

Consultation on a proposal to use a Legislative Reform Order for making it easier to set up a town and parish council

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1. Summary of Proposals

A consultation paper issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government on behalf of the Secretary of State

Topic of this consultation:	This consultation paper sets out the Government's proposals for amending the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 on Community Governance Reviews: Chapter 3 (Reorganisation) of Part 4 (Parishes). The Government is required to conduct a consultation if the Secretary of State wishes to make amendments to primary legislation.
Scope of this consultation:	The purpose of the consultation is to set out the proposals and to seek views on the amendments to the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. The proposed legislative change will be made through a Legislative Reform Order under the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006. The public consultation invites views on the legislation governing Community Governance Reviews. Following the outcome of the consultation and parliamentary consideration, we propose that the changes will come into force as soon as the parliamentary procedure has concluded.
Geographical scope:	The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 on Community Governance Reviews extends to both England and Wales, but only applies to local authorities in England.
Impact Assessment:	An Impact Assessment is only needed where proposals impact upon business or the public sector bodies, or have significant costs for the public sector. Our assessment is that the proposals in this consultation will not bring about such impacts; although this consultation does seek the views of those likely to be affected by the proposals.

Basic Information

То:	The consultation is open to everyone. We particularly seek the views of individual citizens, county, district and borough councils, town and parish councils and those bodies which represent the interests of councils at all levels and those who have an interest in local governance issues.
Body/bodies	The Big Society and Community Rights - Parishes Team
responsible for	which is based in the Department for Communities and
the	Local Government (DCLG) is responsible for conducting the
consultation:	consultation.
Duration:	The consultation will begin on 27 March 2014. The

	consultation will run for 8 weeks and will close on 22 May 2014. All responses should be received by no later than 22	
Enquiries:	May 2014. During the consultation, if you have any enquiries, or wish to receive hard copies of the consultation documents, please contact:	
	Paulette Romain on the following contact details: Email: paulette.romain@communities.gsi.go.uk Tel No: 0303 444 2642	
How to respond:	Please submit all responses to the proposals in this consultation document by email to:	
	paulette.romain@communities.gsi.gov.uk	
	Alternatively, if you would prefer to provide a written response you can send this to the following address:	
	Paulette Romain Big Society and Community Rights Team 5/A4	
	Eland House Bressenden Place Department for Communities and Local Government London SW1E 5DU	
Additional ways to become involved:	Responses can be submitted on-line or by post. If you would like this document in another format, or would like to feed in your views in another way, please contact the Department.	
After the consultation:	A summary of responses to the consultation and the Government's response will be made available after the closing date and will be published on the Government's GOV.UK website.	
Compliance with the Code of Practice on	The consultation is being conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Legislative Reform Order under the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006. The terms of	
Consultation:	Government's consultations principles can be found at the following link:	
	http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource- library/consultation-principles-guidance	

Background

Previous	The new measures intend to reduce the current burden the
engagement:	Community Governance Review process places on
	individual citizens, local communities and campaigners who want to set up a town and parish council.

We have evidenced our assessment of the current burdens through our engagement with interested parties in the local government sector. This includes councils at all levels (county associations, local authorities and town and parish councils and representative bodies for local councils).

The Government conducted an earlier consultation between 31 October 2012 and 9 January 2013, to seek views on the proposals to change the current process for setting up new town and parish councils. The consultation helped to gauge the level of support and viability for introducing a range of options. As a result of that consultation the Government announced a set of proposed measures in its response to the consultation on 9 September 2013.

2. Introduction

- This consultation document is issued on behalf of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and sets out in detail how the Government intends to use a Legislative Reform Order to amend the current legislation governing the setting up of new town and parish councils.
- 2. The changes to the legislation will reduce the restrictions that can prevent or hinder local communities from requesting a Local Authority to carry out a Community Governance Review. These measures will remove the burdensome elements of the current process, making it easier for local communities and campaigners alike to take the first steps towards setting up a town or parish council.
- 3. With over 9,500 civil parishes across England, representing more than 37 per cent of the population, we expect the changes to be of interest to local citizens, campaigners and to councils at all levels. It will give people a say about a process that helps to shape the local governance for their local area. We expect everyone whether you live in a village, market town or a built-up city, to benefit from this change.
- 4. We propose to introduce the new measures by means of a Legislative Reform Order under Section 1 of the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006. The consultation is being conducted in accordance with the provisions of section 13 of the Act. Views are invited on all aspects of the consultation paper, while a specific question is set out below and in the response form at Annex D. The current process for setting up a new town and parish council is set out in Section 3: Background.

3. Background

How we got here

- 5. In October 2012, the Government published a consultation that sought views on a range of options intended to improve the current process for instigating a Local Authority Community Governance Review, the first step towards setting up a new town or parish council.
- 6. In launching the consultation, we already understood, through extensive engagement with interested parties in the local government sector, that there is strong support for reforming existing legislation.
- 7. We received 76 responses to the consultation paper, which indicated significant support for the new measures proposed. It was evident from the consultation outcomes that the respondents assessed the proposed measures as striking a fair balance, reducing the burden upon communities seeking to establish a new parish, without increasing the burden upon local authorities or allowing communities to trigger governance reviews in the absence of real community support. The first consultation paper and the Government response to the consultation can be found at the GOV.UK website at the following link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/making-it-easier-to-set-up-new-town-and-parish-councils-discussion-paper

The current process

- 8. The current process is initiated by either the Local Authority choosing to carry out a review, or by the local community petitioning the Local Authority to create a new parish council. The petitioner must also at this time propose the boundaries for the new parish. The number of signatures required to instigate a review under the current process is:
 - 50 per cent of the electors for neighbourhood areas with fewer than 500 electors;
 - 250 electors for areas with between 500 and 2,500 electors; or
 - 10 per cent of the electors for areas with over 2,500 electors.
- 9. This requirement is set out in section 80(3) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, which relates to community governance petitions. The barrier presented by this obligation can constrain local democracy, preventing campaigners from generating and acting upon the views of local people. In some cases the disproportionately high number of electors' signatures required can stifle those local campaigns, which have already demonstrated support for triggering a Community Governance Review.
- 10. Once a Community Governance Review has been initiated, the Local Authority must then decide what geographical area the review will cover. It might, for example, choose

- to take the opportunity that receiving a petition offers to carry out a single, efficient review addressing governance arrangements for the whole local authority area.
- 11. Whilst the legislation requires the Community Governance Review to be completed within 12 months, the timetable does not include the time taken by the Local Authority to complete preparatory work, undertaken in advance of conducting the review e.g. setting out the terms of reference. This can mean that the entire process can be slow for campaigners in their efforts to maintain the momentum necessary to sustain support over a prolonged period of time.
- 12. On concluding the consideration of the outcomes of a Community Governance Review, should the Local Authority decide to create a new parish council, this is done with a reorganisation order. However, the new parish council will not be formally constituted until elections for councillors are held. This can be at the same time as the next local authority elections, or (if that would mean a long delay) the Local Authority can choose to hold earlier elections for the parish, before it falls into line with the normal electoral cycle for the local authority area.
- 13. In the period after the decision to create a new parish council, but before its first elections, the Local Authority may set up a 'shadow council' for the parish. This is a body created to assist with the transition to the full council and it can develop standing orders for the council and make early plans. It is only there as a caretaker and the decisions it makes are not binding on the new parish council when it is elected.

4. The Proposals

14. The proposals are intended to reduce the burdens which result from the current process by amending relevant sections of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. The three key proposals are as follows below:

Overview of proposed new measures

I. Lowering the threshold of signatures required to make a valid petition:

The specific amendments to section 80(3) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 Act will reduce the percentage of local government electors required to sign the community governance petition, to trigger a Community Governance Review, from 10 per cent to 7.5 per cent (and to reduce the proportions required for smaller electorates in line with that change). This public consultation on making it easier to set up a new town and parish council proposed a 5 per cent reduction; the 7.5 per cent reduction we now propose reflects the outcomes from the consultation. The amendments will benefit the process by:

- Removing the burden placed upon local campaigners to undergo a lengthy process to obtain a disproportionate number of electorate signatures to trigger a review.
- Retaining the protection required for ensuring that only campaigns with community support result in a community governance review, and potentially, the setting up of a new town and parish council.

II. Shortening the amount of time the Local Authority can take to complete a Community Governance Review:

The amendments relating to introducing a time-limit from 12 months from the date the review begins, to 12 months from the date of receipt of the petition or application is supported by the outcomes of the public consultation. The change will benefit the process by:

- Ensuring that local support does not ebb away, due to a prolonged period waiting for a Local Authority's decision on whether to hold a Community Governance Review, or for the Local Authority to set the terms of reference for the review.
- Giving local campaigners reassurance about the time scales involved in completing a Community Governance Review in a reasonable time.
- Retaining a realistic timescale for a principal authority to carry out even the most complex reviews thoroughly.

III. Allowing Neighbourhood Forums to trigger a Community Governance Review:

The amendments we intend to make to the Act, will give Neighbourhood Forums with a Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Localism Act 2011 that has passed referendum, the right to submit an application for the creation of a new parish having the same weight as a submitted community governance petition. The consultation outcomes supported a change from the changes will:

- Remove the repetitive requirement for campaigners to complete two separate processes to evidence support for their proposal for their wish for the local community.
 Recognise local support for where a referendum to adopt a Neighbourhood Plan has
- been passed by the local electorate.

5. Why use a Legislative Reform Order?

15. This chapter assesses the proposal against the preconditions for Legislative Reform Orders laid down in the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006. The preconditions are set out in Annex A and are summarised in the heading to each section below.

1. Non-Legislative Solutions

16. No non-legislative solution is possible. The amendments required can only be achieved by primary legislation or by a Legislative Reform Order. Amending the Guidance on Community Governance Reviews <u>would not</u> in itself be enough to require a Local Authority to implement the new measures proposed. It would still be reliant upon the discretion of the Local Authority to decide whether it should follow the guidance. This would fail to create the certainty that we are seeking for the process.

2. Proportionality

17. These legislative proposals reflect the Government's commitment towards supporting localism and the principle of empowering communities to take decisions about the social, economic and environmental improvements they want to see introduced in their local areas. In seeking to reduce the burdens that campaigners face in requiring an Authority to carry out a Community Governance Review, care has been taken that the requirement of popular support for such a campaign is not lost. This ensures that Local Authorities are not faced with an increased demand for Reviews that do not convey the views of the community in question. The intended measures have also been supported by the evidence obtained from the public consultation which demonstrated support for the proposals.

3. Fair Balance

18. The intended legislative changes are representative of the outcomes from the consultation conducted. They strike a balance between promoting the policy set out in the Open Public Services White Paper of 2011 and maintaining the protections to ensure any new council has the support of local people before a parish council is put in place. These changes will maintain the protections to ensure any new council has the support of local people before a parish council is put in place. The changes may create some additional burdens for local authorities – in terms of a possible rise in the number of Community Governance Reviews, but they strike a fair balance in terms of their overall aim which is to facilitate more effective and convenient governance structures. The Department for Communities and Local Government will be providing a fund for Local Authorities to draw down, in order to cover the additional costs associated with Community Governance Reviews.

4. Necessary Protection

19. No protection is being removed. In order to be valid, a petition or application for a Community Governance Review will still require a strong degree of local support. A council will still have an adequate time period to consider and conduct any review. No

changes have been made to the ability of a council to determine what recommendations to make in the best interests of the community as a whole.

5. Rights and Freedoms

20. No rights or freedoms are affected.

6. Constitutional Significance

21. The proposed amendments would only apply to Local Authorities in England.

6. Consultation

- 22. The Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006 requires Departments to consult widely on all Legislative Reform Order proposals. The consultation document and the consultation process is being conducted in accordance with section 13(1) of that Act and has been planned to adhere to the code of practice on consultation.
- 23. The list of consultees to which the consultation document has been sent is attached at Annex C. We would invite all interested parties to submit responses to the consultation, not just those to whom the consultation document has been sent. We would particularly welcome comments regarding the specific question set out in the response form attached at Annex D.
- 24. An explanation of the preconditions that the proposed measures must meet is set out in the Legislative Reform Order Scope and Procedure attached at Annex A. An overview of the parliamentary process and background information on the Legislative Reform Order procedure is attached at Annex E.

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Q1. Do you agree that these proposals satisfy the conditions of the legislative reform order?

How to Submit Your Response

25. We thank you for the time you have taken to read the document and invite you to submit any comments on the proposals in this consultation document to:

By Email: paulette.romain@communities.gsi.gov.uk

By Post:

Paulette Romain
Big Society and Community Rights Division
Department for Communities and Local Government
5/A4 Eland House
Bressenden Place
LONDON
SW1E 5DU

Disclosure of Responses

26. The normal practice will be for details of representations received in response to this consultation document to be disclosed. This procedure is in compliance with Section 14(3) of the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006 which sets out the requirement for the management of responses submitted during a consultation exercise for a Legislative Reform Order. While the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006 provides for non-disclosure of representations, the Minister will include the names of all respondents in the list submitted to Parliament alongside the draft Legislative Reform Order made to the relevant Parliamentary Scrutiny Committees. This is a safeguard against attempts to bring improper influence to bear on the Minister. We envisage that, in the normal course of events, the provision for non-disclosure will be used rarely and only in exceptional circumstances.

27. You should note that:

- If you request that your representation is not disclosed, the Minister will not be able
 to disclose the contents of your representation without your express consent and, if
 the representation concerns a third party, their consent too. Alternatively, the
 Minister may disclose the content of your representation but only in such a way as
 to anonymise it.
- In all cases where you representation concerns information on a third party, the
 Minister is not obliged to pass it on to Parliament if he considers that disclosure
 could adversely affect the interests of that third party and he is unable to obtain the
 consent of the third party.
- 28. Please identify any information which you or any other person involved do not wish to be disclosed. You should note that many facsimile and e-mail messages carry, as a matter of course, a statement that the contents are for the eyes only of the intended recipient. In the context of this consultation such appended statements will not be construed as being requests for non-inclusion in the post consultation review unless accompanied by an additional specific request for confidentiality.

Confidentiality and Freedom

29. It is possible that requests for information contained in consultation responses may be made in accordance with access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004). If you do not want your response to be disclosed in response to such requests for information, you should identify the information you wish to be withheld and explain why confidentiality is necessary. Your request will only be acceded to if it is appropriate in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not of itself be regarded as binding on the Government.

Annex A

Legislative Reform Orders Scope and Procedure

What can be delivered by a Legislative Reform Order?

Under section 1 of the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006 a Minister can make a Legislative Reform Order for the purpose of 'removing or reducing any burden, or overall burdens, resulting directly or indirectly for any person from any legislation'. Section 1(3) of the Act defines a 'burden' as:

- · a financial cost:
- an administrative inconvenience;
- an obstacle to efficiency, productivity or profitability; or
- · a sanction, criminal or otherwise, which affects the carrying on of any lawful activity

Preconditions

Each proposal for a Legislative Reform Order must satisfy the preconditions set out in section 3 of the Act. The questions in this document are designed to elicit the information that the Minister will need in order to satisfy the Parliamentary Scrutiny Committees that, among other things, the proposal satisfies these preconditions. For this reason, we would particularly welcome your views on whether and how each aspect of the proposed changes in this consultation document meets the following preconditions:

Non-Legislative Solutions

A Legislative Reform Order may not be made if there are non-legislative solutions which will satisfactorily remedy the difficulty which the Order is intended to address. An example of a non-legislative solution might be issuing guidance about a particular legislative regime.

Proportionality

The effect of a provision made by an Order must be proportionate to its policy objective. A policy objective might be achieved in a number of different ways, one of which may be more onerous than others and may be considered to be a disproportionate means of securing the desired outcome. Before making an Order the Minister must consider that this is not the case and that there is an appropriate relationship between the policy aim and the means chosen to achieve it.

Fair Balance

Before making an Order, the Minister must be of the opinion that a fair balance is being struck between the public interest and the interests of any person adversely affected by the Order. It is possible to make an Order which will have an adverse effect on the interests of one or more persons only if the Minister is satisfied that there will be beneficial effects which are in the public interest.

Necessary Protection

A Minister may not make an Order if he considers that the proposals would remove any necessary protection. The notion of necessary protection can extend to economic protection, health and safety protection, and the protection of civil liberties, the environment and national heritage.

Rights and Freedoms

An Order cannot be made unless the Minister is satisfied that it will not prevent any person from continuing to exercise any right or freedom which they might reasonably expect to continue to exercise. This condition recognises that there are certain rights that it would not be fair to take away from people using an Order.

Constitutional Significance

A Minister may not make an Order if he considers that the provision made by the Order is of constitutional significance.

Devolution:

The 2006 Act imposes certain restriction regarding Legislative Reform Orders and the devolution agreements:

- Scotland A Minister cannot make an Order under Part 1 of the Act which would be within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament. This does not affect the powers to make consequential, supplementary, incidental or transitional provisions.
- Northern Ireland A Minister cannot make an Order under Part 1 of the Act that amends or repeals any Northern Ireland legislation, unless it is to make consequential, supplementary, incidental or transitional provisions.
- Wales The agreement of the Welsh Ministers is required for any provision in an Order which confers a function upon the Welsh Ministers, modifies or removes a function of the Welsh Ministers, or restates a provision conferring a function upon the Welsh Ministers. The agreement of the National Assembly for Wales is required for any provision in an Order which is within the legislative competence of the Assembly.

Annex B

Draft Legislative Reform Order

Draft LRO is attached separately.

Annex C

List of Consultees

Non-Government Departments

National Association of Local Councils

[Through the National Association of Local Councils the proposal will be brought to the attention of those bodies' County Associations and the parish and community councils that make up their membership].

Society of Local Council Clerks

Annex D

Response Form

Response form for consultation paper issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government regarding proposals for a Legislative Reform Order to amend the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007: Community Governance Reviews.

Respondent details	Please submit your response by Thursday 22 May 2014 to:
Name:	Email - paulette.romain@communities.gsi.gov.uk
Organisation:	
Address:	Or by post to:
Town/City:	
County/Postcode:	Paulette Romain
Telephone:	Zone 5/A4
Email:	Big Society and Community Rights
	Department for Communities and Local Government
	Eland House
	Bressenden Place
	London
	SW1E 5DU

Are you requesting non-disclosure of your response: YES/NO

Q1. Do you agree that these proposals satisfy the conditions of the legislative reform order?
COMMENTS

Annex E

Legislative Reform Orders – Parliamentary consideration

Introduction

1. The reform proposals to reduce the burdens with the process for triggering a Community Governance Review will require changes to primary legislation in order to give effect to them. The Minister could achieve these changes by making a Legislative Reform Order under the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006. Legislative Reform Orders are subject to preliminary consultation and to rigorous Parliamentary scrutiny by Committees in each House of Parliament. On that basis, the Minister invites comments on these reform proposals in relation to a change in legislation on the new measures we propose to introduce to address the current problems intended to be carried forward by a Legislative Reform Order.

Legislative Reform Proposals

- 2. This consultation document on the proposed use of a Legislative Reform Order to change legislation on payments by parish and community councils and charter trustees has been produced because the starting point for Legislative reform Order proposals is thorough and effective consultation with interested parties. In undertaking this preliminary consultation, the Minister is expected to seek out actively the views of those concerned, including those who may be adversely affected, and then to demonstrate to the Scrutiny Committees that he or she has addressed those concerns.
- 3. Following the consultation exercise, when the Minister lays proposals before Parliament under section 14 of the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006, he or she must lay before Parliament an Explanatory Document which must:
- a. Explain under which power or powers in the Act the provisions contained in the order are being made;
- b. Introduce and give reasons for the provisions in the Order;
- c. Explain why the Minister considers that:
 - There are no non-legislative solutions which will satisfactorily remedy the difficulty which the provisions of the Order are intended to address;
 - The effect of the provisions are proportionate to the policy objective;
 - The provisions made in the Order strike a fair balance between the public interest and the interests of any person adversely affected by it;
 - The provisions do not remove any necessary protection;
 - The provisions do not prevent anyone from continuing to exercise any right or freedom which they might reasonably expect to continue to exercise;
 - o The provisions in the proposal are not constitutionally significant; and

- Where the proposals will restate an enactment, they make the law more accessible or more easily understood.
- d. Include, so far as appropriate, an assessment of the extent to which the provision made by the order would remove or reduce any burden or burdens;
- e. Identify and give reasons for any functions of legislating conferred by the order and the procedural requirements attaching to the exercise of those functions; and
- f. Give details of any consultation undertaken, any representations received as a result of the consultation and the changes (if any) made as a result of those representations.
- 4. On the day the Minister lays the proposals and explanatory document, the period for Parliamentary consideration begins. This lasts 40 days under negative and affirmative resolution procedure and 60 days under superaffirmative resolution procedure. If you want a copy of the proposals and the Minister's explanatory document laid before Parliament, you will be able to get them either from the Government department concerned or by contacting the Better Regulation Executive: http://www.bis.gov.uk/policies/bre

Parliamentary Scrutiny

- 5. Both Houses of Parliament scrutinise legislative reform proposals and draft Legislative Reform Orders. This is done by the Regulatory Reform Committee in the House of Commons and the Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee in the House of Lords.
- 6. Standing Orders for the Regulatory Reform Committee in the Commons stipulate that the Committee considers whether proposals:
- a. appear to make an inappropriate use of delegated legislation;
- b. serve the purpose of removing or reducing a burden, or the overall burdens, resulting directly or indirectly for any person from any legislation (in respect of a draft Order under section 1 of the Act);
- c. serve the purpose of securing that regulatory functions are exercised so as to comply with the regulatory principles, as set out in section 2(3) of the Act (in respect of a draft Order under section 2 of the Act);
- d. secure a policy objective which could not be satisfactorily secured by non-legislative means;
- e. have an effect which is proportionate to the policy objective;
- f. strike a fair balance between the public interest and the interests of any person adversely affected by it;
- g. do not remove any necessary protection;

- h. do not prevent any person from continuing to exercise any right or freedom which that person might reasonably expect to continue to exercise;
- i. are not of constitutional significance;
- j. make the law more accessible or more easily understood (in the case of provisions restating enactments);
- k. have been the subject of, and takes appropriate account of, adequate consultation;
- I. give rise to an issue under such criteria for consideration of statutory instruments laid down in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No 151 (Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee)) as are relevant, such as defective drafting or failure of the department to provide information where it was required for elucidation:
- m. appear to be incompatible with any obligation resulting from membership of the European Union.
- 7. The Committee in the House of Lords will consider each proposal in terms of similar criteria, although these are not laid down in Standing Orders.
- 8. Each Committee might take oral or written evidence to help it decide these matters, and each Committee would then be expected to report.
- 9. Copies of Committee Reports, as Parliamentary papers, can be obtained through HMSO. They are also made available on the Parliament website at:
- Regulatory Reform Committee in the Commons; and
- Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee in the Lords.
- 10. Under affirmative resolution procedure, each of the Scrutiny Committees is given 40 days to scrutinise an Order, after which the Minister can make the Order if it is not vetoed by either or both of the Committees and it is approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.

How to make your views known

13. Responding to this consultation document is your first and main opportunity to make your views known to the relevant department as part of the consultation process. You should send your views to the person named in the consultation document. When the Minister lays proposals before

Parliament you are welcome to put your views before either or both of the Scrutiny Committees.

- 14. In the first instance, this should be in writing. The Committees will normally decide on the basis of written submissions whether to take oral evidence.
- 15. Your submission should be as concise as possible, and should focus on one or more of the criteria listed in paragraph 6 above.

16. The Scrutiny Committees appointed to scrutinise Legislative Reform Orders can be contacted at:

Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee House of Lords London SW1A 0PW

Tel: 020 7219 3103 Fax: 020 7219 2571 DPRR@parliament.uk

Regulatory Reform Committee House of Commons 7 Millbank London SW1P 3JA

Tel: 020 7219 2830/4404/2837

Fax: 020 7219 2509

regrefcom@parliament.uk