Following a review of Knowsley’s wards by the Boundary Commission, a number of changes were introduced in May 2016 - a reduction in the number of wards from 21 wards to 15 wards and a reduction in the number of Councillors from 63 to 45.

Whilst the Commission did not carry out a review of the parish or town councils in the borough, they did agree some changes which amended the warding arrangements of each of the town councils of Halewood, Knowsley, Prescot and Whiston. The changes to the town councils’ warding arrangements will come into effect in May 2019.

In view of the forthcoming changes to the town councils’ warding arrangements, Knowsley Council agreed at a full Council meeting on Wednesday, 20 September 2017 to carry out a community governance review of the existing parish and town councils within the borough. Further information is available on www.knowsley.gov.uk or email communitygovernancereview@knowsley.gov.uk

In Knowsley there are four town councils - Halewood, Knowsley, Prescot and Whiston - in addition to Cronton Parish Council. Parish/town councils are statutory publicly accountable bodies and are the most local level of government in England.

Parish/town councillors are elected every four years (other than by-elections) to represent local people and help to provide local services. They are usually unpaid but some parish/town councils may choose to pay an allowance to their councillors.

Parish/town councils are principally funded by a ‘precept’ - an amount of money paid by residents living in the area, to contribute to the services and facilities the parish/town council provides.
How can I get involved?

The first phase of the consultation is now taking place.

To give us your views/comments on the most suitable ways of representing the community at parish/town council level, please:

- complete this survey and return to Knowsley Council, Democratic Services, 1st Floor, Huyton Municipal Building, Archway Road, Huyton, Merseyside, L36 9YU or
- complete the survey online at www.knowsley.gov.uk (visit the Consultations section).

The closing date for responses to the first phase is Friday, 10 November 2017.

Q1 Does your address sit within a parish / town council area?

☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Don’t know

Q2 Please tell us your details in the space provided

Name

Address

Postcode

Q3 Have you previously contacted your parish / town council for assistance?

☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Not applicable

Q4 Have you previously been contacted by your parish / town council (for example to be consulted on any local issues)?

☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Not applicable
Q5  Do you think that the number of Councillors currently sitting on each parish / town council is too many / too little / just right?

(Currently Halewood Town Council has 12 councillors, Knowsley Town Council has 16, Prescot Town Council has 17, Whiston Town Council has 14 and Cronton Parish Council has 10.)

☐ Too many  ☐ Too little  ☐ Just right

Please provide any additional comments here

Q6  Each parish and town council is made up of areas known as ‘wards’. Following the Boundary Commission’s review, the number of councillors allocated to each parish/town council ward will change in May 2019.

The allocations will be Halewood Town Council - 6 in the North ward and 6 in the South ward; Knowsley Town Council - 4 in Knowsley Park ward and 12 in Stockbridge Village ward; Prescot Town Council - 10 in North ward and 7 in South ward; Whiston Town Council - 5 in North ward and 9 in South ward. Cronton Parish Council remains unchanged sitting wholly within one borough ward with 10 seats in total.

Do you think this is too many / too little / just right?

☐ Too many  ☐ Too little  ☐ Just right

Please provide any additional comments here

Please provide any additional comments here
Q7 Do you have any further views on the parish / town councils which you would like Knowsley Borough Council to consider as part of this review, and specifically in respect of their electoral arrangements? Electoral arrangements include:

- the year in which the ordinary elections of councillors are to be held;
- the number of councillors to be elected to each council;
- the division (or not) of the parish into wards for the purpose of electing councillors;
- the number and boundaries of any such wards;
- the number of councillors to be elected for any such ward; and,
- the name of any such ward.

Please provide any comments here