

Application for NALC Local Council Award Scheme – Bronze Award

Purpose:

To agree that Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council formally begins the process of applying for the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) Local Council Award Scheme, starting with the Bronze Award.

Background:

The NALC Local Council Award Scheme is designed to celebrate the achievements of local councils and provide a framework for continuous improvement. Achieving an award demonstrates that a council meets the standards set by the sector, is well-run, and actively seeks to improve.

As we mark over 17 years since the council was established in 2008 and create a new corporate plan, this is a timely opportunity to recognise the journey we have been on – from our initial formation through to becoming a confident, active and community-focused council. The Bronze Award application will serve both as a benchmark of our current good practice and as a platform from which we can pursue Silver and Gold in future phases.

It is also an opportunity to publicly thank and acknowledge the dedication of our staff team, whose professional and consistent work underpins our success.

Recommendation:

That the council resolves to begin the application process for the NALC Bronze Local Council Award, with a view to working towards achieving Gold status over time.

Cost and Timeline:

As a member of the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council will pay a registration fee of £50 (excluding VAT) to begin the Local Council Award Scheme application process.

Based on our annual income being over £25,000, the assessment (accreditation) fee for the Bronze Award will be £80 (excluding VAT), bringing the total cost to **£130** (excluding VAT).

There will also be a modest requirement for officer time to collate the necessary documentation and ensure our website and governance policies meet the criteria. Given we are updating our website this is a timely project. However, the majority of the required evidence is already in place. The timeline allows sufficient capacity to complete this work without significant disruption.

It is proposed that the council prepares its submission during the autumn of 2025, in order to be assessed in the next available window in January–February 2026.

Cllr Andrew Garratt

Cllr Stephen Rushbrook