

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

The purpose of this report is to update Members on progress with the Quality Council reaccreditation process and ask Members to adopt two elements related to it.

No. DETAIL

I) BACKGROUND

- a) The Quality Council Kite mark was launched in 2003 and revised in 2008.
- b) Ventnor Town Council completed the tests in that year to gain the status of Quality Council and the right to use their logo.

2) REACCREDITATION

- a) The process requires re-accreditation every four years.
- b) This involves submitting an Application Form together with an evidence portfolio of over 100 items proving compliance with 10 Tests: Electoral Mandate, Qualifications of the Clerk, Meetings, Communications, Annual Report, Accounts, Code of Conduct, Promoting local democracy, Terms and conditions of employment and Training and requires up to 30 hours of work to complete.
- c) The deadline date for the submission of the portfolio is 31 July with a decision anticipated in September.
- d) Being a Quality Council is one of the requirements for exercising the new power of general competence.
- e) The Evidence File as at 9 July will be available at the Meeting for Members to inspect if they wish to do so.

3) ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS

- a) A *Training Statement of Intent* is required under the amended scheme and a draft for one is attached with this report for Members to consider and, following any amendments, adopt.
- b) The Community and Community Engagement Test consists of five mandatory elements and 17 discretionary ones, of which a minimum of nine need to be met. Although the Town Council currently complies with 11, one is about whether the Town Council has a Community Engagement Strategy.
- c) Given the substantial steps the Town Council has already made in the development of its Community Engagement Strategy, the Evidence File would be incomplete if this was excluded. Consequently a draft of the developing strategy is attached with this Report for Members to consider, amend as appropriate and adopt.