

## 2. Role of Members of the Council

### 2.1 Key Role

All 47 of the Members of the Council will:

#### **Main Role:**

1. Collectively to be the ultimate policy-makers and carry out a number of strategic and corporate, decision-making functions;
2. Represent the community and bring their views into the Council's decision-making processes, and become an advocate of and for your community;
3. Consider different interests within your Ward and represent the Ward as a whole.
4. To represent the interests of the district as a whole by contributing to the strategic representation and decision-making that affects Teignbridge;
5. Contribute to the good governance of Teignbridge and actively encourage community participation and citizen involvement in decision-making. Local people can expect to be informed about:
  - a. services in their area;
  - b. decisions that affect them;
  - c. the reasons why decisions are taken by the Council;
  - d. the rights of constituents of Teignbridge;
  - e. how decisions are made and what access is available to the public.
6. Deal with individual casework and act as an advocate for constituents in resolving particular concerns or grievances;
7. Be available to represent the Council on outside bodies; and
8. Every councillor will have the opportunity to serve on either the Executive or a scrutiny committee. Part of the process is to undertake reviews and councillors will be expected to participate fully in these.
9. Note that the main Council bodies are set out in Section 3 of the Constitution and comprise:
  - a. Executive;
  - b. Scrutiny Committees; and
  - c. Regulatory Committees.
10. Maintain the highest standards of conduct and ethics.

The Council's role profiles for all councillors and roles is set out in Section 8(a).

### 2.2 Rights and Duties

Councillors will have such rights of access to such documents, information, land and buildings and resources of the Council as are necessary for the proper discharge of their functions as is permissible by the law and in accordance with the Constitution.

### 2.3 Specific Roles

Councillors also have different roles as Members of the different committees. These are referred to in the following sections of the Constitution. The Leader, Chair of the Council and Chair of Committees also have additional duties and responsibilities.

## **2.4 Conduct**

Councillors are required at all times to observe the Members' Code of Conduct, the Protocol on Officer and Member Protocol and Guidance for Planning set out in Sections 8(e) and 10 (a) and (b).

## **2.5 Allowances**

Councillors are entitled to receive allowances in accordance with the Members' Allowances Scheme set out in Section 8(f).