## The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

# Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Gedling Borough Council

### **Summary**

#### Who we are:

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body which conducts electoral reviews of local authority areas.

#### **Electoral reviews:**

The purpose of an electoral review is to decide on the appropriate electoral arrangements – the number of councillors, the names, number and boundaries of wards – for a local authority.

#### Why Gedling?

The Commission carries out some electoral reviews at the request of local authorities.

Gedling Borough Council aproached the Commission to conduct a review to consider the total number of councillors who represent the borough.

#### **Council size**

The Commission recommends that Gedling Borough Council should be represented by 41 councillors in future: nine fewer than under the current arrangements.

The Commission originally proposed 40 councillors for Gedling following its consultation earlier in the year. However, we subsequently found that 41 councillors delivers a scheme of wards which better meets the statutory criteria listed in the column on the right.

We consider that a council size of 41 members will ensure the council can discharge its roles and responsibilities effectively and will provide for a pattern of wards that reflects community identities across Gedling.

#### **Electoral arrangements**

Our draft recommendations propose that Gedling Borough Council's 41 councillors should represent two single-member, 12 two-member and five three-member wards.

The Commission believes its draft recommendations meet its obligations - which are set out in law - to:

- Deliver electoral equality for voters.
- Reflect local community interests and identities.
- Promote effective and convenient local government.

The Commission welcomes proposals for alternative boundaries that better reflect the three criteria above.

To view the proposals in detail, visit: **consultation.lgbce.org.uk**You can view the full report and maps at: **www.lgbce.org.uk**We will also make hard copies available in council buildings and libraries.

Stage starts	Description
27 March 2012	Public consultation on council size
20 June 2012	Invitation to submit proposals for new warding arrangements
29 August 2012	Commission's analysis of responses and formulation of draft recommendations
13 November 2012	Publication of draft recommendations and consultation on them
8 January 2013	Analysis of submissions received and formulation of final recommendations

#### **Submissions received**

The Commission received eight submissions on local warding arrangements including a borough-wide scheme presented to us by the council.

All submissions can be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

#### **General analysis**

The Commission's draft recommendations are largely based on the council's scheme.

#### **Rural Gedling**

In the northern part of the borough, we propose a three-member Newstead Abbey ward which would include the parishes of Linby, Newstead, Papplewick and Ravenshead.

To the south of Newstead Abbey, we are proposing a two-member Bestwood St Albans ward whose boundaries are coterminous with the parish of that name.

We propose a three-member Calverton ward which would include the parish of that name along with part of Woodborough parish. We have altered the council's proposal for this area so that there is direct road access across the ward.

To the south of Calverton, we propose a single-member Dumbles ward which combines the remaining parts of Woodborough parish with the parish of Lambley.

In the south east of the borough we propose a two-member Trent Valley ward comprising the parishes of Burton Joyce and Stoke Bartolph as well as the unparished area to the east of Carlton.

#### **Arnold**

The Commission proposes a twomember Redhill ward based on the current St Mary's ward. We have made some small amendments to the proposal put to us in this area by the council by including the area of Leapool in the Redhill ward as well as a minor change to the council's scheme in the Cross Street area.

In the centre of Arnold, we propose two two-member wards called Daybrook and Ernehale which are largely based on the council's proposal.

To the east of Arnold, we propose a two-member Coppice ward and a three-member Plains ward. Again, these wards correspond with the council's submission with one small amendment to the east of Church Street which we propose to include in Plains ward rather than Coppice ward as put to us by the council.

The Commission also proposes a two-member Woodthorpe ward based on the council's proposal. However, we have amended their proposal so that the ward includes properties on Clumber, Beech and Birkland Avenues.

#### Carlton

We propose to combine the parish of Colwick with the neighbouring unpopulated industrial estate to form a single-member Colwick ward.

Our proposed three-member
Porchester ward is centred
around the Mapperley shopping
area with some small
amendments to the council's
proposal to its south where we
believe our proposed boundaries
better reflect communities and
where we previously amended
their proposal for Woodthorpe ward.

For the northern part of Carlton, we propose two two-member wards called Phoenix and Gedling. We have moved away from the council's proposal so that the area around Third Avenue to the west of Priory Road is included in Gedling ward.

The Commission also proposes a two-member Cavendish ward and a three-member Carlton Hill ward in the centre and west of Carlton. We have sought to improve the levels of electoral equality for voters in this area by modifying the council's proposal so that Chesterfield Street is included as part of Cavendish ward.

In the south of Carlton, the Commission proposes a twomember Carlton ward and a twomember Netherfield ward. Again, we propose a minor amendment to the boundary between the wards put to us by the council to improve electoral equality for voters.

#### What happens next?

There will now be an eight-week consultation period on the draft recommendations. The consultation closes on **7 January 2013** 

We welcome comments relating to the proposed ward boundaries and ward names.

Write to us:

Review Officer (Gedling) LGBCE Layden House 76–86 Turnmill Street London EC1M 5LG

Or email:

#### reviews@lgbce.org.uk

The full report and interactive maps are available to view at: **consultation.lgbce.org.uk** and **www.lgbce.org.uk** 

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament in April 2010. It is independent of government and political parties, and 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 areas

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