

**Liberal Democrat Maidstone Town  
Council Candidate Approval  
Application Form**



**Section 1 - Personal details**

Full name:

Address:

Date of birth:

Mobile number:

Home telephone:

Email:

**Section 2 - The Liberal Democrats**

Party membership number:

Local party:

How long have you been a party member?:

Have you ever been a member of another political party?  
(If yes, please give further details)

**Section 3 - Standing in this election**

Which type of seat are you seeking approval for?

Target

Development

Paperless

*(Paperless candidates should only fill in sections 1,2,3,6,8,9&10)*

Which ward/s are you interested in (if any)?

Have you held office within the Liberal Democrats (if so, what)?

Have you stood for election to public office before (if so, when and where)?

#### **Section 4 - Your experience and views**

Do you currently hold public or elected office, or have you done so in the past (please give details)?

What would you hope to achieve on the council?

What campaigning experience, community activity or other experience you feel may be relevant do you have - In the Liberal Democrats and/or outside the party?

Are there any areas of Liberal Democrat policy with which you disagree, and, if so, why?

#### **Section 5 - Campaigning as a candidate**

Does your current lifestyle (job, home and other commitments, health) allow you to meet the requirements in the job description and in the candidate agreement (attached)? If not, what adjustments would you need us to make to help you?

Are there any other adjustments that you would require to enable you to be a candidate or a councillor?

## Section 6 - SOCIAL MEDIA & ONLINE PRESENCE

The Liberal Democrats are committed to openness, inclusivity and respect. Candidates are expected to uphold these values in all public communications, including online. Please answer the following honestly — we may conduct a review of publicly available social media activity.

### 1. Online Identity

Please list any public social media accounts you use (e.g. Facebook, X/Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, TikTok, YouTube, Bluesky, Threads): Account name / handle / URL — for each platform

Do you use any accounts under a pseudonym or alias that discuss political matters?

Yes  No (If yes, please provide details or explain why on a separate sheet)

### 2. Past Content

To the best of your knowledge, have you ever posted content online that could be considered offensive, discriminatory, or inconsistent with Liberal Democrat values (e.g. relating to race, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or national origin)?

Yes  No

If yes, please provide details and any context or actions taken on a separate sheet:

Have you ever been the subject of a complaint, investigation or sanction relating to your online activity?

Yes  No (If yes, please give details on a separate sheet)

### 3. Associations & Shared Content

Have you knowingly shared, liked, or amplified content from extremist, conspiracy theory, or far-right/far-left sources?

Yes  No (If yes, please give details on a separate sheet)

Have you publicly expressed support for, or been a member of, any political party or movement other than the Liberal Democrats in the last five years?

Yes  No (If yes, please give details on a separate sheet)

### 4. Conduct & Tone

Have you ever engaged in online disputes, pile-ons, or exchanges that could be characterised as harassment or intimidating behaviour?

Yes  No (If yes, please give details on a separate sheet)

Do you regularly engage with or comment on local Maidstone community groups or pages online?

Yes  No (If yes, which ones, and under what name?)

### 5. Consent & Acknowledgement

I consent to the Liberal Democrats conducting a review of my publicly available social media activity as part of this application process.

I agree

I understand that providing false or misleading information may result in my application being rejected or candidacy being withdrawn.

I agree

## Section 7 - Your skills

Are there any areas of policy on which you feel particularly qualified to speak?

How would you describe your:

- IT skills?

- Personal communication skills?

Are you happy to communicate by email? Yes  No

Are you happy to communicate using online video conferencing and communication apps? Yes  No

Are you willing to undertake training to improve your skills as

A councillor  A candidate

## Section 8 - If elected

*The Liberal Democrats require their councillor to contribute 10% of their councillor's allowance if paid by the council to the party.*

*Liberal Democrat councillors are also expected to support their colleagues both within the council, during local by-elections and during national elections.*

Please confirm

I agree to abide by the councillor contribution policy

I agree to support my colleagues in the council and other Liberal Democrats standing for election

This form remains confidential and will be used for approval purposes. The form will be securely kept by the approvals co-ordinator for the four year length of approval and then securely destroyed. That storage may be electronic.

The panel reserves the right to withdraw approval if your circumstances described in this form change, or are subsequently found not to be as described here in.

*The Liberal Democrats will use any personal data we collect for the purpose it was collected in accordance with our privacy policy at: [libdems.org.uk/privacy](http://libdems.org.uk/privacy). To exercise your legal data rights, email: [data.protection@libdems.org.uk](mailto:data.protection@libdems.org.uk).*

## Section 9 -Qualification to stand for election

*If you need help with this section, please ask. It concerns the legal qualifications to stand in a local election. The council area means the area of the council for which you are applying to stand.*

*Please indicate all that apply:*

- British citizen   
Commonwealth citizen   
Citizen of the Republic of Ireland   
Citizen of any other European Union member state

*Please indicate all that apply:*

- Registered as a local government elector in the council area   
Owner or tenant of land within the council area (for the whole preceding 12 months)   
Principal or only place of work is in the council area (for the whole preceding 12 months)   
Resident within is in the council area (for the whole preceding 12 months)

*Please confirm you are not barred from standing due to any of these reasons:*

### **Bankruptcy**

Anyone who has been adjudged bankrupt or who has made an arrangement with their creditors is disqualified from standing until they are discharged.

### **Imprisonment**

Anyone convicted of a crime within the last five years who has a sentence passed of more than three months is disqualified.

### **Employees of local councils**

Employees cannot stand for election to the council that employs them; nor can employees of other councils who work in a 'Politically Restricted Post'.

### **Surcharge**

People who have been surcharged by a District Auditor to an amount of more than £500 within 5 years of polling day are disqualified.

### **Corrupt and illegal practices**

People who have been guilty of corrupt or illegal practices under the Representation of the People Act are disqualified from being a candidate.

**I confirm I am not barred from standing due to any of these reasons**

## Section 10 - Full disclosure

*Any details given will remain completely confidential within the approval process. Disclosure may not prevent approval but non disclosure of an issue which later becomes known could lead to cancellation of approval.*

Are there any matters, which might cause political embarrassment if they became known?

**I declare that all the information on this form is correct to the best of my knowledge**

**Signed**

**Date**