

## **Suggestions for the Reform of Local Councils**

There are quite a few problems with local councils as they are at the moment. They constantly waste money in all kinds of ways, they are open to quite blatant and covert corruption, they are frequently a part time job for retired people who have neither the knowledge or ability to be in the position. Misuse of finances occurs frequently, using money provided for one project to top up funds for another instead of using it for the designated item.

Currently very few councils provide value for money for the tax payer.

I feel strongly that education should be taken away entirely from local councils. As they stand they work education for their own purposes, selection etc. And whatever you do this happens.

They should be in charge of and build housing to rent, they were always good at this and showed expertise in the field.

Waste services should be their remit.

There is a purpose to them working hard and in tandem with the police to fight crime and disorder.

They need to be able to deal with bad pavements and roads, which is a huge problem.

There should be cash available to provide recreation services for young people, and in charge of parks.

I believe the path we should take is to provide specific training and qualifications for people wanting to become councillors and pay them a proper salary, and it should be a full time job. They could be designated to specific areas of a borough, doing away with town and parish councillors.

I have spoken to numerous people and the consensus is that council tax needs to be paid as part of a persons tax system. It is quite unfair that when several people live in a house, using local facilities that only one tax is applied to the house. This was a case in point this week, when it was pointed out in Slough that immigrants were living 18 or more to a house, just think of the revenue for council tax services if it was part of their tax bill. Also people have pointed out that since children use many of the local services, the wage earner/earners should pay a small percentage for each child.

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