



Representing and Advising
Town and Parish Councils

**Warwickshire and West Midlands
Association of Local Councils**

(Affiliated to the National Association of Local Councils)

The Quality Parish and Town Council Scheme

Who Benefits?

Quality councils will bring considerable benefits to the parish/town, principal authority and the community it represents. Quality councils will be in a better position to take on additional services and areas of responsibility from their principal authorities if they so desire and can demonstrate to local communities that minimum standards have been met.

The benefits of this scheme affect three groups: -

1. The Community.
2. The Parish Council.
3. Principal Authorities.

1) The Community

- Will have more responsive services – in other words, the Quality Council will be capable of solving local problems without recourse to the Principal Authority.
- Will know that they can have real conversations with their Quality Council as they are known to engage with the public.
- Will have a local access point providing information on services of principal local authorities.
- Will be aware that their Quality Council is more accountable, visible, representative and is their genuine local leader.

2) The Parish/Town Council

- It will be seen to have greater credibility in the eyes of the local community, the private sector partners and the Principal Authorities.
- It will be more representative of the local community.
- It will be better able to articulate the wishes of the local community.
- It will achieve more by working in partnership with other organisations.
- It will be able to demonstrate that it is effectively and properly managed.
- It will deliver local services – if it wishes to.
- It will enable greater involvement by the voluntary sector.
- It will provide more information to the community.

3) The Principal Authority

- Will be reassured that the Quality Council has been independently assessed and is therefore capable of working in partnership with the Principal Authority and can deliver services on behalf of their.
- Will be constantly reassured of the competence of the Quality Council, through four year re-assessment process.
- Will confidence that the Quality Council is representative, competent, well managed and therefore capable of taking on and sustaining an enhanced role.