

Ref	Date	Area	Member Council	Questions / Actions	Respondent	Owner	Update / Response	Status
6P	13/11/2019	Purbeck	N/A	a) DAPTC Executive Committee to consider whether DAPTC has the resources and capacity to fulfil its functions and b) that a review of these matters and its Constitution be conducted in 2020	DAPTC	NSW	a)16/9 CE Recommends we keep this open pending work on Strategic Plan and other supporting work 28/9 - This question is relevant and should be considered going forward as part of the Strategy Working Group categories post Constitution Review. Keep open. b)Constitution Review is underway and on track for presentation at AGM in Nov '20	Open
16P	24/06/2020	Purbeck	S Jackson	I'm writing to express my increasing concerned that DC and DAPTC are frequently marking correspondence 'for the attention of Clerks and Council/Parish Chairs'. It has been normal practice to send all correspondence and information to clerks for distribution to ALL members of Parish and Town councils. By addressing correspondence for the attention of Clerks and Chairs, it gives the impression that Clerks are to limit distribution to the Chair only. It also implies that Clerks should be involved in the decision making process with the Chair. The Local Government Act 1972 is clear that Chairman should not be discharging functions or making decisions without full council approval. Unfortunately, by marking correspondence 'for the attention of' there appears to be a move to encourage both Chair and Clerk to act to the exclusion of the full Council. I'm sure that both DC and DAPTC may take the view that this is expeditious for their purposes, however, the Judge in the Hillingdon case ruled that such practice was unlawful. The Chairman, after all, has no extra power by virtue of the position held other than to conduct the Parish Council meeting! Clerks, as an employee of their respective councils, are bound by their contract of employment and should share all correspondence and information with the whole council.	DAPTC	NSW	Thank you for your email. It would be helpful in future if you can indicate whether you are sending this email as a member of the executive, on behalf of your area committee, for your council or otherwise? Depending on your answer to this you'll be aware there are ways in which these matters can be tabled and responded to formally. For executive queries, we ask for any questions to be put forward ahead of meetings and hopefully these are matters discussed at area level and submitted as part of their reports; and of course, you can get your council to raise matters and submit via the Clerk. On to your email content. Can you give me some specific details and examples so that I can respond fully for DAPTC. I'm keen to understand if you can support your assertions in paragraph 2 where the distribution has been limited and in particular where, in your opinion, Clerks have made decisions that should have gone to council. DAPTC have never sought to exclude anyone and leave it with Chairs and Clerks to distribute / cascade information at local level. If you feel this is not working for you at West Lulworth, can I suggest it's raised at your council and resolved in a way that satisfies members for the Clerk to operationalise. If you feel there should be another way of alerting councils to respond to correspondence, I'll gladly look at your ideas through one of the above channels. With regard to paragraph 3 – there is absolutely no intent to exclude members. It is not a topic of emails landing in our mailbox from other members – just Peter and yourself. This is all about good dialogue between members and officers in council to agree the best way to respond. We simply can't maintain a database for all elected members and distribute everything to all, period. When we alert the Chair and Clerk I am simply asking that they consider this matter with their council. We are not able to mandate agenda items at any of our member councils. How expeditiously it is dealt with is down to the Clerk and Chair / Vice Chair given governance cycles and content for upcoming meetings etc. I will need to liaise with DC on matters in their domain. When you let me know what you are referring to through one of the above channels, I can then decide if this warrants any action on our part at DAPTC or recommendations to DC. Also really keen to understand if the concerns you raise are of a frequent or one off nature. As much information as possible for me to investigate properly before responding. 16/9 CE has not received any further correspondence from Sarah Jackson having responded and invites her to confirm whether this matter remains open or can be closed? 28/9 No response received and will close 1/10/20	Open