



# **Community Governance Review (CGR) for South Oxfordshire 2026**

## **CONSULTATION REPORT**

**A summary of the results of the consultation on possible changes to  
community governance in South Oxfordshire.**

**APRIL 2026**

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# CONTENTS

Executive summary	3
Engagement methodology	5
Key findings – quantitative and qualitative data	6
About you	6
Parishes currently under review	8
Ewelme Parish Council	8
Stoke Row Parish Council	9
Woodcote Parish Council	10
Didcot Town Council	12
Henley-on-Thames Town Council	13
Thame Town Council	14
Watlington and Pyrton Parish Councils	17
Shirburn and Pyrton parishes	17
Clifton Hampden and Dorchester Parish Councils	19
Thame and Great Haseley	19
Nuneham Courtenay Parish Council	21
Demographic data	22
How we have used results of the consultation	28
Further information	28

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

We received 132 responses to this consultation. Of them, the vast majority were submitted by members of the public (89 per cent), 5 per cent by businesses/organisations and another 5 per cent by neighbouring local authorities (i.e. parishes). 65 per cent of all respondents heard about the consultation either via email (27 per cent), at town or parish council meetings (21 per cent), or by word of mouth (17 per cent).

The community governance review for Watlington and Pyrton parishes was the most selected option (24 per cent).

Below is a summary of the results relating to each town or parish council:

**Ewelme Parish Council:** only one respondent commented on the proposed increase in the number of councillors from 6 to 7 and they strongly disagreed with it.

**Stoke Row Parish Council:** 5 respondents commented on the proposed increase in the number of councillors from 6 to 8, and the majority strongly agreed with it (80 per cent). Comments left by respondents indicated that increasing workloads would justify that.

**Woodcote Parish Council:** 7 respondents expressed their opinions on the proposal to increase the number of councillors from 10 to 12. No clear majority emerged among them. In fact, whilst 43 per cent strongly disagreed with it, another 43 per cent either strongly agreed (29 per cent) or agreed with the proposal (14 per cent).

**Didcot Town Council:** 20 respondents commented on the proposal to alter the LGBCE (Local Government and Boundary Commission for England) warding arrangements and retain current ones. No conclusive majority emerged among them, however, a larger proportion disagreed (45 per cent) than agreed or strongly agreed with it (35 per cent). This split is also reflected in the comments made by respondents, with 5 being unclear about their support or lack of support for the proposal, 4 expressing disagreements with the proposal and a preference for single-ward members, and 3 supporting it.

**Henley-on-Thames Town Council:** 20 respondents expressed their opinions on the proposal to alter LGBCE warding arrangements and retain current ones. The majority of them strongly agreed with it (60 per cent).

**Thame Town Council:** 17 respondents commented on the proposal to oppose LGBCE warding arrangements and retain current ones. A large majority of them either strongly agreed (65 per cent) or agreed with it (18 per cent). 7 comments were made by respondents, and they all express agreement for the proposal and concern that new arrangements may lead to an unbalanced electoral representation.

**Watlington Parish Council and Pyrton Parish Council:** 50 responses were received on this community governance review. Of them, the majority strongly disagreed with the proposal made by Watlington Parish Council to amend the boundary with Pyrton Parish Council in order to include a new development of 100 dwellings within Watlington parish (62 per cent). Of all comments made by respondents, the majority expressed disagreement with the proposal on the basis that it would take land and resources belonging to Pyrton away from its parish council.

**Shirburn Parish Meeting and Pyrton Parish Council:** 29 responses were submitted on the proposal by Shirburn Parish Meeting to amend the boundary with Pyrton parish to include the whole of Shirburn Castle Park within Shirburn parish. No clear majority emerged among respondents. In fact, whilst 45 per cent either strongly agreed (38 per cent) or agreed with it (7 per cent), another 45 per cent either strongly disagreed (38 per cent) or disagreed with it (7 per cent).

**Clifton Hampden Parish Council and Dorchester Parish Council:** 3 respondents expressed their opinions on this community governance review. All of them agreed with the proposal to include the property at 6 Linnet Close within the parish of Clifton Hampden, including 1 who strongly agreed with it (33 per cent).

**Thame Town Council and Great Haseley Parish Council:** 13 responses were submitted on this community governance review. Respondents were asked to comment on two proposals. The first one ('Phase 1') was to review the boundary between Thame and Great Haseley parishes in order to include the business industrial estate off the A329 within Thame parish. The majority of them either strongly agreed with the proposal (54 per cent) or agreed with it (15 per cent).

The second proposal ('Phase 2') was to include land currently proposed for the development of Thame Cattle Market within Thame parish. The majority of respondents either strongly agreed (54 per cent) or agreed with it (15 per cent).

**Nuneham Courtenay:** 15 responses were submitted on the proposal to group Nuneham Parish Council with one of its neighbouring parish councils. Of them, the majority either strongly disagreed (47 per cent) or disagreed (27 per cent) with the proposal. Among the comments made by respondents, most expressed concern that the proposal, if adopted, would lead to local issues being unattended and pointed to the different issues affecting different local parishes.

## ENGAGEMENT METHODOLOGY

The 'Community Governance Review for South Oxfordshire 2026' consultation was launched on 26 February and closed at 11.59pm on 9 April 2026. The consultation was open for six weeks.

The consultation was advertised to residents of the towns and parishes affected by the proposals by:

- Email notification with a link to the consultation, which was sent on the day the consultation launched to 256 recipients.
- Letter including a link and QR code to the consultation, which was posted to 84 residents.
- Posting on social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor Agency, Threads and Bluesky) on the day the consultation launched and multiple times over the weeks that followed. Overall, 24 posts were published on these channels, resulting in 263 clicks.
- Publishing an article on 'In Focus' on 12 March. This newsletter is dedicated to South and Vale district councillors.
- Publishing an article in South News on 19 March. This newsletter is sent to the district's town and parishes, and to residents who have subscribed.
- Publishing a press release on 26 February to provide information on the reviews undertaken by South Oxfordshire District Council.

### Reporting methodology

This report provides a summary of all quantitative and qualitative results of this consultation.

When stating percentages in the analysis, we are referring to the percentage of respondents that answered the specific question, rather than the total number of responses to the overall survey. Response percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding up over .5 and rounding down under .5. Words that appear in italics are quotes taken from comments received.

When 5 comments or less have been made in response to a question, these are shown in tables included in the report. When more than 5 comments have been submitted, these are not shown in the report and are available in Appendix A. Any personal information supplied to us within the comments that could identify anyone has been redacted and will not be shared or published. Further information on data protection is available in our [general consultation's privacy statement](#).

Some punctual errors in the original comments were corrected in the main body of this report.

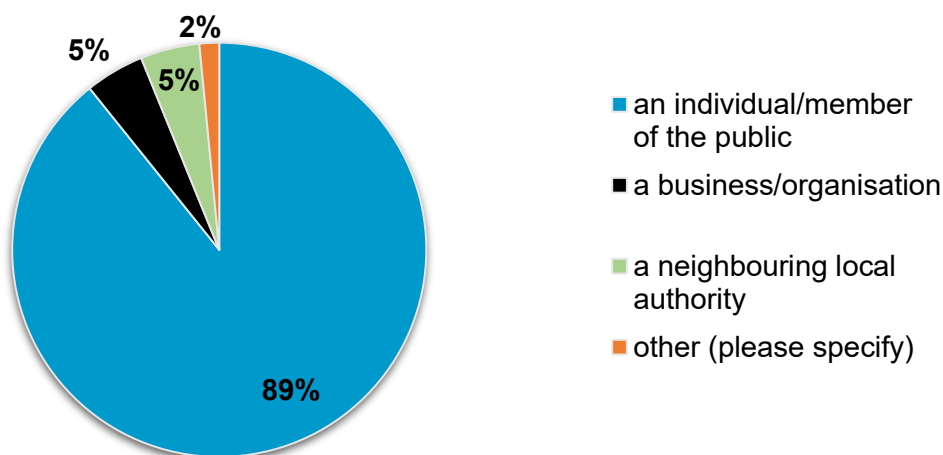
## KEY FINDINGS – QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DATA

This section provides an overview of the findings of this consultation. It includes a summary of the results for each quantitative or qualitative question. The questions and relative results are here presented in the same order as they appeared on the online consultation.

### About you

#### Q1. Are you responding as:

Figure 1



130 out of 132 total respondents answered this question. Of them:

- 89 per cent were members of the public.
- 5 per cent were businesses/organisations.
- 5 per cent were a neighbouring local authority.
- 2 per cent selected the option 'Other, please specify'. All comments left are listed in the table below.

Although only 2 respondents selected the option 'Other, please specify', 5 comments were subsequently made:

Table 1

ID	Response
ANON-NWB7-P55D-V	Local authority
ANON-DJZA-PA6G-Q	Baldons Parish Council
ANON-D2YH-YH4E-H	Town and District Councillor
ANON-NGC9-PZPV-1	A Shirburn parishioner
ANON-B4MU-RRAF-3	A Shirburn parishioner

**Q2. If you are representing a business/organisation or a local authority, please provide its name.**

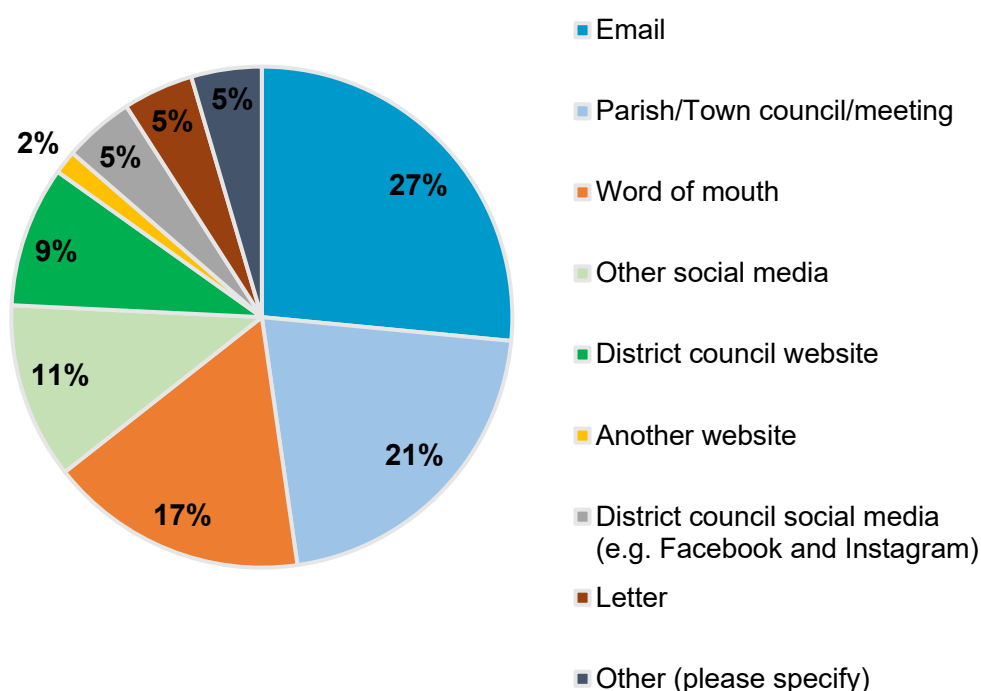
15 respondents answered this question. Of them:

- 3 responses were from Stoke Row Parish Council.
- 2 were from Shirburn Parish Meeting.
- 2 were from Thame Town Council.
- 2 were from Henley-on-Thames Town Council.

All comments made are available in Appendix A.

**Q3. How did you hear about the Community Governance Review consultation? Tick all that apply.**

Figure 2



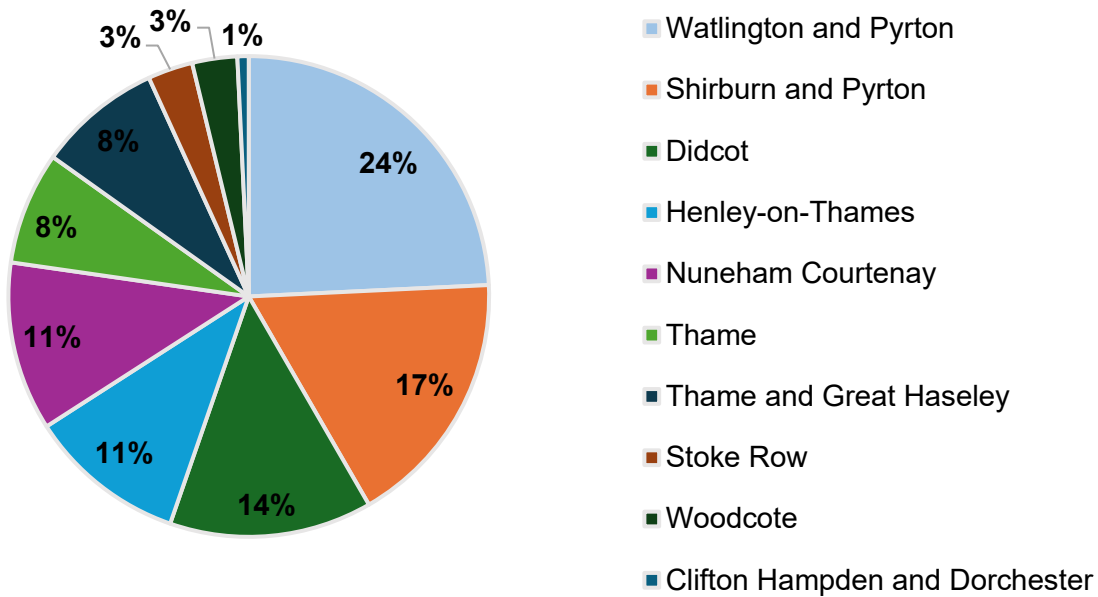
Just over a quarter of all respondents heard about the consultation via email (27 per cent). 21 per cent heard of it at parish or town council meetings and an additional 17 per cent by word of mouth. Grouped together, these 3 channels made up 65 per cent of all respondents.

5 per cent selected the option 'Other, please specify', and then made 9 comments. Of them, 3 said they heard of it on the 'Henley Herald'.

## Parishes currently under review

Q4. Please use the dropdown list below to select the parish you would like comment on.

Figure 3

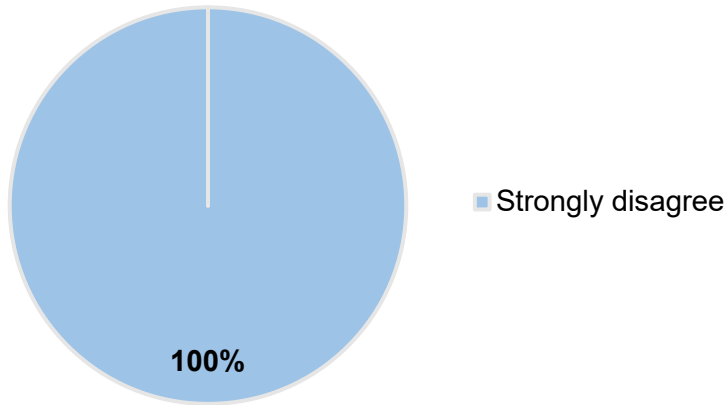


Watlington and Pyrton were the parishes most selected by respondents who wished to comment on specific changes to local community governance (24 per cent). They were followed by Shirburn and Pyrton parishes (17 per cent), and Didcot (14 per cent). Together these councils made up 54 per cent of all preferences. Only 10 out of 11 town and parish councils are listed in the legend of the above pie chart. Ewelme Parish Council was not selected by respondents.

## CGR A) Increase in council size - number of councillors

### Ewelme Parish Council

Ewelme Parish Council are proposing to increase the number of councillors from 6 to 7. For more information about the community governance review please view the [Terms of Reference](#).



#### Q5. How far do you agree or disagree with the above proposal to increase the number of parish councillors in Ewelme?

Only one respondent commented on the proposal to increase the number of parish councillors for Ewelme Parish Council and they strongly disagreed with it.

#### Q6. If you have any comments on this proposal, please provide them below.

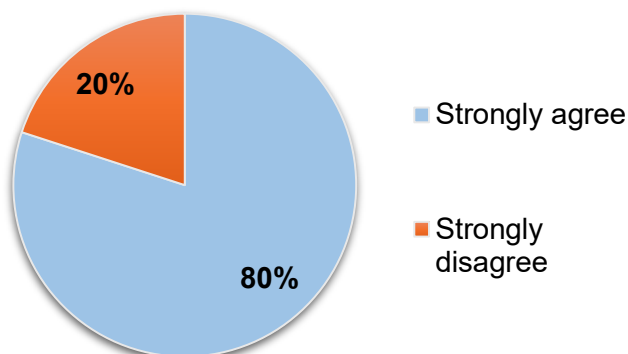
The following comment, which expresses disagreement, was made in relation to this proposal.

ID	Response
ANON-NWB7-P5X7-J	I see no value and the. Umber (number) of councillors should be reduced and costs saved, not increased.

## Stoke Row Parish Council

Stoke Row Parish Council are proposing to increase the number of councillors from 6 to 8. For more information about the community governance review please read the [Terms of Reference](#).

### Q8. How far do you agree or disagree with the above proposal to increase the number of parish councillors in Stoke Row?



5 respondents commented on the above proposal to increase the number of parish councillors for Stoke Row parish. Of them, the majority strongly agreed with it (80 per cent), whilst 20 per cent strongly disagreed.

### Q9. If you have any comments on this proposal, please provide them below.

4 comments were made by respondents on this proposal. Except for 1 comment, which expressed disagreement with the proposal to increase the number of parish councillors, all others seem to support the proposal due to increasing workloads for current staff. All comments are listed in the table below.

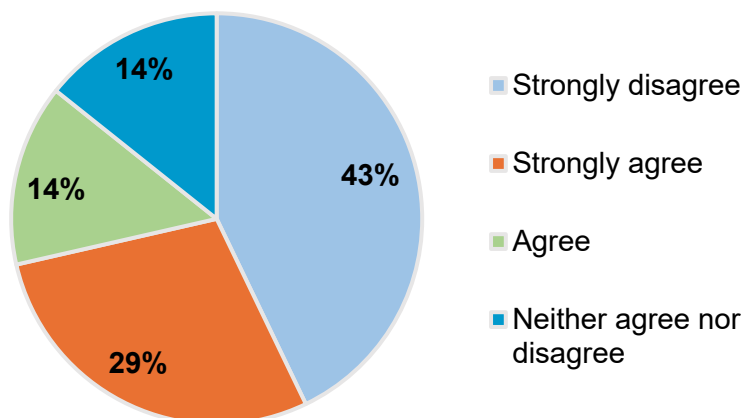
ID	Response
ANON-NWB7-P5X7-J	All costs and numbers should be reduced.
ANON-NWB7-P5EN-P	With increasing workloads now and in the future, due to Unitary Authorities its important not to overload volunteer's
ANON-NWB7-P5EG-F	Need more skills and resources for all the work that is being done buy (by) the Parish Council to support the community and improve the village.
ANON-NWB7-P5E9-1	Too much work for too few people on the PC (Parish Council).

## Woodcote Parish Council

Woodcote Parish Council are proposing to increase the number of councillors from 10 to 12. For more information about the community governance review please read the [Terms of Reference](#).

### Q11. How far do you agree or disagree with the above proposal to increase number of parish councillors in Woodcote?

Figure 4



7 respondents commented on the proposal to increase the number of councillors for Woodcote Parish Council. No clear majority emerged among them. In fact, whilst 43 per cent strongly disagreed with the proposal, another 43 per cent either strongly agreed (29 per cent) or agreed with it (14 per cent).

14 per cent neither agreed nor disagreed with the proposal for Woodcote.

### Q12. If you have any comments on this proposal, please provide them below.

5 comments were made on this proposal. Of them, 3 expressed disagreements with the proposal to increase the number of councillors for Woodcote Parish Council. All comments are listed in the table below.

ID	Response
ANON-NWB7-P5X7-J	All costs and numbers should be reduced
ANON-NWB7-P5XN-9	REDACTED. I note the continuing difficulty of recruiting a full council. As an active, albeit past, councillor a 10-person council is an adequate number for the work involved. There would be little or no benefit to increasing that number - this would merely mean a continuing need to find additional councillors. At one stage a few years ago the council was reduced to 4 members and considerable effort needed to be expended to find those prepared to serve. I also note that the parish council has recently reduced the frequency

	of its meetings from 2 a month to 1 a month which suggests that workload is not an issue.
ANON-NWB7-P5E4-V	I feel an increase in number would spread the load & share responsibilities rather than the same few dedicated people taking the burden. An increase could introduce new perspectives & opinions for the council. Having said that, it does seem difficult at times to attract interested (interested) parties to vacancies when a longstanding member steps back.
ANON-NWB7-P5EZ-2	Encourage younger representatives
ANON-9QHD-PN4D-C	The parish council has vacancies with 10 councillors. Increasing it to 12 means contested elections will be unlikely, which is anti democratic. Woodcote is not planning (planning) for any strategic increase in size to warrant an increase in parish councillors.

## CGR B) Review of Local Government Boundary Commission for England parish warding arrangements

### Didcot Town Council

The 2023/24 review carried out by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) provided for revised parish electoral arrangements, specifically new parish warding arrangements for Didcot which will become effective in time for the May 2027 elections. For more information about the community governance review please view the [Terms of Reference](#).

If new parish warding arrangements are implemented, Didcot Town Council will comprise 21 councillors, as at present, however they will be distributed differently among the 8 parish wards. The table below sets out both the current arrangements and the changes provided as part of the LGBCE review:

	Current parish warding (total 21)	LGBCE proposed parish wardings (total 21)
<b>All Saints</b>	5	5
<b>Broadway</b>	N/A	1
<b>Jubilee</b>	N/A	1
<b>Ladygrove</b>	6	6
<b>Millbrook</b>	1	1
<b>Northbourne and Orchard</b>	4	N/A
<b>Northbourne</b>	N/A	3

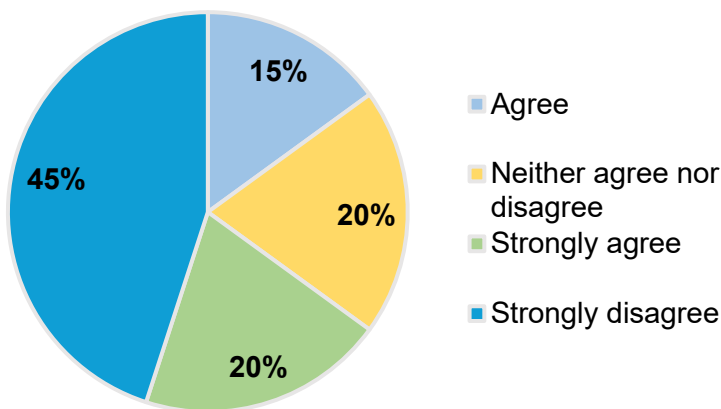
	Current parish warding (total 21)	LGBCE proposed parish wardings (total 21)
Orchard	N/A	1
Park	5	3

A request has been received from Didcot Town Council to alter the warding arrangements due to be implemented as a result of the LGBCE review, with a view to reverting back to the current ones. The council propose to remove or reduce single member wards as far as possible. Please click on the maps below to see current and proposed warding arrangements:

1. [Current warding arrangements for Didcot](#)
2. [LGBCE proposed parish wardings](#)

**Q14. How far do you agree or disagree with the proposal by Didcot Town Council to alter the warding arrangements provided by the LGBCE review and revert back to current ones?**

Figure 5



20 respondents commented on the proposal to alter warding arrangements provided by the LGBCE review for Didcot Town Council and revert back to current ones. No clear majority emerged among them; however, a larger proportion strongly disagreed with the proposal (45 per cent) than agreed with it (35 per cent, including 20 per cent who strongly agreed).

15 per cent neither agreed nor disagreed with the proposal.

**Q15. If you have any comments on this proposal, please provide them below.**

12 comments were made on this proposal. Of them:

- 5 were unclear over their agreement or disagreement with the proposal or presented alternative proposals (42 per cent).

- 4 expressed disagreements with the proposal, in some cases on the basis of a preference for single-member wards, which would, according to respondents, improve accountability (33 per cent).
- 3 agreed with the proposal by Didcot Town Council (25 per cent).

You can find a list of all comments made in Appendix A.

## Henley-on-Thames Town Council

The 2023/24 review carried out by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) provided for revised parish electoral arrangements, specifically new parish warding arrangements for Henley-on-Thames which will become effective in time for the May 2027 elections. For more information about the community governance review please view the [Terms of Reference](#).

If the LGBCE proposed warding arrangements are implemented, Henley-on-Thames town council will comprise 16 councillors, as at present, however, these will be distributed among 3 parish wards (North, South and Newtown) instead of the existing 2 (North and South). The table below shows both current warding arrangements and the changes provided by the LGBCE review:

**Table 2**

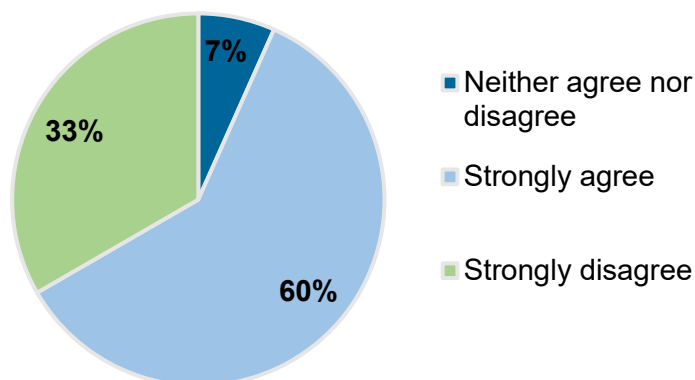
	<b>Current warding arrangements (total 16)</b>	<b>LGBCE warding arrangements (total 16)</b>
<b>Henley North</b>	8	8
<b>Henley South</b>	8	5
<b>Newtown</b>	N/A	3

Henley-on-Thames Town Council have requested a review of the warding arrangements due to be implemented as a result of the LGBCE review, and propose that current ones are retained. Click on the maps below to see current and proposed warding arrangements:

1. [Current warding arrangements](#)
2. [LGBCE proposed changes](#)

**Q.17 How far do you agree with the proposal by Henley-on-Thames town council to oppose the LGBCE warding arrangements and retain current ones?**

**Figure 6**



15 respondents answered this question. Of them, the majority strongly agreed with the proposal to oppose LGBCE warding arrangements and retain current ones (60 per cent), whilst 33 per cent disagreed with it.

7 per cent neither agreed nor disagreed with the proposal.

**Q.18 If you have any comments on this proposal, please provide them below.**

11 comments were made by respondents. Of them:

- 8 expressed agreements with the proposal to retain current warding arrangements in Henley-on-Thames (73 per cent).
- 3 were unclear or made alternative proposals (27 per cent).

You can find a list of all comments made in Appendix A.

## **Thame Town Council**

The 2023/24 Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) review provided for revised parish electoral arrangements at parish level, specifically new parish warding arrangements for Thame Town Council, which will become effective in time for the May 2027 elections. For more information about the governance review please view the [Terms of Reference](#).

If new warding arrangements are implemented, Thame Town Council will comprise 16 councillors, as at present, however, they will be distributed between Thame East, with 15 councillors, and Thame West, with 1 councillor. The town is currently divided into South and North wards, each with 8 councillors. The table below shows current warding arrangements and those provided by the LGBCE review:

**Table 3**

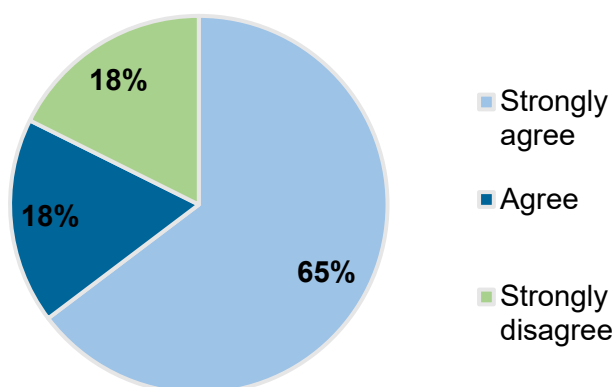
	Current parish warding (total 16)	LGBCE proposed parish warding
Thame North	8	N/A
Thame South	8	N/A
Thame East	N/A	15
Thame West	N/A	1

Thame town council have requested a review of the warding arrangements due to be implemented as a result of the LGBCE review and propose to retain existing ones. Click on the maps below to see current and proposed warding arrangements:

1. [Current warding arrangements](#)
2. [LGBCE proposed changes](#)

**Q20. How far do you agree or disagree with the proposal by Thame Town Council to oppose the LGBCE warding arrangements and retain current ones?**

**Figure 7**



17 respondents answered this question. Of them, the majority strongly agreed with the proposal to oppose the LGBCE warding arrangements for Thame Town Council and retain current ones (65 per cent), and an additional 18 per cent agreed with it. The remaining 18 per cent of respondents strongly disagreed with this proposal.

**Q21. If you have any comments on the proposal, please provide them below.**

7 comments were made on the proposal to retain current warding arrangements in Thame. All of them express support for the above proposal and concern that the new arrangements provided by the LGBCE review, if implemented, will lead to an unbalanced representation of Thame wards. All comments are listed in Appendix A to this report.

## CGR C) Requests for a boundary change

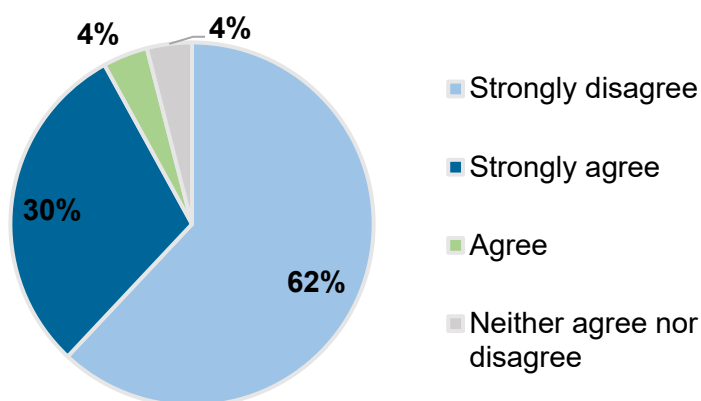
### Watlington and Pyrton Parish Councils

Watlington Parish Council would like to review the boundary between Watlington and Pyrton parishes along the line of the relief road (marked in red in the map) in order to include a proposed development of 100 dwellings within its parish. Watlington Parish Council believes that this arrangement provides practical benefits for the new community and ensures that the parish boundary better reflects the reality of where residents will access their day-to-day services. [Click on the link to open a map of the proposed area.](#)

For more information about the community governance review, please read the [Terms of Reference](#).

**Q.23 How far do you agree or disagree with the proposal by Watlington Parish Council to amend the boundary with Pyrton parish in order to include the new residential development within its parish?**

Figure 8



50 respondents answered this question. Of them, the majority strongly disagreed with the proposal by Watlington Parish Council to include the new residential development of 100 dwellings within its boundaries (62 per cent).

34 per cent either strongly agreed (30 per cent) or agreed with the proposal (4 per cent), whilst another 4 per cent neither agreed nor disagreed with it.

**Q24. If you have any comments on this proposal, please provide them below.**

31 comments were made on this proposal. Of them:

- 18 expressed a lack of support for the proposal made by Watlington Parish Council which, respondents say, would take land and resources belonging to Pyrton away from its parish council (51 per cent)
- 11 expressed a lack of support for the proposal at this stage, which is considered premature given the new housing development and relief road do not currently have planning permission (31 per cent)

- 6 expressed support for the proposal to include the new housing development within Watlington parish (17 per cent).

The above total is higher than 31 due to some comments including multiple views. All comments are listed in Appendix A to this report.

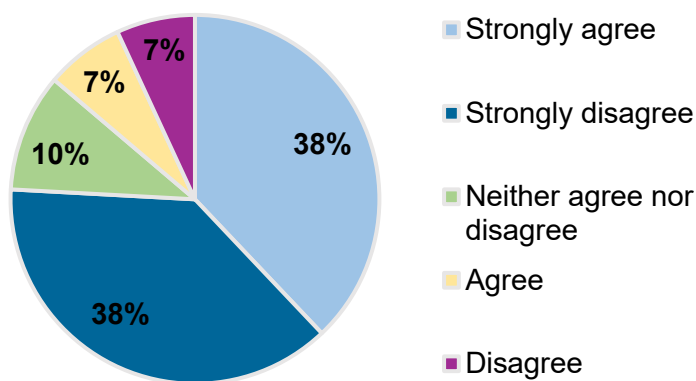
## Shirburn and Pyrton parishes

Shirburn parish meeting would like to review the boundary between the parishes of Shirburn and Pyrton to provide for the whole of Shirburn Castle Park to be included in its parish. [Click on the link to open a map of the proposed area.](#)

For more information about the community governance review please view the [Terms of Reference](#).

### Q26. How far do you agree or disagree with the proposal by Shirburn Parish Meeting to include the whole of Shirburn Castle Park in the parish of Shirburn?

Figure 9



29 respondents commented on the proposal by Shirburn Parish Meeting to include the whole of Shirburn Castle Park within its parish boundary. No conclusive majority emerged among respondents. In fact, whilst 45 per cent either strongly agreed (38 per cent) or agreed with it (7 per cent), another 45 per cent either strongly disagreed (38 per cent) or disagreed with it (7 per cent).

10 per cent neither agreed nor disagreed with this proposal.

### Q.27 If you have any comments on this proposal, please provide them below.

12 comments were made by respondents. Of them:

- 6 disagree with the proposal by Shirburn Parish Meeting. Among the reasons provided, respondents said that it would split Pyrton parish into two and that the proposal lacked a good rationale (50 per cent)
- 3 agree with the proposal since it would preserve the historic parkland (25 per cent).

- 3 are unclear and suggest a different boundary line or alternative proposals (25 per cent).

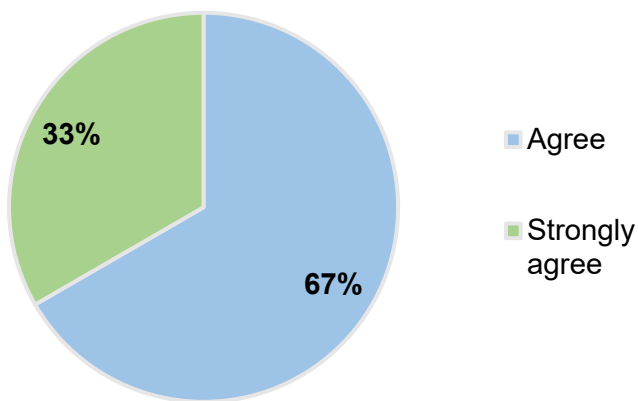
## Clifton Hampden and Dorchester Parish Councils

We have received a request to review the parish boundary between Clifton Hampden and Dorchester to include the property at 6 Linnet Close within Clifton Hampden parish. The purpose of the review is to address a situation where one property on the street is currently in a different parish to its neighbours. [Click on the link to open a map of the proposed changes.](#)

For more information about the community governance review please view the [Terms of reference.](#)

### Q29. How far do you agree or disagree with the proposal to include the property at 6 Linnet Close within the parish of Clifton Hampden?

Figure 10



3 respondents answered this question. All of them agreed with the proposal to include the property at 6 Linnet Close within the parish of Clifton Hampden, including 1 who strongly agreed with it (33 per cent).

### Q.30 If you have any comments on this proposal, please provide them below.

Only one comment was made, which is shown below.

ID	Response
ANON-NWB7-P55X-G	Making it simple - if an address is within a village then that village council should apply.

## Thame and Great Haseley

Great Haseley parish council and Thame town council have submitted a joint request to review their boundary in order for Thame parish to incorporate some land currently within the Great Haseley parish. This request has the support of both parishes. The proposal to move the boundary would allow for the following changes:

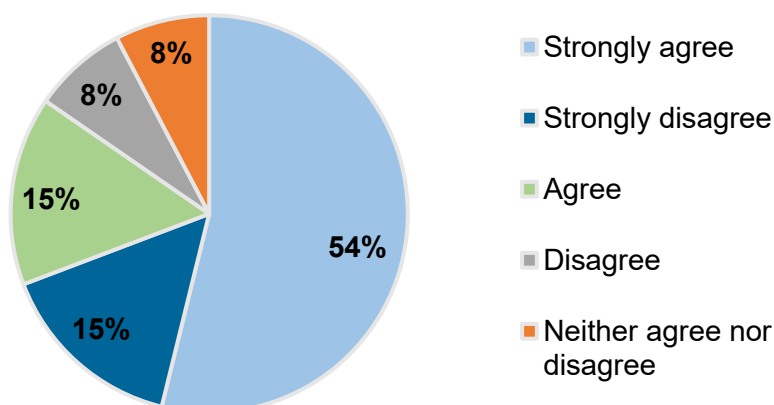
Phase 1 - To incorporate the built industrial sites, including ASM and Christmas Hill Business Park, within Thame's boundary. The reason behind this proposal is that these industrial estates are currently cut in half by the Thame / Great Haseley boundary. Occupants of these developments have advised that this area has a disjointed transport system with poor links to Thame which is just 1.5 miles away, whilst the village of Great Haseley sits 3.9 miles away from these developments with no supporting amenities. By linking these developments to Thame it is hoped to improve connectivity and funding opportunities for the benefit of the community and businesses. [Click on the map to visualise the proposal.](#)

Phase 2 - To extend the boundary further to incorporate the land proposed for the development of the Cattle Market. The land in question currently falls outside of Thame's boundary and Thame town council are keen to retain the Cattle Market within their boundary to preserve a key element of Thame's identity and heritage. [Click on the map to visualise the proposal.](#)

For more information about the community governance review please read the [Terms of Reference](#).

**Q.32 How far do you agree or disagree with the proposal to review the boundary between Thame and Great Haseley parishes so that the business industrial estates off the A329 are incorporated into Thame parish?**

Figure 11

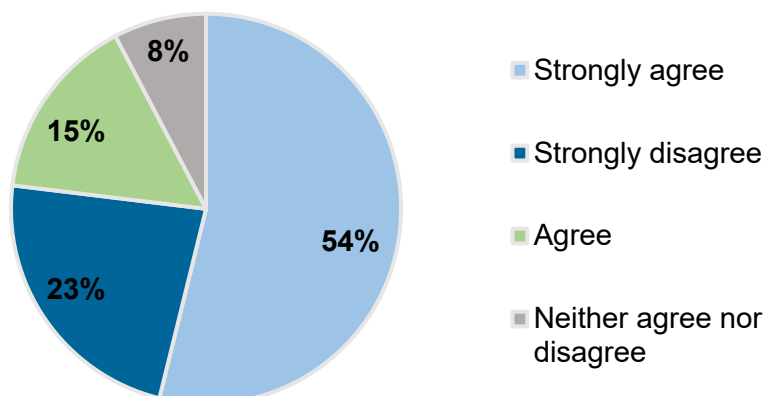


13 respondents answered this question. Of them, the majority strongly agreed with the proposal to review the boundary between Thame and Great Haseley parishes in order to include the business industrial estate off the A329 within Thame parish (54 per cent). Another 15 per cent agreed with Phase 1 of the proposal.

23 per cent disagreed with this proposal, including 15 per cent who strongly disagreed, and 8 per cent neither agreed nor disagreed with it.

**Q33. How far do you agree or disagree with the proposal to review the boundary between Thame and Great Haseley parishes, so that land currently proposed for the development of Thame Cattle Market falls within Thame parish?**

**Figure 12**



13 respondents answered this question. Of them, the majority either strongly agreed (54 per cent) or agreed (15 per cent) with Phase 2 of the proposal, which relates to the inclusion of land currently proposed for the development of Thame Cattle Market within Thame parish.

23 per cent strongly disagreed with the proposal and 8 per cent neither agreed nor disagreed.

**Q34. If you have any comments on this proposal, please provide them below.**

2 comments were made in relation to Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the proposal for Thame and Great Haseley. One of them expresses lack of support for the whole proposal, whilst the other expresses scepticism towards Phase 1. Both comments are shown in the table below:

**Table 4**

ID	Response
ANON-NWB7-P5ER-T	The Councillors of Great Haseley PC must be naive in the extreme with regards to this proposal by Thame TOWN Council. This is simply a land grab, which will result in zero improvements for those that live locally, but which will allow further opportunities for urban sprawl by Thame, which continues unabated. Thame already has jurisdiction over a good part of this industrial site and has historically done NOTHING to improve the Public Transport here, a pavement/cyclepath extension being the sum total, although I understand that was a requirement of the most recent planning permission (which resulted in most of the road drains being permanently blocked and the new road section creating a pond in the carriageway when it rains). The idea that they will now miraculously install such services is for the birds. This is simply lining up more ground for future development. The problem with Parish Councils is that they are usually made up of people who come and go from a Parish in fairly short order, have no historical knowledge of their area and, unfortunately, either have no interest in, or lack the capacity to understand the long term implications of decisions they make.

ANON-NWB7-P5EA-9	<p>I have difficulty (difficulty) in understanding how the Phase 1 (Phase 1) boundary change will make things any different for those businesses on the new industrial site and with the ASM site already in Thame Parish, what do they get that the new site doesn't?</p> <p>The planned changes are, I understand, driven by the very real concern that if the cattle market is relocated to the site next to the new industrial site that it could no longer be called The Thame Cattle Market. As the market successfully obtained permission elsewhere in Thame parish, it would be better for all if this site were pursued (pursued).</p> <p>In addition, the CIL and other financial compensation would go to Thame Parish while the impact of the developments to Thame will be almost no existent (existent).</p>
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**CGR D) Requests for alternative governance arrangements**

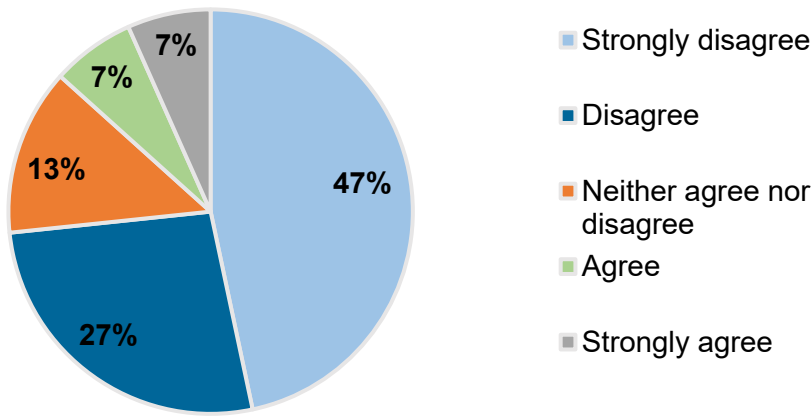
**Nuneham Courtenay Parish Council**

Nuneham Courtenay parish council has requested that South Oxfordshire District Council undertake a review of its governance arrangements having concluded that the continuation of a parish council is no longer viable. This review is taken forward to establish whether the parish could be grouped with a neighbouring parish council, such as Clifton Hampden, Culham, The Baldons or Sandford.

For more information about the governance review please view the [Terms of Reference](#).

**Q36. How far do you agree or disagree with the proposal to group Nuneham Courtenay parish with one of its neighbouring parishes?**

Figure 13



15 respondents answered this question. Of them, the majority either strongly disagreed (47 per cent) or disagreed (27 per cent) with the proposal to group Nuneham Courtenay parish with one of its neighbouring parishes.

Conversely, 14 per cent either strongly agreed (7 per cent) or agreed with it (7 per cent). 13 per cent neither agreed nor disagreed with the proposal.

**Q37. If you have any comments on this proposal, please provide them below.**

11 comments were made on this proposal by Nuneham Courtenay Parish Council. Of them:

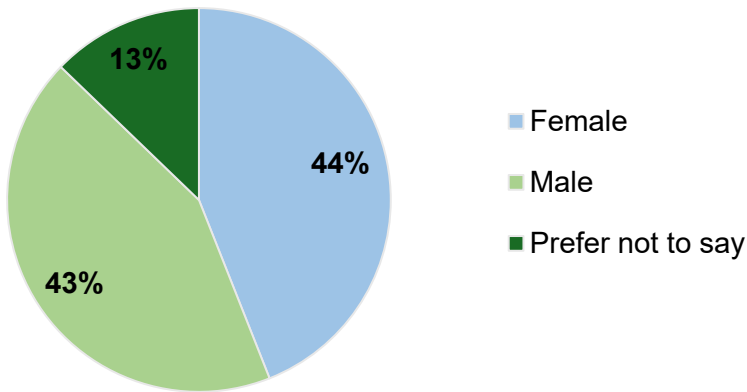
- 6 expressed disagreements with the proposal. The reasons provided were multiple, but a few comments mentioned the different needs of different parishes, and the lack of attention to local issues that grouping would lead to (56 per cent).
- 3 comments did not express a clear view on the proposal or presented alternative solutions (27 per cent)
- 1 comment expressed agreement with the proposal, and 1 other comment was neutral (10 per cent each).

## DEMOGRAPHIC DATA<sup>1</sup>

Below is the demographic data collected in the engagement. Not all respondents answered, so percentages given refer to the number of responses obtained for each question.

### Q39. What is your sex?

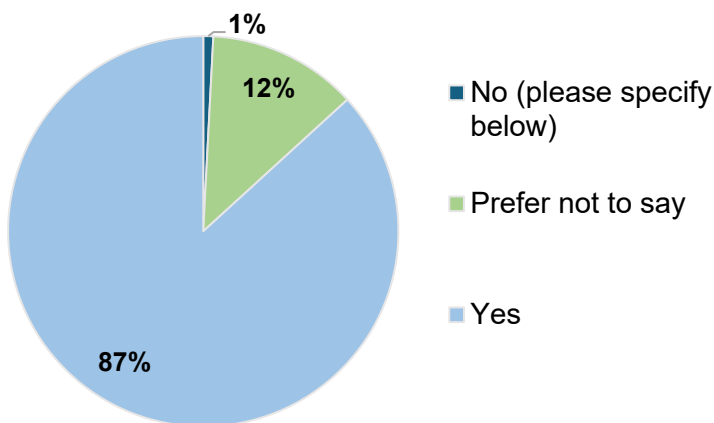
Figure 14



125 out of 132 respondents answered this question. Respondents were almost equally split between females (44 per cent) and males (43 per cent), which is consistent with the actual population in South Oxfordshire. 13 per cent preferred not to answer this question.

### Q40. Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?

Figure 15



There were 121 responses to this question.

87 percent of respondents said that the gender they identify with is the same as their sex registered at birth. This is not too far from the figure for the real population, where the proportion is 95 percent.

<sup>1</sup> Data for the actual population is taken from the 2021 Census and is available [here](#).

1 percent said their gender is different from the sex registered at birth, which is somewhat higher than the figure registered within the real population – 0.13 percent.

12 percent of respondents preferred not to say.

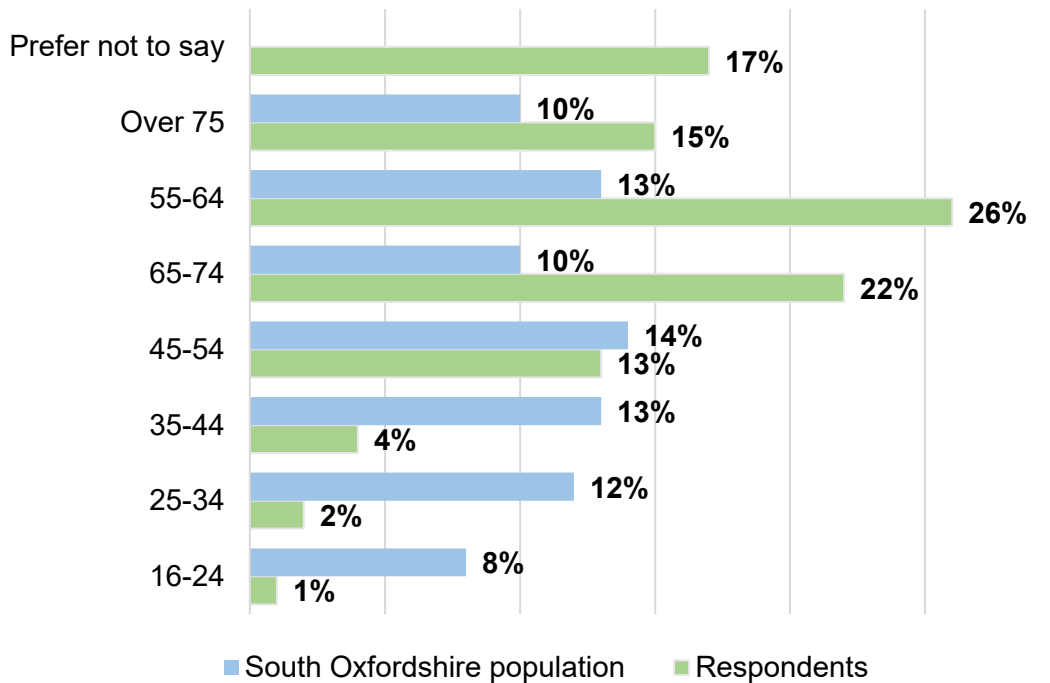
We received on additional comment from respondents:

**Table 5**

ID	Response
ANON-NWB7-P5XT-F	Is this relevant to parish boundary changes?

**Q41. How old are you?**

**Figure 16**

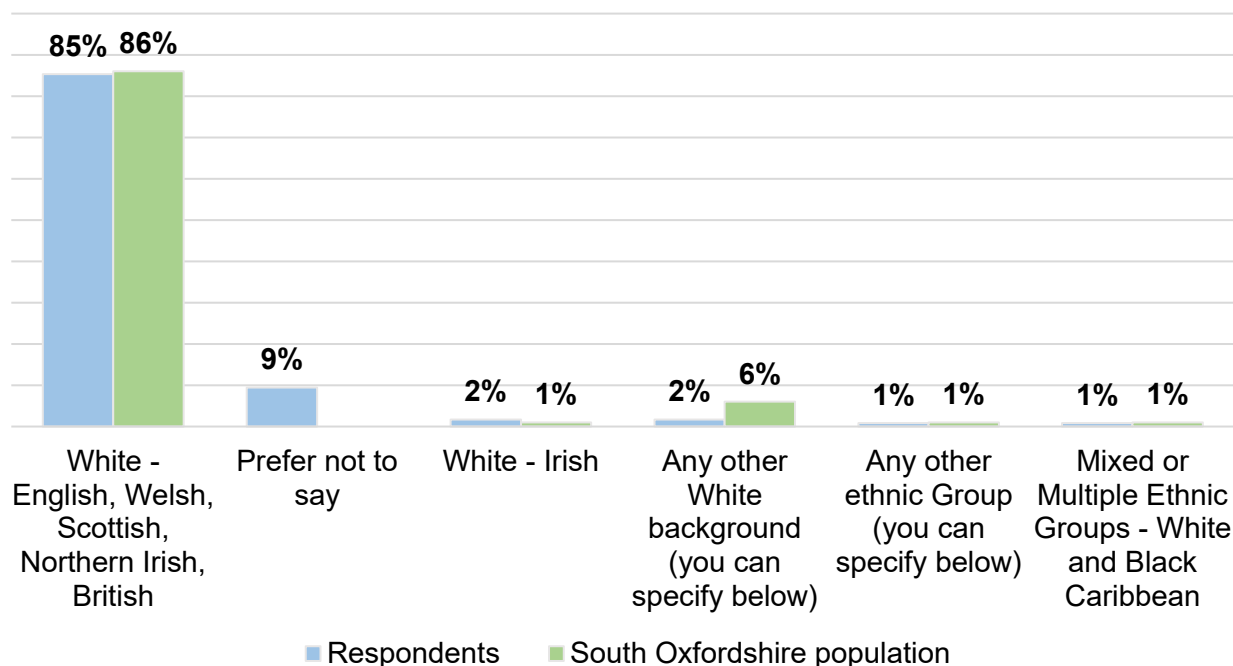


The largest age groups to respond to the consultation were the 55-64-year-olds, which made up just over a quarter of all respondents (26 per cent). This was followed by the 65-74 which made up 22 per cent of respondents. Both groups participated in much larger proportions than their shares of the district population, which are 13 and 10 per cent respectively.

Conversely, younger cohorts appear to be underrepresented possibly due to the subject matter of this consultation.

## Q42. What is your ethnic group?

Figure 17



117 respondents answered this question.

85 percent of respondents said they are White – English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British. This compares to 86 percent of district’s residents who belong to this ethnic group.

Other groups that took part to this engagement were:

- White Irish (2 per cent)
- Any other White background (2 per cent)
- Any other ethnic group (1 per cent)
- White and Black Caribbean (1 per cent).

9 per cent preferred not to answer this question.

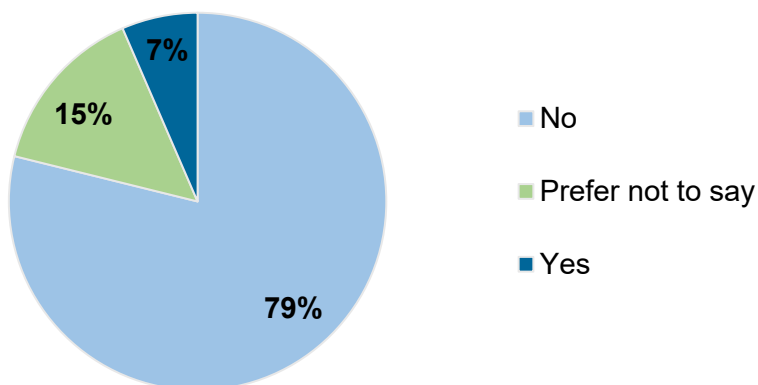
3 further comments were received in response to this question.

Table 6

ID	Response
ANON-NWB7-P5EK-K	European/British
ANON-NWB7-P5E9-1	White African

**Q43. Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illness lasting or expecting to last 12 months or more?**

Figure 18



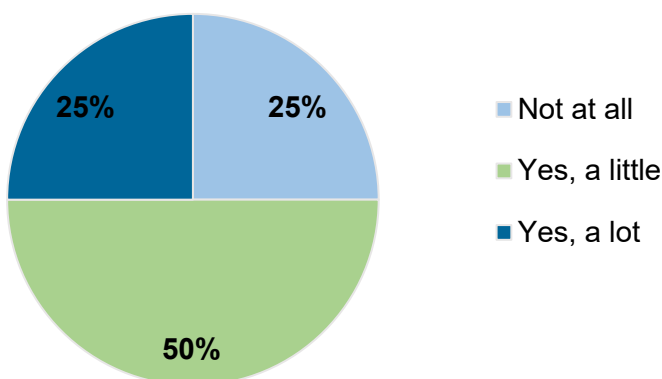
123 out of 132 respondents answered this question.

79 percent of respondents said they do not have a physical or mental health condition or illness lasting 12 months or more - this compares to 86 percent of district's residents who said they don't have a disability or illness.

7 per cent said they do have a physical or mental disability or illness, whilst 13 percent preferred not to answer this question.

**Q44. Do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry out day to day activities?**

Figure 19



Among those who said they have a disability or illness lasting more than 12 months, 50 per cent said this impacts on their daily activities a little. 25 per cent of respondents said this impacts on their daily activities a lot, and another 25 per cent said their disability or illness does not have any impact on their daily activities.

## HOW WE HAVE USED RESULTS OF THE CONSULTATION

Thank you for taking part to the Community Governance Review consultation for South Oxfordshire. District councils are responsible for reviewing parish arrangements and implementing any appropriate changes with the aim to improve local democracy and service delivery. South Oxfordshire District Council agreed to undertake a review every 4 years, with any changes to be implemented in time for the next scheduled elections.

Your feedback has been reviewed and will help us shape our final proposals, which will be presented to the Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee (hereafter ‘the Committee’) on 26 May 2026. The Committee will consider the responses and then put forward draft proposals for further consultation later this year.

Following a second consultation, the Committee will consider responses and decide whether or not to implement the proposed changes. We expect to carry out the second consultation in the summer of 2026, with the Committee meeting shortly afterwards to make their decisions. We are aiming to implement any changes agreed so that they can be applied in time for the May 2027 elections. More information is available on [our website](#).

## FURTHER INFORMATION

If you have any questions about this report or require it in an alternative format (for example large print, Braille, audio, Easy Read and alternative languages) please contact:

Consultation and Community Engagement Team  
South Oxfordshire/ Vale of White Horse District Council  
01235 422 425  
[jointheconversation@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:jointheconversation@southandvale.gov.uk)

If you have any questions on this consultation or would like to know more about the Community Governance Review for South Oxfordshire, please contact:

**Jordan Kennedy**  
Electoral Services Officer  
South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils  
01235 422528  
[elections@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:elections@southandvale.gov.uk)