

# **Wilmslow Community Governance Review Sub-Committee Agenda**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>Monday, 27th September, 2010</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>The Capesthorpe Room - Town Hall, Macclesfield SK10 1DX</b>

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The agenda is divided into two parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

## **PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT**

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests in any item on the agenda

3. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session**

In accordance with Procedure Rules Nos.11 and 35 a period of 10 minutes is allocated for members of the public to address the meeting on any matter relevant to the work of the meeting. Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned where there are a number of speakers. Members of the public are not required to give notice to use this facility. However, as a matter of courtesy, a period of 24 hours' notice is encouraged.

Members of the public wishing to ask a question at the meeting should provide three clear working days' notice, in writing, in order for an informed answer to be given.

4. **Minutes of Previous meeting** (Pages 1 - 4)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

5. **Wilmslow Community Governance Review - Background and Outcome of Stage 2 Consultation** (Pages 5 - 30)

To consider the outcome of stage two of the public consultation on the Council's draft recommendation for the review, as made by the Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010.

6. **Wilmslow Community Governance Review - Budgets and Parish Precepts** (Pages 31 - 38)

Without prejudice to the outcome of the Community Governance Review, to consider a report on the setting of an appropriate budget and the calculation and levying of a precept for the first year of operation of each of the proposed parish councils.

**(There are no Part 2 items)**

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the  
**Wilmslow Community Governance Review Sub-Committee**  
held on Monday, 5th July, 2010 at The Tatton Room - Town Hall, Macclesfield  
SK10 1DX

**PRESENT**

Councillor J Crockatt (Chairman)  
Councillor P Whiteley (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors R Cartlidge, S Jones, D Stockton and R Menlove (for Cllr Barton)

**Officers**

Lindsey Parton, Elections and Registration Team Manager  
Paul Mountford, Democratic Services

**Apologies**

Councillor G Barton

**8 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No interests were declared.

**9 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION**

There were no members of the public wishing to speak or ask a question.

**10 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING****RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2010 be approved as a correct record.

**11 WILMSLOW COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - PARISH AND WARDING ARRANGEMENTS**

Having agreed at the previous meeting to recommend the creation of parish councils for Handforth, Wilmslow and Styal, the Sub-Committee now gave consideration to the number of councillors to serve on each of the new parish councils, together with the warding arrangements.

The Elections and Registration Team Leader had prepared a briefing paper which had been circulated to Members. This provided comparator information on the size of parish councils to assist in determining the

appropriate number of parish councillors for each of the three parishes. It also set out options for the warding of the proposed Wilmslow parish.

The comparator information listed a number of comparable towns and parishes throughout Cheshire East and gave electorate totals, electorate ratio per councillor and number of wards in respect of each.

The briefing paper set out two options for the warding of Wilmslow. Option 1 was based on the five traditional wards of the former Macclesfield Borough Council. Using a ratio of approximately 1,000 electors to one Councillor, the number of councillors for each ward had been determined.

The warding arrangements had been complicated by the fact that there was an ongoing Boundary Review. The final recommendations of the Boundary Commission were expected to be announced on 13<sup>th</sup> July. An electoral changes Order would then need to be laid in draft in both Houses of Parliament. The timescales for the laying of the order were not yet clear.

If the Boundary Commission proposals for Wilmslow were implemented, as anticipated, then adjustments would need to be made to the proposed wards. These adjustments formed the basis of Option 2 in the briefing paper. In essence, the number of wards in the Wilmslow parish would be reduced from five to four, and ward boundaries would no longer be coterminous with polling district boundaries within that parish. Given the uncertainty posed by the current Boundary Review, and the need to comply with the Governance Review timetable, it would be necessary for the Sub-Committee to put forward two alternative sets of proposals with regard to the warding of Wilmslow.

In considering both the numbers of councillors and the warding arrangements, Members had regard to the need to achieve electoral equality as far as possible whilst also ensuring that the size of each parish council reflected the particular needs and circumstances of the parish.

At the meeting, the Sub-Committee reviewed its previous recommendation, which had been endorsed by the Constitution Committee, that for the parish of Handforth, the election of parish councillors should be from the area of the parish as a whole. It was proposed as an alternative that Handforth be divided into three wards. It was felt that the four existing polling districts lent themselves to such an arrangement, which also reflected the geographical features of the parish.

Members were advised that if, following the announcement of the Boundary Commission's final recommendations, it became necessary to make further minor adjustments to electorate figures, polling district boundaries or proposed ward boundaries, it would be appropriate for the Officers to be authorised to agree these in consultation with the Chairman of the Sub-Committee and the Leader of the Council so as to avoid any undue delay with the Governance Review timetable.

**RESOLVED**

That the Constitution Committee be advised to recommend to Council that

(1) having regard to comparator information for parish councils in Cheshire East, and having regard to electoral equality, the number of councillors to serve on each of the new parish councils should be as follows:

- a. Handforth: 7 councillors
- b. Styal: 5 councillors
- c. Wilmslow: 15 councillors

(2) dependent upon the outcome of the Boundary Review, and bearing in mind the need to achieve overall electoral equality (i.e. the number of electors per councillor) as far as possible:

a. if no changes are made to the current Cheshire East Council Ward boundaries, five wards should be created for the Wilmslow parish and named as follows:

- i. Morley (comprising 3 councillors: polling districts 8FH1, 8FJ1, 8FG1 );
- ii. Lacey Green (comprising 2 councillors: polling district 8EK1);
- iii. Dean Row (comprising 4 councillors: polling districts 8EA1, 8EB1, 8EC1, 8ED1, 8EE1);
- iv. Hough (comprising 3 councillors: polling districts 8FC1, 8FD1, 8FE1, 8FF1); and
- v. Fulshaw (comprising 3 councillors: polling districts 8FA1, 8FB1)

b. if the anticipated final recommendations of the Boundary Committee in respect of Cheshire East Council boundaries are implemented, four wards should be created for the Wilmslow parish and named as follows, to provide coterminous boundaries for electoral purposes:

- i. Wilmslow West (comprising 5 councillors: polling districts 8FH1, 8FJ1, 8FG1, 8FC1, 8FA1(part), 8FB1(part), 8FD1(part);
- ii. Lacey Green (comprising 2 councillors: polling districts 8EK1, 8EA1(part), 8FD1(part);
- iii. Dean Row (comprising 4 councillors: polling districts 8EA1(part), 8EB1, 8EC1, 8ED1, 8EE1); and
- iv. Hough (comprising 4 councillors: polling districts 8FD1(part), 8FA1(part), 8FB1(part), 8FE1, 8FF1)

(3) three wards should be created for the Handforth parish and named as follows:

- i. Handforth West (comprising 3 councillors: polling districts 8EG1, 8EJ1)
- ii. Handforth East (comprising 2 councillors: polling district 8EH1); and
- iii. Handforth South (comprising 2 councillors: polling district 8EF1)

and accordingly, the previous recommendation by the Sub-Committee and the Constitution Committee in relation to this matter should be disregarded; and

- (4) subject to consultation initially with the Chairman of the Wilmslow Community Governance Review Sub-Committee, the Borough Solicitor be authorised, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make any amendments required to electorate figures, polling district boundaries, or the proposed Wilmslow parish ward boundaries, should this be required as a result of the final outcome of the Boundary review.

## **12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To be agreed.

The meeting commenced at 9.30 am and concluded at 10.35 am

Councillor J Crockatt (Chairman)

## CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

### Wilmslow Community Governance Review Sub-Committee

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<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> September 2010
<b>Report of:</b>	Borough Solicitor
<b>Subject/Title:</b>	Wilmslow Community Governance Review – Background and Outcome of Stage 2 Consultation

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#### **1.0 Report Summary**

- 1.1 This report provides the background in relation to the Wilmslow Community Governance Review under the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, following receipt of three valid petitions from electors in Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal calling for a review to be undertaken. The report provides details of the outcome of stage two of the public consultation on the Council's draft recommendation for the review, as made by the Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010.

#### **2.0 Recommendation**

- 2.1 To consider the responses from the Stage 2 consultation and to recommend to the Constitution Committee that it makes an appropriate recommendation to Council, having regard to the results of consultation on the draft proposal formulated by Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010.

#### **3.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 3.1 The second stage of Consultation for the Wilmslow Community Governance review took place from 11<sup>th</sup> August to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2010 and following this meeting the results will be considered by the Constitution Committee on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010. The recommendation of the Constitution Committee for the final outcome of the Review will then be reported to the Council meeting for approval, including approval of any Reorganisation Order required for the formation of new parishes as may be determined. The date of the Council meeting is yet to be confirmed, as the final outcome of the current Cheshire East Boundary Review has not yet been determined, and this will have an impact upon the Council's final decision for the outcome of the Wilmslow Community Governance Review, in particular the detail of warding arrangements for the Wilmslow area.

#### **4.0 Wards Affected**

- 4.1 Wards covering the areas of Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal.

**5.0 Local Ward Members**

5.1 As above

**6.0 Policy Implications including - Climate change  
- Health**

6.1 None

**7.0 Financial Implications (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)**

7.1 The Council has a statutory duty to conduct and meet the costs associated with undertaking the Community Governance Review. These costs will be met as far as possible from within existing budget provision.

7.2 In the event that parish councils are established, there will be costs associated with the administration of the elections, which will be met by the Borough Council, as they are proposed to be held on the same day as elections for Cheshire East Councillors on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2011. The cost of any future by-elections would be met by the Parish Councils.

7.3 Parish precepts will need to be raised for any new Parish Councils created, to cover the administration costs for the municipal year 2010/11.

**8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)**

8.1 With effect from April 2008 the power to take decisions about matters such as the creation of parishes and their electoral arrangements was devolved from the Secretary of State and the Electoral Commission under the Local Government and Rating Act 1997 to local authorities under Chapter 3 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

**9.0 Risk Management**

9.1 The Council has followed the Guidance on Community Governance Reviews published by the Electoral Commission and the Department of Communities and Local Government. There are no other risk management issues.

**10.0 Background**

10.1 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 permits the Council to undertake a community governance review of the whole or part of the Borough Council area.

10.2 The Review

Cheshire East Council in accordance with Section 83(2) of the Act is undertaking a community governance review following receipt of three valid petitions which called for community governance reviews and for

the creation of parishes and parish councils in the areas of Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal.

In conducting the Review, the Council has responded to the proposals contained in the petitions, but in accordance with the guidance, has also considered other viable options for other forms of community governance including Area committees, Neighbourhood Management, Tenant Management organisations, Area/ Community forums, Residents and Tenants Associations, Community Associations and whether people would prefer a single parish Council for Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal or separate parish councils for these three areas to be created.

An explanatory leaflet about the community governance review was prepared and used as a basis for the first phase of consultation which ran from 10 May to 4 June 2010.

This community governance review has provided the Council with an opportunity to examine and review existing community governance arrangements and to consider whether or not new arrangements were required to best meet the needs of local people.

The first stage of consultation sought views from all electors by way of a voting paper delivered to each elector with the explanatory leaflet. A letter and explanatory leaflet about the review was sent to various stakeholders including local public and voluntary organisations, schools, health bodies and resident and community groups. Three public meetings were held in April 2010 at venues in Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal. The Cheshire East Council website was also used to allow people to record their views online.

Consideration was given to the comments and representations received from this first phase of consultation and on the basis of those representations the Council's draft recommendation was published on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2010.

### 10.3 Criteria and aim of the Review

Section 93 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 requires councils to ensure that community governance in the area under review will be reflective of the identities and interests of the community in that area and is effective and convenient. In considering this criteria the Council is required to take account of a number of influential factors including the impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion.

The Guidance on community governance reviews published by the Department of Communities and Local Government in April 2008 sets out in detail the factors for consideration to help inform the Council's judgement against the statutory criteria.

10.4 Previously Unparished Areas

The Council is required by law to consider other forms of community governance as alternatives or as stages towards establishing parish councils. The Council has noted the existing arrangements in place in the area for community representation and community engagement, including the Wilmslow Local Area Partnership, the Colshaw Community Development Group, Community Groups and Working Groups and the extent to which they were creating opportunities for engagement, empowerment and co-ordination in local communities.

10.5 Consultation

In reaching its draft recommendation in this review, the Council took into account the representations received having regard to the criteria in the Local Government and Public Improvement in Health Act 2007.

10.6 Result of consultation with electors

Just over 25, 000 voting papers were issued and 6876 were returned (27.48%). Electors were invited to respond to two questions on the voting paper and the results were as follows:-

**For Wilmslow Residents**

<b>Question 1</b>
1. Do you want a parish council? Yes/ No
<b>Question 2: If yes, please tick the option you agree with below</b>
A. I want a single parish council for Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal
B. I want a separate parish council for Wilmslow

In relation to Question 1 – the results were:

2894 electors indicated that they want a parish council.  
2144 electors indicated that they did not want a parish council

In relation to Question 2 – the results were:

1090 electors expressed a view for a single parish council for Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal

1846 electors expressed a view for a separate parish council for Wilmslow

**For Handforth Residents**

<b>Question 1</b>
1. Do you want a parish council? Yes/ No
<b>Question 2: If yes, please tick the option you agree with below</b>
A. I want a single parish council for Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal
B. I want a separate parish council for Handforth

In relation to Question 1 – the results were:

1023 electors indicated that they want a parish council.  
534 electors indicated that they did not want a parish council

In relation to Question 2 – the results were:

415 electors expressed a view for a single parish council for Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal

619 electors expressed a view for a separate parish council for Handforth

**For Styal Residents**

<b>Question 1</b>
1. Do you want a parish council? Yes/ No
<b>Question 2: If yes, please tick the option you agree with below</b>
A. I want a single parish council for Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal
B. I want a separate parish council for Styal

In relation to Question 1 – the results were:

219 electors indicated that they want a parish council.  
23 electors indicated that they did not want a parish council

In relation to Question 2 – the results were:

25 electors expressed a view for a single parish council for Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal

201 electors expressed a view for a separate parish council for Styal

10.7 Submissions received to Stage 1 consultation

In addition to the responses to the voting paper, the Council received a further 40 representations.

10.8 Draft Recommendation

The second stage of consultation ran from 11 August 2010 to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2010 and sought views on the Council's draft recommendation. There were two proposed options for warding arrangements for Wilmslow which were dependant upon the outcome of the current boundary review of Cheshire East Council wards by the Boundary Commission.

The draft recommendation of the Council for the outcome of the review, as agreed at the Council meeting held on 22 July 2010 was as follows:-

**RESOLVED**

**1. That :-**

**(1) pursuant to Section 87 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007; and having regard to the provisions of the Department for Communities and Local Government and Electoral Commission Guidance, issued in April 2008, for the conduct of Community Governance Reviews; and having received three valid petitions signed by the required number of electors calling for the constitution of new parishes for the three areas of (1) Handforth; (2) Wilmslow and Handforth; (3) Styal which triggered the Community Governance Review process:**

**Having taken into account**

- **the petitions;**
- **the results of the consultation with the electors in each of the areas concerned which show in each case that a majority of those who returned their ballot papers were in favour of a new parish council for their area;**
- **the results of the consultation exercise with stakeholders and the representations from other interested persons;**
- **the outcomes of the public meetings held in each of the review areas; and**
- **the information on existing community governance arrangements in the areas concerned and the alternative forms of community governance which might have been appropriate for the areas in question :-**
  - a. **that the interests of effective and convenient local government and community identities in these areas would be served by the creation of new parishes with a parish council for each of Handforth (not including polling district 8EE1 so as to recognise historic and traditional boundaries in the area),**

Wilmslow (including polling district 8EE1) and Styal, all as shown on the map appended to the minutes of the Constitution Committee held on 24 June 2010, with each parish comprising the polling districts indicated below; such parish councils to be called: Handforth Parish Council, Wilmslow Parish Council and Styal Parish Council respectively, and that Wilmslow Parish Council be advised to consider its designation as a Town Council;

**Handforth Parish**

**Polling districts: 8EF1, 8EG1, 8EH1, 8EJ1**

**Wilmslow Parish**

**Polling districts: 8EA1, 8EB1, 8EC1, 8ED1, 8EE1, 8EK1, 8FA1, 8FB1, 8FC1, 8FD1, 8FE1, 8FF1, 8FG1, 8FH1, 8FJ1**

**Styal Parish**

**Polling district: 8FK1**

- b. that in Styal the election of parish councillors should be from the area of the parish as a whole;**
- c. that given the substantial size of the proposed Wilmslow parish and in order to reflect longstanding community identities, the parish should be divided into wards for the purposes of election to the Parish Council;**
- d. that the first year of elections to the new parish councils should be 2011; and**
- e. that these proposals form the basis of a second stage of public consultations and that the Boundary Commission be informed of these proposals;**

**2. That :-**

**(1) having regard to comparator information for Parish Councils in Cheshire East, and having regard to electoral equality, the number of Councillors to serve on each of the new Parish Councils should be as follows:**

- a. Handforth: 7 Councillors**
- b. Styal: 5 Councillors**
- c. Wilmslow: 15 Councillors**

**(2) dependent upon the outcome of the Boundary Review, and bearing in mind the need to achieve overall electoral equality (i.e. the number of electors per councillor) as far as possible:**

- a. if no changes are made to the current Cheshire East Council Ward boundaries, five wards should be created for the Wilmslow Parish and named as follows:
- i. Morley (comprising 3 Councillors: polling districts 8FH1, 8FJ1, 8FG1 );
  - ii. Lacey Green (comprising 2 Councillors: polling district 8EK1);
  - iii. Dean Row (comprising 4 Councillors: polling districts 8EA1, 8EB1, 8EC1, 8ED1, 8EE1);
  - iv. Hough (comprising 3 Councillors: polling districts 8FC1, 8FD1, 8FE1, 8FF1); and
  - v. Fulshaw (comprising 3 Councillors: polling districts 8FA1, 8FB1)
- b. if the anticipated final recommendations of the Boundary Committee in respect of Cheshire East Council boundaries are implemented, four wards should be created for the Wilmslow Parish and named as follows, to provide coterminous boundaries for electoral purposes:
- i. Wilmslow West (comprising 5 Councillors: polling districts 8FH1, 8FJ1, 8FG1, 8FC1, 8FA1(part), 8FB1(part), 8FD1(part);
  - ii. Lacey Green (comprising 2 Councillors: polling districts 8EK1, 8EA1(part), 8FD1(part);
  - iii. Dean Row (comprising 4 Councillors: polling districts 8EA1(part), 8EB1, 8EC1, 8ED1, 8EE1); and
  - iv. Hough (comprising 4 Councillors: polling districts 8FD1(part), 8FA1(part), 8FB1(part), 8FE1, 8FF1)

(3) three wards should be created for the Handforth Parish and named as follows:

- i. Handforth West (comprising 3 Councillors: polling districts 8EG1, 8EJ1)
- ii. Handforth East (comprising 2 Councillors: polling district 8EH1); and
- iii. Handforth South (comprising 2 Councillors: polling district 8EF1)

and accordingly, the previous recommendation by the Sub-Committee and the Constitution Committee in relation to this matter should be disregarded; and

(4) subject to consultation initially with the Chairman of the Wilmslow Community Governance Review Sub-Committee, the Borough Solicitor be authorised, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make any amendments required to electorate figures, polling district boundaries, or the proposed Wilmslow Parish ward

**boundaries, should this be required as a result of the final outcome of the Boundary review.**

Representations were invited from all interested persons, organisations, stakeholders and the public. Interested parties were encouraged to submit their views, together with any relevant supporting information, in writing, by email, or via a feedback form on the Council's website.

10.9 Submissions received to Stage 2 Consultation

Copies of all responses received to the Second stage of consultation are attached as an appendix to this report.

10.10 Key Issues

In making its final decision on the outcome of the Community Governance Review for Crewe, the Council must take into account representations received. The Council is also required to have regard to the need to ensure that community governance within the area reflects the identities and interests of the community and is effective and convenient.

As soon as practical after the Council has decided to what extent it will give effect to the recommendation made in the review, it must publish the decision and the reasons for making that decision. The Council must also take steps to ensure that people who are interested in the review are informed.

Should the decision be taken to establish Parish Councils, electoral arrangements would need be put in place and a formal Order made to give effect to the new arrangements which would then enable elections to take place in May 2011. The final outcome of the current Cheshire East Boundary Review has not yet been determined, and this could have an impact upon the Council's final decision for the outcome of the Wimslow Community Governance Review, in particular the consideration of the detail of warding arrangements for any parishes ultimately proposed.

**12.0 Access to Information**

The following background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Name: Lindsey Parton  
Designation: Elections and Registration Team Manager  
Tel No: 01270 686477  
Email: lindsey.parton@cheshireeast.gov.uk

- Guidance on Community Governance Reviews published by the Electoral Commission and the DCLG
- Explanatory Leaflet and Notice of Publication for the first stage of consultation
- Notice of Publication of Draft Recommendations arising from the first stage of consultation

**Appendices** - Representations received from the Stage 2 consultation ending on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

**WILMSLOW COMMUNITY  
GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

**REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED IN  
RESPONSE TO STAGE 2  
CONSULTATION**

**BASON, Ralph**

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**From:** rkacton@talktalk.net  
**Sent:** 06 August 2010 10:19  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Subject:** Stage 2 Consultation

Dear Sir I am very surprised that no copy of the Review Stage 2 is available in Wilmslow. Many people do not have computers and wish to see what is in the document. Do you expect them to go somewhere well outside Wilmslow in order to see what is being proposed for them? Could you place a copy in Wilmslow Library and announce you have done so in the local press? Thank you Ray Acton 1 Westgate Fulshaw Park Wilmslow 01625 527198

**PARTON, Lindsey**

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**From:** Centre, Call  
**Sent:** 06 August 2010 10:59  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Subject:** Wilmslow Community Governance Review

[Submitted by Anonymous User]

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## Wilmslow Community Governance Review Feedback Form

**Name**

Ian Livingston

**Address**

18 Vale Rd  
Wilmslow

**Feedback**

1. The majority either voted against or did not vote. Those for the change were a clear minority.
2. No one has said precisely what the extra cost gives us. What powers does a parish council have?
3. It is just another level of bureaucracy at a cost we can ill afford.

**If you require a copy of this form for your records, please print using your web browser print button before submitting.**

**PARTON, Lindsey**

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**From:** wally.bell [wally.bell@tesco.net]  
**Sent:** 09 August 2010 11:44  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Subject:** Town councils in Wilmslow, Handforth & Styal

**The Elections and Registration Team Manager**

I am writing to object to the plans for local town councils in Wilmslow, Handforth & Styal with 15 councillors for Wilmslow, 7 for Handforth and 5 for Styal.

OF the ballot papers issued only 28% responded. EVEN IF all those had voted in favour of town councils there is still an overwhelming majority who elected for a status-quo. Clearly 100% in favour is an impossibility. Note that I did vote (against) and did return my ballot!

In these days, when the country, according to all three major parties (Labour, Conservative, Liberal Democrat), is in dire straits, there is absolutely no need to create further bureaucracy in the public sector.

Cease your profligate empire-building now. We, national taxpayers & local community charge payers alike, cannot afford it.

W M BELL  
5 Pownall Court  
Wilmslow  
SK9 5QE

**PARTON, Lindsey**

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**From:** Centre, Call  
**Sent:** 11 August 2010 17:38  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Subject:** Wilmslow Community Governance Review

[Submitted by Anonymous User]

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## Wilmslow Community Governance Review Feedback Form

**Name**

Patrick Tyrrell

**Address**

35 Handforth Road  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 2LX

**Feedback**

The maps of the proposed boundaries are practically unreadable.  
They must be replaced by ones that are readable.

**If you require a copy of this form for your records, please print using your web browser print button before submitting.**

**PARTON, Lindsey**

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**From:** Centre, Call  
**Sent:** 12 August 2010 14:42  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Subject:** Wilmslow Community Governance Review

[Submitted by Anonymous User]

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## Wilmslow Community Governance Review Feedback Form

**Name**

David Allen

**Address**

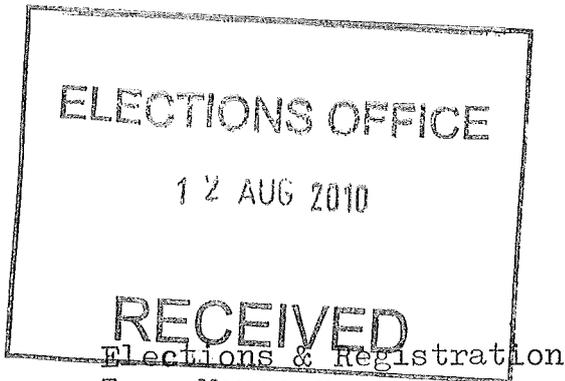
8, Bollin Court,  
Wilmslow SK9 2AP

**Feedback**

I find the idea of voting in 3 Councillors per ward anti democratic. If we are to have 15 councillors then each councillor should represent one group of electors. If you only have 4 or 5 wards then we only need a council of 4 or 5 members. Lets us put a stop to party political jiggery pockery and give local residents, i.e. resident in the area they represent, a chance to make their mark on local issues.

We should also ensure that Wilmslow, being a larger parish and therefore more efficient, should have one of the lowest precepts. All new councillors should be volunteers i.e. NO PERSONAL EXPENSES

**If you require a copy of this form for your records, please print using your web browser print button before submitting.**



29 Arlington Crescent  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 6BH

10 August 2010

Team Manager  
Cheshire East Council  
Westfields  
Sandbach  
Cheshire CW11 1BZ

Dear Sir

Proposed New Town Councils. Wilmslow, Handforth, Styal

As an elector I wish to express my views on the CEC recommendations for the formation of the above.

In the first case although the ballot produced a response this response of only 27.48% return of the ballot papers cannot be regarded as conclusive. What about the remaining 72.52% who did not return their papers? Had they voted and there must be a good valid reason why they did not vote, the result "for or against" could have been quite different and this needs to be taken into account before coming to any decision.

One further point which needs to be taken into account. It would appear that not all electors understand that new parish councils will mean yet more taxation. There has been but scant reference made to the amount of the precept which would be levied. To many of the electorate the amount of money having to be found to pay the existing crippling council tax makes it necessary to make not inconsiderable sacrifices in their family budgets and to impose yet a further tax could have dire results. The question must be asked to what avail?

At this present time when the economy is in such a fragile state with cuts and redundancies surrounding us the council should take a realistic and responsible view of this proposal and place any decisions in abeyance until such time as it can be afforded.

Yours faithfully

Edgar Curry

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edgar Curry', written over the printed name.

P.S. Does Wilmslow really need 15 councillors!!?

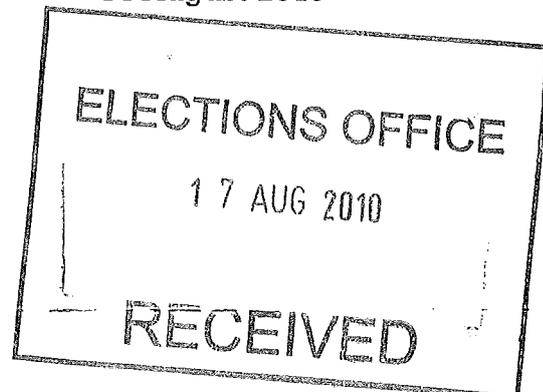
A handwritten mark in black ink, resembling a stylized letter 'C' or the number '2', located at the bottom right of the page.

Tel: 01625 532435

7 Viewlands Drive  
Handforth  
Wilmslow  
SK9 3BR

14 August 2010

The Elections & Registration Team Manager  
Cheshire East Council  
Westfields  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1HZ



Dear Sirs

Wilmslow, Handforth & Styal Governance Review

I'm at a loss as to how you think you can proceed with these new town councils - in my view a total vote of 28% does not give you a mandate to proceed - the election criteria was flawed, it should have had a minimum voting return of at least 67% of the total eligible voting population to proceed.

Also, in the current economic climate and the Government's squeeze on public sector spending to even contemplate spending money unnecessarily on such a frivolous project like this is a disgrace.

We do not need an extra tier of local government - it will make not a scrap of difference to any services received, it's just a means of lining a few councillors pockets with exorbitant expenses claims.

Just for the record, I was one of the 28% who did return the voting form, but I certainly did not vote for this proposal.

Yours faithfully



Elaine Davies

cc George Osborne, MP

**PARTON, Lindsey**

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**From:** Marion Duff [duff415@btinternet.com]  
**Sent:** 18 August 2010 11:53  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Subject:** community team manager sandbach

THE ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION TEAM MANAGER, CHESHIRE EAST.

As you asked for suggestions for how CEC should use our taxes to create a fairer run society I have sent a short attachment on just that

How new Town Councils organise themselves using our money.

Local paper request

Suggestions

1. Many community halls are in a bad state and need to be modernised, through reducing the greed of Chief executives massive salary.
2. Trees are needed in new housing development, in scrubland, street ends etc (oak, ash, pine, beech etc) to ensure we live with nature, not outside nature. Too little nature develops as N.D.D (NATURE DEFICIT DISORDER) when lots of psychological problems such as depression, anger, short temper, fear and self-harm develop. Create small woodland for children's education, and recreation.
3. Work to integrate the various aspects of community, which at present is fragmented.
  - a. Introduce a volunteer scheme pulling the generations together
  - b. Reduce noise pollution...road use i.e. excessive traffic, poor planning regulations with buildings too close, too big, reducing our personal space...need green cover as a barrier to excessive noise.
4. Councils need to look at how they waste our community taxes money in stupid schemes, expenses, lack of communication between departments etc. We can have a road dug up two three times in one year for water, gas, or anything else when co-ordination of maintenance would be wiser.
5. Litter needs serious consideration. All unemployed people fit and able need to contribute something to the community, young offenders, and the 16-18 age group need to respect and understand how social harmony works.
6. We need a work force, not excessive managers with talk and no action. We need on the beat police, care workers for elderly hospital/school cleaners, nurses, and those key workers going into schools to teach the children about how community works.

We need less red tape putting people off doing anything. We need common sense, practicality, trained skilled trades men, and fairness.

Hope this helps

**PARTON, Lindsey**

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**From:** JOHN GORDON [johnmoyragordon@btinternet.com]  
**Sent:** 26 August 2010 16:07  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Subject:** wilmslow parish council

Only 1846 votes were cast for a WILMSLOW Town Council !

Who are these potential Town Councillors who can provide a better service ?

I have been retired for 15 years on a fixed pension. I accept inevitably costs rise but to inflict extra expense, in this economic climate, without any assurance there will be a major improvement in services, would be totally unjust especially when the vast majority of residents have not voted for it. I trust Cheshire East will reject this proposal.

John Gordon

**PARTON, Lindsey**

---

**From:** Centre, Call  
**Sent:** 03 September 2010 12:02  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Subject:** Wilmslow Community Governance Review

[Submitted by Anonymous User]

---

## Wilmslow Community Governance Review Feedback Form

**Name**

Mr M J Beanland

**Address**

Lacey Green Primary School  
Barlow Road  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 4DP

**Feedback**

The establishment of a Parish Council receives my full support and wish to register this interest.

M J Beanland  
Bursar

**If you require a copy of this form for your records, please print using your web browser print button before submitting.**

**PARTON, Lindsey**

---

**From:** Stuart Redgard [stuart.redgard@mac.com]  
**Sent:** 09 September 2010 01:37  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Subject:** Re: Wilmslow Governance Review Stage 2 - Inadequate Information

Dear Ralph

When can I expect the map

Mr Stuart Redgard  
On 27 Aug 2010, at 14:23, COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW wrote:

> Dear Mr Redgard  
>  
> Thank you for your email. Please accept my apologies for the degree  
> of detail provided about the review. I appreciate that a more  
> detailed map would be useful as you suggest. I have now arranged for  
> one to be produced and made available for inspection at Wilmslow  
> Library and Macclesfield Town Hall. We will also post one to you.  
>  
> Any questions please call me on the direct line below  
>  
> Yours sincerely  
>  
>  
> Ralph Bason  
>  
> Elections and Electoral Registration  
>  
> Cheshire East Council  
>  
> Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ  
>  
> ralph.bason@cheshireeast.gov.uk  
>  
>  
> Tel: 01270 686479  
>  
>  
> www.cheshireeast.gov.uk  
>  
> -----Original Message-----  
> From: Stuart Redgard [mailto:stuart.redgard@mac.com]  
> Sent: 26 August 2010 22:40  
> To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
> Cc: MENLOVE, Rod (Councillor); BARTON, Gary (Councillor); FITZGERALD, Wesley  
> (Councillor)  
> Subject: Wilmslow Governance Review Stage 2 - Inadequate Information  
>  
> To whom it may concern.  
>  
> I wish to lodge a complaint regarding the level of detail provided for  
> stage 2 of the the Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal Community Governance  
> Review.  
>  
> Having viewed the information online and finding it inadequate I have  
> today made a trip to the Council Offices at Macclesfield Town Hall.  
> This trip turned out to be a waste of time as the Customer Services  
> Centre were unable to find any more detailed information available and  
> were unable to make contact with the "elections and registrations  
> department".  
>

Highfield  
Station Road  
Styal  
SK9 4JP

10<sup>th</sup> September 2010

Lindsey Parton  
Elections and Registration Team Manager  
Cheshire East Council  
Westfields  
Sandbach  
Cheshire CW11 1HZ

Dear Ms Parton

**Wilmslow Community Governance Review – 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage Consultation**

On behalf of Styal Village Association, I am writing to you with our input to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage Consultation for the Wilmslow Community Governance Review.

The Committee of SVA is unanimously pleased with the progress so far with the Community Governance Review, and in particular with the decision, agreed by Council in July 2010, that Styal should have its own Parish Council. We are particularly pleased that the democratic wishes of the majority of voters in Styal have been able to be heard so clearly, and we are grateful to you, your team and the Sub-Committee for the way in which the review has been performed.

We have only one comment that we would like to be considered in the second stage consultation, and that is regarding the number of Councillors proposed for Styal Parish Council.

The recommendations of the review we believe indicated that Styal should have 5 Councillors, Handforth 7 Councillors, and Wilmslow 15 Councillors. There would appear to be some logic here in terms of proportionality given the relative size of each Parish area.

However, we are very concerned that this may be very difficult in practical terms for Styal. With only five Councillors, it would not take very much for two to be unable to attend for business or personal reasons and one to be unwell, leaving the council presumably inquorate. Whilst we accept that it is not of direct relevance, if we look at the makeup of Styal Village Association, the majority of elected members are not retired and have many other demands on their time.

We also note that whilst five Councillors is the legal minimum under the Local Government Act 1972, the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) recommend that the minimum number of Councillors for any parish should be seven, presumably for some of the reasons we have outlined.

It would be a great pity if, after following a new process so carefully as part of this Community Governance Review, we end up with a solution which those with the greatest experience in this area would recognise as sub-optimal.

We therefore would like to strongly request that the Committee reconsider the number of Councillors that Styal Parish Council will have, and follow the NALC guidance to allow Styal to have seven Councillors. We would like to think that such a decision would have little impact outside of Styal, could make quite a difference to the initial workings of the embryonic Parish Council, and has the advantage of being in line with current best practice.

We hope the Committee is able to take this request into account.

Yours sincerely

Steve Dempsey  
Styal Village Association

Cc: Ian Jones                      Styal Village Association Chairman

**BASON, Ralph**

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**From:** Jon.Bottomley@manairport.co.uk  
**Sent:** 15 September 2010 10:44  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Subject:** WILMSLOW COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Thank you for updating us on progress with the review of governance arrangements in Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal.

We responded to your earlier consultation and we have nothing further to add to our letter of 2 June 2010.

Jon Bottomley  
Group Planning Manager  
The Manchester Airport Group

(t) 0161 489 3751  
(f) 0161 489 3812  
jon.bottomley@manairport.co.uk  
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The Church In Wilmslow



**Wilmslow United Reformed Church**

in covenant with  
Wilmslow Methodist Church

September 10<sup>th</sup> 2010

Dear Mrs Parton

Wilmslow Community Governance Review

I am responding on behalf of the Trustees and Elders of Wilmslow United Reformed Church as part of the Stage 2 Consultation on the Wilmslow Community Governance Review.

We note the results of the Stage 1 Consultation and the detailed proposals which have emerged to establish parish councils to represent Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal. We remain of the opinion that a single council would be the better arrangement and less bureaucratic but recognize that the electors have expressed the opposite view.

We were surprised to learn that individual households were not to be circulated with information on Stage 2 but reliant on notices in the local press – our experience is that this is not an effective method of communication (although it is obviously less expensive than a mail-drop).

We will support the council when it is established but trust that the nomination process encourages local representation and is not weighted in favour of the major political parties.

Please keep us informed of further developments in this process.

Yours sincerely

M H Williams  
Elder

Mrs Lindsey Parton  
Elections and Registrations Team Manager  
Cheshire East Council  
Sandbach  
Cheshire CW11 1HZ

## CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

### Wilmslow Community Governance Review Sub-Committee

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**Date of Meeting:** 27<sup>th</sup> September 2010  
**Report of:** Borough Solicitor  
**Subject/Title:** Wilmslow Community Governance Review – Budgets and Parish Precepts

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#### **1.0 Report Summary**

- 1.1 Without prejudicing the outcome of the Wilmslow Community Governance Review, if the decision is taken to create parish councils in Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal, detailed consideration will need to be given to setting an appropriate budget for the first year of their operation. A precept would then need to be calculated and levied for the areas concerned.

#### **2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 To give initial consideration to the potential running costs and budgetary requirements of the three proposed parish councils in order that draft budgets can be prepared and precepts calculated.
- 2.2 To seek a detailed report to a further meeting of the Sub-Committee on these matters.

#### **3.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 3.1 Established Parish Councils advise the Borough Council in January each year of their precept requirements and these proposals are then included by the Borough Council as part of the total Council Tax-setting process.
- 3.2 The difficulty with the process for proposed new parish councils in the Wilmslow area (if that is the outcome of the review), is that the parish councils themselves will not come into operation until Councillors have been elected in May 2011. Action is therefore required by Cheshire East Council to ensure that the new parish councils have a budget to work with.

#### **4.0 Wards Affected**

- 4.1 Wards covering the areas of Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal.

#### **5.0 Local Ward Members**

- 5.1 As above

## **6.0 Policy Implications**

6.1 None

## **7.0 Financial Implications (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)**

7.1 Parish precepts would need to be raised for any new Parish Councils created, to cover the administration costs for the municipal year 2011/12.

7.2 The Council would also need to take into account corporate proposals which have been agreed by Cabinet on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2010 for the devolution of services from Cheshire East Council to parish councils. Further discussions will be required as to the impact of this programme upon the newly formed parish councils. Appropriate budget provision will need to be provided for the running of such services by parish councils and the costs included when calculating the parish precepts.

## **8.0 Legal Implications**

8.1 The Local Government Finance (New Parishes) (England) Regulations 2008 enable the Council to calculate the first anticipated precept for a newly-constituted Parish Council and for the amount of that precept to be included in the Re-organisation Order.

## **9.0 Risk Management**

9.1 The risk is that if no action is taken by the Council to set a precept for the new parishes, the newly-formed Councils will be unable to operate.

## **10.0 Background**

10.1 The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) has produced a document – “Power to the People” – “Your Guide to Local Councils, the benefits they can bring to your area and how you can create one”, which is useful reference material and provides examples of precepts for different sizes of parish councils. A hard copy will be circulated with the agenda to all members of the Sub-Committee.

10.2 The Cheshire Association of Local Councils (ChALC) has also supplied examples of budgets for a small and large parish Council to aid discussions and these are attached as Appendices to the report.

10.3 It is important to be clear in considering this matter that the outcome of the Community Governance Review is not being prejudiced. However, in view of the tight timescales involved, thought must be given to matters of precepting, budgets and governance arrangements in early course. There is therefore little option other than to begin preparation in order to deal with any decision which might be taken to create parish councils.

- 10.4 It is suggested that a meeting of the Sub-Committee be arranged in the near future to give more detailed consideration to these issues.

## **12.0 Access to Information**

The following background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Name: Lindsey Parton

Designation: Elections and Registration Team Manager

Tel No: 01270 686477

Email: [lindsey.parton@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:lindsey.parton@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

National Association of Local Councils document – “Power to the People” –  
“Your Guide to Local Councils, the benefits they can bring to your area and  
how you can create one”

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## APPENDIX A

<b>Budget Head</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>Staff</b>	Salary (clerk)	£3,550	Based on 8 hours per week @ LC1 SCP 16 (roughly suitable to a small local council with an electorate of less than 2,000 electors.
	Advertising & recruitment	£250	
	Stationery	£500	This would cover the costs of all stationery, but would also include books that provide necessary information for running a local council
	Home allowance	£250	With so few hours, the clerk will almost certainly work from home, hence an allowance for usage (extra heating, phone, etc.) is appropriate
<b>Equipment</b>	PC/Printer	£1,000	A laptop would be preferred as it is easier to use in meetings and can be transferred to new members of staff easier
<b>Statutory</b>	Insurance	£250	Public/Employer Liability; Fidelity
	Audit Fee	£200	
<b>Council costs</b>	Meeting room hire	£150	
	Training	£500	Training will be required for both the clerk and the councillors and is available from the County Training Partnership
	Chairman's allowance	£200	There are additional costs associated with representing the council and this is usually recognised in a small allowance. This rarely covers the actual costs!
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	General grant	£9,225	Most Local Councils provide a small grant scheme for community groups. They may - in time - enter into Service Level Agreements with appropriate community groups to deliver specific work. Although grants can be given in accordance with other powers, it is appropriate to begin by making this in accordance with the Section 137 limit (currently £6.15 per elector), hence 1500 x 6.15
<b>Total</b>		£16,075	

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**APPENDIX B**

<b>Budget Head</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>Staff</b>	Salary (clerk)	£40,000	Full time clerk, Profile of LC3 (SCP 43), depending on qualifications and experience, hence it is possible that this may be lower (although the oncosts are approximate)
	Salary (Admin)	£9,500	Based on 20 hours per week, SCP 15 pro rata (£8,362pa), with oncost estimate
	Pension	£8,500	If the council wish to offer participation in the Local Government Pension scheme to both staff, this is based on approximately 17% of both salaries.
	Advertising & recruitment	£500	Likely to be required for first year only
	Stationery	£1,000	This would cover the costs of all stationery, but would also include books that provide necessary information for running a local council, hence is likely to be lower in future years
<b>Office costs</b>	Rent, rates	£7,000	An office will be required to accommodate both the clerk and administrator
	Energy costs	£2,000	Includes a first year budget for purchasing equipment if necessary (the premises may already have central heating installed, hence this could be less)
	Telephone	£1,000	This includes equipment and initial setup costs and is likely to be lower in future years
	PC/Printers	£6,000	A desktop PC would be required for the office and a laptop for the clerk, plus a photocopier/printer capable of producing quality documents. Again, these costs are likely to be significantly lower in future years.
<b>Statutory</b>	Insurance	£1,500	Public/Employer Liability; Fidelity
	Audit Fee	£2,000	Internal & External auditor costs
<b>Council costs</b>	Meeting room hire	£1,040	Based upon 12 full council meetings and three committee meetings (planning meeting 6 times per year and other two meeting four times per year), hence total of 26. It should be noted that it is possible for Local Councils to meet in schools at no cost, however the council is likely to wish to establish its own identity as soon as possible.
	Training	£1,500	Training will be required for both the clerk and the councillors and is available from the County Training Partnership
	Chairman's allowance	£1,500	There are additional costs associated with representing the council and this is usually recognised in a small allowance. This rarely covers the actual costs and other councils pay over £2,000 or more to the Chairman.
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	General grant	£10,000	Most Local Councils provide a small grant scheme for community groups. They may - in time - enter into Service Level Agreements with appropriate community groups to deliver specific work (e.g. Sandymoor Community Centre). Although grants can be given in accordance with other powers, it is appropriate to begin by making this in accordance with the Section 137 limit (currently £5.44 per elector), hence $14,000 \times 5.44 = £76,160$ , but they are unlikely to use all of this
	Councillors' allowances	£3,500	Based on Independent County Remuneration Panel
<b>Total</b>		£96,540	

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