

Report to Policy Committee

10 February 2022

Agenda Item: 9

REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

BROXTOWE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - STAGE 2 CONSULTATION RESPONSE

Purpose of the Report

1. The report asks Policy Committee to consider the final draft recommendations relating to Broxtowe Borough Council's Community Governance Review and agree the Council's response to the consultation.

Information

- 2. Broxtowe Borough Council is undertaking a Community Governance Review, which is a legal process that considers the most suitable ways of representing the people in the area identified in the review. Outcomes could include:
 - a. Creating, merging or abolishing parishes
 - b. The naming of parishes and the style of new parishes and the creation of town councils
 - c. The electoral arrangements for parishes (for instance, the ordinary year of election, council size, the number of councillors to be elected to the council and parish warding)
 - d. Grouping parishes under a common parish council or de-grouping parishes
 - e. Other types of local arrangements, including parish meetings
- 3. At its meeting on 30 September 2021, the Governance and Ethics Committee considered Broxtowe Borough Council's initial draft proposals. It agreed to send a holding response, noting that the proposals were subject to consultation, with suggestions welcomed from any local stakeholder, that could influence the final proposals and any response the Council might wish to make.
- 4. The deadline for the initial phase of consultation closed on 30 September 2021 and the responses that were received were used by Broxtowe Borough Council to produce its final draft proposals (<u>Community Governance Review Report to Committee (broxtowe.gov.uk)</u>). The County Council has now been invited to comment on the final draft proposals. The consultation period for this stage of the review closes on 28 February 2022.
- 5. The final proposals on which this Council is being asked to comment are set out in the table below:

Area name/	Changes to Parishes		Effect on Divisions		Properties	Electors
description	From	То	From	То	affected	affected
Gilt Hill	Greasley	Kimberley	Greasley & Brinsley	Nuthall & Kimberley	12	20
A610 Island (North)	Kimberley	Greasley	Nuthall & Kimberley	Greasley & Brinsley	0	0
Ikea Island	Greasley	Kimberley	Greasley & Brinsley	Nuthall & Kimberley	2	4
Coatsby Road (Gresley)	Greasley	Kimberley	Greasley & Brinsley	Nuthall & Kimberley	4	7
South of A610 (GRE2)	Greasley	Awsworth	Greasley & Brinsley	Stapleford & Broxtowe Central	0	0
Awsworth Lane (Awsworth)	Kimberley	Awsworth	Nuthall & Kimberley	Stapleford & Broxtowe Central	6	10
North of Stapleford Allocation	Stapleford	Unparished	Stapleford & Broxtowe Central	Bramcote & Beeston North	0	0
Stapleford Allocation	Unparished	Stapleford	Bramcote & Beeston North	Stapleford & Broxtowe Central	0	0
South of A610 (GRE2- ESM)	Greasley	Eastwood	Greasley & Brinsley	Eastwood	0	0
Brinsley Pit Tip	Eastwood	Brinsley	Eastwood	Greasley & Brinsley	0	0
Hilltop Rise / Fairdale	Eastwood	Greasley	Eastwood	Greasley & Brinsley	3	3
Charles Avenue Allotments	Greasley	Eastwood	Greasley & Brinsley	Eastwood	0	0
Kimberley School and Leisure Centre	Greasley	Kimberley	Greasley & Brinsley	Nuthall & Kimberley	0	0
Newdigate	Greasley	Kimberley	Greasley & Brinsley	Nuthall & Kimberley	0	0

6. The proposals would have the following impact on County Divisions:

Division	Net change in properties	Net change in electors
Toton, Chilwell & Attenborough	0	0
Stapleford & Broxtowe Central	6	10
Nuthall & Kimberley	12	21
Beeston Central & Rylands	0	0
Eastwood	-3	-3
Bramcote & Beeston North	0	0
Greasley & Brinsley	-15	-28

- 7. The final draft recommendations represent a more marginal impact on the County Division boundaries than the initial draft proposals that went before Governance and Ethics Committee in September 2021. Given this very limited impact on county electoral divisions and the benefits to be gained by improving coterminosity of boundaries at parish and County Division level, the proposal is for the Council to formally support the current recommendations within the review and offer its support for a related alterations Order to be sought from the Boundary Commission by Broxtowe Borough Council
- 8. Following the close of consultation, Broxtowe Borough Council will consider all the submissions received and produce its set of final recommendations. These are due to be considered by Broxtowe's full Council in May 2022, where a decision will be made on the arrangements with a resolution to make a Reorganisation Order. The process is scheduled to be completed by June 2022.
- 9. A Council undertaking a Community Governance Review may ask the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to make changes to boundaries at district or county level to reflect reviewed parish boundaries and coterminosity.
- 10. In respect of the proposals set out above, the recommendation to the Boundary Commission from Broxtowe Borough Council would be to make the related alterations to the County boundaries, or, wherever it is viable and considered to be the most administratively appropriate option, the creation of a new polling district.
- 11. In the report that was previously submitted to the Governance and Ethics Committee reference was made to a request from Broxtowe Borough Council, asking this Council to consider two further amendments to correct anomalies from historic reviews. Since that time, officers have confirmed that the only mechanism through which this correction would be made would be through a full electoral review of the County. Broxtowe Borough Council has been made aware of this request and confirmed on this basis it is not something they would continue to request of the County Council. A note will be kept of those anomalies and they will be considered within future reviews of electoral arrangements for Nottinghamshire.

Other Options Considered

12. The Council could choose not to submit a response to the consultation.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

- 13. The report submitted to Broxtowe Borough Council's Governance, Audit and Standards Committee on 29 November 2021 summarises the feedback received during the first consultation period and how this has been taken into account in drafting the final proposals.
- 14. Where proposals for related alterations are submitted to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, it would expect to receive evidence that the principal council has consulted on them as part of its review. Providing a response to this consultation will provide evidence demonstrating Nottinghamshire County Council's position on the proposals.
- 15. If any individual Councillor or group wish to make their own comments on these proposals, they are able to make them directly to Broxtowe Borough Council.

Statutory and Policy Implications

16. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Implications for Service Users

- 17. From a County Council perspective, the only change for electors affected by the proposals would be the Division that they vote for at County Council elections and potentially the polling station at which they cast their vote.
- 18. There are wider impacts of the review, which will be for Broxtowe Borough Council to consider when it develops its final proposals and subsequently votes on the final recommendations. These implications are an effect of the wider review and have not related to any change to the county Division boundaries. These implications include the potential for affected residents' precept to change if they move from one parish to another, their representation at parish council level, and ensuring that there is consistent community identity within neighbourhoods.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1) That the Committee authorises the Chief Executive to submit the letter at **Appendix A** to the report to Broxtowe Borough Council as Nottinghamshire County Council's response to the consultation on the final draft proposals of its Community Governance Review.

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For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (EKH 07/01/2022)

19. Policy Committee has the authority to take the decisions set out in the recommendations.

Financial Comments (SES 05/01/2022)

20. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- Governance and Ethics Committee report, Nottinghamshire County Council 30 September 2021
- Governance, Audit and Standards Committee report, Broxtowe Borough Council 17 May 2021
- <u>Governance, Audit and Standards Committee report, Broxtowe Borough Council 29</u> November 2021
- Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007
- Local Government Boundary Commission for England Guidance on community governance reviews

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- Bramcote and Beeston North Councillor Steve Carr
- Beeston Central and Rylands Councillor Kate Foale
- Eastwood Councillor Eddie Cubley
- Greasley and Brinsley Councillor Elizabeth Williamson
- Nuthall and Kimberley Councillor Philip Owen
- Stapleford and Broxtowe Central Councillors Dr. John Doddy and John "Maggie" McGrath
- Toton, Chilwell and Attenborough Councillors Richard Jackson and Eric Kerry