Did you know?

There are **10,000** parish and town councils in England. They are the first tier of local government and represent **35 million** people with **16 million** electors, raising around **£700 million** in precept and investing over **£2 billion** in communities.

Some of the largest councils have a precept of over **£1 million** a year. **100,000** councillors spend over **14 million** hours a year serving those councils to help change their communities. Over 300 new parish and town councils have been created in rural and urban areas in the last decade.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Over 1,300 parish and town councils have signed up for the Civility and Respect Pledge, enabling them to demonstrate that they are committed to standing up to poor behaviour across the sector and driving positive changes to support civil and respectful conduct.

DID YOU KNOW?

Parish and town councils think globally and act locally to tackle climate change. Take Thame Town Council in Oxfordshire, which developed a Green Living Plan or Kibworth Beauchamp Parish Council in Leicestershire that installed charging points for electric vehicles, and Bodmin Town Council in Cornwall, which organised a tree planting day.

DID YOU KNOW?

Many parish and town councils nationwide have stepped up to support their communities in the cost-of-living crisis. Northwood Parish Council in the Isle of Wight provide warm spaces, Coxhoe Parish Council in Durham have opened a community pantry, and Haywards Heath Town Council in West Sussex launched the Haywards Heath Coat Exchange for anyone who needs a winter coat.

DID YOU KNOW?

Over 300 new parish and town councils have been created in rural and urban areas in the last decade, with new councils created every year! This includes London's first-ever parish council, Queens Park Community Council.

DID YOU KNOW?

Health and well-being are essential parts of everyday life and integral to leading a happy and healthy lifestyle. Parish and town councils are supporting just that, such as Peterlee Town Council in Durham, which introduced Taste Buddies to encourage members of the community experiencing loneliness to come together weekly and Alcester Town Council, which created a health and well-being board bringing together key local partners and appointed a health and well-being co-ordinator to develop many projects including a gone fishing club!

DID YOU KNOW?

Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape future growth. A government database shows roughly 2,800 neighbourhood plans at the end of 2021, with around 90% of those plans led by parish and town councils.

DID YOU KNOW?

Parish and town councils nationwide are winning awards! Take Nettlestone and Seaview Parish Council, Swanage Town Council and Weymouth Town Council, who won Keep Britain Tidy's prestigious Blue Flag and Seaside Awards. Lowestoft Town Council, whose Love Parks Week campaign was honoured at the Keep Britain Tidy Awards 2023. Sevenoaks Town Council were awarded Platinum at the Loo of the Year Awards. Oswestry Town Council, Shrewsbury Town Council and South Molton Town Council were all crowned at the Great British Market Awards 2023.

DID YOU KNOW?

Young people are the future of our communities! Parish and town councils support young people locally by curating green spaces and holding events, funding youth groups, installing playgrounds and skate parks, providing bursaries for students and grants for school uniforms, running fitness and activity sessions, working with stakeholders, creating youth councils, and providing youth clubs and services.

Did you know...

NALC's Manifesto for building stronger communities across England sets out an offer to the political parties and policy asks to strengthen local leadership through parish and town councils? With diverse funding and building their capacity and capability, parish and town councils can empower rural and urban communities and help them level up their areas. **Scan the QR code** to read more.

What the political party leaders in local government think about parish and town councils? NALC asked the Local Government Association's political group leaders why parish councils matter. **Scan the QR code** and find out what they think.

You can stay in the loop and never miss out on the latest NALC updates, online events, valuable insights and the weekly chief executive's bulletin by subscribing to our newsletter today! Join our community of subscribers and elevate your experience and knowledge of the parish and town council sector. **Scan the QR code** to sign-up.

www.nalc.gov.uk • nalc@nalc.gov.uk • 020 7637 1865