



The following paper was submitted by the Clerk to the Parish Council at its meeting of 6th April 2022

Agenda Item 8a: To note that Mid Suffolk District Council are carrying out a Community Governance Review of Parishes, Town Councils and Unparished areas. The deadline for submissions to the first stage of the review is Friday 27 May 2022

Background Information:

Mid Suffolk District Council are carrying out a Community Governance Review of Parishes, Town Councils and Unparished areas. A copy of the Notice of Review has been sent to the Clerk and has been uploaded onto the Noticeboards and Website.

The Terms of Reference are outlined below:

What Is A Community Governance Review:

It is a statutory process to review the whole of the district to consider one or more of the following:

- Creating, merging, altering or abolishing Parishes;
- The naming of Parishes and the style of new Parishes;
- The electoral arrangements for Parishes (the ordinary year of election; council size; the number of councillors to be elected to the council, and Parish warding), and
- Grouping new or existing Parishes under a common Parish Council or de-grouping existing Parishes

The first stage of the review process will be a consultation, the District Council will be inviting residents and other interested persons or organisations to submit their views.

How to take part in the review

Should you wish to make a written submission to the review you can do this by letter to:

Community Governance Review
Electoral Services
Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils
Endeavour House
8 Russell Road
Ipswich IP1 2BX

Or by email to elections@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk

The deadline for submissions to the first phase of the consultation is **27 May 2022**

FAQ's

Why hold a review now?

There hasn't been a review in either Babergh or Mid Suffolk in over 10 years and it is good practice that there should be a review every 10 to 15 years or so.

When does it start?

The review will begin on 1 April 2022 with the publication of a Notice of Review and the Terms of Reference.

How long does it take?

There are two consultation periods and reports have to be prepared after each consultation, so the review will take just over 8 months to complete.

Who gets a say?

Anyone with an interest in community affairs in the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Districts can make representations whether an individual elector or an established community group.

What happens when the review is over?

Full Council will need to agree that an order is made to either continue the parish arrangements in place before the review or to create, abolish or amend existing parishes.

When will any new arrangements take effect?

The new parishes will come into existence and any amendments to existing parishes will take effect from April 2023. The first elections under the new arrangements will be held in the normal parish election cycle in May 2023.

Community Governance Review Timetable □

Action	Timeline	Details
Report to Full Council	March 2022	Council approves the principle of the Community Governance Review and its Terms of Reference
Publish Terms of Reference	29 April 2022 (The CGR must be completed within 12 months of the date of publication)	Publish Terms of Reference and notify stakeholders of the commencement of the Review.
Prepare draft consultation document and invite initial submissions	April to May 2022	Initial submissions invited: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town and Parish Councils • Members of Parliament • Local Groups and Interested Parties such as local businesses, local residents' associations, local public and voluntary organisations such as schools or health bodies Publish proposals on the website
Deadline for Initial submissions	Friday 27 May 2022	
Consider submissions	May to June 2022	Consider any submissions/representations and prepare report of draft recommendations for Full Council in July 2022
Publish draft recommendations	July 2022 to September 2022 (10 weeks)	Publish draft recommendations for further consultation with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All local government electors • All town and parish councils • Local groups and interested parties Publish draft recommendations on the website.
Make final recommendations	Oct 2022 Full Council meeting	Consider any further submissions/representations and prepare final recommendations for report to Full Council
Publish final recommendations	November 2022	Publish final recommendations and make Order.