look forward to meeting you then. To find out more about Tavistock Town Council and existing Councillors you can also visit our website; www.tavistock.gov.uk

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE COUNCIL OR BEING A COUNCILLOR?
To come to our information evening on Tuesday 2nd February 2027 at 7pm, call the Office and Finance Manager, Adele Cassidy, on 01822 613529.

Tavistock Town Council
Drake Road
Tavistock
Devon
PL19 0AU

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Tavistock Town Council
Working for the local community

COUNCILLORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



www.tavistock.gov.uk

COUNCILLORS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Could you be one of 17 Town Councillors who will be elected in May 2027 to take a lead in providing local services for Tavistock?

To find out more come along to our Information Evening at:

Town Council Chamber
Drake Road, Tavistock PL19 0AU at
7pm on Tuesday 2nd February 2027.
To arrange to attend call the Office & Finance Manager, Adele Cassidy on 01822 613529.

A COUNCILLOR...WHO ME?

To be a local Councillor, you must be at least 18 and a UK, Commonwealth or EU Citizen, and live and/or work in the Parish of Tavistock. If you are unsure of your eligibility, please contact the
Elections Office at West Devon Borough Council.

WHY WOULD I WANT TO BE A COUNCILLOR?

People stand for election for many reasons;
work there.



To speak on behalf of the local community and help local people

To contribute business or professional skills to public life

To play a role in shaping the future of their local community

Councillors play a vital role in shaping and directing local services for the benefit of local people. They work with the Police, Health and other public bodies, representatives of organisations and the private sector.

The position of Councillor is central to our local communities. Councillors act as the democratic voice of local people and ensure that local services meet local needs.

WHAT'S INVOLVED IN BEING A COUNCILLOR?

The role of a Councillor can be varied and rewarding. The main areas of responsibility are:

- Representing the people in your area
- Community leadership
- Influencing the way local services are delivered
- Formulating local policies
- Attending Meetings of the full Council every 4/6 weeks. You may also choose to serve on one or more of the Council's Committees, such as
- Budget & Policy or the Development
- Management & Licensing Committees, or
- Consultative or Working Groups.

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

What would my time commitments be?

It will depend on the extent of your involvement and what role you take on the Council. The length of most Meetings is under two hours. You are likely to be required to deal with constituents' queries at home.

Can I afford it?

The Council has an allowance scheme for all elected Members which will be subject to review periodically. All Councillors receive a basic allowance, currently £1,074 per year (under review).

In addition the Mayor, by virtue of their special responsibilities, receives an additional allowance.

Will it affect any benefits I receive?

The situation regarding benefits can be complicated, so you are advised to seek the guidance of your local Benefits Office if in doubt.

Do I have to be a member of a political group?

No, Councillors need not be identified with a political group, although some choose to be.

Where and when do meetings take place?

Most formal meetings of the Council and its Committees take place in the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock. Meetings are held at various times but generally begin at 6.30pm on a Tuesday evening.

What initial help will be given?

There will be an induction programme to help you understand the Council's services and priorities, and the aims and challenges we face. Detailed advice will be provided to newly elected Councillors about sources of information and how they can be accessed.

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