



# Northumberland

## County Council

**COUNCIL**  
**2 MAY 2018**

---

### **Community Governance Review**

Report of the Chief Executive

Executive Member: Councillor Nick Oliver

---

### **Purpose of Report**

To consider the outcome of a community governance review in the County.

### **Recommendations**

**It is recommended that Council**

- 1) **agrees the outcome of the community governance review for Longhoughton Parish Council.**
- 2) **authorises the Democratic Services Manager to make, sign and seal the appropriate orders for the changes by virtue of the powers contained in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act.**

### **Key Issues**

1. The following community governance review has recently been conducted.
2. **Longhoughton Parish Council**

A community governance review has been carried out at the request of Longhoughton Parish Council. The terms of reference of the review were 'to consider the electoral arrangements of Longhoughton Parish Council with a view to amending its boundary with Craster Parish Council.'

3. The effect of the boundary change would be to transfer the properties of Copley Hall, and Nos. 1 and 2 Copley Hall Cottages which are currently located in Craster

Parish Council into Longhoughton Parish as shown on the attached map.

4. Longhoughton Parish Council has had discussions with Craster Parish Council and the Howick Trustees and all agree that this anomaly should be corrected. This would result in the whole of Howick Village becoming part of Longhoughton Parish.
5. As part of the four week consultation process, a press release was issued in the local newspaper and notices displayed in both Longhoughton Parish and Craster Parish. In addition, Craster Parish Council, the Division Councillor, the Howick Trustees and the occupiers of the properties directly affected were directly consulted by letter. Members of the public can also access details of the review via the Council's website.
6. E-mails have been received from the Division Councillor and the Howick Trustees supporting the proposed change.
7. Council is asked to approve the amendments to the administrative boundary between Longhoughton Parish Council and Craster Parish Council.

## **Background**

1. Councils now have extensive powers delegated to them in relation to the creation of parishes, modification of boundaries and names changes by virtue of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act. At the request of parish councils, the public or even on their own initiative they may conduct Community Governance Reviews. The aim of reviews is to improve the local governance in an area. The process is managed by principal councils with outcomes incorporated into formal orders.
2. Delegated powers have been granted to the Democratic Services Manager to conduct reviews subject to full council reserving the power to agree any formal orders arising out of reviews.

## **Implications**

<b>Policy</b>	
<b>Finance and value for money</b>	None. There were no additional costs incurred in the community governance review other than officer time.
<b>Legal</b>	
<b>Procurement</b>	N/A
<b>Human Resources</b>	All the work can be carried out by existing employees who possess the necessary skill and expertise.

