

The Charter Mark Proposal

The Charter Mark scheme is to be open to all Local Parties in the Region who want to participate. There should be a series of activities and criteria that should be promoted within the Local Parties. They are chosen on the basis that they encourage the local parties to be more efficient, proactive, financially sound and aim to help fulfil the aims and objectives of the Local Parties as stated in their constitutions.

The Carrot

There are to be two incentives for Local Parties dependent on how they achieve, with some legal or constitutional requirements being essentials.

The incentives are:-

- a. Recognition by awarding Local Parties an annual 'Charter Mark' to be announced at the Regional Conference, which can be used on letterheads, newsletters etc, with a minimum of six criteria met to qualify for the award.
- b. The Region to offer a financial incentive to Local Parties of £10 per criterion met, with a minimum of six criteria (i.e. £60) to qualify for the incentive payments.

How

Volunteer Advisers will be appointed to visit Local Parties, and will be a contact for support and for disseminating information.

The Advisers will also recommend to the Development Committee which Local Parties satisfy the criteria to be awarded a Charter Mark at the Regional Conference and approve an application to award the financial incentive payment.

The criteria are: The Local Party must have a development plan which includes all the items below and how the Local Party is progressing towards achieving them. Six of the following Activities or criteria have to be met.

1. The Local Party must comply with PPERA. A budget is to be produced in accordance with the Constitution.
2. The Local Party must have had their constitution reviewed within the last five years, and lodged with the Region.
3. The main Officers of the Local Party as stated in their constitution must be in place. i.e. Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Development Officer, Data Officer.
4. The Executive Committee of the Local Party should meet a minimum of six times a year, or four if there are functioning campaign and other groups.
5. There should be a minimum of five social or fundraising events per year organised by the Local Party.
6. There is to be a standing order giving scheme for the benefit of the Local Party with a minimum of five members, or more members than the previous year.

7. All principal local authority elections and by-elections in the Local Party area are to be contested.
8. A minimum of three members are to attend training courses i.e. Kickstart or attend Regional or National conferences where training is held.
9. Membership is to increase year on year.
10. There is to be a Local Party's newsletter a minimum of four times a year, produced locally or through a scheme operated by the Region.

NB The first three are essential as they involve Constitutional and/or legal requirements.

Please complete and return either by post or email to: Regional Secretary: Lorraine Flawn, Autumns, Jacks Lane, Takeley, Bishops Stortford CM22 6NT.

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