

To All Parish Clerks

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Dear Parish Clerk

Re: Draft Parish Charter Consultation

North Yorkshire County Council approved a draft parish charter and a consultation approach on the draft charter at a meeting of their executive on Tuesday 10 January 2023.

Background

The development of a Parish Charter, defining the relationship between the new North Yorkshire Council and the parish sector as well as setting out how North Yorkshire Council and parishes will work together in partnership, is seen a priority for the new authority. The importance of parishes and effective partnership working is essential to achieve the vision and aims of the new authority. However, as there will be an ongoing programme of transformation beyond the new Council's start date (1 April 2023), it has been agreed the development of the parish charter will be a staged process. Once the initial version is adopted it will be reviewed and updated after six months and thereafter on an annual basis. A representative group of town and parish councillors and clerks have worked together with officers from across the district, borough and county councils to co-produce this initial version and will continue to be involved through the further development of the Charter.

Consultation

We are inviting you to take part in this initial consultation on the draft Parish Charter. The consultation will run for a 12-week period from 18 January -12 April 2023.

Please can you review the draft Parish Charter (a copy is attached) at one of your upcoming council meetings and submit a response on behalf of your parish via a short questionnaire found at the following link https://consult.northyorks.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=167283326162. To aid you in this process we have also attached a paper copy of the consultation questionnaire.

Parish Liaison Drop-In sessions – February 2023

There will be a parish liaison drop-in meeting in each district/borough council area during February. The meetings will be attended by Senior Officers and volunteers representing parishes that have been involved in the development of the draft charter. The meetings have been arranged to coincide with the consultation should you wish to discuss further but you are also welcome to attend to discuss other issues connected with Local Government Reorganisation. Details of the sessions are attached.

Your feedback will help inform further development of the Parish Charter in 2023 and so we thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Flinton Chief Executive

Inc:

- Draft Parish Charter
- Draft Parish Charter Consultation Questions
- Details of Parish Liaison drop ins