



<b>REPORT TO:</b>	South Holland District Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Wednesday, 28 September 2022
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Community Governance Review
<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To consider a request for a Community Governance Review (CGR) for the Parish of Tydd St Mary to decrease the number of Councillors from nine to seven.
<b>KEY DECISION:</b>	<i>N</i>
<b>PORTFOLIO HOLDER:</b>	Councillor Jim Astill, Portfolio Holder for Corporate & Communications
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	John Medler, Assistant Director – Governance and Monitoring Officer
<b>REPORT AUTHORS:</b>	Rhonda Booth, Democratic Services Manager and Deborah Wright, Lead Electoral Officer
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	Long Sutton;
<b>EXEMPT REPORT?</b>	<i>N</i>

## SUMMARY

Under Section 79 to 102 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (LGPIH) approval be given to carry out a review for the Parish of Tydd St Mary to decrease the number of Councillors from nine to seven

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To approve to undertake a Community Governance Review for the Parish of Tydd St Mary;
2. That delegated powers are given to the Monitoring Officer to carry out the Review;
3. To agree the timetable for the review as attached at Appendix A.
4. That the Monitoring Officer reports the findings of the Review to Council for final decision;

## REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The objective of undertaking a community governance review is to ensure that local governance will continue to be effective and convenient and will reflect the identities and interests of local communities.

## OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Option 1 – To not approve the Community Governance Review for Tydd St Mary.

## 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1** The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (LGPIH) devolved the power to take decisions relating to the creation and abolition of parishes, the boundaries of parishes and the electoral arrangements of parish councils from the Secretary of State and the Electoral Commission to principal councils.
- 1.2** A Community Governance Review (CGR) is a legal process whereby Councils can create parish councils, review and change parish boundaries and in extreme cases, abolish parishes. The Council must ensure that the community governance in the area under review reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area, and is effective and convenient. It is important that recommendations made through a CGR should bring about improved community engagement, more cohesive communities, better local democracy and result in more effective and convenient delivery of local services.

The minimum legal number of parish councillors for each council is five. There is no maximum number and no other legislative guidance with regard to the ideal number of parish councillors.

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) published guidance in 1988 on the suggested number of parish councillors to be allocated depending on the size of the population being represented.

Electors	Councillors	Electors	Councillors
Up to 900	7	10400	17
1400	8	11900	18
2000	9	13500	19
2700	10	15200	20
3500	11	17000	21
4400	12	18900	22
5400	13	20900	23
6500	14	23000	24
7700	15	Over 23000	25
9000	16		

## **2. REPORT**

- 2.1** The Parish of Tydd St Mary currently has an electorate of 858. At a recent parish council meeting, Tydd St Mary parish council voted in favour of requesting South Holland District Council to conduct a Community Governance Review, with a view to decreasing their council size from nine to seven. The reason for their request is due to the continued shortage of Councillors.

## **3. CONCLUSION**

- 3.1** That the Council considers a Community Governance review be carried out for the Parish of Tydd St Mary.

## **4. EXPECTED BENEFITS TO THE PARTNERSHIP**

- 4.1** None.

## **5. IMPLICATIONS**

### **5.1 SOUTH AND EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCILS PARTNERSHIP**

- 5.1.1** None

### **5.2 CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

- 5.2.1** None

### **5.3 STAFFING**

- 5.3.1** Additional work will be undertaken by the Electoral Services team.

### **5.4 CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.4.1** The review to be conducted having regard to the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and the Council's Constitution.

### **5.5 DATA PROTECTION**

- 5.5.1** None

### **5.6 FINANCIAL**

- 5.6.1** The reviews will have minimal financial implications which have not been budgeted for in undertaking the consultation – any costs will have to be found from existing budgets.

### **5.7 RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 5.7.1** None

### **5.8 STAKEHOLDER / CONSULTATION / TIMESCALES**

- 5.8.1** Consultation will take place with the Member of Parliament for South Holland and the Deepings, Parish Councillors, local electors, the local ward members for Long Sutton, Lincolnshire County Council and other interested parties. The timescale for a community

governance review is governed by Statute. The review must be completed within 12 months from the date of issue of the Terms of Reference.

## 5.9 REPUTATION

5.9.1 None

## 5.10 CONTRACTS

5.10.1 None

## 5.11 CRIME AND DISORDER

5.11.1 None

## 5.12 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY/ HUMAN RIGHTS/ SAFEGUARDING

5.12.1 The review will be carried out with due consideration to equality and diversity needs of those involved.

## 5.13 HEALTH AND WELL BEING

5.13.1 None

## 5.14 CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

5.14.1 None

## 6. ACRONYMS

6.1 CGR – Community Governance Review

LGPIH – Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

NALC – National Association of Local Councils

### APPENDICES

Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report: -

APPENDIX A

*Timetable for Review*

### BACKGROUND PAPERS

Background papers used in the production of this report are listed below: -

**Document title**

**Where the document can be viewed**

The LGPIH

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/community-governance-reviews-guidance>

### CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THIS REPORT

A report on this item has not been previously considered by the Council

### REPORT APPROVAL

Report author:	Rhonda Booth, Deborah Wright rbooth@sholland.gov.uk, dwright@sholland.gov.uk
Signed off by:	John Medler, Assistant Director - Governance and Monitoring Officer) john.medler@e-lindsey.gov.uk
Approved for publication:	Councillor Jim Astill, Portfolio Holder for Corporate & Communications