

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW – ST BEES

PORTFOLIO Cllr Norman Williams
HOLDER:
LEAD OFFICER: Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Martin Jepson
REPORT AUTHORS: Tim Capper

Summary	Reports to the Working Party proposed terms of reference for a community governance review of St Bees following a request from St Bees Parish Council
Recommendation:	That the draft terms of reference and draft proposals be approved for the purposes of consultation.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 introduced powers for a principal council to undertake community governance reviews of all or part of their area, and to make local reorganisation orders on completion of reviews. Community governance reviews (CGR's) can comprise creating, merging or abolishing parishes, naming or re-naming parishes, amending parish boundaries, and altering electoral arrangements in parishes. Electoral arrangements include the number councillors to be elected to a parish council, their terms of office, and warding arrangements within parishes. Powers to undertake CGR's replace the powers under earlier legislation for the Secretary of State to make parish review orders on the recommendations of principal councils.

2 PROPOSALS

2.1 The Council has received a request from St Bees Parish Council to undertake a Community Governance Reviews of councillor numbers on the Parish Council in the light of the changes in the Copeland (Parishes) Order 2009 and other recent demographic changes in the St Bees ward of the parish council.

2.2 The attached draft terms of reference have been drafted to restrict the review to considerations of councillor numbers.

3 CONCLUSION

3.1 The Working Party is asked to:

- (i) Consider and approve the terms of reference of the Community Governance Review

List of Background Documents

Guidance on CGR's

List of Consultees:

Acting Chief Executive; S 151 Officer; portfolio holder

REVIEWS OF PARISHES AND RELATED MATTERS – LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007

TERMS OF REFERENCE

INTRODUCTION

The Council has resolved to undertake a Community Governance Review of the existing parish of St Bees.

In undertaking the Review, the Council will be guided by Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the relevant parts of the Local Government Act 1972, Guidance on Community Governance Reviews issued in accordance with section 100(4) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 by the Department of Communities and Local Government and The Electoral Commission in April 2008, and the following regulations which guide, in particular, consequential matters arising from the Review: Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008 (SI2008/625); Local Government Finance (New Parishes) Regulations 2008 (SI2008/626).

The Council is required to have regards to Guidance on Community Governance Reviews issued by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

Section 81 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 requires the Council to publish its Terms of Reference in a Review. The Terms of Reference will be published on the Council's website and by publication in local newspapers.

Why is the Council undertaking the Review?

A request has been received from St Bees Parish Council instructing The Council to carry out a Community Governance Review to increase the number of parish councillors by one.

The Copeland Parishes order 2009 saw the Ingwell Ward of St Bees Parish move into the Parish of Egremont, therefore the existing parish councillor for the Ingwell Ward will cease to serve the parish council. However during the last five years the electorate in St Bees has gradually increased as a result of new housing developments in the area. Council statistics show that over 80 new houses have been completed within the last 5 years with an average electorate of 160. As a result of this St Bees Parish council feels that this justifies increasing the number of Councillors in St Bees ward by one, so that the current councillor for the Ingwell ward can continue to serve the Parish of St Bees.

What will be included in the review?

The review will be restricted to considering whether there is justification in increasing the number of councillors on the Parish Council by one, taking into account the relevant

guidance.

Who undertakes a review?

The Review will be undertaken by the Parish Review Working Party of the Council.

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Parish	No. of Councillors	Electorate	Ratio
Arlecdon & Frizington	9	2967	1:330
Bootle	10	640	1:64
Cleator Moor	12	5520	1:460
Distington	15	1860	1:124
Drigg & Carleton	8	395	1:49
Egremont	10	6359	1:636
Ennerdale and Kinniside	8	264	1:33
Eskdale	9	245	1:27
Gosforth	11	1026	1:93
Haile	7	221	1:31
Irton with Santon	8	277	1:35
Lamplugh	12	547	1:46
Lowca	9	658	1:73
Lowside Quarter	8	493	1:62
Millom	15	5679	1:379
Millom Without	11	845	1:77
Moresby	11	1415	1:129
Muncaster	9	253	1:29
Parton	13	760	1:58
Ponsonby	7	86	1:12
Seascale	12	1444	1:120
St Bees	14	1412	1:101
St Bridgets Beckermest	9	339	1:37
St John's Beckermest	10	1547	1:155
Waberthwaite	8	206	1:26
Weddicar	8	386	1:48
Whicham	9	446	1:50