

**A response to the consultation on new ward boundaries across Buckinghamshire from the Hitcham and Taplow Society.**

Presently there are 49 wards, each with 3 councillors, giving 147 councillors.

A decision has been taken that there will be 98 councillors going forward.

The realignments should therefore be based on retaining the existing wards but with 2 councillors each.

This gives the required number of councillors with minimum disturbance and work effort to BUA.

Going forward there are forecasts of population growth that will eventually need ward revisions. However these are based on previous (2014) government figures that have been called into question by more recent figures. Together with the unknown after-effects of Covid on growth patterns, the current absence of an agreed government planning policy and with no Local Plan till probably 2026 this suggests that not much detailed revision of boundaries would be sensible before these matters are settled.

The most likely pressure for ward revisions will come from the northern half of the county on current broad plans which we have no expertise to comment on.

Any revisions should be guided by wards matching communities rather than geography.

Roger Worthington, Secretary HTS