



## **COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW –NEWPORT TOWN COUNCIL REQUEST FOR CHANGES TO THE PARISH BOUNDARIES**

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007**

#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

##### **INTRODUCTION**

###### **Aims of the review**

Following a request from Newport Town Council, Telford and Wrekin Council (“the Council”) has resolved to undertake a Community Governance Review pursuant to Part 4, Chapter 3 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (“the Act”), to consider the parish boundary.

###### **Why undertake a community governance review?**

A Community Governance Review provides an opportunity for principal authorities to review and make changes to community governance within their area.

A Community Governance Review is a review of the whole or part of the district to consider one or more of the following:

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

The government has emphasised that ultimately, recommendations made in Community Governance Reviews are to bring about improved community engagement, more cohesive communities, better local democracy and result in more effective and convenient delivery of local services.

## Scope of the review

The Council has resolved to undertake a Community Governance Review to consider whether governance arrangements within the above stated parish are:

- a) Reflective of the identities and interests of the community in that area;
- b) Effective and convenient to the community in that area

In doing so, the review is required to take into account:

- a) The impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion and;
- b) The size, population and boundaries of the local community or parish

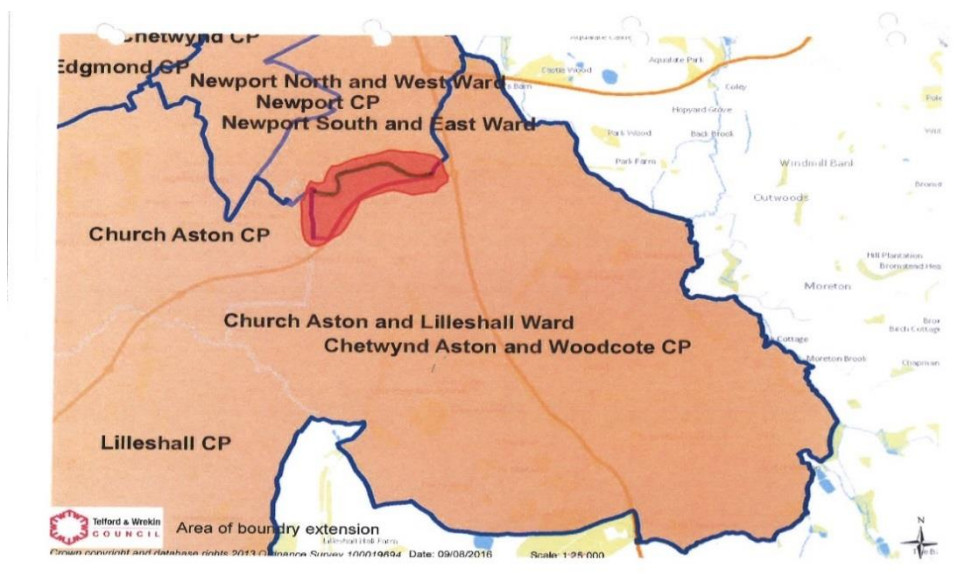
Specifically, the review will consider:

## The boundary between parishes

The Council will review the boundary between Newport Town Council and Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote Parish Council in response to the request from Newport Town Council, taking account of relevant local considerations.

In their request, Newport Town Council state that:

*“the residents within the suggested boundary change are likely to consider themselves residents of Newport and not Chetwynd Aston and Woodcote, as borough boundary suggests. Housing developments within this area also assessed on, and approved because of their location is considered to be within the boundaries of Newport and not and Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote, this is because the A518 and A41 which border Newport, are a more natural boundary than what exists....*



*The dark red area of discussion, the blue line represents the parish boundary for Newport, and the red line represents the Telford and Wrekin Consistency boundary for Newport's South & East Ward.*

### **Summary**

*There appear to some merits in considering extending the boundary of Newport in certain areas based upon:*

- *General public perception of what is Newport.*
- *The ability to properly represent future residents and provide services.*
- *Having a boundary that is consistent with Telford & Wrekin borough wards.*

*Certain features lend themselves to be natural boundary points, namely the A41 and A518.*

### **Request received from Newport Town Council:**

*That the parish boundary is extended to match the Constituency boundary, and to be brought in to effect for the 2019 town and parish elections."*

The current boundaries between Newport Town Council and Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote are shown in maps in Annex 1 ("the Review Area").

The current boundary is marked with a blue line and the proposed new boundary is marked with a red line.

### **Who will undertake the community governance review?**

As the principal authority, the Council are responsible for undertaking any Community Governance Review within its electoral area.

Final recommendations will be made to Full Council for adoption and creation of a Community Governance Order.

## **CONSULTATION**

Before making any recommendations or publishing final proposals, in line with legislative requirements, the Council will take full account of the views of local people. The Council will comply with legislative requirements by:

- Consulting local government electors for the Review Area;
- Consulting any other person or body (including a local authority) which appears to the principal council to have an interest in the review;
- Taking into account any representations received in connection with the review.

When taking account of written representations the Council is bound to have regard to the need to secure that community governance within the Review Area:

- Reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area, and

- Is effective and convenient

In order to ensure that this review is conducted transparently, as soon as practicable, the Council will publish its recommendations and take such steps as it considers sufficient to ensure that persons who may be interested in the review are informed of the recommendations and the reasons behind them.

In accordance with the Act, representations received in connection with the review will be fully considered, and steps will be taken to notify consultees of the outcome of the review by:

- publishing them on the Council's website at [www.telford.gov.uk](http://www.telford.gov.uk);
- posting public notices;
- placing key documents on public deposit at Council Offices; and
- by communicating the final outcome of the review by writing to all households in the Review Area

## **TIMETABLE FOR THE REVIEW AND CONSULTATION**

A Community Governance Review must, by statute, be concluded within a twelve month period from the day a valid petition is received, this was received on 8 March 2018. A Community Governance Review concludes when the Council publishes the recommendations made in the review.

**TABLE 1: Timetable**

Action	Timetable	Outline of action
Compiling Terms of Reference	10 May 2018	seek Members approval for draft Terms of Reference
Publication of Terms of Reference	1 June 2018	Publishes Council publishes TOR and notifies stakeholders, clearly defining extent of the review.
Consultations – invite initial submissions	1 June 2018 10 August 2018  10 Weeks	Council undertakes a full consultation requesting comments as to the proposals made and/or alternative proposals
Consider and prepare Draft Recommendations	10 August – 31 October 2018	
Publication of Draft Recommendations	31 October 2018	
Consultation on Draft Recommendations	1 November 2018 – 6 January 2019 9 Weeks	
Consider submissions following publication of	January 2019	Council considers the results of consultation and

draft recommendations		prepares Final recommendations
Final Recommendations are published and the Boundary Review Committee resolve to (a) either make no changes or (b) make a Reorganisation Order.	January/ February 2019	
Final Proposals are considered by Council at Full Council meeting on 28 February 2019	28 February 2019	Council adopts Final Proposals
Council publishes the Reorganisation Order, if required.	March 2019	Council publishes an order concerning Parish matters should this be the outcome of the review
Next election held under new electoral arrangements	May 2023	

## **PRINCIPLES GUIDING THE REVIEW**

### **Relevant legislation**

In undertaking a Community Governance Review, the Council will apply the guiding principles as appropriate from the following legislation and guidance:

- The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 as amended by the Legislative Reform (Community Governance Reviews) Order 2015;
- The Local Government Act 1972;
- Guidance on Community Governance Reviews (DCLG/EC);
- Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils)(England Regulations 2008 (SI2008/625).

### **Electorate**

In considering the electoral arrangements of the parish stated within these Terms of Reference the Council is required to consider any change in the number or distribution of the electors.

The Council has used the Register of Electors in force in April 2018 to provide existing local government electorate figures.

### **TABLE 2: Present Electoral arrangements**

Borough Ward (Parish)	Polling District	Electorate
Newport South & East (East)	WNE	2071
Newport North & West (North)	WNN	2469
Newport South & East (South)	WNS	2047

Newport South & East (West)	WNW	2516
Church Aston & Lilleshall (Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote)	WCC	397

**TABLE 3: Proposed Electoral arrangements**

Borough Ward (Parish)	Polling District	Electorate
Newport South & East (East)	WNE	2071
Newport North & West (North)	WNN	2469
Newport South & East (South)	WNS	2076
Newport South & East (West)	WNW	2516
Church Aston & Lilleshall (Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote)	WCC	368

Currently the proposed boundary change would see 4 established properties move out of Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote Parish and into Newport South & East (South).

In addition, the development of Wright Avenue has recently seen 49 new properties constructed where 21 electors are currently registered and these figures have been factored into Tables 2 and 3 above.

### **Projected new dwellings for the Review Area**

Based on current approved planning permission figures for the area in question, there is likely to be a large number of new dwellings built within the Review Area and so we are required to give consideration to the electoral arrangements that might accompany such changes in the number or distribution of electors which is likely to occur in the period of five years beginning with the day the Review starts. Electorate forecasts for the parish wards have been prepared using current planning permissions and using the multiplier of electors per property presented above.

**TABLE 4– Projected new dwellings and electoral change statistics for the Review area 2018 – 2023**

	Projected new dwellings	Electors per property	Projected additional electors
Review Area	487	1.74	847

**TABLE 5 – Current Parish Precepts 2018-2019**

Parish	Amount Required	Council Tax D equivalent 2018/2019
Newport	£444,896	£116.89
Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote)	£6,000	£34.74

### **Consequences of changes to the current boundaries**

The main consequences it appears in making the change to the current boundaries is in the allocation of precept costs. At present there are four established properties and a new development of 49 properties that will be affected by the change. In the next five years however, this number will increase by up to 487 dwellings.

### **Parish governance**

The Council believes that parish councils play an important role in terms of community empowerment at the local level and wants to ensure that parish governance continues to be robust, representative and enabled to meet the challenges that lie before it. Furthermore, it wants to ensure that there is clarity and transparency to the areas that the parish council represents.

### **How to submit your views**

If you have a clear interest in this review or are impacted by its outcome, the Council would like to hear your views. Consultation responses must be in writing, whether by letter or email and must contain the name and residential address of the person submitting their views.

### **How to contact us**

If you would like to say how you view potential future arrangements under these Terms of Reference please submit your written comments no later than 10 August 2018:

By email to: [BRCNewport@telford.gov.uk](mailto:BRCNewport@telford.gov.uk)

In writing to:

**Newport Boundary Review  
Electoral Services Team  
Telford & Wrekin Council  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Addenbrooke House  
Ironmasters Way  
Telford  
TF3 4NT**

Should you require any further information or need clarification on the review process please contact:

**Dave Bowen**  
**Electoral Services Manager**  
**Telephone**      **01952 383210**  
**Email**            **Dave.bowen@telford.gov.uk**

### **Publication of Terms of Reference**

These Terms of Reference will be published on the Council website:  
[www.telford.gov.uk](http://www.telford.gov.uk) and will be available for public inspection at the Council offices at  
Addenbrooke House, Ironmaster Way, Telford, TF3 4NT

Notices advertising this Community Governance Review and the availability of these  
Terms of Reference will also be posted within the parish.

### **List of Annexes**

**Annex 1** Map showing the existing electoral arrangements in blue and the  
proposed electoral arrangements in red

Consultees (other than the electors of Newport and Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote):

Newport Town Council  
Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote Parish  
The borough Councillors

**Date of publication**  
**1<sup>st</sup> June 2018**



## **Annex 1**