

Community Governance Review for Grantham

Update of actions undertaken

BACKGROUND



13 DEC 2021

Community Governance Review Working Group (CGRWG) set up to manage process. Membership comprised of Grantham district ward councillors. Chair- Cllr Graham Jeal. To view minutes of meeting click here

27 JAN 2022

Council agrees terms of reference and timetable for the review. Terms of reference include setting the parameters of review.

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Parameters of review are to establish:

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- If a new parish or town council should be set up to represent Grantham
- If the new parish or town council for Grantham is created, where the administrative external boundaries of the new
- council should be drawn If a new town or parish council is created, how it
- should be divided into wards for the purposes of electing councillors, how many councillors there should be and when the first election will take place

21 FEB 2022

CGRWG approve methodology and content of consultation. To view minutes of meeting click here Stakeholders identified and contacted as part of the review included:

- Householders in the areas under review
- Local businesses

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- South Kesteven District Councillors
- Lincolnshire County Councillors (South Kesteven divisions)
- Lincolnshire County Council
- Members of Parliament for the Grantham and Stamford and Sleaford and North Hykeham constituencies
 - All Parish Councils neighbouring the Grantham unparished area (Parish Councils of Barrowby, Belton and Manthorpe, Great Gonerby, Harlaxton, Little Ponton & Stroxton and Londonthorpe and Harrowby Without)
 - Any other person/organisation who appear to have an interest. This included 39 community organisations based in Grantham or one of the surrounding parishes.

Objectives of consultation identified as follows. To:

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- Ensure those who may be affected by the proposal were aware of the review and were able to participate
- Measure the degree of support or otherwise for the proposal to create a parish or town council for Grantham
- Communicate the potential changes that may occur to boundaries, warding arrangements etc should the proposal be approved, and gather feedback on those changes
- Inform decisions that will be taken by SKDC in respect of the arrangements for a parish or town council for Grantham
- Enable respondents to ask questions/seek clarification on any of the issues raised

CONSULTATION - STAGE ONE

11 MAR 2022

Six-week consultation with 23.268 households/organisations and other stakeholders in unparished area of Grantham and each of the six parishes adjacent commences. Participants asked for their opinion on a new parish/town council, boundaries, and wards. Consultation opens on 11 March.

22 APRIL 2022

Consultation closes.

1,487 responses received. Includes 4 sent by email.

Overall response rate of 6.4% Margin of error for 1,487 responses drawn from a population of 23,268 at a 95% confidence level is 2.46%.

Results of the first stage were:

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- Two thirds of respondents • (974 or 66.2%) were in favour of the creation of a parish/town council for Grantham
 - Half of those responding (666 or 49.8%) thought any new town or parish council should be confined to the currently unparished area of Grantham and should not take any of the urban parts of either Belton & Manthorpe, Great Gonerby or Londonthorpe & Harrowby Without. When asked if the boundary
 - for any new town or parish council should change and include any (urban) part of any other surrounding parishes, just over half (738 or 56.2%) thought that the boundary for any new parish/town council should be confined to the currently unparished area.
- Nearly two thirds of ٠ respondents (794 or 64.1%) thought any new town or parish council should be divided into wards based on the existing district ward boundaries

29 APRIL 2022

The Community Governance Review Working Group (CGRWG) considers results of consultation and makes the following recommendations:

- Council be asked to consider establishment of a Parish Council for Grantham, in principle •
 - Further consultation to be undertaken in respect of the proposed boundary arrangements, focusing on three specific urban areas neighbouring the unparished area of Grantham.

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26 MAY 2022

South Kesteven District Council agreed in principle to the recommendations made by the CGRWG subject to undertaking further consultation to consider where the boundary should be drawn with three of the six parishes.

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Additional consultation

Following a review by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England in 2015, 378 households in three of the parishes adjacent to Grantham – Great Gonerby, Londonthorpe & Harrowby Without and Belton & Manthorpe - were included within one of Grantham's district wards but were also part of a parish for administrative purposes.

These households were contacted directly and asked if they were happy with this arrangement, or if they would prefer parish and ward boundaries to be realigned so that they are in line with each other.

18 OCT 2022

Q & A session held with parish council representatives from Belton & Manthorpe, Londonthorpe & Harrowby Without and Great Gonerby.

Four-week consultation with 378 households in areas identified as being an anomaly commences.

28 NOV 2022

Participants asked if they would prefer their household to remain part of the parish where they are currently, or to join the new parish/town council for Grantham. Consultation opens on 28 Nov.

7 AND 8 DEC 2022

Drop-in sessions for residents held at St Johns Church Community Rooms, Manthorpe on 7 Dec and the communal room at St Witham's Place sheltered housing complex on 8 Dec between 2pm and 7pm

19 DEC 2022

Consultation closes.

85 responses received.

Overall response rate of 22.5% Response rates from each of the parish areas were as follows:

- Belton & Manthorpe 21.6%
- Great Gonerby 17.9%
- Londonthorpe & Harrowby Without - 24.9%

1 FEB 2023

The Community Governance Review Working Group (CGRWG) considers results of consultation and makes three recommendations in respect of the new parish council, and one about a revision to the timescale.

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Results of the stage one plus consultation were:

- Three quarters of respondents (64 or 75.3%) from across the three parish areas wanted to remain part of the parish where their household is currently located for administrative purposes.
- Just under a fifth (15 or 17.6%) were in favour of becoming part of the new parish/town council for Grantham.

Recommendations are:

- The boundary for the new parish/town council for Grantham replicates the boundary of the existing unparished area of Grantham
- The warding arrangements for the new parish/town council for Grantham replicate existing district council wards
- The number of councillors representing the new parish/town council of Grantham to be 22
- To approve the revised timetable for the community governance review

01 MAR 2023

South Kesteven District Council considers the recommendations made by the CGRWG and approves consultation on draft proposals To view minutes of



REORGANISATION OF COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE

1 JULY 2023

Six-week consultation commences. Stakeholders included, but not limited to, households who stated that they wanted to be involved in the next stage of the consultation as well as parish councils, district and county councillors and local MPS.

Participants asked for their opinion on four draft recommendations.

Consultation opens on 1 JULY.

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS WERE:

- To set up a town council to represent the town of Grantham
- To keep the boundary between the currently unparished area of Grantham and the adjacent parishes the same
- That the warding arrangements for a new town council should reflect the current district council wards
- That 22 councillors be elected to represent the area covered by the new town council

11 AUG 2023

Consultation closes. 284 responses received. Response rate 43.9%

Results of the third stage were:

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- 228 (81.4%) supported the Council's draft recommendation that a Town Council should be set up to represent the town of Grantham.
- 220 (78.6%) agreed with the recommendation to keep the boundary between the currently unparished area of Grantham and the adjacent parishes the same as it is now
- Three-quarters of respondents (205 or 74.3%) agreed that the warding arrangements for a new town council should reflect the current district council wards.
- 188 (68.1%) were in favour of 22 councillors being elected to represent the area covered by the new town council.

18 SEPT 2023

The Community Governance Review Working Group (CGRWG) considers results of second stage of consultation. Prior to making a recommendation to Council in respect of the new parish council for Grantham, it recommends scrutiny and consideration of amount to be precepted. To view minutes of meeting click here

13 NOV 2023

The Community Governance Review Working Group (CGRWG) considers results of third stage of consultation and makes recommendations to Council in respect of the new parish council for Grantham and precept amount for first year of operation. INSERT LINK WHEN AVAILABLE

> 23 NOV 2023 Full Council considers recommendations of the CGRWG and either approves or rejects the draft Community Governance Order INSERT LINK WHEN AVAILABLE

1 APRIL 2024

If the draft Reorganisation of the Community Governance order is approved, households in the currently unparished area of Grantham will sit under the new parish/town council for administrative purposes.

Households precepted for new parish/town council 1 April 2024

2 MAY 2024

First elections to the new parish/town council take place.