

Winchester Community Governance Review Consultation: Stage 2

Report

June 2026



Winchester
City Council



**Research, consultation and evaluation
for the public and charitable sectors.**

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Winchester Community Governance Review Consultation: Stage 2 – Report

Executive Summary

Introduction and background

1. Winchester City Council conducted a Stage 2 Community Governance Review (CGR) consultation on proposals to establish new parish councils for the unparished Winchester town area and Kings Barton. The consultation followed the Stage 1 consultation, which ran for seven weeks between November and December 2025 and received over 1,400 responses on the future governance of Winchester town and surrounding areas.
2. Having considered the Stage 1 consultation findings, the council consulted in Stage 2 of the process on the creation of two new parish councils:
 - A new parish council to represent the current unparished wards of the Winchester town area and W4 (land west of Courtenay Road), made up of 22 councillors and a precept to be determined that would replace the current “Special Expense” charge paid by residents.
 - A new parish council to represent Kings Barton, which includes the unparished area of Kings Barton currently within St Barnabas Ward, made up of 11 councillors, with a precept to be determined that would replace the Headbourne Worthy Parish Council precept which residents in Kings Barton currently pay.
3. Winchester City Council commissioned independent organisation Public Perspectives to support the consultation process and report the results of the consultation. This report and the associated analysis of the feedback received through the consultation will inform recommendations and the final decisions made by the council.

Approach

4. The consultation took place between Wednesday 13 May 2026 and Wednesday 24 June 2026 – a 6-week period.
5. The main method of response was via an open-access online consultation questionnaire available to all interested residents and stakeholders (the questionnaire is included in the appendix to this report). In addition, paper copies were available at the City Offices reception and could also be requested, and written responses submitted. E-mail and telephone support was also available.
6. The consultation was promoted through the council’s website, communication channels, such as the council’s e-newsletter, and promotional/marketing activity, including press releases and adverts in local newspapers, social media posts and adverts, and a leaflet drop via a door-to-door delivery service to 19,860 households in Winchester town, and Headbourne Worthy parish council area, including Kings Barton. There was also direct promotion to, and engagement with, all Council Members, council staff and other identified stakeholders such as businesses, community organisations, Hampshire County Council and parish councils across the district, as well as previous respondents to the Stage 1

consultation (where they had given consent for further contact). In addition, there were two drop-in sessions held to promote and discuss the consultation and support residents and other stakeholders to respond.

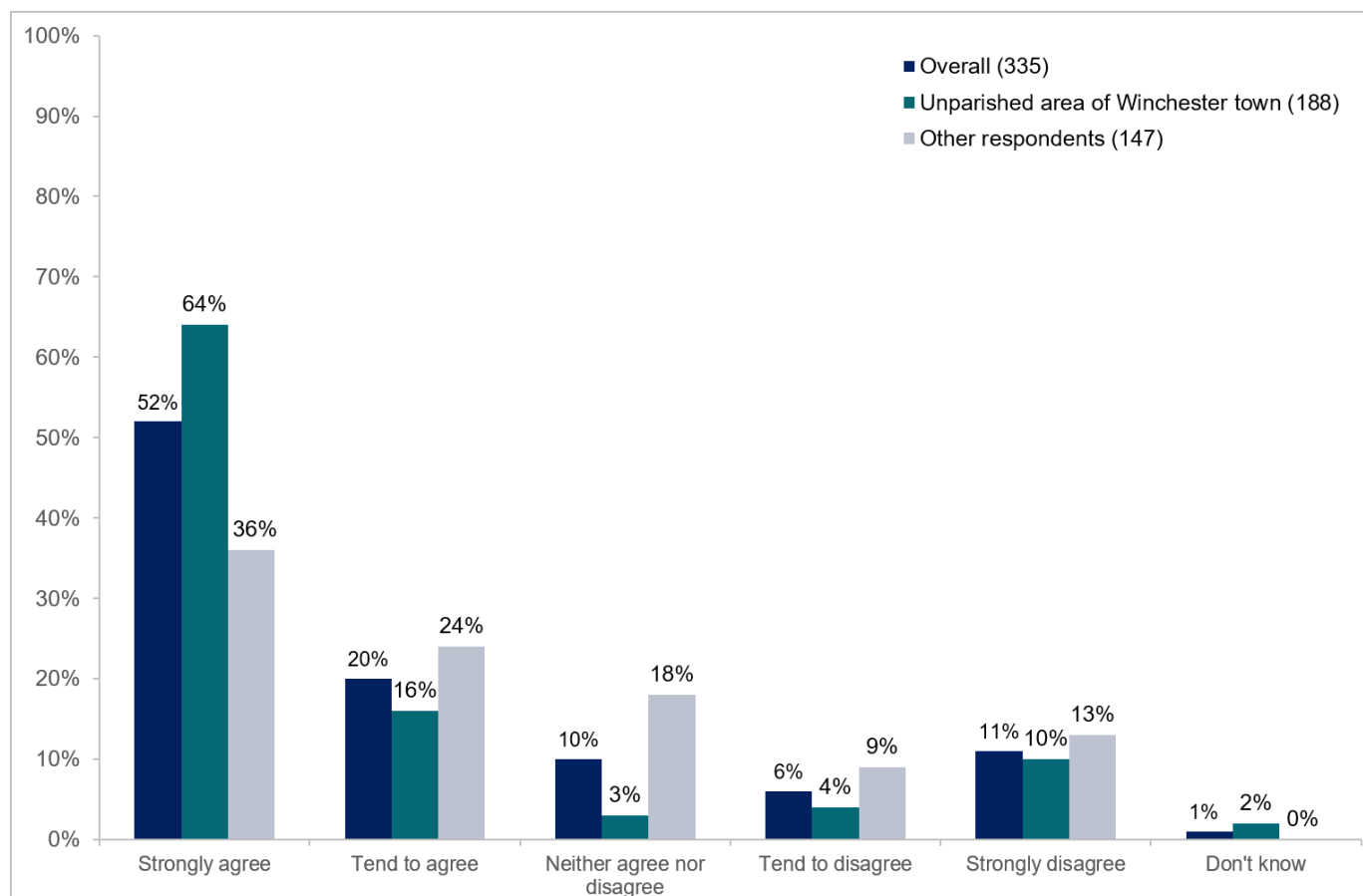
7. In total, 337 responded to the consultation questionnaire, including 3 paper/postal responses. There were also two written responses from residents, as well as written responses from the Kings Barton Committee of Headbourne Worthy Parish Council and the Headbourne Worthy Committee of the Parish Council, and one from local organisation, Winchester Dramatic Society / Chesil Theatre.

Key findings

Proposal for a new local parish council for the Winchester town area

8. There is **support for the creation of a new local parish council for Winchester town, especially amongst respondents that live in the area**. Overall, 72% of respondents agree with the creation of a new local parish council for the unparished area of Winchester town, including 52% that strongly agree.
9. 80% of respondents that live in the unparished area of Winchester town agree with the creation of a new local parish council for the unparished area of Winchester town, including 64% that strongly agree. Just 14% disagree and 3% neither agree nor disagree. Local residents' associations and other stakeholders also tended to support the proposal to create a parish council for Winchester town.
10. Support for the proposed Winchester town parish council was driven primarily by a desire for **stronger local representation, greater democratic accountability and maintaining a local voice** in anticipation of local government reorganisation. Respondents also highlighted the **importance of safeguarding Winchester's city status, mayoralty and civic identity**, while some considered the proposal would provide **parity with neighbouring parished areas**. Although some respondents suggested amendments to the proposed boundaries, these comments generally reflected support for the principle of a parish council rather than opposition to it. Among those expressing reservations, the principal concerns related to the potential cost of a parish precept and the creation of an additional layer of local government.

Figure 1: Level of agreement with the creation of a new local parish council for Winchester town



Numbers in brackets are the number of respondents.

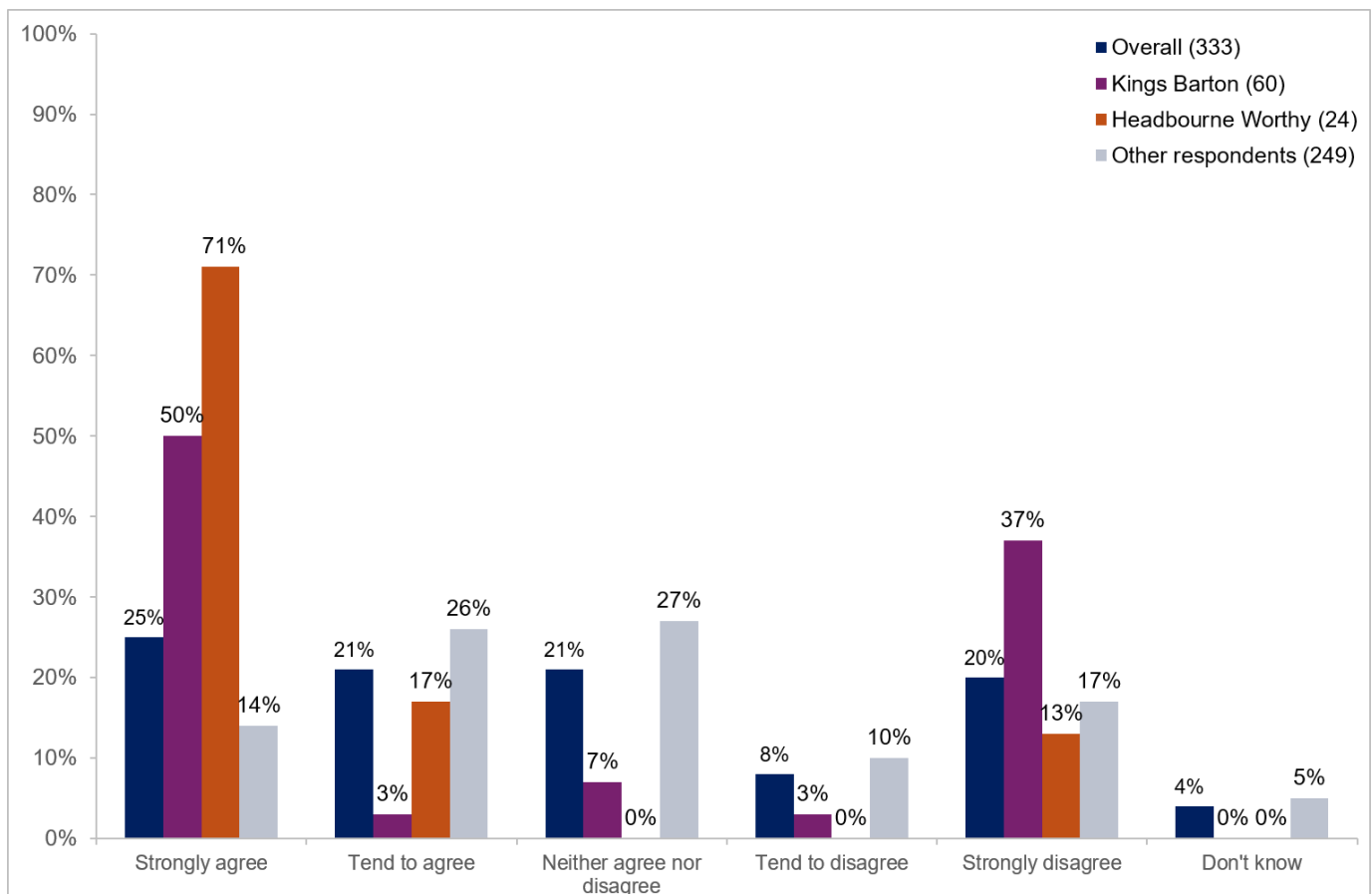
Note: Not all respondents answered all questions, and consequently the number of respondents for any given question may not add-up to the total of 337 respondents to the consultation. This is the case for all graphs/figures in this report.

Proposal for a new parish council for Kings Barton

11. Opinion on the proposal to create a separate parish council for Kings Barton was **more divided than for Winchester town. This said, on balance, there was more support than opposition, particularly among Kings Barton residents and stakeholders.** Overall, 46% of respondents supported the proposal, compared with 28% who opposed it, while 21% neither agreed nor disagreed.
12. Among Kings Barton respondents, 53% supported the proposal to create a parish council for Kings Barton while 40% opposed the proposal (noting the relatively small number of respondents). Both the Kings Barton Committee and the Headbourne Worthy Committee of Headbourne Worthy Parish Council supported the creation of a separate parish council. However, the Kings Barton Committee recommended amendments to the proposed parish boundaries to better reflect the community, while the Headbourne Worthy Committee raised concerns about the long-term financial sustainability of the remaining Headbourne Worthy parish and requested further assessment of its viability.
13. Support for a separate parish council for Kings Barton was driven primarily by the view that **Kings Barton has developed into a distinct and growing community with its own identity, facilities and priorities.** Respondents felt that a separate parish council would provide **dedicated local representation**, with councillors able to focus on the area's ongoing development, infrastructure, community facilities and local services as the community continues to expand. While many respondents supported the principle of a

separate parish, some **suggested amendments to the proposed boundaries**. Among those expressing reservations, the most common view was that Kings Barton should instead form part of a new Winchester town parish, reflecting its close relationship with the city. A smaller number preferred it to remain within Headbourne Worthy Parish Council or opposed the creation of an additional parish council because of concerns about cost and bureaucracy.

Figure 2: Level of agreement with the creation of a local parish council for Kings Barton



Numbers in brackets are the number of respondents.

Winchester Community Governance Review Consultation: Stage 2

Main report

Section 1: Introduction

Introduction and background

- 1.1. Winchester City Council conducted a Stage 2 Community Governance Review (CGR)¹ consultation on proposals to establish new parish councils for the unparished Winchester town area and Kings Barton. The consultation followed the Stage 1 consultation, which ran for seven weeks between November and December 2025 and received over 1,400 responses on the future governance of Winchester town and surrounding areas.
- 1.2. Having considered the Stage 1 consultation findings, the council consulted in Stage 2 of the process on the creation of two new parish councils:
 - A new parish council to represent the current unparished wards of the Winchester town area and W4 (land west of Courtenay Road), made up of 22 councillors and a precept to be determined that would replace the current “Special Expense” charge paid by residents.
 - A new parish council to represent Kings Barton, which includes the unparished area of Kings Barton currently within St Barnabas Ward, made up of 11 councillors, with a precept to be determined that would replace the Headbourne Worthy Parish Council precept which residents in Kings Barton currently pay.
- 1.3. Winchester City Council commissioned independent organisation Public Perspectives to support the consultation process and report the results of the consultation. This report and the associated analysis of the feedback received through the consultation will inform recommendations and the final decisions made by the council.

Approach

- 1.4. The consultation took place between Wednesday 13 May 2026 and Wednesday 24 June 2026 – a 6-week period.
- 1.5. The main method of response was via an open-access online consultation questionnaire available to all interested residents and stakeholders (the questionnaire is included in the appendix to this report). In addition, paper copies were available at the City Offices

¹ A Community Governance Review (CGR) is a way to make changes to local council arrangements so communities are suitably represented. The review can consider a number of issues, such as creating, changing or merging parish or town council boundaries. A CGR is a legal process that gives residents and organisations an opportunity to share their views on what they feel is the most suitable way for their community to be represented. A Community Governance Review has more than one stage of consultation. This staged approach allows for a structured process where residents' and stakeholders' initial thoughts shape potential solutions (stage one), resulting in specific draft recommendations that are subject to further consultation (stage 2) prior to a formal decision being made.

reception and could also be requested, and written responses submitted. E-mail and telephone support was also available.

- 1.6. The consultation was promoted through the council's website, communication channels, such as the council's e-newsletter, and promotional/marketing activity, including press releases and adverts in local newspapers, social media posts and adverts, and a leaflet drop via a door-to-door delivery service to 19,860 households in Winchester town and Headbourne Worthy parish council area, including Kings Barton. There was also direct promotion to, and engagement with, all Council Members, council staff and other identified stakeholders such as businesses, community organisations, Hampshire County Council and parish councils across the district, as well as previous respondents to the Stage 1 consultation (where they had given consent for further contact).
- 1.7. In addition, 60 households in the Barton Farm area were directly sent a letter promoting the consultation. These households are part of the unparished St. Barnabas Ward in Winchester town, but also part of the Kings Barton development area, which itself is part of the Headbourne Worthy parish council area. Additionally, homes in Well House Mews also received a direct letter promoting the consultation, which encouraged them to confirm whether they preferred to remain in the Headbourne Worthy parish council area or become part of the proposed Kings Barton parish council area.²
- 1.8. There were also two drop-in sessions held to promote and discuss the consultation and support residents and other stakeholders to respond:
 - Monday 1 June, 4-7pm: Guildhall Winchester.
 - Wednesday 3 June, 3-5pm: Cala Sales Office, Monarchs Mead, Kings Barton.
- 1.9. The following table highlights where respondents heard about the consultation:

Figure 1.1: Sources of hearing about the consultation

Source	% of respondents
Council e-mail or newsletter	53%
Poster or flyer	17%
Council website	11%
Direct e-mail or letter	9%
Via a local councillor	7%
Via a local organisation	6%
Other social media	6%
Other council communication or event	5%
Council social media	3%
A relative or a friend	3%
An advert in a local newspaper	2%
Other	4%
Don't know	1%

Number of respondents: 331. Note: Respondents could select more than one answer, consequently responses add up to over 100%. Question asked: How did you hear about this consultation?

² Two of the six households responded. One stated that properties in Well House Mews should remain within the Headbourne Worthy parish council area, while the other felt they should become part of the proposed Kings Barton parish council area.

- 1.10. In total, 337 responded to the consultation questionnaire, including 3 paper/postal responses. There were also two written responses from residents, as well as written responses from the Kings Barton Committee of Headbourne Worthy Parish Council and the Headbourne Worthy Committee of the Parish Council, and one from local organisation, Winchester Dramatic Society / Chesil Theatre.
- 1.11. The following table summarises the background of respondents to the consultation questionnaire:

Figure 1.2: Background of respondents

Background	No. of respondents	% of respondents
A resident living in the Winchester district	323	96%
Someone who works in the Winchester district	36	11%
Someone who studies in the Winchester district	1	0%
A voluntary or community organisation	8	2%
A parish council or parish meeting	1	0%
Another public sector organisation	0	0%
A local councillor	5	1%
A business operating in the Winchester district	2	1%
Other	6	2%

Note: Respondents could select more than one answer, consequently responses add up to over 100%.

Question asked: Are you responding as . . . ?

- 1.12. The following table shows the geographic location of residents that responded to the questionnaire, as well as those that work or study in Winchester district, organised by the areas targeted through the CGR:

Figure 1.3: Geographical location of respondents

Location	No. of respondents	% of respondents
Unparished area of Winchester town	189	58%
Kings Barton	60	18%
Headbourne Worthy parish council area (exc. Kings Barton)	24	7%
Elsewhere within the Winchester district	45	14%
Outside of the Winchester district	5	2%
Don't know	5	2%

Question asked: Which area do you live in?

- 1.13. There is a spread of responses across different demographic groups, albeit an over-representation of older residents and men.³ The following table summarises the demographic background of respondents:

³ There was consideration to 're-weight' the data in line with population demographics, for example around age. However, this is an open-access consultation, which typically reflects levels of interest in the subject matter rather than being wholly representative of the wider population. That said, all results have been analysed by different population groups including age groups and geographical areas to identify differences in opinion by types of respondents and areas.

Figure 1.4: Demographic profile of respondents

Sex	No. of respondents	% of respondents
Female	119	38%
Male	178	57%
Another term	0	0%
Prefer not to say	17	5%
Age		
Under 18	0	0%
18-24	2	1%
25-34	15	5%
35-44	30	9%
45-54	52	16%
55-64	51	16%
65-74	79	25%
75-84	63	20%
85+	7	2%
Prefer not to say	20	6%
Ethnic background		
White	268	88%
Non-White	4	1%
Prefer not to say	33	11%
Religion		
Christian	151	48%
Other religion	6	2%
No religion	110	35%
Prefer not to say	50	16%
Disability		
Yes	25	8%
No	257	81%
Prefer not to say	34	11%
Employment status		
Employed/self-employed	135	42%
Not employed/self-employed	9	3%
Retired	146	46%
Prefer not to say	30	9%
Housing situation		
Owner-occupier	272	86%
Privately renting	13	4%
Renting from the council or housing association	7	2%
Other	2	1%
Prefer not to say	24	8%

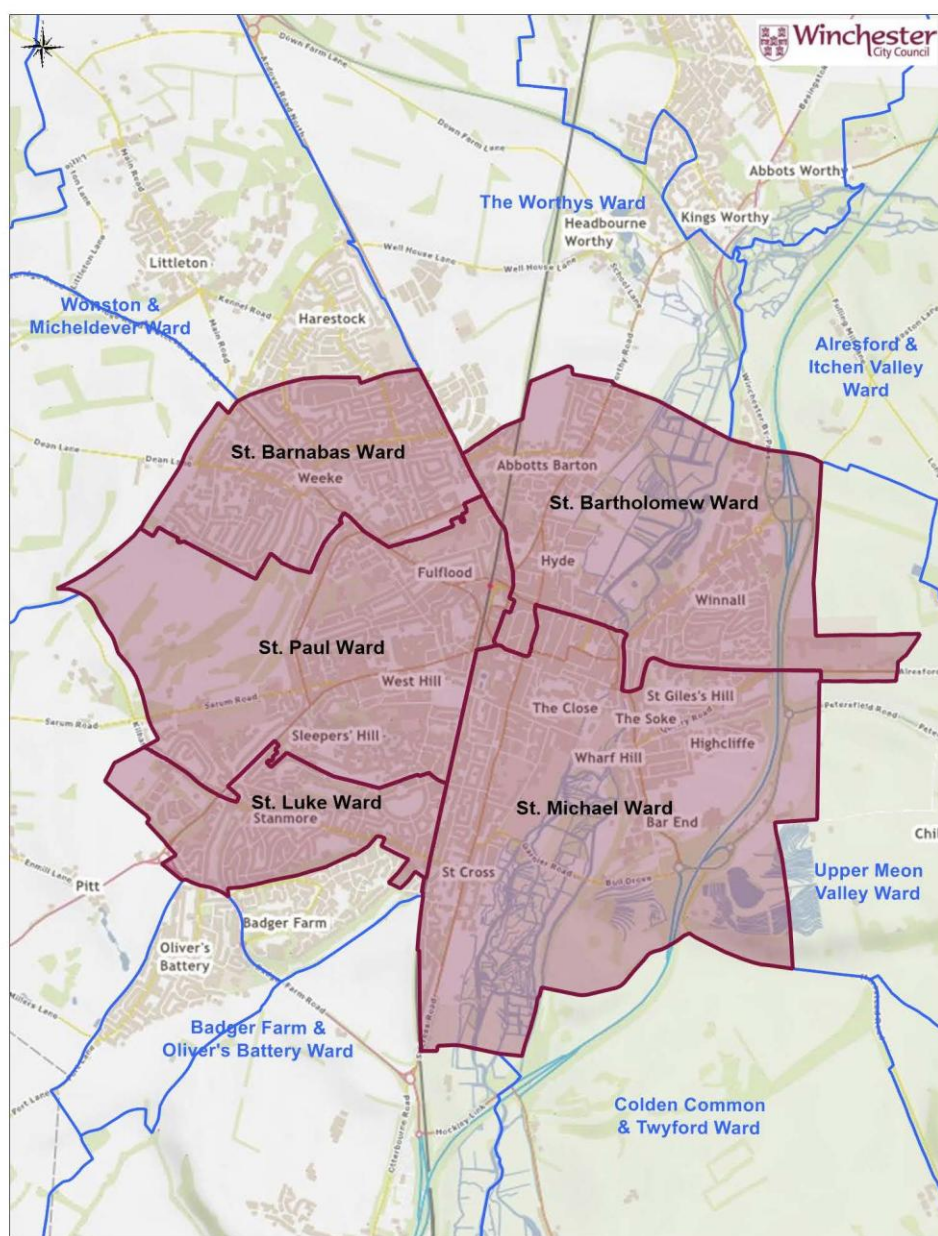
Reporting

- 1.14. The remainder of this report presents the key findings from the consultation. The results have been analysed against all demographic and key variables/questions to identify any important differences in opinion between different groups, especially by geography when considering options relating to specific areas.
- 1.15. In addition, the open-ended comments received in the questionnaire have been reviewed and key themes presented in the report.
- 1.16. The report is organised in-keeping with the structure of the consultation questionnaire, as follows:
 - Section 2: Proposal for a new local parish council for the Winchester town area
 - Section 3: Proposal for a new parish council for Kings Barton

Section 2: Proposal for a new local parish council for the Winchester town area

Introduction

- 2.1. This section presents findings about proposals to create a new local parish council for the unparished area of Winchester town, including comments on the proposed number of councillors or the introduction of a parish precept for Winchester town.
- 2.2. The area proposed to be included within the parish council for the Winchester town area is shown on the following map, which is essentially the currently unparished area of the town. In addition, land west of Courtenay Road, also known as W4, which is currently part of Headbourne Worthy parish area, is proposed for inclusion within the new Winchester town parish area. The following map provides context in understanding the findings of the subsequent questions:

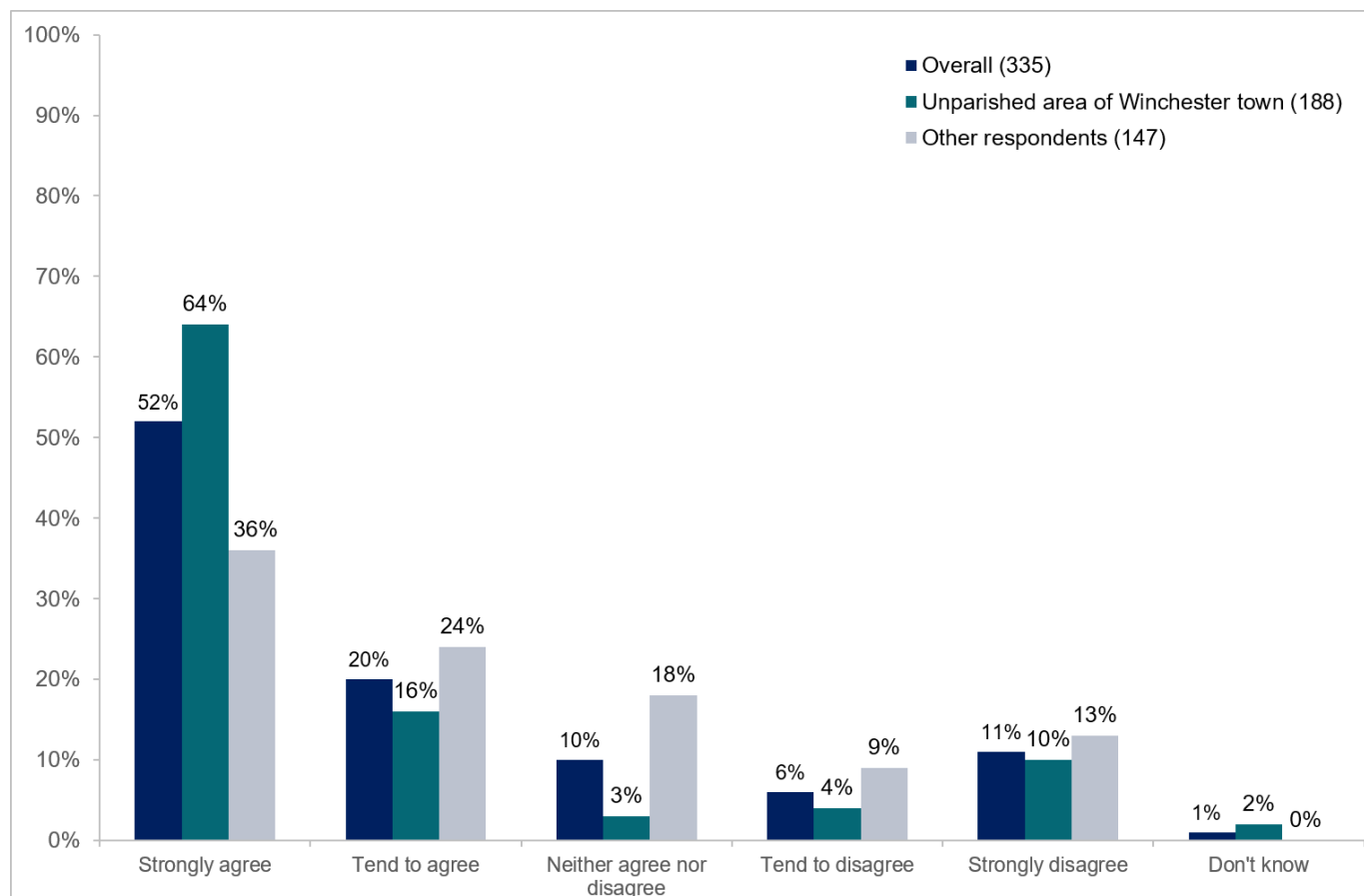


To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to form a new local parish council for Winchester town (as shown in the map above)?

Almost three-quarters of respondents agree with the creation of a new local parish council for the unparished area of Winchester town, especially respondents living in the town itself

- 2.3. Overall, 72% of respondents agree with the creation of a new local parish council for the unparished area of Winchester town, including 52% that strongly agree.
- 2.4. 10% neither agree nor disagree and 17% disagree, including 11% that strongly disagree.
- 2.5. 80% of respondents that live in the unparished area of Winchester town agree with the creation of a new local parish council for the unparished area of Winchester town, including 64% that strongly agree. Just 14% disagree and 3% neither agree nor disagree.
- 2.6. Cathedral Streets and Orams Arbour Residents' Associations (Winchester town residents' associations), as well as the Winchester Business Improvement District, Friends of St. Giles Hill park and Winchester Dramatic Society / Chesil Theatre support the creation of a parish council for the town to ensure its city status, Mayoralty, civic identity and representation.
- 2.7. The City of Winchester Trust supported the creation of a parish council for Winchester town but opposed the proposed boundaries, arguing that Harestock and Kings Barton should be included as they are integral parts of Winchester and too small to operate effectively as separate parish councils.

Figure 2.1: Level of agreement with the creation of a new local parish council for Winchester town



Numbers in brackets are the number of respondents. Note: Not all respondents answered all questions, and consequently the number of respondents for any given question may not add-up to the total of 337 respondents to the consultation. This is the case for all graphs/figures in this report.

- 2.8. Respondents were asked to explain their answers, with 237 or 70% providing a response.
- 2.9. Among **respondents who agreed** with the proposal, support was driven primarily by a desire for **stronger local representation and a more direct democratic voice and accountability** for residents of **Winchester town** (cited by approximately 35% of all respondents).⁴ This is especially in light of the potential local government reorganisation and associated creation of a larger unitary council.
- 2.10. Relatedly, some respondents said that creating a new parish council would help **safeguard Winchester's City status, mayoralty and civic identity** (cited by approximately 5%).
- 2.11. A theme of **fairness and parity** also stands out (cited by approximately 10%), with respondents arguing that Winchester town should have the same level of local governance as neighbouring parished areas, with some describing the proposal as addressing a long-standing imbalance.
- 2.12. While supporting the principle of a parish council, several respondents **questioned the proposed boundaries** (cited by approximately 15%). These comments generally related to the geography of the proposed parish rather than opposition to its creation. The most common suggestions were to: include Harestock and/or Kings Barton; exclude W4 (land west of Courtenay Road); or review boundaries to better reflect the urban extent of Winchester.
- 2.13. Among those expressing reservations or opposition, the most common concern was the **potential cost of a new parish council** (cited by approximately 15%). Respondents questioned whether it represented good value for money and were concerned about paying an additional precept or increasing council tax.
- 2.14. A smaller number of respondents felt an additional parish council would **duplicate existing arrangements, increase bureaucracy or provide little additional benefit**, questioning whether another council was necessary (cited by approximately 10%).

⁴ The themes and findings from open-ended questions are presented including approximated percentages/numbers of respondents (rounded up or down). This is to help provide an indication of relative importance of the themes/findings. These should be treated as such (i.e. approximations) rather than conclusive percentages, given the qualitative nature of the data. Please also note that respondents often cited multiple points and therefore the approximated percentages often add-up to over the stated number of respondents.

Do you have any comments on the proposed number of councillors or the introduction of a parish precept for Winchester town?

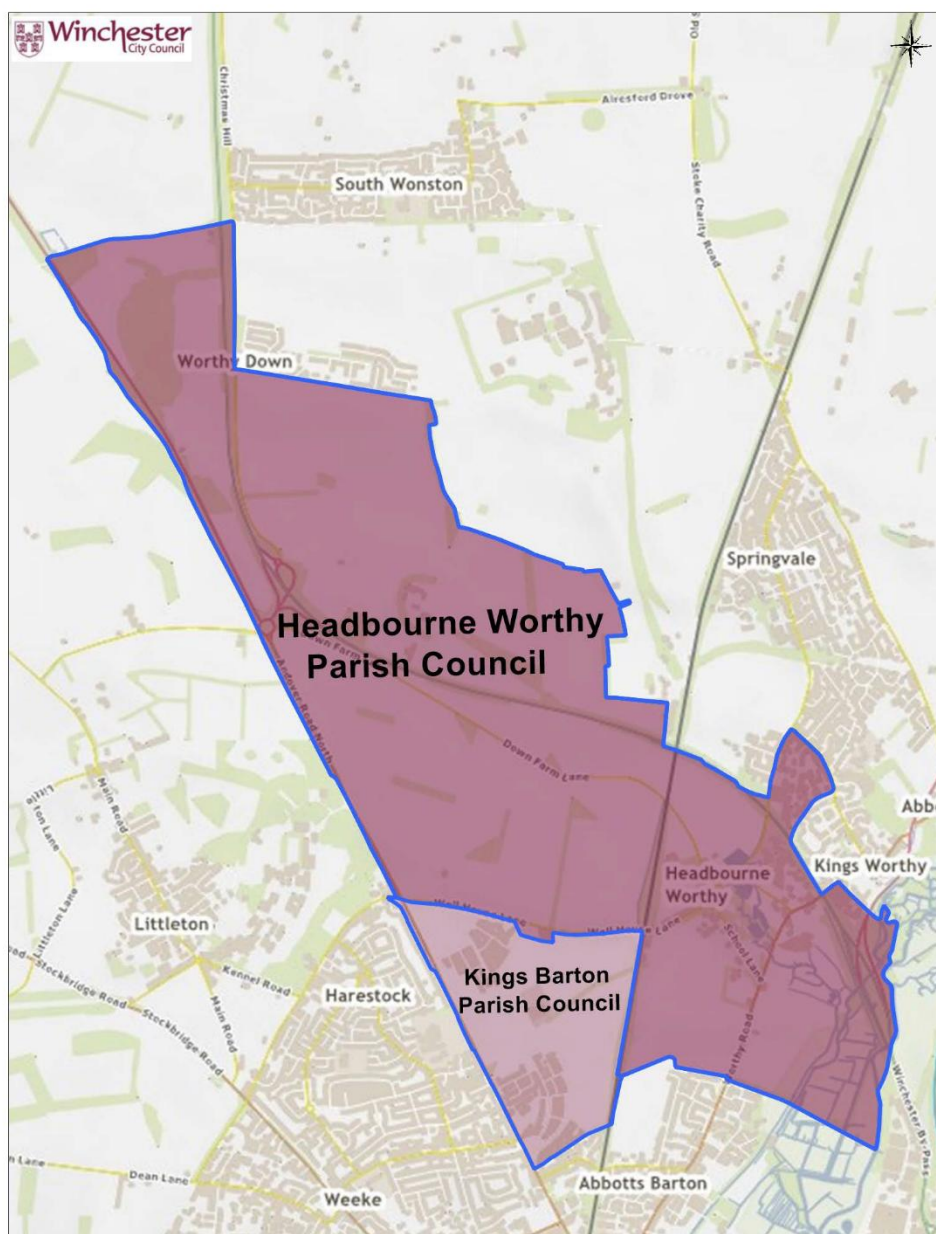
Many respondents either had no further comments or felt the proposed number of councillors and the introduction of a parish precept were reasonable, while a smaller number of respondents raised concerns about the potential cost of the precept and whether 22 councillors was more than necessary

- 2.15. 220 or 65% of respondents provided comments about the proposed number of councillors or the introduction of a parish precept for Winchester town.
- 2.16. The majority of respondents who commented **expressed no concerns, describing both the proposed number of councillors and the introduction of a parish precept as reasonable, proportionate or appropriate** (cited by approximately 40% of all respondents). Many simply stated they had no comments or that the proposals "looked fine" or "made sense".
- 2.17. The most **common concern related to the financial implications of introducing a parish precept** (cited by approximately 15%). These respondents questioned whether it would increase council tax, whether they could afford higher charges and whether the additional expenditure would provide value for money. Several also suggested any precept should be kept as low as possible.
- 2.18. This said, in contrast, approximately 5% **explicitly recognised that a parish council would require its own funding and accepted that a parish precept was an appropriate mechanism**, particularly if it replaced the existing Special Expenses charge. Others emphasised that the council should be adequately funded to fulfil its responsibilities.
- 2.19. A number of respondents felt that **22 councillors was unnecessarily high** (cited by approximately 10%). Suggestions included reducing the overall number, using a lower councillor-to-electoral ratio or aligning representation more closely with comparable parish councils. Some felt a smaller council would be more efficient and less expensive.
- 2.20. A small number of respondents sought **additional information/clarification before expressing a firm view** (approximately 5%). Questions centred on how the precept would be set, whether councillors would receive payment, how representation had been calculated and whether the council would be politically balanced.

Section 3: Proposal for a new parish council for Kings Barton

Introduction

- 3.1. This section presents findings about proposals to create a new parish council for Kings Barton, including comments on the proposed number of councillors or the introduction of a parish precept for Kings Barton.
- 3.2. The council consulted on the proposal to establish a new parish council for Kings Barton. In doing so, the parish council area of Headbourne Worthy would be reduced as it would no longer include Kings Barton (and also the land west of Courtenay Road (W4), which is proposed for inclusion within the new parish council for Winchester town). The following map provides context in understanding the findings of the subsequent questions:

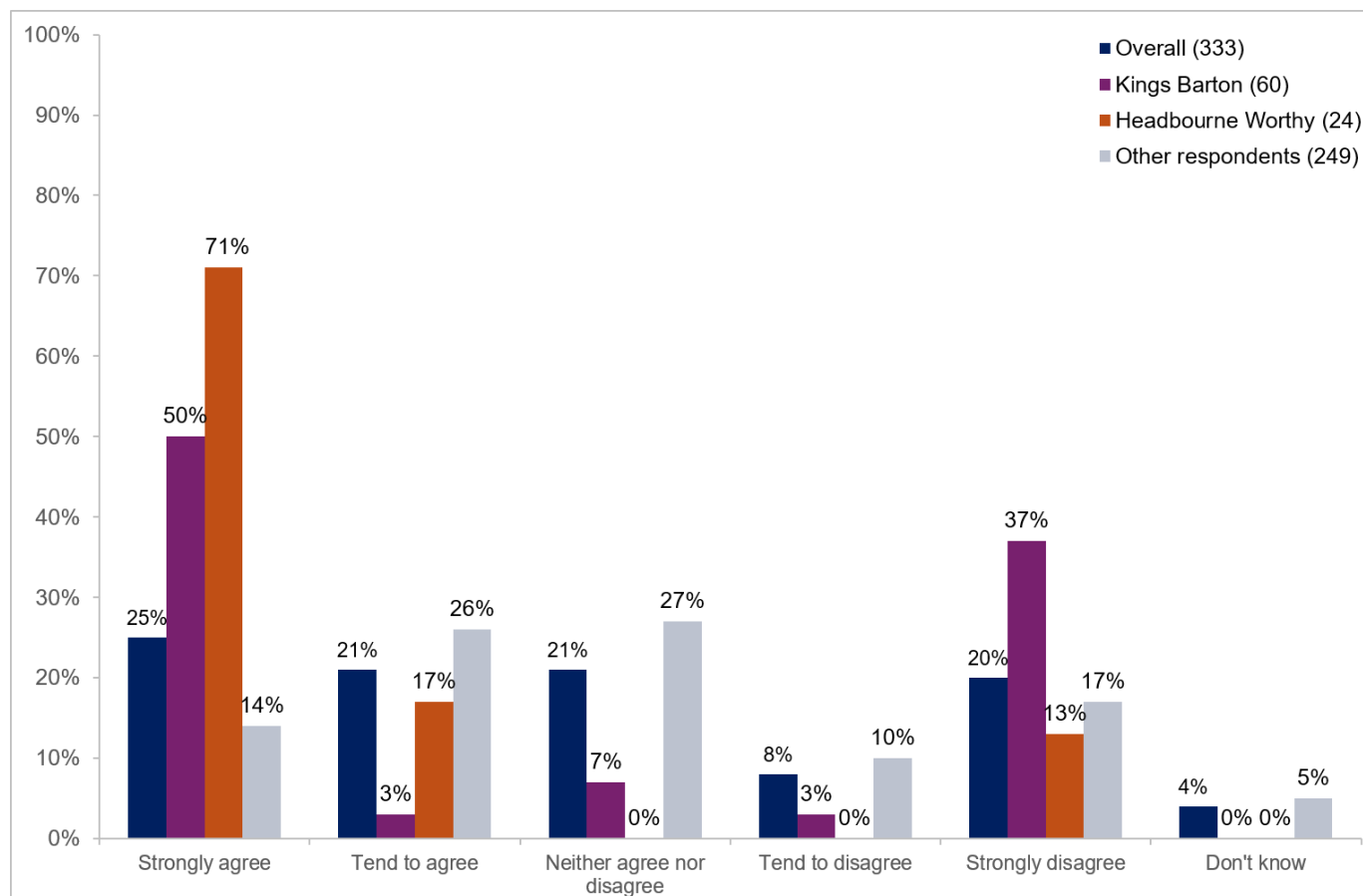


To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to form a separate parish council for Kings Barton (as shown in the map above)?

About half of respondents agree with the creation of a new parish council for Kings Barton, especially respondents living in Kings Barton, while two-fifths of Kings Barton respondents disagree

- 3.3. Overall, 46% of respondents agree with the creation of a new parish council for Kings Barton, including 25% that strongly agree.
- 3.4. 21% neither agree nor disagree and 28% disagree, including 20% that strongly disagree.
- 3.5. 53% of respondents that live in Kings Barton agree with the creation of a new parish council for the area, including 50% that strongly agree (although note the relatively small number of respondents). In contrast, 40% disagree, including 37% that strongly disagree.
- 3.6. 88% of respondents that live in Headbourne Worthy parish area (excluding Kings Barton) agree with the creation of a new parish council for Kings Barton, including 71% that strongly agree (noting the small number of respondents). 13% strongly disagree.
- 3.7. The Kings Barton Committee of Headbourne Worthy Parish Council expressed support for the creation of a parish council for Kings Barton. However, it recommended amendments to the proposed Kings Barton parish, including the incorporation of Barton Meadows, land alongside Andover Road to the Three Maids roundabout, and the Well House Mews development, arguing these areas are closely connected to the Kings Barton community or its future growth.
- 3.8. The Headbourne Worthy Committee of Headbourne Worthy Parish Council supports the creation of a parish council for Kings Barton. However, it raised concerns about the long-term financial viability of the remaining Headbourne Worthy parish following the potential separation, particularly given its reduced tax base and the potential transfer of additional responsibilities under local government reorganisation. The Committee requested that Winchester City Council assess and publish evidence on the financial sustainability of the revised parish. It also supported including the Park and Ride site within Kings Barton parish, noted the financial implications of Barton Meadows remaining with Headbourne Worthy, and observed that Well House Mews has stronger links to Kings Barton, although it did not express a firm view on its inclusion.

Figure 3.1: Level of agreement with the creation of a local parish council for Kings Barton



Numbers in brackets are the number of respondents.

- 3.9. Respondents were asked to explain their answers, with 251 (74%) providing a response.
- 3.10. The dominant reason for supporting the proposal was that **Kings Barton has become a sizeable community with its own identity, facilities and priorities**. Respondents felt these characteristics justified establishing a separate parish council (cited by approximately 25% of all respondents).
- 3.11. Relatedly, some respondents felt a separate parish council would **ensure Kings Barton residents were represented by councillors focused on the area's particular issues, especially as the development continues to expand** (cited by approximately 15%).
- 3.12. **Whilst supporting the principle of a Kings Barton parish, boundary issues were also a prominent theme** (cited by approximately 15%). Respondents commented on the proposed geography of the parish, with the most common suggestions being to include Barton Meadows and Well House Mews within a Kings Barton parish and to review other aspects of the proposed boundary.⁵
- 3.13. A sizeable minority supported the principle of local representation but believed **Kings Barton should be incorporated within the proposed Winchester town parish rather than forming a separate parish** (cited by approximately 15%). These respondents argued that Kings Barton functions as part of the urban area, uses city services and facilities, and will become increasingly integrated with Winchester over time.
- 3.14. A smaller group considered that **Kings Barton should remain within Headbourne Worthy Parish Council** (approximately 5%). Reasons included existing links with Headbourne Worthy, concerns about creating a small standalone parish, particularly in the case of Headbourne Worthy, but also to a lesser extent Kings Barton, and the desire to retain existing governance arrangements.
- 3.15. A similar number **opposed the proposal because they considered an additional parish council unnecessary or likely to increase costs** through a further parish precept or additional bureaucracy (cited by approximately 5%).
- 3.16. Several respondents argued that the **views of Kings Barton residents should carry the greatest weight**, believing those directly affected should determine whether a separate parish council is established. Relatedly, a number of respondents explained that they did not live in Kings Barton or were unfamiliar with the area and therefore felt unable to express a strong view (cited by approximately 15%).

⁵ Following the consultation, Winchester City Council has proposed including Barton Meadows and Well House Mews within the proposed Kings Barton parish council area. These locations were among the most frequently cited boundary issues raised by respondents during the consultation.

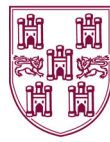
Do you have any comments on the proposed number of councillors or the introduction of a parish precept for Kings Barton?

Several respondents either had no further comments or felt the proposed number of councillors and the introduction of a parish precept were reasonable, while a smaller number of respondents raised concerns about the potential cost of the precept and whether 11 councillors was too many or too little

- 3.17. 185 or 55% of respondents provided comments about the proposed number of councillors or the introduction of a parish precept for Kings Barton.
- 3.18. The majority of respondents **either made no further comments or indicated that the proposed arrangements appeared reasonable**. Many stated they were content with the proposed number of councillors and accepted that a parish precept would be required to fund the new council (cited by approximately 35% of all respondents).
- 3.19. A smaller number said the new parish council should **comprise 12 councillors rather than 11**. These respondents compared Kings Barton with neighbouring parishes, and argued that representation should reflect the completed size of the development rather than its current population (cited by approximately 10%). This point was also made by the Kings Barton Committee of Headbourne Worthy Parish Council.
- 3.20. In contrast, a few respondents **considered 11 councillors excessive for a single housing development**. Some questioned whether sufficient candidates could be found to fill all positions, while others felt a smaller council would be more proportionate and cost-effective (cited by approximately 5%).
- 3.21. Presenting a more neutral view, a small number of respondents **sought greater clarity on how the proposed number of councillors had been determined**. Several suggested it should follow **national guidance or be based on a consistent councillor-to-electors ratio** applied across comparable parishes (cited by approximately 5%).
- 3.22. A similar number commented on the **potential cost of the new parish council**. Concerns centred on keeping the parish precept as low as possible, ensuring value for money and avoiding unnecessary increases in local taxation (cited by approximately 5%).
- 3.23. This said, some other respondents **explicitly supported introducing a parish precept**, recognising that it would be necessary to fund the new parish council and its services (cited by approximately 5%).
- 3.24. A minority reiterated their **opposition to creating a separate parish council for Kings Barton**, arguing that questions about councillor numbers and a parish precept were unnecessary because Kings Barton should instead remain with Headbourne Worthy or become part of a new Winchester town parish (cited by approximately 5%).

Appendix: Consultation Questionnaire

Note: This is the paper version of the questionnaire.



Consultation on the future governance of the Winchester town area and Kings Barton

Introduction

We want to hear from local residents, businesses and community groups with their views on the future governance arrangements for the Winchester town area and Kings Barton, as part of the second stage of a Community Governance Review.

Following an initial stage of consultation, and having considered the responses, this questionnaire asks your views on Winchester City Council's proposal to form a new parish council for the unparished area of Winchester Town *and* a separate parish council for Kings Barton.

You can read what residents, businesses and organisations told us in the stage one consultation report on the council's dedicated webpage: www.winchester.gov.uk/cgr

This questionnaire will take about 10 minutes to complete. **It will be open until 23.59 on Wednesday 24 June 2026. Please put it in the post by this date and send directly to Public Perspectives using the Freepost address at the end of this questionnaire.**

There will be some drop-in sessions if you would prefer to ask questions in person:

- Monday 1 June: Guildhall Winchester, SO23 9GH; 4-7pm
- Wednesday 3 June: Cala Sales Office, Monarchs Mead, Kings Barton, SO22 6GR; 3-5pm

The consultation is running with support from Public Perspectives, an independent organisation that works with local councils and communities.

Your personal details are managed securely and within data protection laws. Your responses are anonymous and confidential. This means that we will not report your answers alongside your personal details in such a way that you can be identified. Please visit the following to read the Council's and Public Perspectives' privacy notices:

www.winchester.gov.uk/strategies-and-policies/data-protection-privacy

www.publicperspectives.co.uk/data-security-and-privacy/

If you have questions you can email: CGR@winchester.gov.uk or if you need support in completing this questionnaire, you can do this by calling Public Perspectives on Freephone: 0800 865 4898 (please leave a message and we will call you back).

Before completing the questionnaire, please read the background information on the Council's website and especially the Frequently Asked Questions, which explain more about the background to the proposals and will help you to respond:
www.winchester.gov.uk/CGR

Your background

Q1. Are you responding as . . .?

Please select all relevant answers. These questions help us understand who is responding.

- ☐ A resident living in the Winchester district
- ☐ Someone who works in the Winchester district
- ☐ Someone who studies in the Winchester district
- ☐ A voluntary or community organisation
- ☐ A parish council or parish meeting
- ☐ Another public sector organisation
- ☐ A local councillor
- ☐ A business operating in the Winchester district
- ☐ Other

If 'Other', please state:

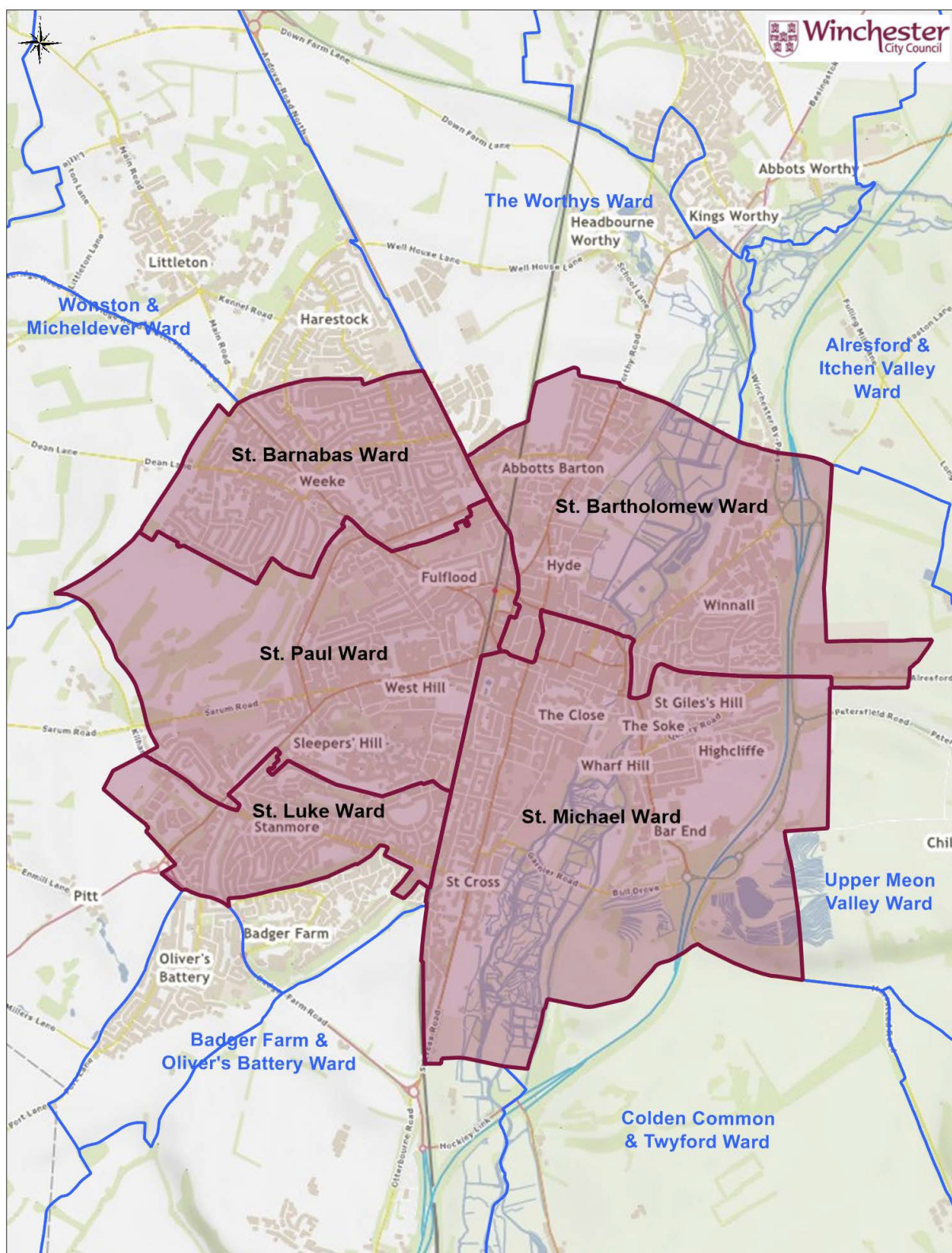
Please state the name of the organisation or business you represent:

Proposal for a new local parish council for the Winchester town area

Winchester town is an unparished area and does not have a parish council. This is different from all other areas in the district, which have parish councils representing their local communities.

Following a public consultation last year (November to December 2025), there were over 1,400 responses on the future governance of Winchester Town. Overall, there was support for creating a new parish council for the currently unparished area, especially amongst residents living in the unparished area itself. You can view the responses from the stage one consultation on pages 9 to 14 in the consultation report.

The area proposed to be included within the parish council for the Winchester town area is shown on the following map, which is essentially the currently unparished area of the town. In addition, land West of Courtenay Road, also known as W4, which is currently part of Headbourne Worthy Parish area, is proposed for inclusion within the new Winchester town parish area.



Q2. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to form a new local parish council for Winchester town (as shown in the map on the previous page)?

Please select one answer only.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Tend to agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Tend to disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Don't know

Why have you answered in this way?

Research and national guidance suggest that parish councils of this size typically have between 13 and 25 councillors, with similar councils having approximately one councillor to every 1,300 to 2,100 electors. It is proposed that a new Winchester Town parish council would comprise 22 councillors representing five wards, providing an average ratio of around 1,300 electors per councillor.

Establishing a new parish council requires the introduction of a parish precept, an element of Council Tax used to fund local services. Currently, these services are funded through a “Special Expenses” charge applied to residents in the unparished Winchester Town area, which for 2026/27 is £94.58 for a Band D property, compared to an average parish precept of £126.51 across the district. The creation of a parish council would involve replacing this “Special Expenses” charge with a locally set precept, determined annually by elected parish councillors.

Q3. Do you have any comments on the proposed number of councillors or the introduction of a parish precept for Winchester town?

Please make comments below:

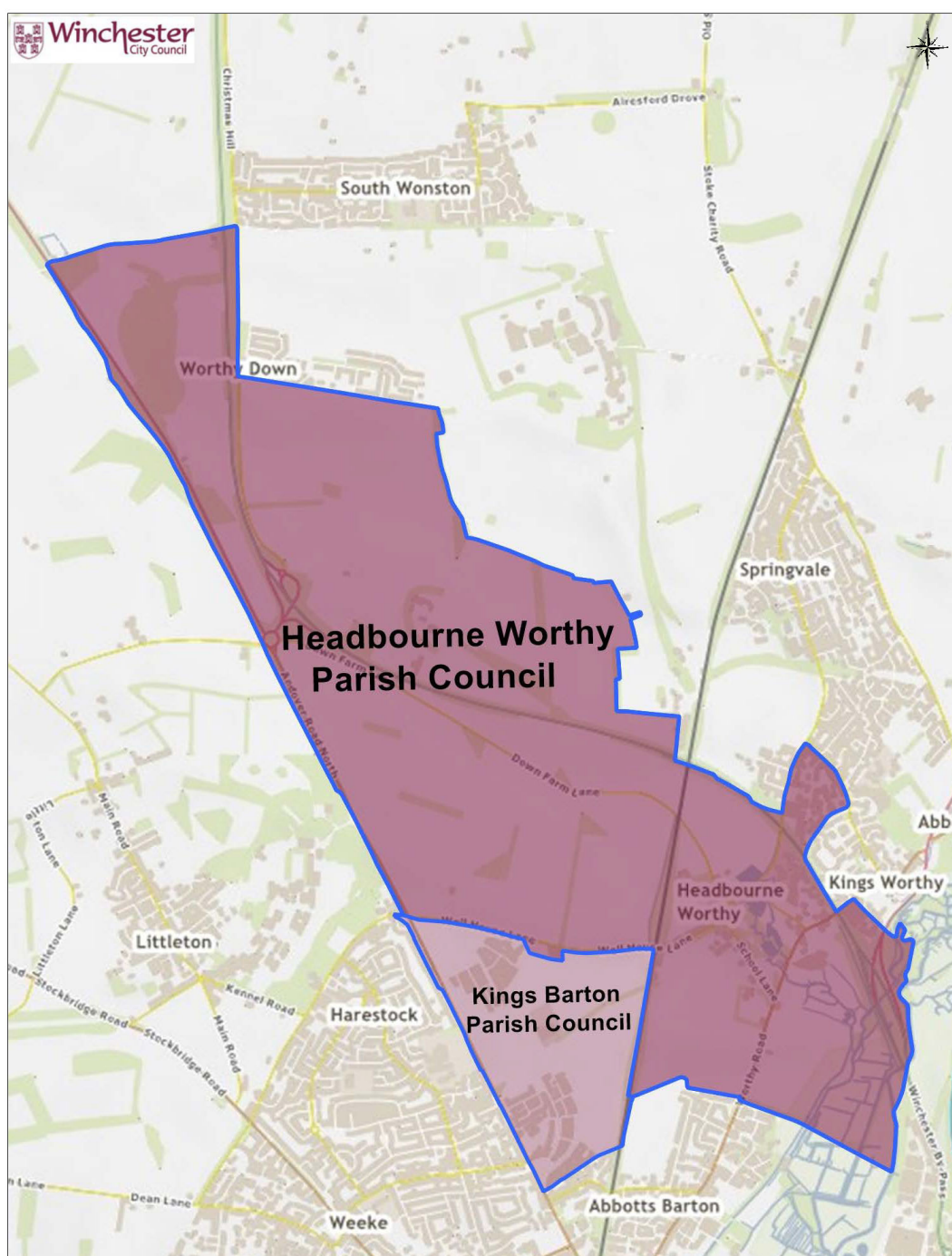
Proposal for a new parish council for Kings Barton

Kings Barton is a major new development of around 2,000 homes, and the stage one consultation explored whether it should form part of a wider Winchester Town parish council, remain within the Headbourne Worthy parish council area, or have a separate parish council. Overall views were mixed, although residents in Kings Barton were more supportive of a separate parish council for the area. You can view the responses from the stage one consultation on pages 18 to 23 in the consultation report.

The Council is asking for views on the proposal to establish a new parish council for Kings Barton.

In doing so, the parish council area of Headbourne Worthy would be reduced as it would no longer include Kings Barton (and also the land west of Courtenay Road (W4), which is proposed for inclusion within the new parish council for Winchester town).

The following map shows the boundaries of the proposed parish council for Kings Barton, along with the new boundary for Headbourne Worthy Parish Council:



Q4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to form a separate parish council for Kings Barton (as shown in the map on the previous page)?

Please select one answer only.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Tend to agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Tend to disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Don't know

Why have you answered in this way?

It is proposed that a new parish council for Kings Barton would comprise 11 councillors and will not be divided into wards, which reflects the area's current size. It means the councillors elected represent the community as a whole.

Establishing a new parish council would require the introduction of a parish precept, an element of Council Tax used to fund local services. For context, the current Band D precept for Headbourne Worthy Parish Council is £115.14 for 2026/27, compared to an average parish precept of £126.51 across the district. Residents of Kings Barton would pay the parish precept set by the new parish council (determined annually by the elected parish councillors) and would no longer pay the Headbourne Worthy parish precept.

Q5. Do you have any comments on the proposed number of councillors or the introduction of a parish precept for Kings Barton?

Please make comments below:

Living, working and studying in Winchester

Q5a. If you are representing an organisation or business, which areas does your organisation mainly operate in?

Please select all relevant answers.

- ☐ Unparished area of Winchester town
- ☐ Kings Barton
- ☐ Headbourne Worthy Parish Council area (excluding Kings Barton)
- ☐ Elsewhere within the Winchester district
- ☐ Outside of the Winchester district
- ☐ Don't know

Q6a. If you live, work or study in the Winchester district, which area do you live in?

Please select one answer only.

- ☐ Unparished area of Winchester town
- ☐ Kings Barton
- ☐ Headbourne Worthy Parish Council area (excluding Kings Barton)
- ☐ Elsewhere within the Winchester district
- ☐ Outside of the Winchester district
- ☐ Don't know

Q6b. If you live, work or study in the Winchester district, what is your postcode?
(This is asked so we can analyse the results by different areas. We will not be able to identify you personally)

Q7. If you live, work or study in the Winchester district, where is your main place of work or study?

Please select all relevant answers.

- ☐ Unparished area of Winchester town
- ☐ Kings Barton
- ☐ Headbourne Worthy Parish Council area (excluding Kings Barton)
- ☐ Elsewhere within the Winchester district
- ☐ Outside of the Winchester district
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Not applicable - not currently in work / education

Other comments

Q8. Do you have any other comments, concerns or suggestions about the proposed new parish councils for Winchester town and Kings Barton?

Please make comments below:

Q9a. How did you hear about this consultation?

Please select all relevant answers.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Council website | ☐ Poster or flyer |
| ☐ Council e-mail or newsletter | ☐ Direct e-mail or letter |
| ☐ Other council communication or event | ☐ An advert in a local newspaper |
| ☐ Council social media | ☐ A relative or a friend |
| ☐ Other social media | ☐ Other |
| ☐ Via a local councillor | ☐ Don't know |
| ☐ Via a local organisation | |

If 'Other', please state:

Q9b. Do you want us to keep in touch?

Please select all relevant answers.

- ☐ I'd like to receive emails from Winchester City Council about all news and information
- ☐ I'd like to receive emails from Winchester City Council only about this Community Governance Review
- ☐ I do not wish to receive e-mails about the above

If you want us to keep in touch with you, please provide your e-mail below:

The following questions are only relevant if you live, work or study in the Winchester district.

About you

This section asks some questions about you. This information will be kept strictly confidential and will not be used to identify you.

You don't have to provide the information requested in this section, but if you do it will help us to understand responses from across our communities.

The information will be stored in compliance with all relevant legal and regulatory requirements, including the General Data Protection Regulations 2018 (GDPR). Further information about how Winchester City Council uses personal information can be found by visiting:
www.winchester.gov.uk/strategies-and-policies/data-protection-privacy

Q10. What is your age group?

Please select one answer only.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| ☐ Under 18 | ☐ 45-54 | ☐ 85 and over |
| ☐ 18-24 | ☐ 55-64 | ☐ Prefer not to say |
| ☐ 25-34 | ☐ 65-74 | |
| ☐ 35-44 | ☐ 75-84 | |

Q11. Are you . . . ?

Please select one answer only.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| ☐ Female | ☐ Another term |
| ☐ Male | ☐ Prefer not to say |

Q12. How would you describe your race/ethnic background?

Please select one answer only.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ White | ☐ Black, African, Caribbean or Black British |
| ☐ Mixed or multiple ethnic groups | ☐ Other ethnic group |
| ☐ Asian or Asian British | ☐ Prefer not to say |

Q13. What is your religion or belief?

Please select one answer only.

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| ☐ Christian (including Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations) | ☐ Buddhist | ☐ Sikh |
| | ☐ Hindu | ☐ Other religion/belief |
| | ☐ Jewish | ☐ No religion |
| | ☐ Muslim | ☐ Prefer not to say |

Q14. Do you consider yourself to have a disability under the Equality Act 2010 as outlined below?

The Equality Act 2010 defines disability as: 'a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities'. In this definition, long-term means more than 12 months and would include covering long-term illness such as cancer and HIV or mental health problems.

Please select one answer only.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| ☐ Yes | ☐ Prefer not to say |
| ☐ No | |

Q15. Which of the following best describes your current working status?

Please select one answer only.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| ☐ Employed (full or part time) | ☐ Student | ☐ Retired |
| ☐ Self-employed | ☐ Looking after the family/home | ☐ Other |
| ☐ Unemployed | ☐ Long term sick | ☐ Prefer not to say |

If 'Other', please state:

Q16. Which of the following best describes your current housing situation?

Please select one answer only.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Owner-occupier | ☐ Other |
| ☐ Privately renting | ☐ Prefer not to say |
| ☐ Renting from the council or housing association | |

Next steps

Once the consultation closes, the feedback received will be analysed and reported by independent organisation, Public Perspectives. This feedback and analysis will inform recommendations to Winchester City Council in August 2026.

You can keep up to date by checking our webpage dedicated to the review at: www.winchester.gov.uk/cgr. We will publish up to date information, council reports and any recommendations throughout the process on our website.

If any new parish council is established, these will most likely be established in April 2027, with a first election held in May 2027.

You can return your completed questionnaire either directly to the council at:

**Winchester City Council
City Offices
Colebrook Street
Winchester
SO23 9LJ**

Or put the questionnaire in an envelope and send it directly to Public Perspectives at the following Freepost address (no stamp needed):

**Winchester CGR consultation
C/O Public Perspectives Ltd
RUEB-BYCU-TEJA
PO Box 1340
St. Albans
AL1 9NT**

