



[Insert campaign group name] Media Release

[Day, month, year]

[Insert campaign group name] WANTS LOCAL COUNCIL FOR **[insert local area]**

[Insert campaign group name] is currently seeking support from local residents for a new local council for **[name your local area e.g. Camden]** to provide improved services, local representation and better support for local voluntary and community organisations.

[Insert name], **[insert job title e.g. chairman]** of **[insert campaign group name]**, said: “This is about us controlling our future, rather than relying on others...”

So, just what is a local (parish and town) council? Local councils are the tier of government closest to the people and usually work in partnership with district or county councils. Across England there are already over 9,000 local councils representing around 15 million people in areas as diverse as urban city communities, market towns and rural villages. Their aim is simple – to improve community well-being, provide better services at a local level and provide local people with a stronger voice.

A local council could give the local community a greater influence over the issues that affect us all. Local councils across the country are already doing a great deal towards improving community wellbeing and providing better services at a local level.

Local councils might provide, maintain or contribute to the following services: community centres, leisure facilities, local youth projects, crime reduction measures, street lighting, street

cleaning, community transport schemes, environmental issues and allotments to name just a few.

[Insert campaign group name] is petitioning the **[borough or district]** council to create a new local council for **[Insert local area]**.

[Insert name], **[insert job title e.g. press officer]** of **[insert campaign group name]**, explained: “If we can secure enough signatures **[insert council name]** will be required to undertake a community governance review and they will have to consult local residents on the proposal. A community governance review must be completed within 12 months and unless very good reasons exist **[insert campaign group name]** will have their own local council formed.”

A new local council would provide the community with a focus for tackling the issues that affect us, provide us with a louder voice and enable us to more easily tackle the issues that we face.

- Ends -

Notes for Editors:

1. **[Insert campaign group name]** are an independent group made up of local residents who are campaigning for a new local council in **[insert local area]**.
2. Advice and guidance about local councils can be found at www.nalc.gov.uk on the National Association of Local Councils website
3. For more information contact **[insert lead contact name, email address and telephone number]**