

Okehampton Town and Hamlets Parish Councils Boundary Change

FAQs V1

What is the boundary change?

The boundary between Okehampton Town and Hamlets Parish Councils is changing; it will increase the size of the town council incorporating the housing developments and industrial areas and reduce that of the parish council.

What was the process for agreeing the change?

In 2022 Okehampton Town Council raised a petition for a change to the boundary in accordance with legislation. The petition was signed by more than 7.5% of the town electorate and was presented to West Devon Borough Council later in the year. Following a Community Governance Review, WDBC concluded that the boundary should change as set out in the petition. Details of the consultation and process can be found [here](#)

Why is the boundary changing?

Okehampton Town Council felt that the new developments should be incorporated into the town being the urban area, instead of the rural hamlets. Further information can be found within the [petition](#).

Why wasn't I consulted?

All Okehampton Town residents were invited to respond to the petition raised by Okehampton Town Council.

Subsequent consultations on the proposals were undertaken by WDBC. For each stage the information was posted to each household within the town and parish boundaries.

When is the boundary changing?

The boundary change will take place in May 2027.

How will this affect my council tax?

The part of your Council Tax that is paid to either Okehampton Town or Parish Council is called the 'precept'. This is the only part that will be affected by this change.

The change will take place in 2027 and will be notified within the Council Tax bills for 2027/28. Further information about the financial impact has yet to be ascertained.

Which boundary will I fall into and who will be my local council?

A map showing the new boundary can be found [here](#). From May 2027, those who fall within the coloured area will be town residents.

What happens about existing assets like dog waste bins, noticeboards and benches that are provided by Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council?

These matters are under consideration. Further information will be provided once a decision has been made.

Is this the same as the Local Government Reorganisation/Devolution?

No, this is a completely separate change.

Will the Councillors change and how many will there be?

The boundary change falls in line with the next Local Council elections, so the councillors sitting on the councils might change.

Following the change and from the Local Council elections:

- Okehampton Town Council will have 15 Councillors instead of 14, and
- Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council 7 Councillors instead of 8

Will the Council Wards be affected?

Yes, both Councils will only have 1 Ward.

This will not change the Ward situation at WDBC or DCC whilst they are still operational. It is not yet known what Wards will look like, or if there will be Wards following the Local Government Reorganisation

What happens next?

The process for managing the change is ongoing and further information will be provided as it is known.