

From: DALC cara@devoncommunities.org.uk
Subject: NEW CONSULTATION: Council tax referendum principles
Date: 16 September 2016 at 10:22
To: Nigel clerk@dartmoorforestpc.net

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The September e-bulletin from Devon ALC

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Consultation: The 2017/2018 Local Government Finance Settlement

This consultation is about 'capping' and applies to all councils.

A quick overview

Since the introduction of council tax referendums in 2012/13, no referendum principles have extended to town and parish councils, although the government made it clear that they would be reviewing it.

That time is now!

They are concerned about the increases in parish precepts, which rose by 6.1% this year - £36 million more than in 2015/16.

In DALC's view, these figures illustrate how councils are continuing to invest in local communities, with increases in many cases attributable to making up for a shortfall in council tax support funding, a general expansion of their role and use of powers, and in particular delivering new services, often taken on from principal councils.

There are 2 principles within this document which you need to be aware of:

1. A proposal to cap principle authorities and 'higher-spending' town and parish councils at 2% or up to £5 (whichever is higher)
2. to extend this proposal to all Parish and Town Councils.

[**Download and read the consultation document**](#)

Deadline for responses: 5pm, 28th October

How to Respond:

- **Online survey** at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/583WBQL>
- **Email** to: LGFConsultation@communities.gsi.gov.uk
- **In writing** to: James Livingston Department for Communities and Local Government 2nd floor, Fry Building 2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF

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