



Westbury Town Council

Unitary Councillors

Unitary Councillor Policy

This policy aims to clarify the position of unitary councillors who are also members of Westbury Town Council in order that councillors, elected officials and the public understand the responsibilities of unitary councillors and their interface with Westbury Town Council.

The Town Council recognises and supports the valuable contribution made by unitary councillors in the betterment of Westbury and will give every assistance to those acting in the best interests of the town.

Unitary councillors who are also members of Westbury Town Council when acting in their capacity as town councillors will have the same responsibilities, no more or no less than other town councillors.

Meetings of Town Council

Unitary councillors who are also Westbury Town councillors (dual role) can apply to be members of any committee or working group and if selected will have the same rights and responsibilities as any other councillor.

Dual role councillors can be chair or vice chair of committees and it will be a matter for their judgement as to whether they can devote the necessary time and commitment to that role.

Similarly, they can partake or be chair of any working or task and finish group.

There is no bar on dual role councillors being Mayor or Deputy Mayor but in standing for such a post they should evaluate whether they have the necessary time to commit to the duties of both roles.

Town councillors will exercise their statutory role to elect for office those they consider best suited for the role and who can best represent the town without conflict.

The agendas of Town Council and committees will include an item whereby unitary councillors can appraise the meeting of any Wiltshire Council matters that are relevant and of interest, this applies when there has not been time to add the item to the agenda. Any town councillor requiring specific answers from unitary councillors at the said meeting shall give the relevant notice to enable the information to be accurately provided.

Interface with the Principal Authority

Unitary councillors will out of necessity have dealings with council officials and officers as part of their duties and in doing so will act as an individual or on behalf of their constituents.

If at any time the dual role councillors represent Westbury Town Council or negotiates on behalf of the Town council then the Town Clerk or nominated deputy should be present.

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