



## Delegation to Town and Parish Councils

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Town and Parish Councils will play a crucial part in Community Boards. In addition, we want to strengthen our direct relationship with each town and parish council. We will build on initiatives such as the Parish Steward scheme.

We will be offering councils the opportunity to work with us in providing local services, through delegation of responsibility and funding. A draft menu of appropriate services has been drawn up (schedule below). This list is in no way exhaustive – many opportunities will come to light as the implementation programme develops.

The objective is to encourage the delegation of key local services to town and parish councils according to local needs.

I see the project having the following main components:

- Initial consultation with town and parish councils about aspirations – this has already started with individual discussions and Meet & Greet sessions throughout the county. Also, several future dates have been scheduled and I would hope to get around to speak with as many interested councils as possible in the coming months.
- Refining the menu of appropriate services – this will be done in conjunction with town and parish councils and service departments in the existing County and District Councils
- Developing criteria based on value for money, equity, capacity and sustainability
- Developing policies, protocols, structures, mechanisms, etc, for their delivery – these are complex issues that will be established on a service-by-service basis
- Implementing delegations

I do not underestimate the great opportunities that exist for really effective local development and delivery of services and I very much look forward to working with you.

### **The draft menu**

Some functions that might be considered for delegation to town and parish councils:

- Control of markets
- Street cleaning
- Maintenance of highway verges, footways and footpaths
- Litter collection and litter control measures
- Street lighting (other than principal routes)
- Recycling provisions
- Street naming
- Parking restrictions (and related matters)
- Issue of bus and rail passes and other transport voucher schemes (e.g. taxi vouchers)
- Road safety measures
- Noise and nuisance abatement
- Tree Preservation Orders
- Some aspects of development control
- Some aspects of the management of libraries and museums
- Some aspects of leisure and tourism provision (e.g. bowling greens, playing fields, issue of leisure permits)
- Public conveniences
- Allotments
- Taxi and public entertainment licensing