

Community Governance Review - Consultation Briefing Note No. 23-04

Service: Legal and Governance
Date Prepared: 6 February 2023
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Background

A Community Governance Review is a process where the governance arrangements of a parish may be altered by Wiltshire Council. The process is overseen and recommendations made by the Electoral Review Committee. Full Council would need to approve any recommendations.

This note is further to Briefing Note 22-18 announcing the commencement of a Community Governance Review for 2022/23, and Briefing Note 22-21 regarding a pre-consultation survey as part of the information gathering phase.

Parishes where recommendations for governance changes have been made

- Biddestone & Slaughterford
- Castle Combe
- Donhead St Mary
- Figcheldean
- Fittleton cum Haxton
- Grittleton
- Heywood
- Monkton Farleigh
- Netheravon
- Nettleton
- Tidworth
- Warminster
- Westbury
- Yatton Keynell

Draft recommendations

Following analysis of all relevant information the Electoral Review Committee has formed draft recommendations for the areas listed above, which it will now consult upon.

The consultation will run from 7 February – 28 March 2023

The full Draft Recommendation document and the online survey can be found at the council's webpage below:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council-democracy-cgr>

Public meetings

The Committee will also hold the following public meetings to receive representations on the Draft Recommendations:

- **Recommendations regarding Netheravon/Figheledean/Fittleton cum Haxton – Monday 20 February 2023 – 6.30pm – Phoenix Hall, High Street, Netheravon, SP4 9PJ**
- **Recommendations regarding Heywood/Westbury – Wednesday 22 February 2023 – 6.30pm – Heywood Village Hall, Church Road, Heywood, BA13 4LP**
- **Recommendations regarding 'The Gibb' (Grittleton/Castle Combe/Nettleton) – Thursday 23 February 2023 – 6.30pm – Grittleton Village Hall, The Street, Grittleton, SN14 6AW**
- **Recommendations regarding Yatton Keynell/Biddestone & Slaughterford – Monday 27 February 2023 – 6.30pm – Biddestone Village Hall, Yatton Road, Biddestone, SN14 7BZ**

Hard copies of the consultation materials will be available from Westbury, Netheravon, and Corsham Libraries. The council will contact parishes through this briefing note. Letters will be sent to households in areas proposed to be transferred to another parish with details of the consultation.

Next steps

The Committee will analyse responses to the consultation and will then determine whether to confirm its final recommendations, to be considered at Full Council in May or July 2023. It may decide to amend its proposals and undertake further consultations.

Any changes to electoral arrangements for parishes, arising from the Review, would come into effect from the next scheduled ordinary parish council elections in May 2025. Any changes to the areas of parishes would have to be effective from the start of the financial year on 1 April 2025.

Due to the nature of some recommendations consent would be required from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England for some changes.