

Report Title	Community Governance Review – Draft Recommendations
Meeting	Full Council
Meeting Date	30 July 2026
Report Author	Linda Jones, Director of Law and Governance
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Cllr Andrew Jarvis – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance
Wards Affected	All wards
PUBLIC. PART EXEMPT, OR FULLY EXEMPT	Public
Appendices (if any)	Appendix 1 – Anonymised responses to the public consultation Appendix 2 – Map of warding arrangements for Hesketh Parish Council

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Council has authority to take decisions about parish electoral governance arrangements and is required to monitor these arrangements on an ongoing basis. This formal review mechanism is known as a Community Governance Review (CGR), which commenced in September 2025. Following an initial consultation, Full Council agreed the Draft Recommendations from the CGR and a formal consultation on these ran from 1 February 2026 to 22 April 2026.
- 1.2 This report presents the Final Recommendations, developed following the second consultation by a cross-party Member Working Group, for discussion and approval. Once agreed, the Final Recommendations will be implemented through a legal Order.

2. Recommendations

For the reasons set out in this report, Council is recommended to:

- 2.1 Agree to the Final Recommendations of the Community Governance Review, which have been developed considering the responses to the public consultation, agree to request consequential amendments from the Local Government Boundary Commission England (LGBCE) where relevant, and note the changes will be implemented through a legal Order.

3. Information: The Rationale & Evidence for the Recommendations

- 3.1 Westmorland & Furness Council is able to undertake a review of any and all aspects of parish and town council governance through a Community Governance Review (CGR). This can include reviewing election dates, forms of governance, creation or abolition of parish councils, internal parish warding arrangements, external parish boundaries, and numbers of parish councillors.

- 3.2 Good practice suggests that principal councils should undertake periodic reviews of the parish arrangements every 10 to 15 years, however parts of Westmorland & Furness have not been reviewed for some time. In addition, the recent warding review by the LGBCE highlighted some areas where parish arrangements could be refined through a CGR. A Community Governance Review also provides an opportunity to review all arrangements and to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries, tied to firm ground features, and potentially remove any parish boundary anomalies that may exist.
- 3.3 In September 2025, Council agreed to undertake a Community Governance Review (CGR), with the publication of the Terms of Reference followed by a public consultation. Following that consultation, Council agreed to the Draft Recommendations that had been developed by a cross-party Member Working Group based on the consultation. Consequently, a second public consultation ran from 1 February 2026 to 22 April 2026.
- 3.4 The Terms of Reference for the CGR were broad, allowing for a review of all aspects of community governance within the council area. This includes, for example, the establishment of a separate parish from an existing parish, alteration of parish boundaries, abolition or dissolution of a parish, change to parish electoral arrangements or parish grouping.
- 3.5 Now that the CGR has commenced, the Council is legally required to continue the process through to its conclusion.

Underpinning rules

- 3.6 A CGR must be undertaken:
- in accordance with the relevant legislation (Chapter 3 of the Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Act 2007);
 - have due regard to guidance published by the Secretary of State and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE), last published in March 2010
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/8312/1527635.pdf; and
 - comply with the Terms of Reference that the Council adopts.
- 3.7 The statutory guidance (Guidance on Community Governance Reviews 2010) sets out the broad criteria for a CGR, but notes that it is not appropriate to apply a 'one size fits all' approach. A CGR includes periods of consultation, and it is important that any consultation is open, transparent and fair.
- 3.8 References in legislation to a 'parish' also includes a parish which has an alternative style (such as 'town', 'village' or 'community' council) and parish meetings.
- 3.9 Legislation and statutory guidance set out the requirements for a CGR. These include that the Council must;
- draw up Terms of Reference (ToR) for the review, specifying the area/s under review and any consequential matters that need to be considered.

- consult local government electors for the area under review and any other person or body (including a local authority) who appears to have an interest in the review.
- have regard to the need to secure that community governance within the area under review “reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area and is effective and convenient”.
- take into account any representations received in connection with the review.
- publish recommendations as soon as practicable after making them and take steps to ensure that those who may be interested in the review are informed of those recommendations.

3.10 Subject to these duties, it is for the Council to decide how to undertake the review.

3.11 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 sets out two statutory criteria:

“The principal council must have regard to the need to secure that community governance within the area under review —
 (a) reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area, and
 (b) is effective and convenient.”

3.12 A CGR is largely a technical project, following statutory processes to understand the interests and identities of local residents and their preferred community governance arrangements. Final discussions and decisions will be made by Full Council.

3.13 As noted above, the Council must take into account the 2010 government guidance published by DCLG (now MHCLG). The Council must also have due regard for responses submitted during the consultations and be open and transparent such that local stakeholders are made aware of the outcome of the decisions and the reasons behind those decisions.

3.14 Whilst Members are advised to read the DCLG guidance in its entirety, some key extracts are included below. Essentially, the guidance supports the 2007 Act requiring that local people are consulted, and that their views are taken into account during the CGR. Whilst Westmorland & Furness Councillors are the decision-makers, those decisions must be based on evidence submitted through the CGR consultation process. Numbers refer to paragraph numbers in the DCLG guidance; emphasis added for clarity:

7. *The guidance supports and helps to implement key aspects of the 2006 white paper. The 2007 Act **requires that local people are consulted during a community governance review, that representations received in connection with the review are taken into account** and that steps are taken to notify them of the outcomes of such reviews including any decisions.*

58. *It is clear that how people perceive where they live - their neighbourhoods - is significant in considering the identities and interests of local communities and depends on a range of circumstances, often*

best defined by local residents. Some of the factors which help define neighbourhoods are the geography of an area, the make-up of the local community, sense of identity, and whether people live in a rural, suburban, or urban area.

59. *Parishes in many cases may be able to meet the concept of neighbourhoods in an area. Parishes should reflect distinctive and recognisable communities of interest, with their own sense of identity. Like neighbourhoods, **the feeling of local community and the wishes of local inhabitants are the primary considerations.***
95. *The recommendations **must take account of any representations received and should be supported by evidence which demonstrates that the recommended community governance arrangements would meet the criteria set out in the 2007 Act.***
- 3.15 It is important to note that it is Westmorland & Furness Council who decide community governance arrangements. Therefore, where difficult decisions must be made, consideration must be given to opposing and differing views in light of legislation, best practice, and official guidance. Best practice guidance includes, for example, not having 'island' or 'donut' parishes or parish wards which are wholly surrounded by one other parish or parish ward, and using identifiable markers for boundaries (such as rivers, railways, roads and the edges of properties).
- 3.16 Essentially, proposals for change should first identify the identities and interests of the communities and then consider the governance arrangements for that area.
- 3.17 Members are invited to note that the course of appeal is by way of Judicial Review. The grounds for a Judicial Review could be for example, a failure to consult properly, or a failure not to take into account relevant consideration, or conversely irrelevant issues are taken into account in reaching a decision. In other words, it is important to ensure that community governance decisions are reasonable and can be justified both evidentially and procedurally to avoid potential legal challenge.
- 3.18 It is also important to recognise that the number of responses received is not necessarily strong evidence on the strength of feeling either for or against any particular viewpoint. It is true that stakeholders preferring the status quo may not make representations until and unless there is a suggestion of significant change that they would otherwise oppose. Therefore, where little response was received, it cannot be assumed that local people are in favour of supporting the change proposed by a few submissions; they may well currently be unaware of those suggestions and happy with no change. That is why the second round of formal consultation is important.
- 3.19 The aim of a CGR is to ensure community governance arrangements are appropriate at a local level. It is therefore not always appropriate to use Ward or Division boundaries to determine parish boundaries
- 3.20 Members are reminded that the scope of the CGR is defined in law. Whilst some responses have been received that are outside of the scope of the CGR, this Council has no authority to make decisions or recommendations on

those matters and so cannot engage in meaningful discussion about them. Specifically, the CGR cannot consider or determine:

- Parliamentary constituency boundaries
- Unitary authority wards, other than requesting consequential amendments are made to align with any changes to parish boundaries; note that the wards recently determined by the LGBCE are protected and cannot be changed without explicit permission by the LGBCE (and they are likely to support only very minor changes)
- The number of Westmorland & Furness councillors
- The powers and authority of different tiers of government (for example, a CGR cannot recommend granting planning determination powers to parish councils)

Consultation

3.21 When undertaking a CGR, the authority is required to consult with residents and interested parties. We have consulted with the following by sending details of the CGR and a link to the online feedback form:

- all householders, via the authority-held mailing lists and links from the home page of the website
- Community organisations, residents' associations and local businesses, via local authority-held mailing lists
- all parish councils
- all Westmorland & Furness Councillors
- local political parties
- Members of Parliament
- Police & Crime Commissioner

3.22 Parish and town councils were also invited to a briefing to explain the CGR and encourage them to consider the proposals and respond to the consultation.

3.23 In addition, households directly affected by a potential significant change through the Draft Recommendations (i.e. they would change parish, or their parish was proposed to be abolished, or merged with another) were sent a physical document explaining the proposal and inviting them to take part in the consultation.

3.24 A total of 223 responses were received; of these 2 were found to be duplicates and removed, leaving 221 submissions. These have been weighed against the statutory criteria and used to develop the Final Proposals that follow. Note that many respondents would not have been aware of these criteria when responding, although the points they have raised have been considered against those criteria as widely as possible.

3.25 The cross-party Member Working Group wish to note their thanks to all contributors, allowing us to formulate the Draft Recommendations.

Introduction to the Final Recommendations

3.26 Final Recommendations are proposed here, for discussion and subsequent agreement by Full Council. Once approved, these will be implemented

through a *Reorganisation of Community Governance Order*.

- 3.27 It is important to note that the inclusion of a Draft Recommendation is likely to elicit responses from members of the affected local communities, which would not be heard had the Draft Recommendation not been made. As a result, it is vital to recognise that there are changes between the Draft Recommendations and the Final Recommendations, taking local views into account. A CGR is required to reflect the interests and identities of local communities, and the Final Recommendations are based on the responses from local people far more acutely than the Draft Recommendations could have been. Where local people, elected representatives, or anyone with an interest in the area does not agree with a Draft Recommendation, they were encouraged to respond to the consultation so their views could be included in the development of the Final Recommendations.
- 3.28 This section of the report presents the rationale and evidence for the Draft Proposals.
- 3.29 The Council is required to publish the reasons for making its decisions as a result of a CGR. As such, a summary of the responses to the consultation are included at the appropriate section of the report, with all submissions included at the end, with personal information redacted or removed.
- 3.30 The sections of the report that follow show each area in turn, with consideration given for the boundary and geographical area, the name, and then the governance arrangements (such as numbers of councillors). Proposals are shown by area, but note that some changes in boundary arrangements are listed in shown in more than one affected area. The Draft Recommendations included within the report for approval have been considered by the cross-party Member Working Group.
- 3.31 Members are invited to note that any further suggestions must (1) be supported by evidence, (2) have been brought to the authority's attention during the CGR to date, and (3) have been consulted upon or raised through the consultation process. **This means that proposals for new governance arrangements cannot be considered at the final stage of the review only.**
- 3.32 Note that maps are included where a proposed Draft Recommendation includes a change to an existing boundary or creation of a new boundary.
- 3.33 In considering the number of parish councillors to serve a particular area, we have used the following:
- The statutory minimum number of councillors is five; there is no maximum, although it becomes more difficult and less effective or efficient to maintain an excessively large parish council. This allows this Council to consider the current number of parish councillors by area, recognise the different situations within each area, and then assess the appropriate number of parish councillors by area. There is no requirement for the number of electors represented by a single parish councillor to be the same between different parishes, although they should be comparable between wards of the same parish.
 - Whilst the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) published guidance in 1988 on the suggested number of parish councillors per

parish area based on the size of the electorate, these are non-statutory and there is no requirement for parish councils within an area to have equal ratios of electors to councillors. Further, these pre-date the digital age and do not necessarily reflect the ways in which parish councillors communicate with and represent their local communities. However, they do provide a good benchmark against which to consider the number of councillors in each parish council.

3.34 The NALC recommendations are:

Number of electors	Councillors	Number of electors	Councillors
Up to 900	7	9,001 - 10,400	17
901 - 1,400	8	10,401 - 11,900	18
1,401 - 2,000	9	11,901 - 13,500	19
2,001 - 2,700	10	13,501 - 15,200	20
2,701 - 3,500	11	15,201 - 17,000	21
3,501 - 4,400	12	17,001 - 18,900	22
4,401 - 5,400	13	18,901 - 20,900	23
5,401 - 6,500	14	20,901 - 23,000	24
6,501 - 7,700	15	Over 23,000	25
7,701 - 9,000	16		

- 3.35 The Member Working Group discussed three options for determining the number of parish councillors per council: (i) To recommend following the NALC guidelines for every parish, noting this would lead to changes in many areas and this does not take local circumstances, needs or experiences into account; (ii) To only recommend changes where the parish has explicitly requested these, noting that some parishes may not have considered the number of councillors during their deliberations; or (iii) To use submissions during the consultation to determine the number of councillors where provided, and where no submission has been made to use the NALC recommendation where this differs from the current council size by at least 4 members. The Working Group agreed that option (iii) is the most pragmatic and reflects local need most appropriately. These were included in the Draft Recommendations, and revised in these Final Recommendations based on responses to the consultation.
- 3.36 Through the initial consultation, a number of responses suggested possible amalgamation of existing parish areas. There are two main ways in which this could happen:
- Grouping of parishes. In this case, two or more separate parishes keep their own legal identity, boundaries and assets but are served by a 'grouped parish council'.
 - Merging of parishes. This effectively abolishes the separate parishes and combines them into a single new parish. All assets become 'joint' and precepts are standardised across the parish. A single parish and parish council can be more convenient and lead to improved effectiveness and efficiency in delivering local services and democratic decision making. Separate parish wards can remain in place for each of the previous parishes, ensuring local identity remains represented in the overall parish.

- 3.37 In both cases, the total number of parish councillors on either a single new larger council or on a grouped council would be lower than for several separate councils. In general, merging parish councils can offer greater flexibility in terms of using assets and delivering services most effectively. As a result, Draft Recommendations referring to combining parish areas recommended *merging* of parish councils to deliver the most effective and convenient local governance. However, respondents were invited to consider the alternatives (remaining separate or grouping) in making their response to the consultation. These Final Recommendations take those responses into account.

Final Recommendations

- 3.38 This section of the report is split into two sections.
- 3.39 The first provides a list of all parish areas, along with the headline change included in the Draft Recommendations (either no change, change in the number of councillors only, or more substantive changes). This also details the changes in numbers of parish councillors. The same table sets out a summary of responses received, and the resulting Final Recommendation.
- 3.40 The second sets out proposals for parish areas where more substantial changes were initially proposed.

SECTION ONE | Index of parish areas

Parish: Ward	Electorate		Current cllrs	Draft Recommendations	Responses to consultation	Final Recommendations
	2024	2031				
Ainstable: Ainstable	337	337	7	Change to 5 Cllrs as per NALC.	6 responses (4 from Parish Councillors, 1 from the PC, 1 from a resident) all opposed to the change. Respondents feel the current arrangements are effective and represent the distinct local communities.	No change from current arrangements.
Ainstable: Croglin	134	134	4	Change to 2 Cllrs as per NALC.		
Aldingham: North	408	408	3	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Aldingham: South	538	538	5			
Allithwaite & Cartmel: Allithwaite	1018	1018	6	See section 2K.		
Allithwaite & Cartmel: Cartmel with Upper Holker	483	483	5			
Alston Moor: Alston	1045	1073	8	No response. Change to 6 Cllrs per NALC.	3 responses, all opposed to the reductions. Whilst one suggested a different mix, the PC provided a detailed submission explaining why they needed to retain the current number and arrangement of parish councillors. As local views, including those of the PC, are integral to a CGR, no changes are proposed in the final recommendations.	No change from current arrangements.
Alston Moor: Garrigill	229	229	3	Change to 1 Cllrs per NALC.		
Alston Moor: Nenthead	363	371	4	Change to 2 Cllrs per NALC.		
Appleby: Appleby	975	1192	8	No response. Change to 5 Cllrs per NALC.	6 responses, including from the Town Council. All opposed the proposed change, citing representation and the current effectiveness of the existing arrangements.	No change from current arrangements.
Appleby: Bongate	1555	1555	8	Change to 6 Cllrs per NALC.		

Parish: Ward	Electorate		Current cllrs	Draft Recommendations	Responses to consultation	Final Recommendations
	2024	2031				
Arnside	1920	1933	8	Change Councillors to 11 Request made by PC prior to CGR to increase from 8 to 11. NALC guidance would be 9, but local knowledge from the PC is paramount. No response during the consultation.	No responses received. Given the original request was made by the PC, this remains the Final Recommendation.	Change Councillors to 11.
Asby	272	272	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Askam & Ireleth	2723	2886	8	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Askham	260	267	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Bampton	232	232	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Bandleyside: Colby	112	112	3	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Bandleyside: Hoff	147	147	3			
Bandleyside: Ormside	118	118	3			
Barbon	201	206	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Barrow: Barrow Island	1621	1638	1	No response. Change from 21 to 25 Cllrs in total. No change for this ward.	2 responses, both from existing Town Councillors. One felt no change from current arrangements were needed. The other expressed a need for an increase in Roosecote from 2 to 3 councillors.	Given the responses received, the relatively recent implementation of the current warding arrangement, the lack of support for a change from the TC, and the fact that the current arrangement gives better electoral equality than the alternatives proposed, the final recommendation is for no change to the current arrangements.
Barrow: Central	2685	3328	2	No change.		
Barrow: Hawcoat	4197	4391	2	Change to 3 Cllrs per NALC.		
Barrow: Hindpool	4065	4179	2	No change.		
Barrow: Newbarns	4550	4565	2	Change to 3 Cllrs per NALC.		
Barrow: Ormsgill	4114	4181	2	No change.		
Barrow: Parkside	4118	4182	2	No change.		
Barrow: Risedale	4381	4387	2	Change to 3 Cllrs per NALC.		
Barrow: Roosecote	3845	3992	2	No change.		
Barrow: Walney North	4279	4347	2	Change to 3 Cllrs per NALC.		
Barrow: Walney South	3992	3992	2	No change.		
Barton & Pooley Bridge	144	149	5	See section 2A.		
Beetham: East	605	605	4	See section 2J.		
Beetham: West	849	849	5			
Blawith & Subberthwaite	139	139	5	See section 2E.		
Bolton	394	421	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.

Parish: Ward	Electorate		Current cllrs	Draft Recommendations	Responses to consultation	Final Recommendations
	2024	2031				
Brough	630	639	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Brough Sowerby Parish Meeting	113	113	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Brougham	214	214	5	See section 2F.		
Broughton East	177	177	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Burneside: Strickland Ketel	855	855	7	No change	Burneside Parish Council support no change, and commented they are happy no changes were proposed affecting the parish.	No changes.
Burneside: Strickland Roger	368	368	4			
Burton-in-Kendal	1246	1248	9	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Cartmel Fell	235	309	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Casterton	254	254	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Castle Sowerby	289	289	9	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Catterlen	326	342	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Claife: Lower	143	143	3	No change	Local Member responded, supporting ‘no change’.	No changes.
Claife: Upper	76	76	3			
Clifton	546	548	7	See section 2F.		
Colton: Central	174	174	3	See section 2B.		
Colton: East	174	174	3			
Colton: West	246	246	3			
Coniston	671	671	7	See section 2M.		
Crackenthorpe Parish Meeting	86	86	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Crook	248	248	7	The proposal is to formally change (or ensure) the name of the parish is recorded as Crook & Winster.	None	Change the name of the parish of Crook to Crook & Winster.
Crosby Garrett Parish Meeting	116	123	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Crosby Ravensworth	420	425	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Crosthwaite & Lyth	530	530	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Culgaith: Blencarn & Kirkland	129	129	3	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Culgaith: Culgaith	471	472	5			
Culgaith: Skirwith	155	155	2			
Dacre	1154	1272	11			
See section 2A.						

Parish: Ward	Electorate		Current cllrs	Draft Recommendations	Responses to consultation	Final Recommendations		
	2024	2031						
Dalton-with-Newton: Anty Cross <i>Division of the current parish ward between Anty Cross and Newton to take effect from 2027 due to the LGBCE review.</i>	2646	2890	4	Change to 5 Cllrs per NALC	The TC responded, supporting the proposal and noting it gives greater capacity and a more balanced workload for councillors.	Amend number of councillors as set out in the Draft Recommendations: Anty Cross: 5 Newton: 1 Beckside: 4 Dowdales: 3		
Newton			1	No change.				
Dalton-with-Newton: Beckside			1951	2036			3	Change to 4 Cllrs per NALC
Dalton-with-Newton: Dowdales			1466	1520			2	Change to 3 Cllrs per NALC.
Dent	561	564	9	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.		
Docker Parish Meeting	48	48	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.		
Duddon: Angerton	21	21	1	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.		
Duddon: Broughton West	736	765	7					
Duddon: Dunnerdale-with- Seathwaite	96	96	2					
Dufton	164	164	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.		
Egton-with-Newland: Egton-with- Newland	654	701	6	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.		
Egton-with-Newland: Mansriggs	44	44	1					
Egton-with-Newland: Osmotherley	205	205	2					
Firbank Parish Meeting	101	101	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.		
Garsdale	172	172	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.		
Glassonby: Gamblesby	158	158	5	No changes proposed.	PC responded, supporting ‘no change’.	No changes		
Glassonby: Glassonby	94	94	4					
Grange: North	1760	1760	4	See section 2C.				
Grange: South	1674	1807	4					
Grange: West	187	187	1					
Grayrigg Parish Meeting	182	182	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.		
Great Salkeld	377	386	8	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.		
Great Strickland	179	179	5	See section 2D.				
Greystoke: Greystoke	507	519	6	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.		
Greystoke: Johnby	64	64	1					
Greystoke: Little Blencowe	49	49	1					
Hartley Parish Meeting	114	114	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.		

Parish: Ward	Electorate		Current cllrs	Draft Recommendations	Responses to consultation	Final Recommendations
	2024	2031				
Haverthwaite	611	696	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Hawkshead: Fieldhead	122	122	3	No changes proposed.	PC responded, supporting 'no change'.	No changes
Hawkshead: Hawkshead	277	282	4			
Helbeck Parish Meeting	9	9	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Helsington	258	258	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Hesket: Armathwaite	938	938	5	Change in wards The PC would like to change from 3 wards to 5 (each with 2 councillors as per NALC): Armathwaite; Calthwaite; Hesket (to include High and Low Hesket); Plumpton; and Southwaite (to include Ivegill)	11 responses, 1 of which support the proposal. The other 10 (including the PC) support five wards, but suggest they should each have 3 Councillors	Change from 3 wards to 5 (each with 3 councillors): Armathwaite; Calthwaite; Hesket (to include High and Low Hesket); Plumpton; and Southwaite (to include Ivegill)
Hesket: Calthwaite	777	783	5			
Hesket: Southwaite	457	457	5			
Heversham	543	553	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Hincaster Parish Meeting	179	199	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Holme	1190	1190	7	See section 2J.		
Hunsonby	384	388	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Hutton	348	357	9	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Hutton Roof	169	169	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Kaber Parish Meeting	86	86	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Kendal: Castle	1748	1748	2	See section 2H.		
Kendal: Fell	1731	1731	2			
Kendal: Heron Hill	2985	3265	4			
Kendal: Highgate	1754	2037	2			
Kendal: Kirkland	2950	2950	4			
Kendal: Mintsfeet	1553	1600	2			
Kendal: Nether	3395	3395	4			
Kendal: Oxenholme	1211	1211	1			
Kendal: Stonecross	2240	2291	3			
Kendal: Strickland	3299	3639	4			
Kentmere Parish Meeting	86	86	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Killington Parish Meeting	157	157	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
King's Meaburn Parish Meeting	121	121	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.

Parish: Ward	Electorate		Current cllrs	Draft Recommendations	Responses to consultation	Final Recommendations
	2024	2031				
Kirkby Ireleth: Heathlands	200	200	2	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Kirkby Ireleth: Lower Quarter	579	644	6			
Kirkby Ireleth: Middle Quarter	201	201	3			
Kirkby Lonsdale	1585	1622	9	See section 2I.		
Kirkby Stephen	1532	1579	9	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Kirkby Thore	516	516	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Kirkoswald: Kirkoswald	468	468	8	No response. Change to 5 Cllrs per NALC.	The PC responded, and oppose the proposed reduction for a number of reasons set out in their response.	No changes to current arrangements.
Kirkoswald: Renwick	208	208	4	Change to 2 Cllrs per NALC.		
Lakes: Ambleside	1876	1924	6	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Lakes: Grasmere	489	489	3			
Lakes: Langdales	234	234	3			
Lakes: Rydal & Loughrigg	171	171	2			
Lakes: Troutbeck	232	232	2			
Lambrigg Parish Meeting	73	73	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Langwathby: Edenhall	147	147	4	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Langwathby: Langwathby	487	500	6			
Lazonby	874	962	10	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Levens	979	979	8	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Lindal & Marton	558	614	5	See section 2L.		
Lindale & Newton-in-Cartmel: Lindale	523	523	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Lindale & Newton-in-Cartmel: High Newton	148	148	2			
Little Strickland Parish Meeting	68	68	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Longsleddale Parish Meeting	67	67	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Long Marton: Brampton	144	144	2	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Long Marton: Knock	101	101	2			
Long Marton: Long Marton	339	339	3			
Lower Holker	1481	1640	7	See section 2K.		
Lowick	198	198	5	See section 2E.		

Parish: Ward	Electorate		Current cllrs	Draft Recommendations	Responses to consultation	Final Recommendations
	2024	2031				
Lowther	346	384	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Lupton	135	135	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Mallerstang Parish Meeting	94	94	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Mansergh Parish Meeting	114	114	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Martindale Parish Meeting	36	36	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Matterdale	323	323	12	Change to 7 Cllrs per NALC.	The PC provided a detailed response, advocating for retaining 12 councillors to ensure local representation across the wide geographic area and to meet the needs of the local community.	No changes to current arrangements.
Melmerby	194	194	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Middleton Parish Meeting	95	95	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Milburn	148	148	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Milnthorpe	1616	1843	9	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Morland	320	328	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Mungrisdale	248	248	9	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Murton	283	283	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Musgrave	126	126	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Nateby Parish Meeting	103	106	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Natland	882	1050	7	See section 2H.		
Newbiggin Parish Meeting	77	84	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Newby Parish Meeting	135	135	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
New Hutton	289	289	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Old Hutton & Holmescales	336	336	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Orton	494	497	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Ousby	203	203	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Patterdale	348	362	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Pennington: Pennington	328	328	2	See section 2L.		
Pennington: Swarthmoor	1238	1494	5			

Parish: Ward	Electorate		Current cllrs	Draft Recommendations	Responses to consultation	Final Recommendations
	2024	2031				
Penrith: Carleton	2108	2334	2	See section 2G.		
Penrith: East	2413	2639	3			
Penrith: North	3416	4158	4			
Penrith: Pategill	940	940	1			
Penrith: South	1972	1983	2			
Penrith: West	2247	2247	3			
Preston Patrick	330	339	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Preston Richard	1110	1161	8	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Ravenstonedale	465	465	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Satterthwaite	154	154	5	See section 2B.		
Sedbergh	1824	2008	11	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Sedgwick	296	296	6	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Selside and Fawcett Forest Parish Meeting	192	192	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Shap: Shap	991	1040	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Shap: Shap Rural	98	98	3			
Skelsmergh & Scalthwaiterigg: Scalthwaiterigg	91	91	2	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Skelsmergh & Scalthwaiterigg: Skelsmergh	278	278	5			
Skelton: Hutton-in-the-Forest	119	119	2	See section 2N.		
Skelton: Ivegill	257	257	4			
Skelton: Laithes	41	41	1			
Skelton: Lamonby	117	117	1			
Skelton: Skelton	360	360	7			
Skelwith	108	108	5	See section 2M.		
Sleagill Parish Meeting	90	90	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Sockbridge & Tirril	356	400	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Soulby	164	164	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Stainmore	247	247	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Stainton	259	259	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Staveley-in-Cartmel	361	361	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.

Parish: Ward	Electorate		Current cllrs	Draft Recommendations	Responses to consultation	Final Recommendations
	2024	2031				
Staveley-with-Ings: Hugill	361	361	4	Merge the three wards to create a single unwarded parish served by 12 councillors.	None received, although the original suggestion was made by the PC.	Merge the three wards to create a single unwarded parish served by 12 councillors.
Staveley-with-Ings: Nether Staveley	603	666	4			
Staveley-with-Ings: Over Staveley	408	408	4			
Tebay	627	664	9	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Temple Sowerby	385	485	5	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Threlkeld	354	354	9	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Torver	123	123	5	See section 2M.		
Ulverston: Central	1438	1651	3	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Ulverston: East	1798	1822	3			
Ulverston: North	1587	1819	3			
Ulverston: South	1550	1922	3			
Ulverston: Town	1495	1495	3			
Ulverston: West	1541	1591	3			
Underbarrow & Bradleyfield	294	394	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Urswick, Bardsea & Stainton: Bardsea	282	282	2	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Urswick, Bardsea & Stainton: Stainton	196	196	1			
Urswick, Bardsea & Stainton: Urswick	647	701	5			
Waitby Parish Meeting	51	51	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Warcop	431	444	7	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Wharton Parish Meeting	31	31	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Whinfell Parish Meeting	155	155	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.

Parish: Ward	Electorate		Current cllrs	Draft Recommendations	Responses to consultation	Final Recommendations
	2024	2031				
Windermere & Bowness: Applethwaite	1185	1595	4	Reduction in numbers of parish councillors: Applethwaite (4) Bowness North (4) Bowness South (3) Town (4).	The PC support this change. One local resident felt Bowness South should have the same number of councillors as other wards; however, the number of councillors is based on the electorate so a lower number is appropriate to deliver electoral equality.	Reduction in numbers of parish councillors: Applethwaite (4) Bowness North (4) Bowness South (3) Town (4).
Windermere & Bowness: Bowness North	1731	1738	6			
Windermere & Bowness: Bowness South	1265	1266	4			
Windermere & Bowness: Town	1547	1547	6			
Winton Parish Meeting	188	188	PM	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Witherslack, Meathop & Ulpha: Meathop & Ulpha	122	122	2	No changes proposed.	None	No changes.
Witherslack, Meathop & Ulpha: Witherslack	395	395	5			
Yanwath & Eamont Bridge	404	404	5	See section 2F. See section 2G.		



2A	Barton & Pooley Bridge and Dacre
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Draft Recommendations

- (1) Amend the boundary between Barton & Pooley Bridge and Dacre parishes, following the B5320 from Pooley Bridge to the junction with the A592, then running out to the current boundary as shown in the map below.
- (2) Reduce the number of parish councillors for Dacre to 8.
- (3) Following the review, request the LGBCE make consequential amendments to the Westmorland & Furness ward to match the new parish arrangements.

Consultation responses

Dacre parish council's submission supported the proposals, noting they made the request for change in the first round of consultation. No other responses were received.

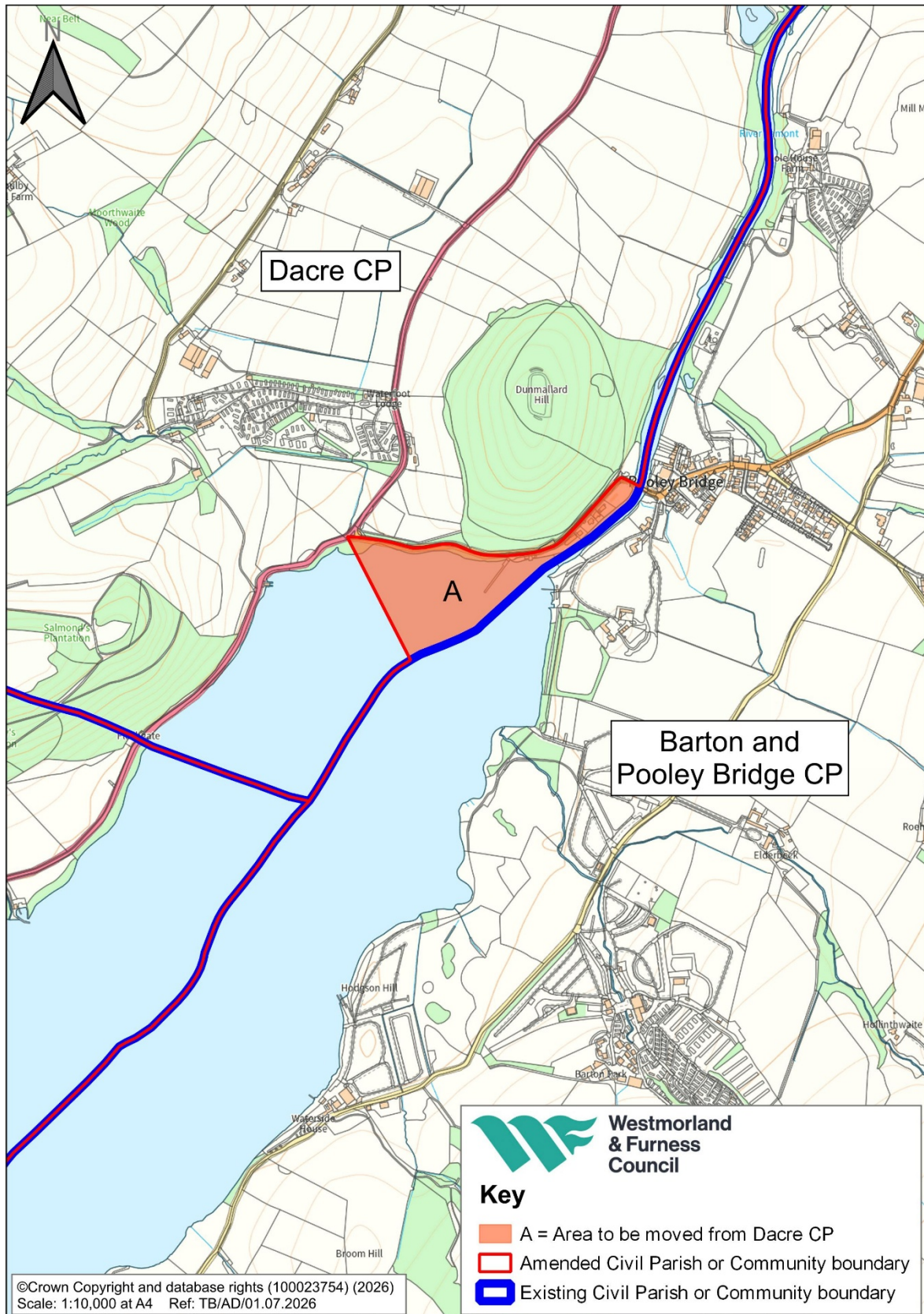
Considerations

The change in parish boundary is supported by both affected parish councils, and previous representation by local people indicates broad support. The affected properties look to Pooley Bridge, just across the water, for local services and support when required; the remainder of the community of Dacre is some distance away from these properties.

Final Recommendations

- (1) Amend the boundary between Barton & Pooley Bridge and Dacre parishes, following the B5320 from Pooley Bridge to the junction with the A592, then running out to the current boundary as shown in the map below. The affected area is labelled A in the map below.
- (2) Reduce the number of parish councillors for Dacre to 8.
- (3) Following the review, request the LGBCE make consequential amendments to the Westmorland & Furness ward to match the new parish arrangements.

Number of registered local government electors in affected area: 0



Draft Recommendations

- (1) Merge **Colton** and **Satterthwaite** parishes into a single parish council, served by two parish wards: Colton (5 councillors) and Satterthwaite (2 councillors).

Consultation responses

A total of 29 responses were received in respect of Colton (1 from a local business, 27 from local residents, 1 from Colton PC). Of these, 14 (including the PC) were opposed to the recommendation; 8 supported it; the remainder were 'not sure'.

Those opposed expressed that they felt the new parish would be too big, that the parishes have different needs and identities, and that the two parishes are not closely aligned (suggesting Colton was more alike to Lowick than Satterthwaite). Those in support largely mentioned the challenges of recruiting parish councillors, which a combined council would help resolve. The PC stated "Our response to the first consultation was that we wished to 'explore the options' for merger and grouping. We have now done this and consulted with our local community."

A further 22 responses in respect of Satterthwaite were received (1 from a parish councillor, 1 from the parish council, and the rest from local residents). 5 respondents support the proposal, with 16 (including the PC) opposed. The PC response from both parishes was similar, noting both parishes wish to continue to work collaboratively, but not merge.

In addition, a letter signed by 39 local residents set out their reasons for opposing a merger of the two parishes.

Considerations

Whilst there is some support for merger, the majority of respondents (including both parish councils) are opposed to it. In addition, the submissions clearly set out how the two parishes are distinct and that local representation and support is better delivered by keeping the two parishes separate.

Final Recommendations

- (1) No change for **Colton** and **Satterthwaite** parishes.

Draft Recommendations

- (1) Remove the parish wards for Grange PC, resulting in one unwarded parish, served by 9 councillors.

Consultation responses

No responses were received. However, the parish council originally requested that the parish wards be abolished. The parish wards were based on historic county boundaries (no longer in force) and there is no longer a requirement for them.

Considerations

The PC is best placed to make suggestions of this nature, and where parish wards no longer serve the local community, there is no reason to retain them. Whilst no responses were received, the PC previously requested this change.

Final Recommendations

- (1) Remove the parish wards for Grange PC, resulting in one unwarded parish, served by 9 councillors.

Draft Recommendations

- (1) Dissolve Great Strickland parish council and replace with Great Strickland Parish Meeting.

Consultation responses

A total of 30 responses were received, all from local residents.

Three respondents support the dissolution of the parish council. These highlighted the increase in cost associated with employing a parish clerk (although one felt this was due to Westmorland & Furness rules, which is not the case), and the difficulty in recruiting parish councillors. Those opposed emphasised the need for local representation, and for local democracy, and highlighted the number of new developments proposed that will need a local voice to ensure the views of the community are heard.

Considerations

Whilst the initial proposal to dissolve the parish council was initiated by the PC, they have not responded to this consultation. The majority of respondents do not support the proposal, and highlight the value they place on the parish. CALC have also indicated that they feel the parish remains viable and do not support a dissolution.

The proposal is therefore not taken forward, given the responses from residents.

However, it is important that local people stand as future parish councillors to ensure local representation can continue to serve the local community.

Final Recommendations

- (1) No changes to Great Strickland.

Draft Recommendations

- (1) Merge Blawith & Subberthwaite and Lowick into a single parish council, served by two parish wards: Blawith (3 councillors) and Lowick (4 councillors).
- (2) Name the new parish council Lowick & Blawith.

Consultation responses

A total of 8 responses were received in respect of Blawith & Subberthwaite, and 12 in respect of Lowick.

From Blawith & Subberthwaite, 6 respondents (all local residents) support the proposal. They felt the proximity of the two parishes and the similarity between them was conducive to merging them, noting the challenge of recruiting and retaining parish councillors for two small parishes. One respondent said “The draft recommendations to consolidate local services are a logical development”. The PC were opposed to the proposal, as was the local Westmorland & Furness Councillor; both responses support *grouping* of the parishes rather than merging them.

From Lowick, 8 respondents (all local residents) support the proposal; 1 was not sure; and two respondents (the PC and local Westmorland & Furness Councillor) were opposed. Respondents in favour of the proposal highlighted the challenges of recruiting parish councillors, the change in demographics, the growth in second homes, lack of representation, and the benefits of economy of scale by merging parishes. The PC and local Member both stated the two parishes with to *group* rather than merge.

Considerations

Whilst both parish councils and the local Member stated “The parishes wish to GROUP not to merge”, they gave no reasoning for that position. The table below summarises the key differences between merging and grouping of parishes. Both merging and grouping allow for a reduction in the number of councillors overall, and both can retain local identities and representation. The key differences are that assets in grouped parishes are separate; in a merged parish there is an opportunity for economies of scale (such as one officer/clerk, rather than two separate roles). However, in practical terms, it is harder to ‘undo’ a merger than grouping.

On the basis that the majority of those supporting combination of the two parishes have said that reducing the total number of parish councillors is a key consideration, and given the two PCs themselves prefer grouping to merging, the Final Recommendation is to *group* the two parishes. In future, there is scope that a further CGR could support merger of the two parishes (or, indeed de-grouping into separate parishes again) as needed. The requirement for naming of a grouped parish (a Common Parish Council) is that all the constituent parish names are included within it.

Aspect	Merging parishes	Grouping parishes
Legal status of current parishes	Abolished	Retained
Number of parish councils	One new council	One shared council
Parish identities	Combined into one, but maintained through parish wards	Kept separate
Parish meetings	One	Separate for each parish
Assets, staff, liabilities	Fully combined	Remain attributable to individual parishes
Typical use	Where communities function as a single place	Where identities remain distinct but shared governance is helpful
Number of councillors	At least 5, with at least 1 per parish ward.	At least 5, with at least 1 per parish and parish ward.
Naming of the parish	Any suitable name can be used.	The common parish council must include the names of all the parishes within the group.

Final Recommendations

- (1) Group Blawith & Subberthwaite and Lowick parish councils, and amend the number of parish councillors: Blawith (3 councillors) and Lowick (4 councillors).
- (2) Name the grouped parish council 'The parish council of Lowick and Blawith & Subberthwaite'.

Draft Recommendations

- (1) Amend the boundary between **Clifton** and **Brougham**, such that the entire Clifton Dykes community is included in Clifton parish.
- (2) Following the review, request the LGBCE make consequential amendments to the Westmorland & Furness ward to match the new parish arrangements.
- (3) Change the number of parish councillors for **Clifton** to 5.

Consultation responses

Brougham Parish Council advised that they have consulted with local affected residents, and all are opposed (as is the Parish Council) to the proposed boundary change (draft recommendations 1 and 2 above).

No response was received from Clifton parish council.

Considerations

Given the opposition from Brougham PC and local residents, the proposal to amend the boundary is not taken forward.

There has been no response to the proposal to reduce the number of parish councillors for Clifton, from 7 to 5, and this therefore is included in the Final Recommendations.

Final Recommendations

- (1) Change the number of parish councillors for **Clifton** to 5.

Draft Recommendations

- (1) Amend the boundary between **Penrith** and **Yanwath & Eamont Bridge** such that the residential area north of the river becomes part of Yanwath & Eamont Bridge.
- (2) Change the number of parish councillors for **Penrith** to 17 in total, serving six wards: Carleton (3), East (3), North (5), Pategill (1), South (2), West (3).

Consultation responses

A total of 3 responses were received regarding Penrith, including one from the parish council, one from a community group, and one from a local resident. All support the proposals set out in the Draft Recommendations. Penrith Town Council advised that they understand Yanwath & Eamont Bridge PC also support the change.

The community group highlighted their submission to the previous consultation which suggested creating new smaller parish councils in place of Penrith, although noted this was not part of the Draft Recommendations adopted by Westmorland & Furness Council. They did, however, suggest alternative town council ward names to avoid confusion given the current names mirror those of Westmorland & Furness but represent different geographic areas:

“amending of the ward naming should be considered to reflect the community served in each ward.

Carleton and Pategill are appropriately reflected in the ward names, but the rest of Penrith has an identity crisis added to by the ward names of the unitary councils.

With Penrith North and Penrith South used by the unitary council ward names between them covering all six town council wards leaving residents confused over the ward they are in. With Penrith West for the town council in Penrith South for the unitary council ward as an example. [We] propose that the town council ward names be amended to reflect the community served.

Penrith North – Rasilands [sic] and Beacon

Penrith East – Scaws

Carlton – Carleton (Unchanged)

Pategill – Pategill (Unchanged)

Penrith South – Wetheriggs

Penrith West – Casteltown [sic] and Brunswick”

Two responses from Yanwath & Eamont Bridge were received, both supporting the proposed boundary change. One highlighted “Your red boundary should extend up to the south side of the A66 to include the Toll Bar Cottage, as it is the only private property not included in the proposed change.”

In terms of the proposal to change the number of councillors, only Penrith TC responded and they support the proposal, including the proposed ward names.

Considerations

The proposed boundary change appears to be supported by local residents and the affected local councils. During times of an emergency, both councils can of course continue to provide support to local residents but focusing efforts through a single

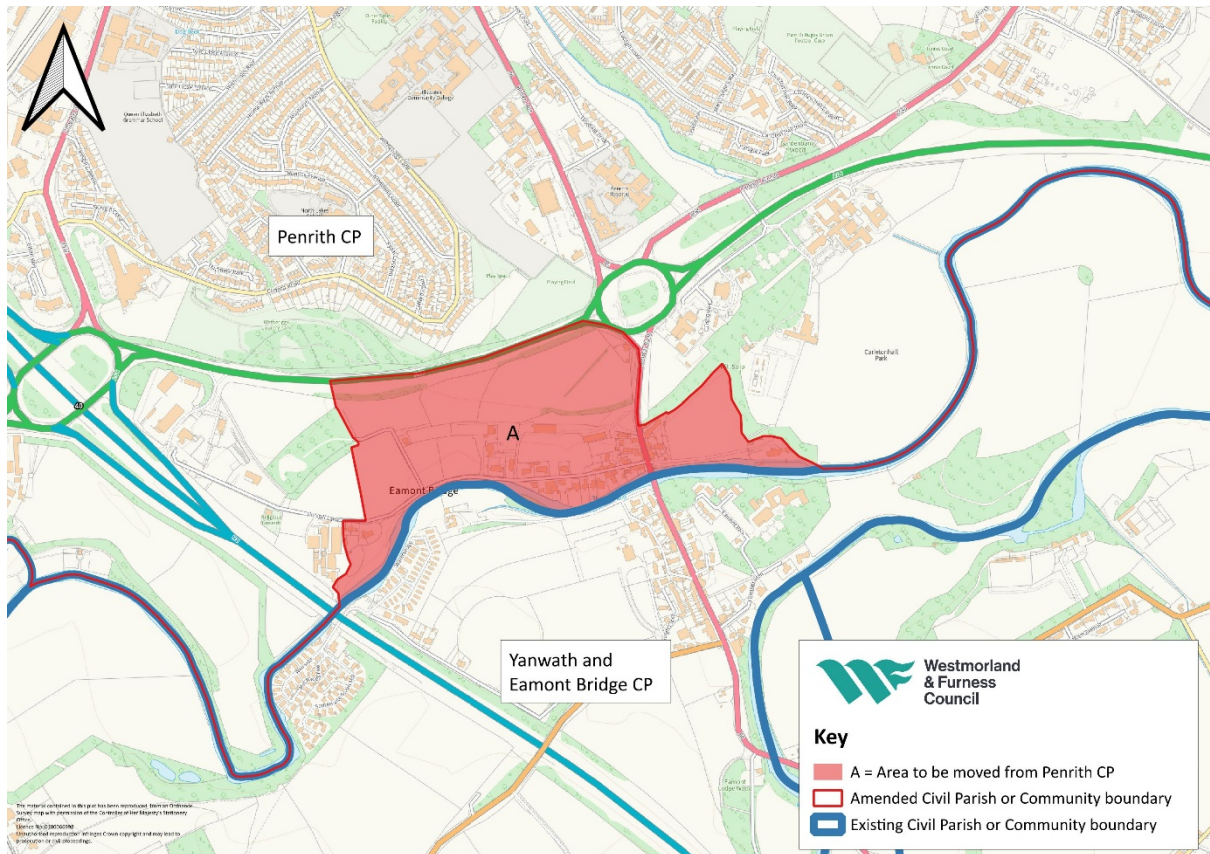
united parish council reflects the identities and interests of residents. The suggestion to extend the boundary north to the A66 to include the one remaining potentially affected property appears to make sense. Officers and Members have reviewed the current A66 road development plans, and note the property will be unoccupied for the duration of the works before returning to residential use. Once the development is complete, leaving the single property within Penrith would result in it being isolated from the rest of the community. The address on the council's address and mapping (GIS) system is also 'Eamont Bridge'. On this basis, to ensure the parish boundaries reflect the identities and interests of the local communities, and remain effective and convenient, the boundary is proposed to be extended northwards to include Toll Bar Cottage, up to the newly developed A66 route.

Whilst significant changes should not be introduced through the Final Recommendations without prior consultation, amending ward names and adjusting prior proposals is an appropriate way for a CGR to develop. However, Penrith TC indicated support for the names in the Draft Recommendations, and local Members have indicated that the proposed alternatives do not fully represent the communities including (for example) one or two estates rather than the broader community that reflects the full ward area. Therefore, no amendments to the Penrith TC ward names are proposed.

Final Recommendations

- (1) Amend the boundary between **Penrith** and **Yanwath & Eamont Bridge** such that the residential area north of the river becomes part of Yanwath & Eamont Bridge, including all residential properties up to the A66 on the west of the A6. The affected area is labelled B on the map below.
- (2) Change the number of parish councillors for **Penrith** to 17 in total, serving six wards: Carleton (3), East (3), North (5), Pategill (1), South (2), West (3).

Number of registered local government electors in affected area: 85



Draft Recommendations

- (1) Adjust the boundary between **Kendal** and **Natland** such that Rochester Gardens and Castlestead Close such that both move to Kendal.
- (2) Revise the Town Council ward names for **Kendal** as follows:
 - a. Mintsfeet (2 councillors)
 - b. Sandylands (3 councillors)
 - c. Castle (3 councillors)
 - d. Heron Hill (3 councillors)
 - e. Strickland (4 councillors)
 - f. Fell (2 councillors)
 - g. Highgate (2 councillors)
 - h. Kirkland (2 councillors)
 - i. Oxenholme & Parks (3 councillors)
 - j. Stonecross (2 councillors)
 - k. Kendal South (2 councillors)

Consultation responses

One response was received in respect of Kendal, supporting the proposal citing better representation.

A total of 10 responses were received in respect of Natland, of which 5 support the proposals, 4 were against and 1 (Natland Parish Council) was unsure citing the need to hear from local people rather than the PC. Those supporting the change felt it made sense rather than having a few properties separate from the majority in the development; some noted the demographics of the community “needs the attention of a larger local authority”; some “would like to be back in the parish of Kendal”. However, those opposed (and some of those in favour of the change) noted that residents look to Natland, not Kendal. They feel more affiliated with a rural community and that their interests and identities reflect those of Natland rather than Kendal, and feel supported and part of the Natland community.

Considerations

Where a consultation response is so finely balanced, it is important to look at the details of the submissions. On balance, whilst some residents do look to Kendal, many also feel closely aligned to Natland. Whilst the current boundary cuts through a development, local people feel they are part of the Natland community and Natland parish. Therefore, there is insufficient support for a change in parish boundary.

Although Kendal Town Council have not responded to the consultation, they did propose the ward name changes in the previous round of consultation. These changes are, therefore, taken forward.

Final Recommendations

- (1) Revise the Town Council ward names for **Kendal** as follows:
 - a. Mintsfeet (2 councillors)
 - b. Sandylands (3 councillors)
 - c. Castle (3 councillors)

- d. Heron Hill (3 councillors)
- e. Strickland (4 councillors)
- f. Fell (2 councillors)
- g. Highgate (2 councillors)
- h. Kirkland (2 councillors)
- i. Oxenholme & Parks (3 councillors)
- j. Stonecross (2 councillors)
- k. Kendal South (2 councillors)

The report concerning Draft Recommendations included section 21 regarding Casterton and Kirkby Lonsdale, setting out the submissions received. No Draft Recommendations were made for these two parishes. This section is retained in the Final Recommendations for comparability between Draft and Final Recommendations only.

Draft Recommendations

- (1) Amend the parish boundary for **Beetham**, such that the area east of the railway becomes part of **Holme** parish. Households in the affected area will be consulted directly, as their views are essential in these discussions.
- (2) Remove the parish wards for **Beetham** parish.
- (3) Change the number of parish councillors for **Beetham** to 7.

Consultation responses

9 responses were received from Beetham, with 4 in support and 5 against the proposed boundary change. The PC supported the proposal, which they had originally submitted in the previous consultation. However, whilst some local residents felt this was appropriate (as they are geographically closer to Holme than Beetham), others were strongly opposed. One summarised as “Farleton has been part of Beetham parish for centuries and I can’t see any reason to change that.” Another highlighted, with examples, that the boundary change does not reflect the identities and interests of the local community. Others felt that there was no current issue with the boundaries as they are, but highlighted the increased confusion if changes are made, and felt the change was unnecessary and arbitrary. The PC supported all three proposed changes, noting they have only had 7 councillors for some time, carrying 2 vacancies.

In an email during the consultation, Holme PC stated “Whilst the council agrees that Elmsfield would sit well within Holme Parish, it considers Farleton different in nature to the parish of Holme and believes that Farleton would sit better with Lupton Parish or Preston Patrick Parish. Furthermore, the council would also like to see the boundary with Burton in Kendal Parish redrawn so that all of Holme Mills sits within Holme Parish.”

Considerations

The alternative suggestion from Holme PC has not been consulted upon, and is therefore not proposed to be taken forward in this CGR.

Whilst Beetham PC support the proposed change, there is clearly not unanimity amongst residents, and Holme PC are opposed to the proposal. A boundary change is therefore not in the best interests of the local residents, and is unlikely to reflect the interests and identities of the community.

The proposal to amend the boundary is not supported. However, the two additional draft recommendations are supported by Beetham PC, who are in the best position to advise on them.

Final Recommendations

- (1) Remove the parish wards for **Beetham** parish.
- (2) Change the number of parish councillors for **Beetham** to 7.

Draft Recommendations

- (1) Amend the boundary between **Allithwaite & Cartmel** and **Lower Holker** to follow the railway line, such that the Haven site and Humphrey Head are included in Lower Holker.

Consultation responses

A total of 1 response was received.

This was from Lower Holker PC, and supports the proposed boundary change. They stated “Lower Holker Parish is the sole access to a large caravan site (1,000 caravans) at Haven (marked East Plain on the map). The Haven site is just within Allithwaite & Cartmel Parish, but the impact of any development is primarily on Lower Holker Parish, which is not a consultee on any planning applications. We therefore support its inclusion within Lower Holker Parish as set out in the Draft Recommendation.”

Allithwaite & Cartmel PC did not respond to the consultation.

Considerations

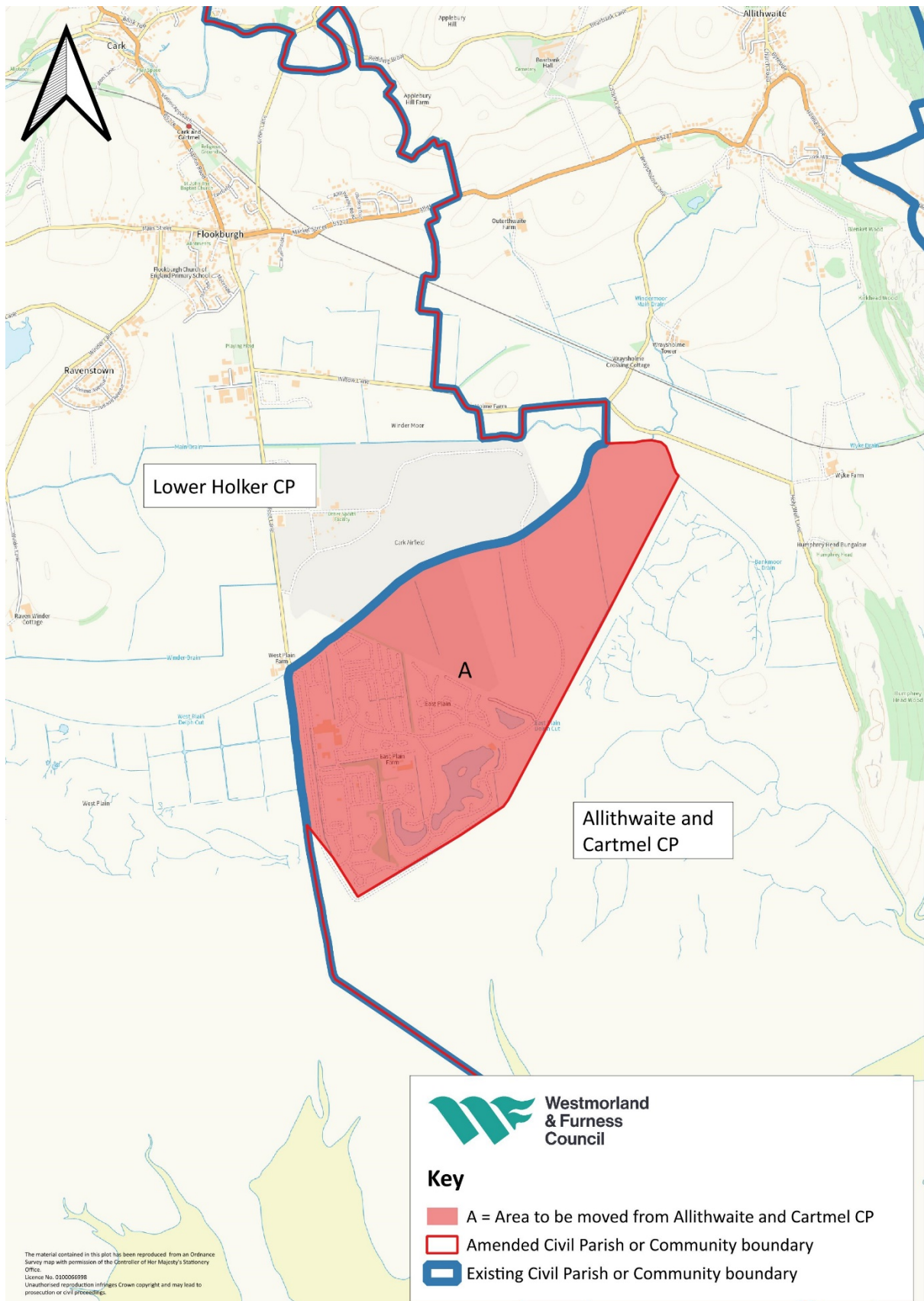
The initial request for this boundary change was made by Lower Holker PC in the previous round of consultation, and again supported by them in this second consultation. No other responses were received, despite all parish and town councils being advised of the CGR consultation.

On the basis of the evidence submitted and case put by Lower Holker PC, and with no submission to the contrary, it appears that the boundary change will provide an improvement in local representation. The access to the Haven site is via Lower Holker, and any development in that area has a direct impact on residents of Lower Holker but not Allithwaite, and this is the main area of concern for the parish council. Having consulted with local residents (some of whom were unaware of the proposals), several are either neutral to the Draft Recommendation or opposed to it; none were supportive, and several felt strongly aligned to Allithwaite. On balance, given the primary area of concern is the Haven site, which sits on the coast and cannot be developed further to the south or east, it appears to be in the best interest of the local communities and reflect the identities and interests of local people to adjust the boundary to a lesser extent. The proposal is therefore to adjust the boundary to include the Haven site and airfield only within Lower Holker.

Final Recommendations

- (1) Amend the boundary between **Allithwaite & Cartmel** and **Lower Holker** to follow the waterways, with area C moving to Lower Holker.

Number of registered local government electors in affected area: 7



Draft Recommendations

- (1) Amend the boundary between **Lindal & Marton** and **Pennington** to the east of the properties on East View and Bank Terrace.
- (2) Following the review, request the LGBCE make consequential amendments to the Westmorland & Furness ward to match the new parish arrangements.

Consultation responses

One response in respect of Lindal & Marton was received, supporting the proposed boundary change. The same response was also received regarding Pennington.

“The current boundary between the Pennington Parish and the Lindal & Marton Parish is outdated, having never been reviewed in recent years, as this previously formed the district boundary between Barrow BC and South Lakeland DC (1974-2023). There are a number of properties which are directly adjacent to Lindal village, in some cases on the same street, which are in different parishes. These properties will inevitably look to Lindal, rather than the distant village of Pennington, for local services.

The current Parish boundary splits down the middle of East View street in Lindal, as the historic boundary from the old Barrow-South Lakeland District Councils (1974-2023), presumably before these houses were built. The homes and residents to the East of East View are undoubtedly part of the village of Lindal, just as the residents who live on the opposite (West) side of the same street are. The residents of Bank Terrace also live close to the village of Lindal, and are actually closer to the village than the sign on the A590 which states “Welcome to Lindal-in-Furness”. Moving the Parish boundary, using Lindal Moor Road, Ulverston Road (A590), and the railway line, as the new boundary would better reflect existing local communities, and give clear lines of demarcation. Any changes should obviously consult the affected properties directly for their views.”

Residents of the affected properties were consulted directly. No response from the affected householders was received; no response from either parish council was received.

Considerations

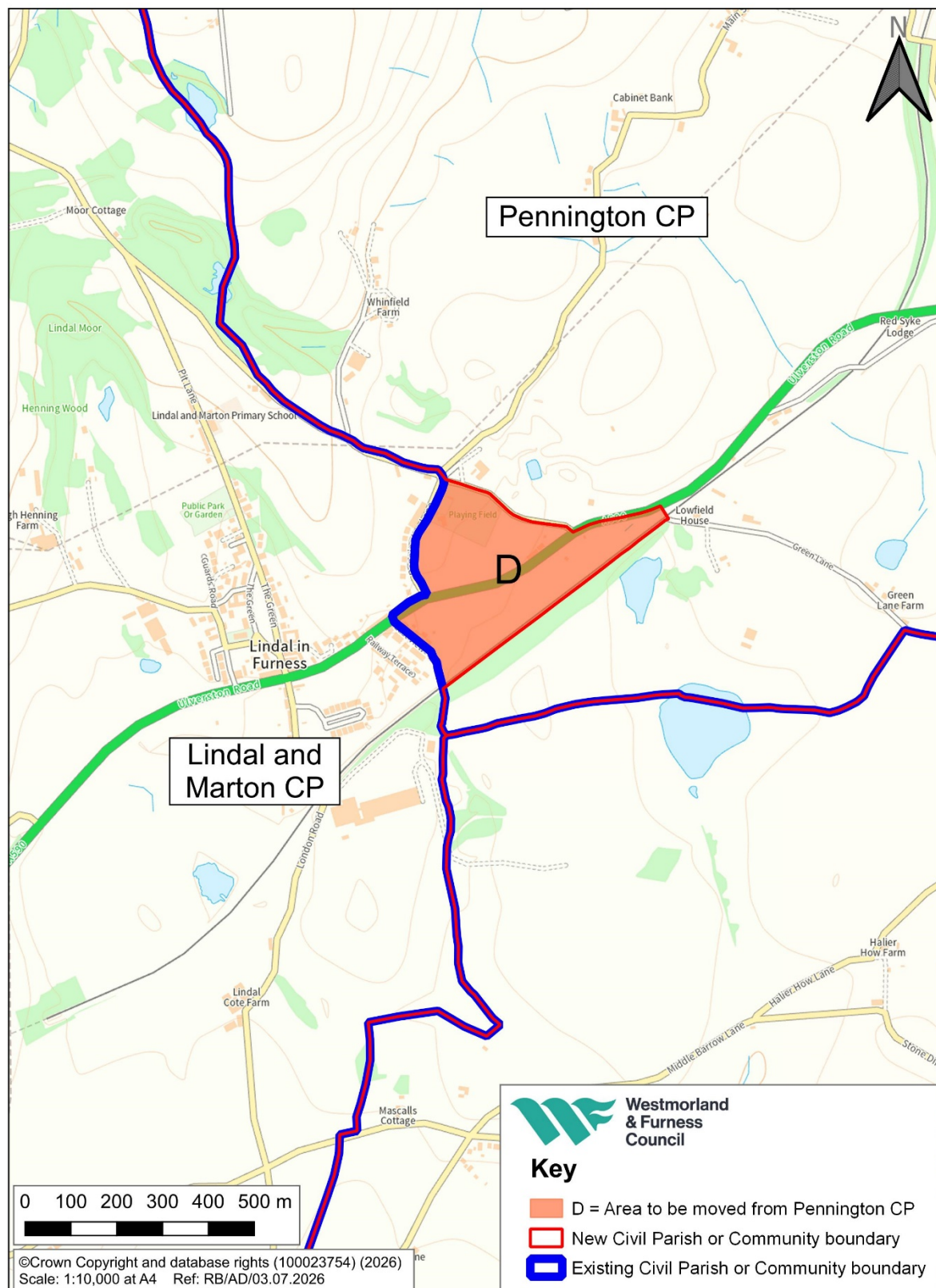
The boundary currently splits a road along a historic boundary, resulting in neighbours being in different parishes. This historic boundary is no longer relevant to the community. Amending the boundaries reflects the identities and interests of the affected communities, and leads to improved efficiency and effectiveness of local governance as the current boundary causes confusion and divides communities.

Final recommendations

- (1) Amend the boundary between **Lindal & Marton** and **Pennington** to the east of the properties on East View and Bank Terrace. The area labelled D moves to Lindal & Marton.
- (2) Following the review, request the LGBCE make consequential amendments to the Westmorland & Furness ward to match the new parish arrangements.

Number of registered local government electors in affected area: 16

Community Governance Review: Pennington parish and Lindal & Marton parish



Draft Recommendations

- (1) Merge **Coniston** and **Skelwith** and **Torver** into a single parish council, served by three parish wards: Coniston (5 councillors), Skelwith (2 councillors) and Torver (2 councillors).
- (2) Name the new parish council **Coniston, Skelwith & Torver**.

Consultation responses

A total of 25 responses were received in respect of Coniston. 5 supported the proposal, 4 were unsure, and 16 were opposed. The parish council were opposed to the merger. Respondents set out how Skelwith has little in common with Coniston, with separate identities and interests and foresaw no benefits of a merger. Some respondents supported amalgamating with Torver, but not Skelwith.

A total of 11 responses were received in respect of Skelwith. Of these, 4 supported the proposal and 6 were opposed. Those supporting a merger prefer a merger with Lakes parish, not Coniston, which was not part of this consultation. Skelwith PC oppose the proposed merger, although the original suggestion was made by them.

A total of 14 responses were received in respect of Torver. 2 of these support the proposal, 1 was unsure and 14 were opposed. Supporters felt merging of assets and services would deliver improved services and representation. Those opposed felt the areas did not share sufficient identity or interest with each other.

Considerations

On balance, respondents appear to favour no change to these parishes and do not, on the whole, support it being combined with other parishes.

Final Recommendations

- (1) No changes for **Coniston** and **Skelwith** and **Torver**.

Draft Recommendations

- (1) Change the number of parish councillors for **Skelton** to 8 as follows: Hutton-in-the-Forest ward (1 councillor), Ivegill ward (2 councillors), Laithes ward (1 councillor), Lamonby ward (1 councillor) and Skelton ward (3 councillors).

Consultation responses

The parish council responded:

“Skelton Parish Council feel that the current recommendation for Councillor numbers is too low. The Parish is a large, rural Parish, covering several localities. It is felt that reducing the number of Councillors to 8 will reduce the Council's ability to serve the residents of the Parish, and reduce the breadth of skills and availability provided by a larger Council. The Council agreed that the minimum number of Councillors to facilitate an effective Council would be 10, with 5 of those representing Skelton ward. If the only options available are 8 or the original 15, the Council would prefer retain the full 15.”

Considerations

There is flexibility in the number of parish councillors, and any number between 8 and 15 is possible – it is not a binary choice. The suggestion from the PC to operate with 10 councillors appears to be appropriate – they currently have 6 vacancies on a 15 person council. Based on electorates by area, the final recommendation is therefore:

- Skelton – 4 Councillors
- Hutton-in-the-Forest – 1 Councillor
- Ivegill – 3 Councillor
- Laithes – 1 Councillor
- Lamonby – 1 Councillor

Draft Recommendations

- (1) Change the number of parish councillors for **Skelton** to 10 as follows: Hutton-in-the-Forest ward (1 councillor), Ivegill ward (3 councillors), Laithes ward (1 councillor), Lamonby ward (1 councillor) and Skelton ward (4 councillors).

SECTION THREE | Summary of changes to recommendations

The table below summarises the changes made between the Draft and Final Recommendations, taking into account the responses to the consultation.

#	Draft Recommendation	Final Recommendation
1	Change the number of parish councillors for Ainstable to 7 as follows: Ainstable ward (5 councillors) and Croglin ward (2 councillors).	No change from current arrangements.
2	Amend the boundary between Allithwaite & Cartmel and Lower Holker to follow the railway line, such that the Haven site and Humphrey Head are included in Lower Holker.	Amend the boundary between Allithwaite & Cartmel and Lower Holker to follow the waterways, such that the Haven site only is included in Lower Holker.
3	Change the number of parish councillors for Alston Moor to 9 as follows: Alston ward (6 councillors), Garrigill ward (1 councillor) and Nenthead ward (2 councillors).	No change from current arrangements.
4	Change the number of parish councillors for Appleby to 11 as follows: Appleby ward (5 councillors), Bongate ward (6 councillors).	No change from current arrangements.
5	Change the number of parish councillors for Arnside to 11.	Change the number of parish councillors for Arnside to 11.
6	Change the number of town councillors for Barrow to 25 as follows: Barrow Island (1 councillor), Central (2 councillors), Hawcoat (3 councillors), Hindpool (2 councillors), Newbarns (3 councillors), Ormsgill (2 councillors), Parkside (2 councillors), Risedale (3 councillors), Roosecote (2 councillors), Walney North (3 councillors), Walney South (2 councillors).	No change from current arrangements.
7	Amend the boundary between Barton & Pooley Bridge and Dacre parishes, following the B5320 from Pooley Bridge to the junction with the A592, then running out to the current boundary. Following the review, request the LGBCE make consequential amendments to the Westmorland & Furness ward to match the new parish arrangements.	Amend the boundary between Barton & Pooley Bridge and Dacre parishes, following the B5320 from Pooley Bridge to the junction with the A592, then running out to the current boundary. Following the review, request the LGBCE make consequential amendments to the Westmorland & Furness ward to match the new parish arrangements.

8a	Amend the parish boundary for Beetham , such that the area east of the railway becomes part of Holme parish.	No change in boundary from current arrangements.
8b	Remove the parish wards for Beetham parish.	Remove the parish wards for Beetham parish.
8c	Change the number of parish councillors for Beetham to 7.	Change the number of parish councillors for Beetham to 7.
9a	Merge Blawith & Subberthwaite and Lowick parish councils, and amend the number of parish councillors: Blawith (3 councillors) and Lowick (4 councillors).	Group Blawith & Subberthwaite and Lowick parish councils, and amend the number of parish councillors: Blawith (3 councillors) and Lowick (4 councillors).
9b	Name the new parish council Lowick & Blawith.	Name the grouped parish council 'The parish council of Lowick and Blawith & Subberthwaite'.
10	Amend the boundary between Clifton and Brougham , such that the entire Clifton Dykes community is included in Clifton parish. Following the review, request the LGBCE make consequential amendments to the Westmorland & Furness ward to match the new parish arrangements.	No change in boundary from current arrangements.
11	Change the number of parish councillors for Clifton to 5.	Change the number of parish councillors for Clifton to 5.
12	Merge Colton and Satterthwaite parishes into a single parish council, served by two parish wards: Colton (5 councillors) and Satterthwaite (2 councillors).	No change from current arrangements.
13a	Merge Coniston and Skelwith and Torver into a single parish council, served by two parish wards: Coniston (5 councillors), Skelwith (2 councillors) and Torver (2 councillors).	No change from current arrangements.
13b	Name the new parish council Coniston, Skelwith & Torver .	No change from current arrangements.
14	Change the name of the parish of Crook to Crook & Winster	Change the name of the parish of Crook to Crook & Winster
15	Change the number of parish councillors for Dacre to 8.	Change the number of parish councillors for Dacre to 8.
16	Change the number of parish councillors for Dalton-with-Newton to 13 as follows: Anty Cross ward (5 councillors), Newton ward (1 councillor), Beckside (4 councillors) and Dowdales ward (2 councillors).	Change the number of parish councillors for Dalton-with-Newton to 13 as follows: Anty Cross ward (5 councillors), Newton ward (1 councillor), Beckside (4 councillors) and Dowdales ward (2 councillors).
17	Remove the parish wards for Grange parish council, resulting in	Remove the parish wards for Grange parish council, resulting in

	one unwarded parish, served by 9 councillors.	one unwarded parish, served by 9 councillors.
18	Dissolve Great Strickland parish council and replace with Great Strickland Parish Meeting.	No change from current arrangements.
19	Remove the parish wards for Hesket parish council, and re-ward with 5 wards each with 2 Councillors (Armathwaite; Calthwaite; Hesket; Plumpton; and Southwaite).	Remove the parish wards for Hesket parish council, and re-ward with 5 wards each with 3 Councillors (Armathwaite; Calthwaite; Hesket; Plumpton; and Southwaite). Warding arrangements for Hesket will follow existing Polling District boundaries and are shown on the map at Appendix 2.
20a	Adjust the boundary between Kendal and Natland such that Rochester Gardens and Castlestead Close such that both move to Kendal.	No change in boundary from current arrangements.
20b	Revise the Town Council ward names for Kendal as follows: a. Mintsfeet (2 councillors) b. Sandylands (3 councillors) c. Castle (3 councillors) d. Heron Hill (3 councillors) e. Strickland (4 councillors) f. Fell (2 councillors) g. Highgate (2 councillors) h. Kirkland (2 councillors) i. Oxenholme & Parks (3 councillors) j. Stonecross (2 councillors) k. Kendal South (2 councillors)	Revise the Town Council ward names for Kendal as follows: a. Mintsfeet (2 councillors) b. Sandylands (3 councillors) c. Castle (3 councillors) d. Heron Hill (3 councillors) e. Strickland (4 councillors) f. Fell (2 councillors) g. Highgate (2 councillors) h. Kirkland (2 councillors) i. Oxenholme & Parks (3 councillors) j. Stonecross (2 councillors) k. Kendal South (2 councillors)
21	Change the number of parish councillors for Kirkoswald to 7 as follows: Kirkoswald ward (5 councillors) and Renwick ward (2 councillors).	No change from current arrangements.
22	Amend the boundary between Lindal & Marton and Pennington to the east of the properties on East View. Following the review, request the LGBCE make consequential amendments to the Westmorland & Furness ward to match the new parish arrangements.	Amend the boundary between Lindal & Marton and Pennington to the east of the properties on East View. Following the review, request the LGBCE make consequential amendments to the Westmorland & Furness ward to match the new parish arrangements.
23	Change the number of parish councillors for Matterdale to 7.	No change from current arrangements.
24a	Amend the boundary between Penrith and Yanwath & Eamont Bridge such that the residential area	Amend the boundary between Penrith and Yanwath & Eamont Bridge such that the residential area

	north of the river becomes part or Yanwath & Eamont Bridge.	north of the river becomes part or Yanwath & Eamont Bridge, including all residential properties up to the A66 on the west of the A6.
24b	Change the number of parish councillors for Penrith to 17 in total, serving six wards: Carleton (3), East (3), North (5), Pategill (1), South (2), West (3).	Change the number of parish councillors for Penrith to 17 in total, serving six wards: Carleton (3), East (3), North (5), Pategill (1), South (2), West (3).
25	Change the number of parish councillors for Skelton to 8 as follows: Hutton-in-the-Forest ward (1 councillor), Ivegill ward (2 councillors), Laithes ward (1 councillor), Lamonby ward (1 councillor) and Skelton ward (3 councillors).	Change the number of parish councillors for Skelton to 10 as follows: Hutton-in-the-Forest ward (1 councillor), Ivegill ward (3 councillors), Laithes ward (1 councillor), Lamonby ward (1 councillor) and Skelton ward (4 councillors).
26	Remove the parish wards for Staveley with Ings parish council, resulting in one unwarded parish, served by 12 councillors.	Remove the parish wards for Staveley with Ings parish council, resulting in one unwarded parish, served by 12 councillors.
27	Change the number of parish councillors for Windermere & Bowness to 15 in total, serving four wards: Applethwaite (4), Bowness North (4), Bowness South (3), Town (4).	Change the number of parish councillors for Windermere & Bowness to 15 in total, serving four wards: Applethwaite (4), Bowness North (4), Bowness South (3), Town (4).

SECTION FOUR | Summary of Final Recommendations

For ease of reference, the table below summarises the Final Recommendations.

Ref	Final Recommendation
FR/1	Amend the boundary between Allithwaite & Cartmel and Lower Holker to follow the waterways, such that the Haven site only is included in Lower Holker.
FR/2	Change the number of parish councillors for Arnside to 11.
FR/3	Amend the boundary between Barton & Pooley Bridge and Dacre parishes, following the B5320 from Pooley Bridge to the junction with the A592, then running out to the current boundary. Following the review, request the LGBCE make consequential amendments to the Westmorland & Furness ward to match the new parish arrangements.
FR/4	Remove the parish wards for Beetham parish.
FR/5	Change the number of parish councillors for Beetham to 7.
FR/6	Group Blawith & Subberthwaite and Lowick parish councils, and amend the number of parish councillors: Blawith (3 councillors) and Lowick (4 councillors).
FR/7	Name the grouped parish council 'The parish council of Lowick and Blawith & Subberthwaite'.
FR/8	Change the number of parish councillors for Clifton to 5.
FR/9	Change the name of the parish of Crook to Crook & Winster
FR/10	Change the number of parish councillors for Dacre to 8.
FR/11	Change the number of parish councillors for Dalton-with-Newton to 13 as follows: Anty Cross ward (5 councillors), Newton ward (1 councillor), Beckside (4 councillors) and Dowdales ward (2 councillors).
FR/12	Remove the parish wards for Grange parish council, resulting in one unwarded parish, served by 9 councillors.
FR/13	Remove the parish wards for Hesket parish council, and re-ward with 5 wards each with 3 Councillors (Armathwaite; Calthwaite; Hesket; Plumpton; and Southwaite). See Appendix 2 for the map of new warding arrangements.
FR/14	Revise the Town Council ward names for Kendal as follows: a. Mintsfeet (2 councillors) b. Sandylands (3 councillors) c. Castle (3 councillors) d. Heron Hill (3 councillors) e. Strickland (4 councillors) f. Fell (2 councillors) g. Highgate (2 councillors) h. Kirkland (2 councillors) i. Oxenholme & Parks (3 councillors) j. Stonecross (2 councillors) k. Kendal South (2 councillors)
FR/15	Amend the boundary between Lindal & Marton and Pennington to the east of the properties on East View. Following the review, request the LGBCE make consequential amendments to the Westmorland & Furness ward to match the new parish arrangements.

FR/16	Amend the boundary between Penrith and Yanwath & Eamont Bridge such that the residential area north of the river becomes part of Yanwath & Eamont Bridge, including all residential properties up to the A66 on the west of the A6.
FR/17	Change the number of parish councillors for Penrith to 17 in total, serving six wards: Carleton (3), East (3), North (5), Pategill (1), South (2), West (3).
FR/18	Change the number of parish councillors for Skelton to 10 as follows: Hutton-in-the-Forest ward (1 councillor), Ivegill ward (3 councillors), Laithes ward (1 councillor), Lamonby ward (1 councillor) and Skelton ward (4 councillors).
FR/19	Remove the parish wards for Staveley with Ings parish council, resulting in one unwarded parish, served by 9 councillors.
FR/20	Change the number of parish councillors for Windermere & Bowness to 15 in total, serving four wards: Applethwaite (4), Bowness North (4), Bowness South (3), Town (4).

Future work

The Final Recommendations include three categories of change:

- (1) Changes to parish/town council boundaries and/or ward boundaries, which were recently amended by the LGBCE through the electoral review of Westmorland & Furness. These boundaries are 'protected' for 5 years following the LGBCE review. Whilst the Council would ordinarily be able to make amendments, during their period of protection the Council must first obtain permission from the LGBCE. Once agreed by Full Council, officers will liaise with the LGBCE to attain this permission prior to the legal Order being made.
- (2) Changes to parish arrangements that require a change to Westmorland & Furness wards to ensure ongoing co-terminosity. Once agreed by Full Council, officers will liaise with the LGBCE to request these consequential changes are put in place.
- (3) Changes to parish arrangements that do not impact on anything put in place by the LGBCE. Once agreed by Full Council, these changes will be entered into the legal Order.

It is anticipated that a single legal Order will be made to cover all aspects of the Final Recommendations, subject to implementation timescales.

4. Link to Council Plan Priorities: (People, Climate, Communities, Economy and Culture, Customers, Workforce)

- 4.1 A CGR ensures that the council meets its Communities priority, by ensuring local representation is effective at a parish and town council level.

5. Consultation Outcomes

- 5.1 The CGR requires public consultation, to ensure the views of parish and town councils and local residents are heard and taken into account in developing the Recommendations.

6. Alternative Options Considered

- 6.1 The Council is not required to amend the parish and town council election cycles, and may prefer to leave them as-is without consultation and without undertaking a CGR. However, this is unlikely to be conducive of effective and convenient local government and will lead to increased costs for both affected parishes and this authority.

7. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 7.1 The Final Recommendations from this CGR will make amendments to parish and town council arrangements, taking local need into account, in line with statutory requirements.

8. Climate and Biodiversity Implications

- 8.1 The CGR has no direct impact on climate or biodiversity.

9. Legal and Governance Implications

- 9.1 The Council, as principal council, has authority to take decisions about parish electoral governance arrangements under Sections 79 and 102(2) the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
- 9.2 Sections 81 – 84 of the said Act cover relevant aspect of the Terms of reference for the review. These are to be the Terms under which the review is to be undertaken and approved by the Council. The Terms must specify the area under review and any modifications to make to them. As per the Guidance, there is no 'one size fits all' approach, nevertheless on general principles, the Terms of reference should set out clearly the matters on which a community governance review is to focus. As soon as practicable after deciding the Terms, they must be published.
- 9.3 Section 102(6) provides (6) The Terms of reference of a community governance review “allow for a community governance petition or community governance application to be considered” if the terms of reference of the review are such that—(a) the area under review includes the whole of the petition area or application area; and (b) the recommendations to be considered by the review include all of the petition's or application's specified recommendations.
- 9.4 Functions relating to Community governance are reserved to Council as referred in the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000.
- 9.5 In accordance with Section 79 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 a Community Governance Review conducted under Section 86 may be for any of the purposes of Sections 87 to 92. Section 98(6) enables an authority to override the provisions of Section 16(3) and Section 90 of the Local Government Act 1972 and Section 36 of the Representation of the People Act 1983, which govern the timing of ordinary elections to a parish council and the term of office of persons elected to fill casual vacancies in a parish council. This is also underlined by the LGBCE Guidance on community governance at paragraphs 31 and 147-152 of the same.

10. Human Resources Implications

- 10.1 There are no direct Human Resources Implications arising from this report.
- 10.2 Due to the specialist nature of undertaking a CGR and the current capacity within electoral and democratic services teams, support for this review has been provided through a consultant from the Association of Electoral Administrators.

11. Financial Implications

- 11.1 The external costs associated with a CGR include specialist support, and the costs associated with the consultation exercise. These costs will be met from the existing elections budget.
- 11.2 It will be necessary to update the Council Tax system to reflect the parish boundary changes in order to produce the correct Council Taxbases for precept setting purposes.

12. Equality and Diversity Implications (including the public sector equality duty, Armed Forces Veterans, Care Experienced, Rurality, and Socio-Economic Inequalities implications)

- 12.1 The CGR has no direct impact on equality and diversity matters. Combining election cycles following a CGR should reduce confusion, benefitting all members of society.

13. Risk Implications

- 13.1 There is a potential risk areas related to this CGR if due process is not followed openly, transparently and in accordance with the legislation - there is a risk that a Judicial Review is launched to seek to appeal the outcome. The likelihood of this can be kept low by ensuring the legal steps are completed and the results of the consultation are taken into account.

14. Background Documents

- 14.1 Guidance on community governance reviewed; Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE), last published in March 2010
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/8312/1527635.pdf

Council report of February 2025

<https://westmorlandandfurness.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s29794/CouncilCGRConveringReport%20SMR.pdf>