

# Decentralisation and Localism Bill

Councillor's Forum

Jo Miller, Deputy Chief Executive

16<sup>th</sup> September 2010

# Transparency, accountability and decentralisation

- General power of competence.
  - Freedom to return to the committee system.
  - Power to vote on salary packages for unelected council officials.
  - Abolition of standards board, CAA, Audit Commission, RDAs, GO's.
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# A prescriptive approach to some issues.

- Proposals for SoS to set threshold to trigger referendums on council tax increases.
  - Mayoral model for 12 English cities (subject to confirmatory referenda).
  - Prescriptive approach to some issues – i.e community led development and development associated with schools.
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# Government approach to planning and housing yet to be determined.

Two overriding narratives in Conservative's *Open Source Planning Green Paper*.

- Strip away regional and national prescription allowing councils to plan strategically and jointly.
  - Bottom up involvement of communities and neighbourhoods
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# Questions for discussion

- How will these measures impact on your local area?
  - What are the risks and opportunities?
  - How strongly do you think the LG Group should welcome/oppose some of the proposed reforms?
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