

# Report

**Meeting of** : City Area (Community) Committee  
**Meeting held in** : The Meeting Room, City Hall, Salisbury  
**Date** : Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2008 at 6.00 pm  
**Subject** : A City Council for Salisbury: Results of Stage 1 Consultation

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## 1. Reason for Report to the Committee:

To present members with the results of the Stage 1 Public consultation exercise undertaken between 6 December 2007 and 15 January 2008.

## 2. Background:

On 2 October, 2007 this Committee supported a review of Salisbury with a view to the creation of a new city council for Salisbury in the event that a new unitary authority is created for Wiltshire. It also agreed to the initial consultation arrangements to establish the level of support for the creation of a new city council. The Council has established a Steering Group led by Councillor Clegg to oversee this work and the group has been fully involved in all aspects of the consultation process.

## 3. The Consultation Exercise

The consultation exercise ran between 3 December, 2007 and 15 January 2008. It had two primary objectives:

- To meet the statutory requirements of the Local Government & Rating Act 1997 and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007; and
- To assess the level of support for the creation of a city council

The consultation exercise was promoted by public notice in the local newspaper, press release, web page and radio advertising. Statutory consultees - Wiltshire County Council and the Charter Trustees - were notified in writing, along with neighbouring parish councils and a wide range of stakeholder groups. The views of the general public were accepted by webform, email and in writing. In addition, the City members of the council's Voice&Choice citizens' panel were invited to complete an online questionnaire and a workshop was held for members of this Committee

## 4. Results of Consultation:

In total, 725 responses were received and the results were as follows:

<b>Yes</b>	623	86%
<b>No</b>	47	6.5%
<b>Don't Know</b>	55	7.5%

Included in these responses were 20 representing the views of local organisations including Laverstock, Britford, Clarendon, Wilton and Netherhampton parish and town councils. The responses of all 20 organisations are attached at Appendix 1.



Awarded in:  
Housing Services  
Waste and Recycling Services



**5. Options:**

in the light of the results of the Stage 1 consultation exercise, the Committee has two options available:

**Option 1:** Recommend that the council proceeds no further with its proposal to create a City council for Salisbury

**Option 2:** Continue to Stage 2 of the consultation process in accordance with the timetable attached at Appendix 2

**6. Recommendation:**

In light of the results of the consultation exercise, it is recommended that the Committee now agrees to proceed to Phase 2 of the consultation exercise.

**7. Implications:**

**Financial:** None

**Legal:** Actions in compliance with LG&RA 1997 and the LGPIHA 2007

**Human Rights:** Have been assessed and no human rights are affected by the content of this report.

**Personnel:** None

**Community Safety:** None

**Environmental:** None

**Wards Affected:** All City Wards

**A City Council for Salisbury: Results of Consultation  
ORGANISATIONS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Response</b>
Jimmy Walker	COGS	COGS supports the proposal for a City Council and for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• we have concerns that the abolition of Salisbury District Council will lead to less of a voice for local people in matters relating to cycling</li> <li>• it is important that the allocation of funding for cycling infrastructure and initiatives which support cycling is decided with appropriate local input and in an open and transparent manner.</li> <li>• the detailed design of cycling schemes also needs to be agreed at a local level</li> </ul>
James Jeffs	Wiltshire PCT	We have looked at the proposal as an adjunct to the formal approval of the unitary status bid for Wiltshire. In particular, we have looked at the areas where your proposal would impact on our own statutory responsibilities. This required us to focus on the impact on the health of the public in Wiltshire and the impact on the effectiveness of joint commissioning and partnership working.  From these perspectives, we believe that a parish council for Salisbury would provide support to the unitary model by offering a structure for local engagement in the city.
Lindsey Brown	City Centre Management Ltd	Supports the proposal. Salisbury City Centre Management would welcome the opportunity to participate in any working groups set up to establish a City Council for the city.
Peter Durnan	South Wiltshire Agenda 21	We need to retain the links that exist between the above mentioned organisations and our elected representatives and council officials for the benefit of the communities of South Wiltshire. I hope a City/Parish Council will help provide that continuity!
Victor Gower	Harnham Neighbourhood Policing Team	It is vital that we retain some measure of control or influence over our lives. Big is not always beautiful so we need someone to fight our corner.
Mrs M Poynton D Smith R Hounslow P Goodman	Harnham Neighbourhood Assoc	With less councillors under proposed new arrangements there is a need for a local representation. Parish councillors are (a) good value for money (b) a source of detailed local information.
Patrick Paisey	Friends of Victoria park, CAB, President Wiltshire Community Action.	Role of City Council and Mayoralty needs to be safeguarded. City boundaries need to be reassessed to include Laverstock and extend to include the Livestock Market. The Guildhall should become the civic seat of the council and the council should control as many city services as possible.
Mary Paisey	Salisbury Womens Refuge	Extend boundaries to include all of Bishopdown development, Old Sarum, Laverstock and the Cattle Market.

A C Purves	Wilton Town Council	Wilton Town Council fully supports this proposal. It will correct an anomaly and give citizens of Salisbury a council as in all other areas. It will protect their democratic rights to adequate and effective representation.
J Riddell	Netherhampton Parish Council	Salisbury would be better served with its own Town Council.
D Whettleton	Clarendon Parish Council	Would only support the proposal if it means that Clarendon will retain its own council and not be subsumed.
Peter Chubb	Association of Charter Towns	Supports the need for Salisbury to have its own council.
Sue Wright	Salisbury Green Party	The Party favours the creation of a City council for Salisbury. This is more urgent following the unitary decision.
S Hannah	Laverstock Parish Council	Parish council supports the proposal
Mary Douglas	WCC Cabinet	Supports the proposal
M Hitchings	Britford Parish Council	Unanimously supported by Britford PC
Hugh Abel	Salisbury Shopmobility	Fully supports all measures that will enable Salisbury to retain a measure of its individuality and independence
Brigadier Elcombe	Salisbury Cathedral	Supports the proposal to retain a Salisbury focus once local government switches to North Wiltshire.
Brigadier Cook	Salisbury Civic Society	SCS strongly believes this it of great importance to have a City council.
Rev Maquaiban	Close Residents Assoc	The more services that can remain accountable locally the better.

**A City Council for Salisbury  
TIMETABLE**

Full Council decision to carry out the review	24 Sept 2007
City Area (Community) Committee agrees PID	2 October 2007
Publication of the review	October 2007
City Area (Community) Committee considers representations, makes any recommendations and publicises them	January 2008
City Area (Community) Committee considers further representations and makes any additional recommendations and publicises them	April 2008
Recommendations sent to the Secretary of State	April 2008
Consideration of the recommendations by the Local Government Commission	May to July 2008
Secretary of State accepts recommendations taking account of Local Government Commission proposals	September 2008
Secretary of State consults on draft order for a new city council	October 2008
Secretary of State makes an order taking into account any representations received	January 2009
Salisbury District Council makes an order establishing the new city council	February 2009
New city council established	1 April 2009