



2. JOB DESCRIPTION – CLERK TO LOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Overall Responsibilities

The Town Clerk will be the Proper Officer of the Council and as such is under a statutory duty to carry out all the functions, and in particular to serve or issue all the notifications required by law of a local authority's Proper Officer. The Clerk will be totally responsible for ensuring that the instructions of the Council in connection with its function as a Local Authority are carried out. The Clerk is expected to advise the Council on, and assist in the formation of, overall policies to be followed in respect of the Authority's activities and in particular to produce all the information required for making effective decisions and to implement constructively all decisions. The person appointed will be accountable to the Council for the effective management of all its resources and will report to them as and when required. The Clerk will be the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) and responsible for all financial records of the Council and the careful administration of its finances.

Responsible For:

All staff and volunteers - Assistant Town Clerk, Maintenance Foreman, Maintenance Assistant, Mayor's Serjeant (Volunteer).

Specific Responsibilities

1. To ensure that statutory and other provisions governing or affecting the running of the Council are observed.
2. To be familiar with and advise upon Governance documents, including Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Code of Conduct.
3. To ensure the confidentiality of those Council matters which are not in the public domain: to ensure compliance with the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Acts.
4. To prepare, in consultation with appropriate members, agendas for meetings of the Council and Committees. To attend such meetings and prepare minutes for approval.
5. To receive correspondence and documents on behalf of the Council and to deal with the correspondence or documents or bring such items to the attention of the Council. To issue correspondence as a result of instructions or the known policy of the Council.

6. To study reports and other data on activities of the Council and on matters bearing on those activities. Where appropriate, to discuss such matters with administrators and specialists in particular fields and to produce reports for circulation and discussion by the Council.
7. To draw up both on his/her own initiative and as a result of suggestions by Councillors proposals for consideration by the Council and to advise on practicability and likely effects of specific courses of action.
8. To monitor the implemented policies of the Council to ensure they are achieving the desired result and where appropriate suggest modifications.
9. To act as the representative of the Council as required.
10. To issue notices and prepare agendas and minutes for the Town Meeting: to attend the assemblies of the Town Meeting and to implement the decisions made at the assemblies that are agreed by the Council.
11. To prepare, in consultation with the Chairman, press releases about the activities of, or decisions of, the Council in line with policies in force.
12. As RFO, to monitor and balance the Council's accounts and prepare records for audit purposes, income tax and VAT. To receive and report on invoices for goods and services to be paid for by the Council and to ensure such accounts are met. To issue invoices on behalf of the Council for goods and services and to ensure payment is received.
13. To manage the council tendering procedure and award of contracts, ensuring that the procedure followed are strictly in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Council and its Financial Regulations.
14. To ensure that the Council's obligations for Financial Controls and Risk Assessment are properly met and where necessary risks are properly insured. To arrange risk assessments and other health and safety obligations to be conducted.
15. To supervise any other members of staff as their line manager, in keeping with the policies of the Council and to undertake all necessary activities in connection with the management of salaries, conditions of employment and work of other staff. To prepare and conduct annual appraisals of other employees in conjunction with the Personnel Committee.
16. To ensure the effective management of the Council's Burial Ground and the maintenance of all appropriate records.
17. To maintain all deeds, leases, contracts and other legal or confidential documentation in a safe and secure manner.
18. To attend training courses or seminars on the work and role of the Clerk as required by the Council.
19. To work towards the achievement of the status of CiLCA Qualified Clerk as a minimum requirement for effectiveness in the position of Clerk to the Council.

20. To continue to acquire the necessary professional knowledge required for the efficient management of the affairs of the Council: Suggested is membership of the professional body, The Society of Local Council Clerks.
21. To attend the Conference of the National Association of Local Councils, Society of Local Council Clerk's, and other relevant bodies, as a representative of the Council as required.
22. Any other duties commensurate with the post, as notified and agreed by the council.