Council Candidate Application Form

Application for inclusion on the list of approved candidates for local council elections (including Town, Parish, District and County Councils) within Hitchin & Harpenden constituency.

 Your details

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** **Forename** **Surname****Telephone****Mobile** | **Email****Address****Postcode** |
|  |  |

**1. Are you currently a member of the Conservative Party?**

(please tick as appropriate)

 **[ ]  YES**

 **[ ]  NO**

**Association/Branch:**

**2. Current occupation and place of employment:**

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**3. Previous employment (in the last five years):**

**4. Is there any reason why your occupation should negatively impact on your ability to serve as a councillor?**

**5. Please indicate whether you meet each of the following eligibility requirements:**

(please tick as appropriate)

A.  I am a British citizen, or qualifying Commonwealth citizen, or a citizen of the European Union and resident in the United Kingdom:

**[ ]  YES**

**[ ]  NO**

B.  I will be 18 years or over on the day of nomination:

 **[ ]  YES**

 **[ ]  NO**

 C. I am on the electoral register for the council area in which I am seeking election;

 **OR**

I have lived or worked in the council area for at least the last twelve months:

 **[ ]  YES**

 **[ ]  NO**

**6. Please indicate if any of the following apply to you: (please note you will not be able to stand for election if you answer yes to any of the following questions)**

 (please tick as appropriate)

A. Do you hold a paid office or employment made or confirmed by the council you wish to stand for?

 **[ ]  YES**

 **[ ]  NO**

B.  Are you the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order?

 **[ ]  YES**

 **[ ]  NO**

C.  Have you been convicted of a criminal offence and sentenced to not less than three months imprisonment (including a suspended sentence) in the last five years?

 **[ ]  YES**

 **[ ]  NO**

**Please note:** you may also be disqualified from holding office, by order of the court, if you have incurred illegal expenditure (when acting as a councillor) of over £2,000 and if you have been found guilty of corrupt or illegal practices under the Representation of the People Act (1983) or the Audit Commission Act (1998).

D.  Would you be affected by any of the above restrictions?

 **[ ]  YES**

 **[ ]  NO**

**7. Do you disagree with any Conservative policies either nationally or locally, and if so, which?**

**8. Have you ever been a member of another political party/group? If so, please give details.**

**9. Please detail any offices you have held or currently hold within the Conservative Party:**

**10. Have you previously stood as a candidate in a public election (in this or any other area and at any level)? If so, please give details.**

**11. Please give details of any other campaigning experience not previously mentioned:**

**12. Please give details of any bodies of which you are a member, for example a community group, school governing body, trade union etc:**

**1. Name** ……………..……………………….…….…………

**Address** ………………...…………..……...………...………

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**Position** ………...…………………..……………...…...……

**Telephone** ……………………………………..…….....……

**Email** ……………………..…...………………...…..……..…

**2. Name** …………..………………………….…….…………

**Address** ………………...…………..……...………...………

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**Position** ………...…………………..……………...…………

**Telephone** ……………………………………..………..……

**Email** ……………………..………..………………...………..……

**13. Would you prefer to represent a particular ward/division and, if so, which?**

**14. What local or policy subjects are you particularly interested in or qualified to speak on?**

**15. How much time would you be able to give to working in your ward/division if selected?**

**16. What do you hope to achieve if elected to the council?**

**17. Please indicate whether you are prepared to accept the following conditions:**

(please tick as appropriate)

A.  If elected as a councillor I agree to abide by the rules of the Conservative group on the council (please see attached document):

 **[ ]  YES**

**[ ]  NO**

B.  I accept the practice of paying to help fund campaigning:

 **[ ]  YES**

 **[ ]  NO**

C.  I am prepared to comply with various statutory requirements of being a councillor (for example abiding by the Code of Conduct):

 **[ ]  YES**

 **[ ]  NO**

D. I am aware of the requirement for all elected Conservative Councillors to be members of the Conservative Councillors’ Association and will become, and remain a member for the duration of my term of office:

 **[ ]  YES**

 **[ ]  NO**

 **If you have any queries regarding the above, please contact your local Conservative Association for further information.**

**18. Have you been convicted, cautioned or received a fixed penalty or are there proceedings pending for any criminal matter (other than minor motoring offences)? If so, please give details:**

**19. Are there any matters which may cause embarrassment to the Party if they became public knowledge?**

**1. Name** ……………..……………………….…….…………

**Address** ………………...…………..……...………...………

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**Position** ………...…………………..……………...…...……

**Telephone** ……………………………………..…….....……

**Email** ……………………..…...………………...…..……..…

**2. Name** …………..………………………….…….…………

**Address** ………………...…………..……...………...………

…………………………...………….……….………………….

**Position** ………...…………………..……………...…………

**Telephone** ……………………………………..………..……

**Email** ……………………..………..………………...………..……

**20. Please give the names of two Conservative Party members who would be prepared to give you a reference if required:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name****Position****Address****Telephone****Email** | **Name****Position****Address****Telephone****Email** |
|  |  |

Declaration

I confirm that the statements made in this application are, to the best of my knowledge, accurate and I authorise the Conservative Party to make such further confidential enquiries relating to the application as may be considered necessary.

**Signed:**

**Date:**

The Executive Committee/Approval Panel reserves the right to withdraw approval should your circumstances (as detailed above) change.

Agreement to Stand

This is an agreement between       Constituency Association and       (Candidate) sets out the expectations on each of them arising from      ’s (Candidate’s) adoption as an official Conservative local government candidate. Each party agrees that the expectations will govern the relationship between them during      ’s (Candidate’s) service as a candidate and, if elected, as Councillor.

Councillors (and, where appropriate, Candidates):

* Must be members of the Party; of the Conservative Councillors’ Association; and members of the official Conservative Group of every principal council of which they are a member
* Must play a full, active and constructive part in their local Association(s) and Branch(es) during the whole of their period of office, including campaigning, membership development, fundraising, social and political activities
* Where their personal financial circumstances allow, should make a financial contribution to the Party (whether through subscription, donation, support in kind or otherwise) which recognises their position as leading activists in the voluntary party. Such contributions may be to their Branch(es), Association(s) or Council Group, or a combination of them.
* Are visible representatives of the Party whose conduct and statements impact directly on the reputation of the Party and must conduct themselves in the best interests of the Party
* Must diligently attend and participate in meetings of the Conservative Group and Full Council and such other Committees and Bodies to which they are appointed by the Council
* Must handle constituency casework in an efficient, helpful and professional way and participate appropriately in local and community activities.
* Must be proactive in providing material to support the Association or Group’s literature campaigns, website or media strategy
* Must co-operate fully with the Party’s campaign strategy for elections including giving mutual aid to other Conservative candidates when asked and, when themselves a candidate, complying with the requirements of the duly appointed election agent

The Association(s) will support Councillors (and, where appropriate, Candidates) by:

* Ensuring an open, fair and consistent adoption process
* Providing appropriate training
* Producing both election and peace-time literature and material in accordance with an agreed strategy
* Endeavouring to maintain effective organisation both centrally and through a branch network to support Councillors and Candidates in their work
* Maintaining a website with pages available for use by Councillors

The Association may indicate a financial contribution Councillors are invited to pay towards the support they receive in that capacity and in their election campaigns but shall not directly relate such contribution to any allowances received by the Councillor from public monies nor use a reasonable refusal to pay such a sum as evidence in a re-selection process. Any such invitation shall take into account any financial contribution made by the Councillor to the Council Group for campaigning purposes.

**Signed:**       **Date:**

(Councillor/Candidate)

**Signed:**       **Date:**

(on behalf of the Association)