

ELECTORAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

9 NOVEMBER 2021

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW – TERMS OF REFERENCE

Cabinet Member(s): Leader of the Council, Cllr Bob Deed]
Responsible Officer: Jill May, Returning Officer

Reason for Report: To provide the Electoral Review Committee with an opportunity to review a draft Terms of Reference in order to start the process of a Community Governance Review.

Recommendation: That the Electoral Review Committee asks the approval of Council for a Terms of Reference to be published in respect of the commencement of a Community Governance Review process.

Financial Implications: £45k has been set aside in the budget to undertake this review.

Budget and Policy Framework: None arising directly from this report.

Legal Implications: Section 81 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 provides that it is for the Council to decide the terms of reference of any community governance review.

Risk Assessment: Local democracy and representation is impeded.

Equality Impact Assessment: No equality issues have been highlighted in this report.

Relationship to Corporate Plan: A Community Governance Review supports and facilitates local democracy and local representation.

Impact on Climate Change: No climate change issues have been highlighted in this report.

1.0 Introduction/Background

- 1.1 At the meeting of the Council held on 25 August 2021 it was agreed that a Community Governance Review would be undertaken. It was further agreed that a cross party politically balanced group of twelve elected Members would be formed and this group would become the Electoral Review Committee.
- 1.2 The Electoral Review Committee would undertake the process of a CGR with the assistance of an external contractor.
- 1.3 The first step in the process of a CGR is the formulation and publishing of Terms of Reference which outlines what a review will look at and gives an outline timetable. Once published, consultees are invited to make comments on any changes they feel should take place in respect of parish boundaries or indeed reasons why they feel changes should not occur.

2.0 First Committee Meeting

2.1 The first meeting of the ERC will look at the draft Terms of Reference Appendix 1.

Contact for more Information: Jill May, Returning Officer
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Circulation of the Report: Electoral Review Committee, Leadership Team, Cabinet

List of Background Papers: