

WCC Governance Review Consultation Document - key points

As far as the Campaign for a Community Council is concerned there are really only 2 questions that directly relate to the issue of our campaign. These are questions 4 and 11. **Obviously if you wish to respond to all the questions you can, but we would urge you to PLEASE as a minimum answer questions 4 and 11.** It is easiest to simply email your views to cgr@westminster.gov.uk Or if you prefer you can use the full form provided at www.westminster.gov.uk/communitygovernance

Below we have provided a few key bullet points that may help you in answering these 2 questions.

Question 4: What are your views on whether Parish/Community Councils should or should not be established in Westminster? Please explain the reasons why you feel the way you do.

- Whatever happens in Queen's Park, no one can impose a Parish Council on you if people in your area don't want one.
- Saying 'Yes' to a Parish Council in Queen's Park does not mean you are agreeing to one where you live.
- Saying NO, and the council deciding NO to Queen's Park, means that no other area will get a chance to request one for at least another 5 years.
- The campaign in Queen's Park has genuine support with large numbers of residents and has built up a lot of momentum. It should be supported because these residents need support and this is something they want.
- Communities should be entitled to determine what's right for their area.
- Local communities should have the right to determine what type of arrangements they want. One size does not have to fit all.
- Community Council's/Parish Councils have a massive advantage over other forms of local governance because they are elected and have more control over how to spend local budgets.

Question 11: Do you think it is fair to have different forms of community governance across Westminster?

- People should have the right to have the form of community governance that suits them best. In Queen's Park we are ready for a Parish Council.
- Neighbourhoods need to be run to suit the needs of the local area and people.
- Westminster's neighbourhoods are all different and each has its own character. Belgravia is completely different from Church Street. One size does not and cannot fit or suit all.
- Over the past 10 years Westminster has already had different arrangements in place for different areas, such as Local Partnership and Business Improvement Districts.

For more information please check out:

www.createacouncil.nalc.gov.uk
www.campaign4queenspark.org