

Terms of Reference Community Governance Review Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 Terms of Reference

1. Introduction What is a Community Governance Review?

A Community Governance Review is a review of the whole or part of the council's area to consider one or more of the following:

- creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes
- the naming of parishes and the style of new parishes
- the electoral arrangements for parishes (the ordinary year of election, council size (the number of councillors to be elected to council), and parish warding); and
- grouping parishes under a common parish council or de-grouping parishes other types of local arrangements, including parish meetings

A Community Governance Review is required must consider:

- the impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesions
- the size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish.

The council is required to ensure that community governance within the area under review will:

- be reflective of the identities and interests of the community in that area and
- be effective and convenient

If the council is satisfied that the recommendation of a Community Governance Review would ensure that community governance within the area under review will reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area, and is effective and convenient, the council makes a Community Governance Order.

2. Why is the Council carrying out this Community Governance Review?

The council is required to keep its area under review every 10-15 years.

Following a number of requests from Parishes for a Review, it was deemed appropriate to undertake a Review of the whole principal council area, rather than dealing with review requests piecemeal.

A Community Governance Review offers an opportunity to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries, tied to firm ground features, and remove the many anomalous parish boundaries that may exist.

3. Scope of the Review

The Review will consider any Community Governance Review requests received following publication of the Terms of Reference.

4. Consultation How the Council proposes to conduct consultations during the Review?

Before making any recommendations or publishing final proposals, the council must consult local government electors for the area under review and any other person or body (including a local authority) which appears to the council to have an interest in the review.

The council will therefore:

- publish a Notice and these Terms of Reference on the council's website and arrange for copies to be available for public inspection
- send a copy of the Notice and these Terms of Reference to all parish clerks
- seek to arrange for the notice to be published on parish council websites and notice boards; and
- send a copy of the Notice and these Terms of Reference to all local Members of Parliament Before making any recommendations, the council will take account of any representations received.

The council will publish its recommendations as soon as practicable and take such steps as it considers sufficient to ensure that persons who may be interested in the Community Governance Review are informed of the recommendations and the reasons behind them.

The council will notify each consultee and any other persons or bodies who have made written representations of the outcome of the Review.

5. Timetable for the Community Governance Review

The council must complete a Community Governance Review within twelve months from the day on which the Council publishes the Terms of Reference.

A Community Governance Review is concluded on the day on which the Council publishes the recommendations made by the Community Governance Review.

Timetable

Action	Timeline	Details
Report to Full Council	March 2022	Council approves the principle of the Community Governance Review and its Terms of Reference
Publish Terms of Reference	March 2022 (The CGR must be completed within 12 months of the date of publication)	Publish Terms of Reference and notify stakeholders of the commencement of the Review.
Prepare draft consultation document and invite initial submissions	April to May 2022	Initial submissions invited: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town and Parish Councils • Members of Parliament • Local Groups and Interested Parties such as local businesses, local residents' associations, local public and voluntary organisations such as schools or health bodies <p>Publish proposals on the website</p>
Consider submissions	May 2022	Consider any submissions/representations and prepare report of draft recommendations for Full Council in July 2022
Publish draft recommendations	July 2022 to September 2022 (10 weeks)	Publish draft recommendations for further consultation with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All local government electors • All town and parish councils <p>Local groups and interested parties</p> <p>Publish draft recommendations on the website.</p>
Make final recommendations	Oct 2022 Full Council meeting	Consider any further submissions/representations and prepare final recommendations for report to Full Council
Publish final recommendations	November 2022	Publish final recommendations and make Order.

Babergh District Council is undertaking a Community Governance Review of the civil parishes within the area to enable the Council to consider if any changes are needed to the current parish arrangements.

The council is conducting the first stage of the Review process and is inviting residents and interested organisations to submit their views on existing arrangements, together with any proposals for change, from 1 April 2022 to 13 May 2022.

The council has published its Terms of Reference for the Review and a copy can be viewed and downloaded from the Council's website or obtained by contacting the Governance team as shown below. Should you wish to submit a written representation regarding this review please complete the online submission form which also allows you to upload any supporting papers.

Alternatively, you can email Elections@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk

The dates for submissions for the first stage are from 1 April 2022 to 13 May 2022.