Battle Town Council

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION AND THE DEVOLUTION OF SERVICES AND FACILITIES TO BATTLE

The government is proposing a re-organisation of the Council structure.

For Battle, in place of East Sussex County Council and Rother District Council, there will be a single council dealing with most of the day-to-day services that people use.

- Local services such as the management of parks, green spaces, street lighting and cemeteries will continue to be managed by your local town Council, Battle.
- CCTV is an example where Battle has recently agreed to take over responsibility (and to pay for) services previously run by Rother.
- Some additional services currently run by Rother or by East Sussex may be passed to Battle to manage, or sold to Battle or third parties. This includes hedges, verges, small strips of land.
- Some services may simply be closed.
- Where Battle needs to take over services and facilities to keep them available to you, the costs of running these services may need to be added to the precept (Battle's local part of the Council tax). Therefore, it is important in this consultation, not only to think about how much you value a service, but whether it is worth it to you if it drives up the cost of your local Council tax.
- We do not know yet which services run by East Sussex County Council will be under threat of transfer or closure, but in the interests of residents we have included the important non-statutory services in our current consultation. (Statutory services include education, health and social care).

This consultation will tell Battle Town Council which services and facilities you most value, taking into account the cost of those services.

It is expected that your local Battle tax will go up, but the new council replacing District and County Councils may make savings in future years, but this is unknown at present.

So that this consultation represents all groups within Battle – the young, the elderly, the disabled, those living in the most rural parts of our district, and those in the heart of Battle town - it is important that everyone who can, is represented.

To take part, you must live in a household which pays the precept, or a household which has exemption from Council taxes because you are on Benefits. One adult should complete the form for the whole household.

Please address any enquiries to the Town Clerk by email: enquiries@battletowncouncil.gov.uk or ring 01424 772210. Additionally, there are public drop-in sessions at: **Netherfield Village Hall** on Monday 14 July from 2pm to 8pm and **The Almonry** on Saturday 19 July from 9am to 2pm.

Full Name of household representative _____

Full Address _____

Post Code _____

Please tick which age group <u>you</u> personally fall into:

18 – 24 25 – 34 35 – 44 45 – 54 55 – 65 66- 74 75 – 85 Over 85

Tell us a little about the family you represent. **Tick all those that apply**:

	Yes	**No**
Does your household have children aged under 12?		
Does your household have children aged over 12 and under 18?		
Does anyone in your household suffer from a physical disability		
Does anyone in your household suffer from a mental disability		

This section considers those assets or facilities which Rother District Council or East Sussex Council may wish to dispose of or transfer to Battle. **Tick one box only** for each facility or service on a scale of 'low' for things where it does not matter to you whether it is sold on or closed, to 'high' for services which have high value to you.

The additional running cost on the precept for the following items is approximated to be £40 per annum.

Name of facility/service	**Low priority**	**Medium priority**	**High priority**
Kingsmead Open Space (where beacon lit) Cost of lease is unknown			
Netherfield; Green Space opposite shop + Darvel Down Playground + Grass between shop & Barley Grattens			
Coronation Gardens Recreation Ground (including hedges, play area and orchard) + Grass area near Coronation Gdns/ Marley Close junction			
Street Cleaner + Litter & dog waste bins			

- Please complete one form per household responding by one of the options below:
  - ⇒ Use this form and return to: Battle Town Council, The Almonry, High Street, TN330EA.
  - ⇒ Use this form and return to one of the drop-in sessions (see overleaf).
  - ⇒ Use this link for an online version: https://forms.gle/kBbH34BaibQir93N6
  - ⇒ Or scan this QR code
- The consultation is open until midnight on Wednesday 23 July 2025.
- Thank you for taking the time to complete this consultation.