

FOI REF:	17220
RESPONSE SENT:	18/06/2026

Request

Community Governance Review — proposed number of councillors for Kings Barton Parish Council

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 relating to the Community Governance Review for the Winchester town area and Kings Barton, specifically the proposal that the new Kings Barton Parish Council should comprise 11 parish councillors. Please provide the following recorded information:

- Any reports, briefing papers, options appraisals, officer notes, working papers or internal documents relating to the assessment of the appropriate number of councillors for the proposed Kings Barton Parish Council.
- Any calculations, modelling, electorate projections, population estimates, housing completion assumptions, or elector-to-councillor ratio analysis used when considering the proposed number of councillors for Kings Barton.
- Any documents showing the alternative councillor numbers considered for Kings Barton, including but not limited to options above or below 11 councillors, and the reasons recorded for accepting or rejecting those alternatives.
- Any comparison data, benchmarking, examples or guidance used from other parish councils, including comparable new communities, urban parishes, or parishes of similar population/electorate size.
- Any internal emails, correspondence, meeting notes or records of discussion between officers, councillors, consultants, Public Perspectives, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, Hampshire County Council, or any other relevant body concerning the proposed number of councillors for Kings Barton.
- Any legal, procedural or governance advice received or considered in relation to setting the number of councillors for the proposed Kings Barton Parish Council. Any documents showing how consultation responses from Kings Barton residents were taken into account when deciding or recommending the proposed number of councillors.
- The minutes, notes, agendas, action logs or decision records of any meetings at which the number of councillors for Kings Barton was discussed.
- Any draft versions of the relevant Community Governance Review recommendations, reports or FAQs where the proposed number of councillors for Kings Barton was discussed, changed, amended or approved.



For the avoidance of doubt, this request relates not only to the final published recommendation, but also to the evidence base, reasoning, internal consideration and alternative options that informed the recommendation that 11 councillors would be appropriate for the proposed Kings Barton Parish Council.

If any part of this request is considered to exceed the appropriate cost limit, please provide advice and assistance under section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act to help refine the request.

In that event, please prioritise the information relating to:

- a) the calculation or rationale for the proposed number of 11 councillors;
- b) any alternative councillor numbers considered;
- c) any benchmarking against comparable parish councils;
- d) any internal correspondence or meeting notes discussing the figure of 11 councillors.

Response

Attached are the documents requested in relation to your query.

For additional context and clarification, please also note the details below –

- The stage 1 consultation didn't refer to councillor numbers at all and so to date there is no consultation response information, i.e. the number of councillors has only been consulted upon at stage 2 which is currently ongoing (at time of response) until the 24th June and so we have no information to share on that.
- We did formulate a draft proposal of 9 Councillors that was based upon established guidance and previous CGRs and the documents relating to this are attached.
- We did also publish dwelling and population data both current and projected and this is also provided
- The draft figure of 9 formed part of the proposals that members and parish councils were briefed on in March 2026, the slides for this are attached. There was feedback at this point in the process that 9 was felt to be a little low and so the proposal was amended to 11. This was published in the L&R Committee papers for the 17th March which are also included along with the Stage 1 consultation results.
- Finally, there has been correspondence with Headbourne Worthy PC and WCC regarding a number of matters including Councillor Numbers and this correspondence is also attached in redacted form, to provide the Councillor Number elements,

