

Council

8 September 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:

Community Governance Review – Allesley and Keresley

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive summary:

The Council has received a valid petition under Section 83(2), Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (the 2007 Act).

The Council must now respond to the petition and undertake a Community Governance Review (CGR).

A Community Governance Review (CGR) is a legal process that allows a Council to review and, where appropriate, change parish boundaries, parish council arrangements and other community governance structures to ensure they continue to reflect local identities and support effective and convenient local government. The review involves public consultation and is conducted in accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

The petition requests that the Council:

“Change the Allesley Parish Council boundary to remove the built-up areas of Eastern Green, Pickford Green and Brownhill Green from the parish.”

Council is asked to note the receipt of a valid petition and the duty to undertake a Community Governance Review and to approve the terms of reference.

Recommendations:

Council is recommended:-

1. To approve that a Community Governance Review (CGR) be undertaken for Allesley and Keresley Parishes in line with the proposed terms of reference attached to the report at Appendix 2.
2. To delegate authority to the Director of Law, Governance and Safer Communities, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion the Electoral Arrangements Advisory Panel and relevant Ward Councillors, to agree the draft recommendations after the initial consultation has been concluded.
3. To note that further consultation will then be carried out prior to the final recommendations being prepared and submitted to Council for approval.

List of Appendices included:

The following appendices are attached to the report:

Appendix 1 – The petition wording and maps

Appendix 2 - Terms of Reference for the Community Governance Review

Background papers:

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government – Community Governance Review guidance - [Community governance reviews: guidance - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/community-governance-reviews-guidance)

Association of Electoral Administrators – Community Governance Review guidance

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 – A report on this matter was considered by the Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion meeting on 23 July 2026.

Will this report go to Council?

Yes – 8 September 2026

Report title: Community Governance Review – Allesley and Keresley

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 In accordance with Section 83(2) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, a valid petition has been received requesting that a Community Governance Review (CGR) be conducted in relation to Allesley Parish. This is a completely separate legal process to the Council's Petition Scheme.
- 1.2 The Council must now respond to the petition and undertake a CGR.
- 1.3 The petition requests that the Council:

“Change the Allesley Parish Council boundary to remove the built-up areas of Eastern Green, Pickford Green and Brownhill Green from the parish.”

- 1.4 Under the 2007 Act, the Council has a duty to keep the community governance arrangements in place in the area under review. The Government's guidance suggests that a Council should do every 10-15 years.
- 1.5 This would require reviewing the arrangements for existing Parish Councils and exploring whether there is adequate community governance in the unparished areas of the City.
- 1.6 Coventry City Council has not undertaken a full review of community governance since the 2007 Act was implemented.
- 1.7 In response to the petition, the Council must now undertake a CGR, with terms of reference that consider the matters raised in the petition. This is a matter reserved for Full Council.
- 1.8 It should also be noted that the Council may choose to widen the terms of reference to consider other matters, such as:
 - Consider the impact of any changes on neighbouring areas. The petition requests that certain areas are removed from the Allesley Parish Council area (as outlined in the map at Appendix 1). This would leave unparished areas in between the Allesley and Keresley Parish Council areas. The CGR could consider whether this is what the residents want or is there an alternative, for example moving those areas into the Keresley Parish Council area with the rest of Tamworth Road.
 - Reviewing all parish council arrangements in the city. This would consider the boundaries, number of Councillors and other arrangements for Allesley Parish Council, Keresley Parish Council and Finham Parish Council.
 - Carrying out a review covering the whole city. This would include the options above and whether any new Parish Councils or other forums should be created.
- 1.9 A consultation exercise must be carried out, with particular attention to those residents potentially affected by the outcomes of the CGR. This would specifically be aimed at residents within the Eastern Green, Pickford Green and Brownhill Green areas, as

well as the residents in the rest of the Parish Council area. However, any consultation would need to be open to all Coventry residents.

- 1.10 As outlined above, this consultation could also specifically include residents of the adjacent Keresley Parish Council, given the potential knock-on impact on Keresley.
- 1.11 In accordance with the legislation, the Council must complete this CGR within 12 months of receiving the petition. The petition was received on 17 February 2026.
- 1.12 The terms of reference and timetable for the CGR are subject of this report. There will be at least one round of consultation to seek views and then a further round of consultation based on the Council's draft proposals. These would then inform the final decision, to be made by Council.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1. Option 1 – To carry out a CGR which only responds to the direct request made in the petition, that the named areas should be removed from the Allesley Parish Council area. This is not recommended due to the potential knock-on impact on Keresley.
- 2.2. Option 2 – The review could consider the CGR for all three parish councils in the city. This is not recommended as Finham Parish Council has only been in existence for 10 years.
- 2.3. Option 3 – To conduct a CGR covering the parishes of Allesley and Keresley, as the proposal will potentially have a knock-on impact on Keresley. This is the recommended option.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1. The receipt of the petition under the 2007 Act puts the Council under a statutory duty to undertake a CGR and as such no consultation is required in relation to the recommendations in this report.
- 3.2. Following approval by Council there will then be a consultation which will take place for a period of 4 weeks.
- 3.3. Once the consultation has closed the responses will be collated and analysed and the Council will need to consider its draft recommendations for the any changes, this will determine if there needs to be a further consultation exercise. It is proposed that authority be delegated to the Director of Law, Governance and Safer Communities, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion the Electoral Arrangements Advisory Panel and relevant Ward Councillors to agree the draft recommendations after the initial consultation has been concluded.
- 3.4. If there are any changes proposed, then draft recommendations will be prepared and a further consultation will be carried out prior to the final recommendations being prepared and approved by Council.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

4.1. The timetable for the CGR is detailed below:

Description	Dates
Terms of Reference agreed by Council	8 September 2026
Initial Consultation commences	9 September 2026
Initial Consultation finishes	9 October 2026
Draft recommendations	w/c 12 October 2026
	19 October 2026
Consultation with Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion and Electoral Arrangements Advisory Panel (with relevant ward Councillors also invited)	w/c 26 October 2026
Consultation on draft recommendations commences	9 November 2026
Consultation on draft recommendations finishes	10 December 2026
Review consultation responses and prepared final recommendations	w/c 13 December
Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion report published	23 December 2026
Council Agenda published	4 January 2027
Cabinet Member for Community Safety Meeting	7 January 2027
Council Meeting	12 January 2027
Order Made	TBC
Register of Electors republished	1 February 2027
Parish Elections	6 May 2027

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

5.1. Financial Implications

5.2. The financial implications to the Council of completing a community governance review relate to the cost of the consultation exercises which will be met from within existing resources.

5.3. If any Parish Council footprints were to be changed following the review, then this would have a direct impact on the number of properties paying the relevant Parish Council precept and could therefore impact on the local Parish Council's finances. The amount of Council Tax received for services provided by the Council would be unaffected.

5.4. Legal Implications

- 5.5. The Council is legally required to respond to the petition for a CGR. The CGR will be undertaken in accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and supplementary guidance. This is due to the fact that the Council is obliged to undertake a review which has been requisitioned following the submission of a valid petition.

6. Other implications

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

- 6.2. Ensuring that a community governance review is conducted enables residents to consider if their area reflects local identities and supports effective and convenient local government. It contributes to the enabling priority of the Council's role as a partner, enabler and leader.

6.3. How is risk being managed?

There is no ongoing risk.

6.4. What is the impact on the organisation?

None.

6.5. Equalities / EIA?

This decision does not impact on Equalities.

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

Not applicable.

6.7. Implications for partner organisations?

The CGR will impact on the Parish Councils affected by the review. They will be included in all consultation exercises and have the opportunity to submit their views.

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