



COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

DATE:	Monday, 17 November 2025
TIME:	7.30 pm
VENUE:	Committee Room, Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton-on-Sea, CO15 1SE

MEMBERSHIP:

Councillor Steady (Chairman)
Councillor Barrett (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Codling
Councillor Davidson
Councillor Doyle

Councillor Ferguson
Councillor Griffiths
Councillor Oxley
Councillor Thompson

Most Council meetings are open to the public and press. The space for the public and press will be made available on a first come first served basis. Agendas are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date and the Council aims to publish Minutes within five working days of the meeting. Meeting papers can be provided, on request, in large print, in Braille, or on disc, tape, or in other languages.

This meeting will be filmed by the Council for live and/or subsequent broadcast on the Council's website. The whole of the meeting will be filmed, except where there are confidential or exempt items, and the footage will be on the website for up to 24 months (the Council retains one full year of recordings and the relevant proportion of the current Municipal Year). The Council will seek to avoid/minimise footage of members of the public in attendance at, or participating in, the meeting. In addition, the Council is obliged by law to allow members of the public to take photographs, film, audio record and report on the proceedings at public meetings. The Council will only seek to prevent this should it be undertaken in a disruptive or otherwise inappropriate manner.

If you have any queries regarding webcasting or the recording of meetings by the public, please contact Katie Koppenaal Email: democraticservices@tendringdc.gov.uk or Telephone on 01255 686585

DATE OF PUBLICATION: Friday, 7 November 2025

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

The Committee is asked to note any apologies for absence and substitutions received from Members.

2 Minutes of the Last Meeting (Pages 5 - 16)

To confirm and sign as a correct record, the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee, held on Tuesday, 23 September 2025.

3 Declarations of Interest

Councillors are invited to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Personal Interest, and the nature of it, in relation to any item on the agenda.

4 Questions on Notice pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 38

Subject to providing two working days' notice, a Member of the Committee may ask the Chairman of the Committee a question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties which affect the Tendring District **and** which falls within the terms of reference of the Committee.

5 Report of the Assistant Director (Corporate Policy and Support) - A.1 - Community Governance Review

To enable the Committee to received and consider the outcome of the first round of public consultation and to agree proposals to go out for a second round of public consultation.

6 Report of the Assistant Director (Corporate Policy and Support) - A.2 - Work Programme - Including Monitoring of Previous Recommendations and Summary of Forthcoming Decisions (Pages 17 - 40)

The report provides the Committee with its approved Work Programme for 2025/26, feedback to the Committee on the decisions in respect of previous recommendations from the Committee in respect of enquiries undertaken and a list of forthcoming decisions for which public notice has been given.

The report further invites the Committee to reappoint its existing Task and Finish Groups, while also encouraging consideration of consolidating these into a single, unified Task and Finish Group.

Date of the Next Scheduled Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee is to be held in the Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton-on-Sea, CO15 1SE at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 9 December 2025.

Information for Visitors

FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE

There is no alarm test scheduled for this meeting. In the event of an alarm sounding, please calmly make your way out of any of the fire exits in the hall and follow the exit signs out of the building.

Please heed the instructions given by any member of staff and they will assist you in leaving the building and direct you to the assembly point.

Please do not re-enter the building until you are advised it is safe to do so by the relevant member of staff.

Your calmness and assistance is greatly appreciated.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE,
HELD ON TUESDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER, 2025 AT 7.30 PM
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, TOWN HALL, STATION ROAD, CLACTON-ON-SEA,
CO15 1SE**

Present:	Councillors Steady (Chairman), Barrett (Vice-Chairman), Codling, Davidson, Ferguson, Griffiths and Oxley
Also in Attendance:	Councillor Gina Placey (Portfolio Holder for Partnerships) and Dr. Emily Murray (University of Essex), Dawn Williams (HCRG Care Group), Rebecca Scott-Williams (HCRG Care Group), Anthony Scafton (North East London NHS Foundation Trust)
In Attendance:	Keith Simmons (Assistant Director (Corporate Policy & Support) & Deputy Monitoring Officer), Michael Carran (Assistant Director (Sport, Culture & Health)), Katie Koppenaar (Democratic Services Officer) and Bethany Jones (Democratic Services Officer)

13. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Doyle and Thompson, with no substitutions appointed.

14. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on Tuesday, 29 July 2025, be approved as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

15. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by Councillors in relation to any item on the agenda for this meeting.

16. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 38

No Questions on Notice pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 38 has been submitted by Members for this meeting.

**17. REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (CORPORATE POLICY & SUPPORT) -
A.2 - WORK PROGRAMMING - INCLUDING MONITORING OF PREVIOUS
RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUMMARY OF FORTHCOMING DECISIONS**

It had been decided by the Chairman of the Committee to allow the Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager to speak regarding the Crime & Disorder (Familial Violence/Abuse) Task and Finish Group prior to the Committee's discussions on the work programme et cetera.

The Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager reminded Members of the work undertaken so far by the Crime & Disorder (Familial Violence/Abuse) Task and Finish

Group. The Group had reached a natural conclusion whereby five out of seven recommendations had been completed. The remaining recommendations for completion had been regarding LGR, which could not be completed until progress was made in this area, and training options, which had been discussed by Officers. It was suggested that the Committee decided whether to continue the work of the Crime and Disorder (Familial Violence/Abuse) Task and Finish Group, or to begin a new Task & Finish Group focussing on victim services/support with the opportunity to include victims of familial violence/abuse within that research.

The Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager had also provided some information in respect of Victims Services and Support to enable the Committee to assess the issue of such services and support and the best way to achieve this.

The Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager then left the meeting, and the Committee proceeded to consider this item as follows:

The Committee had before it a report (A.2) that provided Members with its approved Work Programme for 2025/26 (Appendix A), feedback to the Committee on the Executive's decisions made in respect of previous recommendations from the Committee in respects of enquiries undertaken (Appendix B) and a list of forthcoming decisions for which notice had been given since publication of the agenda for the Committee's last meeting (Appendix C).

The Committee had held an informal meeting on 19 September 2025 and had considered the items contained within Appendix A (the Committee's Work Programme for 2025/26).

In relation to the 2025/26 Work Programme enquiry into water quality, Members had been made aware that the Chairman of the Committee and the Chairman of the Council, accompanied by Officers, had made a site visit to the Haltermann Carless Oil Refinery on 19 August 2025, which had also formed part of the enquiry into water quality in the District. Some informal notes on that visit had been set out in Appendix D to the A.2 report.

Members of the Committee discussed the following items, that had been set out in Appendix A to the A.2 report in the agenda, for the Work Programme 2025/26:

- Crime and Disorder (Familial Violence/Abuse) Task and Finish Group
- Coastal Communities Unit
- Joint working with Parish and Town Councils Task and Finish Group
- Youth Provision of School age Children Task and Finish Group
- Collaborative working opportunities with Braintree and Colchester and building working relationships with external partners located in those areas
- Community Governance Review

Members noted their desire to establish collaborative working opportunities with Member colleagues at Colchester and Braintree Councils and explored, in particular, their wish to work with the various departments within the University of Essex.

The Committee was aware that this meeting of the Committee had been held one week prior to the end of the first phase of consultation under the Community Governance Review for the unparished areas of Clacton-on-Sea, Holland-on-Sea and Jaywick Sands. The outcome of that consultation had been scheduled to be reported to the Committee at a meeting in October. The position in respect of that timetable was the subject of an oral update to the Committee from the Assistant Director (Corporate Policy and Support). As such, the Committee had been requested to consider whether the date of that October meeting needed to be adjusted.

It was moved by Councillor Ferguson, seconded by Councillor Oxley and **RESOLVED** that the Committee:-

- (a) notes its approved Work Programme for 2025/26 (Appendix A) together with the feedback to the Committee on the Executive's decisions made in respect of previous Committee recommendations (Appendix B), the list of forthcoming decisions (Appendix C) and the informal notes of the Chairman of the Committee and the Chairman of the Council's visit to the Haltermann Carless Oil Refinery (Appendix D);
- (b) notes the remaining contents of the report including the Brightlingsea Harbour biocides research project and considers the opportunity to carry out a visit to Brightlingsea Harbour;
- (c) notes that the Assistant Director (Corporate Policy & Support) will exercise the power delegated to him by the Committee at its meeting held on 29 July 2025 to appoint / re-appoint (as appropriate) Members to the following bodies:-
 - Joint Working with Town and Parish Councils Task and Finish Working Group;
 - Provision of Out of School Organised Activities and Events Task and Finish Working Group (which will hold their final meeting to develop proposals for an online resource);
 - Youth Mental Health and Diagnosis Task and Finish Working Group; and
 - Victims of Crime and Disorder Services and Support Task and Finish Working Group).
- (d) agrees that the Crime and Disorder (Familial violence/abuse) Task and Finish Group will not be re-appointed and that any further updates / matters relating to this important issue will be reported directly to the Committee; and
- (e) notes that the date for its next meeting, which is scheduled to receive the outcome of the first phase of consultation under the Community Governance Review for Clacton-on-Sea, Holland-on-Sea and Jaywick Sands, may need to be re-arranged.

18. YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

18.1 A.1 - Report of the Assistant Director (Corporate Policy & Support) - The research findings from University of Essex (and partners) around youth mental health issues in Coastal Communities

The Committee was aware that this item had been brought to the Committee as part of the requirements in the Committee’s Work Programme for 2025/26, as approved by Full Council at its meeting held on 14 August 2025.

This had identified that an item on the work programme would include:

- To look at the mental health research which suggested the position had been most pronounced among younger people living in coastal communities.
- That Doctor Emily Murray be invited to attend the Committee meeting.
- The published articles and summaries of the research findings produced by the University and its collaboration partners.
- The anticipated outcome.

The consideration of the matters set out in this report had been said to support the separate Corporate Plan Themes around:

- Pride in our area and services to residents
- Raising aspirations and creating opportunities
- Working with partners to improve quality of life

The envisaged outcome of this item had been to enable the Committee to receive and consider the evidence around mental health among young people in coastal communities such as those in the District of Tendring; and the access to services to diagnose mental health issues affecting young people. This would then inform the Committee as to further work that it would wish to consider as part of its work programme going forward.

Questions:	Answers:
Is there a correlation between the provision of special educational needs and poor mental health in coastal communities?	(Dr Emily Murray) We have not investigated this specifically, but it is something we will look to contribute to the research.
Do mental health issues referenced generally start in primary or secondary schools? Is there an impact on transport or similar issues in secondary schools that contributes to them not going on to higher education?	(Dr Emily Murray) Birth cohort data suggests that younger people in deprived coastal areas are much less likely to obtain a degree later in life than the generations prior. The explanation is more about average household incomes and poverty in those areas rather than the quality of schooling.
How quickly can the support systems listed be accessed as I know waiting lists can be extensive, such as CAHMS currently being 12-18 months?	(Dr Emily Murray) The Institute of Public Health (at the University of Essex) has obtained a grant from the NIHR (National Institute for Health and Research) to look at young people’s mental health in Essex specifically which has just started in September. This creates a good opportunity to look at this on a more localised scale, given that the current data

	is national.
(Anthony Scrafton) How would the research correlate with schools?	(Dr Emily Murray) Looking at test scores, pupils progressing on to higher education were frequently lower than the national average which impacted on the mental health of young people.

18.2 **A.1 - Report of the Assistant Director (Sport, Culture and Health) - Coastal Communities Unit**

It was reported that levels of poor mental health amongst children in Tendring had been some of the worst in Essex. The National Mental Health of Children and Young People survey had highlighted that 9.5% of primary age school children had at least one mental health disorder. The most common types being behavioural (5%) and emotional (4.1%).

In addition, Tendring had the highest prevalence of mental health disorders in children in Essex at 9.8% of the population aged 5-16.

In more general terms, the survey had highlighted that nationally in 2023 1 in 5 young persons between 8 and 25 had a probable mental disorder and although in 8 to 16-year-olds the rates were similar for boys and girls, within the 17 to 25 age range the rates were twice as high for young women as young men.

The national data had also highlighted that in 8 to 16-year-olds 1 in 4 children with a probable mental disorder had a parent who could not afford for them to take part in outside school activities compared with 1 in 10 for those unlikely to have a mental disorder.

Similarly, in 17 to 25-year-olds, those with a probable mental disorder were three times more likely to not be able to take part in activities such as days out or socialising compared with those unlikely to have a mental disorder.

Although the contact rates with mental health services for 0 to 18-year-olds had been lower than the England average (based on 2021 data), North East Essex had the highest rate in Essex at 217.4 per 10,000 people. This was also the case for open referrals for those under 19 (202 per 10,000).

It was concerning that Tendring had one of the worst suicide rates in Essex and although this referred to all age suicides, this had also been inclusive of those who were at most risk of self-harming (which it had been suggested heightened the risk of suicide) and young people, care leavers and 'looked after' children.

The Committee was informed that the King's Fund had identified in 2024 that, although more children were accessing mental health services, the current level of expansion had not met demand. They had also identified that there was a gap in support for those children who needed greater support in an educational setting but did not receive specialist mental health treatment.

The Care Quality Commission had reported that there had been an increasing number of children needing support to access care who had been using Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and up to a third of those having accessed the service did not know who to contact in a crisis.

Since 2015, it was recognised that the prevalence of children with social, emotional and mental health needs had increased rapidly with the Covid-19 pandemic having had a particular impact where it had been reported nationally that 80% of young people with pre-existing mental health needs had experienced exacerbated or new issues. This had been particularly the case in older girls, under 18s and those due to sit exams.

Members were reminded that this Council's emerging Health and Wellbeing Strategy had highlighted some of the actions the Council had taken to seek to address some of those issues. For example, the Wellbeing Hubs in Primary Schools (which covered 30 schools across North East Essex) sought to help children with emerging difficulties who did not meet the threshold for statutory services. The hubs helped develop resilience, empower children and build self-esteem.

In addition, work had been undertaken to assist families most in need via Family Solutions and a housing and benefits officer working in the Children's Social Care multi-disciplinary team which helped provide stability for families.

The Council's emerging Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which had been closely aligned with our partners such as the North East Essex Health and Wellbeing Alliance, also sought to deliver a wider determinants approach which acknowledged the importance of addressing the key causes of poor health.

An approach which highlighted how this Council supported issues such as housing, social isolation, opportunity and physical activity would all help address those issues which led to poor mental health in families and children. Those services both statutory and voluntary included:-

“Southend, Essex and Thurrock Children's and Adolescent's Mental Health Service (SET CAMHS) is an NHS service which provides diagnosis, therapy and crisis support for young people up to age 18.

- *SET CAMHS - Hubs - North | NELFT NHS Foundation Trust*
- *Self or professional referral: 0800 953 0222*

Essex Child & Family Wellbeing Service helps families access local health services in the community and supports with school/community wellbeing and early screening for young people up to age 19 and SEND young people up to age 25.

- *Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service | Essex County Council*
- *Via Family Hubs: 0300 247 0015*

Youth Enquiry Service (YES) support young people age 11-25 with counselling, wellbeing, housing and teen parent support.

- *YES | Youth Enquiry Service | Supporting Young People*
- *Appointment via: 01255 434 601*

Tendring Wellbeing and Intervention Services (TWIS) CIC provide therapy, workshops, mindfulness and neurodiverse support for children & families.

- *Tendring Wellbeing & Intervention Services*
- *Contact via: 01255 754027*

Inspire offer virtual and face-to-face support and counselling to young people age 10-25 in Suffolk and North Essex.

- <https://inspirecharityuk.org/services/wellbeing/>
- *07720087487*
- wellbeing@inspiresuffolk.org.uk

Teen Talk Harwich provides counselling and support for young people age 11-25 year old and their families living in Tendring.

- <https://teentalkharwich.co.uk/about/>
- *01255 504800*

Therapy for You is the local provider for NHS talking therapies. They will accept referrals for young people from age 16 and offer therapy but do not diagnose other than to guide treatment.

- <https://www.therapyforyou.co.uk/>
- *01206 334 001*

The Ark Centre Counselling Services have an Accredited Counsellor based at The Ark offering sessions at a reduced rate from the age of 6 years upwards.

- *Counselling – The Ark Centre*
- *01255 502063*

Reach out for Mental Health provide up to 12 weeks of free counselling to those who have suicidal thoughts.

- <https://reachoutfmh.co.uk/>
- *07308 069 609*

Colchester Institute Counselling Service offer low cost and remote counselling.

- *Counselling Service at Colchester Institute - Colchester Institute*
- *01206 712 000*

Essex Young People's Drug and Alcohol Services (EYPDSA) offers support to under 25's affected by substance misuse through 1:1, group work, telephone and virtual support.

- <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/information/young-people/east/EYPDAS>
- *01245 493 311*

Community Voluntary Services Tendring (CVST) supports, promotes and develops the voluntary and community sector across the Tendring district. They offer social prescribing, a befriending service, volunteering opportunities and community group support.

- <https://www.cvstendring.org.uk/>
- *01255 425692*

Community360 supports the voluntary and community sector in Colchester and offers services such as community transport, wellbeing initiatives, fundraising support, and strategic development for local organisations.

- <https://www.community360.org.uk/>
- 01206 505250

Next Chapter support young people affected by domestic violence to explore their feelings and help them understand what they have been through, know they are not to blame, help them to stay safe and let them know where they can turn if they need more help.

- <https://www.thenextchapter.org.uk>
- 0330 333 7 444 or 01206 500585

Centre for Action on Rape and Abuse (CARA) work with victims and survivors of sexual violence and child sexual abuse, providing independent, specialist support and promoting and representing their rights and needs.

- <https://caraessex.org.uk/>
- 01206 769795

Essex Young Carers Services support children and young people under 18 years old who provide regular and on-going care to another person who is physically or mentally ill, disabled or misuses substances.

- Young Carers
- 03330 322800

Extra Support for Families provide support for families (EXTRA) to help anyone caring for children in the Tendring district to meet the challenges of parenting. They offer local opportunities for parents/carers to meet at fun child/parent workshops, informal parent peer support groups and a range of parenting programmes.

- Extra Support for Families | Welcome to Extra Support for Families
- 01255 475001

Home Start provide direct support through their local Home-Start network – families are introduced and matched to an available volunteer. Home-Start's volunteers' work alongside families to give compassionate and confidential support. Children from 5-11 years.

- Home-Start Colchester, Jaywick and Clacton | Home-Start UK
- 01206 854625

The Children's Society work with children, young people and adults aged 8-24 who are at a medium/high risk of criminal or sexual exploitation, or those that are actively being exploited. Support areas include child sexual exploitation, children's rights and advocacy, county lines and criminal exploitation, mental health and wellbeing, missing from home, poverty, refugees and migrants, substance misuse, young carers. They offer 1:1 therapeutic sessions, targeted group work sessions and specialist sexual violence counselling.

- <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/>
- 01245 493 311

Invisible Lives - Barnardo's. The Invisible Lives Challenging Behaviour and Attitude (CBA) service provides a whole family approach to support children (aged 8-19 years) and their families when there has been an adverse change in the child's behaviour which may result in risk taking behaviours and/or lead to potential offending.

- 01268 558448 or 07947219802
- Invisible.lives@barnardos.org.uk

Other resources

- SHOUT (24/7 confidential texting service): txt SHOUT on 85258
- Samaritans (24/7 emotional support): 116 123
- ieso (digital CBT therapy) 0800 074 5560, <https://www.iesohealth.com/>
- MIND - 0300 123 3393, <https://www.mind.org.uk/>
- Young Minds <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>
- Stand Alone (family estrangement) <https://www.standalone.org.uk/>

Self-harm and suicide

- Papyrus UK Hopeline 247- 0800 068 4141, txt 07860 039967, www.papyrus-uk.org
- Harmless <https://harmless.org.uk/>
- The Mix (support for under 25s) <https://www.themix.org.uk/mental-health/self-harm>
- Every Life Matters <https://www.every-life-matters.org.uk/self-harm/>
- Stay Alive App <https://www.england.nhs.uk/supporting-our-nhs-people/support-how/wellbeing-apps/stayalive/>
- Safety planning <https://www.samaritans.org/how-we-can-help/if-youre-worried-about-someone-else/supporting-someone-suicidal-thoughts/creating-safety-plan/>
- CALM Harm App <https://calmharm.stem4.org.uk/>

Coping Skills

- 15-minute rule <https://www.lifesigns.org.uk/15-minutes-rule/>
- Distress tolerance skills <https://positivepsychology.com/distress-tolerance-skills/>
- <https://www.getselfhelp.co.uk/distress-tolerance/>
- Emotional regulation skills <https://www.getselfhelp.co.uk/emotion-regulation/>
- Self-soothing <https://positivepsychology.com/self-soothing/>
- Grounding techniques <https://positivepsychology.com/grounding-techniques/>
- Mindfulness https://ruh.nhs.uk/patients/services/physiotherapy/documents/PHY051_Mindfulness_and_relaxation.pdf

Gender Identity

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/gender-identity/>
The Outhouse charity provides opportunities and promoting equality for LGBTQ+ people in Essex. Provides a vast programme of services including social events, support groups, training and more.

Tel: 01206 871394 | Email: info@theouthouse.org.uk | Web: www.theouthouse.org.uk

LGBT+ Switchboard – An LGBT+ helpline, providing a safe space (via phone, email and webchat) to discuss anything including sexuality, gender identity, sexual health and emotional wellbeing

Tel: 0300 330 0630 | Email: chris@switchboard.lgbt | Web: www.switchboard.lgbt

Stonewall's Information Service – An LGBTQ+ information service supporting LGBTQ+ individuals and their families with problems, questions and requests for support. The service aims to do what they can to help or will signpost to someone who can.

Tel: 0800 050 20 20 | Email: info@stonewall.org.uk | Web: www.stonewall.org.uk/help-advice/contact-stonewalls-information-service

FFLAG – A national voluntary organisation and registered charity dedicated to supporting parents and families and their LGBT+ members. FFLAG provide a central point for exchange of information between parents' groups and local parent contacts. The FFLAG website includes numerous downloadable resources.

Tel: 0300 688 0368 | Email: support@fflag.org.uk | Web: www.fflag.org.uk

London Friend – The UK's oldest LGBT+ charity, offering support around same-sex relationships, sexual and gender identity and promoting personal growth and self-confidence. London Friend offers a range of in-person and online groups to meet with other LGBT+ people in a safe and supportive environment.

Tel: 02078 331674 | Email: office@londonfriend.org.uk | Web: www.londonfriend.org.uk

GIRES (Gender Identity Research and Education Society) <https://www.gires.org.uk/>

Useful apps

Kooth - <https://www.kooth.com/>

Calm app - <https://www.calm.com/>

Questions:	Answers:
You mentioned that "Parents didn't have much aspiration for their children", should that be a piece of work that should be undertaken as a priority?	(Mike Carran) This is not necessarily something the Council would lead on, but I am aware of a multitude of community work done by primary schools around the District. A lot of the work that the Council undertakes is centred around bringing young people together.
Have we looked at the free running trails?	(Mike Carran) This is part of the regeneration project, there is a way to go but currently there is potential to include it as part of this instructor led project, and there have been some programmes at the sports facilities that we manage that have been extremely popular.
Do our future partners know the particular issues in our District? How do we ensure they are prioritised?	(Mike Carran) Work has started with our partners in Braintree and Colchester. They also use the health alliance as a backdrop to their work and face some of the same challenges as Tendring.

It was moved by Councillor Ferguson, seconded by Councillor Griffiths and **RESOLVED** that the Committee:-

- (a) thanks the various contributors to the meeting from the local health providers and University of Essex and notes the research findings that nationally, those young people living in deprived Coastal Communities are significantly more prone to poor mental health and less likely to have that diagnosed when compared with the position of young people in inland communities and therefore urges that this evidenced need is flagged with this Council's partners as progress occurs over the coming years to local government reorganisation;
- (b) urges the Portfolio for Partnerships to take up the following policy recommendations from the University of Essex's Coastal Communities Centre research into Coastal Disadvantage and Youth Mental Health as part of the strategic approach to Health and Wellbeing locally:
- *Develop a long-term strategy to increase diagnosis of mental health conditions and reduce the development of poor mental in children and adolescence.*
 - *Create local targets to improve mental health for young people in line with the national average, as part of their annual planning exercise.*
 - *Invest in delivery of interventions to support the mental health of coastal young adults in the most deprived areas of the England. This should include facilitating access to services with a focus on the most at-risk groups (e.g. how can services be brought closer to coastal young adults).*
 - *Fund longer-term investments in deprived coastal communities to tackle the drivers of poor mental health. This includes improving opportunities for education, employment, housing and social connection with improved public transport essential for all of these.*
- (c) requests Officers to work with the Council's partners to promote measures to encourage greater aspiration for young people, including among their parents, and thereby address the continuing inter-generational low aspirations.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.08 pm

Chairman

This page is intentionally left blank

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

17 NOVEMBER 2025

REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR CORPORATE POLICY AND SUPPORT

A.1 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW FOR CLACTON-ON-SEA, HOLLAND-ON-SEA, AND JAYWICK SANDS – UPDATE FOLLOWING PHASE I CONSULTATION AND APPROACH TO PHASE II CONSULTATION

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT/INQUIRY

The report reminds the Committee of the approved terms of reference for the Community Governance Review of Clacton-on-Sea, Holland-on-Sea and Jaywick Sands and its implementation to this point. The Committee is also advised of the outcome of the Phase I consultation exercise (Stage 2 in the Terms of Reference Timeline) as part of that Review (including the expenditure incurred to date). Taking account of that outcome, the Committee is invited to approve the basis of the Phase II consultation (Stage 4 in the Timeline) around the creation of separate Parishes for the three communities. In considering this, information has been provided by the Essex Association of Local Councils around the base costs of Councils for the three separate areas and the outcome of discussions with the Ward Councillors has shaped the proposed boundaries for the three Parishes.

SCOPE - THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE REPORT

The aim of the report is to support the Committee's constitutional role in respect of Community Governance Reviews (as set out at Article 6.02 of the Council's constitution – as follows):

“The Community Leadership Overview & Scrutiny Committee, in accordance with Section 9F (d) and (e) of the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended) will also perform the functions relating to community governance reviews as provided for by Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (“the 2007 Act”) where those functions have been delegated to the Committee by full Council (as set out in Part 3 Schedule 2 Responsibility for Council (Non-Executive) Functions).

In performing its delegated functions, the Committee is required, by section 100(4) of the 2007 Act, to have regard to the guidance which is issued by the Secretary of State, under section 100(1) and (3), and the LG BCE under section 100(2) of the same Act.”

In particular, this report concerns the progression of the Community Government Review for the three communities referenced as commenced with the publication of its Terms of Reference on 1 July 2025.

INVITEES

Charlene Slade, Chief Executive Officer at EALC

BACKGROUND

The Community Governance Review (CGR) for Clacton-on-Sea, Holland-on-Sea, and Jaywick Sands began on 1 July 2025, as a consequence of the publication of the Terms of Reference for that Review.

By way of a chronology around governance for the CGR, the following is provided:

- 21 October 2024 – Motion at Full Council seeking a report setting out the process for undertaking a CGR in the review area.
- 15 November 2024 – Report to, and approval from, Full Council for the CGR to be undertaken based on draft Terms of Reference, designation of the Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee as the oversight Committee for the CGR and authorisation of the Chief Executive to update the Terms of Reference and publish these on 1 July 2025.
- 20 December 2024 – Approval of funding of £48K by Cabinet to meeting the anticipated costs of the CGR (subject to a review being undertaken to ensure this would be sufficient).
- 17 June 2025 – Report to and decision of the Community Leadership Overview & Scrutiny Committee for the proposed commencement of the CGR and reference to the Cabinet in respect of an increase in the budget for the CGR to £68K. The Committee also approved a date for its review of the outcome of the first stage of consultation and preparation for the next phase. This was originally scheduled for 20 October and was, subsequently, rearranged to the date of this meeting.
- 27 June 2025 – Decision of Cabinet to accept the revised budget for the CGR and authorise expenditure up to £68K on the CGR.
- 1 July 2025 – Formal decision of the Chief Executive to publish the Terms of Reference for the CGR and thereby commence the review process.

The review aims to determine whether new parish or town councils should be created for these areas, which are currently the only unparished parts of the District. Together, they include around 30,000 properties, 44,000 registered voters and many other stakeholders (including voluntary and community organisations) in the review.

RELEVANT CORPORATE PLAN THEME/ANNUAL CABINET PRIORITY

The Corporate Plan 2024-28 has a central theme around community leadership, and the Council is undertaking this role in placing the issue of community governance in front of local electors and others with an interest in the review.

DESIRED OUTCOME OF THE CONSIDERATION OF THIS ITEM/INQUIRY

- To note the update provided in respect of the CGR to this point (including the expenditure incurred);
- To receive and consider the outcome of the Phase I consultation under the CGR;
- to approve a realignment of the timetable for the review (as set out within this report) given the position set out; and
- To confirm that, taking account of the outcome of the first phase of consultation, the Phase II consultation will be undertaken on the basis set out in the report based on the separate parishing of Clacton-on-Sea, Holland-on-Sea and Jaywick Sands with separate Councils for each.

DETAILED INFORMATION

Consultation & Engagement

Consultation and engagement with the general public and stakeholders commenced on 1st July 2025. On this date the dedicated webpage was launched on the Council's website. This domain offered detailed information on the consultation and provided the approved Terms of Reference. The web page also provided links to consultation surveys for each of the three

areas and provided details of public meetings to be held in each of the three areas covered by the review.

As part of the communications plan for the CGR, pull up banners were produced providing a QR code specific to the area in which they were to be placed. The QR code linked directly to the consultation pages and surveys. When the banners were placed in the designated locations there were also leaflets and paper surveys about the CGR. In addition, each banner placement had a ballot box in which to receive completed consultation surveys. These sites were:

- Sunspot Jaywick, Brooklands, Jaywick
- Holland-on-Sea Public Hall, Frinton Road, Holland-on-Sea
- Pier Avenue Council Office, Pier Avenue, Clacton-on-Sea
- Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton-on-Sea

These locations were checked on a weekly basis when submitted survey forms were collected and forms and leaflets were replenished.

Landscape banners advertising the CGR were attached to railings in areas of high vehicular use in Holland-on-Sea, Clacton-on-Sea and Jaywick Sands. There was an additional banner displayed on the railings of the Town Hall in Clacton-on-Sea. These banners held the same branding, CGR message and QR codes.

A press release was issued and a campaign on social media and local press began with regular advertising of the CGR emphasising the request for people to have their say. All communications were branded to help reinforce recognition of the image and thus the consultation within communities. The media plan continued through July, August and September with regular advertisements and pushes to maximise reach and response.

Local shops and businesses in the review area were approached to display leaflets and posters advertising the CGR and encouraging residents to have their say. Many took the material and displayed it during the Phase I consultation.

The Council, in recognising the crucial representational role of District Councillors, has engaged directly with those Councillors in the review area. This included dedicated briefings with the Councillors on 22 May 2025 and on 15 October 2025. These sessions also provided interactive sessions to gain insight into information to inform the phases of consultation. These sessions were separate to the Council's All Members Briefings on 20 November 2024, 25 June 2025 and 23 October 2025 where the CGR process were relayed to Councillors from across Tendring.

In addition to the Councillor briefings, the following events were attended by staff to support the CGR process:

- Sports Conference on 19 May 2025
- Tendring Together event on 22 May 2025
- Clacton Town Board on 23 May 2025 and on 25 July 2025

The CGR Stakeholder list set out in the Terms of Reference was expanded based on organisations/individuals requesting to be involved at the above engagement events.

Following these events, an email was sent to all stakeholders whose information was available (42). Thereafter a letter followed to 403 known stakeholders which provided detailed information, links to the website where further information could be found, a copy of the CGR survey and a pre-paid envelope for reply. These stakeholders included Essex County Council (as required by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007).

An email to 22,806 electors within the CGR area was sent which detailed the consultation, where to get further information and how to have their say. This was followed by a letter to 30,000 households within the area. This contact followed the same basic format and content as the stakeholder communication.

As referenced in the CGR communications and web information on the CGR, four public meetings were held during Phase I of the CGR consultation. These meetings were held as follows:

Date	Time	Location
Monday 28 July	6:30pm - 7:30pm	St Johns Church Hall, Great Clacton, St Johns Road, Clacton-on-Sea CO15 4BP
Tuesday 29 July	6:30pm - 7:30pm	Sunspot, Business Centre, Jaywick Sands, Brooklands, Clacton-on-Sea CO15 2JG
Wednesday 30 July	6:30pm - 7:30pm	Essex Hall, Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton-on-Sea CO15 1SE
Thursday 31 July	7:00pm - 8:00pm	Holland Public Hall, 137-139 Frinton Road, Holland-on-Sea CO15 5UR

Overall, the turnout for each meeting was good and engagement by attendees was active throughout. Whilst some robust discussions arose from those with strong views, the general consensus was that the meetings were a good engagement tool and that the reactions provoked helped to deepen the messaging to the electorate around the CGR process. Copies of the survey were available for attendees.

Ward Councillors in the review area were also approached on two separate occasions to see if additional meetings should be organised in their Ward/part of the review area and no requests were made for such additional meetings.

Officers were grateful to the Holland on Sea Residents' Association for the additional opportunity to present to the Association's members the CGR process. The meeting provided further scope to engage with the public within that part of the review area. Offers were made to help organise/attend meetings of a couple of other organisations within other parts of the review area but, unfortunately, were not taken up by those organisations.

While the above work was generally seeking to bring the CGR to the attention of electors and stakeholders in the review area, there was an understanding that those seldom heard in such consultations should have the opportunity to engage in the process. To this end, Community Volunteer Services Tendring (CVST) were appointed to ensure a diverse range of community voices could be heard through structured discussions. This was achieved through five public engagement events held across Clacton-on-Sea and surrounding areas. These were:

- Clacton Dementia Café – Social group for people with dementia and their carers
- Summit – Adults with Learning Disabilities
- Clacton Sister Circle – Multicultural Women's Group
- Phoenix Explorer Scout Group – Young people aged 14 to 17
- Afro-Caribbean Drop-in – Family Drop-in for people of all ages from African and Caribbean backgrounds.

The questions from the survey used in the Phase I consultation and the outcome of that consultation is set out in Appendix A.

Timeline

The Terms of Reference for this Community Governance Review referenced an original timeline as set out in the table below. The Stage 3 process has required more time than originally envisaged and, on this basis, the Committee is invited (in the recommendations below) to agree to the revised timeline also set out below:

	Original Timeline	Revised Timeline
Stage 1: Terms of reference are published.	1 July 2025	Not applicable
Stage 2: Initial submissions are invited (Phase I consultation)	1 July 2025 – 30 September 2025	Not applicable
Stage 3: Consideration of submissions received and draft Recommendations are prepared	October 2025	October-November 2025
Stage 4: Draft Recommendations are published - consultation on them (Phase II consultation)	1 November 2025- 31 January 2026	1 December 2025- 28 February 2026
Stage 5: Consideration of submissions received and Final Recommendations are prepared and published; interested parties informed	February 2026	March 2026
Recommendation and draft Order submitted to Council	March 2026	April 2026
Application of Decision and reasoning and interested parties informed. Copy of Order with map(s) placed on deposit and notification as required.	As soon as practicable thereafter	As soon as practicable thereafter

Financial Position

A budget of £68,000 has been allocated for this Community Governance Review. The costs incurred to date are summarised below:

Newspaper Adverts/Online	£1,080.00
Letters to households	£22,446.95
Freepost postage charge	£2,426.60
Banner Signs	£455.00
Look Magazine	£504.00
Commissioned work with community groups	£4,825.00
Social media Paid for Posts	£178.75
Public Meetings/Miscellaneous costs	£113.98
TOTAL (so far)	£33,030.28

On the basis that the phases of consultation require the vast majority of costs to be incurred, and the Council has now completed one of the two main phases of consultation, there is good reason to believe that the costs of the review can be contained within the budget referred to. This is, obviously dependant upon the second phase of consultation mirroring the consultation and engagement approach from the first phase of consultation. This forms the basis of one of the recommendations to the Committee.

The proposed realignment of the timeline for the remaining stages of the consultation (set out in the recommendations section) will need to be carefully managed as the preparations for the 7 May 2026 elections will be underway as this review's Phase II consultation will now still be underway as key election tasks are required to be undertaken. Officers are aware of this overlap and will look to providing sufficient resources to both the Phase II consultation and the analysis of responses as well as to election preparation.

Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation

The decision to commence the Community Governance Review pre-dated the Government publishing its White Paper on 16 December 2024 titled "English Devolution".

This announcement was quickly followed by the creation of a Devolution Priority Programme that Essex County Council, Thurrock and Southend on Sea City Councils applied to join. The plans for reorganisation across the Greater Essex system were submitted on 26 September 2025 and the Government's consideration of those submitted is awaited. It is envisaged that there will be a statutory consultation process commencing later in 2025 with Government announcing its decision for LGR across Greater Essex in the spring of 2026. This would be followed by a Structural Change Order with interim structures leading to new Unitary Councils from 1 April 2028.

In a letter from the Deputy Directors at the Ministry of Housing, Community and Local Government in respect of local government reorganisation, dated 3 June 2025, the following text was directed to Chief Executives in the area:

"The Government welcomes the steps areas are taking to consider how to maintain strong community voice. Local Government Reorganisation should facilitate better and sustained community engagement and needs a clear and accountable system of local area-working and governance. Neighbourhood Area Committees, led by frontline ward councillors, offer a model of place-based engagement and leadership which maximises the structural efficiencies brought about by Local Government Reorganisation and strengthens localism and community participation across all areas. Neighbourhood Area Committees help councils fulfil their commitments to working in partnership with communities at the neighbourhood level. They can also include other service providers, such as town or parish councillors, when applicable, along with co-opted members from local community organisations.

Areas considering new town or parish councils should think carefully about how they might be funded, to avoid putting further pressure on local authority finances and/or new burdens on the taxpayer. The Government recognises the value that town and parish councils offer to their local communities, but they are independent institutions and are not a substitute for meaningful community engagement and neighbourhood working by a local authority. The Government wants to see every local authority hardwiring local community engagement into their own structures, preferably through neighbourhood Area Committees."

Officers are content that, notwithstanding the above, proceeding with this community governance review was appropriate as the approval of the review pre-dated the publication of the Government's White Paper on 16 December 2024 on devolution and local government reorganisation and the commencement of the devolution priority programme. In addition, the outcome of this Community Governance Review will not directly impact on the Government's announced expectation for new Unitary Councils to establish appropriate neighbourhood Area Committees to facilitate engagement with residents in the Unitary Area.

Preparation for Phase II Consultation

(1) Parish the Review Area

On the basis of the findings from the Phase I consultation (set out at Appendix A) indicated support for parishing of the area covered by the CGR (as defined in the Terms of Reference) it is proposed that Phase II of the consultation adopts as a draft recommendation that parishing for the area proceeds. Phase II of the consultation under the CGR will therefore seek views on the option for parishing.

(2) Areas/Boundaries – Identities and Interests of communities

Looking at the options for parishing, the best supporting single option was for three separate local Councils covering Clacton-on-Sea, Holland-on-Sea and Jaywick Sands. This too is proposed to form a draft recommendation for the Phase II consultation. This means separate elements of the consultation for the three areas (Clacton-on-Sea, Holland-on-Sea and Jaywick Sands). This enables the required elements for decisions arising from a Community Governance Review to be set out as appropriate for Clacton-on-Sea, Holland-on-Sea and for Jaywick Sands. Facilitating this process, there have been discussions with the Ward Councillors for West Clacton & Jaywick Sands, St Bartholomew's and Eastcliff. Ward on the communities that any new parish arrangement appropriately constitutes 'Jaywick Sands' and 'Holland-on-Sea'. These meetings involved proposed boundaries that would have seen more narrowly drafted proposals for a possible Jaywick Sands Parish and a Holland-on-Sea Parish. The proposals set out in the report for those possible parishes (and consequentially for a possible Clacton-on-Sea Parish) reflect the direction sought by the Councillors in the three Wards referenced.

Section 93 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, requires that this Council (in conducting the CGR) secures future arrangements that reflect the identities and interests of the communities in the area. It also requires that those future arrangements are both convenient and effective while supporting community cohesion and having regard to the existing representational structures. These considerations were articulated during the meetings with the Ward Councillors referred to.

Arising from the above, it is proposed that the draft recommendations on parishing in the three areas utilise the areas/boundaries set out in Appendices C-E of this report.

(3) Naming of Possible New Parishes and Parish Councils (and Council style)

Further to the above, it is proposed that the draft recommendations reference the possible parish names:

- (a) West Clacton and Jaywick Sands
- (b) Clacton-on-Sea
- (c) Holland-on-Sea

These names are referenced on the maps set out at Appendices C-E.

In all of the cases set out in (a)-(c) above, the electorate for the possible parishes would be above 1,000 in number. By consequence of Section 94 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, this Council MUST recommend that such parishes have a parish council. We have no discretion on this point given the electorates involved.

The review can address the style name of any parish councils to be constituted. Again, arising from the discussions to this point, it is proposed to submit as a draft recommendation on the basis of the following styles:

- (a) West Clacton and Jaywick Sands Town Council
- (b) Clacton-on-Sea Town Council
- (c) Holland-on-Sea Village Council

Local Councils utilising the styles of Town and Village Councils are, and remain, parish councils in so far as their powers and responsibilities are concerned.

(4) Electoral Arrangements

The legal limit on the number of parish councillors on an individual parish council is five (Section 16 of the Local Government Act 1972). There is no maximum number of parish councillors on an individual parish council. In 1988, the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), published guidance on suggested parish councils. NALC's starting point is that five parish councillors is too low a number to deliver effective administration and that organisation references a practical minimum number of seven parish councillors. It suggests that 25 parish councillors is the maximum number for an individual parish council.

While specific advice has been sought from Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC), the NALC recommendations from 1988 suggest the following numbers of parish councillors for the possible new councils as follows:

- (a) West Clacton and Jaywick Sands Town Council (electorate 4,227) – **12 Councillors**
- (b) Clacton-on-Sea Town Council (electorate 33,048) - **25 Councillors**
- (c) Holland-on-Sea Village Council (electorate of 6,713) – **15 Councillors**

Electorate data for the five years including the current year has been included in the CGR Terms of Reference published on 1 July 2025.

Subject to the advice from EALC, it is proposed that the above Councillors numbers be used as draft recommendations for the Phase II consultation.

It is further recommended, that the elections to the possible West Clacton and Jaywick Sands Town Council and the Holland-on-Sea Village Council should be whole Council elections (unwarded). However, for the possible Clacton-on-Sea Town Council, the number and distribution of electors for its possible area would make a single election of all parish councillors impracticable. It is also considered desirable that the separate areas of that area are separately represented on such a possible council.

At Appendix F, is the map of proposed parish wards for a possible Clacton-on-Sea Parish. These are intended to be the draft recommendations for such parish wards. Given that the parish wards utilise the existing areas/boundaries and names as existing District Ward boundaries it is considered that the areas remain easily identifiable and do not break local ties. The five-year electorate forecasts for each of these Wards is set out in the Terms of Reference and regard to those forecasts has been given in preparing those proposals.

Further to the above, the numbers of parish councillors that this proposal identifies to be elected for each of the proposed Clacton-on-Sea Parish Wards would be as follows:

	Electorate 2025-26	Electorate 2029-30 (forecast)	Proposed number of Parish Councillors	Electorate Ratio (2025- 26)
Bluehouse Ward	4,059	4,105	3	1:1,353
Burrsville Ward	4,803	5,199	4	1:1,200
Cann Hall Ward	4,634	4,989	3	1:1,545
Coppins Ward	5,156	5,245	4	1:1,282
Pier Ward	1,928	2,065	1	1:1,928
St James Ward	4,872	4,886	4	1:1,218
St John's Ward	4,965	4,965	4	1:1,241
St Paul's & Eastcliff Ward ¹	2,671	2,671	2	1:1,336

¹The reference to Eastcliff concerns that area of the current District Ward of Eastcliff that would not form part of the possible Parish of Holland-on-Sea (comprising 442 electors).

The overall electoral ratio in the above table is 1 Parish Councillor to 1,306 Electors (2025-26).

In view of Local Government Reorganisation in Greater Essex, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England is anticipated to undertake an electoral review of the relevant Unitary Area that will include the current District of Tendring. This review would result in any adjustments to parish wards necessary as a consequence of Unitary electoral area boundaries determined through the LG BCE review. Any such changes would apply electoral proportionality rules to any parish wards.

(5) Precepts and base costs.

The public meetings for Phase I of the CGR consultation including reference to Special Expenses. In 2025/26, this Council allocated £682,999 as Special Expenses and £423,446 of that total was charged to Council Taxpayers in Clacton on Sea, Holland on Sea and Jaywick Sands. A reassessment of the total charge and the allocation of it would follow this community governance review in the event that parishing in the review area took place. The special expenses relate to Open Space, Playgrounds and Recreation costs incurred in the review area.

In the event that the draft recommendations proceed through to final recommendations and are then adopted by the Council, it would be this Council that would determine initial precepts for the funding of those Parish Councils. One asset that would automatically be transferred to any Parish Council would be any allotments within the ownership of the District Council in the review area. The only allotments that this review concerns are those at Rush Green.

To assist with the CGR Phase II consultation, EALC has been requested to identify (using their professional knowledge), the likely base costs of the possible parish councils referred to here and forming the draft recommendations arising from this CGR at this stage. However, from existing Parish Councils, some comparator data has been set out at Appendix G to this report.

Phase II Consultation (Stage 4 in the CGR Timeline)

The intention of this Phase II consultation is to refer the draft recommendations set out in this report to electors and others with an interest in the review. The approach to the consultation will mirror the key steps in the Phase I consultation involving digital communications, written communications, newspaper advertising, banners and public meetings. The use of CVST to undertake consultation with seldom heard groups is also envisaged. Separate surveys will be

prepared for the three communities of Clacton-on-Sea, Holland-on-Sea and West Clacton & Jaywick Sands seeking views on the draft recommendations for the areas of those communities and related options (e.g. names of areas, styles of Parish Council name and numbers of parish councillors).

As part of the Phase II consultation, consultees would also be invited to indicate services, activities, events or arrangements that they would wish to see a possible new Town Council to be responsible for. This information can then inform a future process of looking beyond the base costs of operating a Parish Council in the event that establishing such Parish Councils is approved.

As with the Phase I consultation, the Committee will be advised of the outcome and consider what final recommendations are to be submitted to Full Council. These must give full weight to the views expressed by electors and stakeholders.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

- (1) notes the content of the report in so much as it reminds it of the approved terms of reference for the Community Governance Review of Clacton-on-Sea, Holland-on-Sea and Jaywick Sands and its implementation to this point;
- (2) receives and considers the outcome of the Phase I consultation exercise (Stage 2 in the Terms of Reference Timeline) as part of that Review (including the expenditure incurred to date), comparator information around the base costs of Local Councils for the three separate areas and the outcome of discussions with the Ward Councillors that has shaped the proposed boundaries for the three possible Parishes;
- (3) approves the basis of the Phase II consultation for the Review around the draft recommendations set out and involving the creation of separate Parishes for the three communities utilising the same engagement approach as adopted in the Phase I consultation;
- (4) notes that further information has been commissioned from Essex Association of Local Councils in respect of Councillor numbers on the three possible new Parish Councils and indicative base costs for such Parish Councils and, together with Council Tax base information for the three areas concerned, this case be advised to consultees in the Phase II consultation and the level of Council Tax at Band D this would equate to, to fund those base costs; and
- (5) approves the revised timeline for the remaining elements of the Review as follows:

	Original Timeline	Revised Timeline
Stage 3: Consideration of submissions received and draft Recommendations are prepared	October 2025	October- November 2025
Stage 4: Draft Recommendations are published - consultation on them	1 November 2025- 31 January 2026	1 December 2025- 28 February 2026
Stage 5: Consideration of submissions received and Final Recommendations are prepared and published; interested parties informed	February 2026	March 2026
Recommendation and draft Order submitted to Council	March 2026	April 2026

<p>Application of Decision and reasoning and interested parties informed. Copy of Order with map(s) placed on deposit and notification as required.</p>	<p>As soon as practicable thereafter</p>	<p>As soon as practicable thereafter</p>
--	---	---

PREVIOUS RELEVANT DECISIONS

Council on 17 September 2024 (Minute 50 refers) requested the submission of proposals for a Community Governance Review to enable Council to determine whether to proceed with such a review.

Council on 26 November 2024 (Minute 75 refers) sets out the decision of Council following consideration of the proposals for a community governance review.

Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 17 June 2025 (Minute 6 refers) – ahead of the publication of the updated Terms of Reference by the Chief Executive

Chief Executive on 1 July 2025 – publishing the Terms of Reference for the review (as approved in draft by Council on 26 November 2024 and received by the Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 17 June 2025).

BACKGROUND PAPERS AND PUBLISHED REFERENCE MATERIAL

The joint statutory guidance issued by Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England in respect of community governance reviews under the 2007 Act is available here– https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/8312/1527635.pdf

APPENDICES

- Appendix A - Public Consultation Survey Outcomes
- Appendix B - Community Governance Review Engagement Programme Phase 1 Report by CVST
- Appendix C – Possible Holland-on-Sea Parish
- Appendix D – Possible West Clacton & Jaywick Sands Parish
- Appendix E – Possible Clacton-on-Sea Parish
- Appendix F – Possible Parish Wards of a Clacton-on-Sea Parish
- Appendix G – Comparator Parish Council Data

REPORT/INQUIRY CONTACT OFFICER(S)

<p>Name</p>	<p>Keith Simmons</p> <p>Nikki Nepean</p>
<p>Job Title</p>	<p>Assistant Director – Corporate Policy and Support</p> <p>Elections and Member Support Manager</p>
<p>Email/Telephone</p>	<p>ksimmons@tendringdc.gov.uk / 01255 686580</p>

Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee
17 November 2025

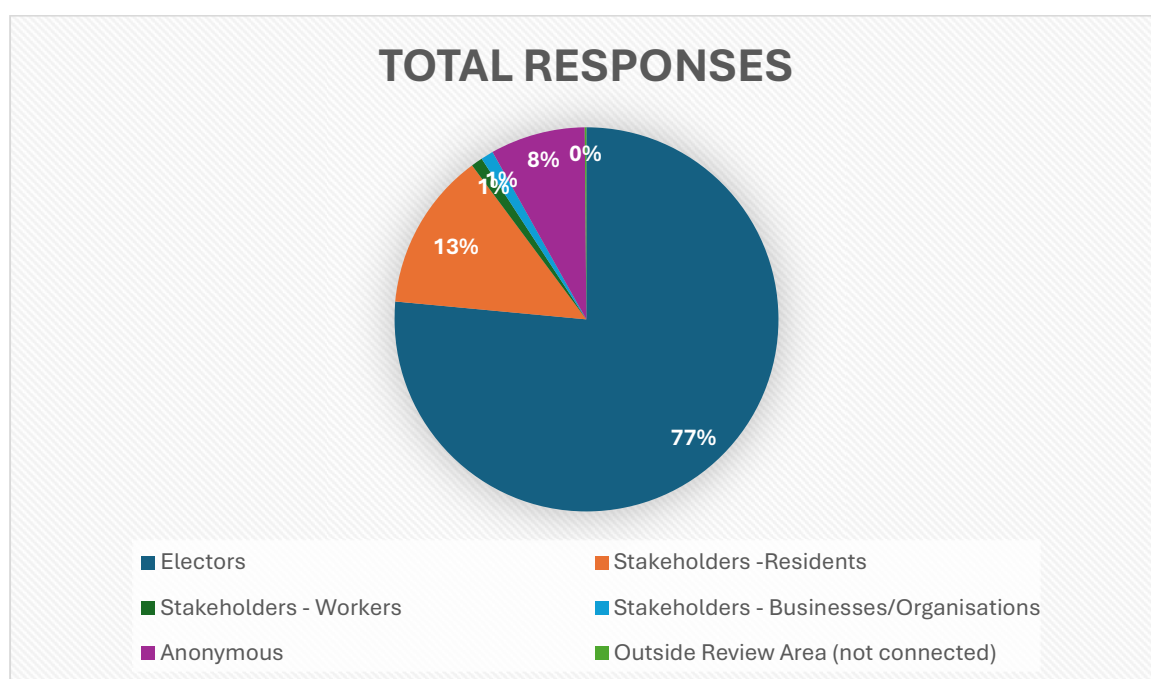
Community Governance Review – Outcome of Phase I Appendix

Note: The figures set out in this Appendix have been checked for accuracy by the Corporate Policy and Support Service. In addition, the Council's Internal Audit Service have been asked to provide its own verification of those figures.

RESPONSE LEVELS

During the Phase I consultation period (1 July to 30 September 2025) a total of 3444 response survey forms were received. These can be segmented as follows:

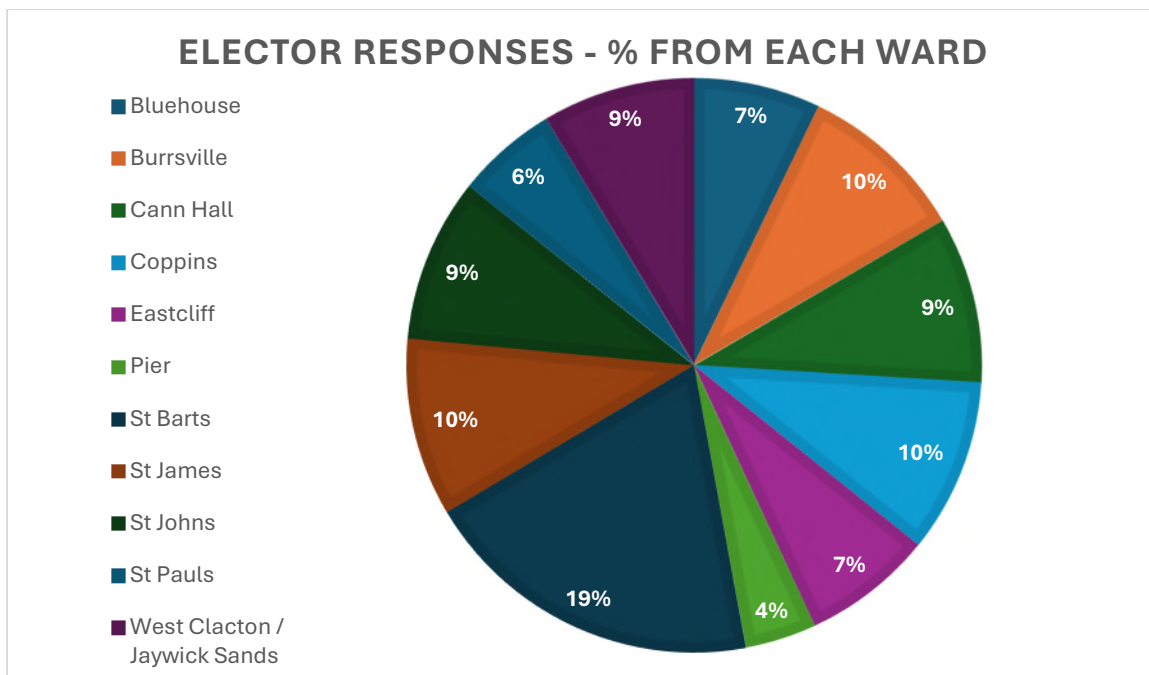
Electors	2634
Stakeholders -Residents	460
Stakeholders - Workers	33
Stakeholders - Businesses/Organisations	37
Anonymous	275
Outside Review Area (not connected)	5
TOTAL	3444



In relation to the responses from electors, whilst 2634 forms were received from households with electors, several of those forms contained responses from more than one elector at the property. As such the total number of elector respondents was 3297.

The overall electorate for the Community Governance Review area is 44,028. The survey forms returned with electors views represent an overall response of 7.49% of the entire electorate the review area.

Of the returns received, these have been analysed by District Ward area and are shown here:



Stakeholder Responses – Further Analysis;

460 forms were submitted by residents in the area who were either not on the electoral register or did not provide an address to confirm their electoral registration status.

From individuals working in the area, a further 33 forms were returned.

Among organisations, an additional 37 forms (two forms included multiple respondent addresses).

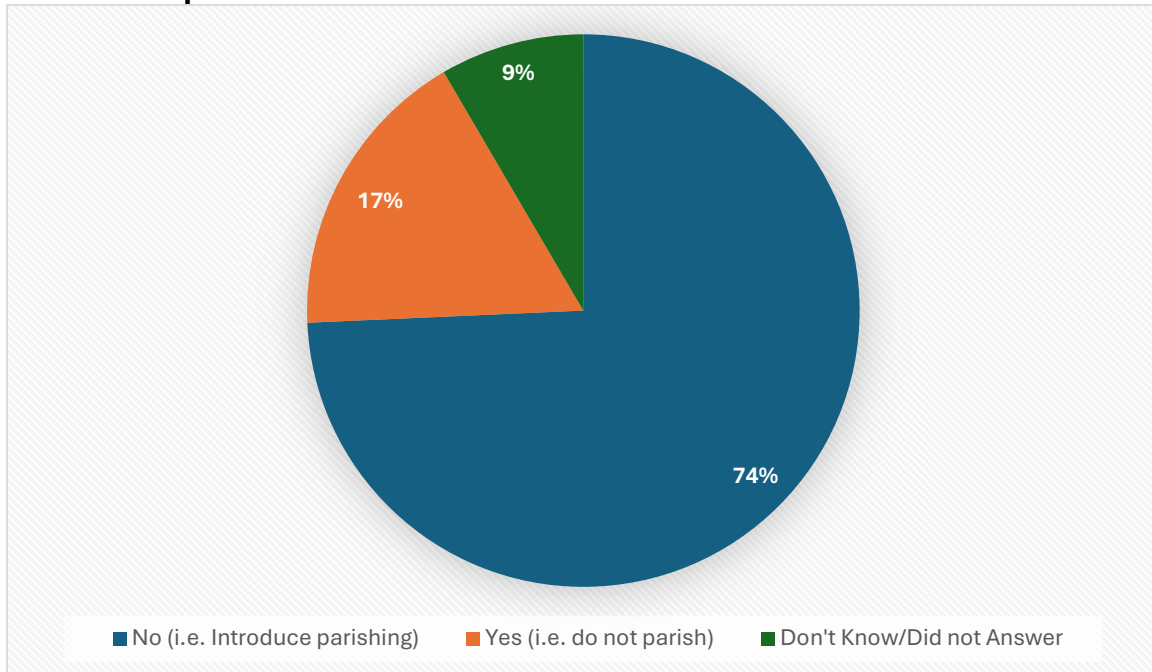
CONCLUSION FROM RESPONSE LEVELS

The Council had set its own minimum response level (5%) among electors in the review area and this was surpassed. The responses level overall provides evidence of engagement across the review area from local electors and from others with an interest in the review area.

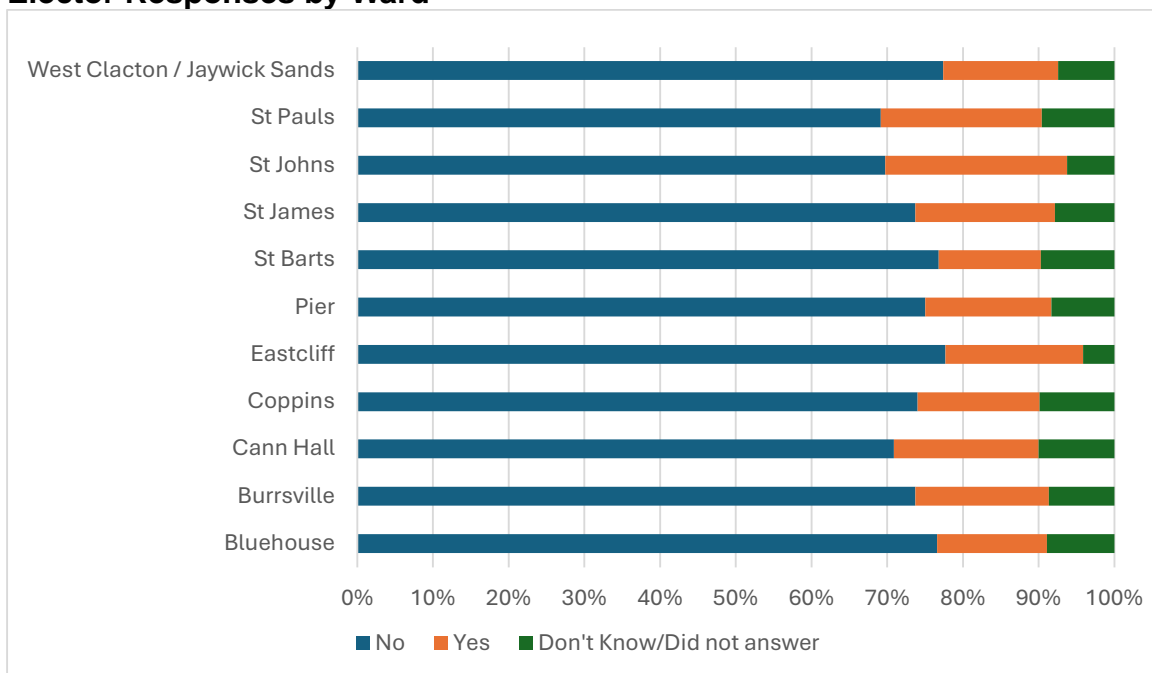
QUESTION 1 – SHOULD THE AREA REMAIN UNPARISHED

The opening question respondents were asked to provide their views on was:
 1. Do you think it's right that Clacton-on-Sea, Holland-on-Sea and Jaywick Sands currently DO NOT have a Town Council?

Elector Responses for entire review area



Elector Responses by Ward



278 elector respondents across the review area did not answer this question or answered that they didn't know.

These are the Stakeholder answers to question 1.

From the non elector residents 306 were in favour of a town council, 96 were against and 58 didn't know.

Among organisations, an additional 39 responses were received, these responses supported parishing by a ratio of 3.5:1.

The majority of all respondents across the review area responded that a town council should exist. This was also the case across all wards.

CONCLUSION FROM QUESTION 1

There was generally strong support among respondents for parishing in the review area.

QUESTION 2 – ONE, TWO OR THREE PARISHES/COUNCILS

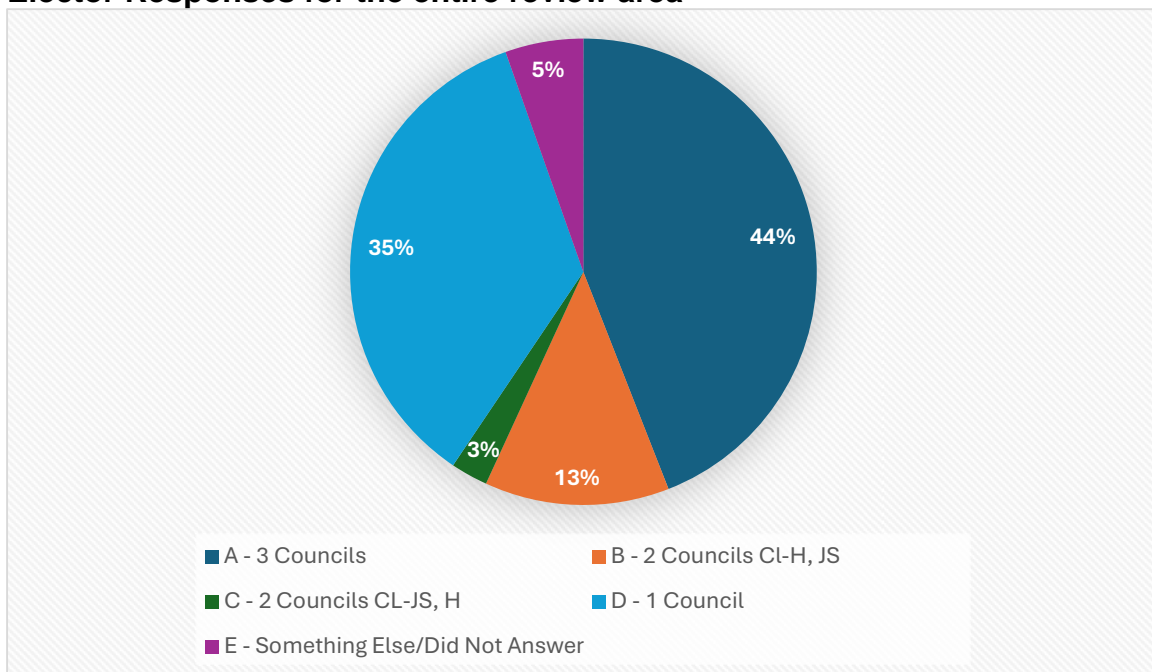
The next specific question about the future arrangements for the review area was:

2. If new local town council or councils for the review area were created what options below do you most support?

The options to choose from were:

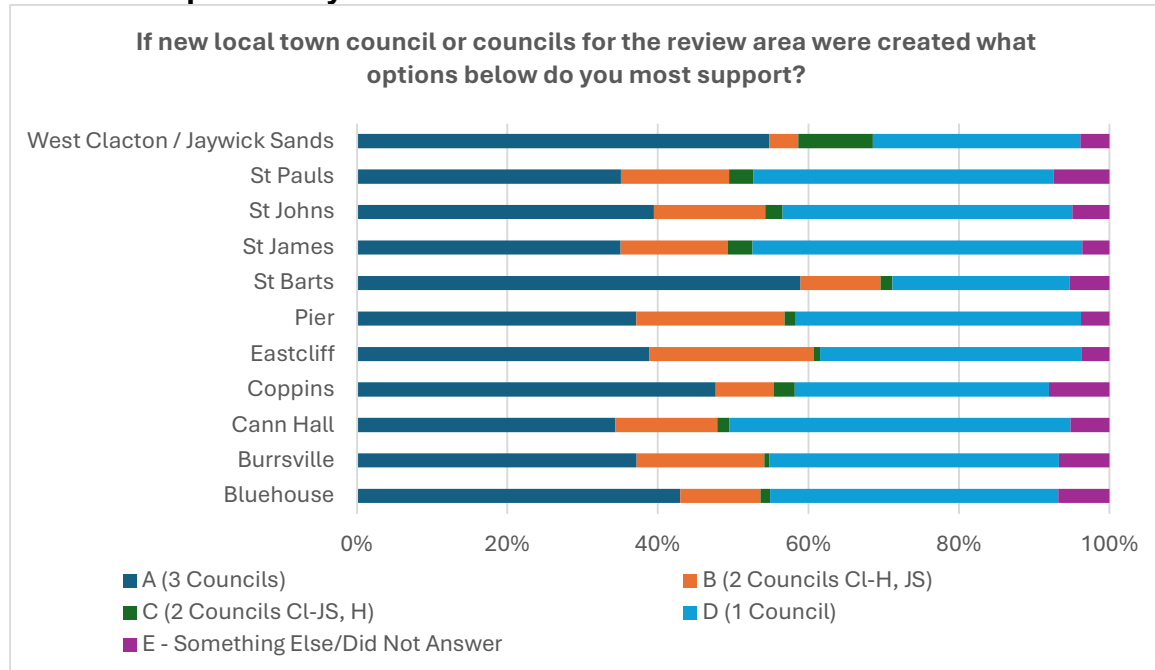
- A. SEPARATE ones for Clacton-on-Sea, for Holland-on-Sea and for Jaywick Sands (Three Town Councils)
- B. A COMBINED one for Clacton-on-Sea and Holland-on-Sea (Two Town Councils)
- C. A COMBINED one for Clacton-on-Sea and Jaywick Sands (Two Town Councils)
- D. A SINGLE COMBINED one for Clacton-on-Sea, for Holland-on-Sea and for Jaywick Sands (One Town Council)

Elector Responses for the entire review area



Key – Cl-JS stands for a combined Clacton and Jaywick Sands Council. CL-H stands for a combined Clacton and Holland Council. Cl, H and JS stand respectively for Clacton, Holland and Jaywick Sands.

Elector Responses by Ward



Key – Cl-JS stands for a combined Clacton and Jaywick Sands Council. CL-H stands for a combined Clacton and Holland Council. Cl, H and JS stand respectively for Clacton, Holland and Jaywick Sands.

179 respondents either did not answer or made alternative comments and suggestions to those provided in the survey.

It was not possible to provide this analysis for the 275 anonymous responses, as many questions had not been answered, and for most forms, it was not possible to identify the ward from which they came from or related to.

These are the Stakeholder answers to question 2.

Of the 460 non elector residents option A saw a response of 197, option B 64, option C 18, option D 132 and option E and don't know 49. The preference for three separate councils being the most preferred.

From 33 forms returned by individuals working in the area option A saw a response of 14, option B 4, option C 1, option D 10 and option E and don't know 4. The preference for the three-council option being highest.

Among organisations, an additional 39 responses option A saw a response of 16, option B 4, option C 0, option D 13 and option E and don't know 4. The preference for three separate councils being the most preferred.

CONCLUSION FROM QUESTION 2

The two options that secured most responses were Option A (3 Councils) and Option D (1 Council). Of these Option A received the highest number of responses.

While different Wards had differing levels of support for Options A and D (in particular), it is noteworthy that absolute majorities among respondents from the communities in West Clacton-Jaywick Sands and in Holland-on-Sea wished to see Option A pursued.

OPEN TEXT QUESTION – SEEKING ANSWERS

Do you have any questions about the Community Governance Review that you'd like us to answer during this consultation?

748 questions were raised out of the 3444 forms returned. A summary of the questions can be seen below.

Top Themes from the Questions (collated using the Co-Pilot AI software)

The frequency indicator in the table identifies the extent to which the issue was raised among the 748 questions.

1. Cost & Funding	<p><i>Examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “How much will this cost?” ▪ “Will council tax go up?” ▪ “Where will the money come from?” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Frequency: Very high (hundreds of mentions)
2. Decision-Making & Powers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Examples:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “What powers will the town council have?” ▪ “Will they have authority over budgets?” ▪ “Will they be independent from Tendring District Council/Essex County Council?” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Frequency: High
3. Representation & Elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Examples:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Who will be elected?” ▪ “How will councillors be chosen?” ▪ “Will residents have a say?” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Frequency: High
4. Impact on Services & Local Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Examples:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Will potholes and roads be fixed?” ▪ “Will there be more policing?” ▪ “What services will councils provide?” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Frequency: High
5. Purpose & Timing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Examples:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Why is this being considered?” ▪ “Why now?” ▪ “What is the point?” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Frequency: Moderate
6. Transparency & Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Examples:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Will feedback be taken seriously?” ▪ “Is this just a box-ticking exercise?” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Frequency: Moderate

CONCLUSION FROM THIS OPEN TEXT QUESTION

With just over 1/5th of responses from electors included questions demonstrates an interest in understanding the issues and giving an opportunity to consider relevant information. While some of the answers to the questions raised are on the Council’s web page concerning the review, further work will be undertaken to expand the frequently asked questions and address the issues posed in the responses. Individual respondents will be notified once the update is complete, so that they can use the material to inform their approach to the Phase II consultation.

OPEN TEXT QUESTION – COMMENTS FROM RESPONDENTS

What are the main things you were thinking about when answering the previous questions? And; Do you have any further comments you wish to make about the Community Governance Review or the idea of a town council or councils for the area?

398 comments were raised out of the 3444 forms returned. A summary of the comments can be seen below.

The table below provides a summary of the comments in the responses received.

Sentiment Summary (collated using the Co-Pilot AI software)

<p>Positive Sentiment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Representation: Support for creating separate councils for Clacton, Holland-on-Sea, and Jaywick Sands to give residents a stronger voice. • Community Identity: Appreciation for recognising unique identities - Holland-on-Sea as a “village,” Jaywick’s distinct challenges, and Clacton’s regeneration needs. • Accountability: Optimism that local councils could lead to more visible action and responsiveness.
<p>Negative Sentiment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost Concerns: Strong worry about higher council tax, extra bureaucracy, and unclear funding. • Scepticism: Doubts about whether new councils will improve services or just add complexity. • Future Changes: Anxiety over Tendring District Council being absorbed into a Greater Essex authority, reducing local representation.
<p>Neutral / Mixed Sentiment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance Questions: Requests for clarity on structure, number of councillors, powers, and responsibilities. • Service Delivery: Comments highlighting issues like potholes, policing, and transport—often framed as concerns but not always tied to strong emotion. • Efficiency vs Identity: Some residents weigh pros and cons of a single combined council versus separate councils.

CONCLUSION FROM THIS OPEN TEXT COMMENTS

The above comments will assist with the communications around the Phase II consultation. The comments demonstrate the range of opinions that electors expressed through the questions in Phase I.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER SERVICES TENDRING (CVST) SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

In addition to the work undertaken directly by the Council, CVST was commissioned to engage residents in Clacton, Holland-on-Sea, and Jaywick Sands about the issue of whether to parish the review area. CVST undertook engagement in September 2025 through surveys and focus groups. Their full report is available and set out as a separate Appendix to this report.

Key Findings

Overall Sentiment: Strong trend of support for forming a Town Council.

Supportive Responses: 70

Opposed Responses: 2

Neutral Responses: 39

Themes Identified:

Community Support & Representation: Residents believe a Town Council could better address local social issues and unmet needs.

Awareness & Engagement: Awareness varied, especially among younger people; QR codes and online surveys helped increase participation.

Concerns Raised:

Future of community buildings under a Town Council.

Questions about governance structure and leadership.

Demographic Insights

Strong support from older adults and community groups.

Youth showed interest in civic engagement, especially linked to personal development (e.g., badges).

Carers and individuals with learning disabilities engaged actively but needed more information.

CONCLUSION FROM CVST ENGAGEMENT

The CVST conclude that its engagement process was inclusive and transparent, revealing majority support for establishing a Town Council. While governance and infrastructure concerns remain, residents see value in having a local body to represent their interests and address community challenges.

Community Governance Review Engagement Programme Phase 1 Report

Report to: Keith Simmons, Assistant Director Corporate Policy & Support
Tendring District Council

Prepared by: Lisa Andrews, Chief Executive
Community Voluntary Services Tendring (CVST)

1. Introduction

CVST was commissioned to undertake an engagement programme aimed at speaking to local residents in Clacton, Holland-on-Sea and Jaywick Sands to capture their views as part of Tendring District Council's Community Governance Review. This work took place during September 2025 and used targeted surveys and focus groups to add value to the wider consultation and engagement to gather diverse perspectives, ensuring an inclusive and transparent review process.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the programme were to:

- Foster wider meaningful public engagement ✓
- Gather qualitative and quantitative data ✓
- Ensure representation of diverse community voices through structured discussions ✓
- Add value to the District Council's consultation programme ✓
- Promote and share details of the formal consultation events with diverse communities and encourage their involvement ✓

3. Overview

Five public engagement events were held across Clacton and surrounding areas to gauge community sentiment regarding the establishment of a Town Council. These events included focus groups, group discussions, presentations, and one-to-one conversations, engaging a diverse cross-section of residents including older adults, carers, young people, and families.

Flyers and surveys were also shared by CVST staff and volunteers through our Community Centre in Clacton and at CVST events and activities. TDC Social Media posts were also shared on CVST's Social Media pages.

The five events took place with the following groups, covering a broad range of ages, abilities and ethnicities:

Clacton Dementia Café – *Social group for people with dementia and their carers*
Summit – *Adults with Learning Disabilities*
Clacton Sister Circle – *Multicultural Women's Group*
Phoenix Explorer Scout Group – *Young people aged 14 to 17*
Afro-Caribbean Drop-in – *Family Drop-in for people of all ages from African and Caribbean backgrounds*

The total number of attendees at these events was: **111**

Age range: **14 to 80+**

Locations of residents: Clacton, Jaywick, Holland, Frinton, Kirby (note that those outside of the proposed areas (approx. 5%) all access services within the area)

Overall and across all events, there was a clear trend of support for the idea of forming a Town Council

Total Supportive Responses: 70

Total Opposed Responses: 2

Neutral Responses: 39

Some participants completed the survey online during the engagement event or confirmed their intention to do so before the closing date.

4. Key Themes from Discussions

Community Support and Representation:

- Many participants expressed that a Town Council could help address social issues more effectively, especially in Clacton.
- There was a sense that some local needs are currently unmet and that a Town Council could provide a more inclusive platform.

Awareness & Engagement:

- Awareness of the Town Council proposal varied significantly, especially among younger attendees.
- QR codes and online surveys were used to encourage further engagement, particularly among youth and carers.

Concerns Raised:

- Uncertainty about the future of community buildings under a Town Council.
- Questions around who would run the council and how it would be structured.

Demographic Insights

- Strong support from older adults and community groups.
- Youth participants (aged 14–17) showed interest in civic engagement, especially when linked to personal development (e.g., Community Impact Badge).
- Carers and individuals with learning disabilities participated actively, though some required more information to form an opinion.

5. Conclusion

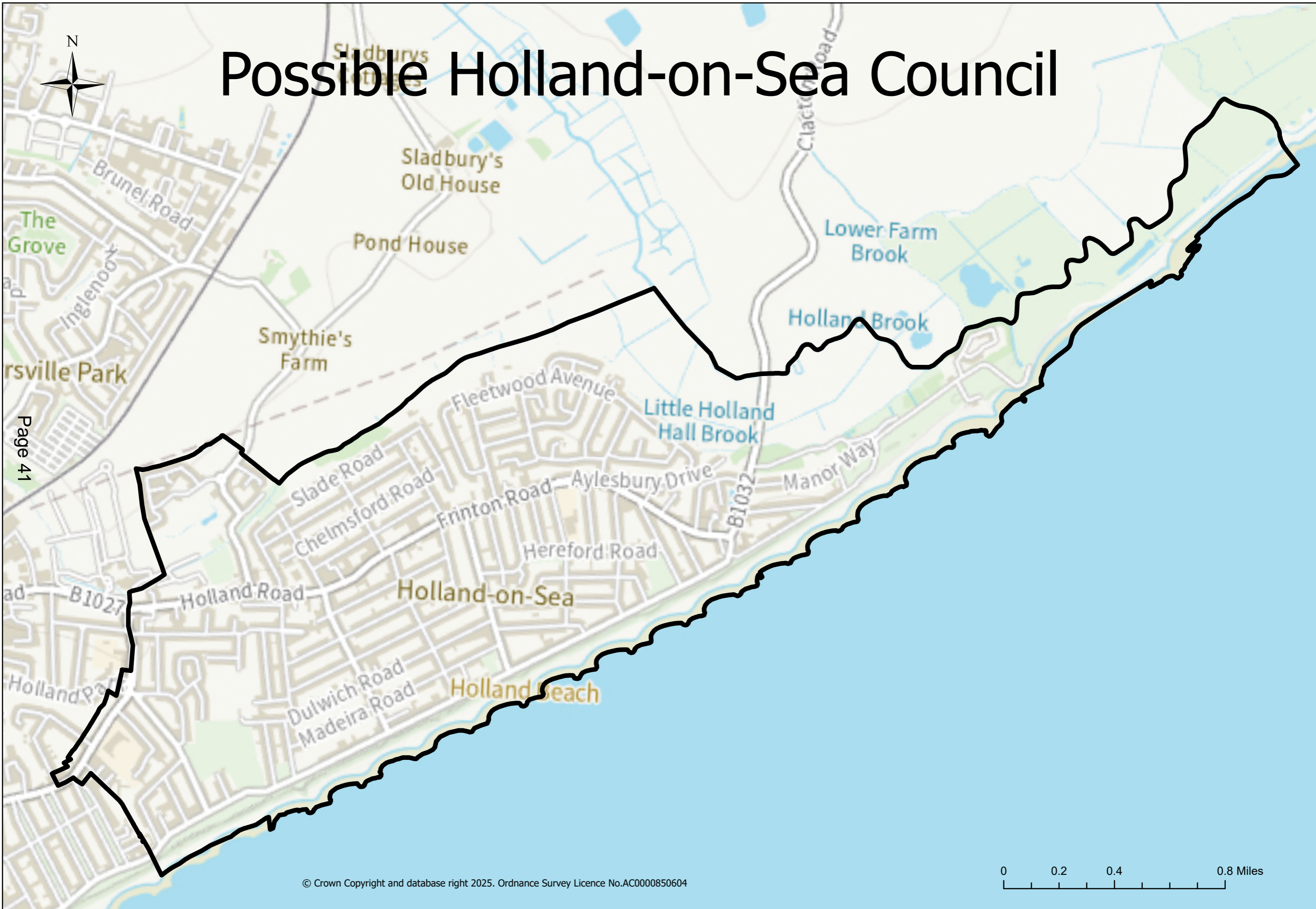
This programme offers a structured, transparent, and inclusive approach to the governance review engagement process, ensuring community voices actively contribute to the future needs of Clacton, Holland-on-Sea and Jaywick Sands.

The engagement events revealed a strong lean toward establishing a Town Council, with over half of participants expressing clear support. While some concerns remain, particularly around governance and infrastructure, the overall sentiment suggests that residents see value in having a local body to represent their interests and address community challenges.

Lisa Andrews
Chief Executive
Community Voluntary Services Tendring

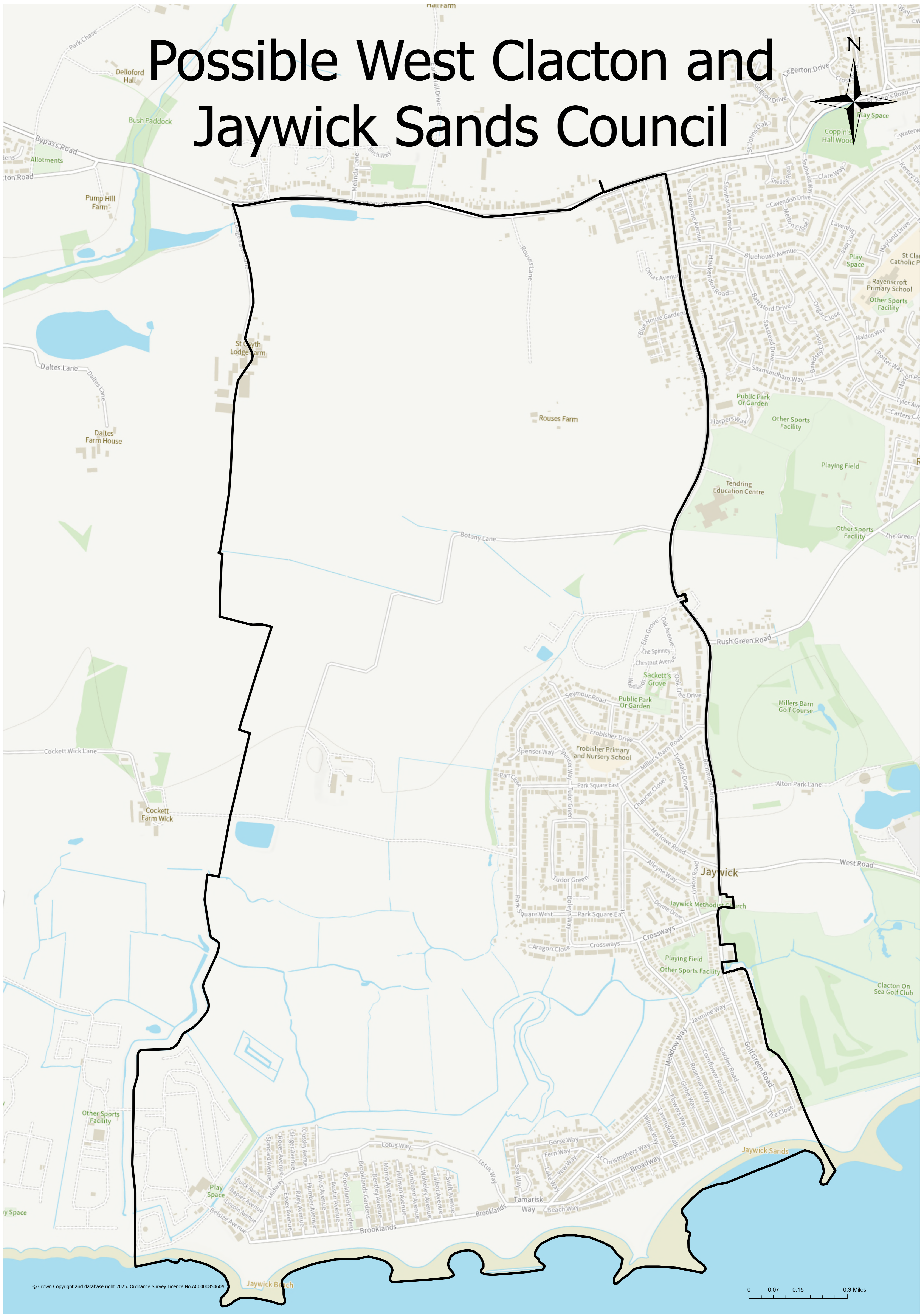
This page is intentionally left blank

Possible Holland-on-Sea Council



This page is intentionally left blank

Possible West Clacton and Jaywick Sands Council



This page is intentionally left blank

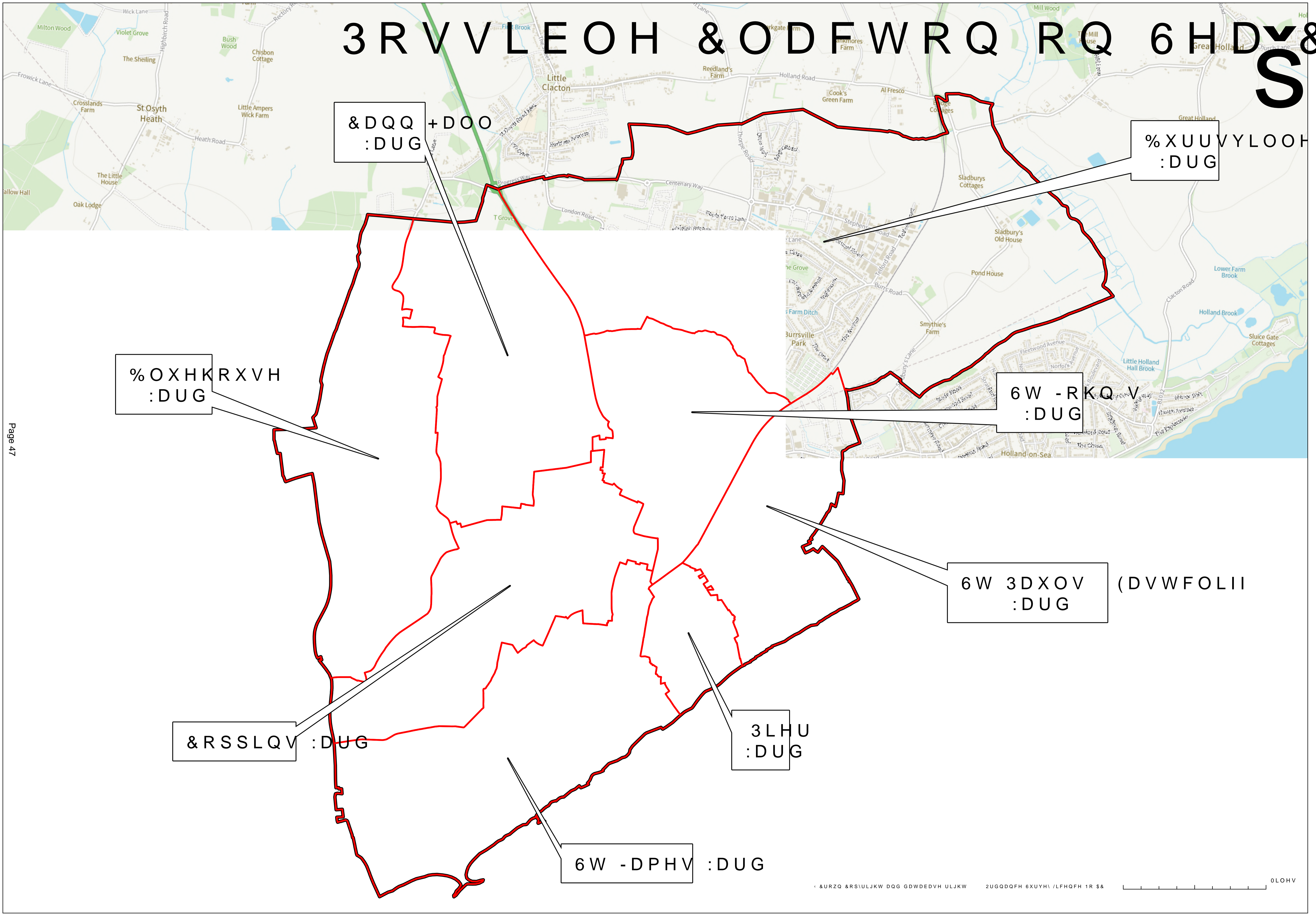
Possible Clacton-on-Sea Council



Page 45

This page is intentionally left blank

3 R V V L E O H & O D F W R Q R Q 6 H D V & S



& D Q Q + D O O
: D U G

% X U U V Y L O O H
: D U G

% O X H K R X V H
: D U G

6 W - R K Q V
: D U G

6 W 3 D X O V (D V W F O L I I
: D U G

& R S S L Q V : D U G

3 L H U
: D U G

6 W - D P H V : D U G

This page is intentionally left blank

Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee
17 November 2025

Community Governance Review – Comparator Base Costs

COMPARATORS FOR POSSIBLE WEST CLACTON AND JAYWICK SANDS
PARISH

St Osyth Parish and its Council*

Electorate	4,227
Numbers of Parish Councillors	13
Precept / Band D Council Tax Levy 2025/26	£190,000 / £92.77
Number of staff posts and FTE of those posts (only after a total)	4 x Staff (part-time) = 2.2 FTE
Staff costs 2024/25 in the budget	£94,346.00
Office opening hours	Monday – Thursday 9.30 am – 12.30 pm
Office expenses budget	£20,367.00 (include office rent, telephone, internet & admin)
Audit expenses	£1,250.00
Insurance costs	£2,360.00
Election costs	n/a
Room hire budget	£460.00
Training budget	£2,000.00 (staff & Cllr's)

Lawford Parish and its Council*

Electorate	4,013
Numbers of Parish Councillors	15
Precept / Band D Council Tax Levy 2025/26	£185,360 / £101.63
Number of staff posts and FTE of those posts (only after a total)	1 parish clerk at 20 hours per week
Staff costs 2025/26 in the budget	£32,500
Office opening hours	Monday 1pm – 5pm or 1 st and 3 rd Monday of the month, 2.30pm to 8.30pm, Tues 9-5pm, Weds 9-5pm

Office expenses budget	£6,000
Audit expenses	£1200
Insurance costs	£6,000
Election costs	zero
Room hire budget	zero
Training budget	£1,000

COMPARATOR FOR POSSIBLE HOLLAND-ON-SEA PARISH

Brightlingsea Town Council*

Electorate	6,910
Numbers of Parish Councillors	12
Precept / Band D Council Tax Levy 2025/26	£247,500 / £79.91
Number of staff posts and FTE of those posts (only after a total)	8 members of staff, 3 of which are full time
Staff costs 2024/25 in the budget	£216,632
Office opening hours	9am until 1pm, although staff are in the office until 4pm
Office expenses budget	The cost for the Parish Hall for 24/25 was £12,490
Audit expenses	£1,560.00
Insurance costs	£12,388 although the Town Council states that it does have a lot of items covered by insurance.
Election costs	The last contested election, in 2023, cost £7,437.15
Room hire budget	Not provided
Training budget	The budget for subscriptions and courses is £4,000

COMPARATOR FOR POSSIBLE CLACTON-ON-SEA PARISH

There are no comparators within the District of Tendring

Ramsgate Town Council*

Electorate	
Numbers of Parish Councillors	
Precept / Band D Council Tax Levy 2025/26	
Number of staff posts and FTE of those posts (only after a total)	
Staff costs 2024/25 in the budget	
Office opening hours	
Office expenses budget	
Audit expenses	
Insurance costs	
Election costs	
Room hire budget	
Training budget	

Awaited

*All figures are self-declared by the relevant Parish/Town Council (except for Electorate, number of Parish Councillors and Precept/Band D Council Tax Levy for 2025/26 for St Osyth, Lawford and Brightlingsea Local Councils). For those not self-declared, the information has been taken from the Terms of Reference for the Community Governance Review.

This page is intentionally left blank

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

17 NOVEMBER 2025

REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (CORPORATE POLICY AND SUPPORT)

A.2 WORK PROGRAMME – INCLUDING MONITORING OF PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUMMARY OF FORTHCOMING DECISIONS

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The report provides the Committee with its approved Work Programme for 2025/26, feedback to the Committee on the decisions in respect of previous recommendations from the Committee in respect of enquiries undertaken and a list of forthcoming decisions for which public notice has been given.

The report further invites the Committee to reappoint its existing Task and Finish Groups, while also encouraging consideration of consolidating these into a single, unified Task and Finish Group.

SCOPE - THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE REPORT

To support the overview and scrutiny function of the Council, this report seeks to confirm the Committee's focus, through its work programme, for 2025/26 and related information to ensure the Committee can actively address issues within its terms of reference.

INVITEES

None.

BACKGROUND

The inclusion of the matters set out in the "purpose of this report" section above seeks to further re-enforce the inter-relationship of the matters referred to in accordance with the adopted recommendations arising from the CfGS review of the Council's O&S functions. As such, it is designed to further support consideration of work programming for the Committee and contribute to addressing progress with the Corporate Plan.

RELEVANT CORPORATE PLAN THEME/ANNUAL CABINET PRIORITY

In considering the Work Programme of enquiries, the Committee must have regard to the Corporate Plan 2024-28 and the themes of that Corporate Plan are:

- Pride in our area and services to residents
- Raising aspirations and creating opportunities
- Championing our local environment
- Working with partners to improve quality of life
- Promoting our heritage offer, attracting visitors and encouraging them to stay longer
- Financial Sustainability and openness

DESIRED OUTCOME OF THE CONSIDERATION OF THIS ITEM

To enable the Committee to effectively plan and prioritise its scrutiny matters for the 2025/26 municipal year, ensuring alignment with the Corporate Plan and maximising impact through focused enquiries. The Committee should confirm the membership of its Task and Finish Groups, consider feedback on previous recommendations, and review forthcoming decisions to inform its strategic direction and oversight responsibilities.

DETAILED INFORMATION

WORK PROGRAMME 2025/26

The details relating to the following matters are set out in the relevant Appendix identified:

- (1) Work Programme for 2025/26 as approved by Full Council on 14 August 2025 – See Appendix A;
- (2) feedback to the Committee on the decisions in respect of previous recommendations from the Committee in respect of enquiries undertaken – See Appendix B; and
- (3) a list of forthcoming decisions for which notice has been given since publication of the agenda for the Committee’s last meeting – See Appendix C

The Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee is one of two overview and scrutiny committees established by the Council to specifically focus on the following areas of Council work (as detailed in Article 6.02(i) of the Council’s Constitution):

“To perform the role of Overview and Scrutiny and its functions in relation to

- *Community Leadership developing the external focus of overview and scrutiny on “district-wide” issues’ (and where appropriate sub regional, regional and national issues), in particular through collaborative work with local partner authorities, providers, stakeholders and members of the public.*
- *Approval of discrete researched and evidenced reviews on the effectiveness of partnership operating in the area with particular focus on:*
 - *Community Safety*
 - *Health and Well-being*
 - *Economy, Skills and Educational Attainment*
- *Community engagement, development and empowerment*
- *Economic Development, Regeneration and Freeport East*
- *Leisure and Tourism (except matters relating to budgets)*
- *Planning & Building Control and Strategic Planning (including the Local Plan)*
- *Emergency Planning*
- *To scrutinize/review the outcomes and implications for the Council of its financial support to community organisations and also from its receipt and use of funds received from local partner organisations.*

The Community Leadership Overview & Scrutiny Committee will also act as the Council’s designated “crime and disorder committee” for the purposes of Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 and will have the power –

(a) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities[*] of their crime and disorder function;

(b) to make reports or recommendations to the local authority with respect to the discharge of those functions.

*- “The responsible authorities” means the bodies and persons who are responsible authorities within the meaning given by section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (c.37) (authorities responsible for crime and disorder strategies) in relation to the local authority’s area.

In fulfilling that function the Community Leadership Overview & Scrutiny Committee will have the power (whether by virtue of section 9F(3) or 21(2) of the Local Government Act 2000 or regulations made under section 9JA(2) or 32(3) of that Act or otherwise) to make a report or recommendation to the local authority with respect to any matter which is a local crime and disorder matter in relation to a member of the authority.

The crime and disorder committee shall meet to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder function as the committee considers appropriate but no less than once in every twelve month period.”

The Constitution (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 7) provides for the two overview and scrutiny committees to submit an annual work programme to full Council for approval.

The Committee’s Work Programme, as approved by Full Council at its meeting held on 14 August 2025, includes the continuation of the work of the “Joint Working with Town and Parish Councils” Task and Finish Group and the “Provision of out of School Organised Activities and Events” Task and Finish Group. The Work Programme sets out an aspiration for the final report of those Task and Finish Working Groups to be submitted to this Committee at its meeting in December 2025. To facilitate this, the membership of those Task and Finish Working Groups, should be determined at this meeting.

A list of the nominations for each of the Task and Finish Groups are as follows:-

Joint Working with Town and Parish Councils

- Councillor Steady
- Councillor Ferguson
- Councillor Sudra

Provision of out of School Organised Activities and Events

- Councillor Barrett
- Councillor Oxley

Following the last meeting of the Committee, held on 23 September 2025, it was agreed that the Crime and Disorder (Familial Violence/Abuse) Task and Finish Group would not be reappointed and that any further matters relating to such matters would be reported directly to the Committee.

It was previously proposed that, in the light of the limited number of nominations, a single Task and Finish Group be established. This group would allocate dedicated time periods to conduct enquiries and draw its membership from the volunteers listed above.

Officers recently convened with colleagues from Thanet District Council to discuss their ADSO-nominated initiative focused on strengthening engagement with the local college and facilitating the recruitment of T-Level students into the Democratic Services team. This collaborative effort aims to enhance educational partnerships and support early career pathways into local government. A summary of the meeting outcomes is provided in Appendix D of this report.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:-

- a) notes its Work Programme for 2025/26 (Appendix A) and considers both the feedback to the Committee on the decisions in respect of previous recommendations (Appendix B) and the list of forthcoming decisions (Appendix C);
- b) notes the remaining contents of the report.
- c) supports the formation of a unified Task and Finish Group to streamline nominations and ensure a suitable number of Members.

PREVIOUS RELEVANT DECISIONS

Full Council – 14 August 2025

It was moved by Councillor P B Honeywood, seconded by Councillor Steady and:-

RESOLVED that Council –

- (a) approves the proposed work programme for the Community Leadership and the Resources & Services Overview and Scrutiny Committees for the 2025/26 Municipal Year, as set out in Appendices Ai and Aii respectively; and
- (b) notes the work carried out by those Committees in the year 2024/25, as set out in Appendix B.

BACKGROUND PAPERS AND PUBLISHED REFERENCE MATERIAL

- Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) – Overview & Scrutiny Development Review (2021)
- Tendring District Council Constitution – Article 6 and Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules
- Corporate Plan 2024–2028
- Full Council Minutes – 14 August 2025

APPENDICES

Appendix A – Work Programme 2025/26

Appendix B – Recommendations Monitoring

Appendix C – Forthcoming Decisions

Appendix D – Thanet District Council Meeting Summary

REPORT CONTACT OFFICER(S)

Name	Katie Koppenaar
Job Title	Democratic Services Officer
Email/Telephone	kkoppenaar@tendringdc.gov.uk 01255 686585

This page is intentionally left blank

A.2 APPENDIX A

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ENQUIRIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN 2025/26

Item	Date of Enquiry	Relevant Corporate Plan Theme/Annual Cabinet Priority	Information to be provided in advance	Those to be invited to attend	Articulated value of undertaking the review
<p>To examine joint working with Parish & Town Councils in the District and opportunities and for the mutually beneficial collaboration to enhance that joint working.</p> <p>[Ongoing from 2024/25]</p>	<p>Through a Task and Finish Group</p> <p>9 December 2025 – target date for submission of the Working Group’s Final Report.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pride in our area and services to residents • Working with Partners to improve quality of life 	<p>Details of existing area of joint working between the District Council and Town and Parish Councils in the District.</p> <p>Examples of joint working elsewhere in the nation that may be beneficial to consider.</p> <p>As part of the Public Consultation for preparing the 2025/26 Overview and Scrutiny Committees Work Programmes, Officers received a submission from Frating Parish Council, which calls for <i>enhanced scrutiny of the planning process and its determinations on the grounds of perceived inconsistencies in decision-making. The Parish Council asserts that the Tendring District</i></p>	<p>Chief Executive</p> <p>Corporate Director (Planning and Community)</p> <p>The Chair/Secretary of TDALC</p> <p>Representatives from the National Association of Local Councils</p> <p>Appropriate Officers/Portfolio Holders for areas of further joint work.</p>	<p>To develop options for the Cabinet/Council to develop collaborative working opportunities that are mutually beneficial.</p>

A.2 APPENDIX A

			<i>Council Planning Department frequently bases its decisions on outdated or inaccurate information.</i>		
To examine the extent of Youth Provision of School age Children outside of that school/education and the opportunity for that provision to be adjusted/supported with improvements for mental health and reduced prosperity anti-social behaviour.	Through a Task and Finish Group [this working group has met once so far and its work is ongoing] 9 December 2025 – target date for submission of the Working Group’s Final Report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Championing our local environment • Pride in our area and services to residents • Working with Partners to improve quality of life • Raising aspirations and creating opportunities 	<p>The extent of Youth Provision outside of state education for school age children.</p> <p>The extent of demand for such out of School Activities.</p> <p>The opportunity for groups/individuals.</p> <p>Information from schools including the age groups of the children concerned.</p> <p>Informal meeting with the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Public Realm.</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder, Partnerships</p> <p>Essex County Council’s Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services and Early years</p> <p>Executive Projects Manager</p> <p>Essex County Council’s Executive Director, Children, Families and Education</p> <p>Representatives of Voluntary Youth Provision in the District.</p>	<p>To explore further the benefit for young people of out of school organised activities and events and provision around this age group.</p> <p>To consider making a recommendation to the Portfolio Holder for Partnerships that they should actively encourage all Councillors to visit a school in their local area to make enquiries into mental health in youth.</p>
To Consider Grant Funding by the Council and Others	At a meeting of the Budget Scrutiny meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial sustainability 	Cabinet’s initial budget proposals for 2026/27.	Portfolio Holder, Partnerships	To consider the Councils approach to grants, the

A.2 APPENDIX A

<p>and its appropriateness given the needs of the District, including where the Grants Policy is at and the progress made with the adoption of the Committee's Recommendations</p>	<p>of the Committee on 15 January 2026.</p>	<p>and openness</p>		<p>Corporate Director (Finance & IT) Corporate Director (Place & Wellbeing)</p>	<p>relationship between other grant funding organisations. The extent to which gaps in funding have been identified and addressed.</p>
<p>To explore joint working with Braintree and Colchester Scrutiny Panels/Committees</p>	<p>Initially, to be the subject of an off-agenda Briefing Note following meetings of the relevant Committee Chairmen from</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pride in our area and services to residents • Working with Partners to 	<p>*Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes 2025/26 for the three Councils. (*Text added following Committee meeting on 29 July 2025).</p>	<p>* Initially, the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees of the three Councils,</p>	<p>To develop a joined-up system of scrutiny in preparation for LGR.</p>

A.2 APPENDIX A

	the three Councils.	improve quality of life		accompanied by appropriate Officers nominated by those Councils. (*Text added following Committee meeting on 29 July 2025).	
To have a review of the Work Programme following 26 September 2025 submission date for proposals for Local Government Reorganisation. This will be programmed for the Committee meeting to be held on 17 November 2025 .					
In accordance with the terms of reference of the Committee, to consider the progress made with the Community Governance Review of the unparished areas of the District and to submit the necessary Recommendations to Full Council	Meetings of the Committee to be held on 17 November 2025 and 16 March 2026 .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pride in our area and services to residents 	*The outcome of the relevant phase of Consultation with local government electors and other stakeholders and the requirements of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 for the next elements of the review. (*Text added following the Committee meeting on 29 July 2025.)	Assistant Director (Corporate Policy & Support) Elections & Member Support Manager	*To fulfil the requirements of the terms of reference of the Committee and to demonstrate openness in respect of the consultation findings and next steps. (*Text added following the Committee meeting on 29 July 2025.)
Carnarvon Terrace Progress / Implementation	Will be considered by Committee on a date to be agreed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pride in our area and services to residents 	Officer report based on previous reports to Cabinet and the latest position.	Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth,	To identify any possible areas for improvement and to make

A.2 APPENDIX A

	<p>with the Chairman of the Committee once the Tenders have been submitted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Partners to improve quality of life • Raising aspirations and creating opportunities • Financial Sustainability and Openness 	<p>Tenders submitted.</p>	<p>Regeneration and Tourism</p> <p>Corporate Director (Place and Wellbeing)</p> <p>Interim Assistant Director (Project Delivery Unit)</p>	<p>recommendations thereon.</p> <p>If Tenders are higher than expected, then examine where the additional funds would be secured from and the effect that this might have on other projects / departments.</p>
<p>To review progress made with the adopted Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy 2025-28 and the adoption of the Committee's Recommendations</p>	<p>Meeting of the Committee to be held on 16 March 2026.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Partners to improve quality of life 	<p>Levels of recorded violence against Women + Girls (and violence of children against parents etc) for Tending over a 5-year period.</p> <p>Measures being taken by public authorities to address/reduce/eliminate violence and tackle behaviours by perpetrators. What services are available locally by voluntary sector arrangements for victims of violence.</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder, Partnerships</p> <p>Corporate Director Operations and Delivery and Safeguarding Manager.</p>	<p>To shine a light on unacceptable behaviours within families and the benefit this created for so many families. It will also look at prevention and support measures to consider strengthening these where possible.</p> <p>Look to align Tending's Strategy with those</p>

A.2 APPENDIX A

			Information on Colchester's and Braintree's respective Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategies and Action Plans.		of Braintree and Colchester Councils.
Water Quality Enquiry	Site Visit to Brightlingsea Harbour Commissioners (BHC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Championing our local Environment 	BHC are working in collaboration with the University of Essex to examine the application of specialist paint on vessel hulls to prevent barnacle growth without harming water quality and eco-system.	Portfolio Holder for Environment & ICT Corporate Director (Operations & Delivery) Assistant Director (Housing & Environment)	To be decided by the Committee in due course.
<p>To have a review of the Work Programme following the expected Ministerial announcement on the next steps towards Local Government Re-organisation. This will be programmed for the Committee meeting to be held on 16 March 2026.</p>					

COMPLETED

<p>Crime and Disorder (Familial Violence/Abuse) –</p> <p>To receive updates on the actions set out in the previous recommendations made to Cabinet.</p>	<p>Initial review by the Committee at its meeting on 9 September 2025 with a view to deciding whether this work should continue to be done through the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with Partners to improve quality of life 	<p>Actions taken by the Cabinet in response to the Recommendations made to it.</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder, Partnerships</p> <p>Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager.</p>	<p>To enable the Committee to be kept informed of matters relating to this important issue.</p> <p>To enable the Committee to make further</p>
---	---	--	--	---	--

A.2 APPENDIX A

<p>(Community Leadership Overview & Scrutiny Committee 15 April 2025 (minute 16 – Crime and Disorder (Familial Violence/Abuse) Task & Finish Group final report to the Committee))</p>	<p>existing Task and Finish Group</p>				<p>Recommendations to the Cabinet etc. as deemed to be appropriate.</p>
<p>Coastal Communities Unit</p> <p>To consider the work of the Coastal Communities Unit (CCU)</p> <p>To look at the mental health research which suggests the position is most pronounced among younger people living in coastal communities.</p> <p>[Ongoing from 2024/25]</p>	<p>9 September 2025 – Doctor Emily Murray to be invited to attend</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Championing our local environment • Pride in our area and services to residents • Working with Partners to improve quality of life • Raising aspirations and creating opportunities 	<p>The published articles and summaries of the research findings produced by the University and its collaboration partners.</p>	<p>Dr Emily Murray, Director of the CCU at the University of Essex</p>	<p>To be able to make recommendations around actions and activities that may have a beneficial impact on health inequalities locally.</p>

This page is intentionally left blank

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

17 NOVEMBER 2025

RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING REPORT

Recommendation(s) Including Date of Meeting and Minute Number	Actions Taken and Outcome	Completed, follow-up work required or added to Work Programme
<p><u>The Committee’s meeting held on 23 September 2025</u></p> <p>Youth Mental Health in Coastal Communities</p> <p>The Community Leadership Overview & Scrutiny Committee RESOLVED that the Committee:</p> <p>1) thanks the various contributors to the meeting from the local health providers and University of Essex and notes the research findings that nationally, those young people living in deprived Coastal Communities are significantly more prone to poor mental health and</p>	<p>Response of the Partnerships Portfolio Holder for Partnerships, in her formal decision dated 28 October 2025:-</p> <p><i>“In responding to the recommendations within the minutes of the Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Meeting on 23 September 2025 I propose to take the following action in respect of the Committee’s lettered recommendations:-</i></p> <p><i>I will ask officers to:</i></p> <p><i>a) write to the Integrated Care Board identifying the link between coastal communities and poor mental health for them to help seek to address this.</i></p> <p><i>b) highlight to the Committee what the Council is doing to seek to address poor mental health through its Health and Wellbeing Strategy including the interventions to address poor mental health and its drivers; and</i></p>	<p>Completed</p>

<p>less likely to have that diagnosed when compared with the position of young people in inland communities and therefore urges that this evidenced need is flagged with this Council's partners as progress occurs over the coming years to local government reorganisation;</p> <p>2) urges the Portfolio Holder for Partnerships to take up the following policy recommendations from the University of Essex's Coastal Communities Centre research into Coastal Disadvantage and Youth Mental Health as part of the strategic approach to Health and Wellbeing locally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Develop a long-term strategy to increase diagnosis of mental health conditions and reduce the development of poor mental health in children and adolescence.</i> • <i>Create local targets to improve mental health for young people in line with the national average, as part of</i> 	<p>c) provide an update to the Committee about the actions that are being taken by the Council to help improve aspiration.”</p> <p>Full details of the decision can be found via the following URL: https://tdcdemocracy.tendringdc.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=13895</p> <p>Following the decision of the Portfolio Holder for Partnerships dated 28 October 2025, a letter was written by Officers to the Chief Executive Designate of Essex ICB identifying the link between coastal communities and poor mental health and requesting their assistance to address this matter. The full document can be found via the following URL: https://tdcdemocracy.tendringdc.gov.uk/documents/s78603/Coastal%20communities%20letter%20to%20the%20ICB.doc.pdf</p> <p>An update to the Committee from the Portfolio Holder for Partnerships detailing actions being taken by the Council to improve aspiration, also highlighting the Council's interventions to address poor mental health through its Health and Wellbeing strategy. The full document can be found via the following URL: https://tdcdemocracy.tendringdc.gov.uk/documents/s78602/CLOS%20response%20re%20Coastal%20Communities%20004.docx.pdf</p>	
--	---	--

<p><i>their annual planning exercise.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Invest in delivery of interventions to support the mental health of coastal young adults in the most deprived areas of England. This should include facilitating access to services with a focus on the most at-risk groups (e.g. how can services be brought closer to coastal young adults).</i> • <i>Fund longer-term investments in deprived coastal communities to tackle the drivers of poor mental health. This includes improving opportunities for education, employment, housing and social connection with improved public transport essential for all of these.</i> 		
<p><u>This Committee’s meeting held on 17 June 2025</u></p> <p>Briefing note NHS Dental Commission</p>	<p>Response of the Partnerships Portfolio Holder for Partnerships, in her formal decision dated 29 August 2025:-</p> <p><i>“Following the Committee’s focus on dentistry and the importance of ensuring there is sufficient provision in our area and particularly for those most in need, the following</i></p>	<p>Awaiting the responses in respect of a) and c) which are to be shared with</p>

<p>The Community Leadership Overview & Scrutiny Committee RESOLVED that the Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) urges the Portfolio Holder for Partnerships to urge NHS colleagues in providers hospitals to supply the required data around admissions of children and the extent of which that can be attributed to dental decay; 2) urges the Portfolio Holder for Partnerships, that with the envisioned merger of the ICB for Greater Essex, that she does everything that is within their power to ensure that the health inequalities, particularly with dental health inequalities, are front and centre for the new ICB and at least replicate the good work of the SNEE going forward; and 3) urges through the Portfolio Holder for Partnerships that there is development of continued referencing data and extent of any improvement over time and for the actual NHS dental appointments for each year to be provided for children and adults. 	<p><i>decisions are made namely to:-</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a) instruct Officers to contact health colleagues and request that they provide data which explains the link between dental decay and hospital admissions;</i> <i>b) continue to champion the importance of addressing health inequalities as highlighted in this Council's emerging Health and Wellbeing Strategy and furthermore, to work with any newly formed Integrated Care Board so as to maintain that focus on addressing health inequality;</i> <i>c) instruct Officers to contact health colleagues to provide data which explains changes in dental appointments over time; and</i> <i>d) to share the responses in respect of a) and c) above with the Committee in due course."</i> <p>Full details of the decision can be found via the following URL: http://tdc-mgov-prd-01.tendringdc.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=13804</p>	<p>the Committee in due course.</p>
---	---	-------------------------------------

A.2 APPENDIX B

Recommendations monitoring for those recommendations from earlier meetings of the Committee have been previously reported to the Committee and, as such, are not repeated here as there is no further update to be provided on them.

This page is intentionally left blank

A.2 APPENDIX C

Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 17 November 2025

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULE 13 – SCRUTINY OF PROPOSED DECISIONS

(Prepared by Katie Koppenaal)

The below forthcoming decisions are those published and currently 'live' on the Council's corporate business schedule.

In presenting the following, the Committee's attention is drawn to the agenda item notes in respect of Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 13.

DESCRIPTION OF DECISION	KEY DECISION – YES/NO	DECISION MAKER	Decision Due Date
Approval of the Regeneration Plan for Clacton for the Pride for the Pride in Place (formerly Plan for Neighbourhoods) programme	YES	Leader of the Council	Not before 19 December 2025
Community Regeneration Partnership (CRP2) – Programme Update and Reallocation of Funding	YES	Cabinet	14 November 2025
Capital Regeneration Partnership (SRP) – Milton Road and Victoria Street – Award of Building Contract	YES	Cabinet	19 December 2025
Sport England Place Partnership Grant Funding	YES	Cabinet	19 December 2025
Assets of Community Value Applications – Amendment to Delegated Powers	NO	Cabinet	30 January 2026
Local Regeneration Fund (LRF, formerly LUF) – Carnarvon Terrace – Award of Building Contract	YES	Cabinet	30 January 2026
Updated General Fund Financial Forecast / Budget 2026/27 – Final Proposals	YES	Cabinet	30 January 2026
Options for Improvement of Playing Pitches and Changing Facilities Throughout the District	YES	Cabinet	30 January 2026

This page is intentionally left blank

An Insight into Thanet District Council's T-Level Programme

Meeting held on 3 November 2025

Attendees

Nick Hughes – Committee Services Manager (Thanet District Council)

Charles Hungwe – Deputy Committee Services Manager (Thanet District Council)

Gabriella Stewart – Senior Democratic Services Officer (Thanet District Council)

Chris Bailey – Elections and Leadership Support Officer (Tendring District Council)

Katie Koppenaal – Democratic Services Officer (Tendring District Council)

Nick Hughes, Committee Services Manager at Thanet District Council, commenced the meeting with a concise overview of the T-Level programme. He explained that T-Levels are a two-year qualification designed for students aged 16 to 19, broadly equivalent to three A-Levels. The programme integrates academic study with practical experience, requiring a minimum of 315 hours of industry placement to ensure students gain meaningful, hands-on exposure in a professional setting. At Thanet District Council, students undertaking placements are working towards qualifications in Business Administration and Management.

Nick continued by outlining the origins of the initiative, noting that it began three years ago when Thanet District Council was approached by the local college. The college had identified a student with a keen interest in pursuing a career within Democratic Services, prompting initial discussions that laid the foundation for the current programme.

Following the initial engagement, a student was welcomed into the Democratic Services Team, attending one day per week over the course of a year. Nick highlighted the positive impact of this arrangement, noting that the student quickly became a valuable asset to the team. Their enthusiasm and aptitude for learning enabled them to adapt swiftly and contribute meaningfully to the team's work.

Nick further explained that the key consideration in proceeding with the placement of a T-Level student was the character of the local college, which operates outside the sixth form model and focuses predominantly on vocational education. He observed that, in his view, such institutions are occasionally perceived as catering to students who are less academically inclined—a perception he firmly disagrees with. He also observed that the programme could be especially impactful in economically disadvantaged areas, describing it as an excellent opportunity to expose college students to industry environments and career pathways.

Nick explained that each student is assigned a dedicated mentor within the team and follows a structured six-month work programme. This programme is tailored to align with the student's individual skills, interests, and personality profile. Regular one-to-one meetings are conducted to support the student's development and progress.

Democratic Services Officers rotate responsibility for supervising the student, ensuring consistent oversight and guidance. Thanet District Council receives a £1,000 equipment grant to support the placement. Students are not permitted to work remotely.

The Council maintains a formal partnership with the college, whereby all tasks completed by the student are systematically logged and contribute directly to their academic qualification.

The current T-Level student placed within Thanet District Council's Democratic Services Team has benefited from cross-departmental exposure, including time spent with the Licensing Team, Environmental Health, and Legal Services. Of the 17-week placement, 12 weeks have been dedicated to working within the Democratic Services Team.

Previous placement students have actively contributed to the preparation of Full Council minutes and a range of committee agendas. These experiences have significantly enhanced their understanding of local government operations while fostering the development of essential professional skills.

Nick noted that, following the successful placement within Democratic Services, Thanet District Council has expanded its T-Level programme to include additional placements—such as an engineering student at Ramsgate Port and another student supporting the ICT team.

He highlighted that, as part of the next onboarding process for the Democratic Services T-Level placement, students will undergo a formal interview process, including the preparation of their own CVs. This approach ensures that, regardless of the recruitment outcome, participants gain valuable, real-world skills and experience that will support their future development.

Nick described a previous initiative hosted by Thanet District Council, in which secondary school students were invited to participate in an interactive budgeting exercise. During the event, students were presented with a fictional budget and tasked with allocating funds across a range of proposed projects. This activity was designed to illustrate the complexities and challenges involved in prioritising expenditure within a local authority setting.

The Committee Services Manager has expressed his willingness to attend a Scrutiny meeting, should the committee wish to extend an invitation for further discussion or to ask additional questions.