PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLICATION OF OUTCOME OF THE CREWE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Cheshire East Council has conducted a Community Governance Review for the unparished area of Crewe, under the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, following receipt of a petition from electors.

The Council undertook the first stage of public consultation for the review during September 2009, and having regard to the feedback from that consultation agreed a draft recommendation for the outcome of the review: "To accept the vote from the people of Crewe and to reject the notion of a town council for Crewe at this time".

A second stage of consultation was held from 30 November 2009 to 8 January 2010 which sought views on the draft recommendation.

Council Decision

At the Council meeting on 25 January 2009, having taken into account all consultation responses made during the Second Stage of consultation and having 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, the Council resolved that the draft recommendation of Council of the 15 October 2009 be reaffirmed i.e. "To accept the vote from the people of Crewe and to reject the notion of a Town Council for Crewe at this time".

Reasons for the Council Decision

The reasons for the Council's decision are:-

The Council has had regard to existing arrangements in place in the area for community representation and community engagement, including the Crewe Local Area Partnership, Neighbourhood Management, Tenant Management Organisations and community associations and the extent to which they are already creating opportunities for engagement, empowerment and co-ordination in local communities. The Crewe Local Area Partnership was formed following the creation of the new Cheshire East Council on 1st April and these arrangements are still in their infancy and continually developing; the Council is of the view that further time is required to see these arrangements develop to their full potential.

Cheshire East Council came into operation on 1 April 2009 and three Cheshire East Councillors have been elected for each of the Wards of Crewe North, Crewe East, Crewe South and Crewe West. These arrangements provide for local democracy and local representation and for the delivery of effective and convenient delivery of local services.

Having taken into account all feedback from consultation, the Council feels that it is too soon after the formation of Cheshire East Council for a Town Council to be established. The alternative forms of Community Governance instigated as part of the People and Places submission, setting out the case for local government reorganisation, need time to develop as the building blocks for enhanced community engagement and local representation.

Charter Trustees have been established for the whole of the unparished area of Crewe to preserve the civic and ceremonial functions of the Town.

This Council decision does not preclude the option of a Town Council for Crewe being further considered in the future.