

Speech for B&NES CTE Scrutiny panel 09/05/16

In this authority ALCA represent 47 of the 51 town & parish councils and meetings within B&NES. Town & parish councils provide services to 52% of the electorate of B&NES, this year our income from precepts is £2.25million, all those councils are employers, employing parish clerks, responsible financial officers, groundsmen, street sweepers, etc. The range of service we provide include children's playgrounds, parks, upkeep of cemeteries, street sweeping, broadband, managing village halls, swimming pools, allotments and other community faculties. Some of these services are provided independently of B&NES, some working with B&NES, so we consider the Parish Charter a very important document and we welcome the opportunity to review it and bring it up to date. As Andy Thomas has the parishes were consulted 6 years ago, with a response rate of 53%, so this is quite out of date now, so we have already started consulting the local councils and will be able to bring that information, which must inform the review, to the table by the end of the summer. We look forward to working with B&NES officers on this important document that in its updated form will make our working relationship more effective and efficient.

Rosemary Naish