

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007

The Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) (Poole) Order 2025

Made - - - - - 23 December 2025

Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2)

BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE COUNCIL (“the council”), in accordance with section 82 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (“the 2007 Act”), has undertaken a community governance review and made recommendations dated 14 October 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 86, 98(3), 98(4), 98(6) and 240(10) of the 2007 Act. The Council intends to make a subsequent order in the exercise of the powers conferred by Section 98(4) of the 2007 Act.

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) (Poole) Order 2025.

(2) Subject to paragraphs (3) and (4) below, this Order comes into force on 1st April 2026.

(3) Article 8 shall come into force on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2026.

(4) For the purposes of:

- (a) this article;
- (b) article 5;
- (c) article 11; and
- (d) proceedings preliminary or relating to the elections of parish councillors for the parish of Poole to be held on the ordinary day of elections of councillors in 2026,

this Order shall come into force on the day after that on which it is made.

Interpretation

2. In this Order—

“district” means the district of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole;

“existing” means existing on the date this Order is made;

“map” means the map marked “Map referred to in the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) (Poole) Order 2025” and deposited in accordance with section 96(4) of the 2007 Act: and any reference to a numbered sheet is a reference to the sheet of the map which bears that number;

“new parish” means the parish constituted by article 4;

“ordinary day of election of councillors” has the meaning given by section 37 of the Representation of the People Act 1983; 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.

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.

Constitution of new parish of Poole

4.—(1) A new parish, comprising the area outlined with a blue line on the map numbered 1, shall be constituted within the district.

(2) The name of the new parish shall be Poole.

(3) The new parish shall have the alternative style of Town.

Calculation of budget requirement

5. For the purposes of regulation 3 of the Local Government Finance (New Parishes) (England) Regulations 2008 there is specified in relation to the parish of Poole the sum of £1,896,970.

Parish council for the parish of Poole

6.—(1) There shall be a parish council for the parish of Poole.

(2) The name of that council shall be “Poole Town Council”.

Parish elections

7. —(1) Elections of all parish councillors for the parish of Poole shall be held simultaneously—

(a) on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2026;

(b) on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2031; and

(c) every fourth year thereafter.

(2) The term of office of every parish councillor elected on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2026 for the parish of Poole shall be five years.

Number of parish councillors for the Parish of Poole

8. The number of councillors to be elected for the parish of Poole shall be twenty-one.

Wards of the parish of Poole and numbers of parish councillors

9.—(1) The parish of Poole shall be divided into fifteen wards which shall be named as set out in column (1) of the Schedule.

(2) Each ward shall comprise the area designated on the map by reference to the name of the ward and demarcated by red lines.

(3) The number of councillors to be elected for each ward shall be the number specified in respect of the ward in column (2) of that Schedule.

Electoral register

10. The registration officer for the district 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.

Transfer of property, rights and liabilities

11. A subsequent order shall be made on or before 31 March 2026—

- (a) detailing the land, property, rights and liabilities which shall transfer from Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council to the Poole Town Council and specifying the date of transfer;
- (b) detailing the land, property, rights and liabilities which shall transfer from Poole Charter Trustees to the Poole Town Council and specifying the date of transfer.
- (c) detailing the land, property, rights and liabilities which shall transfer from Bournemouth Charter Trustees to the Poole Town Council and specifying the date of transfer.

Charter Trustees of the Town of Poole

12.—(1) Any officers appointed by the charter trustees for the proper discharge of their functions who hold office immediately before the date of dissolution of the charter trustees (“the date of dissolution”) shall by virtue of this Order be transferred on the date of dissolution and on the same terms and conditions of appointment to the employment of the parish council.

(2) Any powers to appoint local officers of dignity exercisable by the charter trustees immediately before the date of dissolution shall be exercisable by the parish council.

(3) Any functions which would have been exercisable in relation to the account of the charter trustees or as the case may be their responsible financial officer if the charter trustees had not been dissolved shall on and after the date of dissolution be exercisable by the parish council or as the case may be the parish council’s responsible financial officer.

Transitional provision

13. Until the councillors elected to the council of the new parish of Poole at the elections

to be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2026 come into office, the new parish shall be represented by those persons who immediately before 1st April 2026 are the elected councillors for the district wards of Alderney & Bourne Valley, Bearwood & Merley, Canford Cliffs, Canford Heath, Creekmoor, Hamworthy, Newtown & Heatherlands, Oakdale, Parkstone, Penn Hill, Poole Town and Talbot & Branksome Woods.

14. The Mayor of Poole, Deputy Mayor of Poole and the Sheriff of Poole shall continue in office until the first annual meeting of the new parish council in 2026.

Order date

15. 1st April 2026 is the order date for the purposes of the Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008.

The Common SEAL of

BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE

COUNCIL was hereunto affixed in the presence of

Monitoring Officer

Dated 23 December 2025

SCHEDULE

article 9

WARDS OF THE PARISH OF POOLE

<i>Column (1)</i>	<i>Column (2)</i>
<i>Name of Ward</i>	<i>Number of Councillors</i>
Alderney and Wallisdown South	One
Bearwood	One
Bourne Valley and Branksome East	Two
Branksome West and Penn Hill	Two
Branksome Park and Canford Cliffs	One
Canford Heath	Two
Creekmoor and Waterloo	One
Hamworthy East	One
Hamworthy West and Turlin Moor	One
Longfleet and Sterte	One
Merley	One
Newtown	Two
Oakdale and South-East Creekmoor	Two
Old Town and Baiter	One
Parkstone, Lilliput and Sandbanks	Two

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order gives effect to recommendations made by Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council for the new parish of Poole created within the district of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole and for the creation of a Town Council for the parish of Poole.

The parish of Poole will be created with effect from 1st April 2026. The electoral arrangements apply in respect of parish elections to be held on and after the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2026.

Article 7 provides for parish elections in the parish of Poole in 2026, 2031 and then to continue according to the established system of parish elections every four years.

Article 8 specifies the numbers of parish councillors for the new parish of Poole.

Article 9 and the map establish the names and areas of the wards of the new parish of Poole and the numbers of councillors for each ward.

Article 10 obliges the Electoral Registration Officer to make any necessary amendments to the electoral register to reflect the new electoral arrangements.

The maps defined in article 2 shows the new wards of the parish of Poole. It is available, at all reasonable times, at the offices of the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council.