

Newcastle City Council

Community Governance Review 2018 – Woolsington Parish

Final Recommendation – 18 December 2018

Background

On 6 March 2018 Newcastle City Council's Constitutional Committee agreed to a request from Woolsington Parish Council to undertake a Community Governance Review of the parish boundaries. The proposal from the Parish Council was:

- to extend the Parish boundary to include land currently outside of the parish to align with the boundary for the City Council's Callerton and Throckley ward (the additional land is marked as E07 on the attached map); and
- to change the existing internal Parish Council boundary by redrawing the map to incorporate the whole of Westerhope Golf Club land within a single parish ward (E08 on the attached map).

On 10 August 2018 Newcastle City Council published terms of reference to conduct a Community Governance Review for the area.

The terms of reference were to consult and consider whether the proposal submitted to Newcastle City Council would reflect the interests of the community in that area.

Initial Consultation

Initial consultation took place between 10 August 2018 and 7 September 2018 involving local ward and parish councillors, housing developers, local businesses and properties in area E08 on the attached map. The information was also published on the City Council's website.

Analysis of Responses

Only one representation was received from Woolsington Parish Council reconfirming their wish to proceed with the proposed boundary changes. The proposed extension to Woolsington Parish boundary would include two housing development sites – East Middle Callerton and West Middle Callerton. Both sites have been granted planning permission for a total of up to 1150 homes. Therefore, residents occupying these new properties in future

will be part of the Woolsington Parish Council area, if agreed, and will be subject to any precept levied by the Parish Council and collected with Council Tax.

Draft Recommendation

Taking into account the guidance, the statutory obligations and the results of the consultation exercise, Newcastle City Council's Constitutional Committee considered the analysis above on 25 September 2018. The draft recommendation from the Committee was published on 27 September 2018 and a second consultation exercise was undertaken, which concluded on 10 October 2018 and no further responses were received by this date. The draft recommendation from the Committee was as follows:

- to change the existing internal parish boundary by redrawing the map to incorporate the whole of Westerhope Golf Club land within a single parish ward (Callerton), thereby reducing the size of Bedeburn ward;
- to extend the existing parish boundary to include land currently outside of the parish area, thereby aligning with the boundary for the City Council's Callerton and Throckley ward. This would further expand the area of Callerton parish ward. There are currently no electors in this area; however, the area is allocated for housing development in the future; and
- for these to be implemented with effect from the next parish elections in May 2019.

Final recommendation

Newcastle City Council's Constitutional Committee discussed the findings from the consultation 25 October 2018 and the recommendations above were agreed by a meeting of City Council on 7 November 2018. City Council agreed to make a Reorganisation Order to alter the boundaries of Woolsington Parish Council as set out above and these new boundaries will come into force from the Parish Council elections to be held on 2 May 2019.

In making this final decision, Newcastle City Council has complied with the national Community Governance Review guidance and Part 4 Chapter 3 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.