



Town Clerk's Update



Council news and information from Sevenoaks Town Clerk, Linda Larter MBE

18 February 2026

Local Government Reorganisation

To many members of the public the proposals for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) may seem remote, confusing and perhaps not important, however this reorganisation is likely to impact every member of the community in one way or another.

This week the Local Government reorganisation consultation has gone live. Please see www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk for further information. The consultation is in excess of 600 pages. The Town Council will have a summary document relating to the options available to hand out to residents.



The consultation started Thursday 5th February for 7-weeks and will finish on 26th March.

Below are some frequently asked questions.

How will Sevenoaks Town Council support the consultation?

- Links to all the government consultation information will be provided on STC website
- Sevenoaks Town Council will consider the proposals at its meeting on 23rd February 2026
- STC will print out the consultation summary document and have available at its offices. All 5 models for LGR will be part of the consultation. This document will be reference only.
- We will print out the poster (when provided) and display across noticeboards throughout the town. The consultation will also be promoted in KCC, Medway, District, and Town/Parish Council buildings.

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- At STC offices we can book people on a public PC or direct to use our Wi-Fi and complete online for anyone who wants to come to read the full information or complete a consultation response online or to read the full consultation papers. However, in the promotion of the consultation libraries will be promoted as the main venue supporting this.
- If anyone wants a paper questionnaire to complete, then on request, we print it out and give them the address to post their return to.
- We will promote the consultation on social media and our website.

Where do people send questions and consultation responses?

The summary document and fuller information is online at [Local Government Reorganisation Consultation - Kent Council Leaders](#) and if you have any questions send these to

- lgreorganisation@communities.gov.uk
- Or in writing to LGR Consultation, Fry Building 2NE, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF

If people are responding in writing, they need to make it clear that they are responding on the Kent proposal. People can email responses to the consultation to the email or postal address above.

When replying, please include your name and email address. The government would also like you to confirm whether you are replying as an individual or submitting an official response on behalf of an organisation. Please indicate this using one of the following categories:

- resident living in area affected
- resident not living in area affected
- business organisation
- education organisation
- local government organisation - principal council
- local government organisation - parish/town council
- local government organisation - other
- police organisation
- fire organisation
- health organisation
- other

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If responding on behalf of an organisation, then it is asked that person responding include position in the organisation and the organisation's name. Sevenoaks Town Council will have an opportunity at the next Full Council to prepare a response.

What happens following the consultation?

Following the public consultation finishing the Government will consider the responses. It is expected that we will have a decision on which model will progress late summer this year. Any go-live of model is expected to be 2028 but this is subject to more information and development.

For more information visit: [Local Government Reorganisation Consultation - Kent Council Leaders](#)

Greatness Recreation Ground - New Pavilion

I am pleased to report that the new pavilion construction is still progressing well and is approximately now four weeks ahead of schedule, although we are expecting to lose some of that time this month due to weather. We are currently planning dates for the spring for Hard Hat Tours for junior school children and junior footballers.



Annual Town Public Meeting
Monday 9 March 2026

At Bat & Ball Centre, Sevenoaks, TN14 5DN

Have your say on matters relating to Sevenoaks Town.

Come along at 6.30pm to talk to Town Councillors and visit volunteer stalls.

The meeting will start at 7pm.

Please submit any questions you would like to ask the Town Council by 4 March to council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk



STC Team

I am pleased to report that we have now had our Investor in People status reconfirmed and we have obtained the Standard Level.

Thank you to all staff who contributed via completing the questionnaire and participating in interviews.



There are higher levels to be obtained, and although we are told we could achieve these, this comes at a considerable cost financially and with resources. The Town Council believes the Standard Level is sufficient to provide confidence that staffing matters are being addressed and invested in.

Quotes within the accreditation report include:

- “I really enjoy my job, and I enjoy coming to work. I love the fact that I feel I am doing something really worthwhile and making a positive contribution which is important to me.”
- “I really enjoy coming in to work. People are so friendly and helpful. I don’t want to work anywhere else as I feel sure I would not find the same working environment elsewhere.”

Thank you also to the STC Team for all their hard work for the Mayor’s Quiz whether this was in preparation prior to the event or actually on Saturday night. The combined efforts of all of us resulted in a £2,241.94 profit for the Mayor’s Charities.

My recent meetings included:

- SLCC Educational Trust
- STC Staff Meeting & Training
- Youth Council
- Chair & Vice Chair Meeting
- STC Strategy Review
- Planning & Environment Committee*
- Greatness Pavilion Project Management & Design Review
- STC Caretakers Meeting

*All of Sevenoaks Town Council’s Meetings are open to the public and available to watch live on YouTube see www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk for details.



Save the date

Visit our events page for more information: www.tinyurl.com/STCNewsEvents

Date	Event	Venue
Friday 6 March	International Women's Day Event	Bat & Ball Centre
Monday 9 March	Annual Town Meeting	Bat & Ball Centre
Thursday 19 March	<u>Mayor's Charity Concert - Swing into Spring</u>	Stag
Saturday 4 April	Vegan Market	Vine
Saturday 2 May	Climate Fair	Vine
Saturday 30 May	Health & Wellbeing Event	Vine
Friday 12 and Saturday 13 June	Beer on the Vine	Vine
Tuesday 4 August	Family Fun Day	Greatness Recreation Ground
Friday 20 November	Sevenoaks Business Awards	Bat & Ball Centre

I thought I would try the latest trend and create a caricature.



Wishing you a good week

Linda

