From: Jon Whitehouse

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To: reviews

Subject: Epping Forest electoral review

Attachments: LGBCE initial submission - Lib Dems.pdf

Categories: Submissions,

Please find attached a response from the Epping Forest DC Liberal Democrat group.

Please contact me if you have any queries.

Regards

Jon Whitehouse Liberal Democrat Group Leader, Epping Forest DC



ELECTORAL REVIEW OF EPPING FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL: WARDING ARRANGEMENTS Response to initial consultation

This proposal seeks to balance the requirements to:

Provide good electoral equality

All wards meet the expectation of less than 20% variance from the average electorate per councillor in both 2022 and 2028 and the vast majority of wards vary less than 10% from the average in both 2022 and 2029

| | 20 | 122 | 2028 | | |
|---------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|--|
| | Wards | % wards | Wards | % wards | |
| <10% variance | 18 | 90% | 17 | 85% | |
| >10% and <20% | 2 | 10% | 3 | 15% | |
| >20% | 0 | | 0 | | |

It may be possible to improve electoral equality further by amending the boundaries of polling districts in some parishes (notably Roydon and Sheering) to bring pairs of wards closer to equality. This is highlighted in the individual sections below.

Greater electoral equality could also be achieved by varying the number of councillors from 54.

Reflect community interests and identities

We have used parish boundaries as the building blocks for our proposal and striven as far as possible to ensure small parishes are entirely contained within a single ward and large parishes as far as possible contain a whole number of wards. The following parishes either form a ward on their own or lie entirely within a larger ward:

- 1. Abbess Berners and Beauchamp Roding (part of Epping Forest Rural East ward)
- 2. Epping Upland (part of Nazeing and Epping Upland)
- 3. Fyfield (part of Epping Forest Rural East ward)
- 4. High Ongar (part of Epping Forest Rural East ward)
- 5. Lambourne (part of Chigwell and Lambourne ward)
- 6. Matching (part of Epping Forest Rural East ward)
- 7. Moreton, Bobbingworth and the Lavers (part of Epping Forest Rural East ward)
- 8. Nazeing (part of Nazeing and Epping Upland)
- 9. North Weald Bassett (forms a single-parish three-member ward)
- 10. Ongar (forms a single-parish three-member ward)
- 11. Stanford Rivers (part of Passingford ward)
- 12. Stapleford Abbotts (part of Passingford ward)
- 13. Stapleford Tawney (part of Passingford ward)
- 14. Theydon Bois (part of Theydon Bois and South Epping ward)
- 15. Theydon Garnon (part of Passingford ward)
- 16. Theydon Mount (part of Passingford ward)
- 17. Willingale (part of Epping Forest Rural East ward)

The large parish of Waltham Abbey is divided between three three-member wards.

However for reasons of electoral equality we have needed to split the following parishes:

- Chigwell Chigwell Row (AE), Chigwell Village (AG) and 30 per cent of St Winifreds (AJ) have been joined with Lambourne parish as the areas share common characteristics and for reasons of electoral equality.
- Epping Eighty per cent of Hemnall (AM) and 30 per cent of Lindsey South (AN) polling districts have been combined with Theydon Bois for reasons of electoral equality and because of the community links between Epping and Theydon Bois
- Loughton Whitebridge (AX) and 50 per cent of St Michaels (BA) polling district have been joined with part of Buckhurst Hill for reasons of electoral equality and because of the community identity shared by those parts of Buckhurst Hill and Loughton that lie between the Central Line and River Roding.
- **Roydon** the village part of Roydon forms a single-member ward and the more sparsely populated part of the parish, where Harlow and Gilston garden Town development is anticipated, is combined with similar area of Nazeing and Epping Upland parishes.
- **Sheering** the distinct community of Lower Sheering forms a single-member ward and the more rural part of the parish is combined with Epping Forest Rural East.

In all these cases we have ensured there are community and geographical links and common interest shared between the areas either side of the parish boundary.

Deliver effective and convenient local government

We have created a scheme of 17 three-member wards and three one-member wards meaning that eighteen councillors will be up for election in each election year. All schemes with 18 three-member wards had worse electoral equality and failed to respect community identity in important respects.

We have suggested straight forward ward names based mainly on parish names and compass points but in some cases it is possible that alternative names with more local resonance could be suggested.

BUCKHURST HILL AND LOUGHTON

Proposed wards

| Name of ward | Number of cllrs | Electorate 2022 | Variance 2022 | Electorate 2028 | Variance 2028 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Buckhurst Hill East and Whitebridge | 3 | 5,624 | 1% | 6,389 | -3% |
| Buckhurst Hill West | 3 | 5,343 | -4% | 6,129 | -6% |
| Loughton Roding | 3 | 5,463 | -2% | 6,372 | -3% |
| Loughton West | 3 | 5,650 | 1% | 6,475 | -1% |
| Loughton Forest | 3 | 5,629 | 1% | 6,224 | -5% |
| Loughton North | 3 | 5,388 | -3% | 6,119 | -7% |

| PD | PD name | Parish | Parish ward | Proposed ward | 2022 | 2028 |
|----|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| AA | Buckhurst Way | Buckhurst Hill | Buckhurst Hill East | Buckhurst Hill East and Whitebridge | 1,710 | 2,008 |
| AB | Loughton Way | Buckhurst Hill | Buckhurst Hill East | Buckhurst Hill East and Whitebridge | 1,803 | 2,023 |

| AZ | Whitebridge | Loughton | Loughton Roding | Buckhurst Hill East and Whitebridge | 1,084 | 1,214 |
|-----------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| BA 50% | St Michaels | Loughton | Loughton Roding | Buckhurst Hill East and Whitebridge | 1,027 | 1,144 |
| AC | St. Johns | Buckhurst Hill | Buckhurst Hill West | Buckhurst Hill West | 2,683 | 3,189 |
| AD | Westbury | Buckhurst Hill | Buckhurst Hill West | Buckhurst Hill West | 2,660 | 2,940 |
| AX | Loughton Forest | Loughton | Loughton Forest | Loughton Forest | 3,344 | 3,721 |
| BB 10% | Loughton St Johns | Loughton | Loughton St Johns | Loughton Forest | 345 | 383 |
| ВС | St Marys | Loughton | Loughton St Marys | Loughton Forest | 1,940 | 2,120 |
| AW 50% | Hillyfields | Loughton | Loughton Fairmead | Loughton North | 337 | 385 |
| BB 90% | Loughton St Johns | Loughton | Loughton St Johns | Loughton North | 3,108 | 3,445 |
| BD | Whitehills | Loughton | Loughton St Marys | Loughton North | 1,943 | 2,289 |
| AQ 50% | Barfields | Loughton | Loughton Alderton | Loughton Roding | 1,367 | 1,670 |
| AR | Oakwood | Loughton | Loughton Alderton | Loughton Roding | 629 | 705 |
| AS | Willingale | Loughton | Loughton Broadway | Loughton Roding | 1,994 | 2,368 |
| AY | Barncroft | Loughton | Loughton Roding | Loughton Roding | 446 | 486 |
| BA 50% | St Michaels | Loughton | Loughton Roding | Loughton Roding | 1,027 | 1,144 |
| AQ 50% | Barfields | Loughton | Loughton Alderton | Loughton West | 1,367 | 1,670 |
| AT | Hereward | Loughton | Loughton Broadway | Loughton West | 1,432 | 1,623 |
| AU | Fairmead | Loughton | Loughton Fairmead | Loughton West | 1,581 | 1,765 |
| AV | Colebrook | Loughton | Loughton Fairmead | Loughton West | 933 | 1,033 |
| AW 50% | Hillyfields | Loughton | Loughton Fairmead | Loughton West | 337 | 385 |

Buckhurst Hill

It is not possible to achieve acceptable electoral equality by dividing the parish into two three-member wards so we have combined Buckhurst Hill with the Whitebridge (AZ) polling district in Loughton and 50% of the St Michaels (BA) polling district. Whitebridge adjoins the Loughton Way (AB) polling district in Buckhurst Hill. Both polling districts share local facilities such as Loughton Way shops and the Roding Valley Recreation Ground, and lie along the Albert Road – Loughton Way – Buckhurst Way route which runs parallel to the River Roding to the east and Central Line to the west. The housing make-up of both areas is similar and both polling districts are built-up to the common boundary so that the parish boundary is not obvious on the ground.

The St Michael's polling district (BA) also lies between the Central Line and Roding Valley and has similar characteristics to Whitebridge and Loughton Way.

Loughton

Loughton can be divided into four three-member wards with good levels of electoral equality, even allowing for joining the Whitebridge (AZ) and part of St Michaels (BA) polling districts with Buckhurst Hill (see above). We have based our wards on existing polling districts to create four wards: Loughton Forest, Loughton Roding, Loughton North and Loughton West but accept there are other ways of dividing the parish that could also provide good electoral equality.

Loughton shares a common identity and has strong community links across the parish although we note the railway line is a strong boundary which separates the Roding part of the parish from the rest. Most local services (secondary schools x3, supermarkets and shopping, doctors' surgeries etc, can be found within the parish so residents do not need to travel to other communities to access them. Wards to the east of the parish share a historic identity as part of the old Debden housing estate, parts of which look more towards the Broadway shopping centre and shopping park than the High Street. There are many large roads which can form strong boundaries.

CHIGWELL AND LAMBOURNE

Proposed wards

| Name of ward | Number of cllrs | Electorate 2022 | Variance 2022 | Electorate 2028 | Variance 2028 |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Chigwell and Lambourne | 3 | 5,992 | 8% | 6,785 | 4% |
| Grange Hill and South Chigwell | 3 | 6,058 | 9% | 6,827 | 4% |

| PD | PD name | Parish | Parish ward | Proposed ward | 2022 | 2028 |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| AE | Chigwell Row | Chigwell | Chigwell Row | Chigwell and Lambourne | 1,816 | 2,102 |
| AG | Chigwell Village | Chigwell | Chigwell Village | Chigwell and Lambourne | 1,631 | 1,805 |
| AJ 30% | St Winifreds | Chigwell | Grange Hill | Chigwell and Lambourne | 951 | 1,107 |
| CG | Abridge | Lambourn e | Abridge | Chigwell and Lambourne | 1,383 | 1,528 |
| СН | Lambourne End | Lambourn e | Lambourne End | Chigwell and Lambourne | 211 | 243 |
| AF | St Johns | Chigwell | Chigwell Village | Grange Hill and South Chigwell | 1,801 | 2,001 |
| АН | Limes Farm | Chigwell | Grange Hill | Grange Hill and South Chigwell | 2,037 | 2,242 |
| AJ 70% | St Winifreds | Chigwell | Grange Hill | Grange Hill and South Chigwell | 2,220 | 2,584 |

Chigwell and Lambourne sit on the south side of the Roding Valley. Chigwell parish encompasses a wide variety of housing types ranging from the urban flats and houses on the London boundary at

Limes Farm (AH) and St Johns (AF) to the more dispersed development around Chigwell Row (AE) and much of Chigwell Village (AG). These areas share characteristics (concentrated village centres surrounded by more dispersed scattered and ribbon development) with Lambourne parish so we have created two three-member wards.

The Chigwell and Grange Hill ward consists of most of the built-up part of Chigwell: St Johns (AF), Limes Farm (AH) and part of St Winifreds (AJ) whereas the Chigwell and Lambourne ward comprises Lambourne parish, Chigwell Row (AE) and part of St Winfreds (AJ).

EPPING AND THEYDON BOIS

Proposed wards

| Name of ward | Number of cllrs | Electorate 2022 | Variance 2022 | Electorate 2028 | Variance 2028 |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Epping | 3 | 6,344 | 14% | 7,299 | 11% |
| Theydon Bois and South Epping | 3 | 6,319 | 13% | 7,222 | 10% |

| PD | PD name | Parish | Parish ward | Proposed ward | 2022 | 2028 |
|-----------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-------|-------|
| | | | | | | |
| AK | Allnutts | Epping | Hemnall | Epping | 1,162 | 1,365 |
| AL | Coopersale | Epping | Hemnall | Epping | 839 | 912 |
| AM 20% | Hemnall | Epping | Hemnall | Epping | 586 | 663 |
| AN | Lindsey North | Epping | St Johns | Epping | 2,056 | 2,273 |
| AO 70% | Lindsey South | Epping | St Johns | Epping | 1,702 | 2,085 |
| AM 80% | Hemnall | Epping | Hemnall | Theydon Bois and South Epping | 2,342 | 2,653 |
| AO 30% | Lindsey South | Epping | St Johns | Theydon Bois and South Epping | 729 | 894 |
| BE | Theydon Bois | Theydon Bois | Theydon Bois | Theydon Bois and South Epping | 3,247 | 3,675 |

Theydon Bois parish currently comprises a two-member ward. Under the proposed electoral arrangements, the parish is too large to justify a single-member ward and too small to justify a three-member ward. It will therefore be necessary to combine Theydon Bois with a neighbouring area.

The neighbouring Epping parish is too large for a single three-member ward but combining Epping and Theydon Bois parishes justifies two three-member wards.

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England recognised the community links and common interests shared by Epping and Theydon Bois when it combined the two areas in the last county council review, maintaining the long-standing Epping and Theydon Bois division. The two parishes are both on the Central Line (the penultimate and terminus stations) and both areas are forest parishes. Epping Forest is an important point of common interest and shared identity. The two areas are in the same school planning group (children from Epping regularly attend Theydon Bois Primary School) and share a doctor's surgery (the Limes practice which has premises in both Epping

and Theydon Bois). On the ground the ribbon development along Theydon Road runs into the ribbon development along Bell Common at the parish boundary.

Our proposed Epping ward comprises the existing Allnutts (AK), Coopersale (AL), Lindsey North (AN), Lindsey South (AO) and part of Hemnall (AM) polling districts.

Our proposed Theydon Bois and Epping South ward comprises Theydon Bois (BE) and the southern parts of Hemnall (AM) and Lindsey South (AO) polling districts. The railway line through Epping and significant roads such as Centre Drive, Station Road and Bury Lane enable the creation of strong boundaries between wards. Electoral equality improves between 2022 and 2028

PASSINGFORD

| Name of ward | Number | Electorate | Variance | Electorate | Variance |
|--------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|----------|
| | of clirs | 2022 | 2022 | 2028 | 2028 |
| Passingford | 1 | 1,931 | 4% | 2,148 | -2% |

| PD | PD name | Parish | Parish ward | Proposed ward | 2022 | 2028 |
|----|------------|------------|-------------|---------------|------|------|
| | | | | | | |
| CQ | Stanford | Stanford | | Passingford | 648 | 717 |
| | Rivers | Rivers | | | | |
| CR | Stapleford | Stapleford | | Passingford | 860 | 985 |
| | Abbotts | Abbotts | | | | |
| CS | Stapleford | Stapleford | | Passingford | 107 | 117 |
| | Tawney | Tawney | | | | |
| СТ | Theydon | Theydon | | Passingford | 143 | 139 |
| | Garnon | Garnon | | | | |
| CU | Theydon | Theydon | | Passingford | 173 | 190 |
| | Mount | Mount | | | | |

This one-member ward comprises the rural parishes east of Epping and south of Ongar: Stanford Rivers, Stapleford Abbotts, Stapleford Tawney, Theydon Garnon and Theydon Mount. They share a common interest and identity as relatively sparsely populated rural villages and hamlets connected by local roads off the A113. The proposed ward delivers excellent electoral equality.

ONGAR

| Name of ward | Number | Electorate | Variance | Electorate | Variance |
|--------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|----------|
| | of clirs | 2022 | 2022 | 2028 | 2028 |
| Ongar | 3 | 5,297 | -5% | 6,670 | 2% |

| PD | PD name | Parish | Parish ward | Proposed ward | 2022 | 2028 |
|----|-------------------|--------|----------------|---------------|-------|-------|
| ВХ | Chipping Ongar | Ongar | Chipping Ongar | Ongar | 1,454 | 1,844 |
| BY | Greensted | Ongar | Greensted | Ongar | 579 | 808 |
| BZ | Marden Ash | Ongar | Marden Ash | Ongar | 1,367 | 1,560 |
| CA | Shelley | Ongar | Shelley | Ongar | 1,897 | 2,458 |

Our proposal unites the parish of Ongar into a single three-member ward. This delivers very good electoral equality and excellent community identity.

EASTERN RURAL PARISHES AND SHEERING

| Name of ward | Number of cllrs | Electorate 2022 | Variance 2022 | Electorate 2028 | Variance 2028 |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Epping Forest Rural East | 3 | 5,108 | -8% | 5,637 | -14% |
| Lower Sheering | 1 | 1,738 | -6% | 2,183 | 0% |

| PD | PD name | Parish | Parish ward | Proposed ward | 2022 | 2028 |
|-----------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|------|------|
| СВ | High Ongar | High Ongar | | Epping Forest Rural | 490 | 546 |
| CC | Norton Mandeville | High Ongar | Norton Mandeville | Epping Forest Rural East | 219 | 234 |
| CD | Paslow Common | High Ongar | Paslow Common | Epping Forest Rural East | 378 | 407 |
| CE | Willingale | Willingale | | Epping Forest Rural East | 432 | 466 |
| CF | AB & BR | AB & BR | | Epping Forest Rural East | 428 | 439 |
| CJ | Bobbingwort h | | Bobbingworth | Epping Forest Rural East | 251 | 250 |
| CK | High Laver East | | The Lavers | Epping Forest Rural East | 71 | 76 |
| CL | High Laver West | | The Lavers | Epping Forest Rural East | 131 | 145 |
| CM | Little Laver | | The Lavers | Epping Forest Rural East | 80 | 95 |
| CN | Moreton | | Moreton | Epping Forest Rural East | 343 | 367 |
| СО | Magdalen Laver | | The Lavers | Epping Forest Rural East | 190 | 221 |
| СР | Fyfield | Fyfield | | Epping Forest Rural East | 663 | 722 |
| CX (1) | Matching (1) | Matching | | Epping Forest Rural East | 564 | 616 |
| CX (2) | Matching (2) | Matching | | Epping Forest Rural East | 185 | 195 |
| CY | Sheering Village | Sheering | Sheering Village | Epping Forest Rural East | 683 | 858 |
| CZ | Lower Sheering | Sheering | Lower Sheering | Lower Sheering | 1738 | 2183 |

We propose maintaining a single-member Lower Sheering ward (CZ) which is a distinct community which looks as much to Sawbridgeworth for local facilities including the railway station as it does to

the rest of Epping Forest. The remainder of the proposed Epping Forest Rural East ward consists of scattered villages and hamlets set in countryside linked by a network of local roads off the A414.

NORTH WEALD BASSETT

| Name of ward | Number of clirs | Electorate 2022 | Variance 2022 | Electorate 2028 | Variance 2028 |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| North Weald Bassett | 3 | 5,030 | -10% | 7,192 | 10% |

| PD | PD name | Parish | Parish ward | Proposed ward | 2022 | 2028 |
|----|-------------|----------------|-------------|---------------------|-------|-------|
| | | | | | | |
| AP | Thornwood | Epping | St Johns | North Weald Bassett | 810 | 1186 |
| BW | Village | North Weald | Village | North Weald Bassett | 3,673 | 4,850 |
| | | Bassett | | | | |
| CV | Hastingwood | North | Hastingwood | North Weald Bassett | 328 | 927 |
| | North | Weald | | | | |
| | | Bassett | | | | |
| CW | Hastingwood | North | Hastingwood | North Weald Bassett | 219 | 229 |
| | South | Weald | | | | |
| | | Bassett | | | | |

Our proposal unites the parish of North Weald Bassett into a single three-member ward. The parish is current divided between three different district wards so our proposal delivers a significant improvement in community identity. It also delivers good electoral equality both in 2022 and 2028 despite the significant increase in electorate between the two dates.

ROYDON NAZEING AND WESTERN RURAL PARISHES

| Name of ward | Number of cllrs | Electorate 2022 | Variance 2022 | Electorate 2028 | Variance 2028 |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Nazeing and Epping Upland | 3 | 5,130 | -8% | 7,048 | 8% |
| Roydon | 1 | 1,751 | -6% | 1,926 | -12% |

| PD | PD name | Parish | Parish ward | Proposed ward | 2022 | 2028 |
|----|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|
| | | | | | | |
| BS | Upland North | Epping Upland | | Nazeing and Epping Upland | 610 | 695 |
| ВТ | Upland South | Epping Upland | | Nazeing and Epping Upland | 66 | 75 |
| BU | Bumbles Green | Nazeing | Bumbles Green | Nazeing and Epping Upland | 464 | 522 |
| BV | Broadley Common | Roydon | Broadley Common | Nazeing and Epping Upland | 624 | 1,876 |
| DA | Nazeingbury | Nazeing | Nazeingbury | Nazeing and Epping Upland | 2,518 | 2,909 |

| DB | Riverside | Nazeing | Riverside | Nazeing and Epping | 848 | 971 |
|----|------------|---------|----------------|--------------------|-------|-------|
| | | | | Upland | | |
| DC | Dobbs Weir | Roydon | Dobbs Weir | Roydon | 415 | 455 |
| DD | Roydon | Roydon | Roydon Village | Roydon | 1,336 | 1,471 |
| | Village | | | | | ĺ |

It is challenging to achieve both strong community identity and electoral equality in this area because of the significant growth in electorate predicted. We considered a single one-member ward covering Epping Upland and other rural areas but this would have led to poor electoral equality because of the change in electorate over five years.

We therefore propose maintaining a single-member Roydon ward ((DC, DD) and combining Nazeing (BU, DA, DB), Epping Upland (BS, BT) and the Broadley Common (BV) polling district from Roding into a new Nazeing and Epping Upland ward. These areas are already in the same county division, share the characteristics of being villages and hamlets set in countryside with substantial new development planned south of Harlow and use the same road network.

WALTHAM ABBEY

| Name of ward | Number of cllrs | Electorate 2022 | Variance 2022 | Electorate 2028 | Variance 2028 |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Waltham Abbey South and Rural | 3 | 5,418 | -3% | 6,003 | -8% |
| Waltham Abbey East | 3 | 5,525 | -1% | 6,653 | 1% |
| Waltham Abbey West | 3 | 5,485 | -1% | 6,690 | 2% |

| PD | PD name | Parish | Parish ward | Proposed ward | 2022 | 2028 |
|-----------|--------------|---------|-------------|--------------------|-------|-------|
| | | | | | | |
| BK | Ninefields | W Abbey | Paternoster | Waltham Abbey East | 1,618 | 1,923 |
| BL | Paternoster | W Abbey | Paternoster | Waltham Abbey East | 1,817 | 1,991 |
| ВО | Honey Lane | W Abbey | Honey Lane | Waltham Abbey East | 1,127 | 1,289 |
| BP | Breach Barns | W Abbey | North East | Waltham Abbey East | 415 | 735 |
| BQ 20% | Monkswood | W Abbey | North East | Waltham Abbey East | 548 | 715 |
| BF | High Beach | W Abbey | High Beach | Waltham Abbey | 522 | 543 |
| | | | | South and Rural | | |
| BG | Sewardstone | W Abbey | High Beach | Waltham Abbey | 980 | 1045 |
| | | | | South and Rural | | |
| BH | Upshire | W Abbey | High Beach | Waltham Abbey | 305 | 347 |
| | | | | South and Rural | | |
| BJ | Woodbine | W Abbey | High Beach | Waltham Abbey | 257 | 292 |
| | Close | | | South and Rural | | |
| BM | Leverton | W Abbey | Honey Lane | Waltham Abbey | 1,888 | 2,150 |
| | | | | South and Rural | | |
| BN | Brookways | W Abbey | Honey Lane | Waltham Abbey | 1,466 | 1,626 |
| | | | | South and Rural | | |
| BQ | Monkswood | W Abbey | North East | Waltham Abbey | 2,192 | 2859 |
| 80% | | | | West | | |

| BR | Abbey | W Abbey | South West | Waltham Abbey | 3,293 | 3831 |
|----|-------|---------|------------|---------------|-------|------|
| | | | | West | | |

Waltham Abbey can be divided into three three-member wards with acceptable levels of electoral equality. We have used existing polling districts to create three wards: Waltham Abbey Rural, Waltham Abbey West and Waltham Abbey East but accept there may be other acceptable ways of dividing the parish into wards.

Waltham Abbey shares a common identity and has strong community links across the parish although we have taken into account the difference between the more urban areas in the centre of the parish and the scattered settlements around the edges of the parish (Sewardstone, High Beach, Upshire, Woodbine Close).