

Member Briefing

Number: 1186

Title: Current Community Governance Reviews – parishes of Great Boughton, Huntington, Ince and Little Stanney

Summary: The Council is currently undertaking public consultation in relation to the Community Governance Reviews of Great Boughton, Huntington, Ince and Little Stanney parishes. The closing date for responses is 8 June 2018.

A Community Governance Review should ensure that local people have the opportunity to influence the decisions that affect their local area and make sure that governance arrangements, where they exist, are effective and convenient and reflect the identities and interests of residents.

Cheshire West and Chester Council undertook a borough-wide Community Governance Review, which concluded in 2014, looking at the way local decisions are made on local issues. Community Governance Reviews of the unparished areas of Chester and Ellesmere Port were also carried out during 2017 and concluded in December 2017 where full Council agreed that no new governance arrangements should be made in these two areas.

The outcomes of the former reviews can be viewed on the [Council's website](#).

Following the borough-wide review, the Council made a commitment to revisit a number of areas ahead of the 2019 borough council elections. The Council has also received a number of requests from parish councils for further Community Governance Reviews to be undertaken in their parishes.

Below is an outline of the parishes that are currently being reviewed.

Great Boughton parish

The Council has received a request from Great Boughton Parish Council to review and extend the boundary of Great Boughton parish to include parts of the unparished area of Chester. The boundary proposed by Great Boughton Parish Council is the same as the new proposed ward boundary between Chester City, Garden Quarter and Great Boughton. A map showing the boundary extension proposed by Great Boughton Parish Council can be viewed on the [Council's website](#).

Huntington parish

The Council has received a request from Huntington Parish Council to increase its size from 10 to 12 Parish Councillors. As part of the review, the Council will also consider the Parish Council's electoral plans, such as warding of the parish.

Ince parish

The Council has received a request from Ince Parish Council to review and extend the boundary of Ince parish to include Ince Marshes, which is currently in the unparished area of Ellesmere Port.

Little Stanney parish

The Council has received a request from Little Stanney and District Parish Council to review and extend the boundary of Little Stanney parish. A map showing the boundary extension proposed by Little Stanney and District Parish Council can be viewed on the [Council's website](#).

The parish council's proposals are to include:

- parts of the unparished area of Ellesmere Port (areas B, C and D are indicated on the map)
- part of the parish of Stoak (area A)
- part of the existing parish of Chorlton-by-Backford, currently governed by Backford Parish Council and comprising of four properties (area E).

In this first stage of the consultation, residents and stakeholders are being asked for their views on whether they feel represented enough in their local communities, whether they are able to have a say on local decisions and local service delivery and whether they would like to see any changes. Where it's relevant, people are also being asked for their views on whether they would wish to see the boundaries extended, as stated above.

Cheshire West and Chester Council's elected members are also being encouraged to respond to the consultation as stakeholders. Residents and stakeholders are being asked to respond to the consultation via the following methods.

- Complete the appropriate parish survey online at: www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/communitygovernance
- Email views to: democraticservices@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
- Telephone: 01244 972283 and request a paper copy of the relevant parish questionnaire

This first stage of the consultation closes on **8 June 2018** and responses will be analysed. The Community Governance Review Committee will formulate draft recommendations and a second consultation will then take place on those draft recommendations.

All the background documentation, including a link to the online survey, the terms of reference for the reviews, copies of the letters sent to residents and maps showing the proposed boundary extensions can be viewed on the [Council's website](#).

For further information, contact: Andrea Thwaite, Democracy Programme Manager

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Responsible Committee, Cabinet Member: Councillor Paul Donovan

Date: 17 May 2018