

South Oxfordshire District Council

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Introduction

The council's Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee ("the committee") has agreed to undertake a community governance review (CGR) pursuant to Part 4, Chapter 3 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 of part of the district of South Oxfordshire. The 2007 Act vested powers in the council to undertake such a review and the council has delegated those powers to the committee.

The committee will undertake the review in accordance with the guidance on community governance reviews issued by the Department of Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) in March 2010 ("the guidance").

Proposal for consideration

The committee proposes to consider the following parish matters:

CGR reference	Parish/Area	Matters to be considered
CGR_A	Cuddesdon & Denton	Removal of current warding arrangements.
CGR_B	Henley-on-Thames/Bix	Review of parish boundary at Swiss Farm Park Homes currently split between Henley parish and Bix parish
CGR_C	Sonning Common	Increase in the number of parish councillors from 12 to 15
CGR_D	Thame (Great Haseley)	Amending the boundary of the parish to include land up to North Weston, currently in Great Haseley, within Thame parish.
CGR_E	Thame	A review of the warding arrangements to provide electoral representational balance between the North and South wards.
CGR_F ¹	Wallingford (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell)	Amending the boundary of the parish to include land at Site A, currently in Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, within Wallingford parish.
CGR_G	Didcot	A review of the number of councillors elected for each town council ward to reflect the number of electors they represent.

Assessment criteria

The factors that the council will take into account in making decisions are as follows:

¹ Matter removed from the terms of reference by the committee at its meeting on 25 May 2022.

- natural or man-made boundaries that help to define clearly one community from another
- effective and convenient representation of local residents at parish level
- views expressed in relation to any changes, particularly from those people directly affected
- the extent to which proposals reflect the identities and interests of the affected community
- the size and population of the local community

Why is the Council undertaking the review?

The guidance states that it is good practice for principal councils (in this context that means this council) to undertake CGRs every 10-15 years. The council completed a review of the whole district in 2014 and agreed to undertake a further review every four years with any changes to be implemented for the next scheduled elections. Changes were implemented at the scheduled elections in May 2015 and May 2019. Any changes agreed as part of this review will be implemented for the elections in May 2023. The council invited parish councils to submit matters for review and these issues are set out under proposals for consideration. The committee has agreed to carry out this review.

Consultation

The committee will consult formally on the review.

Timetable

The 2007 Act requires the council to complete a CGR within 12 months of the date of publication of terms of reference. The proposed timetable complies with the legal requirement.

Action	Completion Date
Publication of terms of reference	March 2022
Consultation commences	March 2022
Consultation closes	29 April 2022
Committee agrees draft proposals for consultation	May 2022
Further consultation commences	May 2022
Further consultation closes	29 July 2022
Committee agrees whether to make changes	8 September 2022
Community Governance Order completed and consequential matters in place for implementation at the district and parish council elections in May 2023	Autumn 2022

How to make comments

Please submit any comments via email to cgr@southandvale.gov.uk

The council does not require a hard copy of any submission. For those without access to email please send any submission to:

CGR
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Legal and Democratic
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Milton Park
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OX14 4SB

Should you require any further information or need clarification on the review process, please contact:

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