

HIOW Devolution Programme: Town and Parish Council Event

Pre-event and mid afternoon activity

- **How are local communities already benefiting from deeper devolution?**
- **What more could be done to maximise the benefits of deeper devolution?**

Blurb: Deeper devolution is not a new concept. New Labour introduced new localism and later 'double devolution'. The Big Society was introduced by the Coalition Government in 2010 and 2011 saw the creation of the Localism Act. We have had Total Place, Community Budgets, City Deals and now devolution. Across all of these programmes, local authorities of all tiers have ardently pursued initiatives which strengthen local determination and decision making and empower citizens and communities.

Deeper devolution should build on the successes of past and current initiatives whilst going even further to tap into the total asset base of communities, exploiting the value of social networks and civic energy. Through closer collaboration, deeper devolution should strengthen community capacity and resilience and enable the coproduction of innovative solutions to wicked social issues.

Through this activity, we are asking you to identify what is already working well – **how are local communities already benefiting from deeper devolution?**

We also want to hear your views about **what more could be done to maximise the benefits of deeper devolution?**

This is not about lifting and shifting cost across tiers of government – it is about listening to what the end consumer – the customer – the citizen – and delivering differently to deliver better shared outcomes.

This is not just about devolution from Central Government and its agencies to local government. It is about deepening the benefits of devolution so that they penetrate past District Councils, past Parish and Town Councils into the heart of our communities.