

Part 2 - Article 1 (County Councillors)

Composition and eligibility

(a) Composition: The Council comprises 84 Members who are elected, as County Councillors, by the voters of each of the 84 electoral divisions in Lancashire. Appendix 'G' lists the details of the County Councillors and the Electoral Division each represents.

(b) Eligibility: There are rules about eligibility which must be met before a person can stand for election. Information can be found on the Council's website www.lancashire.gov.uk or by writing to the Director of Corporate Services at PO Box 78, County Hall, Preston, PR1 8XJ.

Elections and Term of Office

Elections to the Council are normally held on the first Thursday in May every four years.

County Councillors' terms of office will start on the fourth day after being elected and will finish on the fourth day after the date of the next election.

A by-election will be held to fill a vacancy which occurs between elections.

Role of County Councillors

All County Councillors will:

1. collectively through the Full Council approve the Constitution, the Budget, Council Tax levels and Policy Frameworks and carry out a number of strategic and corporate management functions;
2. be involved in decision-making by participating in Council Committees;
3. represent their communities and bring their views into the Council's decision-making process, i.e. become the advocate of and for their communities;
4. deal with local issues and act as an advocate for constituents in resolving particular concerns or grievances;
5. balance different interests identified within the electoral division and represent the electoral division as a whole; and
6. be available to represent the Council on other bodies.

County Councillors' Rights and Duties

1. County Councillors will have such rights of access to such documents, information, land and buildings of the Council as are necessary for the proper discharge of their functions and in accordance with the law.
2. County Councillors will not make public information which is confidential or exempt without the consent of the Council or divulge information given in confidence to anyone other than a Councillor or officer entitled to know it.
3. For these purposes, "confidential" and "exempt" information are defined in the Access to Information Procedure Rules set out in Appendix 'H' of this Constitution.

Conduct

County Councillors and voting Co-optees will at all times maintain the highest standards of conduct and ethics and observe all relevant Codes of Conduct and Protocols. County Councillors and voting Co-optees must have regard to the ten principles governing the conduct of members of local authorities

The County Councillors' Code of Conduct is set out in Appendix 'E' of this Constitution and a protocol on County Councillor/Officer relations is included at Appendix 'L'.

The Council has also established a protocol for County Councillors and Co-optees on Language and Behaviour (Appendix 'M') and a protocol of Good Practice on Development Control matters (Appendix 'N').

Allowances

County Councillors will be entitled to receive allowances in accordance with the Members' Allowances Scheme set out in Appendix 'I' of this Constitution.

Register of Interests

The Council maintains a register of financial and other Interests of County Councillors in accordance with Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2000.

The Register is open to inspection at the offices of the Chief Executive, (Democratic Services), County Hall, Preston, PR1 8XJ. Details of individual councillor declarations are available on each councillor's [webpage](#).