

Appendix 1

All comments from Weymouth Community
Governance Review Consultation
Summer 2017 (Redacted)

<p>If you feel some areas should not be included within the town council area please say which they are and why they shouldn't be included .</p>
<p>"they should excluded" ...should surely read, "they should be excluded". Poor proof reading can be misleading. Reverting to the Q. all areas of Weymouth should be included but is there a case for revision of current ward boundaries ?</p>
<p>"WEYMOUTH Town Council" should include Weymouth, Portland, Chickerell, Preston, Sutton Poyntz; with everything further outlying in West Dorset as semi rural. As an ex Weymouth Estate Agent (over many years), I can confirm that this is what ALL prospective purchasers instinctively thought, especially those from away. Most considered it ridiculous that Chickerell wasn't in Weymouth!</p>
<p>A single town council for the whole of Weymouth would be ok if there were enough councillors to work and represent all of the original wards within this borough. If we are to have a vast reduction of councillors to cover all of Weymouth this will mean the councillors having to do this as a full-time paid position as there will be so much work for them to cover with fewer representatives to do this work. And we must keep our mayor to to represent the good of the people of Weymouth & Portland.</p>
<p>All of them. WPBC have systematically destroyed the area. We don't need them or their tinpot decisions.</p>
<p>another layer of government no required</p>
<p>Another level of governance will cost the public more, 29 councillors will waste public money. Reducing 9 councils to 2 will create imbalance of financial distribution.</p>
<p>Better to have a Radipole Parish Council</p>
<p>Chickerell</p>
<p>Chickerell as they have their own Town Council</p>
<p>Chickerell, area should not be part of Weymouth</p>
<p>Councillors personal interests in the past have been to the detriment of the town and Portland. They have no concepts in respect of money is Redlands loaned monies and then wrote off they believe parking is a cash cow they own hotel's which are supported indirectly by tax payers money Millions written due to poor harbour management. They have not been fit for purpose</p>
<p>DEFIBATELY GET FAR AWAY FROM PORTLAND! YOU'VE ROBBED US ENOUGH AKRWADY</p>
<p>Each area has its own needs</p>
<p>Fewer areas say 4 with less councillors say 15 therefore costing less for ratepayers to fund.</p>
<p>Given the town centre 'problems' of late, the feeling over here is perhaps that Melcome Regis should remain as such and for Weymouth to regain it's former status?</p>
<p>I am concerned that some of the existing councillors would become Town councillors - many Weymouth councillors pander to local popularism, this is one of the reasons for Weymouths decline - we need councillors who are prepared to make the difficult decisions that need to be made for the future of the town</p>
<p>I am not too sure whether Chickerell is included in this plan. If Chickerell has its own parish council then I would say they should not be included.</p>
<p>I Believe we should include Portland in the Town Council. 1 council would be better as PTC just costs us money with a precept.</p>
<p>I do not believe a town council is value for money. The evidence speaks for itself.</p>

I don't have confidence in local councils to have vision and determination, because of the narrow focus of their interest. I think the main issues that affect everybody's future are regional and national, and to some extent international. Having small, localised forms of government wastes resources, in my view, that could be better used by applying them to bigger, more regional and national issues.
I feel the Town Centre has a separate identity to the more residential areas of Weymouth.
I think it is a coherent area
I think that some of WDDC's current area should also be included, in particular Chickerell and some of the surrounding area. WDDC basically surrounds Weymouth and controls its ability to expand.
I think there should be one body representing the whole of Weymouth but I really have concerns on who is on this body. There are some councillors who represent their own views not that of their community
I think this could be very positive for Weymouth, the town has become rather shabby and needs better facilities such as clean new toilet blocks. The seafront and harbour are popular but the shops and shopping could be much improved with greater choice of shops. There is a lot of homelessness in the area which appears more noticeable in the town, another area to be addressed in order to improve everyone's lives, not just the shoppers! I would hope that a new single town council could better evaluate what is needed and action more quickly and efficiently than several councils trying to work together.
I wonder about Sutton Poyntz - it's a village within the town...
I would be happy for the W&P to be represented within one county council. No separate councils - far too many councillors
If a town council was established it should take in those such as Chickerell, Osmington etc which were included under the 1933 boundary review. The exclusion of the areas has hampered growth.
It depends on the personal agenda of the councillors. Some care for their communities, some are opinionated & some use the position for personal gain - thus has it always been. This will not change whether Weymouth has none, 1 or more councils
it MUST include Chickerell too - which is a nonsense in West Dorset - all Chickerell residents look to Weymouth for all services and community
Local businesses should be excluded The BID has not cared about residents What
more people more muddle and extra cost
No
no
No area should be excluded
No exclusions
no strong feelings either way
None

<p>Nottingham should not be included in the Weymouth Town Council as the 2 areas differ vastly in their needs. The creeping urbanisation of the green amenity spaces which are a key component of "the offer" to tourists is a source of constant lament. We run 2 small businesses both of which rely on close interaction with visitors to the area. They all comment on the positives of the rural amenity and, conversely, have nothing positive to say about Weymouth or indeed Portland - as a welcoming attraction that invites visitors to stay and learn about the area. We have an amazing local natural environment and yet it seems that W&PBC have only the most narrow self serving interests of established hoteliers and other noisy lobby groups who themselves appear hell bent on self immolation. We have the highest Council Tax in the whole bloody country and this should not be seen as a point of pride. The River Weymouth is over-abstracted to the point where it is a slow flowing unhealthy nitrate sink. Has anyone considered how to manage Radipole Lake which will turn entirely to marsh if it is allowed to continue as a sedimentary dead end? My wife and I visit dHMS Severn over the Seafood Festival weekend and we both noted that is the first time in probably 30n years that we have ventured that far onto the pier. There is a huge amount of space wasted there, which should be developed as a destination location, not remain a barren unused carpark in the hope that a ferry company may grace us with their presence once more.</p>
<p>outer Weymouth like chickerell have different problems and people.</p>
<p>Portland - they have their own town and council.</p>
<p>Portland and Weymouth are both unique and need to have their own town councils.</p>
<p>Portland as they already have their own and Chickerell as theory have one as well</p>
<p>Portland should be excluded as it has its own town council.</p>
<p>Portland should not be included. Portland already has a town council, and when 'lumped' together with Weymouth would get pushed out further than it is now. Portland gets little or no consideration from Weymouth now, any monies available are always allocated to Weymouth first, Portland is the "poor outsider"</p>
<p>Portland shouldn't be lumped in with Weymouth our needs and identity are complete different ... and deserves to be treated accordingly .. current system sucks and new system would suck even more</p>
<p>Portland!</p>
<p>Preston and Wyle Regis should have their own parish councils. Also, you have included Chickerell as part of Weymouth. Chickerell is in West Dorset, not Weymouth and we already have a thriving Town Council</p>
<p>should be a weymouth and portland town council</p>
<p>Some areas should be included which are not at present within the area. Namely the Charleston area of Chickerell to Include Granby Industrial Estate and all of Lanehouse; Littlemoor and Sutton Poyntz to the junction with Coombe Valley Road. This would require the Boundary Commission to be involved and they should be asked for a hearing within say 4 years.</p>
<p>Strictly within Weymouth Constituency</p>
<p>sutton poyntz to have its own parish council due to the fact it is far from weymouth with very poor transport links.</p>
<p>The Council structure should never of been proposed for change, the Borough Council structure for Weymouth and Portland worked well until all the staff were moved over the hill to Dorchester. Now, Weymouth is run by Dorchester, Dorchester is put first for everything, and Weymouth is becoming like the poor relation. Shame on you elected Councillors for allowing this to happen. I feel a "NO" to Dorchester should exist, give us back our town.</p>

<p>The existing local government boundary has parts of the "town" in West Dorset (e.g. Off Lane House Rocks Road and Littlemoor Road) creating a town council that does not represent these areas is to continue a problem which is only going to get worse particularly with new building off Littlemoor Road and expanding off towards Chickerell.</p>
<p>The Northern area of the current Borough (Upwey and Broadway) are physically separate from the main area of the town and have a very clearly defined and distinctive character. They are much more rural in all respects with very limited services in comparison with the main town (transport, parks, gardens, sports facilities, employment, education, shops etc.) They already have their own local organisations for local events and associated fundraising and in consequence call on central support far less than the predominately tourism related town centre</p>
<p>The Sutton Poyntz area as defined in the Neighbourhood Plan boundary could be considered as a Parish Council if agreed by a majority of the residents.</p>
<p>The Weymouth area, because of its history and geography, is unusual in the strength of its outer areas and the very separate and distinct identity of the seafront and core.</p>
<p>This is difficult to say with any certainty as I don't really know what they do today, what will be expected to be done by the single unitary authority and thus what true responsibility will remain with a TC</p>
<p>This proposal (a Town Council) would merely be replacing the existing Borough Council - why on earth would a 'Town Council' merit 29 councillors!!! They have made an absolute shambles of the Borough Council so why would it be any different as a Town Council!!</p>
<p>This should include all areas , Chickeral and so.</p>
<p>Those areas not currently included in WPBC area</p>
<p>upwey, broadwey, outlying inland villages - not associated nor heavily influenced by the overriding concerns of "central" Weymouth - viz Tourism, parking, economic growth/survival</p>
<p>V</p>
<p>We do not need another layer of local government. We are about to see the economies of scale of moving from 9 into two and now you want us to pay, because the councillors are not going to be free, for more government and governance.</p>
<p>We should go back to basics - Weymouth and Melcombe Regis</p>
<p>We should have individual areas governed by local councils i.e. Wyke Regis, chickerel etc.</p>
<p>Weymouth And Melcombe Regis</p>
<p>Weymouth Town Centre and Melcombe Regis has a totally different democratic lifestyle to the rest of Weymouth, other areas can stand alone and do not have to endure the drugs, drunks, loutishness, unruly behaviour of people within this area. The out of hours drinking and noise not only in the Town Centre and Melcombe Regis but also along the Esplanade during all hours of the night. The Residents of the Town Centre and Melcombe Regis have a right to enjoy their surrounding area as much as all other areas within Weymouth Boundary. There is poor attendance by the Police and Community Officers in maintaining an orderly behaviour within the Town Centre and Melcombe Regis which needs severe attention. A Town Council overall would only exasperate these problems and hide them behind the other areas in Weymouth that is more quiet during the evening and night. We have been ignored since being taken over by West Dorset so things will only get worse.</p>
<p>Will it stop the money going east all the time?</p>
<p>Wyke Regis and Preston could have their own Paris Councils</p>

Wyke Regis is very much between Portland and Weymouth in all respects

You won't need as many councillors as you have now

Councillors have proposed a single town council for the whole area as they feel it is the

best option. They have already considered and ruled out some other options. If there are other options you think better serve the community that we should consider, please explain your alternative options and tell us why you think that would be better.

* A single town council for the whole of Weymouth is the best option for both residents and business people in Weymouth. It will also add prestige to the town in the eyes of tourists and potential new businesses contemplating re location to Weymouth area. * It is also important that a Weymouth Town Council should be linked with Portland Town council as we all share a common bay and history. Many people regard Portland to be part of Weymouth and Vice Versa - to maintain a link will stimulate community cohesion. *** A Weymouth Town Council should also provide a physical presence in terms of provision of a Town and Tourist Information Centre. On line services should compliment a physical presence and vice versa. If there is no physical Town and Tourist Information point this is detrimental to residents, visitors, tourists and the business community. Failure to provide a Town Council and an Information Centre would be in breach of the Disability Act and the new Equality Act as those with a disability (physical and intellectual) and elderly residents and visitors to Weymouth would be severely and negatively impacted by loss of local services necessary for them to access mainstream activities and services. Currently the lack of a physical Information Centre already impacts on stress levels and a poorer quality of life for the above mentioned category and this should not be tolerated in a progressive and democratic society. *

A cheaper alternative with a maximum of 12 "Councillors" with a very low budget and much lower precept on Council Tax

A council run by business people who can see that potential in many of the preposed business ideas that would normally be turned down by the existing council. The old cinema could have been turned into a nightclub, or a casino, they turned it into flats of course.

A larger joined up Council which encompasses all aspects provides a more joined up approach where there is less likelihood of information not being acted on or shared. This worked at the time for other councils I was involved in with multi council seminars I took part in and the involvement I had with Torbay. To have one part of a road in one council and the other part of a road in another is just stupid

A no council question should have explanations attached as many people will not respond/read the supporting paper

A single tier unitary authority is the only option worth considering

A single town council for the whole of Weymouth is the best option.

A single town council is best if it's run by people who live and breathe the town

A single town council is the sensible and only way to proceed. It is vitally important that this "one voice" is heard and represented well when resolving issues when the power of the county will sit in the East! It would be too easy to become a poor relation in the new set-up so a strong and robust Weymouth Town Council is essential.

a single town council ok as an idea but I think too many councillors and wards proposed in this document. we do not have the resources to have a top heavy management structure. we need to keep resources for services not management. weymouth needs to set a good example to all other areas in dorset

A single town council would be OK provided that there is fair representation of each area within that, as shown on the map.

A small number of councillors e.g. 2 to cover Weymouth west and east then one to cover Portland. Two councils for Dorset County on which our councillors would sit. There are far too many local councillors and nothing seems to get done.
A town Council along the lines of Portland would provide coherence. Indeed the Portland Council could be extended to cover Weymouth. This would provide greater cohesion and give Portland increased influence
A town council for Weymouth & Portland would be better. It is EXTREMELY difficult to comment on setting up a Town Council without knowing what functions it should perform.
A town council for Weymouth is the only answer
A town council for Weymouth.... and one for Melcombe Regis
A town council will require funding and will not add that personal touch that is needed. We should have parish councils reporting directly to the unitary authority. Parish councils, with their elected representatives (councillors) would be more interested in very local issues as opposed to political decisions.
A town or parish council will be essential. We must have a voice amongst the 'big boys' of Bournemouth & Poole.
Agree with single Town Council
All areas have completely different difficulties you can't lump them all together
An alternative would be to have paid community leaders for different areas of the borough of Weymouth that are solely responsible for their own area.
As a resident of Preston, I do feel this has been a neglected area in terms of development, I would feel better represented by a local Preston council.
As long as us o Portland are nowhere near this
Bearing in mind the lack of expertise of Town Councillors and unwillingness to accept expert advice e.g. Warning not to Building more housing on high risk flooding areas such as Littlemoor & Preston - Weymouth & Portland Council should not make these decisions alone. Dorset Council environmental experts must have more influence over less well informed.
Being run by county council with no town council will save costs allowing more money to be put into making Weymouth better & other communities in the county better too.
By breaking areas up people will end up paying extra tax, take Portland for example the town council is a useless waste of money that is a drain on the island
By telling us this you are trying to influence our decision.
Can we have a joint Weymouth and Portland and Chickerell town council?
Combine with Dorchester Town Council.
Community panels of local residents from each district would be better. Town councils are a waste of time (and I used to be a councillor.).
Councillors have presided over a disastrous decade for Weymouth. Therefore their best option should be disregarded

<p>Councillors have proposed what is best for them and the shortest route to maintaining the status quo. Rural areas such as Nottingham (and the Way valley) should have independent representation with a locally endorsed development plan. We should not be treated as the Weymouth hinterland subjugated to the urban requirement to build more houses and extract more money from households in order to support morally abhorrent expansive statism.</p>
<p>Councillors may believe a single town council may meet their personal ambitions but this is unlikely to be best for the population as a whole. Within the proposed unitary structure all the key responsibilities will be managed centrally. The new town council or the alternative of a group of parish councils will have the same powers and responsibilities, and these responsibilities are very local. Smaller parish councils will be better able to represent and manage these local issues than a larger town council which will inevitably prioritise central concerns. Where issues are Weymouth area wide, co-operation is the obvious answer. One would imagine that most of the parishes would have unpaid councillors receiving minimal or no expenses, very few staff, if any, and a part-time clerk/RFO. The exception would be the central core which may have more staff and a fulltime clerk all funded by higher level of council tax and business contributions. To summarise: more representative, more efficient, cheaper.</p>
<p>Cut the number of councillors</p>
<p>Definitely not the status quo. Hopefully unitary status will be approved soon for DCC. Why not merge Weymouth and Portland into a single town council?</p>
<p>District area ward councils (eg. Wyke Area Parish Council) should be elected and would then send representatives to the Town council.</p>
<p>Do the existing ward boundaries have equal populations? Is there an opportunity to use a different voting system?</p>
<p>Dorset Council only to save money.</p>
<p>Either Weymouth and Portland should have one town council, as we are essentially one area. You can't exit Portland without going through Weymouth. We should also explore not having a town council at all, and leaving the management of the town up to the county council.</p>
<p>Everyone should pull together</p>
<p>Geographically and historically there is only one option, Portland retains its Town Council and Weymouth has a Town Council</p>
<p>Having worked for Weymouth and Portland Borough Council, Dorset County Council and the Association of Parish and Town Councils, I find it hard to believe anyone is even considering this option. Town Councils have limited powers and little influence. I am very sorry to see these new plans for local government in Dorset anyway, but quite worried that Weymouth may be left with nothing more than a parish council looking after it. The other Town Councils in Dorset cover considerably smaller areas and do not have such diverse issues as Weymouth does.</p>
<p>I feel that this is an erosion of local democracy. An area containing a population of around 65,000 and supporting the needs of a couple of million in the summer needs a higher level of representation. I suggest there should be a municipal council covering Dorchester, Weymouth and Bridport. Similar but smaller than poole/bournemouth and a separate rural council. So that the needs of both populations are addressed. Otherwise this march towards centralisation leaves democracy high and dry</p>
<p>I agree it is the best option</p>

I agree with rhe Councillors
I agree with the councillors - a single town council - but without the trappings and robes.
I agree with the councillors on this point
I agree with the single town council proposal
I am for anything for Weymouth but we always seem to miss out to the East of the county
I am happy that decisions to be made at county level, where decisions will not be hampered by councillors that are incapable of seeing the bigger picture.
I am happy with the way that the community is currently run and do not believe in or agree with a change
I am not in favour of any alternative.
I am sick of hearing various Councils` proposals to amalgamate/sell off certain services or join forces with other councils to `save money`. Once the proposal has been delivered, there is another proposal to go back to the status quo, or having one`s cake and eating it, costing the taxpayer more money. Having paid out vast sums of taxpayers` money in redundancy payments, these same people are re-appointed. I am sick of hearing that the various councils have `no money` and council tax has to increase substantially year on year, and then hundreds of thousands of pounds appear for new appointments, like a harbour manager and a town centre manager. Do you think taxpayers are stupid and should be treated with contempt? You had a Borough Council and CHOSE to move to Dorchester, deliberately leaving the town poorly served. If this is another ruse to put up council tax to secure more money for executives and councillors, I am totally against it. Money does not grow on trees and taxpayers do not have the funds to keep paying for your next little project.

I am totally opposed to the whole idea of WPBC being absorbed within a Unitary Authority for a great many reasons and consider that the creation of a Town Council for Weymouth will not in any way fill the void. The whole idea of the creation of one/two unitary authorities to serve the whole of Dorset will be a huge mistake, which will not result in the savings or type of governance which Weymouth/Portland residents and businesses deserve. A third way should have been proposed whereby DCC and other county-wide organisations such as DWP assume responsibility for the single management and delivery of a wider range of services in order to ensure efficiency savings and avoid unnecessary duplication of service provision, with the remit of WPBC slimmed down, but not limited to that of a 'Town Council' in the traditional sense. It follows that the new 'lesser' authority should maintain responsibility and accountability for a wider range of services than those normally associated with the remit of a traditional 'Town Council' in order to account for the relative uniqueness of the Borough in comparison to neighbouring authorities, especially as anything less would lead to significant social exclusion given the particular political and economic dynamics of the area and its over-reliance on Tourism. The absorption of the Borough into a unitary authority would be counter-productive in the long-run. Clearly there is an argument to dispense with Portland Town Council under such a model in order to foster greater social cohesion, but I would be reluctant over the creation of a single Town Council (as supposed to a 'lesser' council) across the two areas given the exclusion that many other communities would feel elsewhere in the Borough, especially within more affluent communities. Should the alternative model which I am advocating fail to materialise, it would be important to ensure that a Town Council governing Weymouth is inclusive to the whole of the Weymouth population; not just the residents of the Town Centre and Melcombe Regis in order to ensure the preservation of resident's identity, notwithstanding the many other problems which would result.

I am very concerned that councillors have already considered and ruled out some other options,,,,Which options were they? If you want to better serve the community you shouldn't rule any options out before asking the people that you are supposed to represent.! You are ELECTED councillors.

I believe a single town council for the whole area is best option - we all use the Town Centre and need to be involved in discussions about that.

I believe a single town council is the way forward.

I believe having a single town council is important to ensure the future needs and development of Weymouth are considered locally by people who have the community's best interests as a priority. I am concerned as others that Weymouth has a Hun council and this hinders progress. Councillors spend more time arguing and undermining each other and have a duty to work together for the good of the town. Let's rid ourselves of political parties and have Weymouth governed by a non political group who truly work together to develop and improve the town and work for the benefit of all residents.

I believe that the main town should have a council but that the Northern part (Upwey and Broaway) should form a separate parish. It is for consideration that the residents of the hamlets of Bincombe and Friar Waddon should also be consulted if they wish to be a part of the new parish.

I bought into the idea of replacing multiple councils with a unitary authority Why would you want to create another one?

<p>I do not believe a town council would make any difference to Weymouth. I would not support a town council and I certainly do not want to pay anymore on my Council Tax in order to support one.</p>
<p>I do not believe there should be a town council. The whole idea of merging councils was to make savings. If you have multiple councils delivering services they can not be held solely responsible.</p>
<p>I do not think that there should be a Town Council at all. I think that the current Borough Councillors want a single town council to perpetuate themselves. I favour small & simple local government, rather than continuing to have layers of local government.</p>
<p>I don't believe a Town Council is necessary. If the new unitary authority goes ahead, the current functions of Weymouth & Portland Borough Council will simply pass to that authority and local governance will continue as at present. The only thing that will have changed is there wouldn't be a piece of local government with Weymouth's name on it, which is a poor justification for another costly layer of bureaucracy.</p>
<p>I feel it is imperative that Weymouth retain a representative council to look after the town and Weymouth residents interests.</p>
<p>I feel it should be one council - Weymouth and Portland</p>
<p>I feel that local communities should have an option of having their own parish council. This is more democratic and would better serve local people.</p>
<p>I refer you to my previous answer, restore a full and active Weymouth and Portland Borough Council. Run by LOCALLY elected members, staffed by LOCALLY sourced employees, delivering for LOCALS. What we need is a Weymouth and Portland Peoples Party, by the people for the people - don't dismiss it - it's coming!..</p>
<p>I think a single town council would make sense. Weymouth needs someone to fight its corner and a lot of regeneration in the town centre. It makes me sad seeing it so run down despite the beautiful beach. I haven't lived in Weymouth very long so longer-time residents may have different opinions</p>
<p>I think a town council is best, but democratically there should be an option for residents to agree to do without one.</p>
<p>I think councillors should look at the border between Chickerell and Weymouth particularly where the Granby Industrial estate is situated which is currently in West Dorset and consider how they could work together; there is the opportunity to do so, West Dorset will presumably be in much the same situation as Weymouth Borough. The proposal of 2 councillors for each existing ward seems to take no account of the proposed unitary authority and would perpetuate the complications of the present 2 tier system; some small scale local representatives for contact would seem the way forward.</p>

I think that Weymouth should have it's own autonomous town council as local issues are then addressed, sometimes it feels as if Weymouth is overlooked by larger councils, it seems to be developing into an area of deprivation, and has particular issues that don't apply to other towns in Dorset. I feel that a local more focussed council will have a better understanding of those issues and be able to effectively deal with them, raise awareness in a larger arena, and be more accessible by the public, and more accountable for things that occur in the Weymouth area.

I think the proposal (as above) is the best option; indeed, the sole, viable option. It would create a muddle, an administrative nonsense, let alone 'Divide Et Impera' (Divide and Rule) if Weymouth had four or five separate parish councils.

I think the single town council is just another layer of bureaucracy and another way of creating 'jobs for the boys'. They don't really contribute to the community, usually get paid excessive wages and expect people like us to pay increased taxes to support them.

I think the town council should work with community drives such as Weyforward and seek to improve facilities which are pretty poor currently... car parking charges are too high and are off putting to visitors and locals alike.. Particularly the decision to ban dogs on the beach for longer each year; it is the dog walkers that keep the town going in the Winter!

I think you need 'normal' every day people on the council who have lived in Weymouth a long time and our passionate about it. NOT jumped up idiots who are only in it for themselves as they think they are gods gift! At present our town is a dump & full of skanky drug addicts and alcoholics making the esplanade & other beautiful areas look horrid - nothing gets down about them. The traffic along the seafront is appalling. The parking costs are a joke. NEED I GO ON ABOUT ALL THE NEGATIVES OF OUR LOVEKY TOWN???

I thought the whole point of a unitary authority was to eliminate bureaucracy and duplication of efforts. Why would you then want to create another council. Makes no sense whatsoever

I will support this if it means that we will not need as many councillors as we have at the moment.

I wonder if the problems facing the centre of town (shops and esplanade) are slightly different from those outside of that area. (E.g. homelessness and alcohol related problems.) Another option may be to have different people be responsible for bringing areas of concern to the new town council. I hope that would be the case, since what I don't want to see are the town problems moving further from the town but still being there.

I would like a single Town Council (with a small amount of input from people as the subject of the meeting on the day requires).

I would like No Council as an option, as the existing one has done nothing of value for the town or community for years eg the pavilion being run poorly for years, the harbour crumbling, car parking issues, lack of entertainment in the summer months. And really its total lack of focus on the community as a whole.

<p>I would like to see those areas within Chickerell Parish which are effectively part of the urban area of Weymouth transferred to be in the Weymouth Town Council area (The developed areas west of Lanehouse Rocks Road inc the Value House site, Fraser Avenue, Granby and Charlestown and Cobham Drive). Similarly those areas north of Littlemoor Road that are already developed as an extension to Weymouth together with those areas shorty to be developed. The exclusion of these areas from Weymouth retains a boundary which now lacks credibility and these areas should be supporting the town of which they form part rather than their revenue going elsewhere.</p>
<p>I would prefer as little localised government as possible, while the national government should encourage the participation of local people in more real, campaigning democracy, such as through interest groups and smaller businesses.</p>
<p>I would prefer to have a Single town council , so that we have complete control of our own town.</p>
<p>If a Town council is created I feel it is important that it really represents the residents of the town properly so the make up of the town council is important. Historically there have been some very poor decision taken by the old W&PBC (e.g. taking away the roundabouts, lack of spending on some key infrastructure like clearing public pathways of undergrowth and spending unnecessarily on things like lazer beams and replacing fairy lights with ugly modern lampposts. All the above has damaged our main asset, the town and beach itself.</p>
<p>I'm not sure the current democratic arrangements ("councillors") should pre-determine the future democratic arrangements. I suspect the role and effectiveness of local government will go through very close scrutiny in the coming years after the Grenfell Tower disaster and this scrutiny will have an impact on the model that Dorset adopts. For Weymouth I believe a town council for the whole town should exist but this should complement local community bodies (not sure if "council" is the entity) to deal with the specific needs of communities. Littlemoor's needs are likely to differ from Upwey's needs and so on. I think the process should consider whether current models of local democracy are suitable or whether there are alternatives. For example, does the Localism Act have provision for local governance?</p>
<p>I'm sure that PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL would accept the transfer of W&PBC assets and take on the management of the Weymouth area. There would be no need to form a new council for Weymouth as PORTLAND is already in existence</p>
<p>In a previous consultation, we have voted for a Unitary council. There is no need for a town council of any sort.</p>
<p>In response to merging councils to save money this suggestion is to add back yet another layer of local government. There is no sense to this suggestion.</p>
<p>Include Chickerell. The boundary is historical and makes no sense. The border divides roads and communities</p>
<p>Individual town councils that can engage with residents and be accountable to those residents. Not share councils that have no insight into the individual areas. Why make one big council, when councils should serve those they represent.</p>
<p>It should be the borough boundary less Portland, which is what is proposed I believe.</p>

Its another layer of expense with no power other than flower beds. Why does it need 29 people. Just run it from the main council and save the money and lower council tax.
It's fine the way it is
Just ask the public not one sided councillors.
Just get rid of the entire waste of oxygen thieves.
Keep it smaller more localised made up of people who better understand the specific needs of the areas. These people can better represent and listen to residents while helping along quotas and needs that need to be met nationally . So wrong that people who are not a the heart of important decisions can make them
Keeping the town council as a whole and not separating as this is the best way forwards.
leave it as it is. bigger is not better or cheaper what you gain one way and lose in another. less people in different councils mean insulated views. Learn to work together as partners for the good of all area's and not just the town center.
Leave it to the Unitary Council. They couldn't do any worse than Weymouth and Portland Borough Council have done.
Let the county council deal with it all Weymouth Council are rubbish just want to waste our money
Local borough comittees where residents can have more say
Local parish style councils to continue. One for weymouth, one for portland etc
Make Sure Weymouth does not loose at to other areas
Maybe if went to one council, and Weymouth and the other areas in Dorset. To Have a representative that speaks to many body (New Council) about issues and feelings and views and ideas from each area. This would help keep the identity of each area, and support them. Think that my worry is that some areas will not be support as well. Because new council to far remove from these areas. To Know these areas and it community needs and customs.
Minimise the number of Councils and reduce overlap and costs by so doing. Increase effectiveness with minimum number of Councils.
My observations on Boundaries as previous. The responsibilities should also be carefully considered. Weymouth should go for the maximum allowed. Include sea front, beach and car parks, and parks. The Unitary should have strong District Committees and no Cabinet governance
My one concern is that we will be paying double council tax.
My preference is for a town council, failing this it would be essential to convene a number of Parish Councils including one for Upwey.
My thoughts are as previously written.
N/A
n/a
New build housing due to start at Littlemoor (bincombe) will sit in East Dorset which is crazy. We should take this opportunity to subsume the portion of land from the north of Preston to NE tip of Upwey into Weymouth TC. This will preserve TC interest on all land south of the ridgeway.
New young fresh blood with new ideas

No
No alternative options
No alternative options to suggest.
No Big Town Council - councillors are simply looking after their expenses - they do not represent people's views - just their own
No comment to make at this time
No council
No council or a town council for Weymouth and a town council for Portland with equal funding
No I think that a town council is the best option for Weymouth as a whole
No other options for proposal
no town council
no town council - it's unnecessary. funny how councillors ruled out this option!
No town council at all
No Town Council is my option. We voted to amalgamate councils within Dorset & get rid of the ineffective W&P Council which allowed the harbour to crumble into the sea, not have a TIC, as well as not utilise the pavilion over a number of years (Note: How well its doing now under a community driven project with effective management & enthused operators in such a short period!) amongst many other things..... we dont need one
No town council. But the turkeys are not going to vote for Xmas.
No town council. Every extra layer of bureaucracy adds a level of delay, expenditure and confusion.
None
None
None
None
Not as many councillors. Opportunity to re define The existing ward boundaries
Not sure a town council would really address local areas in Weymouth as it is such a large area made up of small villages and parishes. Very suspicious as to where council tax would go and how accountable town councillors would be- is this just another layer of bureaucracy and expenses for too many councillors who the public do not know and who do very little?
Numerous separate parishes. One to focus on town centre and all that entails such as tourist industry, how to make the town look better etc, and a second (or more) to focus on the residential areas.
Of course, I think the present full Borough Council should continue to exist. It should not be subsumed into a full Dorset Council, losing its powers. A parish council has no power to make decisions in its own area.

<p>On paper a single council makes sense, however after sitting through an existing borough council meeting I despaired for the future of democracy. Party Politics split the councillors into opposing factions and there was little objective discussion. I was shocked at the patronising, arrogant attitude towards the public. If this is allowed to continue a single Town Council could run the town down, sell Weymouth's assets cheap, give themselves permission to build new houses over the entire region & get rich - with NO accountability. Against all logic I would therefore propose that every area has their own parish council to fight for their own interests.</p>
<p>On Portland we pay extra for the privelege of having a council with the Portland Precept. The extra cost of Weymouth town council should not be funded from the unitary budget or we end up paying more</p>
<p>One joined up council should be cost effective</p>
<p>One of the primary reasons for the two council option is to save money. I support this wholeheartedly. The risk with creating a town council for Weymouth is that you replace one large cost with another. I would support a town council BUT ONLY if it's scope / areas of responsibility are limited, cannot expand or grow and do not and will not in any way compete with the rural unitary authority.</p>
<p>One rural council with quality representatives and officials ought to be able to administer our small community of quarter of a million souls</p>
<p>One Town Council that each District should have a representative on council to make their local issues known. With having one County Council Weymouth could end up not having no say in the County Council and not get a good share of the Council Budget and other Benefits. As a Summer Season Town we would have to compete with other seaside towns like ie; Lyme Regis, Bridport and other Big towns, for money to support.</p>
<p>Our present borough council does not serve the community as well as it should thus it should not have the opportunity of 'morphing' itself into a town council.</p>
<p>Outlying areas such as Wyke/Lanehouse/Downclose, Upwey and Broadwey, would be better off with their own Parish Councils, Take the case of Upwey/Broadwey for an example they could later combine with Bincombe /and/or other councils to provide a more influential council for their area which would serve them better than being tied with the urban problems of Weymouth</p>
<p>Parish councils so that Dorchester has more control</p>
<p>Past councils and current ones have failed this town bitterly. I was born and bred in Weymouth and witnessed a shocking deterioration in so many areas,the blinkered decisions that have been made really does beggar belief. We need a new Town Council that has the common sense and ability to re-vitalise this beautiful town of ours and we need it sooner rather later.</p>
<p>Portland Town Council is barely viable. It has no professional, legal or technical staff; few resources, barely sufficient finance to run itself, and is unable to carry out any worthwhile functions. There would be no advantage in Weymouth having a similar setup, so no Weymouth Town Council would be the best option.</p>
<p>Possibly a small number of people from each area of Weymouth to discuss issues which relate to their own area on a regular basis. A representative, who is also on the town council can report back/inform.</p>
<p>Possibly a whole Weymouth town council but maybe 2 smaller ones for Upwey and Preston</p>

Prefer to have a local person dealing with local issues
Preston and Wyle Regis should have their own parish councils
See comment on previous page
see previous comment
Services are needed unique to the area. It has been shown that with a County Council, there are areas that just aren't efficiently handled by an overall authority. Dorchester Council is a good example and Portland Council is another. They are effective for their respective areas. For example, the Waste Partnership would not be able to fully sustain local care by virtue of their scope of operations. You need a dog warden or gardening/planting and upkeep of toilets - these are local issues.
Single council
Single council represents better value for money and a joined up approach to the management of Weymouth as a single entity.
Single town council seems to be the best option.
Single town council.
take Weymouth and remove it and replace as a suburb of Dorchester
The community should be treated more holistic. Current councils are wasting money and are defiantly not working to improve or help build a community with weymouth or Portland - the twin is a shambles. This twin has history and historical things - i.e.: the Plague, this alone could be used from tourism. Portland - have you seen Castletown? Embarrassing.
The current Borough Council arrangement is the best option. If councillors have voted to abolish this for financial reasons then Weymouth doesn't deserve a town council in its place.
The exiting Council in my opinion has overseen Weymouth going down hill since tthe Olympics. The vote was for a unitary coucil. Therefore as the current one has been so ineffective don't bother with a town council. I have witnessed how Portland is ignored already. Therefore I believe it would be a waste of money and just another ineffective talking shop.
The object of a unitary authority was to save money, by creating another layer this saving will be reduced, also it seems that your preferred route means we would still be paying for 29 councillors plus all their expenses. A saving of only 2. Plus no doubt extra cost for a mayor or other head. The unitary authority will no doubt have Weymouth people transferred to them, they can fight for anything from that position.
The priorities of the residents are very different to the needs of the businesses and visitors to the town centre. Weymouth has two quite clear sides to the town The structure of the town council(s) needs to represent this. I would like to suggest that there are two councils: Melcome Regis Council - representing Melcome Regis and surrounding areas including the harbour & esplanade (and possibly the Granby too). This council should have a business minded remit with responsibility for tourism and town centre vitality. Weymouth Town Council - representing all the residential areas - representing the residents needs and priorities.
The town council have proved themselves continually self serving. There should not be a town council leaving decisions for a larger authority, less connected to the communities it serves

<p>The town councillors should be made up from a representative from each area of Weymouth (Wyke, Broadway, Radipole, Littlemoor etc) so as to get an even representation for the concerns of the borough</p>
<p>The town has suffered from decades of poor management by councillors and council staff with many mistakes made (latest fiasco - sale of North Quay offices.) Management of Weymouth and its assets should be handed over to professionals, which presumably the staff of a large Unitary Authority will be. I have no confidence that a new "Weymouth Town Council" which will consist of existing councillors will be competent. Get the professionals in to spruce up the town.</p>
<p>The whole point of a Unitary Authority is to reduce the number of councils and councillors this proposal would just change the name of the Council and keep self-serving councillors in post. Paid elected officers such as a Mayor and paid support would be a better idea.</p>
<p>There are too many councillors who have their own interests at heart, a new council should be controlled by independent members who can only take up position if they have knowledge in their departments traffic situation, licensing, horticulture etc.</p>
<p>There is no real sensible alternative to a single Town Council for the whole of Weymouth</p>
<p>There needs to be a very high degree of transparency in what the single town council do and how they reach their decisions. Possibly a completely voluntary community group would be better.</p>
<p>there should be local representatives that do not have areas</p>
<p>There should only be one Town Council and that should be called "Weymouth Town Council". This should be made up of the existing wards with a Councillor from each ward being the elected representative and serving on the W.T.C. It is imperative to keep control of our own requirements and budgets. There must not be an uninterested body of Councillors managing the affairs of the various Parishes of Weymouth. Local knowledge is everything and those elected local Councillors will be able to make valued decisions and collectively sound decisions for the Town as a whole.</p>
<p>Too many councillors proposed. Given that they have just taken extra expenses, I don't think we get value for money. I don't think we should be contemplating paying all the proposed councillors (29) these expenses in the present financial climate. Fewer councillors or I'd vote for no town council at all. They don't listen to us anyway. E.g. Laser lights, selling off public toilets, etc. We only need one councillor per area i.e. 12.</p>
<p>Too many forms of government, consider one council sufficient</p>
<p>Town Council OK - but - maybe eliminate some of the "super-numary" officer posts and reduce Councillor numbers ("cleaner", more efficient, maybe more effective and responsive)</p>
<p>Town or parish councils should still exist.</p>
<p>Two councils to cover Dorset is enough. Weymouth, and indeed Portland, does not need its own council. It is just another layer of bureaucracy which will cost rate payers more money. Perhaps a committee made up of business leaders plus our county council representatives.</p>
<p>Until they have persons elected whose personal interests do not cloud their judgements it should be run centrally</p>

<p>We definitely need to have a good, thorough, accountable and active local representational 'body' for our lovely town of Weymouth. Not having a body to represent the running of our town and local area would be absolute and suicidal madness, and our historic town would gradually fade into an insignificant little part of Dorset; we'd have no voice about what happens in our area, and we'd be 'directed' from on high, by some remote, impersonal council who frankly couldn't give a toss about our town.</p>
<p>We don't need another tier of government, this defeats the object of amalgamating the nine councils which is to save money. Duties will all be covered by the new council and don't need to be duplicated in Weymouth.</p>
<p>We have a poor Borough Council, a town council would be the same but even weaker. This is meant in terms of actually getting anything done. Eyes are on Dorchester whilst Weymouth is left to decay, a town council would be even less proactive in improving the area for residents. It will also cost the residents more money for a poorer service. I think it's also a way for Councillors to keep getting their expenses as they're not likely to get a seat with any new unitary body.</p>
<p>We have too many councillors for our small town. Nothing ever seems to get decided or done by the council so we have nothing to lose by scrapping the council and being run as part of Dorset, we might even save some money by reducing the layers of bureaucracy.</p>
<p>We need a town council</p>
<p>We need good leadership, not what we have at the moment, for the town with a clear sense of direction which will make the town great. Just changing the name will make no difference. I fear there will be little or no recognizable benefits. Make me wrong.</p>
<p>We need local management who should understand nautical reasons for the whole of Weymouth Bay as well as the town together with the ever increasing risks of flooding. Rising tidal heights and having the smallest tidal range in Europe means costly expenditure on quays and sea frontages. Commercial activities produced good Harbour revenues in the past, a section of the existing councilora fail to understand harbour law. We must have local management</p>
<p>We need to have a group of people elected by the town to make decisions that best serve the community and have the needs of the town in their best interests to ensure that when work is needed it is done and no unnecessary work is undertaken wasting money</p>
<p>We should be looking at Weymouth as part of a bigger picture DORSET Currently the town needs complete regeneration- it is abysmal/ sad with nothing to keep our next generation here!</p>
<p>we should have a Weymouth and Portland Town Council</p>
<p>We're going to be a Unitary Authority, why would there be need for umpteen Town Councils.</p>
<p>Weymouth and portland Chickerell Wyke etc need to be together. wards for voting enlarged and reduced in number. The number of councillors top heavy in number so minimise.also make councillors answerable to independent government body to stop local officials doing things out of self interest.</p>

<p>Weymouth desperately needs someone, anyone to focus on it! It could be such a beautiful area but no one looks at it through fresh eyes. Park street area is seen by people arriving by train, looks awful, drugs and drink and criminal activities need a stronger focus. The town centre looks so uninviting. The bid seem to do a fab job with events but we need a thriving shopping centre. There is so much more to Weymouth then just the sea and beach!!</p>
<p>Weymouth has had its own municipal authority since 1571. I would have preferred to retain the existing borough council but if that is not possible a strong town council would be the next best option.</p>
<p>Weymouth having it's own town council would be better. Weymouth would have a voice and hopefully, would have some money objected in to it and make it more welcoming and have a brighter future. Dorchester has already had money ploughed in to it and now more is proposed... what about Weymouth, or is it the intention to run it in to the ground?</p>
<p>Weymouth needs a strong, positive identity And I believe a single town council should provide our voice and further the interests of the town and fight our corner.i feel extremely anxious about being swallowed up, i.e. A small town in a large unitary authority "just the town on the other side of the hill". We do not want to be left begging for scraps from the big financial table.</p>
<p>Weymouth needs a town council more than ever because if we did have one then we would still have functioning public toilets. It's ridiculous some of the decision made on weymouth town centre by people out of touch and don't know what's best for an up and coming seaside town. No tourist information is a joke!</p>
<p>Weymouth needs their own Coucillors to look after the interests of our town ,but I do believe it should non political ,just members who have the interest of the Community at the heart of everything</p>
<p>Weymouth should have a town council as the people of weymouth would be represented</p>
<p>Weymouth should have its own town council ~ full stop!.</p>
<p>Weymouth Town Centre and Melcombe Regis has a totally different democratic lifestyle to the rest of Weymouth, other areas can stand alone and do not have to endure the drugs, drunks, loutishness, unruly behaviour of people within this area. The out of hours drinking and noise not only in the Town Centre and Melcombe Regis but also along the Esplanade during all hours of the night. The Residents of the Town Centre and Melcombe Regis have a right to enjoy their surrounding area as much as all other areas within Weymouth Boundary. There is poor attendance by the Police and Community Officers in maintaining an orderly behaiour within the Town Centre and Melcombe Regis which needs severe attention. A Town Council overall would only exasperate these problems and hide them behind the other areas in Weymouth that is more quiet during the evening and night. We have been ignored since being taken over by West Dorset so things will only get worse.</p>
<p>what about Portlan</p>
<p>What ever structure is finally decided upon and should be purely administrative and preferably a political.</p>

<p>What is the point of reducing the number of local bodies only to then increase that number again 'just because everyone has got one'. A better option would be to remove the other town councils and save more money in those areas too</p>
<p>What powers will this Town Council have? Portland Town Council has existed for years without any authority to do anything, but has cost the residents of Portland an additional precept each year - so how can a Weymouth Town Council make things cheaper? Will monies be devolved from DCC? Will they have ultimate decision making? If so, then a Weymouth Town Council will be completely pointless - and costly, just as Portland Town Council is</p>
<p>Why am I finding this out through Facebook if it's so important, more backdoor legislation ?</p>
<p>Why bother merging the council levels to one Dorset authority, to then replace town councils? Expensive waste of money. Either keep it as it is, or scrap ALL town councils.</p>
<p>why do you want a town council???? another layer of bureaucracy !</p>
<p>Why must there be an "alternative"? Slimming down governmental structures has never worked. Local governing bodies work better for the communities they represent. If any change were to be made I would recommend a governmental wide scheme (MPs down) would be, the representative must LIVE in the area they take charge of. This allows local knowledge and actual needs to be heard.</p>
<p>With regard to parish councils, I support the creation of a parish council incorporating Preston and Sutton Poyntz, Overcombe and Bowleaze. This would create an economically sustainable and commercially active community.</p>
<p>Would a consultation group/committee as part of the unitary be an option. They would be tasked with consulting the residents of the area on issues that concern them and ensure these are considered at full council. This would reduce costs of setting up a full town council. A centre would be needed to allow residents the opportunity to engage, not all are line yet! Perhaps this could be used wider and reduce the need for other town/borough councils, reducing costs further</p>
<p>WPBC are not fit for purpose....Central control would be far better and ought to cut tax payers liability.</p>
<p>Wyke Regis should be included.</p>

If you do not agree with the proposals about the electoral arrangements please explain why
1 councillor per ward. Elections every 3 years
1) Cost 2) Too large a number of members 3) duplication of decision making process 4) A lower tier authority would attract "b list" members with a parochial attitude or vested interest.
12 Councillors - one per ward- would be more than enough
12 Councillors (one for each ward) would be enough to fulfil the reduced role of a super parish council under the new local government arrangements - minimise the gravy train.
12 councillors , 1 for each ward
12 into 29? Why not 24 to give each ward two councillors that would be much fairer on every ward
12 Wards = 12 councillors. Weymouth does not need 29.
12 wards and 12 councillors only.
12 wards and 29 councillors isn't enough information, what would be the split. Are certain wards getting more councillors? I'd propose looking at boundaries and having a 13th ward, (or combining two smaller wards into one for an 11th) and only having a single representative per ward.
12 wards is too large. I consider that 5 or 6 is sufficient.
12 wards is too many and would no doubt lead to disagreements between wards. 29 councillors seems a large number when real decision making will be made by DCC in Dorchester. So I feel that 15 to 19 (an odd number) is sufficient and rather than splitting it into wards it is better to split it by function. e.g. Crime prevention, infrastructure & roads, housing and urban development etc
12 wards should equal 12 councillors - too many cooks spoil the broth/
29 councillors are too many. Town councils traditionally look after cemeteries, allotments, public areas etc. I would have thought 12-15 council members would suffice.
29 councillors for 12 wards seems excessive. Does this just water down their role and do residents need 1:2000 representation when less than 30% vote and probably less than 1-3% contact councillors. Save a few quid and reduce the red tape by keeping 12 councillors for 12 wards or potentially add a few more for high occupancy wards
29 councillors for 12 wards seems too many. Surely only one per ward is needed.
29 councillors for such a small town is too many. Especially when one considers the greatly reduced responsibilities the Council will have.
29 councillors in 12 wards would represent a very large town council, almost as large as the current borough council, however, a parish/town council has a lot less responsibilities and less councillors might be preferable as a result.
29 councillors is far too many and will lead to accusations of over spending and duplication - there should be only one per ward
29 councillors is too many why 29 for 12 wards 1 per ward will be plenty after all they will have no power
29 councillors is too many
29 councillors is too many for a town council
29 Councillors is too many. 24 max
29 Councillors sounds a disaster in the making. Nothing will ever get done, constant wrangling over issues, committees and yet more committees being formed, endless talking and nothing will happen. Lots of putting off whilst expensive consultants tell them what they cannot afford with our money.

29 councillors with their own agendas when you could have half that and save a fortune
29 is to many in number and needs to be reduced in size by amalgamating some of the wards. This reduced number would provide representation but also be value for money.
29 is to many, cut them down to 12
29 seems rather a lot of councillors
29 would mean the same as now. Let's get rid of some of the people who have held Weymouth back for years. 1 rep for each ward.
4 years is too long
4 years too long for re-election on local level 29 councillors/12 wards too much for a town the size of Weymouth - more unity
4years, to long between elections 2years would be better
6 wards, why so many Councillors, how about 12 or 15 at most? PLUS - can we get more Councillors who actually know something about small business, preferably tourism-related and who are NOT totally swayed or dominated by their officers - ie Councillors who actually represent the electors and NOT the unelected officers!
A large number of councillors for a relatively small place
A 'replacement' financial burden by retaining 29 Councillors, 12 wards, etc.
A town the size of Weymouth cannot justify 29 councillors. Therefore bigger wards need to be considered. A target of 12 councillors seems reasonable to me as a maximum.
A town the size of Weymouth does not need 12 wards, or 29 councillors.
Absolute waste of money. The current council does very little to enhance the local community & the town has gone stale & gone backwards over the past few decades
Agree with proposals except for the number of Councillors. 29 far too many. Should be lean and mean at one per ward = 12.
Agree, but feel there should be fewer Councillors
Another cost which we can't afford. We're wishing to cut costs not add more!
Another layer of local government which the new proposals seek to eradicate! There is no valid reason for the town council to be retained or resurrected.
Area councilors living within the local community know more about local requirements than an individual from a completely different area.
As at q11 , are the ward boundaries based on equal population numbers? Do they consider where more houses are ring built? What about a different voting system?
As I have explained previously there should be no town council but a split up of Weymouth into wards. Town councils do not serve the local population at all well. Catering only for areas they live in.
As previously stated
as stated previously there are already far too many councillors. If we are forced to have a council then just divide the town into three wards i.e. town, east and west. 2 councillors for each with one outside chair selected from the church i.e. no political persuasion.
As the current set up shows Weymouth councillors would hold a majority and make decisions with little regard for Portland
At the present time there are already far too many councillors and far too many wards. As I see it everything would be just the same as it is now - so no improvement then!
Because I don't agree with the proposal for a town council. Looking at what's suggested above, it looks like W&PBC by another name! 29 Councillors? This surely isn't a serious consideration.

Because I think the area requires extension to represent the whole of urban Weymouth.
Because it will be an ineffective legislature with no real powers and even less effective than the current Weymouth Council
Because they are not doing their jobs properly hardly and maintenance is being done they are just wasting our money
Because we don't need a town council
But I think Chickerell should be part of the area too
change for change sake, not needed or wanted look as the mess changes have already made (Dorset Waste Partnership) and the cost of change and waste waste waste. cheaper on lunch maybe. Name your either one name or don't bother to go to one council
Change is going to happen, but no need to make unnecessary changes - wards need not change.
Chickerell should come under Weymouth & Portland, it has no relevance to the Dorchester.
Councillors are incompetent
cut down on the number of councillors, join smaller areas together and they should be held more responsible for their actions, if they do well for the area then they should be rewarded. This should be decided by a voting system.
Do not agree to a town council.
Do not agree with a new Town Council
Do not agree with the proposal to have 29 councillors, the number of councillors representing each ward should be 2 per ward.
Do not consider a town council is needed
Do not need money wasted on town councillors when a county council will suffice.
Do not see the need for a town council
Do we need so many Councillors? There is a danger of recreating the Borough Council, but without the executive powers of the Borough Council, might just become a huge talking-shop!
Do we really need 29 councillors? I think fewer could be more pro-active
don't see a need for 29 persons to represent. if 12 wards, which I accept at this stage, need only 2 per ward thus 24 councillors. If requiring a deciding vote at any time then chair would take.
Don't think you need as many as 29 councillors as much work will be undertaken by the new unitary authorities. Max of 2 per ward.
Each ward should have one councillor. Plus a chair and a rep from the rural unitary authority ONLY. So, 14 councillors NOT 29. I see absolutely no need whatsoever for so many councillors.
Elections should be every 2 years
Elections should be every three years.
every 4 years in first instance is too long; should be a pilot before making it policy to have elections every 4 years. I would suggest pilot is 2 years.
Far too many councillors now.
Far too many councillors proposed. Eight to twelve is the maximum needed.
Far too many councillors, 29 to represent a small town is ludicrous
Far too many councillors.
Fewer councillors and lower costs
Fewer councillors would be better
For the relative Trivial nature of the work the council would now be doing 29 is far too many.

Four years is too long
Four years is too long a gap to suffer ineffectual councillors
Have an elected Mayor who selects their executive from the councillors who have been elected. Also 29 is too many and should be 1 per ward so a maximum of 12. Currently there are too many councillors with too little ability to serve the town to the residents expectation. Whatever, system is employed it has to provide a better service for current and future residents
Have fewer councillors (12). Each councillor represents one ward.
having 29 councillors is appalling vfm for an organisation whose biggest budget will be for grounds maintenance. reduce it to about 12 and it makes sense. The proposed arrangement feels more like an attempt to not upset the existing councillors rather than an attempt to make the right decision for the governance arrangements of a relatively small town
Having 29 Councillors would be unnecessary and too expensive. 2 for each ward would be more than enough i.e. A maximum of 24
How can you ask people to elect councils to a role they don't understand and have no experience of. Four years is too long to serve! How can you have 29 councillors for 12 wards and hope for any votes to be understood by all councillors. They will only have a vested interest and understanding of their ward.
I agree with all of the above apart from the 4 year tenure before re-election. I would be more comfortable with a three year tenure.
I agree with the elections in 2019 but consider elections every four years to short, the minimum should be at least five maybe six to allow planning, approval, assembly and completion to be achieved under the elected council. I would suggest that a maximum of 24 (two per ward) councilors would be a workable option. This would reduce cost, allow council meetings to be manageable and provide a fair proportion and balance of each ward.
I agree with the electoral cycle as saving money is critical. Please see my earlier note on the expansion of Littlemoor. More thought needs to be given to the number of councillors. Selecting 29 shows lack of imagination being simply what we have now (after removing Portland). I have two ward councillors and they share the tasks which means you never know which one is working for you. Please give serious consideration to rationalising the numbers. I see no reference at all to TC owned real estate. Real costs are achieved by reducing real estate and public sector jobs. We must be absolutely certain that replacing a Borough Council with a TC will not generate more jobs. If it were to do so then I would need to re-assess if a TC is the best way forward.
I agree with the principle of 12 wards but not run by political parties. We should have independent candidates who have experience in town management and development.
I am never sure why we have so many Councillor. Surely one, or max. two per ward should be sufficient. i.e. max 24 Councillors.
I assume that the elections every 4 years means that the whole council would apply for election, not just part as now.
I BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE FAR TOO MANY COUNCILLORS WHICH IS A DRAIN ON THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET AND I DON'T BELIEVE THAT THEY ARE a) NECESSARY, NOR b) VALUE FOR MONEY
I BELIEVE THAT WEYMOUTH HAS TOO MANY COUNCILLORS ALREADY, THE NUMBER NEEDS TO BE REDUCED TO A MAXIMUM OF 12
I can see no justification for more than a single councillor for each specific ward, we don't have two MP's for one constituency!
I cannot see the point

I do not believe a town council will serve the needs of the community, it's not worked here.
I do not think it should be spilt up into 12 wards I feel that less wards would be better
I do not want a larger town council, .
I don't believe that we need as many as 29 council lots. We are supposed to be cutting back on the red tape and reducing costs. We should have a much smaller group who are really dedicated to improving the town, making it an exceptional destination for visitors, and a real community for the locals.
I don't think we need 29 councillors for only 12 wards, especially since the "Dorset Council" will be taking over much of the responsibilities of the existing council.
I don't think we need as many as 29
I don't understand how you arrive at 29 councillors from 12 wards. Do some have greater representation than others?
I dont want a Town council
I feel that the number of wards/councillors should be reduced an amount that is capable of making decisions. A maximum of 10 councillors would suffice.
I feel the number of proposed councillors is too high, wouldn't two for each ward be sufficient. If the wards are of unequal population, maybe the ward boundaries should be changed.
I generally agree but it doesn't sound any different to today's arrangements. Would this provide empowerment to low enough level within communities?
I have made my views clear earlier in this consultation.
I have no idea how busy a councillor is and therefore how many are needed.
I only disagree with the ward boundaries. The Westham North ward includes Southill which is very different to that of Westham itself in many respects. As Southill is part of Radipole (land deeds) with a boundary with Westham in the region of Chafeys Lake/Goldcroft Road, I, like many others in Southill, believe it would be better placed in the Radipole ward or maybe a new ward for Radipole West.
I refer you to my previous comments.
I see local elections as wasting the energies of people in the community. They will always result in frustrations and cynicism, whereas people getting involved in campaigning groups, small business enterprises etc. - basically taking actions themselves to improve the lives and environment - will often lead to success and positive results.
I think a town council is unnecessary and a waste of money. I think that other Town Councils and Parishes should be abolished.
I think it is good opportunity to reduce numbers and reduce costs. I also think less councillors may allow decision making to be more expedient and bureancracy reduced.
I think the number of councillors could be reduced. Most company boards and charity governing bodies have far fewer than 29 members.
I wonder why there should not be three councillors per ward.
I would advocate a lesser number of wards and of Councillors to ensure that more is achieved, with greater power and accountability given to a smaller team of Councillors. With respect to the question below, none of the names are suitable given that they intimate exclusion of the majority of the current Borough's population e.g. residents of areas such as Preston, Sutton Poyntz, Littlemore and Broadway do not identify with either the Town Centre or Melcombe Regis.

I would not want to have less opportunities to participate in local democracy. As I live in a 3 member Weymouth and Portland BC ward, I am able to vote every year. Moving to all out elections limits my decorative participation. Further, currently elections to the district council do not fall in the same year as County Council elections. I think it is important that very different tiers of local government are considered separately
If 12 areas, which I agree, then each should be represented by equal numbers. Therefore only 24 councilors (2 in each area).
If a new town council is brought into being, and represents the welfare of Weymouth as poorly as the current council, then we shall be no better off. The usual suspects will simply continue imposing their personal foibles on the town. This is the major problem I can see with introducing a town council.
If a single council is the way forward, I would agree with the above.
If a town council is in place it should cover the whole town, there is no need to have wards or so many Councillors. Recognise the town as one and let Weymouth Town Council work for us the people as one community. Listen to the residents more, not just make decisions based on a Councillors own personal opinions and views, they are far from bring experts on subjects raised. Run the town for thr people, not for thr benefit of Politicians.
If there are 12 wards then we do not need 29 councillors , 24 at the most . If these councillors are to be given some say on how Weymouth should be run and developed then 12 councillors is too few to prevent a dictatorship developing or a single political party overruling every decision which may not be in the Towns benefit . In fact the Town Council should not be a political entity , the current Borough Council is about as much use as a 'chocolate teapot' and is keen on turning the town into the Spanish Riviera and obliterating its heritage . When did the Borough Council last spend serious money maintaining its properties instead of paying out large sums of Councillors expenses ? How many civil servants are going to be allocated to manage Weymouth Towns business and what areas of Local Authority management are they responsible for ? Finance , Transport and Parking , Social Care , Housing , Business Development , Planning , Social/Entertainment use of the local beaches and harbourside ? Attachment to West Dorset in these respects will bleed Weymouth dry , no one will be left to champion the towns assets and advance its tourism potential . Who will be responsible for applying for the Grants and Fund Development Aid share that currently is dominated by Bournemouth ? Will a Weymouth Town Council have anyone ?
If you wait until 2019 to implement a new town council, it could be too late.
In a previous consultation, we have voted for a Unitary council. There is no need for a town council of any sort.
Is it possible to hold elections more regular than 4 year intervals? Things can really go wrong in just a year and so say someone really screwed up in year 1, they then have a further 3 years to make things even worse!
It is no use a resort and harbour being run by farmers
It is not needed, it will be very costly and will be just a talking shop dealing with very minor issues. It should be restricted to 12 elected members without a set expenses budget.
It is too many councillors. 15 - 20 would be plenty. Combine wards and have 2 members/ward
It smacks of trying to protect councillors own interests and just carry on doing the same old thing even if change is needed.
It's a replica of the existing Borough Council. So it would be an expensive option considering it will have only parish-level powers. I do not think it is needed at all because it has no work to do, but if there is to be a town council it should have less wards & fewer councillors, say 6 wards & 12 councillors maximum.

It's got to be cheaper than the current electoral arrangement. Personally it would be cheaper for residents not to have a town council at all.
Keep it simple!
Less is more. Waste of money.
Likely not to consider Weymouth and be as passionate about making change for the town.
Living in Portland I see no benefit whatsoever of the parish council and would only see it as a waste of taxpayers money for Weymouth residents.
Make sure weymouth has adequate representation on the new unitary authority commensurate with the population
Make sure weymouth has adequate representation on the unitary authority
Minimise number of Councils
More councillors
More wasted money on bureaucracy
No council needs no councillors
No Large Town Council
No need for 29 Councillors , we are a small borough and already over represented . The one's we have aren't fit for purpose.
No town council, no wards. Our council tax to remain in our pocket.
not neede
Not personal enough
Not sure the council tax extra payment of £150 per property for the town council would be well spent. I think we need to know what will be funded and controlled by the town council and. I would like a smaller more customer facing parish council run by volunteers who would spend the locally raised money on the area the tax payers come from. Would the new town council be just another Weymouth and Portland type borough council which was pretty ineffective and will not be missed.
Not sure there is a need for 29 councilors. I feel sure with some work on the boundaries this could be reduced to a maximum of 20.
Number of councillors is excessive unnecessary and expensive.
NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS. 29. WARDS 12. THERE SHOULD BE 15 WARDS.1 COUNCILLOR IN CHARGE OF 2 WARDS.
One Cllr for each ward.
Only 12 councillors should make up the town council. I agree with the other 3 points.
Ore red tape and cost.
Please see my last comment.
Re wards, see my answer to the previous question
reduce the number of councillors and wards.
See previous comments
See previous comments a waste of money.
Seems like a large number of councillors, but I guess this is OK as long as they produce results to benefit the town. Fingers crossed there will be more independent councillors looking after their ward and less political affiliation
Should be fewer Councillors preferably 12 but perhaps larger Wards currently with three reduced to two, 29 is still too many. I also believe we should have an Elected Mayor. I would prefer total of votes casts and then each Party has an allocation of seats to move away from Ward focused similar to European Elections.
Should be new boundaries or you will end up with same old councillors doing the same old

thing!!
Should be two councillors per area but still allow other parties to lobby for a seat
Slight risk of simply rebranding the existing district as a town council. I would probably reduce the number a little, say 10 wards and 21 councillors
Some of the ward boundaries make little sense. This should be an opportunity to take a fresh look
Surely it should be 12 councillors for 12 wards
That is far too many councillors for the area, if there are to be 12 wards then 1 Cllr per ward is sufficient, with the potential of an additional 1 or 2 Cllrs acting as lead officers to oversee the entire council.
The administration costs would be far out of proportion to the functions and powers likely to be available
The area should be divided into 11 parish and one town council in order to enable local people take more control of their own environment and their own council tax revenue.
The boundaries need to be realigned
The changing (often increasing) population of each area within Weymouth needs serious consideration as regards representation which in some cases might need adjustment of voting district boundaries to get fair representation.
The current ward Boundaries do not match the current The way the town has evolved over the years
The current wards are NOT split fairly. I live in 1 area and am forced to vote in another because of some false electoral boundary. This needs to be readdressed & we should be consulted on our electoral boundaries. The following question is NOT objective and presumes we are in support if it is already coming up with a single name
The number of Councillors appears excessive. Weymouth has twelve wards and a Parish council with few powers which acts almost entirely in a consultative role to the new unitary does not need this number of members. One per ward would be adequate, allowing extra in larger wards could possibly justify up to 15 or 17 members but certainly no more.
The number of councillors is far too many. One per ward with another 3 for the larger wards would be ample, with a reduced number of wards. Who really cares what the Council should be called?
The number of Councillors is the same as for the Borough Council so no savings are being made.
There are already too many councillors so we dont need any more and those we have need to change and be fewer if this town is to ever be a decent town again.
There are too many wards and too many Councillors - any such Council would become expensive, cumbersome, inefficient, factious and unable to serve the purpose for which ti was elected. A much smaller Council would be needed for the proposal to have any material impact
There is an opportunity to review the wards and reduce the number of councillors that would be required for the town council.
There is no need to add another layer of council.
There seems to be too many councillors in weymouth already looking after their own Interests and 29 councillors seems excessive
There should be fewer wards and fewer councillors
There should be less councillors- only one per ward. Why can't the new body be called Weymouth Borough Council?

There should be no additional wards or councillors than currently exist to represent the same population and geography than currently pertains to the borough
There should be only one councillor per ward, this would cut down on bureaucracy and stream line the decision processes.
There would possibly be too much interference from people who know nothing about Weymouth
There would still be too many councillors who won't be able to agree and will be after their own political gain. They have not put the best interests of Weymouth forward as it is so I am hesitant to have so many.
Think there are too many councillors
This appears to be simply a new way of retaining the existing Weymouth &Portland Borough Council, with too many councillors
This begs the obvious question; why if Portland already has a Town Council do we need a 36 person W&PBC Borough Council in the first place? I have tried, and failed, to see how 12 wards breaks down into 29 Councillors, but in any event I would expect only 12 Councillor to represent local issues at the next level of Unitary authority. Councillors beget local Government Officers and I thought the whole point was to drive down headcount and liability. An appropriately empowered councillor does not need a phalanx of ward councillors to get his/her point across at the County level.
This is almost repeating the existing council and would only introduce another layer of bureaucracy.
This is too many wards and too may councillors for such a small town.
This just sounds like a new WPBC!
This perpetuates the existing confusing, expensive and inefficient situation and takes no account of the proposed stream- lined unitary Dorset.
This proposal is given because it would be the most easily created without having to go through boundary commission changes. The time table and ease of implementation is for the convenience of the new Unitary Councils and not to create a properly function 2 tier council structure. Current proposals have the seeds of an inevitable failure of the town council.
This seems to represent a "reinvention" of existing arrangements. It is hard to see where the savings would be made as this would not reduce the local authority tiers which is the purpose of local government reorganisation. Local residents would pay council tax to a unitary and a local town council. 29 councillors are far too many - each having an allowance and ability to claim for expenses. It is hard to see where savings would be made and result in additional council tax payments for residents.
This should be a sufficient number of councillors over 30 would be cumbersome.
To big to much cost
To many Cllrs
To many councillors
To many Councillors. How many of these Councillors would be from the old council, useless at best.
To many wards and councillors,
TOO EXPENSIVE
Too many cllrs It would still be like the Borough, reduce number of cllrs
Too many counsellors, not convinced value for money. What 'value added' would they provide? Duplication and confusion.
Too many councillors

Too many councillors
too many councillors
Too many councillors
Too many councillors
Too many councillors
too many councillors and to many wards. we need to be more streamlined so that resources go to service commitments
Too many councillors means too much wasted money
Too many councillors will never agree and will spend a lot of time arguing and the net result will be nothing acheived
Too many councillors, suggest one per ward.
Too many councillors.
Too many councillors.
Too many councillors. Less would be better
Too many councillors. I would say no more than 15 to make quick decisions
Too many councillors. Let's streamline the whole thing.
Too many councillors. There are some already in the chamber that are incapable. Fewer Councillors would hopefully mean less dead wood.
Too many councillors; two per ward is more than enough and there is no need for any extras!
Too many councilors, 12 (one for each ward) would suffice. Perhaps then there would be less talk and more action, which would make a pleasant change from the present situation.
Too many wards and too many councillors. ! for east weymouth and one for west Weymouth, all on County Council only. No local councils.
Too many. Some of the current wards should be combined to reduce the number of councilors. There will be less responsibility for the councilors as more control will be handled by the unitary authority. I assume we will still have unitary authority councilors. So we need to cull the numbers.
Too much red tape
total waste of money
Town council should be NONE political
Twelve wards are to many.
Two councillors per ward would be adequate for a Town Council with far fewer responsibilities than the current council would be enough ie a total of 24.
Ward boundaries are not meaningful. People don't live by ward boundaries. People live in communities, often comprising a few streets or a distinct area, e.g. the Park district. People should be allowed to decide the boundaries and that will denote how many representatives there will be on the COMMUNITY PANEL. Four years is too long. Two years is enough as people can be nominated for subsequent terms. There should also be an upper age limit of 50 for all members - no more dinosaurs. The panel should have an advisory role only and not be allowed to make decisions without a vote from the residents. It's not hard to do - 75% of people are online and simple voting booths could be set up in public libraries for those who are not online at home. There have been so many appalling - self-serving individuals in power over the years that panels members must be by nomination only (and not the current system where business associates and friends nominate people - that is inherently corrupt.) . What about the under 25's - how will they be represented?
Waste of money and just creating new governance where none is needed
Waste of taxpayers money. Unitary authority, less councillors and staff covering same areas as

at County level.
We are going to get exactly what we have now and I do not think the current situation is doing the best for Weymouth.
We do not need 29 councillors on a town council. One per ward? Max 9.
We don't need 29 councillors. One per ward would do. Why should we support so many greedy people with their expenses when they don't listen to us. E.g. Laser lights, selling off vital amenities such as public toilets and what about the North Quay council offices? They just do their own thing.
We DON'T NEED a SEPARATE council
We have no detailed knowledge of the remaining Council responsibilities so 29 councillors seems to be an arbitrary number replicating 36 councillors for W&PBC which has many more responsibilities.
we need someone local that wants to help[weymouth if not we will be the poor relations if portland has one why not us
Weymouth and Portland Town Council would be better.
Weymouth Council has a history of no interest in surrounding area. e.g. Building on well known flood plains and hills. The council shows no understanding of its ecological area.
Weymouth should not have a further layer of local government. My objection is the prospect of a new precept to finance its administration and councillors expences. What can they do that the new unitary authority can't.
What about an elected mayor?
Where do you get any change if you disband W & P BC and replace it with a Town Council? It seems to be going round in a circle.
While I agree on principle, there may be a case for slight ward boundary adjustments in order to (a) allow for population movements/increases(b) adequate representation with anticipated work load in each ward. This may have already been factored in.
why 29 councillors for 12 wards, seems over manning to me
why 29 councillors for 12 wards, surely max 2 per ward enough
Why 29 councillors for 12 wards, why not 12 councilers and a chairman, saves money
why 29 councillors when there is only 12 wards there should either be just 1 or 2 councillor for each ward. as someone who grew up in melcombe regis i have never agreed with it being one area it is spilt by king street and the 2 area are very different and have been for a very long time despite being put together since 1517 or whatever it is.
Why 29 councillors. It would be better with 13 wards and a councillor for each.
Why another layer of local government. Useless.
Why do we need 29 councillors. If there are 12 wards one from each is enough
Why do you need 29 councillors for 12 wards.
Why does there need to be so many councillors? With 12 wards surely it should be 12 or 24.
Why is it proposed for there to be 29 councillors? If that's because there are 29 boundaries, is it necessary to have that many areas?
Why not one representative for each ward I.e. 12 This would reduce cost and provide a strong sense of resposibility and comitment from each candidate
Why on earth would you need 29 Councillors for such a small town!!!!
Why so many councillors?
Why wait until 2019?

Why would 29 Councillors be required?- This seems an excessive number and I fail to understand how this allocation has been calculated.
Why would you need 29 councillors to cover 12 wards and let's have councillors that care about what happens in Weymouth.
with the building of new estates such as pemberly a rethinking should take place on the make up of the wards
you are creating another band of public servants paid for by everyones council tax which would no doubt rise
you assume people want to go ahead with this
You chose to amalgamate with other councils. Now get on with it. You left the town. We don't need you and should not have to pay extra for something we previously had.
You have not explained the rationale behind the proposals
You only need 24 councillors, two for each ward
You only need one councillor per ward

Are there any other comments you have about this proposal?

*The proposal needs to take in the needs of the people residing, working and conducting business in the area. There needs to be more opportunity for face to face consultation sessions and improved notices to advise people of such. Currently there is an over dependence on the 'on line' services which is neglecting at least 60% of residents, visitors and people conducting business in Weymouth. this is especially true for people with disabilities i.e. sight impairment, physical and intellectual disability and those unable to access 'on line services. ** I would like to take this opportunity to bring to the attention of the working group on these proposals that it is shameful that a beautiful Town like Weymouth does not provide for it's homeless community. It is visually and phonetically obvious that there is a serious homeless problem in Weymouth. I recently re located myself and my business to Weymouth and had the unfortunate experience of being accidentally 'locked ou't of my new premises late at night. I was amazed and disappointed that there was no night shelter or safe house to go to in such circumstances and I really felt for your homeless community having nowhere to go to keep safe and well. Please attend to this very important issue before winter and the cold weather sets in. All people should be respected and kept safe.

1. How was the figure of 29 councillors decided? 2. Who will set and control said 29 councillors wages/expenses? 3. Will the councillors be independent or campaign under political party allegiances?

A complete waste of our money and more of an exercise in protecting as much of the old empire and their salaries and expenses. Weymouth can be looked after by the unitary authority without more local empire building.

A seperate town council is necessary to ensure that local matters, opinions, local knowledge and financial needs are not ignored by being part of a larger unitary authority.

A town council should have a chaired responsibility and open to the public in appropriate areas for decisions to deal with the area and sufficient support staff, some with specialist duties to serve their community.

A town council would just be paying lip service. The borough council have over the years ruined this town, a town council would effectively have no powers to bring back the old Weymouth it would just be a waste of money

A waste of time and money

A Weymouth town council should be made up of a mixture of persons who work and live within Weymouth and should have strong knowledge of the needs of the area, residents and visitors. The councillors should also be a mixture of persons who live in home ownerships, private rented and social housing. They should be persons who live on national minimum wage so they have an empathetic opinion on the way of life in Weymouth. They need to have realistic ideas for a way forward. There needs to be a supportive approach towards residents rather than expecting us to be able to afford a higher life style, like some local councillors do now. All local employers should be supported so that wages can reflect the higher living expenses, prices are increasing but wages stay the same. The council tax money needs to be spent on crucial projects rather than wasting it on such items as lazer lighting on the sea front. Funding for TA's in our schools could be increased as more SEN children come into mainstream schools. Recreational facilities need to increase to give the youth of today a safe environment rather than hanging around on the streets. Funds need to be sent out to areas such as Littlemore, Wesham, Upwey and Broadwey as there are no recreational facilities in those areas. More social housing needs building instead of properties for sale as only the wealthy can buy properties and the people struggling cannot. Bike users need to follow cycle routes as they are dangerous road users and do not follow the road rules, many of them dangerously jump red traffic lights causing near misses. Motor bikes need to stop over taking as this is dangerous and cause car driver distractions and accidents. Something needs to be done about the traffic lights at Asda as the merging lanes are not working, vehicles do not merge they race eachother. There is no longer a supermarket at Littlemore and residents find it difficult to get to the other supermarkets if they have no transport or money to pay for busses.

A whole council for Dorset would get my vote why should Weymouth consider themselves extra special.

Absolutely crazy idea

Additional costings to council tax bills should be included in any proposals for the formation and running of a town council.

All current councillors must be made to step down and re elected Change the ward boundaries to encourage new members and new blood. We need to take this opportunity to revitalise the council

All political parties have their own agendas. How about all independent councillors, who actually live and possibly work in the wards they want to represent?

Although I live outside the boundaries , ours is the first house in the street that is in West Dorset so we think of ourselves as Weymouth residents so feel able to complete this consultation.

Any council or councillors should be completely voluntary. There is too much money spent on old gas bags' expenses. The county council should hold community consultation events in each area.

Any new council needs to not just replicate the many poor decisions that have been made in the Town in recent years - it needs to be dynamic - gets things speeded up, and sort out the homeless issue that is blighting our Town - people with young families do not want to see alcoholics sitting in the shelters - they are beginning to go to other seaside towns. Councillors that are 'fit for purpose' are needed, qualified and really prepared to work for the Town - I want to see their credentials listed prior to any elections.

Any new Council should be set up and run with as small a budget as is reasonable, each ward only needs a single councillor so a reduction from 29 to 12 would represent a substantial monetary saving in expenses claimed.

As a rate payer and a Weymouth born individual, I have been increasingly disillusioned by our council. Individuals do care but there is too much old boys club with the same names. I would like to see a much wider range of age groups in the representatives.

As a resident of the existing Weymouth and Portland borough (Portland), I object to the creation of a Weymouth Town Council. There would have to be a degree of parity between Portland and Weymouth. If Weymouth chose to take over some functions from the current WPBC, e.g. parks, cemeteries, rights of way, litter, public toilets, there would have to be compensatory financial adjustments. In turn that could give disadvantage to Portland's council. If none of the 2nd tier council's functions are transferred, then what is there for the Town Council to do, other than to be a toothless advisory body, as Portland now is? The administration costs of imposing an additional layer of local government would be an added burden. A Town council would be an additional hurdle between the people and the authority with the real powers and functions.

As a resident of Weymouth I think the proposed arrangements would suit the needs of Weymouth best, in ensuring it continued to be strong and successful and built on what it already had.

As a Unitary Authority Weymouth will only become a backwater, with what remaining funds being available being sucked out of the area to places such as Dorchester, as has happen over the past few years since services have been moved to Dorchester. A return to District Councils should be set up again, and better managed by professional experienced personnel, rather than run on a shoestring and being bled dry.

AS a Weymouthian who has lived, worked, and retired in Dorchester for 60 years, and has seen the importance of a strong forward looking Town Council since 1974, the reorganisation of Local Government, It is vital that Weymouth sets up a similar Town Council covering the existing authority area.

As an early retired public sector worker, I feel bigger may be better financially but is not better for close ties to our community and developing a community feel. We need people to represent us who are local and understand the nature, history, & needs of our town and surrounding areas.

As for the name of a future town council, the important thing is that we have a robust, viable council, with appropriately delegated powers in order to manage specific functions pertinent to a large coastal resort. As for the name, per se, not terribly important but 'Weymouth & Melcombe Regis' would enhance a sense of continuity, whereas 'Weymouth' only might give the impression of 'no change' to some. No need to include 'area'. bland, superfluous and stating the obvious. I am certainly in favour of this change -as well, of course, with the unitary authority.

As I understand it, the only other 'non-parished' part of the current DCC area is Christchurch (the second largest conurbation in the area). Irrespective of the precise configuration, should some portion of the current DCC area become a Unitary Authority, Weymouth's residents would in my view be seriously disadvantaged should we not have some form of 'second tier' representation. As the largest conurbation, with (along with Portland) the most concentrated levels of deprivation on a whole range of indices, we need strong and cohesive representation. Whether that would transpire remains to be seen, but it must be the goal. My only question would be that, given our economic interdependency, whether a 'Weymouth and Portland' option should be considered. I can see many arguments for and against!

As Locality Chair for Weymouth and Portland NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group, I would like to reply on behalf of the GP body of Weymouth and Portland. I speak on behalf of all of the GP practices and have been asked to write in support of your plans to create a town council. It is our opinion that it is of vital importance that there is a council created to speak on behalf of this town. There are many challenges we face and these are often different from those in other parts of the borough. In health, we face significant challenges. The high areas of deprivation we see in parts of the town impact directly on the health of the town. Creation of a town council will facilitate engagement with both the local NHS and with local communities on area-specific issues and I would welcome the opportunity to work with a newly formed council on these local issues.

As long as it makes weymouth better, cheaper parking, free resident street parking , better shops, something to bring in the holiday makers other than the beach and keep the local people entertained throughout the year, then I'm happy. Possibly better, safer kids park at the lodmoor, water park, inflatable water activities in the sea in the summer, shopping centre, less coffee shops, lodmoor country park used as a winter/Christmas fair with local stalls, real ice rink, trees all decorated with lights, something to bring people to Weymouth even in winter.

as long as it saves me money do it

as long as the town council elections coincide with the new council/county elections so we only have 1 election day every 4 years its fine having elections every year or 2 years is annoying and a waste of money

As mentioned, please please involve local people who have the skills and enthusiasm to help Weymouth grow. No more silly spending, councillors should also be paid in line with local pay rates, fine to be paid more but only if results are achieved.

As stated previously, I do not agree that Weymouth should be reduced to a parish, but should retain its full powers as a Borough.

As things are certain aspects are fragmented and the servicing of some areas are neglected

As you have moved out of North Quay offices, where will you be housed? If this proposal does go ahead, its HQ MUST be in Weymouth

at what cost to the public is this going to be ?. any help for cost from government? .does it mean even more council tax in future ??

Both Weymouth and Portland Town Councils should be given full parish council responsibilities in line with the other town and parish councils in Dorset, as should Burton and Hurn Parish Councils. Personally speaking I deplore the asset-stripping that Weymouth and Portland Borough Council is currently engaging in prior to this reorganisation by selling property assets that were inherited from Portland Urban District Council in 1974.

Can't see any changes making a difference to what we have already. Seems to me that the same old problems such as begging, drunkenness, litter, lack of policing byelaws would not be addressed anymore than they are already.
Concerned that Weymouth area will miss out with this arrangement. If main Council is in Bournemouth Poole area will they have control on where the money will be spent?
Consider calling it The Town Council of the historic Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis; or an indication that there are two towns and not one.
Consider people with disabilities. We don't always get the support we need.
Consulting residents like this one is good for the local people to give there opinion and help with proposals of this nature
Cost of the proposed Town Council would be additional to the current 'Council Tax', how would it be monitored and who would administer it? Would it be a separate 'Tax' or rolled into one, what say would the populace have as to the cost, who would be the arbitrator should it become out of sync with local wishes? These are but a few points to be addressed, and published, before total committal to such a move.
Cost will be "about £150" - too high and too vague. Residents should be given a firm commitment that the cost will "not exceed". Overall the whole process seems extremely undemocratic since it is the existing Borough Councillors, who are largely wannabe Town Councillors who will make the decision.
Council Tax is capped if an increase above the cap will trigger a referendum will this apply to the Town Council precept?
Councillors must be competent. The new town council needs to prioritise empty shops, beggars, clean streets, provision of free car parks within walking distance of beach and town centre and free toilet facilities. If not there will be additional mess to clear up. Also, remove angle iron laser light columns which are an eyesore and replace the fairy lights. Encourage local people to welcome visitors with a smile.
Do not care what it is called. I have yet to see what responsibilities the new 'Town (Parish) council' will have The statement that it "could deliver community services, which might include parks, cemeteries, play areas, and grounds maintenance". is a bit vague. Only when exactly what these services will be and their associated costs are decided should a decision be made as to the number of wards and councilors needed. You seem to be putting the cart before the horse here. Will the Town council have a budget of £1000 or £1,000,000.. Does it need one councilor or 29.
Do not waste council tax payers money.
Do way with political parties and let's have independent representatives with proven expertise running our town. We do need a town council to work in the best interests of Weymouth. I truly believe it would be more beneficial to abandon local political elections. A Hun council does not work for a town and greatly stifles innovation and development.
Do we really have to have a full merger of all these Councils. A lot of the administrative work has already been stream-lined, being shared in facilities serving all the Councils. Can't the Councils retain their individual status?
don't do it.
Don't want Weymouth to loose its identity and get lost agmost the "richer " towns which are seen to have more priority in terms of funding etc

Early realisation and formatting of Weymouth Area Town Council is imperative to plan and organise a new and prosperous future for the town; strong leadership, a can-do attitude and 100% participation by all Weymouth residents to achieve the best for the area! Kick out the dross/scum from the town with a firm and no-excuse policy of smartening up all area's. This is where a Town Centre Manager would have an overarching effect by combining Police, bar owners, shop managers, the successful litter/dog fouling patrols into providing the smart, welcoming and prosperous town that Weymouth could become by providing an up-market alternative to Bournemouth/Poole in the East. It is also important that a local organisation have the ability to remind and deter the do-gooders, ie: SalvationArmy, soup kitchens, etc, that although they presume to provide a service all they in fact do is encourage more dross to the town - they have to realise this and work for the good of the majority of the legally abiding community.

Expenses and other costs claimed by potential councillors should be minimal (a return to undertaking the role voluntarily without remuneration would be welcomed)

Far too many councillors. They have failed to sell the old Council building, they have failed to tidy up the streets, they have failed to deal with anti-social behaviour, they have failed to deal with the lack of public toilets, they have failed to deal with generating business. Any proposal to change what the council looks like is simply re-arranging the deck chairs (for which they would charge us) on the Titanic.

Get on with it and don't dither - be positive!

Get on with it!

Grants for town councils need to be realistically assessed as east dorset is the poor relation to west dorset.

great idea!!

Having a town council for Weymouth is a good idea if the councils are to merge at County level. However, there is a great need to bring new people onboard as councillors in the area. Many of the existing borough councillors have served the town (in the main, well) for a long time but the town does need to be better represented with a more representative age/diversity demographic. Town/parish councillors are not all going to be political party members and so there is a role for DCC to make the whole process of being elected as an independent (something I'd be keen to do) much easier and more transparent. Maybe some training, better information on the website and a preliminary meeting for interested parties guiding them through the process.

Hopefully more people will put there name forward to join the new council as this council seem to drag their feet.

How are the councilors success to be measured. There should be clear agreed goals which can be seen by all. There are better ways to conduct consultations than this narrow method. Ask whats wrong, ask what can be done to improve and who should do it. and translate that into an action plan with critical success factors. So we can measure how good our council is.

How can this survey provide a basis for councils to be more responsible in housing planning. In other words heed the advise of environmental experts and longer term effects of building on known flood areas Littlemoor & Preston. This weeks decision to discount expert opinion is a prime example, where decision was based on fact that flooding would be in the future not right now !!!!!

How much did this consultation cost, and how much would it cost to restore the fairy lights. You only waste money because its not yours!.....
How we did not get the new road to Portland is completely mad, also councilors must have more of a vision.
How will this effect existing services offered by DCC?
How would voting be done? I'd like to see voting come to the digital age.
I agree that a singular town council should be made. Someone who lives in another part if town may have a vested interest in another part of town, be it that they use that part frequently, have relatives there or maybe even a business. This means that they should have a say on what happens in that area. We all live in the weymouth area, we would all benefit from a successful, well looked after/prosperous town, no matter what area of it you live in.
I am fully in support of having local representation as well as that for the new unitary body, especially as Weymouth is the largest urban area in West and North Dorset. Thereby, it has a wider range and size of needs. For example there are specific problems such as more homelessness and need for "social" housing and fast increasing risk of flooding due to rising sea levels. I realise these issues would ultimately be the responsibility of the unitary bodies but having a local forum for consultation and gaining and contributing local knowledge is essential.
I am very angry. It is just daylight robbery and another ruse to charge more council tax. You chose to move and amalgamate. Now everything in the pond is not going swimmingly - what a surprise - not! Heard it all before with waste disposal, and look how that turned out. No road sweepers from one year to the next. Weeds over two feet high all by the side of the road near the town centre. Broken glass left on the ground. The worst I have seen it for years. Then there is the exorbitant garden refuse collection. No more collecting Christmas trees. Parking permits. Pay more and more, get less and less. The only areas getting some attention are the town centre and beach. The rest of us just pay the huge bills. We don't need a council with more pay outs to the old boy network. You made your bed now lie in it.
I believe it is essential for the Weymouth area to have a local voice able to make relevant decisions for the benefit of the local community, rather than rely on a unitary council responsible for a large part of the county to make informed, local decisions
I believe the demographics of Weymouth vary considerably from that of the county as an entirety. Being represented solely by a County Council would not reflect a healthy democratic representation for Weymouth.
I do not agree with setting up a large town council - 4 Parish/town councils based on Weymouth, Melcombe Regis, Wyke Regis and Chickerell will suffice - Preston and Upwey can have their own too
I do not believe that this change is required and am therefore happy with the way that the council currently exists and runs
I do not support a Town Council
I do not want a Weymouth Town Council and 29 town Councillors!! How can you justify that 29 Councillors are required for such a small town!! I certainly do not want to pay more council tax for a Town Council and it's Councillors.
I don't feel that individual areas would be sufficiently reprnsented
I don't think one large council would be good for Weymouth as some areas may be not given the same opportunities as other parts of Dorset and this should be voted on by the people that live in Weymouth not just by councilors as it affects everyone

I expect it will cost us council tax payers more not less
I fear if Weymouth was within a 'Dorset' wide umbrella funding would be uneven with Bournemouth / Poole gaining a lion share (as with health provision) Weymouth is special and deserves a focused 'Weymouth' team in order that concentration can be made in projects such as addressing the 'empty shop' concern which is at risk of dragging Weymouth down.
I feel it is important for Weymouth to have a Town Council as it serves a substantial population.
I feel strongly that every other nearby town is vibrant, except Weymouth, which seems to be devoid of new development and vibrancy. For instance, one particular thing adds the whole thing up: there is a sign to "Arts Centre" by the Swannery roundabout, but we have not had an Arts Centre for some 14 years, if not more. Nobody seems to care. There is no forward thinking and no imagination. We need more of that!
I feel strongly that there should be fewer levels of government, not more. I suspect this proposal is from the councillors themselves, in order to keep their "status", feelings of power & generous expenses.
I feel that the Council Tax in this area is already high and I would not like to see any overall increase in Council Tax with the implementation of these proposals.
I feel very strongly that the local communities within the Weymouth area should be represented by those who live there and have a clear understanding of local issues.
I feel what the council wants to achieve has worked for over 400 years. Why change it when it is not broken.
I have made my feelings clear in the other comments. However, I think listening to residents would give a better idea of what is needed for Weymouth. Not having money wasted on ideas, which provide no benefit to Weymouth and residents having no say in how their money is spent!
I have read this in despair, I want my council Tax to go down as a proportion of my income, I want the 3% social care precept to be centrally funded and not coupled to my Council Tax band (which does not reflect my ability to pay) and I want democratic accountability. That is to say that Councillors should have the final say on planning decisions and not be overruled/undermined by unelected Council Officers; Weymouth Esplanade should be sold off (under Lease) and allow private enterprise to invest and bring in the next generation of holiday makers. I want Park District cleaned up and cleared of the criminal element, classing n'er do wells as vulnerable should not mean that they should be spared from personal accountability. I want a more overt Police presence in the trouble spots of Weymouth and a zero tolerance (a la Mayor of Sunderland) of criminality. I want Portland to be brought to heel with companies like Coamer homes etc forced to finish the development of the old Naval Base, what are cruise liner passengers to think when they see the bomb site that is. You should engage someone like Peter de Savary (if he is still alive) to build Jurassica, and Betterment properties should not be allowed to continue its apparent (in my alleged opinion) monopoly over Weymouth. My 16 year old daughter related a news article that Millennials will need an income of £64k to afford a house in the very near future. We appear to be regressing to an almost feudal society where those with the money to afford assets, hold those who don't to ransom, with no realistic chance of ever owning their own homes WTF

<p>I hope we get sensible forward looking people to get us on the map we have a great deal of assets in our Weymouth.</p>
<p>I just can't help feeling that this proposal, although on paper might look like a good idea, would eventually morph into something even more bureaucratic and certainly much more expensive. If we are going to have a unitary authority why will we need so many councillors to run this borough?</p>
<p>I just hope the change happens for the people of Weymouth and surrounding area's not for the benefit of the council members themselves who have been found wanting in a multitude of instances of late some of which are still in question. Weymouth has no ferry, no toilets to speak of no council offices of any merit, a major litter problem, antisocial behaviour, violence, massive car park charges. Which begs the question what's being done.???</p>
<p>I largely agree with the concept of a town council to recognise and address the needs of the local community but I would like some more information before I could give it 100% backing. . . What would the powers of a town council be and could their decisions be over-ridden by the new unitary authority who would have less concern for the Weymouth local community. There is little merit in having our own council if they are a 'toothless tiger'! We need to have a realistic projection of what this luxury is going to cost us in addition to the current council tax burden. There are lots of things I would like in this world, but can I afford them?</p>
<p>I like the idea of Weymouth & Melcombe Regis Town Council but it does not include all the other significant parts of the town (eg Preston, Broadway, Upwey) so Weymouth is probably better as a simplification but one which most people will identify with.</p>
<p>I live on Portland perhaps this should be a combined Weymouth and Portland Area Town Council. Currently Portland appears to receive less support with the majority of money being spent on Weymouth.</p>
<p>In my experience 'consultations' are a tick in the box needed to implement a decision already made paying lip service to the opinions of those 'consulted'</p>
<p>I retired to live here from London 8 years ago. I chose Weymouth as I perceived it to be a proper, self contained town with a strong sense of its historical roots and decent infrastructure. Over the years I have been involved with many projects and enjoy the strong sense of community. I agree with councillors that residents would benefit from a council for Weymouth, West Dorset is very rural; East Dorset has conurbations; Weymouth stands alone and its need should be met by people who know it and can run services and make decisions at a very local level. I'd prefer the name to be "Weymouth Area Town Council" and although I live alone, solely on a pension, I would like to pay more council tax to ensure services and to invest in and develop those that have been scandalously underfunded.</p>
<p>I strongly feel that Weymouth should have its own town council or it will lose its identity under a large unitary authority. Weymouth councillors and its residents should have a say on the future of Weymouth and how budgets are spent.</p>
<p>I think a Weymouth town council would provide the focus Weymouth needs to reinvigorate itself post the Olympics</p>
<p>I think I have said enough. I would love to have the time to be on the council cause I would damn well ensure changes were made asap before our lovely town becomes an utter skanky hole for druggies, alcoholics & immigrants</p>

I think it essential for there to be a Town Council to represent the old area of the Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, if the unitary proposals go through. From 1933 [when the old borough took in the rural parishes] it was called the Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis and should be so called after the proposed changes. We need a town council to keep some form of closer local representation, since inevitably the new unitary authority will be far away from most of us. I would also like the new town council to have the maximum powers that such councils are allowed to have

I think it should be "Weymouth Area" to make it clear it's not just focused on town centre areas.

I think strongly that town has to have a town council to define its identity.

I think that there should be a body to look after the Weymouth area

I trust that many more local residents will express there views. I have served on Parish Councils at previous areas and know the importance of local knowledge and being available to discuss with residents businesses their concerns and plans. A very good read would be the two volumes of pictures and descriptions "Weymouth the Golden years" photographs by Graham Herbert and captions by Maureen Attwool. Notice how changes are made and then often reversed in later years.. some good and some very bad.

I trust that there would be a total re election for all positions and no sideways moves allowed for existing councilors. If ever a town needed a complete shake up Weymouth certainly does. More importantly than even that though would be to ensure what power any new authority would have. If it didn't have any ability to make decisions and simply had to go cap in hand to County the whole time then there would be little point in it's existence. This to my mind is crucial to its whole point of being.

I used to live in London. I was very active with the local on many things from housing management to open spaces. Since moving here 8 years ago I.am constantly surprised by the state of disrepair of walls and bridges. As a concerned resident I am frustrated by the apparent ignorance of council staff. Moving departments out of Weymouth to Dorchester is awful. No clarity as to who is responsible for what.

I was delighted to hear that major public decisions are, in the future, to be taken by a council less close to Weymouth, as I do not believe that Weymouth is well-served by its council. The 'local' aspect of councillors too often is NOT a plus. Councillors have their own agendas and pursue them in the face of public need and desire. The hubris is astonishing. One could hope that a new town council would not be heir to these ills. But one is pretty much bound to be disappointed.

I welcome a new Town Council but let's not fall into the new arrangements, let's get it right. This is an opportunity to change and create a more efficient and effective council. Is there any grant funding available to make sure we get things right up front e.g. IT!

I would be more than happy to discuss my ideas further as a former employer of the Borough Council.

I would like the Weymouth Harbour Board (with a reduced membership of councillors) to remain under the control of the new single town council and NOT transferred to the new unitary authority.

I would like to redraw the electoral boundaries and have local parishes.

I would like to see a panel of residents for each ward that have lived in the borough for 25 years consulted by councillors for their opinions on any matters that would change the towns appearance.

I would like to see the council merge into 2 large boards and these would cover the whole of Dorset, as this would be a more cost effective solution.
I would propose a "town hall" type meeting where all interested residents can attend and pose questions and give input.
I ythink the idea of reverting to Weymouth and Melcombe Regis would give a sense of historical continuity that would be good for the town.
If a town council is elected we hope they will listen to the community and deal accordingly as at present our requests go to deaf ears! Too many people have to be informed over any one thing at present so nothing gets done.
If the re-organisation happens and Weymouth does indeed have a town council it is most important that the new authority focuses on LOCAL matters. These include adequate public conveniences for both residents and visitors and a decent TIC in a prominent location. The current authority's stewardship of the harbour undertaking has been extremely poor in recent times and consideration should be given to putting the management of this invaluable asset into the hands of private agency such as Portland Port. There is no longer any meaningful maritime expertise available in W&PBC, and in order to get the best out of this outstanding natural resource it is desirable that the successor authority works with a proven organisation that knows what it is doing.
If there was to be a new Weymouth council, the council should be closely monitored as to make sure all wards are represented equally and fairly.
If this is saving money then we should see a much smaller town council especial as they have less to do.
If we adopt a TC we must be able to ensure that the elected members are truly working for the Town and don't have higher strategic ambitions. Likewise the public servants are also focused on the town and are working to improve quality of life for residents. To this end and linked to an earlier question we need to consult very closely on the role of the TC and hence its defined objectives and desired outcomes.
If we do not form a local town council, people will feel less engaged in the local area and wonder who is looking after our interests in the greater scheme of the counties proposals.
i'm broadly supportive, but only because it's been forced on the area. it's important we have a town council if we're getting sucked into the unitary authority.
In a previous consultation, we have voted for a Unitary council i.e. One council. There is no need for a town council of any sort. Please stop wasting money on progressing one.
in my opinion the Town Council should be NON political and work for Weymouth, and councillors should NOT be salaried only claim expenses.
In my opinion, the proposal is too narrowly focused. Let's us this opportunity to enable the new county council to make more important, radical changes that could improve Weymouth, its environment and peoples' lives. Do away with all the local borough/town/district councils and make bigger plans through the newly empowered county council.
Included in other notes

<p>Is that really all we have a say in? This is not any form of constructive engagement but with your less than 2% response you will pick out that 60% agree, so it's done. We as residents want to know the benefits to us and wider Dorset if say housing goes into the super council, how many staff will the town council have and how many will move to super council - this would then go some way to help us give an informed view on if 50% of the current WPBC council tax is a good step with less than 25% of the staff and little power to boot. Stop treating residents like mushrooms and let's have some transparency</p>
<p>Is there an on-line forum of points raised by residents, if not would suggest the results are published by Weymouth & Portland Borough Council in due time to allow a full and final proposal to be presented to the local authority. Thank you for providing this option of viewing our points and any positive feedback would be most welcome.</p>
<p>It is about time that Weymouth Council sorted out the problem with our road system .Also Housing for the locals so our youngsters have affordable housing . We need control of our own Council , it is mad that it is even suggested we club all councils together .</p>
<p>It is currently very frustrating to have to go to Dorchester to deal with things that used to be done in Weymouth and we get the feeling that the people in Dorchester are not really concerned with matters down here. Also who will control Tourism and Leisure such an important part of our economy?</p>
<p>It is important that Weymouth looks after the interests Of Weymouth</p>
<p>It is long overdue.</p>
<p>It is most important the Weymouth is represented as a community after the changes in April 2019. Local issues matter and these can only be fairly represented by Local Councillors elected by local people.</p>
<p>It is not clear from any of the text on the email or various websites what services would be provided by this new council and who would provide them if the no council option was adopted, please provide this detail. If they would have to be added to the scope of the unitary authority uniquely for Weymouth this would not work as they would disappear over time as they would be a troublesome bolt-on. I read the unitary authority proposal when it came out and feel that it may work for other areas but Weymouth has unique needs that can be best served by a borough council so should stay out of the unitary authority but contract some of it's service where it makes sense to do so. Will the people of Dorset get to vote on the change?</p>
<p>It is not clear what powers will be delegated to this council. It needs to have suitable powers to match its budget. It is normal for councillors to provide democratic oversight of the performance of the executives. How is this proposed to work - will there be dedicated responsibilities for executives?</p>
<p>It is not stated how many paid officers would be employed by the new Parish Council. No more than a Clerk with an assistant and possibly a Cemetery Registrar if the council remain responsible for burials and cremations are required. No mention is made of the proposed arrangements for the harbour and present harbour Board, what is intended here?</p>
<p>It is really important that Weymouth is thought of as more than just a holiday resort. My children have had to move away to get decently paid jobs. Invest in local industry and support our next generation of workers.</p>
<p>It is vital that residents of Weymouth as currently understood should have a Town Council.</p>

<p>It isn't clear to me that town councils serve sufficient purpose to justify their expense (I presume councillors receive some recompense and there is also expense for this consultation, running elections, branding, stationery, website, etc.). All so they can manage parks and cutting verges? It seems a bit pointless. We are effectively losing devolved decision-making through loss of our borough council and this has the look and feel of a poor replacement.</p>
<p>It might be a good idea if is not just a talking shop which cost extra with no power.</p>
<p>It needs to include the word 'area' as just 'Weymouth' conjures up the idea of the town centre, whereas the area includes places as far apart as Preston and Chickerell. Melcombe Regis is the area to the east of the River Wey, but then so is Preston, so why single out Melcombe Regis? The word, 'area' covers all the wards equally.</p>
<p>It should be arranged to not add any additional amounts to the council tax bill for each household.</p>
<p>It should be called Weymouth and Portland Town Council</p>
<p>It should ideally stay as it is but town council is better than no local council</p>
<p>It smacks of pontificating a little - as the Wards don't change, and there is no real perceptible benefit to Portland, it seems to be just creating senior and top-down superstructures, which seem to me to be more likely to gobble up funds without benefit to the people of the area, rather than delivering tax money into the roads and resources of the county.</p>
<p>It was suppose to save money now you are trying to make a new council out of an absolved council.</p>
<p>It would need to stand up for the people of Weymouth and not role over to the landed gentry of Dorset.</p>
<p>It's a no go area and should not even be considered. I'm sure the new authority will look after our interests within the framework already set up and help to further the aim of reducing duplication within local government and further the whole great idea of costing less.</p>
<p>It's important for Weymouth to have a voice rather than be lost in the unitary authority. An impact on planning is vital.</p>
<p>It's not clear what powers a Town Council would have compared to the current Borough Council. More? Less? And what happens to the assets of the current council? How are they to be shared with Portland?</p>
<p>Just another waste of time and money.</p>
<p>Just don't let Weymouth slide into oblivion, becoming an insignificant little area with very little voice of its own please!</p>
<p>Just in case my previous comments have not been clear, my view is that there is no need for a town/parish council, either in weymouth, Dorchester, Portland or anywhere else in Dorset.</p>
<p>Just keep Weymouth ~ Weymouth (and Melcombe Regis)</p>
<p>Keep a town council in weymouth or we will be forgotten and our needs overlooked.</p>
<p>Keep any new structure simple and straight forward to manage and deliver its priorities</p>
<p>Keep it simple, don't get hung up on silly details like names & revised boundaries</p>
<p>Keep local democracy</p>
<p>keep totally separate from Portland</p>
<p>LEAVE PORTLAND OUT OF THIS</p>
<p>let hope you listen to the comments</p>

Let us move forward and generate pride in our town and a real sense of community here.
Let's have some new blood every four years
Let's just hope that the new council and those who are chosen as councillors, are there because they love the town and its history and heritage and not just to enrich themselves.
Little point in this "consolation" exercise as it has already been decided upon. Creation of a town council will lead to a precept added to council tax, at further cost to tax payers. Dorset works could maintain the parks and open spaces, DCC look after property, DCC councilors represent Weymouth residents etc - there is no justification for a Weymouth Town Council, complete and utter waste of time and money.
Local representation should, if listened to, help avoid the issues caused by previous projects under Dorset County Council management, particularly in the areas of planning, traffic management, and local facilities such as transport and parking.
Madness, when we are stuck with austerity
make it work better for the public
Make sure it is strong to get any money for Dorset equal with other parts.
Make them the right people.
Melcombe Regis should definitely remain in the naming of the Town Council as it is historically significant, having been a major part of Weymouth's origins.
Money wasting exercise. Costs borne by the council tax payers to implement a system they are being told to. Only lines the pockets of those involved and businesses in having to change all the administration, paperwork, signage, logos, etc, etc,
More councillors from Weymouth we always come second fiddle to Dorchester and this is where the tourists come. Weymouth need the regeneration that Dorchester is had. The new system is open to corruption and backhanders for councillors. Need more councillors. Election every 3 years.
More info should be given about which services will be town council responsibility. Where will borough assets go? Unitary or Town?
More information about how the proposed unitary Dorset council and its councillors are expected to operate would have helped us to answer these questions with more understanding.
My comment is, Weymouth is not the place it was and the visitors and all the businesses are showing it through their feet and local people are actually all very annoyed. We must move forward NOW not wait till 2019, we are on a very slippery slope. Hopefully a new town council will listen to the pupils and make Weymouth a place that people will want to return to.
My view is that it would be more effective to have one council for Weymouth and Portland combined. I appreciate that this might go against local tribal rivalries and be subject to criticisms of unfairness in allocation of resources etc, but this area is one conurbation and needs to be run as such.
Need to consider the whole area and not self-serving councillors
need to get away from the same old faces on the council and encourage new people to join - who aren't just concerned about their own business interests and how much money they can skim from the local area, but people who actually have a vision for Weymouth.

Please stop.
Portland is called the Royal Manor of Portland. Pre 1974 was Weymouth not called the "Royal Borough of Weymouth & Melcombe Regis? If it was pre Local Government re-organisation in 1974 could the previous Royal Accent not be explored to see if we could not revert to our former name?
Potential councillors must reside in the ward in which they seek election.
Provisions should be in place to avoid possibilities that individuals be elected where the role will be self-serving Or benefit their business/financial interests, remuneration should be minimal and proportional and lessons learnt from the inept mismanagement and incompetence of the previous local authority.
Publish the results of this consultation to the residents of all wards.
Really confused as to why this is being pushed through . Looks like self interest to keep councillors in jobs. Strange as several councillors are on multiple layers of government already! Weymouth council has not effectively steered the town into the 21st century by 'reinventing itself' (stuck in the 1060s) as well as other areas seem to have. Fresh thought is needed and a joined up policy for the wider Dorset area not silos and bunkers. Clearly need better transport links (bypassing the town centre) in order to grow Portland which with the Port the potential of Jurassic, great industrial heritage and lovely coastal walks. Weymouth is becoming a dormitory town for Dorchester as far as good quality jobs are concerned, a town council will not be able to influence this, the wider Dorset council might!
Representatives should preferably live in the ward that they choose to represent.
See previous comments
Seems a good idea !
Should Chickerell be included? What is happening about Dorchester?
slight bias towards the 'fete accomplis' of a single council - sorry!
Something must be done asap
Something needs to happen and we need some young family orientated members on the board who know what weymouth needs going forward for both residents and holiday makers alike.
Sorry about the negativity in my response but I am totally disillusioned with the calibre of some,(not all) of the current council.
Stop wasting our money.
The argument seems to be that Weymouth will be the only area without a Town Council, yet residents of Portland previously had a referendum to discontinue Portland Town Council, the results of which were ignored. If this additional tier of local government were to continue then it would be better to have one Weymouth & Portland Town Council rather than two separate town councils.
The central area should be called Weymouth Town Council, the other areas would be called Littlemore PC etc

The changes SHOULD represent a great opportunity to thin out the dead wood, especially certain officers who block everything, always say "no", rub up the residents and local business owners the wrong way and, ultimately, cause almost ALL the problems between the local government and the local community (e.g. just what on earth is "Assets and Infrastructure" and what use is "Property Services" if the property owners and/or leaseholders feel ignored, bullied, treated like second-class citizens, denied rights and opportunities commonplace everywhere else in Britain and burdened by excessively restrictive lease terms and conditions).

The concern is what will be the responsibility of Weymouth Town Council and its source of income. Will it just become very busy in minutiae rather than development of the economy. Failure to manage the Harbour and current assets will not be improved by a Town Council.

The consultation is a paper tiger and a waste of time because the decisions have already been made by people who won't want to relinquish power.

The cost/benefit in this proposal are not clear at all. How much would this cost? What are the expected benefits of this additional cost?

The council in its future state will not be doing anything particularly important and so will need very few Councillors. Since the work involved will not be that taxing or require specialist knowledge a far reaching review should be carried out regarding the pay received by the Councillors. Having small area councils(elected and maybe based with community groups) in addition would reduce the need for so many on the area council. These groups could then send a representative to the Town council and maybe the views of the public might be listened to more often-we hope so.

The council should be made to be accountable on all fronts

The council will, no doubt, need staff and only individuals with the highest ethical standards should be engaged. Their contracts of employment should also make it clear that evidence of fraud, corruption or unethical behaviour will result in instant dismissal AND loss of pension entitlement.

The current borough councilors have not worked in the true interest of the town. We do not have attractive curb sides, we have heavily reduced policing. We should have a pedestrianised esplanade, with little coffee shops, etc. We should have a pier that's an attraction, not a disused parking lot (ex Condor ferries grounds). We need a small group of councilors who have the means, knowledge, ability, and the will to really make Weymouth change for the better. It's about time that we had councilors that run Weymouth as a business, and open it up to business more and more.

The current proposals just looks as if they are designed to enable the existing group of Councillors who have generally not served us well to retain some kind of place in local government. They will have very little power but cost us a lot of money in Council Tax. Whatever happens the "Councillors" should no longer have a personal expenses budget but have to make claims for expenses under normal business rules.

The current WPBC is not an organisation to be proud of with very few Councillors doing much to look after and improve the towns lot . The younger elected Councillors on whom the older generation and the younger generation alike are looking to improve the town with new ideas and enthusiasm do not appear to be allowed make their mark on our society as many would want . The political party system rules with a rod of iron , stifling any rejuvenation ideas that may or may not be good for the Town . Being a Town Councillor should not be a job for life . A time limit of 5 years service should be imposed for every one of them , the Town Council Leader/ Chair should be an elected member from the entire group of Councillors and not the largest group leader and can only hold the position for 5 years . There should be a system of booting out ineffective or 'criminal' elected councillors by the Wards they are elected to represent and any Councillor who lives out of town should be removed from office . The Town Council should have at least one member elected to the County Council and cannot be the same person elected by the public as a County Councillor .

The existing Weymouth and Portland borough council have made a pigs ear of the town and i cannot see how a town council would do any better and would just be an additional cost to the residents.

The expectations of the town and the town Cllrs should be managed as Central Govt set budgets and cost saving targets. Local Cllrs must be realistic in the role.

The idea is to have a local voice to represent Weymouths views not keep the existing council with a new name.

The idea of Councillors supporting for the demise of their council, or any reduction in their numbers, is akin to asking turkeys for their opinion on the value of Christmas. There should be cuts in the number of Council staff, with functions outsourced to the new unitary authorities.

The name should be simply Weymouth Town Council as it encompasses the WHOLE of the town. As long as it allows representation from roughly the same voting areas as now, all areas will have a voice. The elephant in the room will be who will be the chairman and have the final say as some will no doubt scream "fix" or "bias" if their area is not treated as they think it should be. There has to be a regulated formal council of some description to govern the area - the main concern is that the present incumbents will get back in and the present levels of seeming wastefulness, incompetence and bias will continue. You really should have successful business people on the council as affiliate members and this should include representatives from the tourist/hotel industry. The Police & Fire authorities also should also be represented, as well as DCH. They should be inputting into the council from their perspective to allow policy to be formulated - coming at a problem from a different view point is often a valuable tool and asset to any decision making process. You should also try to encourage teenage/early twenties affiliate members to have a voice, as well as the silver surfer age group. Above all, it must be transparent, fair and honest in all it does - too many seem to have vested interests in decisions being made and this needs to stop if you want the residents to get on board and back it. No more new offices, no more wasted money on consultants, give us visible value for money for our council tax. Do something with the boarded up shops -don't let them become yet more charity shops, move on the beggars, rescind all licences for bars and clubs that go on past 1.00am, clean the streets, paint buildings, repair pavements and signs, make it feel safe to venture out into the town centre after dark, encourage smaller businesses to come here, sort out the park and ride properly, give residents and visitors alike decent car park fees - this is what residents want, all basic things, but get them right, and the backing you will get will be off the charts, then see how word of mouth spreads about what a lovely place Weymouth is and we all reap the benefits.

The name should be Wey Town Council as that more clearly defines the actual area covered by the proposal, running from the source to the mouth of the Wey
The number of elected councillors should be no more than 8
The obvious question is what would its powers be, how much will it cost and who will pay? Council Tax should not have to increase to pay for this.
The old town Councillors need to be replaced. Cronyism is rife. Decent people cannot get past this 'brotherhood'. Some in it for their own gain, the town is not put first.
The people who are in the council do not represent Weymouth well at all. They do nothing to push the town forward in to the 21st Century or make any form of progress. Serious change needs to happen
The quality of councillors, not the number is the key.
The reason to revert to two councils is suppose too save money, forming a town council will add an extra expense in the form of a town precept!
The remit of this council must be explained and laid out prior to any formation; expectations should be set at a realistic level, knowledge of budget and service level must be made clear. I have worked for local govt authorities for a number of years and find that some small town/local councils have high unrealistic expectations beyond budget constraints set by central govt.
The supporting documentation is not very clear on the council tax situation. This really should be very clear as to the impact on the overall amount that council tax payers will be paying.
The wards that have East and West should be amalgamated to reduce the number of councillors
The Weymouth area needs representation if the new administration goes ahead - the area has it's own identity and needs to protect it. Also if the area had no voice it will become the 'dumping' area for the other Administrations ... and the Town & Environs would be totally neglected.
There is a serious lack of publicity of consultation about these new proposals....It looks like the council has already decided ,
There is no detail as to the costing or set up of this new Town authority, ie do the councilors get paid or just expences i.e increasing the costs to us the ratepayers. What services will be in the remit of the authority, Will the new authorities headquarters also be a point of referral to the New larger authority, Currently Weymouth's works depot is outside it's boundaries will this have to be changed. Weymouths main business area is currently outside of it's area i.e Granby is in Chickerell ,should this be a case when a boundary needs changing?. Comments are asked regarding the changes but as ever the detail is very lax.
There need to be maximum cohesion between all the 12 areas, although they are different social and business communities and therefore different interests. These differences should be recognized/acknowledged but Weymouth needs to "hang together" as a town with its own identity.
There needs to be representation of very local issues at the New Unitary Authority. I don't see how else it could be done. Weymouth is on the brink of regeneration that must be carefully managed
There should be an absolute guarantee that Council Tax must not increase as a result of the new unitary authority and any new Town council.

<p>There should be an option for the residents to have no council, there is an assumption by councillors who may have vested interests in keeping a system that the community of Weymouth may not want at all.</p>
<p>There should be fewer councillors. They should all look at other local town councils were town council have brought about a strong community sprit. Councillors should leave party politics at the front door, I know this is a big ask</p>
<p>There should be no town council. A not needed expense. Only serves to increase council tax. The money would be much better spent on services</p>
<p>They are not printable</p>
<p>This consultation was not widely publicised.</p>
<p>This council gravy train must come to an end NOW. More cut =less taxes.</p>
<p>This idea is done mearly for political gain by the Conservative party and also there will be a lack of local government funding for the proposed town council</p>
<p>This is a complete waste of time and public money. The council tax is already too high and will increase. Later council reviews are bound to deduce more money is required at county and parish levels therefor creating a double impact. Services have worsened, litter is rife in Weymouth, the local 'bobby on the beat' no longer exists. Society is unravelling and diluting by the day and all your concerned about is how to prize more money out of residents to line your own pockets. When did the phrase 'piblic servant' become obsolete?</p>
<p>This is a very low income area, so any increase in council tax can be detrimental. Therefore, any rise should be minimal. I would like to see the town council work more on improving tourism income, especially at the peninsula.</p>
<p>This proposal is being put forward by Councillors who do not wish their influence to be lost however this could better be met by paid officers including an elected Mayor which could cost less and be more productive.</p>
<p>This whole sham is wrapped as a consultation but it's a done deal. 27 councillors who would have to go and get proper jobs are creating new ones for themselves. Shameful self interest.</p>
<p>This whole survey appears to assume that a Weymouth town council is inevitable.</p>
<p>to many getting on the gravel train again</p>
<p>Total waste of money; why wasn't this consultation being undertaken by those undertaking the Unitary Authority decisions?</p>
<p>Town council if agreed should be forward thinking & put Weymouth first. Look at the town currently it's an eye sore, so sad</p>
<p>Town Council should have more evening and weekend meetings to allow working people to stand. Should be more representative especially having more young people as councillors.</p>
<p>Town Councils need to be well resourced and I trust that the Borough's assets will largely pass to the Town Council (and to Portland Town Council as appropriate) rather than to the Unitary Council. Weymouth and Portland have lost status and influence as a result of joint working with West and North Dorset District Councils and a strong well resourced Town Council is needed to provide some redress.</p>
<p>Unfortunately the present district council has a very poor record for decision making e.g. sale of council offices, management of the harbour, general decline of the area and I feel that if a town council was established similar incompetency would be perpetuated. No doubt it would attempt to perpetuate Cabinet government which has proved to be a farce and inappropriate for an authority this size.</p>

unsure of the extra £150.00 levy is this to be added yearly or as a one off
Very disappointed that this situation historically has been allowed to evolve There must be a starting point of debate and discussion at a local level or else people far removed from the local issues have no idea and make uninformed decisions Let's encourage all local people to take responsibility for their own community
Waste of money again.
waste of time and money....jobs for the boys idea
We are already paying one of the highest community charges in the country. We believe that is due to the incompetence of some of our present council members. However"better the devil we know". At least we can put names and faces to the people who, supposedly, represent us. Not some faceless bureaucrat in another part of the county. But Is this going to be another layer of bureaucracy.? Having read the information on the new arrangements, which is ambiguous,I do not understand whether our community charge will increase or decrease! As a former civil servant I was advised to keep explanations simple.
We await the Government's agreement to the Unitary plan before any concise details can be set
We cannot afford large and multi councils - small numbers might make councillors etc more accountable. No salaries above that of a Staff nurse.
We could have an elected mayor . therefore we would get problem solved a lot easier as one person has the deciding vote.
We definitely need a local council to look after local community issues. I firmly believe that giant unitary authorities do not work - they are too remote from the people they serve - County Councils already prove this point.
We do really need voice so it is imperative that we have a town council of some sorts.
We MUST have a Town Council
We must not end up being the only area within Dorset without a town/parish council one the unified county council comes into being. It may be too large to give serious consideration to the local problems within Weymouth, which need addressing.
We need a forward looking , proactive, council who are able to take residents views on board and act on them - not like now where the council spends huge amounts of money on 'consultantions' and nothing ever happens.
We need a local management structure - we have different requirements to other parts of the county and we also need a council to stand up for this side of the County otherwise Bournemouth will swallow up all funding and development.
We need good comonsense policy's controlled by people who know the town and are aware of its problems like drunks and street peoplewe need more police on streets and where are our traffic wardensand litter patrol men
We need local representation by people who live in the area.
We need our own council to deal locally and we know where to go in case of problems. Don't want to spend time on the phone being put through to the right person.
We need Weymouth to have a strong voice locally. We need to work toward a healthy funding budget to increase investment into this beautiful place.
we need young blood on the council!
We should have local representation to maximise and develop our beautiful borough.
We should look to the history of the borough and retain Melcombe Regis in the name. One of only 5 Regises in the whole country!

Weymouth always seems to be the poor relation of Dorchester and Bournemouth will the new council stop this?
Weymouth and Melcombe Regis is a large area with its own set of special needs which is served best by locally based Councillors. Its historical links and being an since ages past attractive seaside town makes the place unique for its residents and these make the seaside town a special place to people who live here and to those who come here to enjoy our beaches and explore the countryside with its many historical sites. Its character is different from other places and these need to be preserved so it retains this flavour going into the future. The area has also become attractive to pensioners for it provides fresh air, leisure opportunities, annual events and has services to support them. All these need nurturing and only by having locally based Councillors can we residents feel reassured that our needs will be looked after well and the town's future which needs some regeneration will be given due importance.
Weymouth and Melcombe Regis needs a town council and should have one. Reduction in council tax charge.
Weymouth and Portland borough council seem to be unable to deal with matters affecting the town, drunkenness, unsocial behaviour, crime litter general deterioration of the town, haven't had the street where we live swept, for months, unable to deal with seafront lighting, dog mess and walkers on the beach, cyclists on the promenade, weeds everywhere in the streets, what do they do with the income, needs a new set up so no I don't support a town council
Weymouth definitely needs to have a town council of its own to deal with the local needs and improve the town in particular which now receives a large number of overseas cruisliner guests who need to be impressed with our town and encourage others to visit too and this will generate much needed tourist income. Also we need to get back into encouraging ferry services to return, and get on with regenerating the harbour area and the pavilion. We have some fantastic assets with a potential to generate lots of income if managed correctly
Weymouth is too large not to have democratic representation at a local level when the inevitable unitary authority comes about.
Weymouth must retain some say in what happens As far as the rest of Dorset is concerned it thinks their responsibility ends at the ridgeway and that little bit called Weymouth is of no interest and the poor relations. At least with a town council you have some sounding board and can make strong representations, without we can be ridden over roughshod as the rest of the county would like. Keep shouting for the town and the best way in the future would at least be in the form of a representative body such a this
Weymouth needs a strong Town Council that will have some assets like car parking and local government, plus enough finance from council tax to do what is necessary to administer Weymouth.
Weymouth needs a Town Council as a counterweight to a new unitary authority
Weymouth needs a. Voice!! and should not be neglected! New blood needs to be pumped into this Town- we are behind everyone else- e.g. Look at how the Pavilion has performed - so well - we need new shops - new Councillors whose are not just thinking of their own pockets! They should be looking after the local people inthis town who pay high council taxes- we want a return for our money! On a Sunday we are still paying car park charges? Our wages are low we have been fleeced over and over! Small businesses are struggling because of high rents- Decent New. Counsellors- Decent New Town Centre!! and Overhaul of Our Beautiful Harbour please! please! Make This Happen Don't Let Weymouth Deteriorate any Longer!!!

Weymouth needs to have a voice and a new vision for the future.
Weymouth should not have a town council. The current councilors are out of touch with the communities they serve and only carry out the role for the gain of themselves and their friends and family.
Weymouth will need a voice or it will be left behind with other councils obtaining benefits and Weymouth being left behind, we are already a very tired and scruffy looking town we cannot let it get any worse. We after all a seaside town where parents bring their children in summer for enjoyment, without stepping over beggars and smelly sleeping bags. Sorry I love Weymouth and we will need a strong unified town council
What assets and responsibility would the council have? Parking, toilets, planning and harbour are all big ticket items in this area. Who controls them drives the need for and nature of any level of local representation.
what is the point in dismantling one council to set up another???
What is the point of this new layer. It has not been explained anywhere. It looks like jobs for the boys instead of eliminating useless bureaucracy.
Whatever the outcome I think more effort needs to be made into listening to the views of residents of Weymouth. The way I see it, local elections currently are a waste of time because none of the councillors do anything with their title. I believe Weymouth has so much potential but nothing will change unless people's views are heard.
Why 29 Councillors for 12 wards?
Why 29 councillors? Could there be less? 25 for instance.
Why ask for a name when you are still considering if it is a possibility...or is it fate a compli...
Why do this survey, because the Councillors will do what they want at the end of the day.
Why is there nothing in this consultation about what the community would like the Town Council to do and nothing about the desire or otherwise of having a Mayor. Another way of creating a community council for Weymouth might be to have an elected executive Mayor with a small number of elected Councillors. 29 is far too much particularly if they are dealing with almost no services
Will the new Town council have economic responsibility for tourism? Important issue for the area along with regeneration
With the new unitary authority coming into force it would be wrong that a community as large as Weymouth would be the only town without its own council
Work smarter - build a community which we can be proud of. In fact travel and get ideas - stop wasting money
Would any comments I make be seriously considered???
PROBABLY NOT!!
Would we have a mayor? Would we have a cabinet?
Yes no one is saying how much this will cost the council tax payer.
Yes, councillors don't get paid, or have an allowance! Get rid of all current councillors and start fresh. Too many of them are only there to line their own pockets.
You had your opportunity, why pour more good money away.....
You should not be wasting money on numerous councils etc.
Your questions were leading. You have clearly already decided the outcome and allowing us to voice our concerns is a charade.

<p>Are there any positive or negative impacts that you believe the council should take into account in relation to equalities or human rights? If so, are you able to provide any supporting evidence and suggest any ways in which the organisation could remove any potential negative impacts and increase any positive impacts</p>
<p>1) Each area (ward) must be Appropriately represented 2) Each should acknowledge the different issues of the others 3) Social characteristics and financial allocations need to be fairly and equitably provided for.</p>
<p>A fair representation of all human rights needs to be observed, and a move from Victorian views.</p>
<p>About time all taxpayers were treated EQUALLY instead of some having special rights.</p>
<p>Absolutely none....the above statement is exactly where local govt are going wrong. Whatever happened to people standing on their own two feet. Less reliance on local govt please.</p>
<p>Actively Encourage and listen to all members of the community without discrimination and fear of recrimination</p>
<p>Additional consideration needs to be given to disbaled access. Pathways in the area are in a poor state of repair and crossing roads is a challenge for those in wheelchairs</p>
<p>All agencies should work together and involve people with disabilities.</p>
<p>Already stated.</p>
<p>any funding granted to the area would need to be distributed with wisdom, as per the 5 point strategy.</p>
<p>appointment of councillors to be made on the basis of populations representation on the council.</p>
<p>Are we not all equal ?</p>
<p>As a suggestion, a regular bus service, rigged to carry only buggies and wheelchairs.</p>
<p>At a recent Planning meeting we attended to object to a development near us a Labour councillor said "we must move all these old people out of their houses and move families in" We feel that elderly people, who have already downsized in moving here, are being discriminated against. We have already lost our free use of deckchairs on the Esplanade. I suppose the next thing will be our bus passes.</p>
<p>Best person for the job should always be employed no matter what they're sex, religion, persuasion etc by having quotas you miss out potentially on employing the best person for the job.</p>
<p>Cannot imagine how anyone could regard a decision on whether to have a Weymouth Town Council is affected by equalities and human rights considerations. Should we also specifically consider the rights of cyclists, dog walkers and vegetarians?</p>
<p>Can't think of any, but not in a good position to judge.</p>
<p>Clean up the streets, remove the beggars and drug addicts that are destroying our community and work harder at attracting back the businesses and visitors who have been put off coming to Weymouth by the squalor.</p>
<p>Clear and transparent declaration of councillors vested interests such as masonic membership, land and property ownership, licensed premises ownership, property rental. A properly funded town council is essential.</p>
<p>Council go there own way and have yet to listen to public opinion.</p>
<p>Council needs to recognize people with hidden disabilities better and to be more inclusive.</p>

<p>Cycle paths wrongly marked out by Radipole lake. I use a Mobility scooter and have to change paths for the cycles. Left up to a point and then marked on the right in a straight line</p>
<p>Disabled access to every area and shop in Weymouth there are shops that wheelchair and mobility scooters can't access some pavements are too narrow get rid of A boards looking at the town nearly every shop has a sign hanging out to say what they are and all are visible from a distance don't need A boards too! They're just pedestrian and wheelchair hazards</p>
<p>Diversity in any population enhances a community. However a responsibility of all who live here to be part of the whole community not isolated groups where others are not welcomed or feel afraid</p>
<p>Diversity is reflected more in an urban area than a rural area. There is sufficient diversity in the town as a whole from my point of view but perhaps some training would be necessary in some instances.</p>
<p>Does this 'council' mean the new unitary authority or any local representatives on a town council?</p>
<p>Ensure disabled parking can only be in designated areas NOT any street corner</p>
<p>Equality is a fancy notion but there is no such thing.</p>
<p>Focus on the 'empty' shop areas. Supporting 'drop in facility' which helps the 'real' homeless to help themselves i.e. washing, job search,</p>
<p>Free parking at weekend , bring more shops ,make Weymouth a nice proud town. If you asking today Weymouth is a town without spirit .</p>
<p>Get rid of the rough sleepers, the drug addicts, the all night drinking and make sure landlords tidy and repair and paint their buildings. Force empty properties into the rental sector and get buildings back into use and deal with the litter on our streets firstly by ensuring there are plenty of suitable well maintained bins around which are regularly emptied.</p>
<p>Good links to all youth groups. Young people are our future</p>
<p>Having, low cost parish councils will represent the people better. Current councillors should not be permitted to make this decision. A ballot/referendum of all should make the decision</p>
<p>here we go the 1st level of bureaucracy</p>
<p>Homeless people from outside the area turning our town into a disgrace with open air drug trading, drunkenness and antisocial behaviour.</p>
<p>Human rights also involve a right to a house, Weymouth council should be more proactive in helping initiatives such as the Street bus. Also when contacted by their constituents they should be civil enough reply. Having recently contacted our three local Councillors only one was civil enough to reply. Other areas have had the same lack of response.</p>
<p>Human rights are great but just don't get too carried away like that "genderless baby" case I read about the other day. ;)</p>
<p>Human rights need to be kept in perspective, not a lever or excuse to control the whole of the community.</p>
<p>I am fortunately healthy, I work, I am white, I am Christian, I am heterosexual and I am male - what about my rights?</p>
<p>I am in support of a new body acting in a way that takes into account the diversity in our community.</p>

<p>I am not aware of the "old" Weymouth Council having a particularly good record in this area, or at least I am not aware of any data. With the great reduction in the services that will need to be supplied, this will be quantatively less serious and will largely be resticted to employment practices. Training of councillors will be vital to ensure awareness of the issues and the law.</p>
<p>I believe the demographic electing a weymouth Town Council would be more likely to be concerned about these issues than the county council.</p>
<p>I feel that having two large councils will enable resources to be pooled and to be spread accross Dorset more fairly</p>
<p>I have a protected characteristic, white, male, christian who believes in nationhood and self reliance, the impact of the Equality Act 2010 is that I am no longer able to voice an opinion without being branded as a non-believer.</p>
<p>I have already stated that failure to provide a Town Council and a physical Information Centre would severely impact upon a large percentage of the community especially those with a disability and the elderly - those who most need services and support. To fail to provide a physical presence would be in breach of the Disability Act and the new Equality Act and would be failing our whole community.</p>
<p>I have no comment on this subject.</p>
<p>I have no idea what this means.</p>
<p>I passionately believe in equality and we should ensure that Weymouth is open to all regardless of any differences.</p>
<p>I think mutual respect is a positive for equality without dicecting different issues to complicate matters, it's a generational fallout that's created much of our problems. family units broken by a permissive society that has lost its own self respect .where to heal first is a puzzle.</p>
<p>I think the council should disengage from such ' kafkaesque' nonsense</p>
<p>I was hoping that coming out of Europe might allow us ti do away with Human Rights.</p>
<p>I wish you weren't obligated to do this. Once you have divided us all into our appropriate 'boxes' it just encourages division. The less of it we have the better. We should be looking at this as a united group.</p>
<p>If someone wants to be represented in the borough it is up to them to ensure that they either put themselves up for council or have someone who represents their view.</p>
<p>If they are human they are equal!</p>
<p>In addition to the matters above covered under the Act, it's also important for the Council to consider the effect that any decisions will have on those members of our community that can be considered to be "disadvantaged". By this I mean those who are homeless or in some other way are sometimes considered "undesirable". A caring and inclusive Society must care for all its citizens, not only the groups specifically mentioned in the Act as above, but also those who have somehow fallen on hard times or other unfortunate circumstances.</p>
<p>Involvement of locals...volunteers within the community...look at the Weymouth Carnival Committee. A real success.</p>
<p>It would be lovely to have an event each year to bring everyone together on matter what colour, religion or disability to show what people have to offer the town a fun day for everyone. I know you have a food fest but we need a mix of all things together people will stay longer then.</p>

No
No
No
No
No
No
No
No
No
no
No
No
No comment
no comment
No comment
No comment to make at this time, with the exception that local residents should have preference in housing, social services, etc.
No further comments to make
No further comments.
No Impact
No, the council should focus on its job for its population rather than worrying about things that don't concern it!
No.
No.
No.
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None at all.
None, The TC will serve all members of society with bias.
nope
Not 100% sure
not applicable
nothing to add
Nothing to do with equalities or human rights, we're just downsizing full stop!

<p>Obviously the council should adhere to the laws relating to human rights and equality and should encourage an attitude of benevolence to all in the community. Problems of homelessness and drug addiction have to be tackled in a fair but firm way and the source of these problems needs to be properly identified and dealt with in a proactive and preventative manner. Criminal activity needs to be firmly dealt with as does petty criminality, burglary, violence, domestic abuse and racial hatred . Councils need to apply their "rules, local laws with a fairer degree of discretion rather than the current "tick box" mentality.</p>
<p>Only comment is that we spend far too much time pandering to the minority instead of focussing on the majority.</p>
<p>Only the people who shout the loudest get heard!</p>
<p>People are and should be shown equal respect but we need to face the facts that some need more help in order to achieve equal opportunities.</p>
<p>People attending church should not have to pay to park their cars within half a mile of the church on a Sunday. They could be issued with passes to display in the car windscreen, which could be valid from 10-1pm. There should be better provision for disabled toilets, especially near the seafront, east of the Jubilee Clock, as there is an ageing population. Toilets can be a big decider about where people choose to go for a day out. toilet provision also needs to be increased in the Pavilion. This would greatly enhance the theatre going experience. At present, queues get too long for the length of interval.</p>
<p>People earn human rights by their behaviour and conduct. Too many people who commit crimes etc are shielded by human rights - this is not right and should not trouble or be taken into account in the future.</p>
<p>Perhaps when the town council asks the local population for their views on matters (such as dogs in leads in certain areas) they could be a little more democratic in their response.</p>
<p>Please do not forget that us white heterosexual Cof E British working tax paying people should have rights too - not just the so called minorities as define under the act above</p>
<p>Please refer to comments made in my response with regard to the need to avoid social inclusion. Such potential ramifications of the approach being advocated towards the reorganisation of local government would, in my view, result in considerable inequalities, impacting on resident's human rights such as the need for quality homes and living environments.</p>
<p>Plse see previous statement. Better support from DCC for the election of independents and new councillors would help Weymouth to be better represented from a Diversity point of view. DCC has one chance to get this right before the whole endeavour becomes bogged down yet again with the same small group if people 'representing' the town.</p>
<p>Provide a proper "campsite" funded by rate payers in unused council office car park or on the beach for all the beggars</p>
<p>Provide free beach huts for the beggars.</p>
<p>removing the council is the ideal solution</p>
<p>Residents of Portland to be considered for some preferential options like Chickerell and Bincombe residents have or have had.</p>
<p>Restore women's refuge.</p>
<p>See as before. Too many white males over 50 on council</p>
<p>Ssee last comment.</p>
<p>Stop the begging in the shopping areas</p>

Take account of the fact SC&H are accepting UASC but have no provision for dealing with multi cultural members of our community.
take into account the needs of wheelchair users.
That does this mean, look after the whole of Weymouth regardless
The best person for the job should ALWAYS get the position, not based on their gender, creed or religion
The council finances should be supervised by the county council.
The council should have an equal number of men and women, as well as people representing minority groups. The era or 'middle aged white men' needs to end
The current bus services for pensioners using the Freedom Pass permit its use only after 9.30 am. This is quite restrictive as those volunteer pensioners [many in the town are which is commendable] travelling to places like Dorchester / Poole find it difficult to attend meetings / seminars like arranged for volunteers which usually start early. Either run more buses between 8 am to 9.30 am allowing use of the Freedom Pass from 8 am or remove present restrictions or provide an additional exempt pass for those retired pensioners doing Voluntary Service.
The high business rates and lack of businesses in the town. the increasing quantity of residential homes for elderly. Need to promote to younger generation
The homeless should be taken into consideration and facilities created to help them to return to a healthy style of residency. It has a great impact on the whole are?
The Human Rights Act needs to be completely rewritten or scrapped entirely.
The immediate area caters for lage mummies of near erased persons or those on parole, in rehabs. Will you nclude them?
The local community should be encouraged to participate in developing creativity and solving problems.
The right to safety: The classic train tracks on the quayside have thrown me and countless others off their vehicles. It causes more problems for the public than it doesn't. Please hear my plea to remove them as soon as is efficiently possible.
These should always be thought about and taken in to account. Are town should support these. None are these are negative or positive in my view.
They should respect the rights of the residents and actively discourage the settlement of child molesters repeat sex offender's and return the town to decent people who are not represented by persons with their personal interests
Think about the whole community
This is a very complex question and you do human rights and its complexity a disservice by asking for general comments on an issue that is complex but will allow you to tick a box as you have asked the question! Appalling!
This is not relevant.
This question is superfluous in this context.
This town now has a diverse and ever changing population and I don't think enough consideration has been given to them.....I didn't see the word diversity anywhere.

<p>To be effective on local or individual issues I believe it is important that decisions are not taken too remotely or by an organisation whose members are representing a large geographical area. Whilst many services will require the scale of operations of a Unitary Authority there are many examples of services and decisions which can be more effectively and fairly taken on the basis of a strong understanding of local circumstances. However it will be imperative that Town Council members and officers are trained in Equalities Awareness.</p>
<p>Try not divide people in to groups , all should be treated individually.</p>
<p>We are all equal with equal rights. That means no one get priority treatment e.g. Muslims over and above everyone else. Equal means equal.</p>
<p>We can't really do anything these days without polically correct human rights.</p>
<p>We just want a clean and safe environment for everyone.</p>
<p>We need the rights of the disabled/ terminally ill to be taken into account locally. this means that someone is looking at Their rights to safe accessibility- i.e. Good, safe drop curbs. My husband has MND and only gets out in our mobility vehicle or electric wheelchair - drop curbs and the need for smooth pavements and the reduction of bumpy roads (even Sleeping policemen) are a real issue for him.</p>
<p>Weymouth council should be disbanded because they don't allow any improvements unless they can some way line their win pockets</p>
<p>Weymouth is a welcoming Town and is frequented by all nationals and ethnic groups of varying religious faiths without cause for concern. As Weymouth is such a lovely area there is a tendency for the retired and aging generation to live and visit and it is my belief that the council could do more to cater for this group of citizens, by increasing there consideration, facilities and welfare.</p>
<p>What a load of rubbish the above gobble de goop Common sense, come on guys</p>
<p>Whilst a unitary council might save money, it does not, and will not, reflect the wishes of the people of Weymouth & Melcombe Regis. Therefore, a town council should exist to support those living in their homes within the boundaries of the town council. As a mother (and former wife) of those who would be in the 'sexual' minority, and an aunt of a potentially racially discriminated against nephew ~ I would want my town council to help them (and possibly myself in the future) ~ let's keep Weymouth & Melcombe Regis a place that listens to their townspeople.</p>
<p>Whilst I appreciate the historical appearance of the town, there was no problem with sticking us with laser lights. How about allowing properly fitted lifts to Esplanade restaurants for the disabled.</p>
<p>Yes do not allow this town to become a Islamist haven. Send all prisoners who have finished their time at the prison back to the towns where they were born for a 5 year period.</p>
<p>Yes hostels should be made available for homeless and transitional people. Jobs should be made available to help some of these people back to normal, as we se it, life. Drug and alcohol councillor should also be available</p>
<p>Yes stop dividing us into separate groups we are all human beings.</p>
<p>Yes. Clean up the area with stricter enforcement. Remove informal roadside shrines (and the like), that just end up "littering" the environment & setting awkward precedents that it appears no-one wants to deal with. Create a proper planning policy to deal with this issue (rather that just turning a blind eye), and implement. Let's get a grip, and make the area smart again. Rubbish breeds rubbish.</p>

Your online consultation may alienate a large number of the population. Not everyone can use the Internet - being very wordy you have not appealed to those with additional needs.