
NINE QUESTIONS FOR GOVERNMENT

Nine questions government must answer before consultation duties are revoked.

The autumn White Paper should sequence the reform: define and fund the replacement, establish its assurance, then decide which duties can be safely revoked.

SCOPE AND DEFINITION

- 01 Does the commitment to consider revoking performative statutory duties extend beyond departments and arm's length bodies, and if so to which classes of body?
- 02 What does 'modern public participation' mean for a department, public body, or strategic authority to design, fund, and compare its approach?
- 03 Section 3 proposes a test for identifying a performative duty. If government applies a different test, what is it, and against which duties has it been run?

COHERENCE AND CONSEQUENCE

- 04 How will 'strong local support' for a mayoral model be established and evidenced, and how will communities be involved in realigning police, fire and rescue and Integrated Care Board boundaries?
- 05 What must a decision maker say about the outcomes of participation, to whom, and by when?
- 06 Since the public sector equality duty, common law duty, and Aarhus obligations survive revocation, what is the impact on legal exposure for bodies that cease consulting?
- 07 Will the government publish answers to the six questions in section 3, including the replacement mechanism and access changes for different groups, where a duty is proposed for repeal?

CAPABILITY, ASSURANCE AND RESOURCES

- 08 Will participation capability be named in the strategic authority blueprint, the leadership development offer and the work of the National School for Government?
 - 09 Will participation quality fall under the Local Audit Office's remit and the outcomes framework, and how will it be measured to distinguish digital reach from actual influence?
-