

CAPALC Report Annual Parish Meeting May 2023

Councillor Ann Muston (CAPALC Liaison)

The CAPALC Help Desk continues to be used to clarify procedure and advice as we update our policies and procedures. Our Clerk, Yvonne Murray made many documents available to GPC via our SharePoint and we are grateful to her for guidance in matters where we are unfamiliar with protocol.

As a Council, we are much more aware of what is expected of us. Training has been arranged for Saturday 10 June for all Councillors. The work that has been done during the last year and into this is to enable GPC to achieve the Foundation Level of the Local Council Award Scheme. It is our aim to reach the Gold Award within the lifetime of this Council.

Foundation Award

The Foundation award is for councils who want to show they meet a set of minimum standards to deliver effectively for their communities. To meet this award the council demonstrates that it has the required documentation and information in place for operating lawfully and according to standard practice. The council also has policies for training for its councillors and officers and so has the foundations for improvement and development in place.

The Foundation award allows you to benchmark your performance as well as challenge you to consider your council's continuing development and improvement.



Quality Award

The Quality Award demonstrates that a council achieves good practices in governance, community engagement and council improvement. Quality councils go above and beyond their legal obligations, leading their communities and continuously seeking opportunities to improve and develop even further.

To achieve the Quality Award a council demonstrates that it meets all requirements of the Foundation Award and has additional evidence of good governance, effective community engagement and council improvement. Due to the level of this achievement, a council with a Quality Award can also be eligible to use the general power of competence.



Quality Gold Award

The Quality Gold Award demonstrates that a council is at the forefront of best practice and achieves excellence in governance, community leadership and council development. Quality Gold councils provide leadership for their communities, bring people together, have excellent business planning processes, ensuring value for money as well as constantly seek new innovations and opportunities to improve. They highlight the very best we, as a sector, can achieve for our communities.



15 May 2023