

New electoral arrangements for North Tyneside Council Draft Recommendations

February 2023

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A note on our mapping:

The maps shown in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Whilst best efforts have been made by our staff to ensure that the maps included in this report are representative of the boundaries described by the text, there may be slight variations between these maps and the large PDF map that accompanies this report, or the digital mapping supplied on our consultation portal. This is due to the way in which the final mapped products are produced. The reader should therefore refer to either the large PDF supplied with this report or the digital mapping for the true likeness of the boundaries intended. The boundaries as shown on either the large PDF map or the digital mapping should always appear identical.

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Introduction

Who we are and what we do

1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament.¹ We are not part of government or any political party. We are accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons. Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

2 The members of the Commission are:

- Professor Colin Mellors OBE (Chair)
- Andrew Scallan CBE (Deputy Chair)
- Susan Johnson OBE
- Amanda Nobbs OBE
- Steve Robinson
- Jolyon Jackson CBE (Chief Executive)

What is an electoral review?

3 An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority. A local authority's electoral arrangements decide:

- How many councillors are needed.
- How many wards or electoral divisions there should be, where their boundaries are and what they should be called.
- How many councillors should represent each ward or division.

4 When carrying out an electoral review the Commission has three main considerations:

- Improving electoral equality by equalising the number of electors that each councillor represents.
- Ensuring that the recommendations reflect community identity.
- Providing arrangements that support effective and convenient local government.

5 Our task is to strike the best balance between these three considerations when making our recommendations.

¹ Under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

6 More detail regarding the powers that we have, as well as the further guidance and information about electoral reviews and review process in general, can be found on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Why North Tyneside?

7 We are conducting a review of North Tyneside Council ('the Council') as its last review was completed in 2002, and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.²

8 This electoral review is being carried out to ensure that:

- The wards in North Tyneside are in the best possible places to help the Council carry out its responsibilities effectively.
- The number of electors represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the borough.

Our proposals for North Tyneside

9 North Tyneside should be represented by 60 councillors, the same number as there are now.

10 North Tyneside should have 20 wards, the same number as there are now.

11 The boundaries of all wards should change.

How will the recommendations affect you?

12 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which ward you vote in and which other communities are in that ward. Your ward name may also change.

13 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the borough or result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. The recommendations will not have an effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums and we are not able to consider any representations which are based on these issues.

² Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 56(1).

Have your say

14 We will consult on the draft recommendations for a 10-week period, from 7 February 2023 to 17 April 2023. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to comment on these proposed wards as the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be in making our final recommendations.

15 We ask everyone wishing to contribute ideas for the new wards to first read this report and look at the accompanying map before responding to us.

16 You have until 17 April 2023 to have your say on the draft recommendations. See page 35 for how to send us your response.

Review timetable

17 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for North Tyneside. We then held a period of consultation with the public on warding patterns for the borough. The submissions received during consultation have informed our draft recommendations.

18 The review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
23 August 2022	Number of councillors decided
30 August 2022	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
7 November 2022	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
7 February 2023	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
17 April 2023	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
4 July 2023	Publication of final recommendations

Analysis and draft recommendations

19 Legislation³ states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors⁴ there are now, but also on how many there are likely to be in the five years after the publication of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for our wards.

20 In reality, we are unlikely to be able to create wards with exactly the same number of electors in each; we have to be flexible. However, we try to keep the number of electors represented by each councillor as close to the average for the council as possible.

21 We work out the average number of electors per councillor for each individual local authority by dividing the electorate by the number of councillors, as shown on the table below.

	2022	2028
Electorate of North Tyneside	157,929	165,332
Number of councillors	60	60
Average number of electors per councillor	2,632	2,756

22 When the number of electors per councillor in a ward is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the ward as having 'good electoral equality'. All of our proposed wards for North Tyneside are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2028.

Submissions received

23 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Electorate figures

24 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2028, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2023. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 5% by 2028.

25 We considered the information provided by the Council and are satisfied that the projected figures are the best available at the present time. We have used these figures to produce our draft recommendations.

³ Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

⁴ Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

Number of councillors

26 North Tyneside Council currently has 60 councillors. We have looked at evidence provided by the Council and have concluded that keeping this number the same will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

27 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 60 councillors.

28 As North Tyneside Council elects by thirds (meaning it has elections in three out of every four years) there is a presumption in legislation⁵ that the Council have a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards. We will only move away from this pattern of wards should we receive compelling evidence during consultation that an alternative pattern of wards will better reflect our statutory criteria.

29 We received no submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on wards.

Ward boundaries consultation

30 We received 67 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included two borough-wide proposals from the Council and the Conservative Group. The Labour Group and North Tyneside CLP both endorsed the majority of the Council's submission. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for wards arrangements in particular areas of the borough.

31 The two borough-wide schemes provided a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards for North Tyneside. We carefully considered the proposals received and were of the view that the proposed patterns of wards resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the authority and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries.

32 Our draft recommendations also take into account local evidence that we received, which provided further evidence of community links and locally recognised boundaries. In some areas we considered that the proposals did not provide for the best balance between our statutory criteria and so we identified alternative boundaries.

33 We visited the area in order to look at the various different proposals on the ground. This tour of North Tyneside helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

⁵ Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 2(3)(d) and paragraph 2(5)(c).

Draft recommendations

34 Our draft recommendations are for 20 three-councillor wards. We consider that our draft recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

35 The tables and maps on pages 8–31 detail our draft recommendations for each area of North Tyneside. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory⁶ criteria of:

- Equality of representation.
- Reflecting community interests and identities.
- Providing for effective and convenient local government.

36 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 41 and on the large map accompanying this report.

37 We welcome all comments on these draft recommendations, particularly on the location of the ward boundaries, and the names of our proposed wards.

⁶ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Cullercoats, Monkseaton and Whitley Bay



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
Cullercoats & Whitley Bay South	3	9%
Monkseaton	3	6%
Tynemouth	3	-2%
Whitley Bay North	3	4%

Cullercoats & Whitley Bay South and Whitley Bay North

38 We received eight submissions regarding this area from the Council, Conservative Group and six residents.

39 The Council proposed Whitley Sands and Whitley Bay wards, which would be similar to the current Monkseaton North and Whitley Bay wards, respectively. Whitley Sands ward would run from Earsdon Road in the west to the coast in the east. The Council proposed to extend the ward northwards to include Whitley Lodge, arguing that this area shares common characteristics and transport links with Whitley Bay. The Conservatives argued against this addition, stating that Monkseaton Drive is a strong and identifiable boundary in this area.

40 The Council further proposed a Whitley Bay ward that would be identical to the current ward, with the exception of the northeast where they proposed to run the

boundary up Cliftonville Gardens and along Bournemouth Gardens, stating that these residents consider themselves as part of Whitley Bay. They argued that the current Whitley Bay ward already well reflects the community in this area and therefore requires little change.

41 However, a resident argued that the current boundary between Monkseaton North and Whitley Bay wards, along Ilfracombe Gardens, is unclear and splits residents from their schools and amenities. While the Council proposed to continue to use Ilfracombe Gardens as a boundary, extending it up Cliftonville Gardens and along Bournemouth Gardens, the Conservative Group proposed to unite this area in their Whitley Bay North ward.

42 The Conservative Group proposed a different configuration for Whitley Bay. They proposed Whitley Bay North ward, which would stretch further south than the Council's proposed ward, to Algernon Place and Edwards Road. Monkseaton Drive and the Metro line would form strong boundaries in the north and west. The Conservative Group argued that this suggested ward encompasses Whitley Bay town centre and a strong community that is linked through tourism.

43 South of this area, the Conservative Group proposed a Cullercoats & Whitley Bay South ward. They argued that Cullercoats and Whitley Bay have been historically linked through shared heritage, industries and tourism, and that this ward removes areas that are more closely linked with inland communities. They further argued that there are a number of community groups that operate in both Cullercoats and Whitley Bay South that deal with shared local issues, such as the water quality in Cullercoats Bay. Finally, they argued that this ward would be mainly residential, allowing councillors to deal with similar issues across the ward.

44 Additionally, the Council proposed a Marden ward, which would incorporate the area west of The Broadway and north of Beach Road and would further include Preston Grange in the west. The Council argued that this ward contains the entirety of the Marden estate and that residents in this area access the same local amenities and share schools, community facilities and public transport. This ward was supported by a local resident who argued that Marden should have its own ward and that this community is separate from Cullercoats. They identified Marden as the area west of The Broadway.

45 However, the Conservative Group argued strongly against this ward, stating that Marden ward would incorporate parts of Cullercoats and Tynemouth, thereby splitting those communities. They further stated that there are common issues shared along Beach Road, which the Council proposed to use as a boundary. A resident also opposed parts of Cullercoats being placed in a Marden ward.

46 We considered both the Council's and the Conservative Group's schemes to be very strong in this area, and that both offered a good balance of our statutory criteria. We are of the view that the Council's proposed Marden ward would well reflect the Marden community, although note that adopting this ward would necessitate adopting the Council's proposed Whitley Sands and Whitley Bay wards, which use weaker boundaries. Additionally, adopting Marden ward would mean adopting the Council's proposed Monkseaton ward, where we have been told by local residents that the Metro line should be used as the boundary between Whitley Bay and Monkseaton, which the Council did not use.

47 We consider the Conservative Group's scheme to be very strong and consider that this would provide clear wards reflecting communities in Whitley Bay North and South and further reflect links with Cullercoats. Following careful consideration of the evidence, we have been persuaded to adopt the Conservative Group's scheme in this area as part of our draft recommendations. We consider that the Conservatives' boundaries in this area are clear and identifiable and note the strong evidence demonstrating how these wards will reflect communities. We would be keen to hear from local residents regarding these coastal wards.

48 Cullercoats & Whitley Bay South and Whitley Bay North wards would both be represented by three councillors and would have electoral variances of 9% and 4%, respectively, by 2028.

Monkseaton

49 We received seven submissions from the Council, Conservative Group and five residents.

50 The Council proposed a Monkseaton ward that would utilise many of the same boundaries as the current Monkseaton South ward. The only deviation from the current boundary would be in the west of the proposed ward, where the boundary would run along the western edge of Langley Playing Field in order to unite the developments around Murton in their proposed Collingwood ward. The Council argued that the current Monkseaton South ward already reflects communities in this area, and that they are therefore proposing little change.

51 The Conservative Group proposed a different arrangement for Monkseaton. They argued that Monkseaton is currently split along Front Street, which offers many local amenities, and therefore proposed a Monkseaton ward that would stretch from Shields Road in the south to the Metro line in the north. Front Street would form the centre of this ward. Two residents also suggested that the Metro line form the boundary between Monkseaton and Whitley Bay.

52 Three residents stated that the current Monkseaton North and Monkseaton South wards should be combined into a single ward. However, combining these two

wards would result in a large ward with extremely poor electoral equality, with an electoral variance of 78%.

53 Following careful consideration of the evidence, we consider that the Conservatives' proposed Monkseaton ward better reflects the Monkseaton community, and that the Metro line offers a clear and identifiable boundary between Monkseaton and Whitley Bay.

54 Monkseaton ward would be represented by three councillors and have an electoral variance of 6% by 2028.

Tynemouth

55 We received four submissions from the Council, Conservative Group and two residents.

56 The Council proposed to extend the current ward of Tynemouth northwards to incorporate Cullercoats, utilising most of The Broadway as the western boundary. They stated the Longsands Beach is currently divided between the current Tynemouth and Cullercoats wards, and that their proposal would unite this physical feature in a single ward. They further stated that services are united in this area, with most of the authority's coastal team operating here, and therefore including both Tynemouth and Cullercoats in a single ward would allow for more effective governance. Additionally, they stated that as Tynemouth and Cullercoats are tourist destinations, residents share similar issues.

57 The Conservative Group proposed to also extend the current Tynemouth ward across Beach Road to Hartington Road. They argued that this would unite a community on either side of The Broadway that has previously been divided and would also reflect the common issues faced by those on either side of Beach Road. They argued that Tynemouth is a distinct and separate community and that it has a strong identity with many community groups serving local residents. As discussed in the North Shields section, both the Council and Conservative Group propose the same boundary between Tynemouth and North Shields ward along Northumberland Park, placing residents west of this park in North Shields ward.

58 A resident proposed a Tynemouth ward that would be contained by Beach Road in the north and Queen Alexandra Road, Trevor Terrace and Linear Park in the east and south. They argued that residents north of Queen Alexandra Road and Trevor Terrace are more part of Tynemouth than North Shields and that the local characteristics of Preston Village and Tynemouth are very similar. This proposed ward would have a good level of electoral equality, with a variance of -4%. We note that the Conservative Group's proposed Tynemouth ward does include the area north of Trevor Terrace. As part of this resident's proposed scheme, they suggested a North Shields ward that would have a high level of electoral inequality with a

variance of 53%. We are therefore unable to adopt their Tynemouth ward, as it would cause higher levels of electoral inequality in neighbouring wards. However, we note the similarity between their proposed boundaries and those proposed by the Conservative Group.

59 A local resident argued that Beach Croft Avenue should be moved from Cullercoats ward to Tynemouth ward. They stated that this area has common issues related to Beach Road and The Broadway, and that the local park and playing field are in neighbouring Tynemouth ward. While the Council places this area in their proposed Marden ward, the Conservative Group place it in Tynemouth.

60 Again, we considered both the Council's and the Conservative Group's schemes to be very strong. Both offered a good balance of our statutory criteria, and each made good arguments showing how each proposal would reflect communities.

61 On balance, we have been persuaded to adopt the Conservative Group's scheme as part of our draft recommendations. This is partially due to our decision to adopt their proposed Monkseaton, Whitley Bay North and Cullercoats & Whitley Bay South wards, as the differences between the Council's and the Conservative Group's schemes mean there can be little collaboration between the two schemes because it would result in poor levels of electoral equality. For example, adopting the Council's proposed Tynemouth & Cullercoats ward, while using the Conservative Group's boundary in the north to include Cullercoats with Whitley Bay South, would result in an electoral variance of -43% for the Council's proposed Tynemouth ward.

62 We do consider that the Conservative Group's proposed Tynemouth ward offers a good balance of our statutory criteria and allows for the Tynemouth community to be united in a single ward.

63 Tynemouth ward would be represented by three councillors and would have an electoral variance of -2% by 2028.

Chirton, North Shields and Preston



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
Chirton & Percy Main	3	10%
North Shields	3	7%
Preston with Preston Grange	3	-8%

Chirton & Percy Main and Preston with Preston Grange

64 We received six submissions regarding this area from the Council, Conservative Group and four residents.

65 The Council proposed a Chirton & Preston ward which would combine the eastern part of the current Chirton ward along with the northern and western parts of the current Preston ward to form a single ward. They argued that these two communities are part of the wider North Shields community and that residents in this area share similar local issues.

66 The Council also proposed a smaller Riverside ward, stretching from the A19 in the west to Dock Road and Collingwood View Playing Fields in the east. They argued that this ward would combine the riverside communities of Chirton, the northern area of Meadow Well and the Norham Road area. They stated that these areas have much in common, sharing community groups and transport links.

However, this ward would have an electoral variance of -12%. Following consideration of the proposal, we were not convinced that the evidence justifies this higher level of electoral inequality at this stage. We are therefore not adopting the Council's proposed Riverside ward as part of our draft recommendations.

67 Conversely, the Conservative Group proposed to extend the current Chirton ward southwards to take in the areas of Percy Main and Meadow Well from Riverside ward. They argued that these communities are strongly linked through shared shops, schools and community centres. Additionally, they stated that this ward would unite the Meadow Well community, previously split by a boundary along the Metro line, and would also include Percy Main AFC and cricket club.

68 To the northeast of this area, the Conservative Group proposed Preston with Preston Grange ward. They stated that this ward would unite the previously divided communities across Beach Road, and that community groups working in these areas increasingly collaborate on local issues. They further argued that their ward would utilise strong boundaries, such as Preston Road North in the east and Billy Mill Avenue in the west.

69 A resident proposed a Chirton ward that would stretch between the A19 and Royal Quays Marina and be bounded by the Coast Road in the north. They argued that their western boundary, starting at Royal Quays Marina and running northwards up Silkey's Lane and Billy Mill Avenue, reflects the split between the North Shields and Chirton and Meadow Well communities. They further argued that the communities of Meadow Well, Percy Main and East Howdon are closely linked with Chirton. We note that this suggestion is very similar to that proposed by the Conservative Group, with the boundary between Chirton and North Shields being near identical.

70 A local resident argued that the area of Verne Road, east of Heaton Terrace and Addington Crescent, should be included in Preston ward rather than Chirton ward. They stated that residents in this area share common issues across Billy Mill Avenue and Queen Alexandra Road and that this community uses facilities in Preston ward. They further argued that the development in the current Chirton ward has created a split within the ward, with those in the west and east looking in different directions for facilities. This suggestion would be accommodated in the Council's scheme, with the Council including the area east of Norham Road in Chirton & Preston ward. The Conservative Group maintained the split along Billy Mill Avenue. However, as discussed above, we have not been convinced to adopt the Council's proposed Riverside ward. As a result, we are unable to adopt their neighbouring proposed Chirton & Preston ward.

71 Following careful consideration of the evidence, we have been persuaded to adopt the Conservative Group's proposed Chirton & Percy Main and Preston with

Preston Grange wards as part of our draft recommendations. We consider that Chirton & Percy Main ward well reflects the communities previously split between Chirton and Riverside wards, as argued by a local resident, and utilises strong boundaries, and that Preston with Preston Grange ward offers a good balance of our statutory criteria.

72 However, as discussed in the Howdon section, we will include the area of East Howdon in our proposed Chirton & Percy Main ward at this stage. We were not convinced by the arguments that East Howdon should be placed in Howdon ward and note the proximity of this area to Percy Main. Additionally, a local resident stated that Chirton ward should include the industrial area bounded by the A193 and A187, which would be accommodated in this arrangement. We are interested to hear from residents regarding the western boundary of Chirton & Percy Main ward to help inform our final recommendations.

73 One resident suggested that Chirton ward should be renamed to reduce confusion with the nearby area of Chirton in Collingwood ward. They did not propose an alternative name, but we would be interested to hear from local residents regarding the name of this ward. At this stage, we are proposing to adopt the Conservative Group's name of Chirton & Percy Main as we consider it reflects the communities present within this ward.

74 Chirton & Percy Main ward and Preston with Preston Grange ward will both be represented by three councillors and will have electoral variance of 10% and -8%, respectively, by 2028.

North Shields

75 We received eight submissions regarding this area from the Council, Conservative Group, Labour Group, North Tyneside CLP and four residents. All eight submissions either suggested or showed support for a North Shields ward.

76 The Council proposed a North Shields ward that they argued would unite the town centre and community of North Shields. They stated that the large commercial centre of North Shields would be represented within a single ward, and that this ward would be served by a range of transport hubs and cultural assets. This ward would run from Smith's Dock in the west to Northumberland Park in the east, and Queen Alexandra Road and Preston Avenue in the north.

77 The Conservative Group also proposed a North Shields ward centred on the town centre. They stated that the regeneration of the town centre will promote community cohesiveness and that this ward would incorporate community facilities, such as North Shields FC and the Linskill Centre. The Conservative Group's proposed ward extends further west than the Council's North Shields ward, extending to Royal Quays Marina and the Smith's Dock proposed development.

They argued that the riverbank walkway would link these areas with the town centre and Fish Quay. They further argued that the simplicity of their boundaries helps to define the town more clearly.

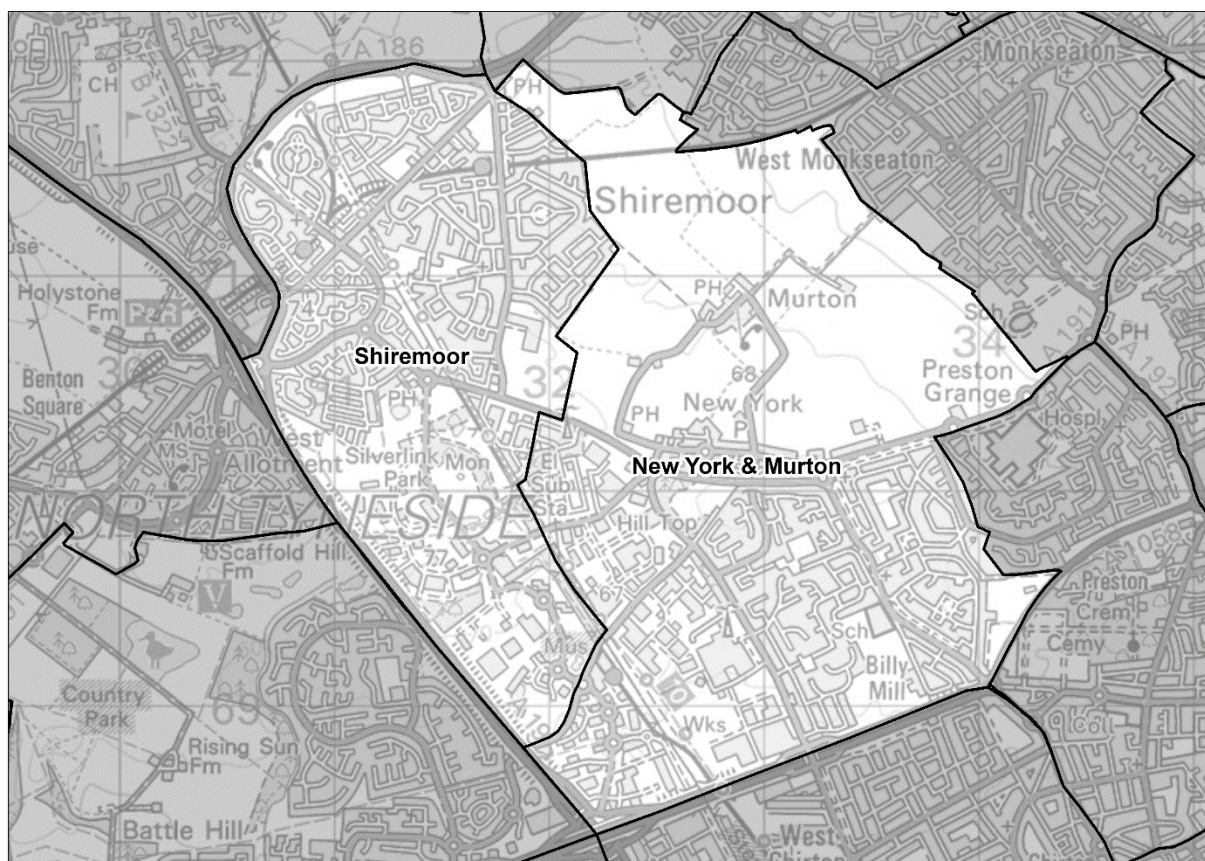
78 Both the Labour Group and North Tyneside CLP support the creation of a North Shields ward. One resident argued that North Shields ward should be reinstated, and that currently the town centre is split across four wards. Another resident, while not suggesting any boundaries, did argue that the name North Shields should be used in the riverside area.

79 A resident proposed a scheme for the area around North Shields. The western boundary of their proposed North Shields ward would run from Royal Quays Marina northwards up Silkey's Lane and Billy Mill Avenue. In the north, Queen Alexandra Road and Trevor Terrace would be the boundary, and they proposed the same boundary as both the Council and Conservative Group at Linear Park in the east. They argued that these boundaries reflect the split between the North Shields and Chirton and Meadow Well communities, and further allow for residents of North Shields to be better represented. We note that this suggestion is very similar to that proposed by the Conservative Group, with the boundary between Chirton and North Shields being near identical. While their proposed North Shields ward would have a high level of electoral inequality, with a variance of 53%, we note the similarity of some of the boundaries to those proposed by the Conservative Group, such as Linear Park and Royal Quays Marina.

80 We considered that both the Council's and the Conservative Group's proposed North Shields wards offer a good balance of our statutory criteria. Both would centre on North Shields town centre and include community assets, such as North Shields FC. Following careful consideration of the evidence, we are adopting the Conservative Group's proposed ward as part of our draft recommendations. We consider that this proposal utilises strong and identifiable boundaries and would well reflect the community in this area.

81 North Shields ward would be represented by three councillors and would have an electoral variance of 7% by 2028.

New York & Murton and Shiremoor



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
New York & Murton	3	5%
Shiremoor	3	-4%

New York & Murton

82 We received four submissions regarding this area from the Council, Conservative Group, Labour Group and a resident.

83 The Council proposed a similar Collingwood ward to the current arrangement, with the exclusion of Preston Grange. They stated that this ward already reflects the community, and that the removal of Preston Grange would allow for a good level of electoral equality. However, the Council also proposed to extend the ward to the northwest to include the area centred on Cartington Avenue. The Conservative Group argued against this addition, stating that this area is part of the Shiremoor community and that the proposed boundary would split this community. The Labour Group also opposed this boundary and suggested that the area centred on Cartington Avenue should be included in Valley ward.

84 Including the area centred on Cartington Avenue in the Council's proposed Valley ward would result in an electoral variance of 5% for Collingwood ward.

However, it would result in the Council's proposed Valley ward having a higher level of electoral inequality with a variance of 13%.

85 The Conservative Group proposed to retain much of the current Collingwood ward, with the exclusion of Preston Grange. They proposed to rename this ward New York & Murton, to better reflect the communities present within this ward. They stated that New York and Murton are closely linked by proximity and similar local issues, and that there is a strong community present within this ward, with shared schools and community groups, such as the New York & Murton Social Club.

86 Following careful consideration of the evidence, we were not persuaded that including the area centred on Cartington Avenue in the Council's proposed Collingwood ward would reflect the community within this area. We note its distance from the centre of the proposed Collingwood ward and the evidence provided that describes this area as part of the Shiremoor community. We are therefore adopting the Conservative Group's proposed New York & Murton ward as part of our draft recommendations. We consider that this ward uses strong boundaries and reflects the community within this area. We are also adopting their proposed ward name of New York & Murton at this stage and would be interested in hearing from residents whether this name reflects their local community.

87 New York & Murton ward would be represented by three councillors and would have an electoral variance of 5% by 2028.

Shiremoor

88 We received six submissions regarding this area from the Council, Conservative Group, Labour Group and three residents.

89 The Council proposed a smaller Valley ward, roughly centred on Northumberland Park Metro station. This ward would encompass the Holystone and Northumberland Park areas on both sides of the A19, which the Council argued are closely linked and share amenities, along with Shiremoor and West Allotment. They stated that as there are a number of communities contained within this ward, the overarching name of Valley would be the most appropriate.

90 As discussed in the New York & Murton section, the Council proposed to place an area centred on Cartington Avenue in Collingwood ward rather than Valley ward. The Conservative Group argued against this addition, stating that this area is part of the Shiremoor community and that the proposed boundary would split this community. The Labour Group also opposed this boundary and suggested that the area centred on Cartington Avenue should be included in Valley ward.

91 We were not convinced that the Council's proposed Valley ward offers clear and identifiable boundaries for local residents, especially in the areas centred on

Cartington Avenue in the south, and Hastings Drive in the north, both of which would be removed from their proposed Valley ward. Additionally, we note that including these areas in Valley ward would result in a high level of electoral inequality, with a variance of 23%.

92 The Conservative Group proposed a different configuration, with a Shiremoor ward bounded by the A186, A19 and moorland in the east. They stated that Shiremoor is a distinct community within strong boundaries, and that the ward is well connected internally by the Metro. They further described how residents in this ward would share local issues, and that this area would benefit from being separated from the rural areas to the north.

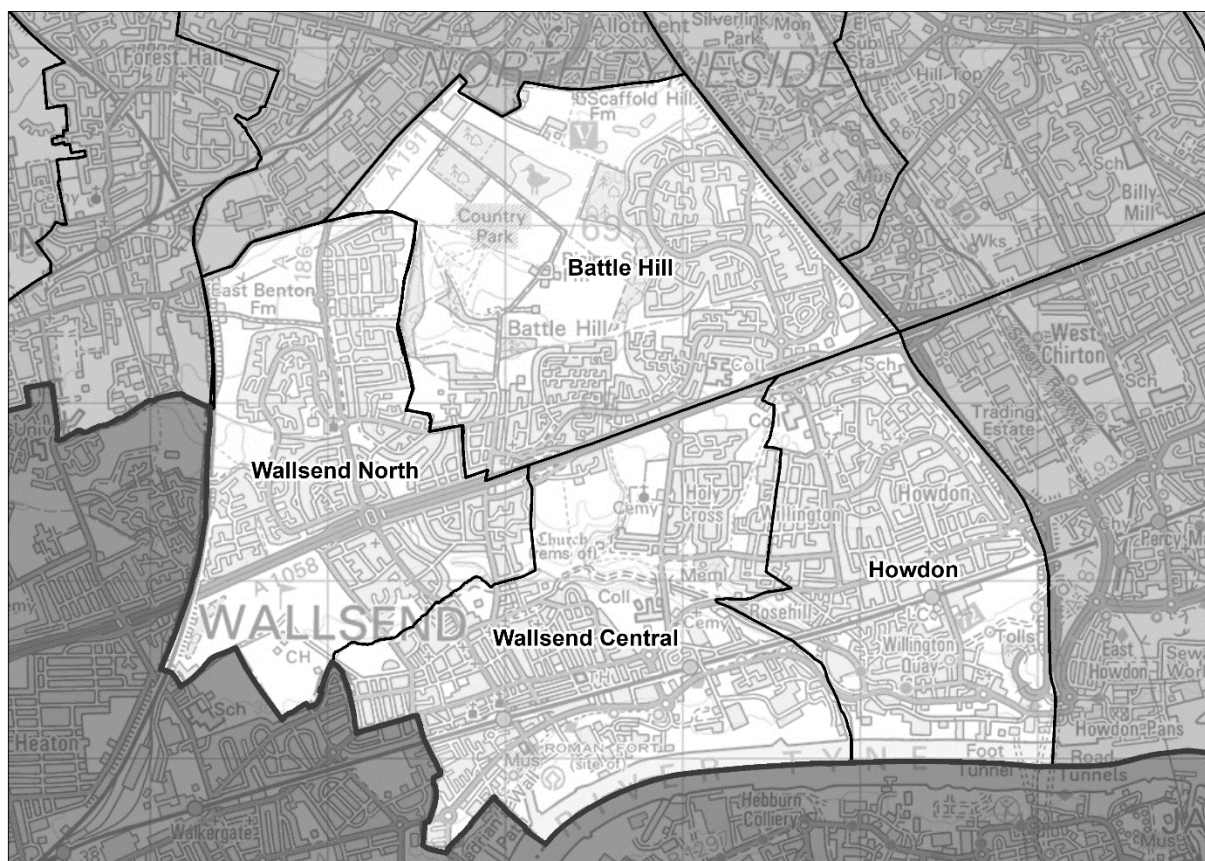
93 Two residents stated that Shiremoor and Backworth should have their own ward, as they share similar local issues, such as increased development. One resident defined this as the area centred on Shiremoor Metro station, bounded by the A186 in the north and west. Another resident stated that the areas of Castle Park, Backworth and Moorside should be kept together in the same ward as these areas form a recognisable community and would keep residents in the same ward as their local shops, schools and Metro station. We note that the Conservative Group's proposal would unite the area defined by a resident as Shiremoor. Conversely, the Council's proposed Valley ward would keep more of Backworth and Moorside together, with Valley ward stretching to Backworth Golf Club.

94 Following careful consideration of the evidence, we have been persuaded to adopt the Conservative Group's proposed Shiremoor ward. We consider that this ward would better reflect this well-defined population centre east of the A19 and would unite the Shiremoor community in a single ward. Additionally, this proposal would use clear and identifiable boundaries for residents. We were not convinced that the Council's proposal would use clear boundaries in this area, noting the separation of the Cartington Avenue and Hastings Drive areas. As discussed above, adding these areas into their proposed Valley ward would result in a high level of electoral inequality.

95 We are proposing a small alteration to this ward to include the entire Cobalt Park Industrial Estate in Shiremoor ward. We consider that the Conservative Group's proposed boundary, which cuts through this estate and West Allotment Country Park, could be unclear, and are therefore extending Shiremoor ward to Middle Engine Lane. This change would affect no electors.

96 Shiremoor ward would be represented by three councillors and would have an electoral variance of -4% by 2028.

Battle Hill, Howdon and Wallsend



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
Battle Hill	3	-3%
Howdon	3	6%
Wallsend Central	3	4%
Wallsend North	3	10%

Battle Hill

97 We received two submissions regarding this area from the Council and Conservative Group.

98 Both proposed the same Battle Hill ward, which would be similar to the current ward with an extension to include the entirety of Rising Sun Country Park. The Conservative Group stated that this country park is currently split between three wards and that including it in its entirety in Battle Hill ward would allow for more effective governance. We are adopting the Council's and the Conservative Group's proposed Battle Hill ward as part of our draft recommendations.

99 Battle Hill ward will be represented by three councillors and will have an electoral variance of -3% by 2028.

Howdon

100 We received eight submissions regarding this area from the Council, Conservative Group, Labour Group, North Tyneside CLP and four residents.

101 The Council proposed an extended Howdon ward that would use very strong boundaries on each side, supported by both the Labour Group and North Tyneside CLP. Howdon ward would be bounded by the Coast Road, A19, River Tyne, Wallsend Burn and the green space that runs north-south over Archer Street. This ward would have an electoral variance of 13%, but the Council strongly argued that this ward would unite the previously split Howdon community and that this higher electoral variance was therefore justified. They argued that this ward would bring in the Howdon Metro station, along with the properties between the Metro and the river that are part of the Howdon community. Howdon ward would include Howdon Park and the local amenities used by local residents. Additionally, they stated that their proposal would provide effective governance, as the Howdon and Willington Quay sections of the current Riverside ward are served by different police neighbourhood, environmental and housing teams from the rest of Riverside ward. This proposal would allow the areas to be served by the same teams which currently serve the Howdon ward.

102 The Conservative Group also proposed a Howdon ward which would extend to the River Tyne, arguing that this would unite the community of Howdon. However, in the east they proposed to include the area of East Howdon, stating that residents in this area have strong links to Willington Quay and Howdon. A resident also stated that East Howdon has close links to Howdon and should therefore be included in a Howdon ward. Conversely, another resident stated that East Howdon is instead more closely linked with the Chirton, Meadow Well and Percy Main communities. In order to provide electoral equality for this ward, the Conservative Group proposed to run the north-eastern boundary along Rosehill, Angle Terrace, Glanton Close and the footpath between Savory Road and West Farm Road.

103 A resident stated that Churchill Street should be the western boundary of Howdon ward and that the A19 and Tyne Tunnel Roundabout should form the eastern boundary. This would result in an electoral variance of -14%, and we are therefore not adopting this proposal. However, we note the support for the Council's proposed eastern boundary of the A19.

104 Following careful consideration of the evidence, we have been persuaded to adopt a Howdon ward utilising the Conservative Group's proposed boundary around Glanton Close in the west and the Council's proposed boundary of the A19 in the east. At this stage, we have not been persuaded to include East Howdon within Howdon ward and note its proximity to Percy Main. Additionally, we are not convinced at this stage to adopt a ward with an electoral variance of 13%, as proposed by the Council. We are therefore interested to hear from local residents

whether our draft recommendations for Howdon accurately represent the community, and whether the area west of Glanton Close should be included within Howdon ward. We would also be interested to hear from residents whether East Howdon should be included in Howdon ward or Chirton & Percy Main ward. We are unable to add both of these areas into Howdon ward, as to do so would result in an electoral variance of 17%. We do consider the Council's proposed western boundary to be very strong and could be convinced to adopt a Howdon ward with a higher electoral variance if this is reflected in community evidence received.

105 Howdon ward would be represented by three councillors and would have an electoral variance of 6%.

Wallsend Central and Wallsend North

106 We received seven submissions regarding this area from the Council, Conservative Group and five residents.

107 The Council proposed to retain the current boundaries of Northumberland ward, aside from placing the small part of the Rising Sun Country Park currently in this ward into Battle Hill ward and renaming this ward to Wallsend North. The Council also proposed to extend the current Wallsend ward to include the area of Holy Cross. They proposed to rename this ward Wallsend Central, arguing that the current ward name of Northumberland is confusing and disliked by residents.

108 The Conservative Group also proposed to retain much of the current Northumberland ward, renamed to Wallsend North, but proposed to include the Selby Gardens area. They argued that residents of this area access facilities north of the Coast Road and noted that this change would allow Prince Road Arboretum to be united in a single ward.

109 Like the Council, the Conservative Group also proposed to rename the current Wallsend ward to Wallsend Central and extend the ward to include the Holy Cross area. They stated that children in Holy Cross go to Burnside College in Wallsend and that although Holy Cross is equidistant between Howdon and Wallsend, transport and footfall head towards Wallsend town centre.

110 Four residents argued that the current Wallsend ward has strong boundaries and should remain unchanged. Some suggested that, should the ward need extending, the ward should extend towards Station Road.

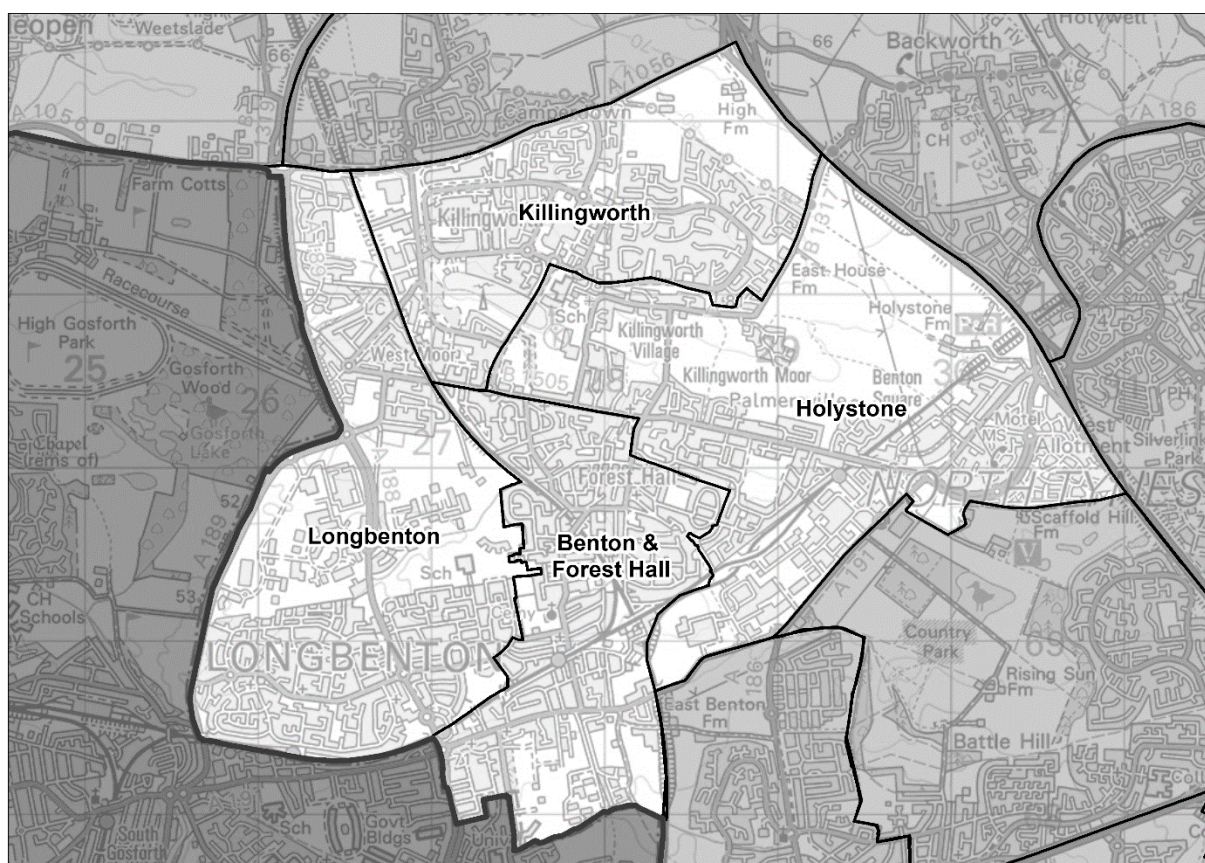
111 As discussed in the Howdon section, we have been persuaded to adopt the Conservative Group's proposed boundary between Howdon ward and Wallsend Central ward at this stage. With these additional electors west of Savory Road, the Council's proposed Wallsend Central ward would have an electoral variance of 17%,

producing a high level of electoral equality. We are therefore unable to adopt this ward as part of our draft recommendations.

112 We are therefore adopting the Conservative Group's proposed boundary for Wallsend Central and Wallsend North. We note the similarity between this scheme and the Council's scheme and consider that both of these wards would reflect communities in this area.

113 Wallsend Central and Wallsend North wards will both be represented by three councillors and will have electoral variances of 4% and 10%, respectively, by 2028.

Benton & Forest Hall, Holystone, Killingworth and Longbenton



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
Benton & Forest Hall	3	-9%
Holystone	3	-9%
Killingworth	3	-7%
Longbenton	3	-2%

Benton & Forest Hall

114 We received four submissions regarding this area from the Council, Conservative Group and two residents.

115 The Council proposed to extend the current Benton ward to include the entirety of the Meadway estate, which is currently split between Benton and Killingworth wards. They stated that this ward contains a well-established community and offers good electoral equality. They further proposed to name this ward Benton & Forest Hall to reflect the two communities present within this ward.

116 The Conservative Group proposed a smaller Benton ward, moving the area east of Forest Hall Road and north of Clousden Drive out of Benton ward and into their proposed Holystone ward. They argued that this ward would contain the Benton community and most of Forest Hall, though stated that not all of the Forest Hall

community can be united within this ward as it would cause poor electoral equality for their neighbouring Holystone ward. They also stated that residents in their proposed Benton ward access the same facilities and community assets.

117 A resident submitted their own scheme for a Forest Hall ward. They argued that Forest Hall is currently split between Benton, Killingworth, Camperdown and Longbenton wards, and that Forest Hall is an established town with its own commercial centre and clear boundaries. This proposed ward would include the area bounded by Killingworth Moor in the north and the Metro line in the southeast, as well as taking in the northern area of the current Longbenton ward. This ward would have an electoral variance of 34%. We do not consider that the evidence provided justifies this high level of electoral inequality and are therefore not proposing to adopt this ward as part of our draft recommendations. However, we note the support for uniting the Forest Hall community.

118 Another resident proposed the Great Lime Road as the northern boundary of Benton ward. They stated that this busy road would form a clear boundary and that it would better reflect communities by placing residents currently in Killingworth ward in a Forest Hall ward. They stated that renaming the ward from Benton to Forest Hall would better reflect the community within this ward and would stop confusion between Longbenton and Benton wards.

119 Following careful consideration of the evidence received, we are adopting the Conservative Group's Benton ward as part of our draft recommendations. The Council's proposed Benton & Forest Hall ward offered a good balance of our statutory criteria and reflected the evidence heard from local residents about uniting the Forest Hall community in a single ward. However, due to our decision to adopt the Conservative Group's proposed Shiremoor and Killingworth wards, we are unable to adopt the Council's proposed Benton & Forest Hall ward, as it would result in poor levels of electoral equality in this area. Adopting the Conservative Group's Killingworth and Shiremoor wards, along with the Council's Benton & Forest Hall ward, would leave a small Holystone ward with a high level of electoral inequality with a variance of -25%. We are therefore unable to adopt a mix of proposed wards in this area.

120 When deciding which wards to adopt, we considered that the evidence for Shiremoor ward, and the surrounding wards proposed by the Conservative Group, to be slightly stronger than the evidence for Forest Hall. Uniting the Forest Hall community would come at the expense of two other communities – Shiremoor and Killingworth. On balance, we are therefore adopting the Conservative Group's scheme in this area and are adopting the proposed Benton ward as part of our draft recommendations.

121 Regarding the name for this ward, we are proposing the name Benton & Forest Hall. The Conservative Group proposed the name Benton for this proposed ward, whereas a resident proposed to rename this ward Forest Hall and the Council proposed the name Benton & Forest Hall. However, the suggested names that included Forest Hall were attached to proposed wards that contained more of the Forest Hall community, and we are therefore unsure if adding the name Forest Hall to this ward would represent the communities within this ward. On balance, we have been persuaded to name this ward Benton & Forest Hall, though we are aware that the entire Forest Hall community may not be present within this ward. We would like to hear from local residents whether the name Benton or Benton & Forest Hall would best reflect the communities present within this ward.

122 Benton & Forest Hall ward would be represented by three councillors and would have an electoral variance of -9%.

Holystone and Killingworth

123 We received four submissions regarding this area from the Council, Conservative Group and two residents.

124 The Council proposed a Camperdown ward that would be very similar to the current Camperdown ward, maintaining a split through Killingworth and extending up to Fordley. They stated that residents in this ward access facilities within Camperdown ward and that this ward would provide good electoral equality.

125 East of this, the Council propose a smaller Killingworth ward, due to the large number of developments on Killingworth Moor increasing the electorate. Their proposed Killingworth ward would be bounded by the Metro line in the east and Palmersville in the south. They argued that the areas of Killingworth village and the development on Killingworth Moor will link well with the Palmersville area, and that the area east of the Metro line instead looks over the A19 rather than towards Killingworth.

126 The Conservative Group proposed a different configuration of wards for this area. They proposed to unite Killingworth in a single ward, removing the boundary that currently splits the Killingworth Centre. They argued that Killingworth is a single community, served by a range of community groups. A local resident also stated that part of Killingworth is currently in Camperdown ward, and that this area should be united in a single ward to better reflect the Killingworth community.

127 The Conservatives further proposed a Holystone ward, which would include the areas of Killingworth Village, Killingworth Moor, Palmersville and Holystone. They argued that there are stronger links between Killingworth Village and Holystone than with Killingworth town centre, and that this ward will centre on the new communities

being created by the extensive developments at Killingworth Moor. They further stated that this ward would use strong boundaries.

128 A resident proposed using West Bailey as the boundary between Killingworth and Camperdown wards, thereby uniting Killingworth Lake in a single ward. Neither the Council nor Conservative Group unite Killingworth Lake in a single ward, and we do consider the boundary along Southgate to be clear and identifiable. We would be interested to hear from local residents about this boundary.

129 While both schemes proposed wards with a good balance of our statutory criteria, following careful consideration of the evidence we have been persuaded to adopt the Conservative Group's proposed Killingworth and Holystone wards. We note that the proposed Killingworth ward will unite the community of Killingworth, currently split across two wards, and that our decision to adopt their proposed Shiremoor ward to the east of the A19 means that Holystone ward can use the strong boundary of the A19 in the east and reflect links between new development at Killingworth Moor and Holystone.

130 Holystone and Killingworth wards will both be represented by three councillors and will have electoral variances of -9% and -7%, respectively, by 2028.

Longbenton

131 We received two submissions regarding this area from the Council and Conservative Group.

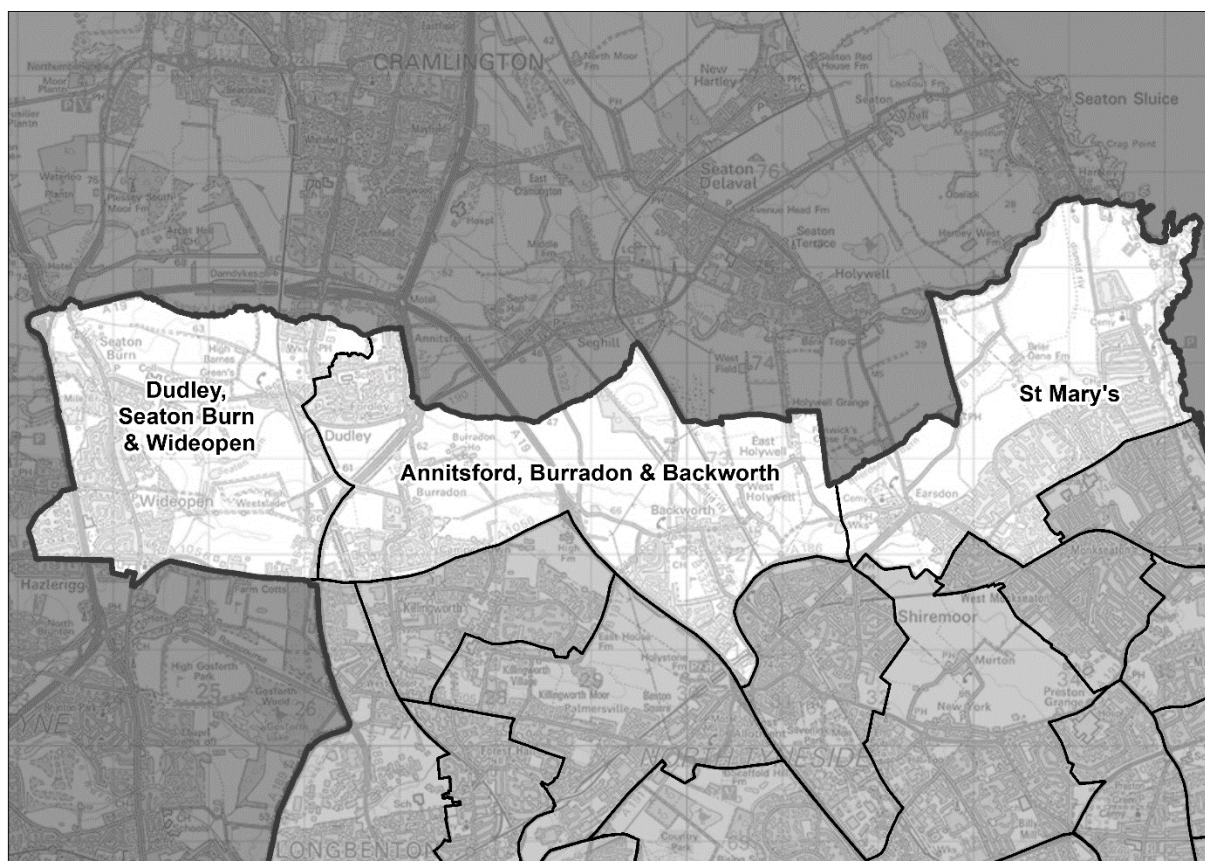
132 The Council proposed no change to the current Longbenton ward, stating that this ward already reflects a community and uses strong boundaries.

133 The Conservative Group proposed a similar ward but proposed to move the streets to the southeast of Goathland Avenue from Longbenton ward to Benton ward, stating that these streets naturally fit with their neighbours in the area around Benton Metro station and St Bartholomew's Church.

134 We are adopting a Longbenton ward as part of our draft recommendations. While we consider the Council's boundaries in this ward to be stronger, placing the streets to the southeast of Goathland Avenue in Longbenton ward would result in an electoral variance of -13% for the neighbouring Benton ward, which we have been persuaded to adopt. We are therefore adopting the Conservative Group's boundary along Goathland Avenue, and the Council's boundary that follows the current ward boundary for the rest of Longbenton ward.

135 Longbenton ward would be represented by three councillors and would have an electoral variance of -2% by 2028.

Northern North Tyneside



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
Annitsford, Burradon & Backworth	3	-7%
Dudley, Seaton Burn & Wideopen	3	-10%
St Mary's	3	0%

Annitsford, Burradon & Backworth

136 We received three submissions regarding this area from the Council, Conservative Group and one resident.

137 As discussed in the Killingworth and St Mary's sections, the Council proposed to split this northern area between their proposed Camperdown ward and Brierdene ward. Camperdown ward would take in the area west of the A19, which would include part of Fordley and Killingworth similar to the current arrangement, whereas Brierdene ward would include the area between the A19 and the coast. We were not convinced to adopt either of these wards, as we considered that the Conservative Group's suggestions for Killingworth, Shiremoor and St Mary's would unite communities and offer clearer boundaries.

138 In this area, the Conservative Group proposed the ward of Annitsford, Burradon & Backworth. This ward would allow for the more urban communities of Killingworth

and Shiremoor to be united in their own wards and would place together rural areas spanning the A19.

139 A resident stated that the areas of Castle Park, Backworth and Moorside should be kept together in the same ward as these areas form a recognisable community and would keep residents in the same ward as their local shops, schools and Metro station. We note that the Conservative Group's proposed Annitsford, Burradon & Backworth ward would keep the areas of Backworth and Moorside together.

140 Following consideration of the evidence, we are adopting the Conservative Group's proposed Annitsford, Burradon & Backworth ward as part of our draft recommendations. We consider that this ward groups together rural communities that share similar issues, and further allows for a good pattern of wards elsewhere in the borough.

141 Annitsford, Burradon & Backworth ward would be represented by three councillors and would have an electoral variance of -7% by 2028.

Dudley, Seaton Burn & Wideopen

142 We received four submissions from the Council, Conservative Group, North Tyneside CLP and one resident.

143 The Council proposed a Weetslade ward that would be similar to the current ward, with the inclusion of the area south of Fern Drive and exclusion of the Cygnet Park area, which they stated does not access facilities in Weetslade and is instead closer linked to Camperdown. For the villages within this ward, they stated that they are all served by public transport between them, and that all of the proposed ward is served by one neighbourhood police area and falls into the Northwest area for the Authority's Housing and Environmental services teams.

144 The North Tyneside CLP supported the Council's proposal but suggested that Fordley and Annitsford be included in Weetslade ward. The Council stated that while they considered including Fordley and Annitsford into this ward, it would result in a high level of electoral inequality, with a variance of 23%. We do not consider that the evidence provided justifies this level of electoral inequality and are therefore not adopting this suggestion.

145 The Conservative Group proposed a smaller ward in this area, named Dudley, Seaton Burn & Wideopen. They stated that this name better reflects the village communities present within this ward. They stated that while they would like to include the entirety of Dudley within this ward, they recognise this would result in a high electoral variance. They therefore proposed to use Market Street and East View Terrace as the boundary, which they argued is clearer than the Council's proposed boundary which would split estates. They proposed to run the boundary through the

green space east of the B1319; however, we note that this would split a development site, which could result in an unclear boundary. They further proposed to include the Cygnet Park area in this ward, arguing that this area looks towards Newcastle rather than Killingworth or Camperdown, and that therefore it was logical to retain it within this ward. Finally, their proposed ward would have an electoral variance of -11%.

146 Following careful consideration of the evidence, we have been persuaded to adopt a combination of the Council's and Conservative Group's schemes in this area. We consider the Conservative Group's proposed boundary along Market Street and East View Terrace to be clearer and more identifiable than that of the Council's, which does cut through continuous housing, especially at Fern Drive. However, we are adopting the Council's proposed boundary that follows the edge of the new development site east of the B1319, rather than the Conservative Group's suggestion which cuts through this area. We are further adopting the Council's suggestion to move the Cygnet Park area out of Weetslade ward and into the neighbouring ward, in this case our proposed Annitsford, Burradon & Backworth ward. We note its proximity to Camperdown rather than the other villages present within Dudley, Seaton Burn & Wideopen ward. We consider that a combination of these two schemes offers a good balance of our statutory criteria, and further note that this ward would have a good level of electoral equality.

147 We are proposing to adopt the Conservative Group's name for this ward, as we consider it accurately reflects the communities present. We would be interested to hear from local residents about this ward name.

148 Dudley, Seaton Burn & Wideopen ward would be represented by three councillors and would have an electoral variance of -10% by 2028.

St Mary's

149 We received five submissions from the Council, Conservative Group and three residents.

150 The Council proposed a large Brierdene ward, which would run from the A19 in the west to the coast in the east, taking in the current St Mary's ward and northern area of the current Valley ward. They stated that this ward would unite the greenbelt area in the northeast of the borough, which is well served by public transport, and that the rural communities in this ward share local issues. They stated that the name Brierdene comes from Brierdene Burn, which runs through the entire ward and can be considered a common feature. A resident suggested that Earsdon should be grouped with Shiremoor and South Wellfield. While this is not exactly what the Council proposed, it does demonstrate the east-west connections across this area beyond the current St Mary's ward boundaries.

151 The Conservative Group instead proposed to retain St Mary's ward, with the only change being to extend the ward over Monkseaton Drive to include the area centred on Newsteads Drive, thereby uniting the area of South Wellfield. A local resident also argued that the South Wellfield estate should be united in St Mary's ward.

152 The Conservative Group strongly argued against the Council's proposed Brierdene ward. They argued that this ward would split the Shiremoor community, as well as placing disparate areas together. They stated that these communities have different issues, and this would make it difficult for councillors to represent this ward.

153 Following consideration of the evidence, we have been persuaded to adopt the Conservative Group's proposed St Mary's ward as part of our draft recommendations. While we understand the logic of the Council's submission, namely grouping together the northern rural communities, this proposal would split Shiremoor, creating an unclear boundary around Hastings Drive. Additionally, we note that the Conservative Group's proposal allows for the South Wellfield estate to be united within a single ward, as supported by a resident.

154 St Mary's ward would be represented by three councillors and would have an electoral variance of 0% by 2028.

Conclusions

155 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality in North Tyneside, referencing the 2022 and 2028 electorate figures against the proposed number of councillors and wards. A full list of wards, names and their corresponding electoral variances can be found at Appendix A to the back of this report. An outline map of the wards is provided at Appendix B.

Summary of electoral arrangements

	Draft recommendations	
	2022	2028
Number of councillors	60	60
Number of electoral wards	20	20
Average number of electors per councillor	2,632	2,756
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	6	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	1	0

Draft recommendations

North Tyneside Council should be made up of 60 councillors serving 20 three-councillor wards. The details and names are shown in Appendix A and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

Mapping

Sheet 1, Map 1 shows the proposed wards for North Tyneside Council. You can also view our draft recommendations for North Tyneside on our interactive maps at www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk

Have your say

156 The Commission has an open mind about its draft recommendations. Every representation we receive will be considered, regardless of who it is from or whether it relates to the whole borough or just a part of it.

157 If you agree with our recommendations, please let us know. If you don't think our recommendations are right for North Tyneside, we want to hear alternative proposals for a different pattern of wards.

158 Our website has a special consultation area where you can explore the maps. You can find it at www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk

159 Submissions can also be made by emailing reviews@lgbce.org.uk or by writing to:

**Review Officer (North Tyneside)
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England
PO Box 133
Blyth
NE24 9FE**

160 The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for North Tyneside which delivers:

- Electoral equality: each local councillor represents a similar number of electors.
- Community identity: reflects the identity and interests of local communities.
- Effective and convenient local government: helping your council discharge its responsibilities effectively.

161 A good pattern of wards should:

- Provide good electoral equality, with each councillor representing, as closely as possible, the same number of electors.
- Reflect community interests and identities and include evidence of community links.
- Be based on strong, easily identifiable boundaries.
- Help the council deliver effective and convenient local government.

162 Electoral equality:

- Does your proposal mean that councillors would represent roughly the same number of electors as elsewhere in North Tyneside?

163 Community identity:

- Community groups: is there a parish council, residents' association or other group that represents the area?
- Interests: what issues bind the community together or separate it from other parts of your area?
- Identifiable boundaries: are there natural or constructed features which make strong boundaries for your proposals?

164 Effective local government:

- Are any of the proposed wards too large or small to be represented effectively?
- Are the proposed names of the wards appropriate?
- Are there good links across your proposed wards? Is there any form of public transport?

165 Please note that the consultation stages of an electoral review are public consultations. In the interests of openness and transparency, we make available for public inspection full copies of all representations the Commission takes into account as part of a review. Accordingly, copies of all representations will be placed on deposit at our offices and on our website at www.lqbce.org.uk A list of respondents will be available from us on request after the end of the consultation period.

166 If you are a member of the public and not writing on behalf of a council or organisation we will remove any personal identifiers. This includes your name, postal or email addresses, signatures or phone numbers from your submission before it is made public. We will remove signatures from all letters, no matter who they are from.

167 In the light of representations received, we will review our draft recommendations and consider whether they should be altered. As indicated earlier, it is therefore important that all interested parties let us have their views and evidence, **whether or not** they agree with the draft recommendations. We will then publish our final recommendations.

168 After the publication of our final recommendations, the changes we have proposed must be approved by Parliament. An Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in draft in Parliament. The draft

Order will provide for new electoral arrangements to be implemented at the all-out elections for North Tyneside in 2024.

Equalities

169 The Commission has looked at how it carries out reviews under the guidelines set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. It has made best endeavours to ensure that people with protected characteristics can participate in the review process and is sufficiently satisfied that no adverse equality impacts will arise as a result of the outcome of the review.

Appendices

Appendix A

Draft recommendations for North Tyneside

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2022)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2028)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Annitsford, Burradon & Backworth	3	7,537	2,512	-5%	7,721	2,574	-7%
2	Battle Hill	3	8,027	2,676	2%	7,991	2,664	-3%
3	Benton & Forest Hall	3	7,405	2,468	-6%	7,538	2,513	-9%
4	Chirton & Percy Main	3	8,794	2,931	11%	9,115	3,038	10%
5	Cullercoats & Whitley Bay South	3	8,991	2,997	14%	9,037	3,012	9%
6	Dudley, Seaton Burn & Wideopen	3	7,349	2,450	-7%	7,443	2,481	-10%
7	Holystone	3	6,280	2,093	-20%	7,540	2,513	-9%
8	Howdon	3	8,628	2,876	9%	8,744	2,915	6%
9	Killingworth	3	6,757	2,252	-14%	7,696	2,565	-7%
10	Longbenton	3	7,976	2,659	1%	8,063	2,688	-2%

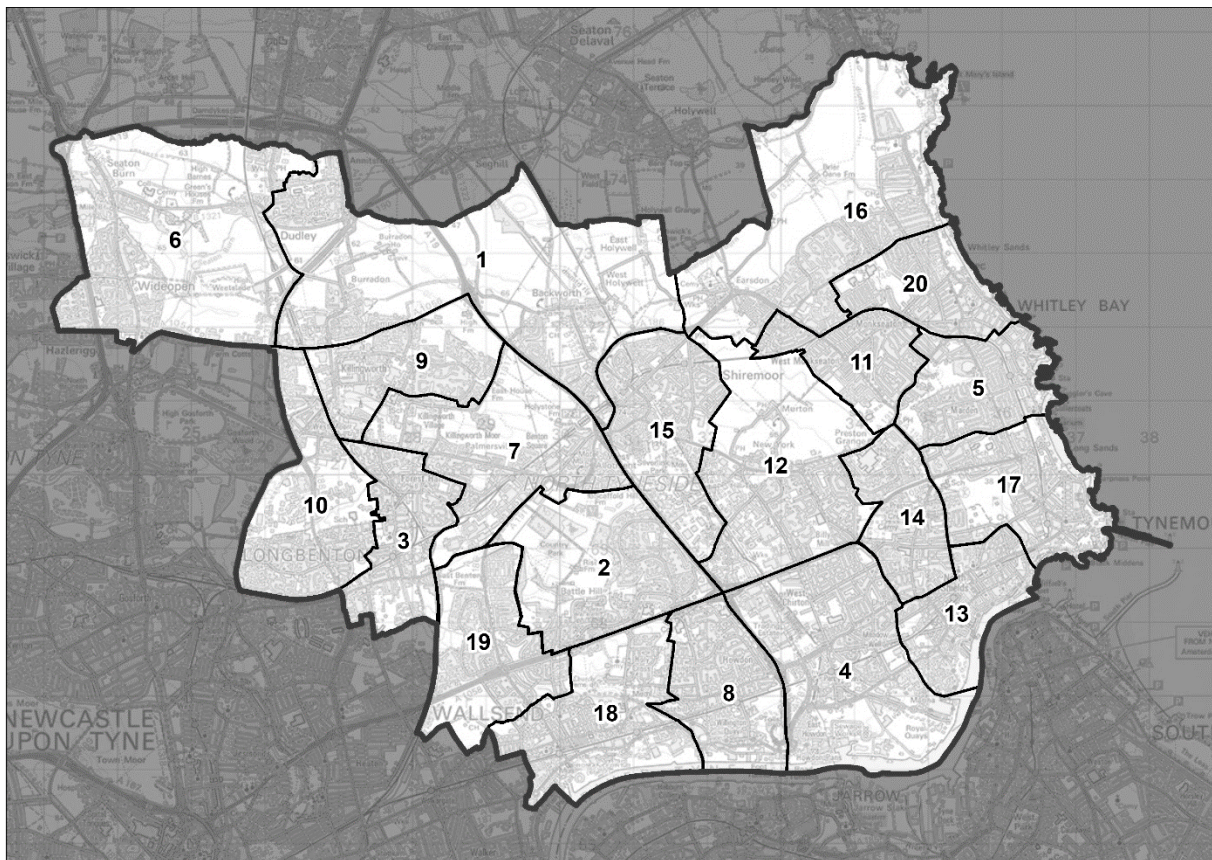
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2022)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2028)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
11 Monkseaton	3	8,854	2,951	12%	8,771	2,924	6%
12 New York & Murton	3	6,009	2,003	-24%	8,644	2,881	5%
13 North Shields	3	8,008	2,669	1%	8,849	2,950	7%
14 Preston with Preston Grange	3	7,547	2,516	-4%	7,586	2,529	-8%
15 Shiremoor	3	7,881	2,627	0%	7,943	2,648	-4%
16 St Mary's	3	8,240	2,747	4%	8,261	2,754	0%
17 Tynemouth	3	8,058	2,686	2%	8,113	2,704	-2%
18 Wallsend Central	3	8,637	2,879	9%	8,562	2,854	4%
19 Wallsend North	3	8,365	2,788	6%	9,101	3,034	10%
20 Whitley Bay North	3	8,586	2,862	9%	8,614	2,871	4%
Totals	60	157,929	-	-	165,332	-	-
Averages	-	-	2,632	-	-	2,756	-

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by North Tyneside Council.

Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the number of electors per councillor in each electoral ward varies from the average for the borough. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Appendix B

Outline map



Number	Ward name
1	Annitsford, Burradon & Backworth
2	Battle Hill
3	Benton & Forest Hall
4	Chirton & Percy Main
5	Cullercoats & Whitley Bay South
6	Dudley, Seaton Burn & Wideopen
7	Holystone
8	Howdon
9	Killingworth
10	Longbenton
11	Monkseaton
12	New York & Murton
13	North Shields
14	Preston with Preston Grange
15	Shiremoor
16	St Mary's
17	Tynemouth
18	Wallsend Central

19	Wallsend North
20	Whitley Bay North

A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/north-east/tyne-wear/north-tyneside

Appendix C

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at:

www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/north-east/tyne-wear/north-tyneside

Local Authority

- North Tyneside Borough Council

Political Groups

- North Tyneside Conservative Group
- North Tyneside Constituency Labour Party (CLP)
- North Tyneside Labour Group

Local Residents

- 63 local residents

Appendix D

Glossary and abbreviations

Council size	The number of councillors elected to serve on a council
Electoral Change Order (or Order)	A legal document which implements changes to the electoral arrangements of a local authority
Division	A specific area of a county, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever division they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the county council
Electoral inequality	Where there is a difference between the number of electors represented by a councillor and the average for the local authority
Electorate	People in the authority who are registered to vote in elections. We only take account of electors registered specifically for local elections during our reviews.
Number of electors per councillor	The total number of electors in a local authority divided by the number of councillors
Over-represented	Where there are fewer electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Parish	A specific and defined area of land within a single local authority enclosed within a parish boundary. There are over 10,000 parishes in England, which provide the first tier of representation to their local residents

Parish council	A body elected by electors in the parish which serves and represents the area defined by the parish boundaries. See also 'Town council'
Parish (or town) council electoral arrangements	The total number of councillors on any one parish or town council; the number, names and boundaries of parish wards; and the number of councillors for each ward
Parish ward	A particular area of a parish, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever parish ward they live for candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the parish council
Town council	A parish council which has been given ceremonial 'town' status. More information on achieving such status can be found at www.nalc.gov.uk
Under-represented	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Variance (or electoral variance)	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward or division varies in percentage terms from the average
Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council

The
Local Government
Boundary Commission
for England

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) was set up by Parliament, independent of Government and political parties. It is directly accountable to Parliament through a committee chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons. It is responsible for conducting boundary, electoral and structural reviews of local government.

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