

**SUBMISSION TO COMMUNITIES, TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL
SCRUTINY PANEL**

9TH May 2016

**Cllr. Judith Chubb-Whittle, Vice-Chair ALCA [Avon Local Councils Association]
& Chair of Stanton Drew Parish Council**

Good afternoon Panel, thank you for allowing me to speak. My name is Cllr Judith Chubb-Whittle, speaking as Vice Chair of Avon Local Councils Association, otherwise known as ALCA.

ALCA represents 124 Parish and Town Councils and Parish Meetings (Local Councils) in the West of England region. We support the work of the 1,234 local councillors, who serve an electorate of over 440,000 local residents and who utilise between them approximately £12,000,000 raised as tax precept to improve the lives of local people right across suburban and rural of the 4 West of England Unitary Authority's areas.

ALCA is part of NALC, the National Association of Local Councils, which works closely with Government, DCLG, Society of Local Council Clerks, (SLCC) the professional body for all clerks of Town, Parish or Community councils and with other national bodies. It is currently working with the DCLG on a Parish Councils Bill, which will be considered as part of emerging government legislation!

By employing a full time, professionally qualified advisor, ALCA offers training to councillors, professional qualification training for clerks, as well as a Clerks support network and access to free legal and professional advice on all aspects of local councils business.

ALCA is responsible for administering DCLG transparency grants and Public Works loans, on behalf of HM Treasury, for the area. It also administers the Quality Council Award Schemes for the area.

We welcome the recognition by Louise Fradd of the importance of Parish Liaison meetings in the close working of BANES Councillors and Officers with ALCA Parish & Town Councillors and their Clerks. We look forward to closely

with BANES representatives in reviewing the Parish Charter making it a robust and progressive agreement fit for the foreseeable future.

Please cascade this submission to your fellow Councillors; we look forward to working with you all.

Thank you.