

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

STAGE ONE CONSULTATION

What is a community governance review?

Community governance reviews provide an opportunity for Councils to review and make changes to local community (parish) governance arrangements within their areas. The objective of any review is to ensure that local governance continues to be effective and convenient and that it reflects the identities and interests of local communities. The recommendations arising from any community governance review should deliver improved community engagement, more cohesive communities, better local democracy and result in more efficient delivery of local services.

The review can consider a range of topics and can include the following:

- Creation, merging, altering and abolishing of parish areas;
- the naming of parishes;
- the electoral arrangements for parishes (creating a council; the number of councillors to be elected to the council; parish warding); and
- other matters such as the 'knock-on' effect on the council divisions or wards or the setting of the commencement dates for any new arrangements

Why are we doing this?

Thurrock Council is undertaking a community governance review to consider whether a parish council should be created to cover the Frost Estate. This is because we have received a petition signed by 383 local residents, who have requested that a parish council be created to:

- *"Organise and oversee appropriate road refurbishment and on-going maintenance.*
- *Promote a traffic & pedestrian safety awareness scheme and introduce speed limits and hazard signs.*
- *Monitor HGV traffic with culpability for road damage incurred.*
- *Ensure all households contribute an agreed small monthly amount towards the cost.*
- *Represent the views of estate residents to Thurrock Council and other bodies."*

Parish councils are the most local level of democratic representation in the country, and they can provide a range of different services to the community, at a very local level.

What will the Council be doing?

This first stage is to ask you a series of questions to help us understand what kind of information you need to make an informed decision about whether you would like to see a parish council created.

We will also ask you what services you would like to see a parish council do, what benefits you think a parish council may bring to the area and whether you have any concerns about the proposal.

A second stage of consultation will take place later this year/early next year, where we will be asking for your views on the recommendations to be made by Thurrock Council, which must take account of the local opinion on the matters considered by the review, as well as any representations made by local people and other interested persons.

Where can you find out more ?

We have published information on our website about the community governance review and the

request we have received to create a parish council for the Frost Estate. This can be found at:

www.thurrock.gov.uk/parishcouncils

How can you tell us what you think?

- You can tell us what you think by completing our questionnaire online at:

<https://consult.thurrock.gov.uk/public/tc/cedu/cdande/frost>

- You can complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it to the address given

If you have any questions about this process, please use the following contact information:

By email to: Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk

By post to: Community Governance Review, c/o Democratic Services, Thurrock Council, Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, RM17 6SL



1. What is your preferred form of community governance for the Frost Estate?
(please select one answer)

- New parish council for the area of the Frost Estate
- No change to current arrangements
- Alternative arrangements

1b. If you indicated 'alternative arrangements', please outline the arrangements you would like to see below:

2. Do you feel you have sufficient information about the role and responsibilities of a parish council, or do you need any extra information?

Please indicate where you would need this information.

(please select one answer for each question)

	Yes	No	Maybe
The additional cost to me as a Council Tax payer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The services any new council would provide	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The additional resources any new council would attract	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The number of parish councillors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How often I will be able to vote for parish councillors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How the parish council would be managed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



4. If there are any other services you think should be provided by a parish council, please list these below:

5. What benefits do you think a parish council would bring for the community?

6. What disadvantages do you think a parish council would bring for the community?

7. Do you have any other comments or observations you would like the Council to consider?



About you

Name:

First line of address:

Postcode:

Email address:

You can return this questionnaire:

By email to: Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk

By post to: Community Governance Review, c/o Democratic Services, Thurrock Council, Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, RM17 6SL

By hand: Completed paper copies of the survey can be returned to Corringham Library which is hosting a ballot box for the period of the consultation. Please note that the Library closes at 1pm every Wednesday.

Corringham Library, St Johns Way, Corringham, Essex, SS17 7LJ

Open 10am – 5pm apart from Wednesday – closes 1pm