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**Essex County Council**

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**INSERT YOUR  
COUNCIL LOGO HERE**

Working together for increased Democracy

**Essex Association of Local Councils**

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**LOCAL  
ELECTIONS 2019** 

**Town, Parish, Village & Community Councils**

**TIME TO MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE?**



**Do Councillors need  
special skills to  
stand for election?**

## TO BE A COUNCILLOR YOU NEED TO:

- Care about getting the best for your Community
- Have a willingness to represent your electorate.
- Want to make a difference
- Undertake training courses
- Adhere to the Code of Conduct
- Register your interests
- Have the time
- Be committed and enthusiastic

### The Code of Conduct

#### **You must:**

- Promote equality by not discriminating unlawfully against any person
- Treat others with respect
- Ensure you do not use the Authority's resources for political purposes unless it is part of the functions of either the Authority or your elected office

#### **You must not:**

- Compromise the impartiality of anyone who works for, or on behalf of, the Authority
- Disclose confidential information without valid consent
- Prevent anyone getting information they are entitled to
- Bring your Office or Authority into disrepute at any time
- Use your position improperly to advantage or disadvantage yourself or anyone else

## TIME TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Town, Village, Community and Parish Councillors are an essential element of the 'Big Society', and have a long tradition of promoting a sense of pride in the local community

This role should be further enhanced by the national government initiative to modernise local government, making it more accountable to the community it serves

#### **How much time does it take?**

Quite often Councillors say that their duties occupy them for about three hours per week. Some Councillors spend more time than this and others less, it depends on their level of involvement

#### **Training**

Training can open Councillors eyes to new possibilities, and it is essential that they undertake training to fully partake in their role. A wide range of training for Councillors is available through the EALC

- Roles & Responsibilities
- Law & Procedures
- Planning
- Council Finance
- Budget & Precept
- Employment Issues
- Chairman/Councillor Training