

## ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

---

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Council
<b>DATE</b>	17 April 2024
<b>EXEMPT</b>	No
<b>CONFIDENTIAL</b>	No
<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	Review of Community Council Governance
<b>REPORT NUMBER</b>	COM/23/231
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	Andy MacDonald
<b>CHIEF OFFICER</b>	Vikki Cuthbert
<b>REPORT AUTHOR</b>	Karen Finch
<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>	19

---

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present the responses received during the second phase of public consultation and the final version of the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils including boundary changes for various Community Councils for formal adoption.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council:-

- 2.1 adopt the Scheme and associated documents as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 to the report;
- 2.2 adopt the change to the Woodside and Hilton Community Council boundary as outlined in section 3.3 of the report and at Appendix 4;
- 2.3 adopt proposal 1 for the boundary change between Bucksburn and Newhills and Dyce and Stoneywood Community Councils as outlined in sections 3.4 and 3.5 of the report and at Appendices 6 and 8;
- 2.4 adopt the change in name for two Community Councils as outlined in section 3.6 of the report;
- 2.5 note the information relating to the data zones as outlined in section 3.9 of the report;
- 2.6 grant delegated powers to the Chief Officer - Governance to amend the population figures where appropriate on receipt of the data zone information in the Autumn 2024 and thereafter on an annual basis; and
- 2.7 note that the Scheme would come into effect just prior to the Community Council Triennial Elections due to be held in October 2024.

### **3. CURRENT SITUATION**

#### **Review of the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils**

- 3.1 No further comments on the Scheme or associated Guidance documents were received during stage two consultation. The documents presented with this report are the final versions and attached at Appendices 1 and 2.

#### **Consultation Responses**

- 3.2 Public Consultation on the Scheme, boundary proposals and associated documents commenced on 18 December 2023 and ended on 29 February 2024. During the consultation four responses on the boundaries were received.

#### **Boundary Proposals**

##### Rosehill and Stockethill/Woodside and Hilton Community Councils (CC's)

- 3.3 Residents within the triangle encompassing Leslie Road, Clifton Road, Great Northern Road, Lilybank Place and Burnett Place (currently within Rosehill and Stockethill CC boundary) were canvassed to seek their views on the boundary proposal. The proposal from the consultation is to transfer that section into Woodside and Hilton CC boundary, as shown in Map 1 at Appendix 4. The consultation responses are included in Appendix 3.

##### Bucksburn and Newhills and Dyce and Stoneywood CC's

- 3.4 During stage one consultation, an alternative boundary proposal was submitted by Bucksburn and Newhills CC. The responses from stage one were held to this meeting to enable members to have the full data in one report.
- 3.5 During stage one consultation, residents within the new housing development at Craibstone were canvassed to seek their views on the boundary proposal. During both stages, views were sought by centre users at the Beacon and at Dyce Community Centre. The proposal from the consultation is to transfer the area at Craibstone including the round-a-bout into Bucksburn and Newhills CC boundary, as shown in Map 2 at Appendix 6 and Map 3 at Appendix 7. The consultation responses are included in Appendix 5.

##### Change of Name of two Community Councils

- 3.6 With the boundary change at Danestone CC, as advised at Council on 23 August 2023, Danestone CC will change to Danestone and Persley CC to accommodate the new section.

During the consultation for Rosehill and Stockethill boundary, residents within Ashgrove requested that consideration be given to changing the name of the CC to better reflect the area that they cover. The new name will be Ashgrove and Stockethill CC.

## Data zones and CC population

- 3.7 Community Council population figures are based on the data from the 2011 Census, which identifies data zones for Aberdeen City. The data zones are matched as close as possible to the CC boundaries however in some cases the data zone is too large and covers sections of more than one CC. For these situations, the data zone is allocated to the CC that holds the majority of the population. In the boundary change for Bucksburn and Newhills the data zone is currently allocated to Kingswells based on the census data for 2011.

The census population data for lower level geographies is due to be published in May this year with the new data zone boundaries due to be published sometime in the Autumn. At this stage, the data zones will be matched to CC boundaries and the population figures updated for all CCs.

## 4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications from the report.

## 5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Section 22 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 outlines the process for amending the Local Authority Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils. This section requires that the Council consult the public on proposed changes to the Scheme.

## 6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

## 7. RISK

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H)  *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
<b>Strategic Risk</b>	No significant risks identified			
<b>Compliance</b>	Non compliance with the Local Government (Scotland) Act	To minimise the risk, the Scheme and associated guidance to be	L	Yes

	1973 and 1994 may result in legal challenge.	issued for public consultation as outlined in the legislation.		
<b>Operational</b>	Weak governance for Community Councils, may lead to them not being established or disbanded.	Regular scrutiny will be undertaken to monitor the effectiveness of the new governance documents.	L	Yes
<b>Financial</b>	No significant risks identified			
<b>Reputational</b>	Community Councils not being established or not operating within the Scheme may lead to the Council facing challenge from the public	Working with Community Councils to support them in their roles, to improve relationships and reduce the risk of negative public opinion.	L	Yes
<b>Environment / Climate</b>	No significant risks identified			

## 8. OUTCOMES

<b><u>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2023-2024</u></b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement</b>  <u><a href="#">Working in Partnership for Aberdeen</a></u>	<p>The proposals within this report support the delivery of the following aspects of the policy statement:-</p> <p>Work to strengthen the city's network of community councils and, over time as they acquire greater democratic legitimacy, give them a greater role in Aberdeen's governance.</p> <p>The revised governance documents provides an improved structure for Community Councils to enable them to fulfil their roles and responsibilities, which should strengthen their own capabilities and working towards a full network of skilled volunteers achieving the best outcome for their communities.</p>

## 9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
-------------------	----------------

<b>Integrated Assessment</b>	<b>Impact</b>	Stage 1 completed. Full impact assessment not required
<b>Data Protection Assessment</b>	<b>Impact</b>	Not required
<b>Other</b>		None

## 10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 2018 Aberdeen City Council Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils
- 10.2 Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils including Complaints Procedures for other Local Authorities
- 10.3 Model Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils – Scottish Government

## 11. APPENDICES

- 11.1 Appendix 1 - Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils
- 11.2 Appendix 2 - Guidance documents
- 11.3 Appendix 3 – Consultation responses for Rosehill and Stockethill and Woodside and Hilton CCs
- 11.4 Appendix 4 – Map 1 – new Woodside and Hilton CC
- 11.5 Appendix 5 – Consultation Responses for Bucksburn and Newhills and Dyce and Stoneywood CC
- 11.6 Appendix 6 – Map 2 – new Bucksburn and Newhills CC
- 11.7 Appendix 7 – Map 3 – new Ashgrove and Stockethill CC
- 11.8 Appendix 8 – Map 4 – new Dyce and Stoneywood CC
- 11.9 Appendix 9 – Map 5 – new Danestone and Persley CC

## 12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

<b>Name</b>	Karen Finch
<b>Title</b>	Community Council Liaison Officer
<b>Email Address</b>	<a href="mailto:kfinch@aberdeencity.gov.uk">kfinch@aberdeencity.gov.uk</a>
<b>Tel</b>	01224 053945