

## **The Facts:**

### **What is a community governance review?**

Community governance refers to the most local level of decision making which is carried out by parish and town councils in England. From time to time it is important for the Borough Council to review these arrangements, including their boundaries and the number of councillors in each area, to check that they are working effectively and efficiently. In reviewing arrangements we must ensure that boundaries continue to reflect natural communities and that electors are equally represented, i.e. the ratio of councillors to electors is approximately the same across the borough.

### **Why do the review?**

Reviews are usually necessary if the population has or is expected to change significantly, most commonly due to more houses being built. Reviews can also be necessary following changes to the district ward boundaries to ensure that all boundaries are aligned wherever possible.

### **Who carries out the review?**

Community governance reviews are carried out by the 'principle authority' which in this case is Eastleigh Borough Council. Whilst the power is devolved to the Borough Council to review and propose changes, this must be done within the guidelines set out by government.

### **What has happened so far?**

The Community Governance review of Eastleigh Borough started in December 2017 when the terms of reference were agreed and published. The review involves 2 stages of consultation. The stage 1 consultation involved asking all town and parish councils if they felt it was necessary to make changes to boundaries, ward arrangements or the number of councillors, and to state the reasons for any proposed changes. All of the information received was reviewed by the Borough Council in February 2018 at a meeting of the Administration Committee.

### **What happens next?**

The stage 2 consultation is now open. We are now asking you to consider the proposed changes and **have your say**. We have encouraged neighbouring parish councils to agree any proposed boundary changes between themselves, where possible and are supporting those proposals. However there are still some suggested changes that parish councils have not been able to agree. In these situations you will be presented with a number of options and we would like to hear your views. The **consultation closes on Friday June 8<sup>th</sup> 2018**.

The enclosed map shows the existing parish boundaries. The area marked in red is what we are proposing to change, that directly affects you. You can see all of the changes and comment on them online at:

<https://eastleighboroughcouncil.citizenspace.com/governance/community-governance-review>

All views will be considered and final recommendations will be made to the Councils Administration Committee on June 25<sup>th</sup> 2018, who will then make a decision on what changes will be made.