



Stage 1

Stage 2

Stage 3

Stage 4

Stage 5

Stage 6

Stage 7

Preliminary stage

Approx six months

Councillor numbers

Approx one month

Warding or division arrangements

Approx two months

Draft recommendations

Approx two months

Final recommendations

Approx three weeks

Parliamentary approval

40 days

Implementation

At next election

Based on information received from previous stage we produce draft recommendations on future electoral arrangements.

Open consultation to see what public thinks of our plans for the area.

Consultation open for 10 weeks

Decide how many councillors should be elected – base decision on evidence received from local authority and respondents.

Ask the public for views on:

- Number of wards/divisions
- Names of wards/divisions
- Where boundaries between wards/divisions should lie
- Number of councillors per ward/division

Consultation open for 10 weeks

Gather initial information from the local authority being reviewed, including electoral forecasts/data.

Meet with all councillors, officers, group leaders and, where applicable, parish and town councils

Based on information from draft recommendations we produce final recommendations for future electoral arrangements.

These recommendations will be put before Parliament to be made into law.

Consultation open for 10 weeks

Order laid in Parliament for **40 days** to accept or reject

Implement new electoral arrangements at next election date

Further draft recommendations

If we receive strong evidence against draft recommendations, we may alter recommendations. Reopen consultation for **six weeks** on revised draft recommendations.

Additional stage of consultation