

**From:** Louise Stubbs <deputytownclerk@buckingham-tc.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 21 November 2022 11:45  
**To:** reviews  
**Subject:** Buckinghamshire Boundary Wards

**Categories:** Submissions, [REDACTED]

Dear Boundary Commission,

Please find below the agreed response from Buckingham Town Council to the Buckinghamshire Ward Boundaries proposal.

Buckingham Town Council has reviewed the proposed wards for Buckinghamshire Council. The current wards have not been recommended as the Local Government Boundary Commission felt that the existing arrangement separating the Parish of Buckingham into two separate wards, each combined with rural areas, does not reflect community identities, or promote effective and convenient local government.

It is to be noted that the proposed ward plan still combines the town of Buckingham with rural areas.

The following confirmation is requested by the Town Council:

- It should be confirmed by the Boundary Commission that the Buckingham ward for Buckinghamshire Council should include all of the Osier Way development, including any housing phases not yet agreed. (Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan site BU046.)
- Having a housing development half in and half out of the ward would create numerous instances of breaking local ties within a settlement, including in terms of transport, schooling, housing and health services.

The following amendment is suggested:

- The inclusion of Leckhampstead into the Buckingham ward. The inclusion of Leckhampstead with the Horwood ward is awkward geographically. Residents of Leckhampstead come to Buckingham to access schooling, health services and transport. Separating them from Buckingham excludes the electorate in that area from having access to councillors that also represent the area and facilities they use.

The following inconsistency is proposed to be resolved, by allocating the Buckingham ward four councillors:

- The addition of Leckhampstead to the Buckingham ward would add 175 to the forecast electorate of the ward, creating a forecast electorate of 15,102. The proposed 3 councillors for this area would create a 5,034 electors per councillors. An 11.3% variance against the average and higher than the 10% sought to demonstrate electoral parity across the county.
- Other wards in Buckinghamshire have 3 councillors for a much lower forecast electorate. For example, Chalfont St Peter has a 11,948 forecast electorate. This is 3,983 electors per councillor. A -12% variance.
- Changing the new Buckingham ward to 4 councillors would result in 3,776 electors per councillor and return some parity in overall representation, as most of the northern wards are recommended to have a higher than average number of electors per councillor.

Kind Regards,

Louise

**Louise Stubbs**

**Deputy Town Clerk  
Buckingham Town Council**

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