

Council tax referendums: background

- Localism Act 2011 gave new power to the secretary of state
- NALC opposed & lobbied against
- 2% limit for principal councils introduced 2011, additional social care precept 2% introduced 2016
- Referendum principles not extended so far – successful advocacy by NALC & sector
- 2016/17: Band D precept is £57.40, an increase of £3.28 (or 6.1%) on 2015/16; total precepts are now £445 million, £36 million more than in 2015/16 (£409 million)
- Last 3 years overall precept increases went down: +5.2%, +4.3%, +3.3% but spiked to 6.1% this year
- Largely due to impact of LCTS, devolved services, growth in role

Council tax referendums: current status

- DCLG consulted on extending principles (2% or £5) to larger, higher spending councils (£75.46 band D & £500,000 total precept) & ALL councils
- NALC mobilisation campaign, with support from SLCC
- Encourage councils and county associations to respond and write to MPs
- Motions at NALC and county association AGMs
- Engagement with MPs, Peers, council leaders & stakeholders
- Media coverage including articles & letters
- Nearly 2000 responses to consultation
- Support for NALC position by LGA, CCN, DCN, RSN, Counties APPG and many principal councils
- CLG Committee questioned DCLG ministers
- NALC chairman letter to Marcus Jones MP

Council tax referendums: impact

- Shar Roselman, Newport Pagnell Town Council
- David Preston, Oswestry Town Council

REFERENDUM PRINCIPLES ON PARISH PRECEPTS

ASSETS ALREADY DEVOLVED

LIFECYCLE ISSUES

**STAFFING – Living Wage, Pension Deficits,
increases in National Insurance**

**INCORRECT INFORMATION RE COSTS
AND UNITS OF MEASUREMENT**

Council tax referendums: next steps & calls to action

- Provisional local government finance settlement in December
- Motion today to oppose government plans
- Open Mic: to hear your views and discuss what other action should we all be taking

Council tax referendums: conference motion

This conference is resolutely opposed to government proposals to extend council tax referendum proposals to some or all local councils; and calls upon all local councils and county associations to write to government and their MPs to oppose the proposals should they be included in the provisional local government finance settlement in December.