

SWINDON BOROUGH AND LOCAL COUNCILS PROTOCOL 2024 (Draft 29.12)

This Protocol is agreed between Swindon Borough Council and the Town and Parish Councils within the Borough (the Parishes), as represented by the Swindon Local Councils Forum.

We acknowledge the status of the Parishes as tax raising authorities who may increasingly assume responsibility for local maintenance and undertake local development initiatives in co-operation with the Borough.

We believe that working together will improve service delivery, strengthen local decision-making and enhance engagement with residents. This in turn will develop and support socially, economically, and environmentally healthy and sustainable communities.

Key to working together are:

- Timely transfer of information between Councils
- Recognition of the role that both Borough and Parishes can play in enhancing service provision by both direct and indirect provision and support.
- Recognition of the differing sizes of Parishes and that some are reliant on Councillors and other volunteers for the delivery of services.
- Ensuring that all Officers and Councillors understand the Protocol and how it is relevant in their respective roles and job descriptions.

This document is not an end in itself but signals a commitment by the Parishes, Members and Senior Borough Officers to partnership working.

It is to be underpinned by the following Annexes: 1. Delegation Principles, 2. Provision of Services, 3. Mutual Service Standards, 4. Planning Procedures, 5. Developing Communities, 6. Communication and 7. Compliance. These will be reviewed annually.

Signed:

Signed:

Chief Executive Swindon Borough Council Chair Swindon Local Councils Forum