
REVIEW OF COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS - MARGATE

To: Boundary and Electoral Arrangements Working Party, 24 July 2014

By: Glenn Back, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager;

Classification: Unrestricted

Wards: Cliftonville East, Cliftonville West, Dane Valley, Garlinge, Margate Central, Salmestone, Westbrook, Westgate-on-Sea

Summary: This report sets out the proposed second-stage public consultation arrangements, and provides further details on the precepts that might be set by the new town/parish Councils.

For decision

1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 The Working Party met on 3 July 2014 to consider the outcome of the first stage public consultation and agree proposals to be included in a second stage public consultation exercise, prior to reporting a recommended way forward to Council, at the extraordinary Council meeting on 18 November 2014.

1.2 The Working Party agreed the following; that:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A "Margate Town Council" be created for the un-parished area of Margate excluding the District Ward of Westgate on Sea; with the same number and distribution of Councillors as the current District Wards, that is to say 17 Councillors in all; and,2. A "Westgate Parish Council" be created for the area covered by the current District Ward of Westgate-on-Sea, with 10 parish councillors. |
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1.3 In order to assist debate, Annex 1 includes maps showing the proposals.

1.4 The Working Party agreed on 3 July 2014 to meet again on this date to consider the second-stage public consultation exercise, and to consider the financial information to be included in that consultation, which compares the precept of the current Margate Charter Trustees, with the precepts that might be levied by the above town/parish Councils.

2.0 Stage 2 public consultation

2.1 Annex 2 includes details of the proposed programme and content of the second-stage public consultation. Comments from members of the Working Party are invited.

3.0 Possible financial implications of the creation of new town/parish Councils

3.1 Annex 3 includes information on the possible levels of precept of a new Westgate Parish and a Margate Town Council. Comments from members of the Working Party are invited.

4.0 Corporate Implications

4.1 Financial and VAT

4.1.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. However, Annex 3 includes (for the purpose of public consultation) information on the possible financial implications relating to the proposed new Parish and Town Council.

4.1.2 There are no VAT implications arising directly from this report.

4.2 Legal

4.2.1 Thanet District Council is conducting the review of community governance arrangements in the Margate area in accordance with Part 4 Chapter 3 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

4.2.2 The Council is having regard to the Statutory Guidance on Community Governance Reviews issued by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

4.3 Corporate

4.3.1 Consulting and involving Thanet people in decisions that affect them.

4.4 Equity and Equalities

4.4.1 None identified.

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 The Working Party is invited to agree:

- a) The programme and content of the second stage public consultation programme;
- b) The information relating to possible parish/town Council precepts to be included in the consultation.

6.0 Decision Making Process

6.1 The District Council is responsible for conducting a review within its electoral area. The Boundary and Electoral Arrangements Working Party has delegated authority

to develop proposals to be the subject of public consultation, to consider the response to that consultation and to make final recommendations to Council.

6.2 Council will be required to approve the final recommendations prior to the Community Governance Order being made.

6.3 This process will be undertaken in accordance with the stages and timetable agreed at the previous meeting of the Working Party (that is to say, the second stage consultation will run from 4 August 2014 to 29 September 2014), with the outcome reported to a meeting of the Working Party in October 2014.

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Reporting to:	Paul Cook, Interim Director of Corporate Resources

Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007	<i>Via internet</i>

Annexes

Annex 1	Map showing proposed town and parish Council
Annex 2 to 4	Proposed second-stage consultation
Annex 5	Information on possible precepts to be set by Westgate Parish Council and Margate Town Council

Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	Matt Sanham, Finance Manager (Service Support)
Legal	Steven Boyle, Interim Legal Services Manager