

1. What is a Community Governance Review?

A Community Governance Review enables a principal council such as East Suffolk Council to review, put in place or make changes to town and parish council arrangements; for example, by creating, merging, abolishing or changing town or parish council boundaries.

2. When would changes come into force?

Administrative and financial arrangements will take effect from 1 April 2023, changes to electoral arrangements will come into force at the first scheduled elections following the review. For East Suffolk, that will be 4 May 2023.

3. What is a town or parish council?

Town and parish councils are not run by East Suffolk Council. They are separate elected bodies made up of local people representing the interests of their community.

4. Do all towns and parishes have a parish council?

Not every parish has a parish council, smaller parishes often have parish meetings instead which can fulfil many of the functions of a parish council. There is no difference between town and parish councils in terms of their statutory powers and services they provide. A town council has made a decision to be known as a town council and usually has a Mayor.

5. What does a town and parish council do?

Town and parish councils work towards improving community well-being and providing better services. Some of the services provided include allotments, open spaces and community centres, community transport schemes and tourism activities. More information on town and parish councils can be found here: [Town and parish councils » East Suffolk Council](#)

6. How are town and parish councils funded?

Town and parish councils are funded through a sum of money called a 'precept' – this is a separate charge which is added to, and collected with, the Council Tax. The town or parish council sets its own precept to finance the services and facilities it provides.

7. Are town or parish councillors paid an allowance?

Town and parish councillors are not usually paid an allowance but may incur costs which can be reimbursed.

8. How can residents have their say on the CGR?

All interested groups and residents will be invited to give their views. Where changes to existing parish arrangements are proposed, we will consult with local residents. To respond to the consultation, visit [East Suffolk Council Community Governance Review – 2021-2022 » East Suffolk Council](#)