Community Governance Review

Phase two consultation proposal

December 2025 - February 2026

What is happening?

Epsom and Ewell Borough Council has decided to undertake a Community Governance Review (CGR) under the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, to consider creating parishes and parish councils in all of the current area of the Borough.

This has been prompted by the process of Local Government Reorganisation across Surrey which will see the formation of two unitary authorities for Surrey, and the abolition of the existing eleven district and borough councils within Surrey, along with the abolition of the County Council. The eleven existing district and borough councils are to be dissolved in April 2027 and as the whole of Epsom and Ewell Borough does not have any parish councils there will be no lower tier of local government, below that of the new East Surrey unitary authority. The new East Surrey Council will take over the responsibilities of Surrey County Council and the five districts and borough councils.

The aim is to ensure local governance arrangements are effective, convenient, and reflect the identities and interests of local communities. The review seeks to improve community engagement, local democracy, and service delivery.

How do I respond?

The consultation will run from Tuesday the 16th of December 2025 to Sunday the 1st of February 2026, closing at 11.59pm.

After looking at the proposal, you can respond by:

- **Answering the questionnaire online** - https://eebc.inconsult.uk/CGRproposal/consultationHome

OR

- **Filling out the paper questionnaire**

Paper copies of the Consultation can be found at -

- **The Town Hall**
- **Bourne Hall**
- **Stoneleigh Library**
- **Epsom Library**
- **Ewell Court Library**
- **Community and Wellbeing Centre**

Paper Copies of the Consultation will have a prepaid envelope enclosed so they can be sent back to the Town Hall.

If you print the consultation at home, you will need to return the completed questionnaire to the Town Hall either in person or via post. We are not able to provide prepaid envelopes if you select the print at home option.

If you choose to send a printed copy of the questionnaire, please send it to -

Community Governance Review, Town Hall, The Parade, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 5BY

We are committeed to making our documents accessible to everyone. If you need this document in an alternative format (e.g. braille, large print, or in another language), please email cgr@epsom-ewell.gov.uk or call 01372732000

The Proposal

Phase one of the public consultation has already taken place, between July and October 2025. The Phase one consultation asked respondents if they would like parish councils to be created in their area and informed the proposal set out below.

Legally 'parish councils' have to be formed but they can be named 'community councils'. Throughout this document and the consultation the terms 'parish' and 'community' for the council that may be created are used interchangeably. The Phase one consultation showed a clear preference for the use of the name community councils, rather than parish councils.

Where the number of local government electors within a proposed parish area will be 1,000 or more, it must be recommended that the parish should have a parish council, it is then a decision for the Council whether or not to give effect to that recommendation.

The phase two consultation is seeking views on the following draft proposal:

- The creation of two parish areas (Epsom Parish Area and Ewell Parish Area) within which there will be two parish councils (one in each parish area)
- Each council will initially be responsible for the legal minimum (e.g. allotments) and may take on further services in the future, subject to agreement with the newly formed East Surrey Unitary Council.

Warding arrangements:

- The boundaries of the two parish areas will match existing borough ward boundaries.
- The existing borough wards and their names will be adopted as parish wards.

Proposed number of Councillors – Two councillors per ward per newly created parish council resulting in:

- Twelve councillors within Epsom Community Council (there are six wards) and
- Sixteen councillors in Ewell Community Council (there are eight wards).

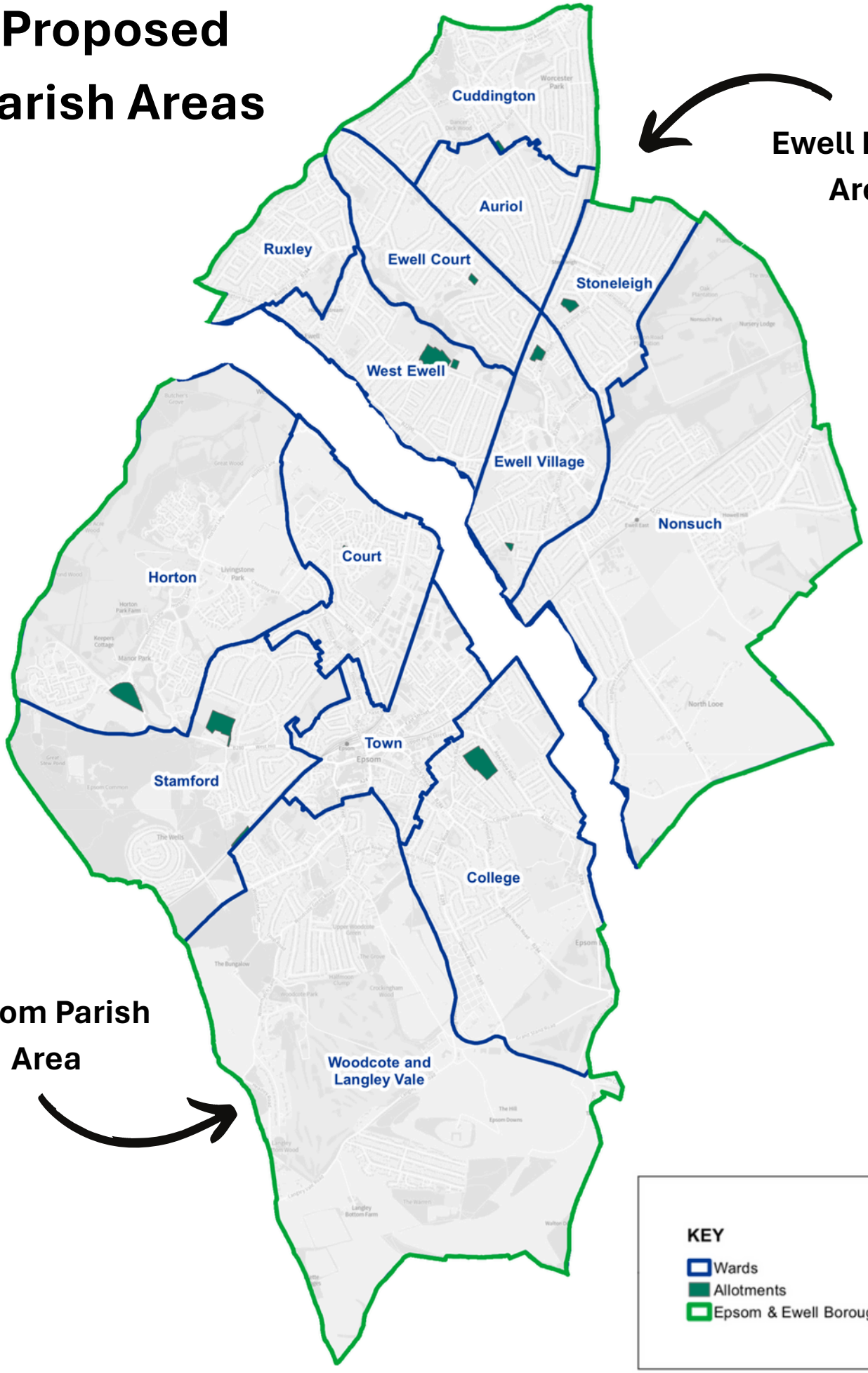
Proposed names of parish councils -

Epsom Community Council

Ewell Community Council

The Full Council report can be accessed here, where the formal recommendations can be seen.

Proposed Parish Areas



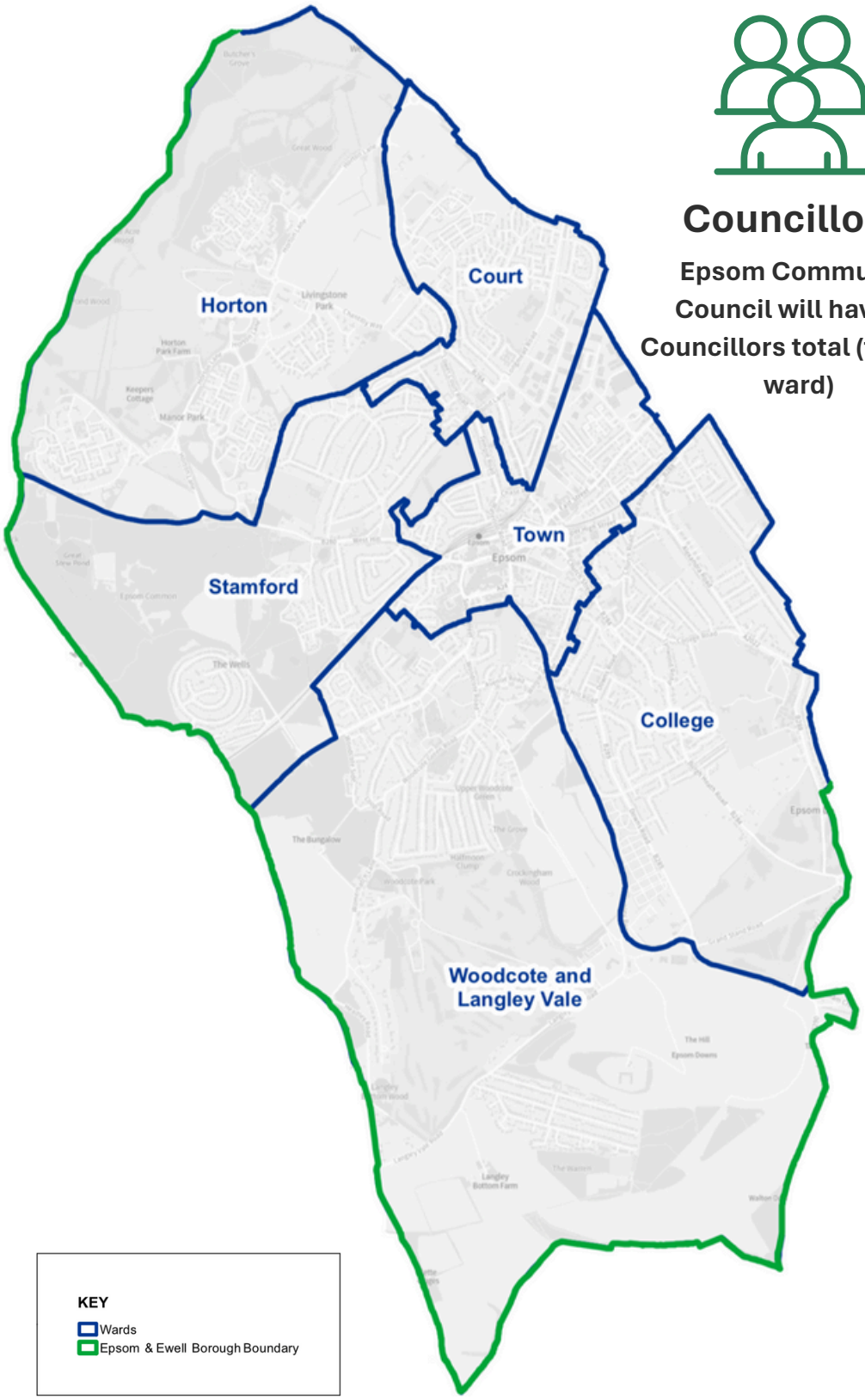
0 0.3 0.6 1.2 1.8 2.4 Kilometers

Scale 1:40,000

© Crown copyright and database right 2025.
Ordnance Survey Licence AC0000806036

Document Date: 13/11/2025

Epsom Community Council will have:



Councillors

Epsom Community Council will have 12 Councillors total (two per ward)

Wards (6):

- College
- Court
- Horton
- Stamford
- Town
- Woodcote and Langley Vale

Precept

The approximate cost for the average band D property would be £44 a year

Electorate

26,489

as of the 1st of May 2025

Ewell Community Council will have:

Councillors

Ewell Community Council will have 16 Councillors total (two per ward)

Precept

The approximate cost for the average band D property would be £46 a year

Electorate

32,934
as of the 1 May 2025

Wards (8)

- Auriol
- Cuddington
- Ewell Court
- Ewell Village
- Nonsuch
- Ruxley
- Stonleigh
- West Ewell

KEY
Wards
Epsom & Ewell Borough Boundary

Parish Council Precepts

What is a precept?
The precept is essentially a demand for a specific sum of money to be collected through the council tax system, which the parish council then uses to fund its operations.

How does it work?
A parish council prepares a budget and determines how much funding they need for the upcoming year. They then submit a precept request to the billing authority (East Surrey Council).

East Surrey Council will collect the precept amount as part of the council tax and pay it to the parish council.

Why it's important?
Parish councils rely on the precept as their primary source of funding, as they do not receive direct funding from central government. Without the precept, they would be unable to carry out their responsibilities, such as maintaining local amenities, providing services, and representing the community.

The budget essentially covers:

- Parish Council Administration. e.g. employment costs, office supplies and equipment, website/IT, insurance, room hire, training, fees/memberships
- Allotments, e.g. running and maintenance

Why administrative costs matter?
The costs of setting up and running a parish council aren't just overheads —they're what makes local democracy work. These funds cover essentials like:

- Setting up and running a town clerk's office – which is a role equivalent to a combination of a chief executive and chief finance officer at a borough council, and
- Organising and holding public meetings, ensuring the actions of a parish council are transparent and accountable.

The precept supports a platform for tailored local services after the abolishment of Epsom & Ewell Borough Council. This allows for scalable services as the precept can be adjusted based on what services and assets the community wants to manage, giving flexibility for future priorities.

The Consultation - Have your say!

We want your views on the above proposal. Please answer the following questions:

About you:

1) **Please state which of the following best describes you (please select one answer)**

- ☐ I live in the Epsom and Ewell Borough Council area
- ☐ I work in the Epsom and Ewell Borough Council area
- ☐ I own a business or a property in the Epsom and Ewell Borough Council area
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in the Epsom and Ewell Borough Council area. The name of the commuity organisation is: _____

- ☐ Other: (*Give details*)_____

Please state your postcode (based on your above selection): _____

2) **Do you agree with the proposal to create two new parish areas (Epsom Parish Area and Ewell Parish Area) and serving them, two new parish councils (Epsom Community Council and Ewell Community Council), with the associated precept?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know/ not sure

2a) **Please tell us why.**

If you have answered Question 1 and 2, you do not have to complete the rest of this questionnaire.

We would love to learn more to help us understand the needs of our community better, considering this community governance review and potential creation of parish councils. So, we would like to invite you to share a little more about yourself – **the questions for this section begin on page 12**. Answering these questions is **completely voluntary** and any information shared will **remain confidential**.

3) **Do you agree with the proposed warding arrangements (wards matching existing borough wards)?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know/ not sure

3a) **Please tell us why.**

4) **Do you agree with the proposed names for the parish areas, councils and wards?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know/ not sure

4a) **Please tell us why.**

EPSOM & EWELL BOROUGH COUNCIL

5) **Do you agree with the proposed number of Councillors (two per ward)?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know/ not sure

5a) **Please tell us why.**

6) **Are there any further comments you would like to add about the Community Governance Review or the proposal to create two parishes and parish councils in Epsom and Ewell?**

EPSOM & EWELL BOROUGH COUNCIL

Would you like to share a little more about yourself?

We'd love to learn more to help us understand the needs of our community better, considering this community governance review and potential creation of parish councils. Answering these extra questions is completely **voluntary** – you do not have to take part, and your responses will remain confidential.
Please only answer questions you feel comfortable doing so. You do not have to answer all questions.

We are inviting you to answer the questions below so we can evaluate the responses when carrying out an Equality Impact Assessment, after the end of this consultation

What is your age group?

- ☐ Under 16
- ☐ 16-24
- ☐ 25-34
- ☐ 35-44
- ☐ 45-54
- ☐ 55-64
- ☐ 65-74
- ☐ 75+
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Do you consider yourself to have a disability or long-term health condition?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your ethnic group?

- ☐ White(e.g. English, Welsh, Scottish, Irish, Gypsy or Irish Traveller)
- ☐ Mixed/multiple ethnic groups
- ☐ Asian/Asian British
- ☐ Black/African/Caribbean/Black British
- ☐ Other ethnic group (please specify):
- ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your sexual orientation?

- ☐ Heterosexual/straight
- ☐ Gay/lesbian
- ☐ Bisexual
- ☐ Other (please specify):
- ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your legal marital or civil partnership status?

- ☐ Single
- ☐ Married
- ☐ In a civil partnership
- ☐ Divorced/separated
- ☐ Widowed
- ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your religion or belief?

- ☐ No religion
- ☐ Christian
- ☐ Muslim
- ☐ Hindu
- ☐ Jewish
- ☐ Sikh
- ☐ Buddhist
- ☐ Other (please specify):
- ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your sex? (tick any that apply)

- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Other (please specify):
- ☐ Different than sex assigned at birth
- ☐ Prefer not to say

If you would like to be kept informed on the Community Governance Review, please provide your email address below:

Email address: _____

Using your personal information: Any information provided in this survey will be used in the strictest confidence and only for the use of the Community Governance Review. Your response will form part of our published documents, but all responses will be fully anonymised. For further information on how we collect, use, share, secure and retain your personal information, and your legal rights, please see our Privacy Notice at **https://epsom-ewell.gov.uk/council/about-council/data-protection/privacy-and-cookies**

EPSOM & EWELL BOROUGH COUNCIL

Contact us

cgr@epsom-ewell.gov.uk

www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/CGR

Epsom and Ewell Borough Council, Town Hall, The Parade, Epsom KT18 5BY

01372732000

If you would like to learn more, please visit - Community Governance Review Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) at -

https://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/council/community-governance-review/community-governance-review-frequently-asked-questions-faqs