

On best practice for CGRs including setting precepts and public consultations, NALC has highlighted the establishment of Grantham Town Council in 2024 as an example of a positive approach taken by South Kesteven District Council, despite their view that the initial budget/precept was set too low. They have suggested that speaking with Graham Watts, Assistant Director (Governance and Public Protection) and Monitoring Officer at South Kesteven District Council, may provide valuable insights (Graham.watts@southkesteven.gov.uk).

Additionally, Taunton provides another useful case study, having initially set a budget/precept of £2 million to align with a broad range of transferred assets and responsibilities. This equated to £109.67 for a Band D property. However, due to Somerset Council's financial challenges for the 2024/25 financial year, Taunton Town Council approved a revised precept of £299.30 for a Band D property, aimed at enhancing local services and infrastructure. Understanding the reasoning behind this adjustment and its impact on the community would be beneficial.

NALC has advised caution regarding Westminster City Council's approach to Queens Park Community Council, as the council did not initially support its establishment and was ultimately compelled by the referendum result. Given this background, speaking with Westminster City Council may not be the most constructive option. However, I would be happy to connect with the Queens Park Community Council CEO if that would be advantageous.

A list of the new councils created in recent years, along with the relevant principal council is below, yellow are some of those in unitaries created at same time or in the next couple of years after:

2025/26

Harrogate Town Council (North Yorkshire)

Scarborough Town Council (North Yorkshire)

2024/25

The Wolfords Joint Parish Council (Stratford-on-Avon District Council)

Great Oldbury Parish Council (Stroud District Council)

2023/24

Grantham Town Council (South Kesteven District Council)

Barrow and a few more!

2022/23

Wynyard Parish Council (Hartlepool Borough Council)

Wickford Town Council (Basildon Borough Council)

2021/22

Kettering Town Council (North Northamptonshire Council)

Corby Town Council (North Northamptonshire Council)

Bexhill Town Council (Rother DC)

Northstowe Town Council (South Cambridgeshire DC)

Far Cotton and Delapre Community Council (West Northamptonshire Council)

Kingsthorpe Parish Council (West Northamptonshire Council)

Northampton Town Council (West Northamptonshire Council)

2020/21

Kingsbrook Parish Council (Buckinghamshire Council)

Berryfields Parish Council (Buckinghamshire Council)

Shipley Town Council (Bradford City Council)

Wellingborough Town Council (Wellingborough BC)

Mersham Parish Council (Ashford BC)

Sevington Parish Council (Ashford BC)

Hunts Grove Parish Council (Stroud DC)

Heybridge Basin Parish Council (Maldon DC)

2019/20

Waverley Community Council (Rotherham MBC)

Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council (Stafford BC)

Heyford Park Parish Council (Cherwell DC)

Sheerness Town Council (Swale BC)

Hersden Parish Council (Canterbury CC)

South Willesborough and Newtown Community Council (Ashford BC)

Kennington Community Council (Ashford BC)

Weymouth Town Council (Dorset Council)

Christchurch Town Council (Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council)

Highcliffe and Walkford Parish Council (Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council)

Throop and Holdenhurst Parish Council (Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council)

2018/19

City of Durham Parish Council (Durham County Council)

Little Stanion Parish Council (Corby BC)

Stainland and District Parish Council (Calderdale BC)

We would suggest speaking to a few Councils that have been through the process and come out the other side to ascertain what good looks like. We are happy to attend any calls where we can.