To receive a report on remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings and consider any actions

Open consultation:

Enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings.

Closing date:

19 December 2024.

About this consultation:

This consultation seeks views on the detail and practical implications of allowing remote and hybrid attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings in England.

Government is consulting on introducing powers for local authority members to apply to the relevant authority for a dispensation to attend formal council meetings remotely and vote by proxy in certain circumstances.

This is an open consultation. Government particularly seek the views of individual members of the public; prospective and current local authority members/representatives; all relevant local authorities defined above; and those bodies that represent the interests of local members/representatives at all levels.

Web link to find out more about the consultation:

https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/enabling-remote-attendance-and-proxy-voting-at-local-authority-meetings/enabling-remote-attendance-and-proxy-voting-at-local-authority-meetings

Web link to take part in the online consultation:

https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-standards-and-conduct/remote-attendance-and-proxy-voting/

Next steps:

Members are asked to consider:

1. What this could look like for Saltash Town Council and residents now and in the future
2. Available resources to support remote attendance at meetings
3. Sufficient IT equipment to support remote attendance at meetings
4. Relationships
5. Management of remote attendance at meetings and proxy voting would need to be carefully considered and a policy approved by the Town Council
6. A corporate response to the consultation recorded in the Full Council minutes
7. Advertising the consultation for individual Town Council Members, public and local government to respond to the online survey.

End of Report
Town Clerk / RFO