

## **Surrey County Council 2025 Elections Election Working Group Expression of Interest**

### **Role of a County Councillor**

As a county councillor your primary role is to represent the division you are elected in and the people who live in it.

As an elected councillor you provide a bridge between the community and Surrey County Council (SCC). As well as being an advocate for local residents and signposting them to the right people at SCC, you need to keep them informed about the issues that affect them.

In order to understand and represent local views and priorities, you need to build strong relationships and encourage local people to make their views known and engage with you and SCC. Good communication and engagement are central to being an effective councillor.

As a SCC councillor, your Residents' Association and residents will expect you to:

- Represent the division which you are elected
- Undertake effective decision-making
- Develop and reviewing SCC policy
- Scrutinise decisions taken by the councillors on the SCC cabinet
- Provide community leadership and engagement
- Respond to resident queries in a timely manner and investigate their concerns (casework)
- Communicate SCC decisions that affect residents
- Know your division and be aware of any problems
- Know and work with representatives of local organisations, interest groups and businesses
- Represent their views at SCC council meetings
- Lead local campaigns on their behalf
- Act and conduct yourself in a manner that is appropriate for your role
- Commit to attending SCC meetings, political group meetings, RA meetings and events, and to actively contributing
- Commit to read papers in advance of the SCC meetings and provide updates locally
- Commit to advocating for the SCC Independent Group and its members
- Commit to make the required time available to fulfil your council duties (note: SCC quote a census of Councillors which found that the average time commitment was around 25 hours per week. Your role within the council will determine how much time you spend on council duties. For example, Cabinet Members sometimes work longer hours than Backbench Members. You will be expected to attend some council committee meetings – the majority of Surrey County Council meetings take place during the day.).

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Division(s) you wish to be considered for:**

Epsom Town & Downs

Epsom West

Ewell Court, Auriol and Cuddington

West Ewell

Ewell Village, Stoneleigh and Nonsuch

**Are you an Epsom and Ewell resident:**

**If yes, how long have you lived in Epsom and Ewell:**

**Please set out why you are applying to be a Surrey County Councillor, including a personal objective you hope to achieve in this role (this could be personal development, influence on an issue, promoting independents, etc) (max 500 words)**

**Please set out your experience and knowledge that you think should be taken into account when considering you for this role (max 500 words)**

**Please set out the top 3 issues facing County Councils at the present time and why you have chosen them (max 500 words)**

**Please set out how you will ensure you are available to carry out your duties as a Surrey County Councillor (and possibly as a Cabinet member) given your other commitments? Please include an indication how much time you are prepared to commit to the role if required, including during day time hours. (max 200 words)**