

Introduction

Hart District Council is running the first stage of a Community Governance Review. We're inviting existing parish and town councils, resident groups, community associations, neighbourhood organisations and individuals to put forward suggestion for areas in the Hart district.

A Community Governance Review is a legal process that gives residents and organisations an opportunity to share their views on the most suitable ways of representing the people at a community level.

Hart district currently has 21 local councils with parish or town status.

- Blackwater and Hawley Town Council
- Bramshill Parish Council
- Church Crookham Parish Council
- Crondall Parish Council
- Crookham Village Parish Council
- Dogmersfield Parish Council
- Elvetham Heath Parish Council
- Eversley Parish Council
- Ewshot Parish Council
- Fleet Town Council
- Greywell Parish Council
- Hartley Wintney Parish Council
- Heckfield Parish Council
- Hook Parish Council
- Long Sutton Parish Council
- Mattingley Parish Council
- Odiham Parish Council
- Rotherwick Parish Council
- South Warnborough Parish Council
- Winchfield Parish Council
- Yateley Town Council.

There are no unparished areas. Please note that recommendations will not be made until the survey has closed and all feedback has been considered.

Category of respondent

Which of the option best describes you?

Community group or organisation

Resident of Hart District Council

Employee of Hart District Council

Councillor of Hart District Council

Town or Parish councillor

Other please specify:

Please tell us the name of your group or organisation:

Existing Parishes

The Community Governance Review must make recommendations for each of the existing parishes under review including:

1. Whether those parishes should or should not be abolished
2. Whether the area of the existing parishes should be altered, such as being grouped together, possibly due to recent developments

Do you think that any existing parishes should be altered or abolished?

Yes

No

Not sure/ don't know

IF YES:

The name of the parish or parishes:

Please provide further details of your proposal

You should consider how your proposal will:

- reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area
- be effective and convenient to the local community

Council Size

Council size describes the number of councillors to be elected to the whole council. The Local Government Act 1972 confirms that each parish council must have at least five councillors, while there is no maximum number. There are no rules relating to the allocation of those councillors between parish wards but each parish ward, and each parish grouped under a common parish council, must have at least one parish councillor.

The National Association of Local Councils published guidelines (Circular 1126) suggests that the minimum number of councillors for any parish council should be seven with a maximum of 25.

The council size should be considered on its own merits, taking into account its population, geography and the pattern of communities.

Consideration should be given to the difficulty of attracting sufficient candidates to stand for election. In some parishes, this has led to repeated uncontested elections and/or a need to co-opt members in order to fill vacancies. A parish council's budget and planned, or actual, level of service provision may also be important factors in reaching conclusions on council size.

Should the number of councillors on an existing council be changed?

Yes

No

Not sure/ don't know

IF YES:

What is the name of the council?

How many councillors should there be?

Why are you proposing this number of councillors?

Do you have any further comments on stage 1 of the Community Governance Review?