



30 September 2016

Committee Manager: Jane Fulton (Ext 37611)

ELECTORAL REVIEW SUB COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Electoral Review Sub-Committee will be held in Committee Room 1 (the Pink Room) at the Arun Civic Centre, Maltravers Road, Littlehampton on **Tuesday, 11 October 2016 at 6.00 pm** and you are requested to attend.

Members: Councillors Gammon (Chairman), Charles [Vice-Chairman], Bower, Brooks, Mrs Brown, Chapman, Elkins and Purchase.

A G E N D A

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members and Officers are reminded to make any declaration of personal and/or prejudicial/pecuniary interests that they may have in relation to items on this agenda.

You should declare your interest by stating:

- a) the item you have the interest in
- b) whether it is a personal interest and the nature of the interest
- c) whether it is also a prejudicial/pecuniary interest

You then need to re-declare your prejudicial/pecuniary interest at the commencement of the item or when the interest becomes apparent.

3. *MINUTES

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2015 (as attached).

4. ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA THAT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING IS OF THE OPINION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

5. START TIMES

The Sub-Committee needs to agree its start times for meetings for the remainder of 2016/17.

6. *ELECTORAL REGISTRATION - UPDATE

There have been significant changes to the electoral registration process since 2014 with the introduction of Individual Electoral Registration. This report highlights a number of issues for the Sub-Committee to be aware of and reviews the impact of the two polls held in 2016 on the electoral register. The report also provides an update on arrangements for the 2016 canvass

7. *ELECTORAL REVIEW OF WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL - FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has now concluded its review of the electoral arrangements for West Sussex County Council and published its final recommendations. This report summarises the impact on the Arun District.

8. *INITIAL PROPOSALS FOR NEW PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES

The Boundary Commission for England has published its initial proposals for new Parliamentary Constituencies in England. These proposals do affect the three constituencies that fall within the Arun District. The Sub-Committee is asked to consider whether any representation should be made to the Commission on its initial proposals by the deadline of 5 December 2016.

9 FUTURE MEETINGS DATES

The Sub-Committee is requested to note its future meetings dates as follows:

31 January 2017 at 6.00 pm

(Note: *Indicates report is attached for all Members of the Council and the press (excluding exempt items). Copies of reports can be obtained on request from the Committee Manager or can be viewed on the Council's web site by visiting **www.arun.gov.uk**).

(Note: Members are also reminded that if they have any detailed questions, would they please inform the Chairman and/or relevant Lead Officer in advance of the meeting in order that the appropriate Officer/ Cabinet Member can attend the meeting.)

ELECTORAL REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE17 December 2015 at 6.00 pm

Present:- Councillors Gammon (Chairman), Charles (Vice-Chairman), Brooks, Bower and Chapman.

7. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors; Mrs Brown, Dendle and Oppler.

8. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Monitoring Officer has advised Members of interim arrangements to follow when making declarations of interest. They have been advised that for the reasons explained below, they should make their declarations on the same basis as the former Code of Conduct using the descriptions of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

Reasons

- The Council has adopted the government's example for a new local code of conduct, but new policies and procedures relating to the new local code are yet to be considered and adopted.
- Members have not yet been trained on the provisions of the new local code of conduct.
- The definition of Pecuniary Interests is narrower than the definition of Prejudicial Interests, so by declaring a matter as a Prejudicial Interest, that will cover the requirement to declare a Pecuniary Interest in the same matter.

Where a Member declares a "Prejudicial Interest" this will, in the interest of clarity for the public, be recorded in the Minutes as a Prejudicial and Pecuniary Interest.

There were no declarations of interest made.

9. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10 August 2015 were approved by the Sub-Committee as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

10. ELECTORAL REVIEW OF WEST SUSSEX

With the agreement of the Chairman, the Head of Democratic Services raised the matter of the Electoral Review of West Sussex, as an urgent item, so that Members would have time to respond to a consultation exercise which would end on 8 February 2016.

Members were informed that the Local Government Boundary Commission for England had published their draft recommendations on the electoral review of West Sussex County Council. In reviewing their report, the Head of Democratic Services had identified that 4 of the 13 electoral divisions in Arun had been recommended for minor change:

- Arundel & Wick
- Bersted
- Bognor Regis West & Aldwick
- Littlehampton Town

The report also recommended consequential changes to the parishes of Bognor Regis and Littlehampton.

The Sub-Committee considered whether an additional meeting was required to respond to the consultation exercise. Following a brief discussion it was decided that all Members would be advised to make their own representations.

11. REVIEW OF THE PARLIAMENTARY, DISTRICT AND PARISH ELECTIONS HELD ON 7 MAY 2015

In presenting this report, the Chief Executive and Returning Officer asked Members to note that questions, on the Review of the Parliamentary, District and Parish Elections held on 7 May 2015, had been submitted by a member of the public. A briefing paper, detailing the response was circulated to the Sub-Committee.

Members were provided with information on election planning, polling day and verification/count arrangements. The Chief Executive emphasised the significant challenge of covering elections for 3 Parliamentary constituencies whilst also covering elections for Arun District and Town/Parish Councils. It was noted that this was the first time in over 20 years that there had been a combined poll of this nature. The Chief Executive referred to the complexity involved and stated that, in view of this, he was pleased with the positive outcome.

It was pointed out that as the 7 May 2015 elections were more complex planning for them had been carefully managed. The decision was taken, with the Corporate Management Team, to identify the management of the elections as a major project. It had been recognised that a much larger staff

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resource would be required to support the run up to the poll as well as manage the complications of multiple verifications and counts. The Chief Executive praised the corporate support received from staff that helped achieve the key tasks in the election timetable.

Electoral Review

It was noted that the outcomes of the Electoral Review of Arun District Council has caused a number of changes for the District and Parish elections on 7 May 2015. Members were reminded that there had been a number of ward changes that had to be implemented to the electoral register.

It was reported that the basis for the changes to the ward boundaries was a series of maps provided by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England. It was noted that the maps had been not been ideal, as there was no supporting road lists or background documents. Since then, Ordnance Survey had produced maps showing the new boundaries and rechecks had been made on the Council's interpretation of the information provided by the Boundary Commission.

Nominations

The Chief Executive praised the system that the Democratic Services Team had adopted to process nominations. It was noted that several nomination forms had not been completed correctly and staff had been able to correct mistakes to aid submission. It was reported that a number of negative comments had been received from parish candidates. Following investigation it appeared that the nomination guidance notes the Council provided in November and January were not widely distributed in parish areas. As a result of this it has been decided to provide additional briefings to parish councils for future elections.

Election Timetable

The Chief Executive highlighted other issues from the election timetable. It was noted that, as part of the review, meetings had been held with the key staff involved that considered the Council's processes and systems; and the reports made by Presiding Officers from polling day were reviewed and actioned where required. The analysis had been considered by the Corporate Management Team and no issues of significance had been raised. Identified areas of improvement were included in future project plans.

The Chief Executive also highlighted:

- There had been severe problems with election software and as a result a new software provider had been contracted for future elections.
- Call volumes to the Call Centre increased significantly ahead of a Parliamentary election. The Council allowed for this in project plans

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by increasing resources to Arun Direct for the period of the election timetable.

- Turnout, as anticipated, had been high across all elections. This had been especially noticeable in Ferring and Aldwick East. There were some queues, at Polling Stations, but the Council had additional staff in reserve which helped reduce queues quickly. It was recognised that the nature of the election meant a very challenging day for staff.
- It was noted that there had been a trial that had allowed Tellers to sit inside at 5 polling stations. No complaints had been received.

Individual Electoral Registration

The Chief Executive reported on the impact of Individual Electoral Registration (IER) and emphasised that there was still a lack of understanding of the requirements of IER. Electors were struggling to comprehend that registration had two stages:

1. Completing a household enquiry form – so that the local authority would identify who was eligible to vote
2. Then completing an invitation to register form – either online or by hard copy

It was noted that the verification stage that checked identity could delay an application if processing was not immediately matched. This would require further evidence before an application could be confirmed. It was reported that voters that had failed to re-register had been deleted from the register published on 1 December 2015.

Verification and Count

The Chief Executive also reported on the verification and count. The feedback from candidates and agents had been both positive and negative. The Chief Executive felt that this was expected due to the complex combination of elections.

The Chief Executive accepted that he should have advised the candidates and agents in advance, of the decision to use an alternative counting method. He emphasised that, based on assessment, that the counting sheet method proved a more efficient and accurate system.

The Chief Executive recognised the elections' impact on Democratic Services Staff. The team had faced the challenge of introducing a major change in legislation in electoral registration, had managed 11 Neighbourhood Plan Referendums and 3 Community Right to Build Order Referendums. This was in addition to planning for the combined elections on 7 May 2015. It was explained that, in order to meet these demands the Elections Team had the benefit of additional temporary resources to support the changes to electoral

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registration, funded by a Cabinet Office grant. It was noted that this arrangement would cease at the end of 2015.

Having reviewed future workloads against capacity the Chief Executive had concerns that the Elections Team would not be able to cope with future demands, putting the Council at significant risk of election error. In view of this concern, it was reported that the Chief Executive would be submitting a report to Cabinet in February 2016 that would request additional funding for staff resources.

The Chief Executive concluded his report stating that he would not have been able to deliver these elections without the Election Team's commitment and hard work, together with the help of the whole Arun organisation. He thanked staff for the commitment and support he received.

In discussing the report, the Committee referred to the counting system used at the election and remarked on the confusion that had been caused. Members deliberated the pros and cons of count methods. The future use of technology, to aid count processes, was also debated.

Following a question on IER it was confirmed that there were 15000 outstanding registrations. The Head of Democratic Services pointed out that those individuals would have received at least 6 letters as part of the IER process including the Household Enquiry Form, Individual Registration form and reminders. It was noted that the review of those that had failed to register had not been concluded.

In discussing nominations, Members were grateful for the staff checking procedures that aided satisfactory completion of the nomination forms. Concern was raised that some Parish Council clerks had failed to inform their Members with the result that parish candidates had experienced difficulties with the nomination process.

The Committee thanked the Corporate Management Team, Democratic Services and all Staff that had contributed to a successful election. Members also recognised the staff effort that had been required with the introduction of IER.

The Committee then considered the report's recommendations which were agreed.

The Sub-Committee;

RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL – That

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) support be given to the Returning Officer continuing to work on a longer Election Timetable for future District & Parish Council Elections to allow at least a 10 working day period for nominations.

12. REVIEW OF POLLING STATIONS

The Chief Executive presented the report on the Review of Polling Stations in the Arun District. It was noted that an ongoing review of polling stations was carried out in Arun. To support this review the report considered feedback from Parliamentary, District and parish Elections held on 7 May 2015 and made recommendation on any change required for the forthcoming Police and Crime Commissioner elections in 2016.

It was reported that the Council's aim was to ensure polling stations were located within a convenient distance from the majority of elector's homes with the premises being accessible by all.

Member's attention was drawn to the use of schools as polling stations. Although Schools were legally required to submit their premises for polling station use the impact on their term time activity was recognised. It was reported that the Council would trial alternative arrangements in Felpham and Rustington for the 2016 elections. However the Chief Executive emphasised that if schools were needed for future elections then he could, and would, insist on their use.

It was noted that the arrangements for BNB2 and BNB3 polling districts would be reviewed further as the current premises did not work for the May 2015 elections. Ward Councillors would be kept updated on progress.

It was noted that the next Statutory Review would start by 1 October 2018.

The Committee then

RESOLVED – That

- (1) the Returning Officer's report on the review of polling stations, as set out in Appendix 1, be agreed; and
- (2) the use of the polling stations listed in Appendix 1 be agreed for use at the Police & Crime Commissioner elections to be held on 5 May 2016.

13. REVIEW OF THE 2015 ANNUAL CANVASS FOR THE ELECTORAL REGISTER

The Head of Democratic Services provided the Committee with a verbal update on the key headlines from the Autumn canvass of the electoral register.

It was noted that this was the first canvass undertaken under the Individual Electoral Registration (IER) requirements. The legislation required

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that a Household Enquiry Form (HEF) was sent to every household to confirm if the details held were correct. Where a new elector was identified, they would be sent an Invitation to Register (ITR). When this was processed the elector's details would appear on the electoral register.

The Committee was informed that the canvass began at the beginning of August with first reminders issued in early October and the final reminders throughout November, with an element of door to door enquiry. Households were able to respond by internet, telephone, text message or by returning the hard copy form in the pre-paid envelope provided.

The response was reported as poor throughout each stage. The Council delayed each reminder stage slightly in the hope that the position would improve. Only 55% of households had responded to the initial HEF whilst 28% of households had still not responded at the final reminder stage. The final response rate was 80% when the register was published on 1 December 2015, so that the statutory deadline was met.

Members were informed that the Elections Team worked closely with the Communications and Web Teams so that key messages were promoted throughout the canvass. The Elections Team was also supported by Arun Direct and the Reception Teams.

It was reported that, from the enquiries received, there was a lack of understanding of the new legislative requirements. The key messages received were firstly, confusion about needing to return the HEF when many households had only responded 6 months previously to the household notification letter which had confirmed who was or was not registered; and secondly, a number of electors thought they needed to re-register through the on-line service and this would mean they did not need to return their HEF. The on-line service did not ask the elector to confirm they were responding to the HEF so reminders had to be sent adhering to legislation.

It was noted that further feedback received from customers concerned the validation process. Members were informed that it was an onerous task if an elector did not match when they had registered. If local data matching did not confirm an individual's identity, then further evidence had to be provided. The mandatory administrative processes involved had caused a high level of complaint.

The Head of Democratic Services stated that feedback had been provided to the Electoral Commission who was responsible for providing all the template forms and notices. There had been changes made to the legislation that simplified some of the validation processes which was expected to help.

The Committee discussed the impact of IER on the annual canvass and return rates relating to ward demography. Members requested data that would detail ward response rates and it was agreed that this statistical analysis would be circulated.

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Comment was made that IER legislation required change and Members stated that they would lobby for a less bureaucratic process.

The Chairman thanked the Head of Democratic Services for the report and passed on the thanks of the Committee to the Elections Team who had worked hard on IER delivery.

14. FUTURE MEETING DATES

The Committee noted the next meeting dates as follows:

11 February 2016

13 April 2016

(The meeting concluded at 7.25 pm)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6ARUN DISTRICT COUNCILELECTORAL REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE – 11 OCTOBER 2016

Information Paper

Subject : Electoral Registration – Update

Report by : Nigel Lynn, Chief Executive and Electoral Registration Officer (ERO)

Date : September 2016

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There have been significant changes to the electoral registration process since 2014 with the introduction of Individual Electoral Registration. This report highlights a number of issues for the Sub-Committee to be aware of and reviews the impact of the two polls held in 2016 on the electoral register. The report also provides an update on arrangements for the 2016 annual canvass.

RECOMMENDATION

The Sub-Committee is asked to note the report.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Individual Electoral Registration (IER) was introduced by law in June 2014 and has brought significant changes to the electoral registration system. Much of the processes and notifications we have been required to put in place have been based on guidance or direction from the Electoral Commission and/or Cabinet Office.
- 1.2 This report highlights a number of issues for the Sub-Committee to be aware of and reviews the impact of two subsequent polls on the electoral register. It also provides an update on arrangements for the 2016 annual canvass.

2.0 ISSUES

- 2.1 The introduction of IER has raised a number of challenges for my team to overcome. The most significant issues have related to:
- 2.2 **Understanding of the registration process**
- 2.2.1 Our experience is that there remains a lack of understanding of IER. For some, they cannot understand why 'individual' registration is not ongoing until their circumstances change. For others, their interpretation of the public awareness campaigns has been that they need to re-register for every poll, leading to numerous duplicate and even triplicate applications to be processed.

2.2.2 The verification stage of registration is also causing some frustration. If the information provided by an individual does not 'match' with details held by the Government portal (generally Department of Works & Pensions information), then we have to carry out local data matching with our own records or seek additional evidence from them. We cannot add an elector to the register without completing this verification process. Conversely, we cannot delete an elector from the register without two forms of evidence that they are no longer eligible for inclusion. Whilst this should lead to maintaining a more accurate register, it does slow down the registration process.

2.2.3 In our view, what has not helped has been the amount of information we have been required to send out to households/electors and the wording of the template letters/forms. We have tried to address this by offering additional support to our customers through the Helpline service offered by Arun Direct, the Reception Teams at the Arun Civic Centre and Bognor Regis Town Hall; and the guidance offered by the Electoral Services Team. We have also fed back comments and examples to the Electoral Commission and Cabinet Office, and they are continuing to make changes to the template materials with the aim of addressing concerns raised.

2.3 **'Carry Forward' Electors**

2.3.1 The transitional phase of IER allowed some leniency in that those unconfirmed electors who were 'carried forward' from the electoral register pre-June 2014 were still able to vote in person at the Parliamentary and Local Government elections held in 2015, whilst we encouraged them to re-register. The law was then clear that if they failed to re-register by 1 December 2015, the elector would be deleted from the register following a final review.

2.3.2 We undertook these reviews in early 2016 and 2,776 electors were deleted from the register on 1 February 2016. All affected electors received a letter confirming the situation well ahead of the registration deadline for the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) election. This then led to a number of complaints and we had to explain that the elector would have received a number of notifications in 2014 and again throughout 2015 that aimed to explain the requirements for registration. For some, they had already moved and registered elsewhere; whilst for others, it is clear that they did not understand the requirement to re-register until they found themselves unable to vote or gain credit.

2.3.3 In addition to the letters to individual electors, we issued poll cards to all properties where no one was registered ahead of the PCC election in the hope that it would encourage those not registered to take action. This coincided with our public awareness campaign to encourage registration ahead of both this poll and the EU Referendum. Some still ignored this reminder whilst others did re-register. Unfortunately, we have no statistical data to show whether our promotional activity made a significant difference, other than the consistent electorate level during December to April.

2.4 Further changing legislation

2.4.1 The requirements for IER were added onto existing legislation which means that many of the duties I have, as ERO, remain unchanged. Updates have been made to the legislation over the last year which aim to address a number of issues raised by EROs and their teams. The latest changes made in June 2016 allow that:

- a) A person can confirm that they are the only eligible applicant to register at their property and once we have this information this removes the requirement to send an annual canvass form
- b) A person signing an attestation is no longer required to be registered in the same local authority as the applicant but must be registered in England or Wales
- c) The ERO can send out ITRs by electronic means removing the requirement to provide a pre-paid envelope with an application

The final change is welcomed as a way to streamline contact with prospective electors and reduce postage costs.

2.4.2 The Cabinet Office has also issued a proposed approach to pilots for the 2017 canvass which aim to streamline and review current procedures. It is anticipated that EROs will be able to decide whether to opt into one of these pilots later this year. We will need to understand more before we commit to any pilot, based on an ongoing resource review.

2.5 Cabinet Office funding

2.5.1 The Government made it clear in introducing IER that local authorities should not have to meet any additional burden and provided grant each year to cover anticipated set up costs. Originally this was only intended to be provided for 3 years from 2013/14 to 2015/16. For this 3 year period, Arun received grant totalling £229,779. This figure includes additional justification led grant applications made and successfully gained, as the original grant did not cover the full burden of costs.

2.5.2 In setting the budget for 2016/17, it was unclear whether the grant system would continue. Therefore, the electoral registration budget was increased by £55,000 to cover the burden of increased postage, printing and canvassing costs. In addition, funding of £26,000 was agreed by Cabinet in March 2016 to fund a temporary post for 1 year as my team could not manage the workload of IER within existing resources.

2.5.3 It is clear that the costs and burden of the new system have been much higher to local authorities than anticipated. Arun is not alone in having to fund additional staffing costs or make bids for additional justification led funding. The Cabinet Office has now advised of its intention to fully fund IER up to 2020. Arun has received a grant of £55,000 for 2016/17 which will be used to offset some of the budget growth referred to above. At this stage, the level of grant for 2017/18 is still unknown so the budget will be prepared based on anticipated costs, again to be offset against grant received.

2.6 Resourcing levels

- 2.6.1 Compared with the other District and Borough Councils in West Sussex, Arun had always had a much lower staffing level to manage registration and elections, whilst it managed the single highest electorate. Up until 2014, this had equated to 1.9 FTE with additional support then allocated by the Head of Democratic Services from the Committees Team as workload allowed.
- 2.6.2 The burden of IER has required an ongoing review of resource levels to support the registration process. Throughout 2014 and 2015, this was managed through the employment of casual staff and the reallocation of one of the Committees Team. However, it became clear that the daily task list to meet all the statutory requirements could not be met with this level of resource. By early 2016, we had over 4,000 outstanding items to process which was a serious risk with such a high profile poll to be held in June. As referred to earlier, Cabinet support was gained to creating a temporary post and this has been filled since late March. By continuing the allocation of one of the Committees Team to registration and the introduction of this new post, the team have been able to make a significant difference to the turnaround time for processing applications. Resource levels are currently at 3.5 FTE.
- 2.6.3 Part of the Government's aim in introducing IER was to modernise and reduce costs of registration through the new on-line portal. However, in our view, the system is more process driven than before; the evidence requirements for verification are onerous; and we have yet to see a significant change in how our customers respond from direct contact to digital. We hope that the pilots planned to streamline and review processes will realise some further change. Until they do, we anticipate needing to keep resource levels to what they are currently for the foreseeable future.

3.0 IMPACT ON THE ELECTORAL REGISTER

- 3.1 There has been over a 4% increase to electorate levels between the last register published on 1 December 2015 and the qualifying date for the EU Referendum. Comparative figures for 2014 to 2016 are set out below:

Electorate 17.02.14	Electorate 01.02.15	Electorate 01.12.15	Electorate 01.02.16	Electorate 27.04.16 (PCC)	Electorate at 16.06.16 (EURef)
113,418	115,569	117,065	117,363	118,633	122,127

- 3.2 Despite the 'carry forward' electors being deleted at 1 February this year, the level of registration was sustained as our campaign to encourage early registration and follow up on non-responding properties to the canvass continued. As the June electorate levels demonstrate, my team have dealt with an unprecedented level of registration applications since February.
- 3.3 The data overleaf reviews the impact of this changing electorate on the number of voters for polls held over 2014 to 2016:

No of voters 22.05.14 (Euro election)	No of voters 07.05.15 (District elections)	No of voters 07.05.15 (Parliamentary election)	No of voters 05.05.16 (PCC election)	No of voters 23.06.16 (EU Referendum)
113,493	118,487	114,140	117,211	117,138

- 3.4 Eligibility to vote is dependent on the franchise used for each poll. The District elections in 2015 can be compared with the PCC election in 2016 as both ran to the same franchise, which allows certain EU citizens and peers to vote, whilst overseas voters cannot. The EU Referendum worked to a Parliamentary franchise so overseas voters and peers could vote; whilst certain EU citizens could not.

4.0 IMPACT FROM POLLS HELD IN 2016

- 4.1 This is the first time that my team and I have managed two major polls in such a short time frame. There was a week's gap between the two statutory timetables, however, the pressure on the team started well in advance of the PCC election and continued until after the Referendum was over. The team faced the additional burden of the registration deadline for the Referendum being extended in view of the loss of the digital service on the deadline date. Fortunately, we had increased resources to focus on registration which meant we were already up to date at the registration deadline. It did though delay our final preparations for the polling station ballot boxes.
- 4.2 Engagement in the PCC election remained low with a turnout of 19.92% (up from 14.84% in 2012). There was over a 1% increase in registration for this poll, mainly in preparation for the impending Referendum.
- 4.3 Turnout for the EU Referendum was the highest we have seen in any poll held at 77.86% - this equated to 91,198 votes cast. Comparing this with other national polls, turnout for the last Referendum in 2011 on the voting system for UK Parliamentary elections was 44.7%. Whilst turnout for the last two Parliamentary elections is set out below:

Constituency	2015	2010
Bognor Regis & Littlehampton	64.90%	66.28%
Arundel & South Downs	73.54%	72.99%
Worthing West	63%	65%

- 4.4 Our public awareness strategy aimed to encourage registration as early as possible in the year. Messages started from mid-March coinciding with the key events in the statutory timetables and linked into the Electoral Commission's campaign. Throughout, we were encouraging everyone eligible to ensure they were registered well in advance of the deadlines for the EU Referendum.

- 4.5 There was also a significant increase in absent voting. The number of postal votes issued for the EU Referendum was nearly 18% over that issued for the Parliamentary election in 2015. Comparative figures for recent polls are shown below:

District election 07.05.15	Parliamentary election 07.05.15	PCC election 05.05.16	EU Referendum 23.06.16
16,295	16,022	15,226	18,930

- 4.6 The number of proxy voters for the EU Referendum rose by 58% on the Parliamentary election in 2015 and 93% on the PCC election the month before. Comparative figures are shown below:

District election 07.05.15	Parliamentary election 07.05.15	PCC election 05.05.16	EU Referendum 23.06.16
403	408	66	974

- 4.7 It should be noted that the number of permanent proxies remains very small as highlighted by the figure for the PCC election. We would expect the number of temporary proxy applications to increase in a national poll, as was the case in 2015. However, we saw an unprecedented increase for the EU Referendum. These figures do not allow for the number of applications to change an absent voting arrangement which were also processed, which are difficult to record.
- 4.8 For the Referendum, we did have a small number of overseas voters who found themselves with no one able to act as their proxy in the area. With the electors agreement, I arranged for senior members of my team (who were eligible voters themselves) to act as their proxy. We ensured secrecy of voting was maintained at all times between the voter and their proxy and put individual contact arrangements in place for the day of the poll. This service was offered to 13 electors.
- 4.9 For such a high profile poll on 23 June, the level of written complaints was low. Six complaints were received prior to the day of the poll, all of which were resolved. Three were received post-poll and have all been actioned. Lessons learnt have been included in future project plans.

5.0 NATIONAL FEEDBACK

- 5.1 The Electoral Commission published reports in September 2016 reviewing the polls held this year. They have made 11 recommendations in their review of the PCC elections and 14 recommendations from their review of the EU Referendum for the Government to consider. We particularly welcome their recommendation from the report on the EU Referendum that electors should be able to check on-line whether they are correctly registered to vote and are suggesting the development of an on-line service.

6.0 PERFORMANCE MONITORING

- 6.1 We have responded to the Electoral Commission's performance standards submitting the electoral data as requested. No issue has been raised about Arun's performance in these polls.

7.0 ANNUAL CANVASS 2016

- 7.1 The canvass is underway ahead of publishing a revised register on 1 December 2016. Delivery of the initial forms was undertaken during July and August. The 1st reminder stage started in mid-September; and the 2nd reminder for those properties still failing to respond will be delivered throughout mid October and November. The final delivery stage will be by personal canvasser.
- 7.2 We are promoting the digital response service either by phone, text or on-line, as the canvass form explains. However, we are still seeing a high level of response using the pre-paid postal service.
- 7.3 We saw a typical response rate to the canvass in 2015 at 80%. That was the first canvass under IER and so 2016 will be the first year that we can collect comparative data.
- 7.4 An update on the response rate to date and future plans will be given at the meeting.

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The aims of IER were to improve accuracy of the electoral register; modernise the system by making it more personal; reducing costs through the online service; and tackling perceptions of fraud. Whilst the requirements of IER are now embedded in our systems, this is the first year that we have felt we have been able to work towards a more accurate and complete register. We continue to have a high level of paper or telephone applications; and this year saw multiple duplicate applications made on-line which can be difficult to verify. We have never had a significant issue with fraud within Arun.
- 8.2 As ERO, I have a duty to maintain an accurate and complete register; and to promote participation and maximise registration. I believe that we meet this duty as best we can within the resources in the Democratic Services Team. As mentioned earlier, we have had to bring in additional resources to support the level of workload and will have completed a review of staffing levels by the end of 2016 to determine longer term arrangements in this area.
- 8.3 My team should be commended for their commitment, effort and sheer determination to get everyone who was eligible registered for both the PCC and EU Referendum. Our success must be measured by the low level of complaint received.

Background Papers: Verification of Results Statements

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 7ARUN DISTRICT COUNCILELECTORAL REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE – 11 OCTOBER 2016

Information Paper

Subject : Electoral Review of West Sussex County Council – Final Recommendations

Report by : Liz Fitcher, Head of Democratic Services

Date : September 2016

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has now concluded its review of the electoral arrangements for West Sussex County Council and published its final recommendations. This report summarises the impact on the Arun District.

RECOMMENDATION

The Sub-Committee is asked to note the report.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is responsible for carrying out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England. It has been undertaking a review of West Sussex County Council since 2015 and the Sub-Committee has been kept informed of progress.

1.2 The Commission has now concluded this review and published its final recommendations on 17 August 2016.

2.0 IMPACT ON THE ARUN DISTRICT

2.1 The final recommendations have confirmed the Commission's draft recommendations for the 13 electoral divisions in the Arun District in all but one area. A copy of the full report is attached as **Appendix 1**. An extract from the draft recommendations report is attached as **Appendix 2**.

2.2 In summary, the final recommendations are:

<i>Electoral Division</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
Angmering & Findon	No change
Arundel & Courtwick	Change - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renamed from Arundel & Wick A revision to the draft recommendation to retain an area to the south of the A259 with Littlehampton Town rather than move this into Arundel & Courtwick
Bersted	Change - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To the southern boundary to follow the boundary of Pevensey and Marine wards
Bognor Regis East	No change
Bognor Regis West & Aldwick	Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To the north eastern boundary to follow the boundary of Pevensey and Marine wards
East Preston & Ferring	No change
Felpham	No change
Fontwell	No change
Littlehampton East	No change
Littlehampton Town	Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retaining the area to the south of the A259 as referred to above in Arundel & Courtwick
Middleton	No change
Nyetimber	No change
Rustington	No change

- 2.3 The LGBCE do have the power to make changes to parish electoral arrangements as a direct consequence of their recommendations for principal authority electoral arrangements. This has been the case for two parishes within the Arun District, namely Bognor Regis and Littlehampton. The changes are:

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Recommendation for change</i>
Bognor Regis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of wards reduces from 6 to 5 Changes to the boundaries and number of councillors per ward in Marine, Orchard and Pevensey Marine North ward will cease to exist
Littlehampton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of wards reduces from 8 to 6 Changes to the boundaries and number of councillors per ward in Brookfield and Courtwick with Toddington Introduction of a new Wickbourne ward Cornfield, Elm Grove and Ham wards will cease to exist

3.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 3.1 The final stage of the review process is for the LGBCE to seek approval to their recommendations by Parliament through a draft Order. This will then allow the new electoral arrangements to come into force at the West Sussex County Council elections in May 2017. The implementation of the consequential parish warding arrangements will not come into effect until the next planned Parish elections in May 2019.
- 3.2 The electoral register will be reviewed ahead of its next publication on 1 December 2016 to take account of the recommended changes.

Background Papers: LGBCE “Final recommendations for the new electoral arrangements for West Sussex County Council” August 2016

<http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/south-east/west-sussex/west-sussex-county-council>

LGBCE interactive map portal

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Final recommendations for the new electoral arrangements for West Sussex County Council

Electoral review

August 2016

Translations and other formats

For information on obtaining this publication in another language or in a large-print or Braille version please contact the Local Government Boundary Commission for England:

Tel: 0330 500 1252

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Summary

Who we are

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament. 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.

Electoral review

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

Why West Sussex?

We are conducting an electoral review of West Sussex County Council as the Council currently has high levels of electoral inequality where some councillors represent many more or many fewer voters than others. This means that the value of each vote in county council elections varies depending on where you live in West Sussex. Overall, 32% of divisions currently have a variance of more than 10% from the average for the county.

Our proposals for West Sussex

West Sussex County Council currently has 71 councillors. Based on the evidence we received during previous phases of the review, we consider that a reduction in council size by one to 70 members will ensure the Council can discharge its roles and responsibilities effectively.

Electoral arrangements

As West Sussex County Council elects by wholes, the Commission will aim to produce a pattern of mixed divisions. Our final recommendations therefore propose that West Sussex County Council's 70 councillors should represent 70 single-member divisions across the county. Two of our proposed divisions would have an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for West Sussex by 2021.

We have finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for West Sussex.

1 Introduction

1 This electoral review has been conducted following our decision to review West Sussex County Council's ('the Council's) electoral arrangements to ensure that the number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the county.

What is an electoral review?

2 Our three main considerations in conducting an electoral review are set out in legislation¹ and are to:

- Improve electoral equality by equalising the number of electors each councillor represents
- Reflect community identity
- Provide for effective and convenient local government

3 Our task is to strike the best balance between them when making our recommendations. Our powers, as well as the guidance we have provided for electoral reviews and further information on the review process, can be found on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Consultation

4 We wrote to the Council as well as other interested parties, inviting the submission of proposals on council size. We then held two periods of consultation: firstly on division patterns for the Council and secondly on our draft recommendations. The submissions received during our consultations have informed our final recommendations.

This review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
23 June 2015	Invitation to submit proposals for division arrangements to LGBCE
1 September 2015	LGBCE's analysis and formulation of draft recommendations
15 December 2015	Publication of draft recommendations and consultation
9 February 2016	Analysis of submissions received and formulation of final recommendations
10 May 2016	Publication of further draft recommendations for Crawley and consultation
7 June 2016	Analysis of submissions received and formulation of final recommendations
16 August 2016	Publication of final recommendations

¹ Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

How will the recommendations affect you?

5 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which division you vote in, which other communities are in that division and, in some instances, which parish council wards you vote in. Your division name may also change, as may the names of parish or town council wards in the area. The names or boundaries of parishes will not change as a result of our recommendations.

What is the Local Government Boundary Commission for England?

6 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Members of the Commission are:

Professor Colin Mellors (Chair)
 Dr Peter Knight CBE DL
 Alison Lowton
 Peter Maddison
 Sir Tony Redmond
 Professor Paul Wiles CB

Chief Executive: Jolyon Jackson CBE

2 Analysis and final recommendations

7 Legislation states that our recommendations are not intended to be based solely on the existing number of electors² in an area, but also on estimated changes in the number and distribution of electors likely to take place over a five-year period from the date of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for the division we put forward at the end of the review.

8 In reality, the achievement of absolute electoral fairness is unlikely to be attainable and there must be a degree of flexibility. However, our approach is to keep variances in the number of electors each councillor represents to a minimum.

9 In seeking to achieve electoral fairness, we work out the average number of electors per councillor by dividing the electorate by the number of councillors as shown on the table below.

	2015	2021
Electorate of West Sussex	622,815	663,971
Number of Councillors	70	70
Average number of electors per councillor	8,897	9,485

10 Under our final recommendations, two of our proposed divisions will have electoral variances of greater than 10% from the average for the borough by 2021. We are therefore satisfied that we have achieved good levels of electoral fairness for West Sussex.

11 Additionally, in circumstances where we propose to divide a parish between borough wards or county divisions, we are required to divide it into parish wards so that each parish ward is wholly contained within a single district ward or county division. We cannot make amendments to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

12 These recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of West Sussex County Council or result in changes to postcodes. Nor is there any evidence that the recommendations will have an adverse effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums. The proposals do not take account of parliamentary constituency boundaries, and we are not, therefore, able to take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

Submissions received

13 See Appendix B for details of submissions received. All submissions may be inspected at our offices (by appointment). All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

² Electors refer to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

Electorate figures

14 As prescribed in the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, the Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2021, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2016. These forecasts were broken down to polling district levels and projected an increase in the electorate of approximately 6.5% to 2021. The growth will largely be driven by developments across the county, however, the districts of Horsham, Crawley and Mid Sussex are forecast to have the largest growth in electorate.

15 In response to the draft recommendations, the Council argued that housing for an additional 296 electors would be built by 2021 in the Chichester area of Chichester district. We sought clarification from the Council and are satisfied that these additional electors should be included in the figures. We are satisfied that the projected figures are the best available at the present time and these figures form the basis of our final recommendations.

Council size

16 Prior to consultation, West Sussex County Council submitted a proposal to us to decrease the existing council size of 71 members to 69 members. During the preliminary period we only received a proposal on council size from the County Council.

17 We carefully considered the representation from the Council. The Council considered that it could manage a small reduction in council size in terms of ensuring that it could continue to effectively provide the strategic direction, undertake effective scrutiny and effectively undertake the representational role. Having considered the Council's submission, we considered it had provided persuasive evidence to support a small reduction in council size. We are content that the Council has sufficiently demonstrated that the authority can operate efficiently and effectively under this council size and ensure effective representation of local residents.

18 We then investigated the allocation of 69 councillors across the seven districts in the county. Our investigations indicated that a council size of 70 would provide for a better allocation of members and therefore result in better levels of electoral equality across the county. We therefore consulted on electoral arrangements for West Sussex based on a council size of 70, which we now confirm as final.

Division patterns

19 During consultation on division patterns, we received 16 submissions, including one county-wide proposal from the County Council. We also received an alternative division pattern for Crawley from the West Sussex Labour Group. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for division arrangements in particular areas of the county.

20 Having carefully considered the proposals received we were of the view that the Council had proposed patterns of divisions that generally secured good levels of electoral equality and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries in Adur, Arun, Chichester, Horsham, Mid Sussex and Worthing and therefore used these as the

basis of our draft recommendations. In Crawley we based our draft recommendations on alternative proposals, subject to a number of amendments to improve electoral equality.

Draft recommendations

21 We received 44 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations. These are detailed in Appendix B. The majority of submissions received were in relation to our proposals for Crawley and Mid Sussex, particularly the Burgess Hill area.

Adur district

22 We did not receive any specific comments on our draft recommendations for Adur and are therefore confirming them as final.

Arun district

23 We received four comments relating to Arun district. A number of comments related to the creation of small parish wards within the parishes of Littlehampton and Bognor Regis. In response to the comments received we propose an amendment to retain an area of Littlehampton to the south of the A259 in Littlehampton Town division, rather than transferring it to Arundel & Wick as under the draft recommendations, which would worsen electoral equality in the Arundel & Wick division to 12% fewer electors than the county average by 2021. We also propose renaming Arundel & Wick division as Arundel & Courtwick division.

Chichester city

24 We received three comments on Chichester, including argument that the Chichester town area would see an additional 296 electors by 2021. As a result of these additional electors, a number of modifications were proposed in the Chichester town area to ensure good levels of electoral equality. In addition, a local group requested an amendment to ensure the divisions covered the area it represents. We are therefore adopting the draft recommendations for Chichester subject to a number of small amendments to ensure good electoral equality and reflect communities. In light of evidence received we are also renaming Fernhurst division as Rother Valley division.

Crawley borough

25 We received 15 submissions in relation to Crawley. There was significant opposition to the draft recommendations, with only limited support. The County Council objected, submitting a modified version of its original proposals. This received support from a number of respondents. Respondents argued that the draft recommendations split a number of communities and stated that our argument of railway lines splitting communities was 'inconsistently applied' as while we had used a railway line as a boundary in one area we had breached it in another, which respondents argued had poor links across it. They argued that it was possible to create a division crossing the London to Brighton railway line if centred on the Three Bridges railway station, arguing that residents on either side shared concerns connected to the railway.

26 We received support for the draft recommendations from a small group of councillors, but no other comments in support. On balance, we considered that there was compelling evidence for the alternative proposals, although we considered they

needed a few amendments to strengthen boundaries and improve electoral equality.

27 Although a version of this alternate pattern had been submitted previously, it had not been subject to public consultation. We therefore decided to consult locally on whether this new pattern of divisions should be adopted as part of our final recommendations.

28 We received 17 submissions in response to the further draft recommendations. Of these, eight supported the further draft recommendations, while nine objected to them. On balance, we do not consider there to be significant new evidence, with both those objecting to, and those supporting, the further draft recommendations offering broadly similar evidence to that submitted before. We do not consider there to be sufficient new or compelling evidence to persuade us to move away from the further draft recommendations.

29 We are therefore amending our draft recommendations in Crawley. We consider that the alternative proposal provides for reasonable electoral equality, and reflects community identities and interests in Crawley.

Horsham district

30 We received eight submissions that commented on the draft recommendations for Horsham, including objections to the split of Nuthurst parish, the inclusion of Warnham parish in a division with Broadbridge Heath and a minor amendment to Billingshurst division. On balance, there is not persuasive evidence to make the changes in Warnham or Billingshurst. However, we are persuaded that while retaining the whole of Nuthurst parish in Southwater & Nuthurst division would worsen electoral equality in St Leonard's Forest division to 12% fewer electors than the county average it would better reflect communities.

Mid Sussex district

31 We received 16 comments in response to our draft recommendations for Mid Sussex, with particular objections to the proposals for Burgess Hill and the Haywards Heath area. We received a number of alternative proposals for Burgess Hill, some of which were identical to or modifications to proposals submitted during consultation on division arrangements. We have considered the alternate proposals, but do not consider that any provide a set of clear boundaries, while reflecting communities and securing good electoral equality in Burgess Hill and the surrounding area. However, in response to evidence received we do propose renaming Burgess Hill Town and Hassocks & Victoria divisions Burgess Hill North and Hassocks & Burgess Hill South divisions.

32 We also received objections in Haywards Heath, particularly around the proposal to include part of Lindfield Rural parish in our Haywards Heath East division, with the area's links to Lindfield parish being highlighted. On balance, we are persuaded by the evidence and are reverting to the existing division, as proposed by a number of respondents during our consultation on division patterns. We do, however, propose a minor amendment between the boundary of Haywards Heath Town and Cuckfield & Lucastes divisions to provide a clearer boundary.

33 We are confirming the remainder of our draft recommendations for this area as final.

Worthing borough

34 We did not receive any specific comments on our draft recommendations for Worthing and are therefore confirming them as final.

Final recommendations

35 The tables on pages 10–26 detail our final recommendations for each area of West Sussex. Where we have moved away from our draft recommendations, we have outlined how the proposed division arrangements reflect the three statutory criteria of:

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

Adur District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Lancing	1	6%	This division includes the wards of Churchill, Marsh Barn and part of Widewater ward.	In response to the draft recommendations for Adur, we received limited comments which provided general support for our proposals. We did not receive any other comments and are therefore confirming the draft recommendations for these divisions as final.
Shoreham North	1	6%	This division includes the wards of Buckingham, Southlands and part of St Nicolas, St Mary's and Southwick Green wards.	
Shoreham South	1	0%	This division includes Marine ward and part of St Mary's, St Nicolas and Widewater wards.	
Sompting & North Lancing	1	7%	This division includes the wards of Peverel, Manor and Cokeham.	
Southwick	1	-1%	This division includes the wards of Hillside and Eastbrook and part of Southwick Green ward.	

Arun District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Angmering & Findon	1	-8%	This division includes the parishes of Angmering, Findon, Clapham, Patching and Poling Angmering.	We received one response that argued that Poling parish should be in Arundel & Wick division, rather than Angmering & Findon. However, there was no persuasive evidence to support this and no other respondents argued in support of this. We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Arundel & Courtwick	1	-12%	This division comprises the parishes of Houghton, South Stoke, Burpham, Arundel, Warningcamp, Lyminster & Crossbush and part of Littlehampton.	We received comments expressing concern about our proposal to include an area to the south of the A259 in our Arundel & Wick division, with the suggestion this is better included in the town. Retaining this area in the Littlehampton Town division would worsen electoral equality in Arundel & Wick to -12% from 0% under the draft recommendations but improve it in Littlehampton Town division from -8% to 3%. On balance, we consider there to be persuasive evidence to adopt this amendment. Finally, we also received comments that suggested that this division would be better reflected by being named Arundel & Courtwick, so we are adopting this name as part of our final recommendations.
Bersted	1	5%	This division includes part of Bersted and Bognor Regis parishes.	We received comments objecting to the creation of small parish wards in Bognor parish and the suggestion that alternative arrangements should be sought. However, in order to secure good electoral equality this has been necessary and we are unable to move away from this. We did not receive any other specific comments on our proposals for these divisions and are therefore confirming them as final.
Bognor Regis East	1	1%	This division comprises part of Bognor Regis and Bersted parishes.	
Bognor Regis West & Aldwick	1	4%	This division includes Marine ward, part of Aldwick East ward and part of Aldwick West ward.	

East Preston & Ferring	1	7%	This division includes the parishes of Ferring, Kingston, East Preston and part of Rustington.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Felpham	1	-3%	This division includes the parish of Felpham and the Flansham area of Yapton parish.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Fontwell	1	3%	This division comprises the parishes of Slindon, Madehurst, Walberton, Barnham, Eastergate and Aldingbourne.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Littlehampton East	1	5%	This division includes Beach ward, Brookfield ward and part of Rustington West ward.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Littlehampton Town	1	3%	This division includes the district ward of River and part of Courtwick with Toddington.	As stated above in the Arundel & Courtwick section, we are transferring the area to the south of the A259 from the Arundel & Wick division to the Littlehampton division as we consider the evidence received supports this. This improves electoral equality in Littlehampton Town division to 3% by 2021.
Middleton	1	-6%	This division includes the parishes of Ford, Climping, Middleton-on-Sea and the Yapton area of Yapton parish.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Nyetimber	1	-3%	This division comprises the parish of Pagham and part of Aldwick.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Rustington	1	3%	This division largely comprises Rustington parish.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.

Chichester City

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Bourne	1	2%	This division comprises the parishes of Marden, Compton, Stoughton, Westbourne, Southbourne, Chidham & Hambrook and West Thorney.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Chichester East	1	8%	This division includes the parishes of Tangmere and Oving, the ward of Chichester East and part of Chichester North ward.	<p>As stated in the Chichester North section (below), in response to the draft recommendations the Council informed us that Chichester North would have an additional 296 electors in the Graylingwell site by 2021. As detailed in paragraph 15 we have included this development in the electorate figures.</p> <p>In order to ensure good electoral equality in Chichester North a respondent proposed amendments transferring an area to the south of Kingsmead Avenue to Chichester East. In addition, it was also proposed that a small area of Chichester East to the west of Palmers Field Avenue is transferred to Chichester North to reflect its access into the proposed development, and proposed that the whole of Oving Road should be in Chichester East, rather than Chichester South. Finally, in order to ensure good electoral equality following the transfer of electors from Chichester North, it was proposed that a small area of Chichester East around St Pancras is transferred to Chichester South division.</p> <p>On balance, we consider that these amendments provide for clear boundaries and ensure good electoral equality.</p>

Chichester North	1	9%	This division includes the parishes of West Dean, Singleton, East Dean, Upwaltham, Eartham, Boxgrove, Westhampnett, Lavant, and the Chichester North ward.	<p>In response to the draft recommendations the Council argued that Chichester North would receive an additional 296 electors in the Graylingwell site by 2021. This would push the division to have a variance of greater than 10%. It was therefore proposed that a small area to the south of Kingsmead Avenue is transferred to Chichester East division. In addition, it was proposed that a small section of Chichester East to the west of Palmers Field Avenue is transferred to Chichester North to reflect its access into the proposed development.</p> <p>On balance, we consider that these amendments provide for clear boundaries and ensure good electoral equality.</p>
Chichester South	1	3%	This division comprises the parishes of Appledram, Donnington, Hunston and North Mundham, most of the Chichester South ward and part of the Chichester East ward.	<p>As stated in the Chichester East section (above), a respondent suggested the transfer of the St Pancras area of Chichester East division to Chichester South division to ensure good electoral equality in Chichester East.</p> <p>In addition, a local group argued that the boundary between Chichester South and Chichester West divisions divides the area it covers and the boundary should run behind the houses on Westgate, rather than down the centre of the road.</p> <p>We have considered the evidence received and on balance consider that both proposals provide for clear boundaries and good electoral equality. We are therefore including them as part of our final recommendations.</p>
Chichester West	1	3%	This division comprises the parishes of Bosham, Fishbourne, Funtington,	As stated in the Chichester South section, (above), a local group argued that the boundary between Chichester South and Chichester West divisions divides the areas it covers and should run behind the houses on Westgate, rather than

			Chichester West ward and part of Chichester South ward.	down the centre of the road. We have considered the evidence received and on balance consider that this amendment provides for a clearer boundary while reflecting communities and securing good electoral equality. We are therefore including it as part of our final recommendations.
Midhurst	1	-5%	This division includes the parishes of Linch, Milland, Midhurst, Rogate, Trotton with Chithurst, Harting, Elsted & Treyford, Bepton, Stedham with Iping and Woolbeding with Redford.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Petworth	1	3%	This division comprises the parishes of Loxwood, Plaistow, Northchapel, Lurgashall, Ebernoe, Kirdford, Wisborough Green, Stopham, Fittleworth, Petworth and Tillington.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Rother Valley	1	1%	This division includes the parishes of Linchmere, Fernhurst, Lodsworth, Easebourne, West Lavington, Cocking, Heyshott, Graffham, East Lavington, Duncton, Barlavington, Sutton, Bignor and Bury.	We received one comment in response to our draft recommendations for Fernhurst, which suggested that the proposed name reflected a single parish within the division and that Rother Valley was a more locally recognised name for the area. We are therefore renaming this division as Rother Valley.
Selsey	1	-8%	This division solely comprises the parish of Selsey.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.

The Witterings	1	-1%	This division comprises the parishes of West Wittering, East Wittering, Earnley, West Itchenor, Birdham and Sidlesham.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
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Crawley Borough

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Bewbush & Ifield West	1	2%	This division comprises Bewbush ward and part of Ifield ward.	<p>In response to the draft recommendations we received limited comments about this division, although those supporting an alternative proposal for Crawley as a whole argued that the modified ward had better electoral equality. We adopted this modified ward as part of our further draft recommendations.</p> <p>In response to the consultation on further draft recommendations, a number of respondents expressed concern that this division splits part of Ifield. While we acknowledge this, retaining the whole area in the Langley Green & Ifield East division would create poor electoral equality. We are therefore confirming the further draft recommendation for this division as final.</p>
Broadfield	1	0%	This division includes the wards of Broadfield North and Broadfield South.	This division is identical to the existing division and was unaltered as part of the draft and further draft recommendations. We only received limited comments and are therefore confirming it as final.
Langley Green & Ifield East	1	4%	This division comprises Langley Green ward and part of Ifield ward.	In response to the draft recommendations a number of respondents argued that an alternative proposal linking Ifield and Langley Green better reflects communities than linking Ifield to Gossops Green, while also securing better electoral

				<p>equality. We therefore adopted this as part of the further draft recommendations.</p> <p>In response to the further draft recommendations, a number of respondents supported our proposals. However, there were also objections, arguing that the proposals split Ifield and that Ifield and Langley Green do not share community links.</p> <p>As stated above, we acknowledge that the further draft recommendations separate part of Ifield, but we consider that the links between the remaining area and Langley Green are good and do not breach the railway line, unlike the draft recommendations. We are therefore confirming the further draft recommendations as final.</p>
Maidenbower & Worth	1	-5%	This division comprises Maidenbower ward and part of Pound Hill South & Worth ward.	<p>In response to the draft recommendations, a number of respondents argued that our Maidenbower ward had relatively poor electoral equality and also split Worth. In addition, they argued that the area around the station would be better served with an area on the other side of the railway since they share concerns over issues such as parking. Other respondents rejected the argument that the railway line should be breached, arguing the railway is a strong boundary between communities. We concluded that it would be acceptable to transfer this area, breaching the railway line, and adopted it as part of our further draft recommendations.</p> <p>In response to our further consultation, respondents essentially reiterated their earlier arguments. We do not consider there was any new or compelling evidence and are</p>

				therefore confirming the further draft recommendations as final.
Northgate & West Green	1	6%	This division comprises Northgate and West Green wards and part of Southgate ward.	In response to the draft recommendations, a number of respondents argued that the proposal separated parts of Northgate and Three Bridges wards, and also the Pembroke Park Estate. We therefore adopted an amendment that avoided this as part of our further draft recommendations. We only received limited comments in response to our further draft recommendations and are therefore confirming them as final.
Pound Hill	1	-6%	This division comprises Pound Hill North ward and part of Pound Hill South ward.	<p>In response to the draft recommendations a number of respondents objected to the poor electoral equality in our proposed division, arguing the area is likely to grow beyond the forecast period of the review. They also objected to the proposed split of Worth, transferring part of it to Pound Hill & Worth. We therefore proposed a number of amendments.</p> <p>We received support for our further draft recommendations, and also some objections, but no compelling new evidence. We are therefore confirming the further draft recommendations as final.</p>
Southgate & Gossops Green	1	8%	This division comprises Gossops Green ward and part of Southgate ward.	<p>In response to the draft recommendations a number of respondents objected to the proposals, arguing that they split Northgate, Three Bridges and the Pembroke Park Estate, transferring them to a division with Southgate. An alternative was put forward that didn't split these areas, but rather joined Southgate with Gossops Green. We adopted this as part of the further draft recommendations.</p> <p>We received support for the further draft recommendations, but also objections arguing that Gossops Green and Southgate are two distinct communities separated by the</p>

				A23. We acknowledge these are two distinct communities, but in creating a division pattern it is sometimes necessary to place two communities in a single division and we consider this to be preferable to dividing communities. We are therefore confirming our further draft recommendations as final.
Three Bridges	1	-3%	This division comprises Three Bridges ward and part of Pound Hill South & Worth ward.	<p>During our consultation on the draft recommendations a number of respondents argued that we had been inconsistent in using the railway line as boundary in this area, while breaching railway lines elsewhere. Some respondents argued that there are links across the railway at Three Bridges station and that the station itself means residents on both sides share concerns over issues such as parking. In addition, it was argued that by 2021 with the amount of growth projected to the east of the railway line, electoral equality would be relatively poor. Taken with likely growth beyond this period, respondents argued that the railway would need to be breached soon after. A number of respondents rejected these arguments, reiterating their view that the railway line is a barrier. We concluded that it would be acceptable to breach the railway line at this point.</p> <p>In response to our further consultation respondents essentially reiterated their earlier arguments. We do not consider there was any new or compelling evidence and are therefore confirming the further draft recommendations as final.</p>
Tilgate & Furnace Green	1	-2%	This division comprises the wards of Tilgate and Furnace Green.	This division is identical to the existing division and was unaltered as part of the draft and further draft recommendations. We only received limited comments and are therefore confirming it as final.

Horsham District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Billingshurst	1	4%	This division includes the parishes of Billingshurst, Shipley and Itchingfield.	We received one comment that argued that a small area of Billingshurst parish should be transferred to Pulborough division as it has no direct road access into Billingshurst division. However, we did not include this proposal in our draft recommendations as this would require the creation of an unviable parish ward with 25 electors. There is no additional evidence at this stage so we are confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Bramber Castle	1	-3%	This division includes the parishes of Ashurst, Bramber, Steyning, Upper Beeding and Woodmancote and part of Henfield parish.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Broadbridge	1	-2%	This division includes the parishes of Rudgwick, Slinfold, Warnham and Broadbridge Heath.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division. We also received objections to the inclusion of Warnham parish in the division, arguing that it would be dominated by the more urban Broadbridge Heath parish. However, we are unable to find any alternative arrangements that would provide good electoral equality. We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Henfield	1	-9%	This division includes the parishes of West Grinstead, Cowfold, Shermanbury and part of Henfield parish.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Holbrook	1	-9%	This division comprises the wards of Holbrook West and Holbrook East.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.

Horsham East	1	-7%	This division includes the Roffey North ward and parts of the Roffey South and Forest wards.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Horsham Hurst	1	-9%	This division includes the Trafalgar ward and part of the Horsham Park ward.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Horsham Riverside	1	-1%	This division includes the whole of Denne ward and parts of the Horsham Park and Forest wards.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Pulborough	1	8%	This division comprises the parishes of Coldwaltham, Pulborough, West Chiltington and Thakeham.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
St Leonard's Forest	1	-12%	This division includes the parishes of Rusper, Colgate, Lower Beeding, part of Nuthurst and part of Horsham Town.	We received objections to our proposal to divide Nuthurst parish between two divisions. Including the whole of Nuthurst parish in the Southwater & Nuthurst division would worsen electoral equality in St Leonard's Forest to -12%. On balance, we consider there to be persuasive evidence to justify this worsening of electoral equality and are adopting this amendment as part of our final recommendations.
Southwater & Nuthurst	1	0%	This division includes the parish of Southwater and Nuthurst parish.	As stated in the St Leonard's Forest section above, we received evidence to suggest that Nuthurst parish should not be divided between two divisions. On balance, we are persuaded to include the whole parish in the Southwater & Nuthurst division. This would improve electoral equality in this division from -9% in 2021 under our draft recommendations to 0%.
Storrington	1	8%	This division includes the parishes of Amberley, Parham, Storrington &	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.

			Sullington, Washington, Ashington and Wiston.	
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Mid Sussex District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Burgess Hill East	1	6%	This division comprises the wards of Burgess Hill St Andrews, Burgess Hill Franklands and parts of Burgess Hill Meeds.	We received significant objections to our draft recommendations for Burgess Hill (including the Hassocks & Victoria division) and a number of alternative proposals. One of these proposals broadly reflected a scheme we did not propose as part of our draft recommendations. We did not consider there to be any new evidence to persuade us to adopt an alternative proposal.
Burgess Hill North	1	9%	This division includes Burgess Hill Leylands ward and parts of the wards of Burgess Hill Victoria, Burgess Hill Dunstall, and Burgess Hill Meeds.	<p>A number of respondents expressed support for another proposal. While we consider that this proposal has some merit, we had concerns that a number of the boundaries appear to create divisions that have tenuous internal links and would also result in a division with a variance of 11%. On balance, we do not consider there to be persuasive evidence to support this pattern of divisions.</p> <p>We also received objections to the proposed names. As a result, we propose renaming Burgess Hill Town division as Burgess Hill North. Subject to this name change, we are confirming our draft recommendations as final.</p>
Cuckfield & Lucastes	1	2%	This division comprises the parish of Cuckfield, part of Ansty & Staplefield and the western part of Haywards Heath Town.	We received evidence to suggest that the small area of Antsy & Staplefield parish to the south of Rocky Lane would be better served in a Haywards Heath division. On balance, we concur with this and propose transferring this area to the Haywards Heath Town division.

East Grinstead Meridian	1	-7%	This division comprises the north-eastern part of East Grinstead.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
East Grinstead South & Ashurst Wood	1	-2%	This division comprises the main part of East Grinstead Town and the parish of Ashurst Wood.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Hassocks & Burgess Hill South	1	1%	This division includes part of the Burgess Hill Meeds and Burgess Hill Victoria wards and the parish of Hassocks.	See the Burgess Hill East and Burgess Hill North sections. In addition, a respondent objected to the name Hassocks & Victoria, arguing the division should be Hassocks & Burgess Hill South. We are adopting this name change as part of our final recommendations.
Haywards Heath East	1	-10%	This division includes the eastern part of Haywards Heath Town.	As stated in the Lindfield & High Weald section (below), we received a significant objection to our proposal to include part of Lindfield Rural Parish in the Haywards Heath East division, with the links between this area of Lindfield Rural and Lindfield parish being highlighted. On balance, we consider this evidence to be persuasive. However, removing this area from Haywards Heath East worsens electoral equality here to -14%, we therefore propose retaining the Fox Hill area in the division. As a consequence of transferring the Fox Hill area to Haywards Heath East, the variance in Haywards Heath Town division would worsen. However, a number of respondents argued for the inclusion of a small area of Ansty & Staplefield parish in the Haywards Heath Town division. This area links directly into the division and is effectively urban overspill of Hayward Heath and marginally improves electoral equality in this division.
Haywards Heath Town	1	-9%	This division includes the central part of Haywards Heath town and part of Ansty & Staplefield parish.	

				These revised proposals actually reflect the existing divisions (with the exception of the small area of Ansty & Staplefield), which a number of respondents argued should be retained during the consultation on division patterns.
Hurstpierpoint & Bolney	1	3%	This division comprises the parishes of Pyecombe, Newtimber, Poynings, Fulking, Albourne, Hurstpierpoint & Sayers Common, Twineham and Bolney and part of Burgess Hill Town.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Imberdown	1	-5%	This division includes the eastern part of Worth and the north-western part of East Grinstead.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Lindfield & High Weald	1	9%	This division includes the parishes of West Hoathly, Horsted Keynes, Lindfield and Lindfield Rural.	We received significant objections to our proposal to transfer part of Lindfield Rural parish into our Haywards Heath East division, citing strong links between this area and Lindfield Parish. On balance, we are persuaded that these links should be retained and are therefore retaining this area in the Lindfield & High Weald division. As a consequence, we also propose reverting to the existing divisions in Haywards Heath, subject to a minor amendment with the boundary of Ansty & Staplefield parish.
Worth Forest	1	8%	This division includes the parishes of Slaugham, Balcombe, Ardingly, Turners Hill and part of Worth.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.

Worthing Borough

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Broadwater	1	-1%	This division comprises the majority of Broadwater ward and follows South Farm Road so that the eastern part of Gaisford ward is included in the division.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Cissbury	1	-6%	This division comprises the northern part of Salvington ward (north of the A27), Offington ward and part of Broadwater ward around Grove Road.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Durrington & Salvington	1	6%	This division includes the whole of Durrington ward and the southern part of Salvington ward (south of the A27).	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Goring	1	-8%	This division includes Goring ward and the southern part of Castle ward.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Northbrook	1	9%	This division comprises the majority of Castle ward and the whole of Northbrook ward.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Tarring	1	4%	This division comprises the whole of Tarring ward and the western part of Gaisford ward, using South Farm Road as the western boundary.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.

Worthing East	1	-7%	This division includes all of Selden ward, has an eastern boundary which follows the A259 and includes the area around Angola Road and Meredith Road to the immediate north of the railway line.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Worthing Pier	1	-2%	This division includes the southern part of Heene ward and follows the A259 as its eastern boundary.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.
Worthing West	1	-5%	This division comprises Marine ward and the northern part of Heene ward to the north of the A259.	We received some limited comments supporting the draft proposals for this division and are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.

Conclusions

35 Table 1 shows the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2015 and 2021 electorate figures.

Table 1: Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2015	2021
Number of councillors	70	70
Number of electoral divisions	70	70
Average number of electors per councillor	8,897	9,485
Number of divisions with a variance more than 10% from the average	11	2
Number of divisions with a variance more than 20% from the average	3	0

Final recommendation

West Sussex County Council should comprise 70 councillors representing 70 single-member divisions. The details and names are shown in Table A1 and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

Mapping

Sheet 1, Map 1 illustrates in outline form the proposed divisions for West Sussex. You can also view our final recommendations for West Sussex on our interactive maps at <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>

Parish electoral arrangements

36 As part of an electoral review, we are required to have regard to the statutory criteria set out in Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (the 2009 Act). The Schedule provides that if a parish is to be divided between different divisions it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single division. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

37 Under the 2009 Act we only have the power to make changes to parish electoral arrangements where these are as a direct consequence of our recommendations for principal authority division arrangements. However, West Sussex County Council has powers under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct community governance reviews to effect changes to parish electoral

arrangements.

38 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Ansty & Staplefield, Bognor Regis, Burgess Hill, Chichester, Lancing, Littlehampton and North Horsham parishes.

39 As result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Ansty & Staplefield parish.

Final recommendation

Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council should comprise nine councillors, as at present, representing four wards: Ansty (returning four members), Brook Street & Borde Hill (returning one member), Rocky Lane (returning one member) and Staplefield (returning three members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

40 As result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Bognor Regis parish.

41 In response to our draft recommendations we received objections to the creation of small parish wards. It was argued that if these couldn't be removed then the whole parish should have single-member parish wards. While we acknowledge the concerns over the creation of small parish wards, in some instances this is necessary to ensure a strong division pattern and this remains the case in Bognor Regis. In addition, we do not propose the creation of a pattern of single-member parish wards. We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.

Final recommendation

Bognor Regis Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing five wards: Hatherleigh (returning one member), Hotham (returning four members), Marine (returning four members), Orchard (returning three members) and Pevensy (returning four members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

42 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Burgess Hill parish..

Final recommendation

Burgess Hill Town Council should comprise 18 councillors, as at present, representing 10 wards: Burgess Hill Dunstall (returning one member), Burgess Hill Franklands (returning three members), Burgess Hill Gatehouse (returning one member), Burgess Hill Hammonds (returning one member), Burgess Hill Leylands (returning three members), Burgess Hill Meeds (returning two members), Burgess Hill Norman (returning one member), Burgess Hill St Andrews (returning three members), Burgess Hill St Johns (returning one member) and Burgess Hill Victoria

(returning two members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

43 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Chichester parish. In response to the draft recommendations we are proposing a number of changes that require the creation of additional parish wards in Chichester City.

44 **The parish wards set out below for Chichester City Council may be superseded by those put forward in the ongoing Chichester District Council electoral review. The draft proposals for Chichester City Council under the Chichester District Council review can be seen here:**

<http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/south-east/west-sussex/chichester>

Final recommendation

Chichester City Council should comprise 20 councillors, as at present, representing 10 wards: Chichester Bostock (returning one member), Chichester East (returning four members), Chichester Kingsmead (returning one member), Chichester North (returning four members), Chichester Palmers Field (returning one member), Chichester Pound Farm (returning one member), Chichester South (returning three members), Chichester St Pancras (returning one member), Chichester West (returning three members) and Chichester Westgate (returning one member). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

45 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Lancing parish.

Final recommendation

Lancing Parish Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing five wards: Churchill (returning four members), Manor (returning two members), Mash Barn (returning four members), Penhill (returning four members) and Widewater (returning two members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

46 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Littlehampton parish.

Draft recommendation

Littlehampton Parish Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing six wards: Beach (returning three members), Brookfield (returning three members), Courtwick with Toddington (returning three members), River (returning three members), Wick (returning 1 member) and Wickbourne (returning two members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

47 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for North Horsham parish.

Final recommendation

North Horsham Parish Council should comprise 19 councillors, as at present, representing five wards: Comptons (returning one member), Holbrook East (returning five members), Holbrook West (returning four members), Roffey North (returning six members) and Roffey South (returning three members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

3 What happens next?

48 We have now completed our review of West Sussex County 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 local elections in 2017.

Equalities

49 This report has been screened for impact on equalities; with due regard being given to the general equalities duties as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. As no potential negative impacts were identified, a full equality impact analysis is not required.

Appendix A

Table A1: Final recommendations for West Sussex County Council

Division name		Number of councillors	Electorate (2015)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
Adur District								
1	Lancing	1	9,839	9,839	11%	10,054	10,054	6%
2	Shoreham North	1	9,778	9,778	10%	10,085	10,085	6%
3	Shoreham South	1	9,117	9,117	2%	9,466	9,466	0%
4	Sompting & North Lancing	1	9,983	9,983	12%	10,176	10,176	7%
5	Southwick	1	9,177	9,177	3%	9,375	9,375	-1%
Arun District								
6	Angmering & Findon	1	8,203	8,203	-8%	8,747	8,747	-8%
7	Arundel & Courtwick	1	6,309	6,309	-29%	8,375	8,375	-12%
8	Bersted	1	9,246	9,246	4%	9,967	9,967	5%
9	Bognor Regis East	1	9,442	9,442	6%	9,552	9,552	1%
10	Bognor Regis West & Aldwick	1	9,635	9,635	8%	9,831	9,831	4%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for West Sussex County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2015)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
11	East Preston & Ferring	1	9,947	9,947	12%	10,191	10,191	7%
12	Felpham	1	8,482	8,482	-5%	9,205	9,205	-3%
13	Fontwell	1	8,958	8,958	1%	9,724	9,724	3%
14	Littlehampton East	1	9,910	9,910	11%	9,990	9,990	5%
15	Littlehampton Town	1	9,584	9,584	8%	9,815	9,815	3%
16	Middleton	1	8,398	8,398	-6%	8,888	8,888	-6%
17	Nyetimber	1	9,154	9,154	3%	9,187	9,187	-3%
18	Rustington	1	9,688	9,688	9%	9,729	9,729	3%
Chichester District								
19	Bourne	1	9,427	9,427	6%	9,715	9,715	2%
20	Chichester East	1	8,647	8, 647	-3%	10,287	10,287	8%
21	Chichester North	1	8,909	8,909	0%	10, 384	10,384	9%
22	Chichester South	1	9,201	9,201	3%	9,768	9,768	3%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for West Sussex County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2015)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
23	Chichester West	1	9,597	9,597	8%	9,800	9,800	3%
24	Midhurst	1	8,522	8,522	-4%	8,985	8,985	-5%
25	Petworth	1	9,545	9,545	7%	9,783	9,783	3%
26	Rother Valley	1	8,742	8,742	-2%	9,549	9,549	1%
27	Selsey	1	8,567	8,567	-4%	8,757	8,757	-8%
28	The Witterings	1	8,975	8,975	1%	9,394	9,394	-1%
Crawley Borough								
29	Bewbush & Ifield West	1	9,223	9,223	4%	9,692	9,692	2%
30	Broadfield	1	9,090	9,090	2%	9,469	9,469	0%
31	Langley Green & Ifield East	1	9,473	9,473	6%	9,848	9,848	4%
32	Maidenbower & Worth	1	8,812	8,812	-1%	8,966	8,966	-5%
33	Northgate & West Green	1	7,968	7,968	-10%	10,076	10,076	6%
34	Pound Hill	1	6,286	6,286	-29%	8,913	8,913	-6%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for West Sussex County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2015)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
35	Southgate & Gossops Green	1	9,727	9,727	9%	10,218	10,218	8%
36	Three Bridges	1	8,216	8,216	-8%	9,198	9,198	-3%
37	Tilgate & Furnace Green	1	8,912	8,912	0%	9,294	9,294	-2%
Horsham District								
38	Billingshurst	1	8,586	8,586	-4%	9,859	9,859	4%
39	Bramber Castle	1	9,123	9,123	3%	9,247	9,247	-3%
40	Broadbridge	1	7,822	7,822	-12%	9,283	9,283	-2%
41	Henfield	1	8,373	8,373	-6%	8,656	8,656	-9%
42	Holbrook	1	8,578	8,578	-4%	8,629	8,629	-9%
43	Horsham East	1	8,666	8,666	-3%	8,836	8,836	-7%
44	Horsham Hurst	1	8,532	8,532	-4%	8,607	8,607	-9%
45	Horsham Riverside	1	7,936	7,936	-11%	9,382	9,382	-1%
46	Pulborough	1	9,691	9,691	9%	10,273	10,273	8%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for West Sussex County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2015)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
47	St Leonard's Forest	1	5,798	5,798	-35%	8,316	8,316	-12%
48	Southwater & Nuthurst	1	9,331	9,331	5%	9,499	9,499	0%
49	Storrington	1	9,945	9,945	12%	10,278	10,278	8%
Mid Sussex District								
50	Burgess Hill East	1	8,793	8,793	-1%	10,091	10,091	6%
51	Burgess Hill North	1	9,823	9,823	10%	10,293	10,293	9%
52	Cuckfield & Lucastes	1	8,281	8, 281	-7%	9,714	9, 714	2%
53	East Grinstead Meridian	1	8,407	8,407	-6%	8,852	8,852	-7%
54	East Grinstead South & Ashurst Wood	1	8,869	8,869	0%	9,293	9,293	-2%
55	Hassocks & Burgess Hill South	1	9,079	9,079	2%	9,536	9,536	1%
56	Haywards Heath East	1	8,083	8, 083	-9%	8,510	8,510	-10%
57	Haywards Heath Town	1	8,289	8,289	-7%	8,610	8,610	-9%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for West Sussex County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2015)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
58	Hurstpierpoint & Bolney	1	9,423	9,423	6%	9,804	9,804	3%
59	Imberdown	1	8,375	8,375	-6%	8,967	8,967	-5%
60	Lindfield & High Weald	1	9,709	9,709	9%	10,038	10,338	9%
61	Worth Forest	1	9,857	9,857	11%	10,221	10,221	8%
Worthing Borough								
62	Broadwater	1	9,255	9,255	4%	9,367	9,367	-1%
63	Cissbury	1	8,774	8,774	-1%	8,886	8,886	-6%
64	Durrington & Salvington	1	9,754	9,754	10%	10,042	10,042	6%
65	Goring	1	8,566	8,566	-4%	8,762	8,762	-8%
66	Northbrook	1	8,327	8,327	-6%	10,371	10,371	9%
67	Tarring	1	9,734	9,734	9%	9,892	9,892	4%
68	Worthing East	1	8,685	8,685	-2%	8,816	8,816	-7%
69	Worthing Pier	1	8,847	8,847	-1%	9,250	9,250	-2%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for West Sussex County Council

Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2015)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
70 Worthing West	1	8,815	8,815	-1%	9,038	9,038	-5%
Totals	70	622,815	–	–	663,971	–	–
Averages	–	–	8,897	–	–	9,485	–

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by West Sussex County Council.

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

Appendix B

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at

<http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/south-east/west-sussex/west-sussex-county-council>

Local authority

- West Sussex County Council
- Crawley Borough Council
- Mid Sussex Borough Council

MPs

- Henry Smith MP

Political parties

- Burgess Hill Labour Party
- Burgess Hill Liberal Democrats
- Crawley Borough Council Conservative Group
- Crawley Conservative Association
- Mid Sussex Conservative Association

County councillors

- Councillor Dennis (Horsham Hurst)
- Councillors Jones (Burgess Hill East) & Miles-Barret (Burgess Hill Town)
- Councillor Lanzer (Maidenbower division)
- Councillors Mullins (Gossops Green & Ifield East), Oxlade (Bewbush & Ifield West), Quinn (Broadfield), Smith (Langley Green & West Green), Lamb (Northgate & Three Bridges) & Jones (Southgate & Crawley Central)

District councillors

- Councillor Bradnum (Horsham District Council, Nuthurst ward)
- Councillors Bob Burgess (Crawley Borough Council, Three Bridges ward) & Brenda Burgess (Crawley Borough Council, Three Bridges ward)
- Councillors McCarthy (Crawley Borough Council, Pound Hill North ward), Brockwell (Crawley Borough Council, Pound Hill North ward) & Burrett (Crawley Borough Council, Pound Hill North ward)
- Councillors Mecrow (Crawley Borough Council, Pound Hill South & Worth), Bloom (Crawley Borough Council, Pound Hill South & Worth) & Lanzer (Crawley Borough Council, Pound Hill South & Worth)

Parish and town councils

- Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council
- Bognor Regis Town Council
- Burgess Hill Town Council
- Haywards Heath Town Council
- Horsham Denne Neighbourhood Council
- Lindfield Parish Council
- Lindfield Rural Parish Council
- Littlehampton Town Council
- Nuthurst Parish Council
- Warnham Parish Council

Local groups

- Burgess Hill Town Partnership
- Westgate Residents' Association
- Horsham Trafalgar Neighbourhood Group

Residents

- 13 members of the public

Further consultation: submissions received**Local authority**

- West Sussex County Council
- Crawley Borough Council

MPs

- Henry Smith MP

Political parties

- Crawley Borough Council Conservative Group

County councillors

- Councillor Burrett (Pound Hill & Worth)
- Councillor Lanzer (Maidenbower division)
- Councillor Mullins (Gossops Green & Ifield East)

District councillors

- Councillors Bob Burgess (Crawley Borough Council, Three Bridges ward) & Brenda Burgess (Crawley Borough Council, Three Bridges ward)
- Councillor Smith (Crawley Borough Council, Ifield ward)

- Councillor Lamb (Crawley Borough Council, Northgate ward)
- Councillor Lunnon (Crawley Borough Council, Broadfield South ward)

Residents

- Five members of the public

Appendix C

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 fairness	When one elector's vote is worth the same as another's
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. For the purposes of this report, we refer specifically to the electorate for local government elections
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 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

Extract from LGBCE Draft Recommendations

“New electoral arrangements for Arun District Council” September 2012

Arun District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Angmering & Findon	1	-8%	This division includes the parishes of Findon, Clapham, Patching, Angmering and Poling.	Our proposed Angmering & Findon division is identical to the existing division covering this part of the county. We consider it provides for a good balance between the statutory criteria
Arundel & Wick	1	0%	This division comprises the parishes of Houghton, South Stoke, Burpham, Arundel, Warningcamp, Lyminster & Crossbush and part of Littlehampton.	Our proposed Arundel & Wick division is similar to the current division in this part of the county. The main difference is the southern boundary in the Littlehampton area. In order to provide for a reasonable level of electoral equality between divisions we have proposed the southern boundary run along the south of Malthouse Passage and Swanbourne Road. We consider this provides for an identifiable boundary and division with a reasonable level of electoral equality.
Bersted	1	5%	This division includes part of Bersted and Bognor Regis parishes.	Our proposed Bersted division is similar to the existing division in this part of Arun District. In order to provide for clearer boundaries we propose the southern boundary of this division follows the boundary of Pevensey and Marine wards.
Bognor Regis East	1	1%	This division comprises part of Bognor Regis and Bersted parishes.	Our proposed Bognor Regis East division is identical to the existing division covering this part of the county. We consider it provides for a good balance between the statutory criteria.
Bognor Regis West & Aldwick	1	4%	This division includes Marine ward, part of Aldwick East ward and part of Aldwick West ward.	Our proposed Bognor Regis West & Aldwick division is similar to the existing division in this part of Arun District. In order to provide for clearer boundaries we propose the north-eastern boundary of this division follows the boundary of Pevensey and Marine wards.

East Preston & Ferring	1	7%	This division includes the parishes of Ferring, Kingston, East Preston and part of Rustington.	Our proposed East Preston & Ferring division is identical to the existing division covering this part of the county. We consider it provides for a good balance between the statutory criteria.
Felpham	1	-3%	This division includes the parish of Felpham and the Flansham area of Yapton parish.	Our proposed Felpham division is identical to the existing division covering this part of the county. We consider it provides for a good balance between the statutory criteria.
Fontwell	1	3%	This division comprises the parishes of Slindon, Madehurst, Walberton, Barnham, Eastergate and Aldingbourne.	Our proposed Fontwell division is identical to the existing division covering this part of the county. We consider it provides for a good balance between the statutory criteria
Littlehampton East	1	5%	This division includes Beach ward, Brookfield ward and part of Rustington West ward	We consider that our proposed Littlehampton East division has clear boundaries and provides for a reasonable level of electoral equality.
Littlehampton Town	1	-8%	This division includes parts of the district wards of River and Courtwick with Toddington.	Our proposed Littlehampton Town division is similar to the existing division. However, in order to provide for a reasonable level of electoral equality in this division we propose the northern boundary runs along the south of Malthouse Passage and Swanbourne Road. We consider our Littlehampton Town division has clear boundaries and provides for a reasonable level of electoral equality.
Middleton	1	-6%	This division includes the parishes of Ford, Climping, Middleton-on-Sea and the Yapton area of Yapton parish.	Our proposed Middleton division is identical to the existing division covering this part of the county. We consider it provides for a good balance between the statutory criteria.
Nyetimber	1	-3%	This division comprises the parish of Pagham and part of Aldwick.	Our proposed Nyetimber division is identical to the existing division covering this part of the county. We consider it provides for a good balance between the statutory criteria

Rustington	1	3%	This division largely comprises Rustington parish	Our proposed Rustington division is identical to the existing division covering this part of the county. We consider it provides for a good balance between the statutory criteria
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Chichester District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Bourne	1	2%	This division comprises the parishes of Marden, Compton, Stoughton, Westbourne, Southbourne, Chidham & Hambrook and West Thorney	Our proposed Bourne division is identical to the existing division covering this part of the county. We consider it provides for a good balance between the statutory criteria.
Chichester East	1	8%	This division includes the parishes of Tangmere and Oving, the ward of Chichester East and part of Chichester South ward	We received two proposals for this part of Chichester. One largely supported the existing division and the other proposed more significant modifications. Having considered the evidence received we consider that the existing Chichester East division has clear boundaries. However, we have proposed a modification in order to provide for reasonable levels of electoral equality between divisions.
Chichester North	1	9%	This division includes the parishes of West Dean,	Under our draft recommendations we have decided to include the area around Pound Farm Road in our Chichester South division. Additionally we propose to include the Bostock Road area in this division. We also received a proposal which suggested a different northern boundary for the division. We have not included this proposal in our draft recommendations as doing so would create an unviable parish ward.
				We received a submission in relation to this division that supported the existing division boundaries subject to two

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8ARUN DISTRICT COUNCILELECTORAL REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE – 11 OCTOBER 2016

Recommendation Paper

Subject : Initial Proposals for new Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries

Report by : Liz Futch, Head of Democratic Services

Date : September 2016

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Boundary Commission for England has published its initial proposals for new Parliamentary constituencies in England. These proposals do affect the three constituencies that fall within the Arun District. The Sub-Committee is asked to consider whether any representation should be made to the Commission on its initial proposals by the deadline of 5 December 2016.

RECOMMENDATION

The Sub-Committee is asked to consider whether any representation should be made to the Boundary Commission for England.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) has the task of periodically reviewing the boundaries of all the Parliamentary constituencies in England. The Commission is currently conducting a review based on rules set by Parliament in 2011. The rules require recommendations to be made for new parliamentary boundaries by September 2018 and that these should result in a significant reduction in the number of constituencies. Each constituency must have an electorate that is no smaller than 71,031 and no larger than 78,507.
- 1.2 The BCE published their initial proposals for change by region on 13 September 2016 and the deadline for any representations to be made is 5 December 2016. The summary of their report for the South East is attached as Appendix 1 and an extract of the report as it affects West Sussex is attached as Appendix 2.

2.0 IMPACT ON THE ARUN DISTRICT

- 2.1 Currently, there are three Parliamentary constituencies that fall within the Arun District:

- Bognor Regis & Littlehampton in its entirety
- Arundel & South Downs in part
- Worthing West in part

- 2.2 The BCEs initial proposals move the Barnham district ward from the Arundel & South Downs constituency into Bognor Regis & Littlehampton to keep both constituencies within 5% of the electoral quota. The reasoning for this is explained at section 57 of Appendix 2. This proposal would affect the polling districts of AALD, ABAR and AEAS.
- 2.3 The proposals for the Worthing West ward, explained at section 58 of Appendix 2, are minor and relate to modifications between the Angmering & Findon and East Preston district wards agreed as part of the electoral review of Arun District Council in 2013. This moves the AANGS polling district from the Arundel & South Downs constituency into Worthing West. This proposal is to be welcomed as it will bring this polling district into line with the remainder of the East Preston ward which already falls within the Worthing West constituency.
- 2.4 An extract from the annex of the proposals for these three constituencies including wards and electorates is attached as Appendix 3.

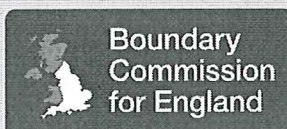
3.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 3.1 The initial proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries do affect current electoral arrangements within the Arun District. The Sub-Committee is asked whether it wishes to make any formal representation to the BCE's consultation by its deadline of 5 December 2016.

Background Papers: Boundary Commission for England "Initial Proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in the South East Region" and interactive map

<https://www.bce2018.org.uk/node/6488>

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South East

Initial proposals summary

Who we are and what we do

The Boundary Commission for England is an independent and impartial non-departmental public body which is responsible for reviewing Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England.

The 2018 Review

We have the task of periodically reviewing the boundaries of all the Parliamentary constituencies in England. We are currently conducting a review on the basis of rules set by Parliament in 2011. The rules tell us that we must make recommendations for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in September 2018. They also result in a significant reduction in the number of constituencies in England (from 533 to 501), and require that every constituency – apart from two specified exceptions – must have an electorate that is no smaller than 71,031 and no larger than 78,507.

Initial proposals

We published our initial proposals for the new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England on 13 September 2016. Information about the proposed constituencies is now available on our website.

What is changing in the South East?

The South East region has been allocated 83 constituencies – a reduction of one from the current number.

Our proposals leave 15 of the 84 existing constituencies unchanged. We propose only minor changes to a further 47 constituencies, with two wards or fewer altered from the existing constituencies.

The rules that we work to state that we must allocate two constituencies to the Isle of Wight. Neither of these constituencies is required to have an electorate that is within the requirements on electoral size set out in the rules.

In Berkshire, two of the eight existing constituencies are unchanged, while four are changed only by the transfer of one ward.

In Brighton and Hove, East Sussex, Kent, and Medway, two of the 25 existing constituencies are unaltered and one is reconfigured slightly due to rewarding. A further four are altered only by the transfer of one ward.

In Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes, one of the seven existing constituencies is unchanged.

Sub-region	Existing allocation	Proposed allocation
Berkshire	8	8
Brighton and Hove, East Sussex, Kent, and Medway	25	24
Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes	7	7
Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton	18	17
Isle of Wight	1	2
Oxfordshire	6	6
Surrey	11	11
West Sussex	8	8

In Hampshire, Portsmouth, and Southampton, three of the 18 existing constituencies are unaltered, while a further four are altered only by the transfer of one ward.

In the County of Oxfordshire, one of the six existing constituencies is unchanged, while one is changed only by the transfer of one ward.

In Surrey, five of the existing 11 constituencies are unaltered, while three of the remaining six are altered only by the transfer of one ward.

In West Sussex, one of the existing eight constituencies is unchanged and one is reconfigured slightly due to rewarding. A further five are changed only by the transfer of one ward.

As it has not always been possible to allocate whole numbers of constituencies to individual counties, we have grouped some county and local authority areas into sub-regions. The number of constituencies allocated to each sub-region is determined by the electorate of the combined local authorities.

Consequently, it has been necessary to propose some constituencies that cross county or unitary authority boundaries.

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We have proposed one constituency that contains electors from Brighton and Hove, and East Sussex; it crosses the boundary on the south coast, combining the east of the City of Brighton and Hove with Newhaven and Seaford. We propose one constituency that contains electors from East Sussex and Kent; it crosses the boundary at The Weald, combining the towns of Crowborough and Tenterden.

We further propose two constituencies that contain electors from Kent, and Medway. One crosses the boundary at Higham, combining it with Rochester, and the other at Chatham, combining it with East and West Malling.

How to have your say

We are consulting on our initial proposals for a 12-week period, from 13 September 2016 to 5 December 2016. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to help us shape the new constituencies – the more views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be when considering whether to revise our proposals.

Our website at www.bce2018.org.uk has more information about how to respond as well as details of where and when we will be holding public hearings in your area. You can also follow us on Twitter @BCE2018 or using #2018boundaryreview.

Extract from the Boundary Commission for England
“Initial Proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries
in the South East Region”

town of Ashford at its centre. Apart from the change detailed above, we propose no other changes to the Folkestone and Hythe constituency.

51 Our proposed Canterbury and Faversham constituency includes ten wards from the existing Canterbury constituency, including the town of Canterbury, six wards from the existing Faversham and Mid Kent constituency, including the town of Faversham, and two wards from the existing Dover constituency. We consider that the A2 provides a clear road link through this constituency.

52 As a consequence of these changes, we propose that the two District of Dover wards of Little Stour and Ashstone, and Sandwich are included in the Dover constituency to ensure it is within 5% of the electoral quota.

53 The changes we have suggested elsewhere in Kent have led us to propose a new Thanet East constituency, which comprises the majority of the existing South Thanet constituency and five wards from the existing North Thanet constituency. The proposed Thanet East constituency encompasses the resort towns of Margate, Ramsgate and Broadstairs.

54 As a result, our proposed North Kent Coastal constituency comprises the remainder of the wards in the North Thanet constituency, and the towns of Herne Bay and Westgate-on-Sea. This constituency also includes five wards from the existing Canterbury constituency, including the coastal town of Whitstable, which provides a further section of the North Kent coast.

Initial proposals for the West Sussex sub-region

55 There are currently eight constituencies in the County of West Sussex. We are proposing no change to the existing number of constituencies. Five of the existing constituencies have electorates within 5% of the electoral quota. The electorates of Mid Sussex and Chichester are above the 5% limit and Crawley is below the 5% limit.

56 We considered whether we could leave unchanged any of the five existing constituencies that have an electorate within 5% of the electoral quota. In developing proposals in which all the constituency electorates are within 5% of the electoral quota we propose no alterations to the East Worthing and Shoreham constituency. Otherwise, we propose changes to all other constituencies in the county; on the whole these changes are relatively minor.

57 In order to reduce the number of electors in the Chichester constituency, we propose to transfer the Plaistow ward of the District of Chichester to the Arundel and South Downs constituency. This results in the Chichester constituency being within 5% of the electoral quota. To reduce the number of electors in the Mid Sussex constituency we propose to transfer the Bolney ward of the District of Mid Sussex to the Arundel and South Downs constituency. The transfer of this ward results in the Mid Sussex constituency being within 5% of the electoral quota. However, the inclusion of both these wards in the Arundel and South Downs constituency results in it being above the 5% limit. Therefore, we propose

to include the Barnham ward of the District of Arun in the Bognor Regis and Littlehampton constituency. This results in both the constituencies of Arundel and South Downs, and Bognor Regis and Littlehampton being within 5% of the electoral quota.

58 To the east of these constituencies we are proposing limited changes to the existing Worthing West constituency. These changes have been necessary following modifications to the local government ward boundaries in the District of Arun.

59 To increase the number of electors in the Crawley constituency we propose to transfer to it the District of Mid Sussex ward of Copthorne and Worth from the Horsham constituency. The inclusion of this ward results in both the Crawley and Horsham constituencies being within 5% of the electoral quota.

Initial proposals for the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes sub-region

60 As mentioned previously, we decided that Milton Keynes and Buckinghamshire should be considered as one sub-region as it would be necessary to cross the boundary to achieve the electoral quota. The geographic position of Milton Keynes meant that this could only be achieved by considering it with the County of Buckinghamshire. There are currently seven constituencies in this sub-region. We are proposing no reduction in the number of constituencies.

61 Of the existing constituencies, four have electorates within 5% of the electoral

quota. Of the remaining constituencies, Milton Keynes North and Milton Keynes South are above the 5% limit and Chesham and Amersham is below.

62 We considered whether we could leave unchanged any of the four existing constituencies that have an electorate within 5% of the electoral quota. We propose keeping Beaconsfield the same as the existing constituency.

63 The Borough of Milton Keynes is currently divided into two constituencies, both of which have electorates above the 5% limit. Additionally, the local government ward boundaries in the borough have also been modified. In order to reduce the electorates of the two Milton Keynes constituencies it is necessary to cross the boundary between the Borough of Milton Keynes and Buckinghamshire. We therefore propose to include the Wolverton and Stony Stratford wards of the Borough of Milton Keynes in our proposed Buckingham constituency. We consider these two wards the most appropriate to include in a cross-county constituency due to the communication links between the county and the borough. We did investigate whether to include wards from the Bletchley area in the Buckingham constituency, but considered this would be likely to divide the Bletchley area between constituencies.

64 As a consequence, we propose that our Milton Keynes Newport Pagnell constituency include the wards of Danesborough & Walton, Monkston, Campbell Park & Old Woughton, and Woughton & Fishermead. In turn, the wards of Bradwell and Stantonbury are transferred to the Milton Keynes

Annex A: Initial proposals for constituencies, including wards and electorates

Constituency	Ward	District/borough/city/county	Electorate
1. Aldershot BC			74,715
	Crookham East	Hart	5,834
	Crookham West and Ewshot	Hart	6,394
	Aldershot Park	Rushmoor	5,177
	Cherrywood	Rushmoor	5,057
	Cove and Southwood	Rushmoor	5,276
	Empress	Rushmoor	4,259
	Fernhill	Rushmoor	5,190
	Knellwood	Rushmoor	5,442
	Manor Park	Rushmoor	5,447
	North Town	Rushmoor	4,547
	Rowhill	Rushmoor	4,994
	St. John's	Rushmoor	4,966
	St. Mark's	Rushmoor	4,763
	Wellington	Rushmoor	2,471
	West Heath	Rushmoor	4,898
2. Arundel and South Downs CC			74,331
	Angmering & Findon	Arun	7,003
	Arundel & Walberton	Arun	6,240
	Bury	Chichester	1,702
	Petworth	Chichester	3,609
	Plaistow	Chichester	3,649
	Wisborough Green	Chichester	1,913
	Bramber, Upper Beeding and Woodmancote	Horsham	4,124
	Chanctonbury	Horsham	6,506
	Chantry	Horsham	7,615
	Cowfold, Shermanbury and West Grinstead	Horsham	4,166
	Henfield	Horsham	4,059
	Pulborough and Coldwatham	Horsham	4,993
	Steyning	Horsham	4,786
	Bolney	Mid Sussex	2,118
	Hassocks	Mid Sussex	6,123
	Hurstpierpoint and Downs	Mid Sussex	5,725
3. Ashford CC			71,303
	Aylesford Green	Ashford	2,341
	Beaver	Ashford	3,817
	Bockhanger	Ashford	1,873
	Boughton Aluph and Eastwell	Ashford	2,262
	Bybrook	Ashford	1,891
	Charing	Ashford	2,008
	Downs North	Ashford	1,927
	Downs West	Ashford	1,932
	Godinton	Ashford	4,641
	Great Chart With Singleton North	Ashford	2,533
	Highfield	Ashford	1,841
	Isle of Oxney	Ashford	2,105
	Kennington	Ashford	1,799
	Little Burton Farm	Ashford	2,131
	Norman	Ashford	1,840
	North Willesborough	Ashford	3,742
	Park Farm North	Ashford	2,445
	Park Farm South	Ashford	1,932
	Saxon Shore	Ashford	4,083

Constituency	Ward	District/borough/city/county	Electorate
	Rooksdown	Basingstoke and Deane	2,671
	South Ham	Basingstoke and Deane	6,220
	Winklebury	Basingstoke and Deane	4,590
7. Beaconsfield CC			73,984
	Beaconsfield North	South Bucks	1,949
	Beaconsfield South	South Bucks	2,858
	Beaconsfield West	South Bucks	3,725
	Burnham Church & Beeches	South Bucks	5,540
	Burnham Lent Rise & Taplow	South Bucks	5,366
	Denham	South Bucks	5,686
	Farnham & Hedgerley	South Bucks	5,135
	Gerrards Cross	South Bucks	5,840
	Iver Heath	South Bucks	3,949
	Iver Village & Richings Park	South Bucks	4,788
	Stoke Poges	South Bucks	3,672
	Wexham & Fulmer	South Bucks	1,824
	Bourne End-cum-Hedsor	Wycombe	4,076
	Flackwell Heath and Little Marlow	Wycombe	5,643
	Marlow North and West	Wycombe	6,392
	Marlow South East	Wycombe	3,891
	The Wooburns	Wycombe	3,650
8. Bexhill and Battle CC			73,474
	Battle Town	Rother	3,912
	Central	Rother	3,872
	Collington	Rother	3,679
	Crowhurst	Rother	2,024
	Kewhurst	Rother	3,884
	Old Town	Rother	2,984
	Sackville	Rother	3,653
	Sidley	Rother	3,937
	St. Marks	Rother	3,779
	St. Michaels	Rother	3,707
	St. Stephens	Rother	3,693
	Cross in Hand/Five Ashes	Wealden	1,975
	Hailsham Central and North	Wealden	4,729
	Hailsham East	Wealden	1,894
	Hailsham South and West	Wealden	6,168
	Heathfield East	Wealden	1,933
	Heathfield North and Central	Wealden	6,091
	Herstmonceux	Wealden	2,209
	Ninfield and Hooe with Wartling	Wealden	1,914
	Pevensy and Westham	Wealden	7,437
9. Bognor Regis and Littlehampton CC			78,189
	Aldwick East	Arun	4,416
	Aldwick West	Arun	4,972
	Barnham	Arun	5,999
	Beach	Arun	3,674
	Bersted	Arun	6,177
	Brookfield	Arun	4,490
	Courtwick with Toddington	Arun	5,579
	Felpham East	Arun	4,566
	Felpham West	Arun	4,111
	Hotham	Arun	3,458
	Marine	Arun	3,632
	Middleton-on-Sea	Arun	4,130
	Orchard	Arun	3,981
	Pagham	Arun	4,927
	Pevensy	Arun	3,624
	River	Arun	6,192
	Yapton	Arun	4,261

Constituency	Ward	District/borough/city/county	Electorate
80. Woking CC			72,819
	Normandy	Guildford	2,478
	Pirbright	Guildford	2,083
	Send	Guildford	3,409
	Bisley	Surrey Heath	2,610
	Brookwood	Woking	1,851
	Goldsworth East	Woking	5,018
	Goldsworth West	Woking	3,500
	Hermitage and Knaphill South	Woking	3,742
	Horsell East and Woodham	Woking	3,478
	Horsell West	Woking	5,154
	Kingfield and Westfield	Woking	3,923
	Knaphill	Woking	6,796
	Maybury and Sheerwater	Woking	6,129
	Mayford and Sutton Green	Woking	1,932
	Mount Hermon East	Woking	3,350
	Mount Hermon West	Woking	4,187
	Old Woking	Woking	2,123
	Pyrford	Woking	3,789
	St. John's and Hook Heath	Woking	3,295
	West Byfleet	Woking	3,972
81. Wokingham CC			72,505
	Aldermaston	West Berkshire	2,170
	Burghfield	West Berkshire	4,497
	Mortimer	West Berkshire	4,364
	Sulhamstead	West Berkshire	2,215
	Arborfield	Wokingham	1,927
	Barkham	Wokingham	2,544
	Emmbrook	Wokingham	6,466
	Evendons	Wokingham	6,819
	Hawkedon	Wokingham	6,678
	Hillside	Wokingham	6,267
	Norreys	Wokingham	6,915
	Shinfield North	Wokingham	2,371
	Shinfield South	Wokingham	5,515
	Swallowfield	Wokingham	2,270
	Wescott	Wokingham	4,290
	Winnersh	Wokingham	7,197
82. Worthing West BC			74,210
	East Preston	Arun	6,705
	Ferring	Arun	3,975
	Rustington East	Arun	4,431
	Rustington West	Arun	6,650
	Castle	Worthing	6,140
	Central	Worthing	6,497
	Durrington	Worthing	4,378
	Goring	Worthing	6,690
	Heene	Worthing	5,717
	Marine	Worthing	6,363
	Northbrook	Worthing	3,626
	Salvington	Worthing	6,927
	Tarring	Worthing	6,111