



REPORT OF:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE
TO:	POLICY COUNCIL
ON:	3rd December 2020

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW – PARISH OF LIVESEY

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report sets out the requirements and procedure should the Council agree to undertake a community governance review in accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (the 2007 Act) and associated government guidance.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council is asked to:

1. Consider first whether it wishes to exercise its power under Section 82 of the 2007 Act and conduct a CGR of the parish of Livesey in accordance with the requirements of 2007 Act, and associated government guidance as described in this report.
2. Subject to 1) above, that the terms of reference in respect of the community governance review including the proposed timetable, as set out in Appendix 1 to this report, be approved and published.
3. Subject to 1) above, to authorise the Chief Executive to conduct the community governance review on the Council's behalf and to take all necessary action to comply with the Council's statutory obligations in that regard.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The 2007 Act amended the responsibility for parish area reviews from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) to principal councils, subject to adherence to regulations and directions issued by the former Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and the Electoral Commission. The process for considering a change is now termed a Community Governance Review (CGR).

3.2 A CGR is a review of one or more areas of the borough to look at one or more of the following:

- Creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes;
- The naming of a parish and the style of a new parish;
- The electoral arrangements for parishes (including council size, the number of councillors to be elected to the council, and parish warding), and
- Grouping parishes under a common parish council or de-grouping parishes

3.3 A CGR may not change parliamentary, borough ward or county division boundaries, although it might to recommendations to the LGBCE to make consequential changes to ward or parish boundaries.

4 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Following the boundary review by LGBCE (which came into effect from May 2018) the ward boundaries changed. This was following by a polling district review in October – December 2018. Due to the LGBCE review and the ward boundary changes, the boundary for the Livesey with Pleasington ward no longer aligns exactly with the boundary of the parish of Livesey, and thereby creating an anomaly on the polling district map. This necessitated a separate polling district to be created (LP 6), which currently consists of 69 properties (mostly new builds) and 88 electors – Appendix 2 (polling district map for Livesey with Pleasington). To remove the anomaly mainly for electoral administration purposes, it would be beneficial to merge the polling district LP6 with LP5, which also forms part of the parish of Livesey. As the merger of the two polling districts will result in changes to the boundary of LP5 (and therefore the parish boundary), a Community Governance Review will need to be undertaken.

Subject to Council's agreement to conduct a Community Governance Review, the procedure requires the Council to:

- (a) to agree the terms of reference for the review including specifying the area under review
- (b) to then publish and consult on the terms of reference with the electors in LP6 and those with an interest, such as the Livesey Parish Council, and ward councillors and other persons/bodies who may have an interest
- (c) taking into account representations received, to agree final recommendations and, if required, to make a community governance reorganisation order to give effect to agreed changes.

A further report to Council will be presented for consideration in January 2021 to report on the outcome of the consultation and any recommendations. Subject to any recommendations being approved in January, the Council will make and publish a community governance order. The order will take effect from 1 February 2020, which is also the revised date for the publication of the new electoral register.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Electoral administration work needs to be undertaken efficiently and accurately, and where improvements can be made, for example by removing such anomalies they must be considered.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Although there will be some small costs in relation to the consultation process, there would be efficiencies in electoral administration with the merger of the two polling districts.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council has power under Section 82 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct CGRs. A CGR must be conducted in accordance with the requirements set out in Chapter 3 of Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (as amended) and guidance issued by the Secretary of State under Section 100(4) of the 2007 Act.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The Governance team will administer and assist in conducting the CGR.

9. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

The process to be followed in conducting the CGR is laid down in legislation and guidance issued by the Government. Every attempt will be made to engage electors and interested parties in the CGR through the consultation process that will be led the Governance team.

10. CONSULTATIONS

Council Chief/Senior Officers and Members

Contact Officer: Asad Laher, Head of Legal & Governance
(01254 585495)

Nafisha Master, Governance Manager
(01254 666800)

Date: 8th October 2020

Background Papers: