



Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Forward timetable of consultation and decision making

Council 9 December 2025

Wards affected: Hinckley Castle; Hinckley Clarendon,
Hinckley De Montfort, Hinckley Trinity

Community Governance Review – draft recommendations

Report of the Director (Resources & Streetscene Services)

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To advise members of the outcome of the first stage consultation of the Community Governance Review and to present the draft recommendations of the Community Governance Review Working Group.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The recommendations contained within paragraphs 3.3.1 to 3.3.5 be published for consultation for a period of eight weeks from 2 January 2026 to 27 February 2026.
- 2.2 The amended timeline outlined at paragraph 3.5 be approved as an amendment to the terms of reference.
- 2.3 The working group and its membership be retained until the end of the review.

3. Background to the report

- 3.1 As a consequence of the desire to review local governance arrangements in light of the government's Devolution White Paper, Council on 8 July 2025 agreed to undertake a community governance review of the unparished area of Hinckley and agreed the terms of reference for the review. Community governance reviews are undertaken in accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

3.2 Following approval of the terms of reference, a period of public consultation took place from 14 July to 10 October 2025. Consultation took place in a variety of ways. These are outlined in paragraph 8.

3.3 The responses have been collated and are attached at appendix 2 and analysed by the Community Governance Review Working Group. The working group (Councillor Bray, Councillor R Allen & Councillor Lambert) makes the following recommendations for change:

3.3.1 A parish for the unparished area of Hinckley as outlined in appendix 1 be created.

3.3.2 A parish council be created with the styling of “Hinckley Town Council”.

3.3.3 The ordinary year of elections for Hinckley Town Council be set as 2027.

3.3.4 The council size for Hinckley Town Council be set at 20 councillors.

3.3.5 The parish be divided into four wards with the boundaries as defined in appendix 1.

3.3.6 The name of each ward and number of councillors elected for each ward be set at:

- Castle 4 Councillors
- Clarendon 6 Councillors
- De Montfort 6 Councillors
- Trinity 4 Councillors

3.4 Based on the evidence available, the working group considers that the above recommendations would:

- Help to better reflect the local identities and interests of the community
- Help to secure more effective and convenient governance of the area.

3.5 The working group considered alternative styles of governance including community, neighbourhood and village councils but felt that a parish council best reflected the local community and that the recommendation should reflect this style.

3.5 Since agreement and publication of the terms of reference, members have requested that the review be expedited and the timeline be recalculated. It is therefore also recommended that the terms of reference for the review be amended to include the following revised timeline:

Action	Original Date	Revised Date
Council approval of TOR	8 July 2025	-

Action	Original Date	Revised Date
Commencement of review – TOR published	14 July 2025	-
Stage 1 consultation stage	14 July – 10 October 2025	-
Consider Stage 1 submissions received and prepare draft recommendations	13 October – 12 December 2025	Member Working Group arranged for 13 November.
Draft recommendations to Council	19 February 2026	9 December 2025
Draft recommendations published	23 February 2026	December 2025
Consultation on draft recommendations	23 February – 22 May 2026	January – February 2026
Consider submissions received on draft recommendations and prepare final recommendations	25 May – 24 July 2026	March – April 2026. Member Working Group May 2026
Final recommendations and draft reorganisation order put to Council	September 2026	May / June 2026
Reorganisation Order (s) made	By 1 April 2027	May / June 2026
Order comes into force	1 April 2027	June 2026. The new council is created, and assets transferred under the order. The Council should also then be able to make temporary appointments to the new council pending the elections to the new council in May 2027.
Appointments made under new arrangements	May 2027	-

- 3.5 Public consultation on these draft recommendations will take place from 2 January 2026 to 27 February 2026. Consultation will take place in accordance with the terms of reference for the review.
- 3.6 If the review determines that a Hinckley Town Council should be established, it would be for HBBC and the Town Council to consider what assets and / or services, currently owned or leased by HBBC, it might wish to negotiate the transfer of.
- 3.7 Work is underway to identify those potential assets and services and the implications for Hinckley residents should they transfer.

4. Exemptions in accordance with the Access to Information procedure rules

- 4.1 To be taken in open session.

5. Financial implications [IB]

- 5.1 Work is currently being undertaken to assess the impact on Council budgets. Any changes to existing budgets will require approval in accordance with financial procedure rules.
- 5.2 If a Town Council is formed all earmarked reserves and balances currently held on behalf of Hinckley Area Committee will be forwarded to the Town Council.

6. Legal implications [ST]

- 6.1 None.

7. Corporate Plan implications

- 7.1 The community governance review supports all objectives within the corporate plan by ensuring community governance is appropriate.

8. Consultation

- 8.1 The initial consultation took place between 14 July and 10 October 2025. The following methods of consultation were undertaken:
- Open consultation on the council's website
 - Social media posts
 - Email to borough councillors inviting them to respond to the consultation online or by email / letter
 - Email to a database of voluntary & community sector bodies
 - Email to a database of businesses in the Hinckley area
 - Email to Leicestershire County Council inviting them as a body and county councillors to respond to the review
 - Display at Snapdragon and Burbage Common Open Day
 - Posters in the Hinckley Hub customer reception.

- 8.2 79 consultation responses were received from borough councillors, residents and businesses. These responses are contained within appendix A.
- 8.3 The Community Governance Review Working Group met on 13 November 2025 to consider the responses to the consultation and to make recommendations to Council. Their considerations and recommendations are contained within this report. A further consultation period will take place on the recommendations once agreed by Council.

9. Risk implications

- 9.1 It is the council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.
- 9.2 It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision / project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.
- 9.3 The following significant risks associated with this report / decisions were identified from this assessment:

Management of significant (Net Red) risks

Risk description	Mitigating actions	Owner
Electorate dissatisfaction with revised arrangements	Maximise public awareness of the consultation and give due consideration to all responses received	Chief Executive
Non-compliance with government policy	Council to be mindful of government guidelines and policy	Monitoring Officer
Potential for judicial review	Council to ensure that decision making processes are followed and decisions are supported by clear reasons.	Monitoring Officer

10. Knowing your community – equality and rural implications

- 10.1 This review invites communities to input into the governance arrangements that affect them.
- 10.2 The consultation process will be accessible to all residents.
- 10.3 An equality impact assessment will be undertaken when the final proposals are drafted.

11. Climate implications

- 11.1 Consultation has taken place online where possible to reduce paper usage.
- 11.2 The recommendations within this report will not have direct climate implications.

12. Corporate implications

- 12.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:
- Community safety implications
 - Environmental implications
 - ICT implications
 - Asset management implications
 - Procurement implications
 - Human resources implications
 - Planning implications
 - Data protection implications
 - Voluntary sector

Background papers: Report to Council, 8 July 2025

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