



The Liberal Democrat Council Group of the Year Awards 2010



Local Government Association

Liberal Democrat Council Group of the Year

Issue Specific Awards

Does your authority or group have a track record - or have you promoted a specific policy - in any of the following areas over 2009?

- **Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour**
- **Helping children and young people**
- **Supporting culture, leisure and regeneration**
- **Improving local housing**
- **Improving Transport**
- **Improving social care services**

Council Group of the Year Award

The winner of the Council Group of the Year Award will be the Group that demonstrates the best overall work as a Lib Dem Council Group or Lib Dem controlled council.

Green Council Group of the Year Award

We would like to see you demonstrating how Lib Dem groups practice environmental awareness. You should also include a separate section specifically on action to tackle climate change.

Backbencher of the Year

This is the award to the back-bench councillor who has made the greatest contribution to their community and their council. Group leaders are free to nominate members of their group, supplying a short statement of why they should win the award.

Vice Presidents Award

This will be awarded to the group that is active, feisty, operating in difficult circumstances who the Vice Presidents consider worthy of special mention and recognition. This award is intended to recognise groups who would not otherwise seek such recognition.

How to enter

- You will need to submit a note setting out what your group/member has done to qualify for each award you wish to apply for.
- Each note should be no more than 4 sides of A4 paper, and may also be accompanied by up to 3 attachments, to a total of not more than an additional 6 sides of A4 per award. (A maximum of 10 sides of A4 per award)
- All submissions and attachments must be in an electronic, print and email-ready format. Each set of files must be separated according to which award they are in application for. Please note we do not accept submissions in MS Publisher.

Submissions should be sent to Ed Fordham, LGA Liberal Democrats, Local Government House, Smith Square, London SW1P 3HZ, together with the attached form, which must be signed by your Group Leader.

Should you have any specific queries, please contact the LGA Lib Dem Group office on 020 7664 3235 or email libdem@lga.gov.uk

The awards will be presented at the Liberal Democrat 2010 Spring Conference in Brimingham.

SCHEDULE

The deadline for submission will be **21st February 2010**. A shortlist will be issued and the winner will then be announced in March. Naturally, your submission for the award should be highlighting your recent achievements in 2009.

Liberal Democrat Council Group of the Year

These are the kind of areas we are looking for that can be highlighted, but they are **not definitive** – use good examples from your area. The main “Council Group of the Year” award could for instance focus on where you have overcome a particular challenge or series of challenges faced by your group not listed below.

(Note: For opposition groups, you could for instance show how you have been campaigning to get action to tackle this issue – both inside and outside the council)

Tackling Anti Social Behaviour

- Use of different tools to combat ASB and to tackle the root causes of crime – eg Acceptable Behaviour Contracts; connecting the local community and other agencies (eg police, schools); greater support for youth services)
- Action to tackle excessive noise
- Action to encourage responsible pub/bar landlords
- Action to improve the local environment and reduce the fear of crime (repairing vandalism etc)
- Action to reduce street crime
- Action to reduce burglaries

Helping children and young people

- Action to improve services by working with others (eg police)
- Action to work with schools to increase attainment, tackle truancy and promote healthier diets in schools
- Action to help “hardest to reach” children in your area
- Action to involve young people in the planning of services, and to hear their views.

Supporting culture, leisure and regeneration

- Action to promote local business and bring business into the area
- Action to connect the local community with businesses
- Action to increase skills and training available to local people
- Action to promote local culture through libraries and other services
- Action to promote local sport

Improving local housing

- Action to improve housing stock held by the council (if appropriate), and to involve tenant participation
- Action to work with others to provide affordable housing
- Action to support decent homes that are not council stock – eg supporting private sector tenants in making sure their accommodation is suitable or working with housing associations.
- Action to tackle homelessness.

Improving Transport

- Action to tackle traffic congestion and encourage use of public transport
- Action to encourage walking and cycling
- Action to support safety on public transport
- Action to support public transport in rural areas
- Action to tackle speeding traffic

Improving social care services

- Action with local PCTs to support people coming out of hospital
- Action to encourage independent living
- Action to involve service users in how they run and operate their services
- Action to tackle funding pressures in social services budgets

Green Council Group of the Year

- Tackling climate change
- Action to raise environmental awareness (eg supporting environmental awareness in local schools; recycling in council offices)
- Action to improve recycling rates
- Action to improve the local environment (eg improving parks and open spaces or public footpaths)
- Energy efficiency in buildings

Liberal Democrat Council Group of the Year

Entry Form

Council:

Group Leader:

Correspondence Address:

Telephone:

Fax:

Email:

We are applying for the following specific category(ies):

- Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour
- Helping children and young people
- Supporting culture, leisure and regeneration
- Improving local housing
- Improving Transport
- Improving social care services

We are applying for the following award(s):

- Council Group of the Year
- Green Council Group of the Year
- Vice Presidents Award
- London Council Group 2010

- I am nominating one of my group as Backbencher of the Year**

The information contained in this submission is to the best of my knowledge correct and up to date.

Signed:

(Group Leader)

Date:

**Please send all submissions to: Ed Fordham, LGA Liberal Democrat Office, Local Government House, Smith Square, Westminster, London, SW1P 3HZ
or email libdem@lga.gov.uk**

Submissions must reach us by 21st February 2010