
Cabinet Member Community Safety and Cohesion

23 July 2026

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member Community Safety and Cohesion – Councillor J McNicholas

Director approving submission of the report:

Director of Law, Governance and Safer Communities

Ward(s) affected:

Woodlands and Tile Hill and Canley

Title:

Petition – Change of Ward Names

Is this a key decision?

No – Whilst the report relates to people working or living in two or more wards the recommendations are not significant in terms of the effect.

Executive summary:

A petition supported by 8 signatures was submitted online and a paper petition was also received containing 1058 signatures by a number of local residents who are asking for the change of two ward names within the City. The petition reads as follows:

We the undersigned petition the Council to change both the Woodlands and Tile Hill & Canley ward names in West Coventry.

We're asking the council to change both the Woodlands and Tile Hill & Canley ward names following recent boundary changes which did not take into account local history or the landscape of the area.

Option 1:

(A) Woodlands – Change to Broadvale

The ward no longer contains any of the woodlands it was named after due to recent boundary changes which have shifted them into another ward. We recommend changing the name to reflect the landscape of the ward which lies across a valley with Upper Eastern Green Lane on one side and Broad Lane on the other. There is also a pub in Mount Nod called The Vale.

(B) Tile Hill & Canley (previously Westwood) – Change to Woodlands

We recommend changing the name to reflect the history of the ancient Arden landscape and the various woodlands in the area. We think it is important to keep a reference to the historical woodlands in this part of the city. The name Westwood is also preserved in Westwood Heath therefore we believe Woodlands is a more suitable name for the ward.

Option 2:

(A) Woodlands – Change to Eastern Green & Tile Hill North

The ward no longer contains any of the woodlands it was named after due to recent boundary changes which have shifted them into another ward. We recommend changing the name to include Eastern Green and reflect the two different parts of Tile Hill.

(B) Tile Hill & Canley (previously Westwood) – Change to Canley & Tile Hill South

The Boundary Commission (LGBCE) recently changed this name however Tile Hill is actually split across two wards. We recommend changing the name to reflect the two different parts of Tile Hill.

Recommendations:

The Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion is recommended to:

1. Note the petition set out in this report.
2. Approve one of the following options:
 - a) a consultation on the options contained in the petition be carried out to establish if there is support for a proposed change of ward names (option 1), or
 - b) decide not to conduct a consultation exercise due to a local government boundary review only having been carried out in 2023 when this could have been considered. (option 2).

List of Appendices included:

None

Background papers:

None

Other useful documents

None

Has it or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

No – but if there is a recommendation to change the Ward names it will need to go to Council.

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Report title: Change of ward name petition

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 A petition supported by 8 signatures was submitted online and a paper petition was also received containing 1058 signatures by a number of local residents who are asking for the change of two ward names within the City. The petition reads as follows:

We the undersigned petition the Council to change both the Woodlands and Tile Hill & Canley ward names in West Coventry.

We're asking the council to change both the Woodlands and Tile Hill & Canley ward names following recent boundary changes which did not take into account local history or the landscape of the area.

Option 1:

(A) Woodlands – Change to Broadvale

The ward no longer contains any of the woodlands it was named after due to recent boundary changes which have shifted them into another ward. We recommend changing the name to reflect the landscape of the ward which lies across a valley with Upper Eastern Green Lane on one side and Broad Lane on the other. There is also a pub in Mount Nod called The Vale.

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We recommend changing the name to reflect the history of the ancient Arden landscape and the various woodlands in the area. We think it is important to keep a reference to the historical woodlands in this part of the city. The name Westwood is also preserved in Westwood Heath therefore we believe Woodlands is a more suitable name for the ward.

Option 2:

(A) Woodlands – Change to Eastern Green & Tile Hill North

The ward no longer contains any of the woodlands it was named after due to recent boundary changes which have shifted them into another ward. We recommend changing the name to include Eastern Green and reflect the two different parts of Tile Hill.

(B) Tile Hill & Canley (previously Westwood) – Change to Canley & Tile Hill South

The Boundary Commission (LGBCE) recently changed this name however Tile Hill is actually split across two wards. We recommend changing the name to reflect the two different parts of Tile Hill.

- 1.2 In accordance with Section 59 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the Council has powers in relation to electoral arrangements. Whilst the Local Government Boundary Commission is responsible for electoral reviews (boundaries, councillor numbers) local authorities may resolve to change ward names.
- 1.3 If the Council is minded changing the ward names, as it is within five years of a boundary review, it is required to consult the Local Government Boundary

Commission (LGBCE). The Commission will require justification and evidence of consultation. This ensures stability following a recent review.

- 1.4 There is no prescribed statutory procedure for ward name changes, however, LGBCE guidance confirms that full public consultation is expected before any decision to make a change is made.
- 1.5 The consultation should include:
 - Residents in affected wards
 - Ward councillors
 - Key stakeholders (parish councils, community groups, partners)
- 1.6 Consideration needs to be given as to whether the current names sufficiently reflect community identity. There is a potential risk of confusion making further changes so soon after the implementation of the boundary review.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1. Option 1 – To conduct a consultation exercise to establish if there is support for the proposed changes and which of the 2 options set out within the petition are preferred.
- 2.2. Option 2 – Note the content of the petition but decide not to conduct a consultation exercise due to a local government boundary review only having been carried out in 2023 when this could have been considered.

3. Consultation process and timing

- 3.1. If it is agreed to undertake a consultation it is suggested that the consultation be carried out in the affected wards, by an online survey and some targeted engagement. The options contained in the petition would be what was consulted on.
- 3.2. The consultation will take place for a period of 8 weeks.
- 3.3. Once the consultation has closed the responses will be collated and analysed and a report will then be submitted to the Cabinet Member for consideration.
- 3.4. If the preferred option is to consider the ward name changes then a proposal would need to be submitted to the Local Government Boundary Commission to seek agreement to process as it is within 5 years of a review having been completed.
- 3.5. The final decision will then need to be taken by Council if agreement is received from the LGBCE.

4. Comments from Director of Finance and Resources and Director of Law, Governance and Safer Communities

4.1. Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from the report. If Ward names were to be changed as a result of consultation, this could have an impact in terms of any relevant signage or other costs associated with a change in an address.

4.2. Legal Implications

There are no legal implications associated with this report. This report is being considered in line with the councils' petition scheme.

5. Other implications

5.1. How will this contribute to the One Coventry Plan?

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/one-coventry-plan>

The decision will contribute to the following one Coventry Plan –

Not applicable.

5.2. How is risk being managed?

There is no ongoing risk.

5.3. What is the impact on the organisation?

None

5.4. Equalities / EIA?

This decision does not impact on Equalities

5.5. Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment?

Not applicable

5.6. Implications for partner organisations?

None

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Other Members				

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Members: Cllr John McNicholas	Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion	-	01/07/26	14/7/26

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