

Summary

Final recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Gedling Borough Council

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 approached 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 proposed 40 councillors for Gedling following its first consultation on council size for Gedling. 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 final 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.

To view the proposals in detail, visit: consultation.lgbce.org.uk
You can view the full report and maps at: www.lgbce.org.uk

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

General analysis

Rural Gedling

In our draft recommendations for the rural parts of Gedling, we proposed a three-member Newstead Abbey ward which would include the parishes of Linby, Newstead, Papplewick and Ravenshead.

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

We also proposed a three-member Calverton ward which would include the parish of that name along with part of Woodborough parish.

To the south of Calverton, we proposed 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 proposed 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.

In response to our public consultation, the council proposed that the southern boundary of Calverton ward should run along Ollerton Road and Lime Lane rather than diverting through an adjacent field as we had proposed. The Commission accepts the council's proposal as it would provide a strong boundary.

For all the other parts of rural Gedling, we confirm our draft recommendations as final.

Arnold

The Commission's draft recommendations proposed a two-member Redhill ward based on the current St Mary's ward.

In the centre of Arnold, we proposed two two-member wards called Daybrook and Ernehale.

To the east of Arnold, we proposed a two-member Coppice ward and a three-member Plains ward.

The Commission also proposed a two-member Woodthorpe ward based on the council's proposal.

In response to feedback received during consultation, the Commission is proposing to alter its draft recommendation for the boundary between Gedling ward and Plains ward. Our final recommendations propose that part of the Gedling Colliery site is included in Plains ward so that it includes any future development.

The Commission also considers that properties in Mapperley Heights and Norfolk Park are both likely to have stronger community connections with Plains ward than Porchester ward. Our final recommendations therefore propose to alter the boundary between the two wards to reflect that view.

In all other parts of the Arnold area of Gedling, the Commission confirms its draft recommendations as final.

Carlton

The Commission's draft recommendations proposed to combine the parish of Colwick with the neighbouring unpopulated industrial estate to form a single-member Colwick ward.

The Commission also proposed a three-member Porchester ward which would be centred around the Mapperley shopping area.

As described above, the Commission has decided to make a minor modification to the boundary it had previously put forward between Plains ward and

Porchester ward. In response to a submission from a local resident, we propose to make another change to our draft recommendations so that the whole of Marshall Hill Drive is included in Porchester ward.

For the northern part of Carlton, we proposed two two-member wards called Phoenix and Gedling.

The Commission also proposed a two-member Cavendish ward and a three-member Carlton Hill ward in the centre and west of Carlton.

In response to feedback from the council, the Commission proposes to change its draft proposal so that three properties on Westdale Lane East are included in Cavendish ward rather than Gedling ward. This alteration provides a stronger boundary along Ramdale Road than in our previous recommendations.

In the south of Carlton, the Commission put forward a two-member Carlton ward and a two-member Netherfield ward.

Apart from the modifications described above, the Commission confirms its draft recommendations for the Carlton area as final.

What happens next?

We have now completed our review of Gedling Borough Council.

The recommendations must now be approved by Parliament. A draft order - the legal document which brings into force our recommendations - will be laid in Parliament. Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements will come into force at the borough council elections in 2015.

The full report and maps are available at: www.lgbce.org.uk and consultation.lgbce.org.uk.