

## SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**REPORT TO:** Civic Affairs Committee

17 December 2012

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### DISCUSSION PAPER 'MAKING IT EASIER TO SET UP NEW TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS'

#### Purpose

1. To discuss a consultation paper by the Department for Communities and Local Government entitled 'making it easier to set up new Town and Parish Councils' and consider any response the Civic Affairs Committee may wish to submit.
2. This is not a key decision because it is a discussion paper and provides the Civic Affairs Committee with an opportunity to submit a response to a consultation by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

#### Recommendations

3. That consideration be given to any response the Civic Affairs Committee may wish to submit to the Department for Communities and Local Government as part of its consultation entitled 'making it easier to set up new Town and Parish Councils'.

#### Reasons for Recommendations

4. To enable the Civic Affairs Committee to formally respond to the Department's consultation paper, should it be minded to do so.

#### Background

5. The government intends to make it easier to set up new Town and Parish Councils and has published a consultation paper setting out three options that could help to achieve this. The consultation paper is attached to this report at **Appendix A**.

#### Considerations

6. The consultation is available for viewing online using the following link and sets out three options for consideration: -  
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/parishdiscussionpaper>
7. The Civic Affairs Committee is invited to discuss the contents of the consultation paper and agree, if necessary, any comments to submit to the Department for Communities and Local Government.

#### Options

8. To note the consultation document and agree not to submit any comments as part of the Department for Communities and Local Government's consultation process.

### **Implications**

9. There are no implications that need to be considered as part of this report. This is a discussion item that may result in a response being submitted to a consultation by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

### **Consultations**

10. No wider consultation is necessary as this report facilitates a discussion item on a consultation document issued by the government.

### **Consultation with Children and Young People**

11. No consultation has been carried out with children and young people on this issue.

### **Effect on Strategic Aims**

12. The Council's Strategic Aims will not be affected as a result of the Civic Affairs Committee discussing or submitting comments to the Department's consultation paper.

### **Conclusions / Summary**

13. The Civic Affairs Committee is asked to discuss the content of the Department for Communities and Local Government's consultation paper entitled 'making it easier to set up new Town and Parish Councils' and to submit any comments if necessary.

**Background Papers:** the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

Consultation paper by the Department for Communities and Local Government entitled 'making it easier to set up new Town and Parish Councils'.

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