

Community Governance Review

Briefing Note No. 21-25

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This note sets out details of a public survey being undertaken as part of the Community Governance Review as set out in Briefing Note 21-18

Further details can be found on the following [webpage](#)

What are Community Governance Reviews?

1. A Community Governance Review (CGR) is a process which provides the opportunity to review and make changes to town and parish council governance arrangements. This ensures that they continue to be reflective of the identity and interest of local communities, and are as efficient and effective in their governance as possible.

What can a Community Governance Review change?

2. A Community Governance Review can make a number of changes to parish areas and parish electoral arrangements including:
 - the alteration to, merger or grouping of, creation or abolition of parishes;
 - the naming of parishes and adoption of alternative styles for new parishes (the naming process can also be undertaken under S75 of the LGA 1972);
 - parish council size. e.g. number of councillors to be elected, and warding arrangements;
 - any other electoral arrangements.
3. A Community Governance Review is not responsible for the number of boundaries of Unitary Divisions in the Wiltshire Council area. That is a process known as an Electoral Review and is conducted by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE). In certain circumstances a Community Governance Review may request minor alterations to a Unitary Division as a consequence of other changes, but this must be agreed by the LGBCE.

Areas included in the review

4. At its [meeting](#) on 21 September 2021, the Electoral Review Committee approved the terms of reference for a Community Governance Review to be commenced on 22 September 2021, to include the following areas:
 - Beechingstoke, Marden, Patney, Woodborough, Stanton St Bernard, North Newton, Wilsford;
 - Calne Without, Calne, Heddington, Cherhill, Compton Bassett, Hilmarton and Bremhill;
 - Malmesbury and St Paul Malmesbury Without.

Public Surveys

5. As part of its information gathering process, the Electoral Review Committee is conducting an online survey on the proposals that have been received.
6. The surveys for each area can be accessed from the main webpage and the following links:
 - [Beechingstoke and surrounding parishes:](#)
 - [Malmesbury and St Paul Malmesbury Without:](#)
 - [Calne Without new parish proposal and surrounding parishes \(including Calne Town\);](#)
 - [Charlton and Wilsford.](#)
7. Due to the ongoing pandemic and local public health guidance, a number of online sessions will be held to present information on currently received proposals and to receive public feedback.
 - Beechingstoke online meeting – 23 November 2021 – 1800 – [Access link](#)
 - Calne Without online meeting – 2 December 2021 – 1800 – [Access link](#)
 - Malmesbury online meeting – 14 December 2021 – 1800 – [Access link](#)
8. Any residents or interested parties are encouraged to attend the online sessions and respond to the surveys.
9. Following consideration of any comments, and other information gathering, the Electoral Review Committee will prepare draft recommendations for each area. It will then undertake a formal consultation on those recommendations in 2022.

Parish Name Change

10. There is also an ongoing survey on a proposal to change the name of Biddestone Parish Council:
 - [Biddestone survey](#)