



## How the NAC supports councillors

- The National Association of Councillors is the only organisation directly run by councillors
- We fight for their interests with local authorities, Ministers, government departments and other relevant bodies
- We have made major gains in councillors' pay and conditions as a result of councillors acting collectively in their common interest

## For example we have

- Increased councillors' allowances
- Speeded up payments
- Achieved a councillors' pension scheme
- Achieved a Dependants' Carers' Allowance
- Pushed for improved councillor training
- Represented councillors' interests during the local government reorganisation
- Achieved the Independent Remuneration Panel and increased councillors' allowances for the new councils
- Achieved severance payments for councillors
- Had councillors' travel expenses exempted from tax and NI
- Given advice on making tax and expenses claims to HMRC

# What we do for councillors

- We provide help with individual problems relating to remuneration, tax, welfare benefits, expenses, elections, ethics and other issues
- We provide updates on changes in legislation, revised allowances, government consultations and other developments affecting councillors
- We provide a forum for councillors to voice opinions and concerns, and exchange information and experience, through our regular members' meetings

# Our current aims and objectives

- Assisting councillors in their changed roles with the new super-councils, and pressing for any extra help or training
- Monitoring the new Councillors' Code of Conduct and assisting any councillor who is complained about
- Responding to consultations on new legislation and taking up proposals detrimental to councillors
- Ensuring councils provide councillors with the best possible admin, facilities and training
- To represent councillors' interests and ensure they are taken into account in all relevant bodies

The NAC Northern Ireland is run by a 13-strong Executive Committee that includes all the major political parties plus independent councillors

We are currently supported by all 26 local councils and represent all 582 councillors as well as all 462 shadow councillors

We fight for the interests of all councillors regardless of party or creed. Our only aim is to help councillors give the best possible service to their constituents