

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007

The Westmorland & Furness (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order 2025

Made 30th September 2025

Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2)

Westmorland & Furness Council ("the council"), in accordance with section 82 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007(a) ("the 2007 Act"), has undertaken a community governance review and made recommendations dated July 2025:

The council has decided to give effect to those recommendations and, in accordance with section 93 of the 2007 Act, has consulted with the local government electors and other interested persons and has had regard to the need to secure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community and is effective and convenient:

The council, in accordance with section 100 of the 2007 Act, has had regard to guidance issued under that section:

The council makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 98(6) and 240(10) of the 2007 Act.

Citation and commencement

1. —(1) This Order may be cited as the Westmorland & Furness (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order 2025.
(2) It shall come into force the day after that on which it is made.

Interpretation

2. In this Order —
"the 1972 Act" means the Local Government Act 1972;
"ordinary day of election of councillors" has the meaning given by section 37 of the Representation of the People Act 1983(b); and
"registration officer" means an officer appointed for the purpose of, and in accordance with, section 8 of the Representation of the People Act 1983(c).

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY
OF AN ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

SIGNED

DATE

NAME

(a) 2007 c.28.

(b) 1983 c.2, section 37 has been amended by section 18(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1985 (c.50), section 17 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (c.29) and section 60 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (c.28).

(c) Section 8 has been amended by the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 (c.19) and the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 (c.39).

Effect of Order

3. This Order has effect subject to any agreement under section 99 (agreements about incidental matters) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 relevant to any provision of this Order.

Cancellation of parish council elections etc

4. —(1) Notwithstanding section 16(3) of the 1972 Act (election of parish councillors)—
- (a) ordinary elections are not to be held in 2026 for the return of councillors to the council of any parish in Westmorland & Furness;
 - (b) ordinary elections are not to be held in 2028 for the return of councillors to the council of any parish in Westmorland & Furness;
 - (c) elections of parish councillors for those parishes in which, but for paragraph (a), elections would have been held in 2026 are to be held on the ordinary day of elections in 2027 and every four years thereafter;
 - (d) elections of parish councillors for those parishes in which, but for paragraph (a), elections would have been held in 2028 are to be held on the ordinary day of elections in 2027 and every four years thereafter; and
 - (e) the term of office of those parish councillors elected in 2025 or at any subsequent by- election held before the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2027 ends on the fourth day after the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2027(a).
- (2) In this article “council of any parish in Westmorland & Furness” means a council which was in existence on 31st March 2025.

Electoral register

5. The registration officer for Westmorland & Furness shall make such rearrangement of, or adaptation of, the register of local government electors as may be necessary for the purposes of, and in consequence of, this Order.

Order date

6. 1st April 2025 is the order date for the purposes of the Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008(b).

The Common Seal of Westmorland and Furness Council was affixed to this Order in the presence of:


Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer



(a) Under section 16(3) of the Local Government Act 1972, the term of office of parish councillors is four years.

(b) S.I. 2008/625.

30 September 2025

Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order gives effect to recommendations made by Westmorland & Furness to amend the scheduled dates of ordinary elections of parish and town councillors to ensure they all align in May 2027.

Article 4 provides for parish elections in previously due in 2026 or 2028, to be moved to May 2027, and then to continue according to the established system of parish elections every four years.