

SCRUTINY ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
INTERIM SCRUTINY MANAGER	COMMUNITY FOCUS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	12 OCTOBER 2023	6
COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW OF LYTHAM & ANSDELL			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

To consider a proposal to advise the Executive Committee as to how further and more extensive consultation should be undertaken in relation to proposals to establish parish councils for Ansdell and Lytham following a resolution of Council on 12 October 2022.

SOURCE OF REFERRAL

[Council – 12 October 2022](#)

FURTHER INFORMATION

Resolution of Council on 12 October 2022:

1. Accept proposals BW3, E1, RW1 and WS4/1 (which is referred to as WP1 in the covering report) as set out in the community governance review report.
2. Defer a decision on proposals A1 and L1 owing to low numbers of respondents from Lytham and Ansdell.
3. Commit to a further and more extensive public consultation in relation to proposals A1 and L1, the details of such consultation to be determined by the Finance & Democracy Committee.

SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

To agree that:

1. A Task and Finish Group be established to undertake a spotlight review to look at how further and more extensive consultation should be undertaken in relation to community governance proposals to establish new parish councils for Ansdell and Lytham.
2. The Task and Finish Group to make recommendations direct to the Executive Committee regarding the nature and extent of such public consultation.

REPORT

1. A community governance review is a review of the pattern of parishes and parish councils in the whole or part of a district. The legal framework for reviews is set out in part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
2. On 12 October 2022 Council considered a report recommending the adoption of the outcome of the community governance review. This review was directed by a decision of Fylde's council meeting on 19 October 2020. The terms of reference of the review were to consider whether to create a parish council or councils to cover the unparished area of the district, and to recommend changes to boundaries of existing parishes having regard to the guidance that reviews should "*put in place strong boundaries, tied to firm ground detail, and remove anomalous parish boundaries*".
3. Council resolved to accept the proposals to make minor boundary changes affecting four parishes (referred to as to WP1 in the covering report). However, Council decided to defer a decision on the establishment of new parish councils for Lytham and Ansdell due to low numbers of respondents from Lytham and Ansdell.
4. Council did commit to a further and more extensive public consultation in relation to proposals to establish new parish councils for Ansdell and Lytham, the details of such consultation to be determined by the Finance & Democracy Committee.
5. In May 2023 Fylde Council moved to a new model of governance which saw the previous programme committees replaced by a single Executive Committee with Scrutiny. This means a report agreeing the details of further and more extensive consultation would need to be considered and approved by the Executive Committee.
6. As part of the establishment of the new model of governance at Fylde the Leader has suggested it might be appropriate for scrutiny to be involved in initially considering this and making recommendations to the Executive Committee. This request has been considered by a workshop of Community Focus Scrutiny Committee members. As a result, it is proposed that a task and finish group of members be established to undertake a spotlight review to look at how further and more extensive consultation should be undertaken in relation to community governance proposals to establish new parish councils for Ansdell and Lytham.

BACKGROUND PAPERS REVELANT TO THIS ITEM

Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Community governance review report	May 2022	Document.ashx (cmis.uk.com)

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
Paul Walker	paul.walker@fylde.gov.uk	2 October 2023