

Gloucester City Council

Meeting:	Special Council	Date:	18 November 2021
Subject:	Change of Ward Name – Matson and Robinswood Ward		
Report Of:	Head of Paid Service		
Wards Affected:	Matson and Robinswood		
Key Decision:	No	Budget/Policy Framework:	No
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FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To propose changing the name of Matson and Robinswood Ward to Matson, Robinswood and White City Ward.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Council is asked to **RESOLVE** that

- (1) The name of Matson and Robinswood Ward be changed to Matson, Robinswood and White City Ward.

3.0 Background and Key Issues

- 3.1 At its meeting on 18 March 2021, the Council resolved to begin the statutory process necessary to rename “Matson and Robinswood” ward as “Matson, Robinswood and White City” ward.
- 3.2 Section 59 Local Government and Public Involvement Act 2007 allows a local authority to change the name of an electoral area by resolution passed at a specially convened meeting for that purpose. This resolution must be passed by a majority of at least two thirds of the members voting on it. Further, under the Act the Council must not pass the resolution unless it has taken reasonable steps to consult.
- 3.3 Consultation was undertaken from 11 October 2021 until 7 November through an online survey with the ability for residents to request a paper survey should they need it. Following consultation with the ward Councillors, community organisations – The Venture, The Phoenix Centre and the Redwell Centre - were approached to inform them that the consultation would be taking place and they publicised both the consultation and how to respond. Regular social media posts were utilised to publicise the proposal and the consultation.

3.4 A summary of the responses is as follows:

- 31 online responses were received. 21 wished to change the name. 10 wished to keep the current name.
- Of those who were identifiably resident in Gloucester, 17 wished to change the name while 8 wished to keep the current name. (N.B. Those identifiably from outside Gloucester and those who did not provide a postcode were excluded from this measure.
- Of those who were identifiably resident in Matson and Robinswood ward, 15 wished to change the name and 7 wished to keep the current name.

3.5 It is therefore recommended that the name of Matson and Robinswood ward be changed to Matson, Robinswood and White City ward. Upon changing the name, it would be necessary to schedule it to incorporate it into the publication of the revised register on 1 December 2021.

4.0 Social Value Considerations

4.1 Not applicable but the conclusions are as a result of garnering local opinion.

5.0 Environmental Implications

5.1 Not applicable

6.0 Alternative Options Considered

6.1 The alternative would be to retain the current name. This would, however, conflict with the outcome of the consultation.

7.0 Reasons for Recommendations

7.1 To give effect to the outcome of the consultation.

8.0 Future Work and Conclusions

8.1 Under the Local Government and Public Involvement Act 2007, the following bodies must be informed as soon as reasonably practicable after the passing of the resolution:

- the Local Government Boundary Commission;
- the Boundary Commission for England;
- the Office of National Statistics;
- the Director General of the Ordnance Survey;
- Gloucestershire County Council.

The Electoral Commission will also be informed.

8.2 Alterations to the register of electors will also be required to reflect any change prior to its republication.

9.0 Financial Implications

9.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

(Financial Services have been consulted in the preparation this report.)

10.0 Legal Implications

10.1 The legal implications are contained within the report.

(One Legal have been consulted in the preparation this report.)

11.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications

11.1 Not applicable

12.0 People Impact Assessment (PIA) and Safeguarding:

12.1 Not applicable.

13.0 Community Safety Implications

13.1 None

14.0 Staffing & Trade Union Implications

14.1 None

Background Documents: None