

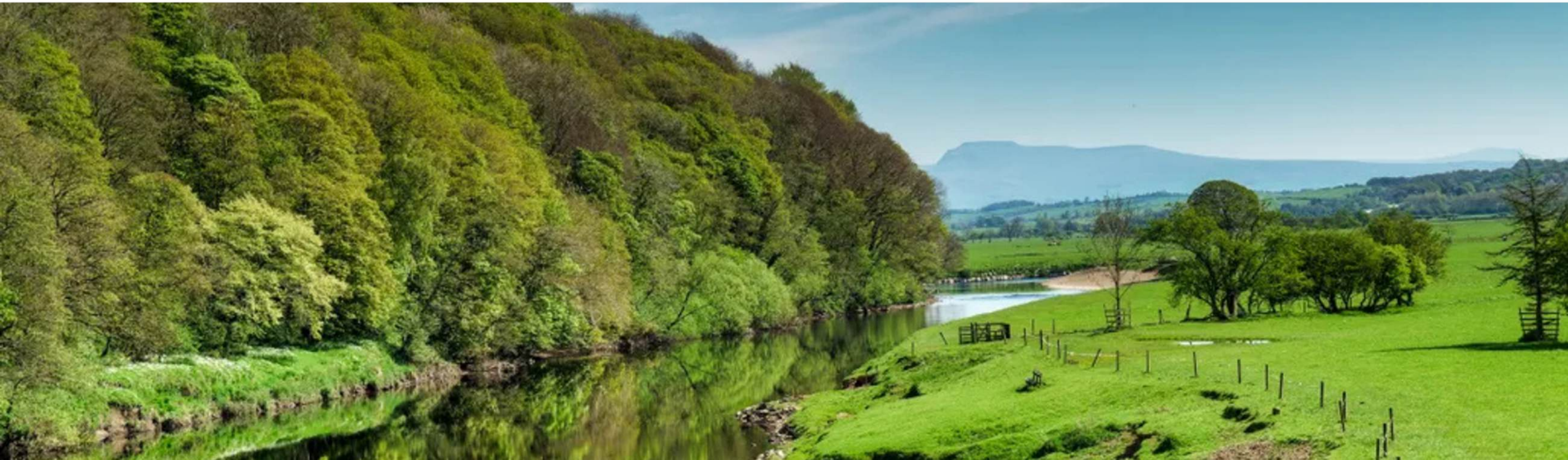
Morecambe
Town
Council



The Future of Parish & Town Councils:

Navigating Local Government Reorganisation in Lancashire

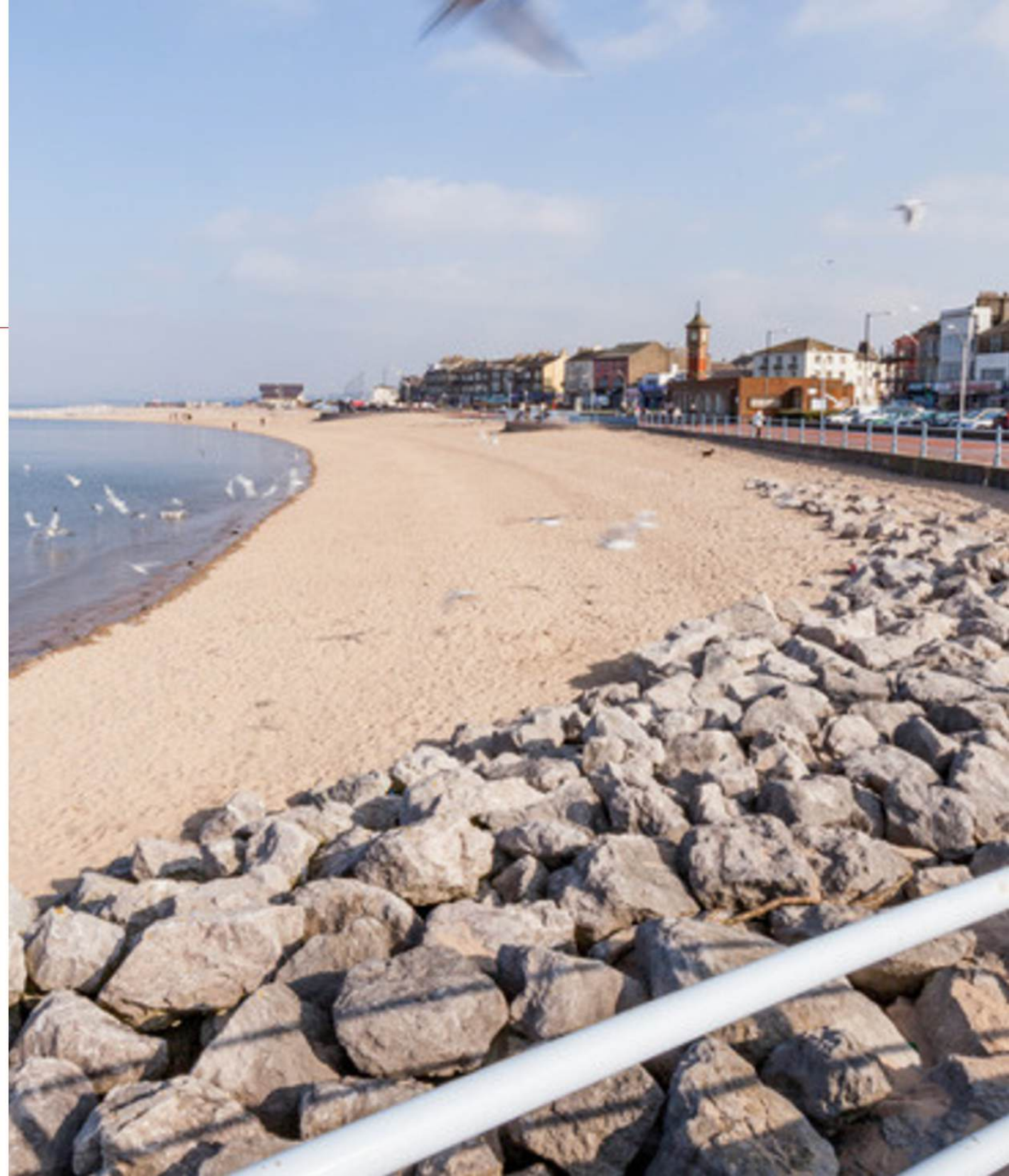
& why we can't afford to sit back!



What We'll Cover

- What is Local Government Reorganisation?
- What's likely to happen in Lancashire?
- What it means for town/parish councils (yes, you)!
- Case studies: where it went well / badly.
- Risks ⚠️, rewards 💡, and when to act ⌚

*P.S. Don't forget to visit Morecambe
— best fish & chips in the county,
obviously.*



What is Local Gov Reorganisation (LGR)?

It's like a
company
merger... but
for councils.

Governance



Push for “simpler” governance. Having too many layers (county, district etc) can make decisions slow and confusing. Reorganisation aims to create clearer, faster decision-making.

Money



Cuts and pressure to save money. Combining councils can reduce duplication and overheads.

Devolution



The government wants more devolution deals from central govment to hand more powers and funding to local areas, and improve ease of communication.

What's the Current Setup - and What's Coming?

Change is coming. Fewer layers, bigger shifts, and a chance to step up.
But the details? Still cooking.

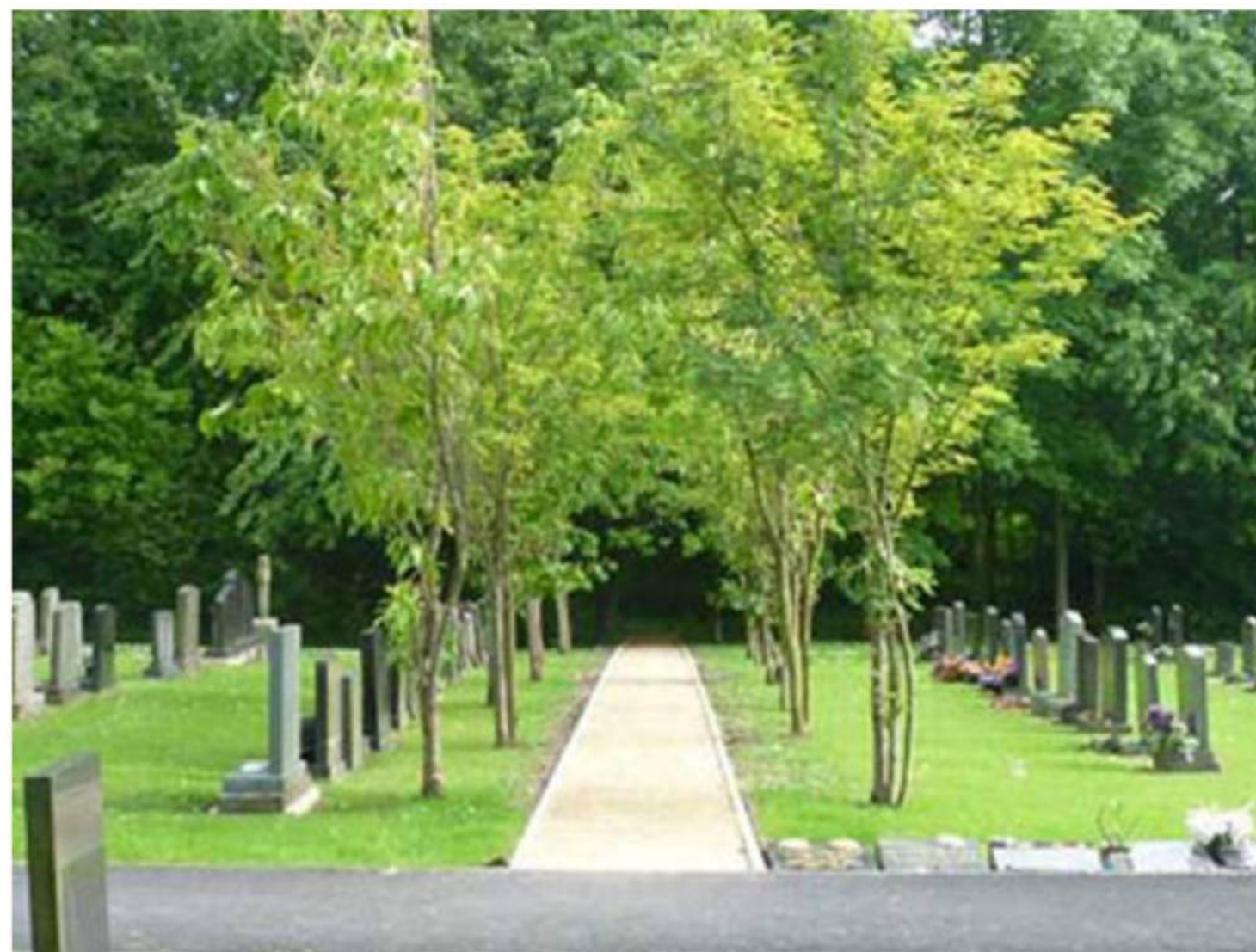
Here's the deal right now:

- 1 x County Council (Lancashire)
- 12 x District & Borough Councils
- 2 x Unitary Councils (Blackpool & Blackburn)
- 213 Parish & Town Councils (small but mighty!)
- PLUS a Combined Authority (basically, the big bosses of big moves)

👁️ Confusing? Yeah, lots of layers and overlap.

What's likely to happen next?

- County Deals & devolution plans are moving fast
- Models on the table for possibly up to 4 new unitary councils replacing districts and county
- More power to local level – but who will actually hold it?



Biodiversity goals 🌿🌟 Shoutout to Whalley PC!

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What It Means for Town & Parish Councils (Yes, You)



Newhaven TC - Newhaven Pump Track

Opportunities

- to become a credible delivery partner.
- protect assets.
- resolve ongoing issues relating to your parish that have become caught up in a two-tier administrative system.



Shrewsbury TC - Beaver Re-Introduction Project

Risks

- excluded from decision-making, or sidelined in early negotiations.
- fewer elected members.
- decisions being made by people less familiar with your area.
- requests to take on services without funding or staff.



Hoole PC - Tennis Court Refurb

Direct Routes to Power

- Loss of district councils means fewer layers, and less chance of your concerns being passed on to another council.
- Devolved funding and powers.

When to Act ..

NOW!

Kintbury PC - Meadow Gym

