

New electoral arrangements for North Tyneside Council Final Recommendations

October 2023

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A note on our mapping:

The maps shown in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Whilst best efforts have been made by our staff to ensure that the maps included in this report are representative of the boundaries described by the text, there may be slight variations between these maps and the large PDF map that accompanies this report, or the digital mapping supplied on our consultation portal. This is due to the way in which the final mapped products are produced. The reader should therefore refer to either the large PDF supplied with this report or the digital mapping for the true likeness of the boundaries intended. The boundaries as shown on either the large PDF map or the digital mapping should always appear identical.

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Introduction

Who we are and what we do

1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament.¹ 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.

2 The members of the Commission are:

- Professor Colin Mellors OBE (Chair)
- Andrew Scallan CBE (Deputy Chair)
- Amanda Nobbs OBE
- Steve Robinson
- Wallace Sampson OBE
- Liz Treacy
- Jolyon Jackson CBE (Chief Executive)

What is an electoral review?

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

4 When carrying out an electoral review the Commission has three main considerations:

- Improving electoral equality by equalising the number of electors that each councillor represents.
- Ensuring that the recommendations reflect community identity.
- Providing arrangements that support effective and convenient local government.

5 Our task is to strike the best balance between these three considerations when making our recommendations.

¹ Under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

6 More detail regarding the powers that we have, as well as the further guidance and information about electoral reviews and review process in general, can be found on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Why North Tyneside?

7 We are conducting a review of North Tyneside Council ('the Council') as its last review was completed in 2002, and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.²

8 This electoral review is being carried out to ensure that:

- The wards in North Tyneside are in the best possible places to help the Council carry out its responsibilities effectively.
- The number of electors represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the borough.

Our proposals for North Tyneside

9 North Tyneside should be represented by 60 councillors, the same number as there are now.

10 North Tyneside should have 20 wards, the same number as there are now.

11 The boundaries of all wards should change.

12 We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for North Tyneside.

How will the recommendations affect you?

13 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which ward you vote in, which other communities are in that ward, and, in some cases, which parish council ward you vote in. Your ward name may also change.

14 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the borough nor result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. The recommendations will not have an effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums and we are not able to take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

² Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 56(1).

Review timetable

15 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for North Tyneside. We then held three periods of consultation with the public on warding patterns for the borough. The submissions received during consultation have informed our final recommendations.

16 The review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
23 August 2022	Number of councillors decided
30 August 2022	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
7 November 2022	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
10 February 2023	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
17 April 2023	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
25 July 2023	Publication of further draft recommendations for north-west North Tyneside; start of third consultation
31 October 2023	Publication of final recommendations

Analysis and final recommendations

17 Legislation³ states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors⁴ there are now, but also on how many there are likely to be in the five years after the publication of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for our wards.

18 In reality, we are unlikely to be able to create wards with exactly the same number of electors in each; we have to be flexible. However, we try to keep the number of electors represented by each councillor as close to the average for the council as possible.

19 We work out the average number of electors per councillor for each individual local authority by dividing the electorate by the number of councillors, as shown on the table below.

	2022	2028
Electorate of North Tyneside	157,929	165,332
Number of councillors	60	60
Average number of electors per councillor	2,632	2,756

20 When the number of electors per councillor in a ward is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the ward as having 'good electoral equality'. All but three of our proposed wards for North Tyneside are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2028.

Submissions received

21 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Electorate figures

22 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2028, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2023. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 5% by 2028.

23 We considered the information provided by the Council and are satisfied that the projected figures are the best available at the present time. We have used these figures to produce our final recommendations.

³ Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

⁴ Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

Number of councillors

24 North Tyneside Council currently has 60 councillors. We have looked at evidence provided by the Council and have concluded that keeping this number the same will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

25 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 60 councillors.

26 As North Tyneside Council elects by thirds (meaning it has elections in three out of every four years) there is a presumption in legislation⁵ that the Council have a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards. We will only move away from this pattern of wards should we receive compelling evidence during consultation that an alternative pattern of wards will better reflect our statutory criteria.

27 We received no submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on wards.

28 We have therefore maintained 60 councillors for our final recommendations.

Ward boundaries consultation

29 We received 67 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included two borough-wide proposals from the Council and the Conservative Group. The Labour Group and North Tyneside CLP both endorsed the majority of the Council's submission. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for wards arrangements in particular areas of the borough.

30 The two borough-wide schemes provided a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards for North Tyneside. We carefully considered the proposals received and were of the view that the proposed patterns of wards resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the authority and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries.

31 Our draft recommendations were based on a combination of the schemes we received. We also took into account local evidence that we received, which provided further evidence of community links and locally recognised boundaries. In some areas we considered that the proposals did not provide for the best balance between our statutory criteria and so we identified alternative boundaries.

⁵ Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 2(3)(d) and paragraph 2(5)(c).

32 We visited the area in order to look at the various different proposals on the ground. This tour of North Tyneside helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

33 Our draft recommendations were for 20 three-councillor wards. We considered that our draft recommendations would provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

Draft recommendations consultation

34 We received 320 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations. These included a response from North Tyneside Council with a revised warding pattern for the north-west of the borough. We also received submissions from North Tyneside Council Conservative Group and North Tyneside Conservative Federation, both in full support of the draft recommendations. We received four submissions from local councillors and 313 submissions from local residents. Of the submissions we received from local residents, 235 were submitted by a group named 'North Tyneside Council – who represents you?', which allowed local residents to make a submission via a dedicated website. North Tyneside Council also carried out a consultation with electors affected by their revised warding pattern as part of their submission. The majority of the other submissions commented on all wards, with a particular focus on our proposals in north-west North Tyneside.

35 As a result of the submissions, we carried out a further consultation on the warding pattern for six wards in north-west North Tyneside.

Further draft recommendations

36 In response to our consultation on further draft recommendations in north-west North Tyneside we received 22 submissions, including a response from North Tyneside Council.

Final recommendations

37 Our final recommendations are for 20 three-councillor wards. We consider that our final recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

38 Our final recommendations are based on the draft recommendations with a modification to the wards in the north-west of the borough based on the outcome of our consultation on further draft recommendations for those six wards. We also

make minor modifications to the boundaries between Howdon and Wallsend Central ward.

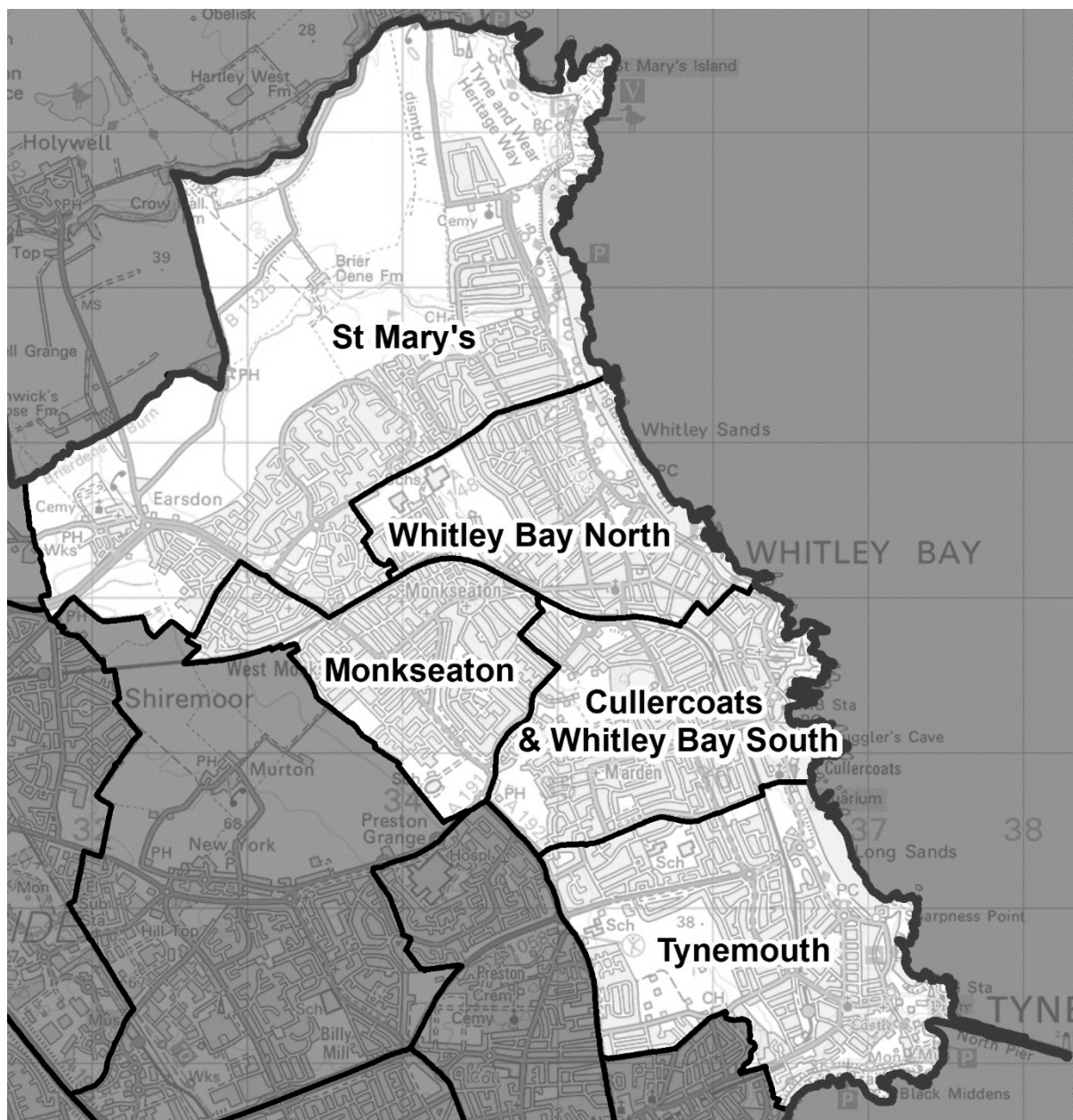
39 The tables and maps on pages 9–22 detail our final recommendations for each area of North Tyneside. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory⁶ criteria of:

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

40 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 26 and on the large map accompanying this report.

⁶ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Cullercoats, Monkseaton, St Mary's, Tynemouth and Whitley Bay



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
Cullercoats & Whitley Bay South	3	9%
Monkseaton	3	6%
St Mary's	3	0%
Tynemouth	3	-2%
Whitley Bay North	3	4%

Monkseaton, St Mary's and Whitley Bay North

41 Our draft recommendations in this area were based on the Conservative Group's scheme. We considered that the Conservatives' boundaries in this area were clear and identifiable, and we noted the strong evidence demonstrating how these wards will reflect communities in the area.

42 In response to our consultation on these draft recommendations, we received around 50 submissions that mentioned one or more of the wards in this area. This included a response from the Council and a number from local residents. The Council stated that it had looked at whether to propose changes in the Monkseaton and Whitley Bay North area but decided not to.

43 Of the submissions we received from local residents, 11 were in favour of our proposed Monkseaton ward, all of which stated that the ward accurately reflected the Monkseaton community.

44 Two local residents suggested that Earsdon should be included in Monkseaton ward, but this would result in poor electoral equality of 20% more electors than average in Monkseaton ward and 14% fewer electors in St Mary's ward. Two local residents specifically mentioned the Newsteads Drive area which we proposed to move from a Monkseaton ward to St Mary's ward. One of these local residents supported the move, stating that this area had strong ties to the St Mary's area, particularly in terms of local schooling. Two local residents opposed this proposal and suggested the area remain in Monkseaton. However, the residents did not propose any alternative to the poor electoral equality that would result from this proposal, which would also see 20% more electors than average in Monkseaton ward and 14% fewer electors in St Mary's ward.

45 In response to our proposed St Mary's ward, we received 22 comments. Of these submissions, 16 supported our proposed St Mary's ward with comments that the ward had a strong community identity and by maintaining all the areas in the existing ward in our proposed ward we reflected that community identity. Six submissions objected to our proposed ward, all regarding the inclusion of either the Earsdon or Newsteads Drive areas or both. As mentioned above, however, they provided no alternative proposal to address the poor electoral equality.

46 We received 11 submissions that specifically mentioned Whitley Bay North wards, with eight submissions expressing support for our proposed draft recommendations. These submissions suggested that the proposed ward reflected community identity, with one respondent suggesting it was good to see Whitley Bay covered by two wards with the northern part having strong ties to St Mary's and Monkseaton and the southern part having strong ties to Cullercoats and Tynemouth. The three submissions that opposed our ward did not give any reasons for doing so.

47 Our proposed final recommendations for these three wards are identical to our draft recommendations with three three-councillor wards of Monkseaton, St Mary's and Whitley Bay North. These wards have electoral variances of 6%, 0% and 4% from the average for the borough by 2028, respectively.

Cullercoats & Whitley Bay South and Tynemouth

48 Our draft recommendations for these two wards were based on the Conservative Group scheme which paired Cullercoats with the south of Whitley Bay rather than with Tynemouth as in the warding pattern we received from the Council.

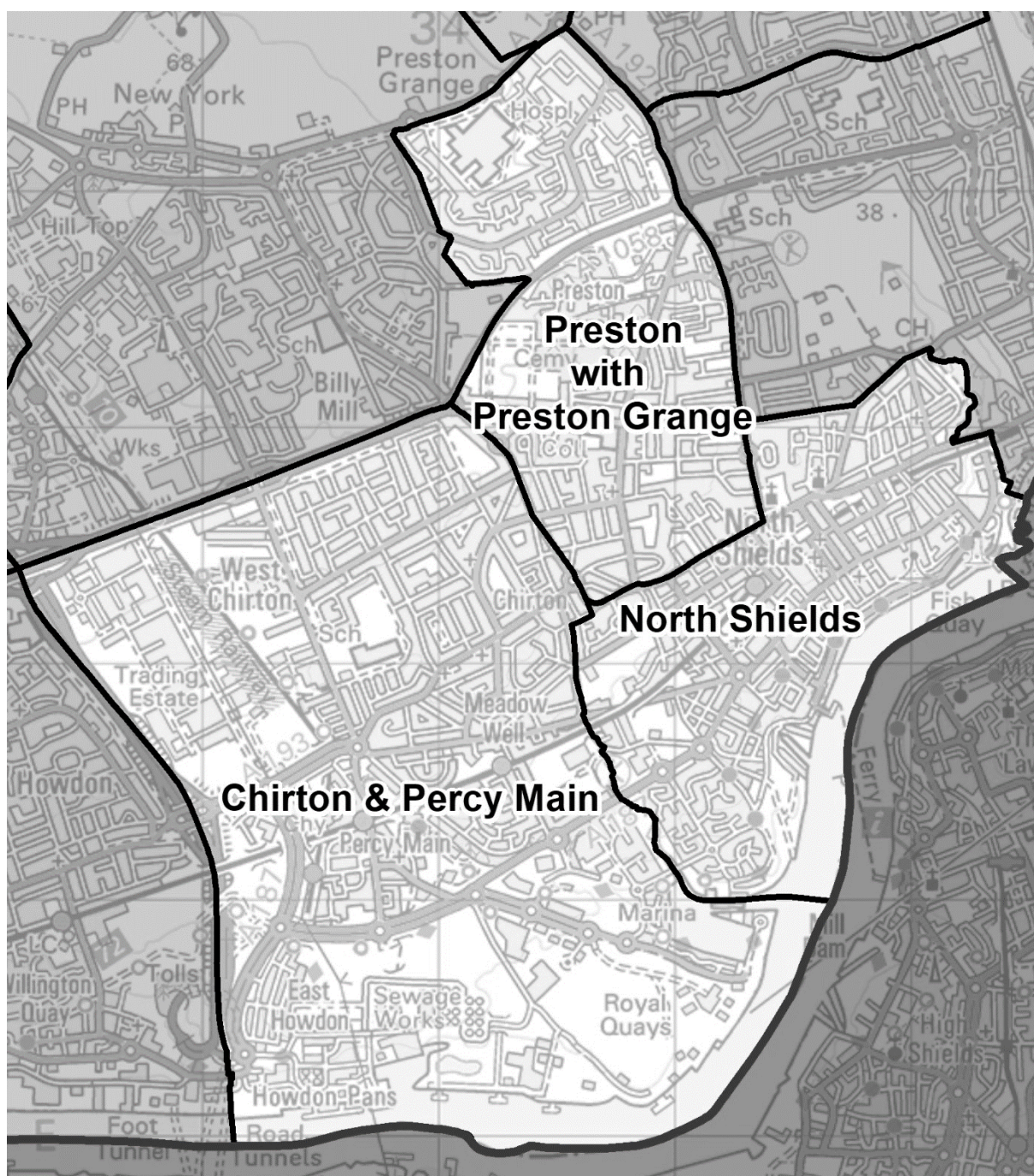
49 We received around 70 submissions that mentioned either or both of these wards. The Council stated that it had looked at whether to propose changes in the Tynemouth and Cullercoats and Whitley Bay areas but decided not to.

50 We received 48 submissions specifically about Tynemouth ward, with 47 of them in favour of the proposed draft recommendation for Tynemouth. In these submissions there was strong, evidenced support for Tynemouth forming a ward of its own. Whilst there is currently a ward named Tynemouth in North Tyneside this ward contains a large proportion of North Shields within the existing ward. Under our draft recommendations the entirety of North Shields is in a ward of that name.

51 We received 18 submissions regarding our proposed Cullercoats & Whitley Bay South ward. Our draft recommendation for this ward was to extend the existing ward northwards to take in the south of Whitley Bay to compensate for the area to the south of Hartington Road moving to Tynemouth ward. Fifteen submissions were in support of our proposed Cullercoats & Whitley Bay South ward, with several mentioning the shared community ties between the two areas. Three submissions opposed our proposed ward, with all suggesting that Cullercoats and the south of Whitley Bay do not share a community identity, with one submission suggesting Cullercoats has a stronger tie to Tynemouth. None of these submissions proposed an alternative warding pattern and we noted the support in other submissions when proposing our final recommendations.

52 Our final recommendations are for two wards of Cullercoats & Whitley Bay South and Tynemouth which would each be represented by three councillors and would have electoral variances of 9% and -2% by 2028, respectively.

Chirton, North Shields and Preston



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
Chirton & Percy Main	3	10%
North Shields	3	7%
Preston with Preston Grange	3	-8%

Chirton & Percy Main and North Shields.

53 We received 19 submissions regarding this area all from local residents. Our draft proposals for these two wards were a ward focused on containing the North

Shields community in a single ward and a Chirton & Percy Main ward with very strongly defined northern and western boundaries along the A19 and A1058.

54 We received two submissions in support of our proposed Chirton & Percy Main ward and no submissions that opposed it. We received 17 submissions in response to our proposed North Shields ward, in addition to those who supported our proposed Tynemouth ward which transferred a portion of North Shields out of that ward. Fifteen submissions were in support of our North Shields ward as reflecting the extent of the North Shields community. Two submissions opposed our proposed North Shields ward with one suggesting a revised boundary along Preston Avenue rather than Trevor Terrace. This proposed boundary would result in an increased variance in North Shields from 7% more electors to 15% more electors than the average for the borough. We did not consider we had received the evidence to justify this level of electoral inequality.

55 We propose to confirm our draft recommendations as final for these two wards. Our final recommendations are for two three-councillor wards of Chirton & Percy Main and North Shields with electoral equality of 10% and 7% respectively, by 2028.

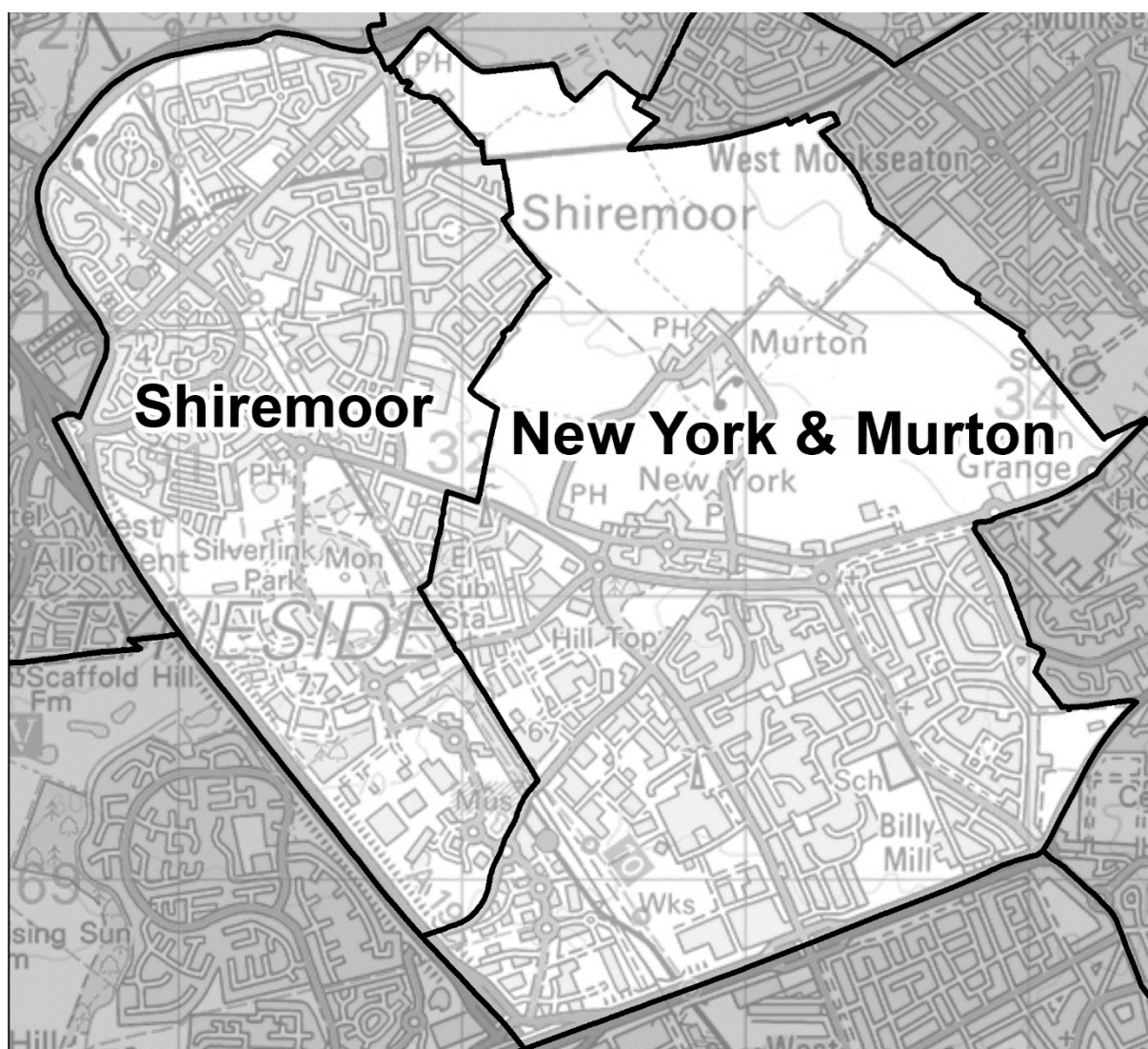
Preston with Preston Grange

56 We received 39 submissions regarding this area from the Council, a local councillor and local residents. Our draft recommendations for this ward extended the existing ward over the A1058 to include the Malvern Road area in the ward.

57 In response to our draft recommendations the Council stated that they considered proposing a change to this ward but decided not to. Councillor Bones, an existing councillor for Preston ward, wrote in support of our proposed Preston with Preston Grange ward stating that the proposal reunited previously divided communities, had strong transport links and reflected local schooling. Councillor Bones also noted that there was significant public support for this ward. We received 37 further submissions from local residents, with 36 in favour of the proposed ward and only one opposed. These submissions reiterated the points made by Councillor Bones that our proposed ward reflected local communities.

58 Our final recommendations for Preston with Preston Grange ward will see it represented by three councillors and will have an electoral variance of -8% by 2028.

New York & Murton and Shiremoor



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
New York & Murton	3	5%
Shiremoor	3	-4%

New York & Murton and Shiremoor

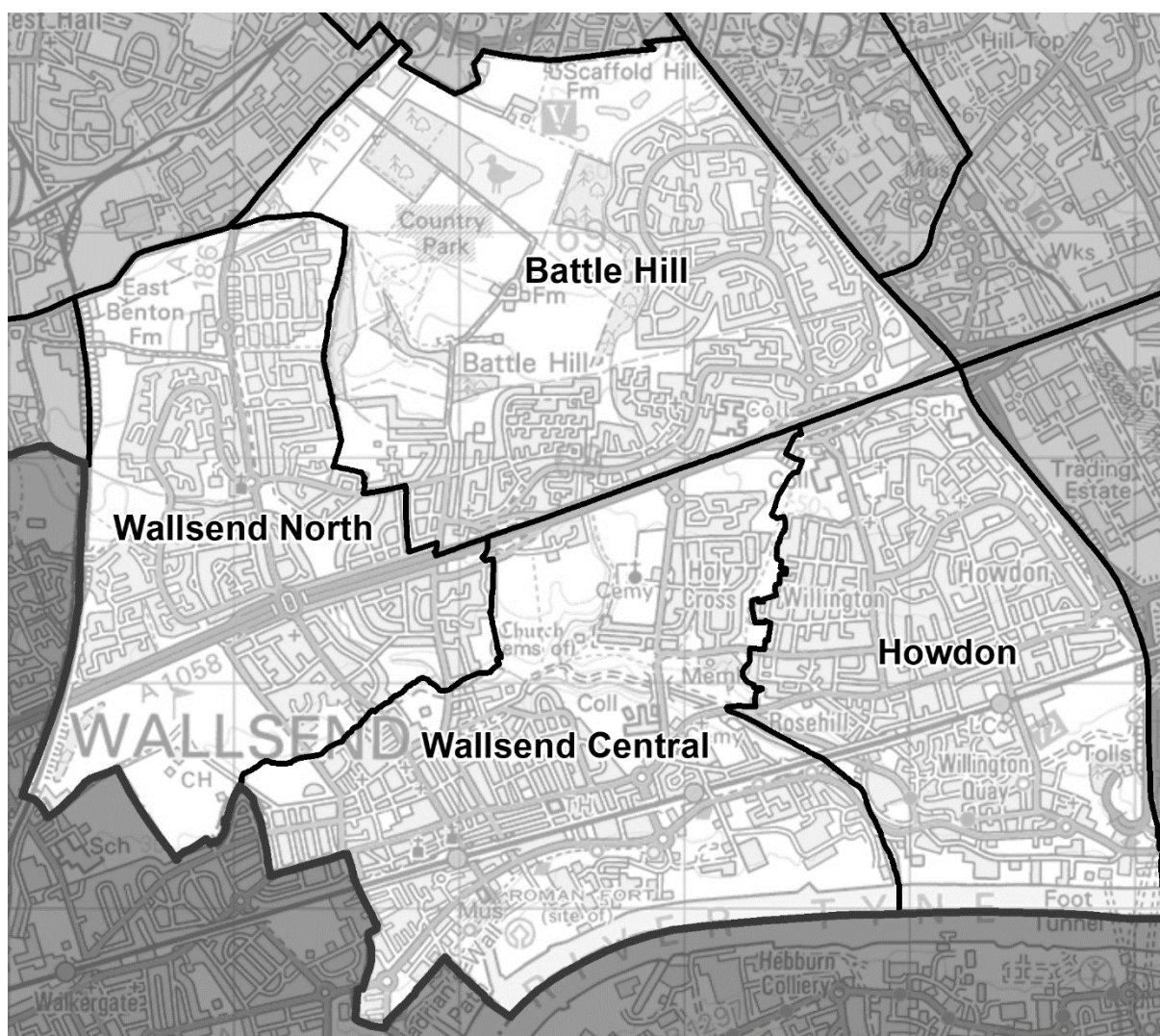
59 We received 18 submissions regarding these two wards. Our draft recommendations were based on the Conservative Group scheme. We proposed a three-councillor New York & Murton ward that allows for the growth of a significant housing development around the village of Murton and a three-councillor Shiremoor ward that encompassed all of that community.

60 Fourteen of the 18 submissions we received were related to New York & Murton ward and 13 were in favour of the draft recommendations, including the submission from Councillor Scargill. The one submission opposed gave no reason

for their objection. The other four submissions were in favour of our proposed Shiremoor ward.

61 We propose to confirm our draft recommendations for these wards as final and will see the area represented by two three-councillor wards of New York & Murton and Shiremoor with electoral variances of 5% and -4%, respectively, by 2028.

Battle Hill, Howdon and Wallsend



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
Battle Hill	3	-3%
Howdon	3	13%
Wallsend Central	3	-4%
Wallsend North	3	10%

Battle Hill and Wallsend North

62 We received two submissions regarding this area from local residents, one in support of our proposed Battle Hill ward and one in support of our proposed Wallsend North ward.

63 We received no other submissions that made reference to this area, and we therefore propose our draft recommendations are considered final.

64 Our final recommendations will see two three-councillor wards of Battle Hill and Wallsend North with variances of -3% and 10%, respectively, by 2028.

Howdon and Wallsend Central

65 We received four submissions regarding this area from the Council and three local residents.

66 As part of our draft recommendations, we considered but did not propose to adopt the Council's suggested Howdon ward – a ward that was supported by both the Labour Group and North Tyneside CLP. This proposed Howdon ward would be bounded by the Coast Road, A19, River Tyne, Wallsend Burn and the green space that runs north-south over Archer Street but was proposed to have an electoral variance of 13%. Our draft recommendation for Howden ward used the A19 as the boundary in the east of the ward and the boundary proposed by the Conservative Group around West Farm Road and Glanton Close in the west which allowed us to propose a ward that had good electoral equality of 6%.

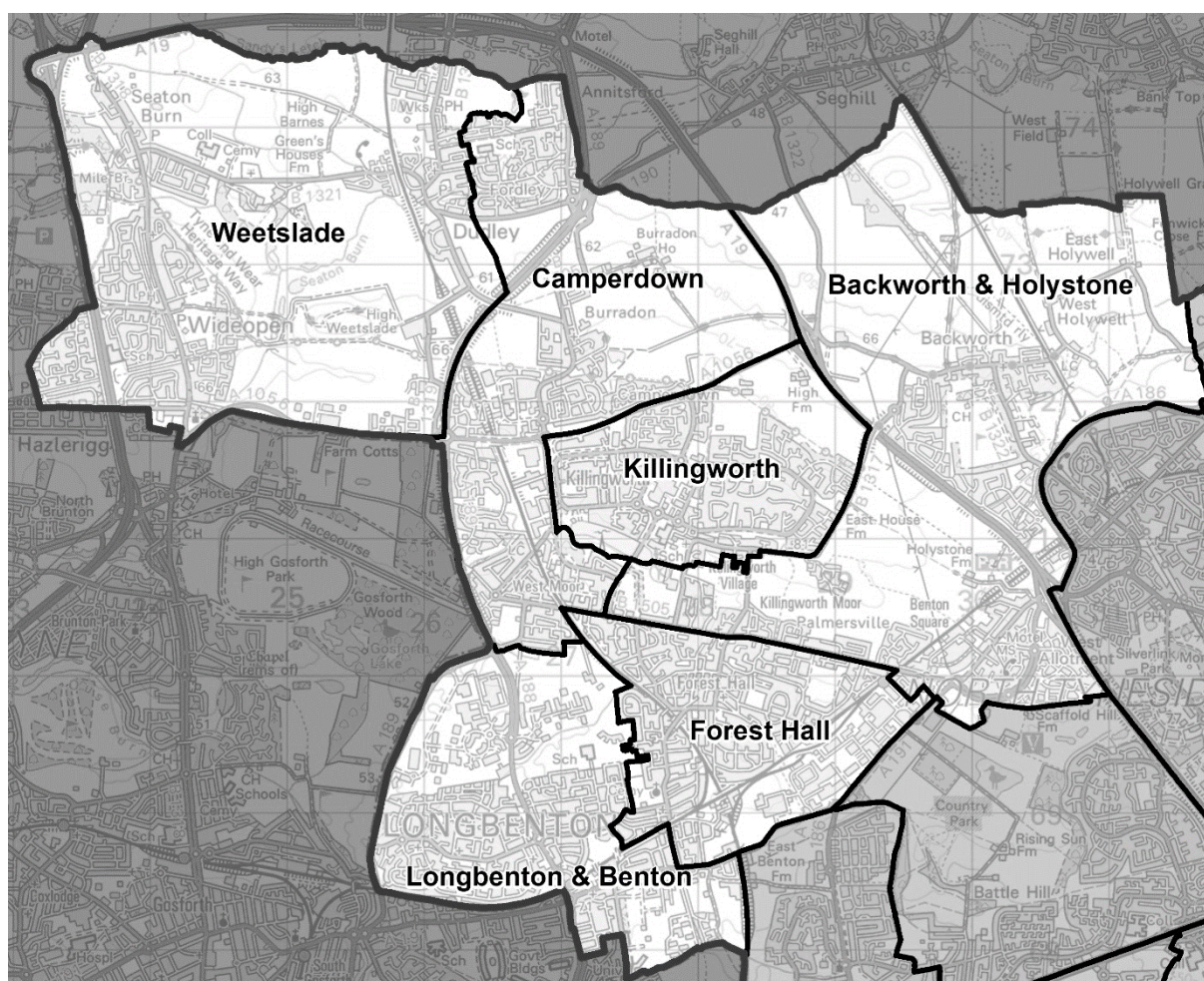
67 In response to our draft recommendation, the Council suggested again that their proposed ward with a variance of 13% should be considered as it was completely reflective of the Howdon community. They stated that the properties we had proposed to include in Wallsend Central ward were an integral part of the Howdon community and our draft recommendations were divisive for these electors. As part of their response to our consultation, they contacted households in the area and identified that a majority supported their proposed boundaries. In addition, we received three submissions directly that commented on this area. Two of those submissions supported the revised boundary suggested by the Council and one supported our proposed draft recommendations.

68 Having considered the submissions we received during both consultations, we are persuaded by the Council's argument that their proposed ward best reflects the Howdon community and that a variance of 13% achieves the balance of electoral equality and recognising community ties for the area.

69 We propose to amend the boundary between Howdon and Wallsend Central ward to follow a similar course to that proposed by the Council, although we make some minor modifications to ensure that our boundary uses ground detail to aid electoral administration.

70 Our proposed final recommendations are for two three-councillor wards with Howdon having 13% more electors than the average for the borough by 2028 and Wallsend Central having 4% fewer electors than the average.

North-west North Tyneside



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
Backworth & Holystone	3	-7%
Camperdown	3	-11%
Forest Hall	3	-4%
Killingworth	3	-12%
Longbenton & Benton	3	-5%
Weetslade	3	-4%

Backworth & Holystone and Killingworth

71 Our draft recommendations proposed a three-councillor ward of Killingworth ward and a three-councillor Holystone ward which included Killingworth Village and parts of the Forest Hall community.

72 We received 20 submissions for our draft proposals for these two wards, with representations expressing a mixture of support and opposition. Those in support agreed with a Killingworth ward that contained all of the Killingworth community. Those opposed noted that while the ward did contain all of the Killingworth

community, it did not also include Killingworth Village, which was viewed as an integral part of the Killingworth community.

73 The Council's revised proposal for Killingworth ward moved Killingworth Village into Killingworth ward with a modified boundary that would run to the south of Killingworth Lake and to the south of properties on West Lane. They suggested that electors living on the streets of Northumbrian Way be included in a ward with West Moor. The Council also proposed a ward that paired Backworth with Holystone. This ward crossed the A19 and united Backworth with electors in the Holystone, Benton Square and Palmersville areas.

74 We adopted these wards as part of our further draft proposals and carried out further consultation in this area. We received three submissions. North Tyneside Council and a local resident supported the revised proposals wholly. Another local resident wrote suggesting the boundary between Killingworth and the West Moor area should follow Northumbrian Way so that the Lakeside estate was included in Killingworth ward.

75 Having considered all the responses we have received we propose to adopt the further draft recommendations for these two wards.

76 Upon checking the further draft recommendations in this area we discovered that there had been a small miscalculation in the electoral figures for Killingworth ward and that future electors in the new housing developments that lie between Northumbrian Way and the railway line had been counted as being in Killingworth ward rather than Camperdown ward. When allocated to the correct wards the electoral variances changed from -8% to -12% in Killingworth and from -13% to -11% in Camperdown ward.

77 We consider that the revised Killingworth ward better reflects the Killingworth community with its inclusion of Killingworth Village. We also consider that the housing development on Killingworth Moor will strengthen the ties between the Holystone and Backworth areas that we propose to pair in our Backworth & Holystone ward. We accept that the lack of ties between Backworth and Camperdown, due to the strong boundary formed by the A19 in this area, mean it is not appropriate to place them in a ward together.

78 We considered whether it was possible for the boundary to follow Northumbrian Way to include those electors on the Lakeside estate in Killingworth ward. However we concluded that the future housing developments in this area along Northumbrian Way make it more appropriate to keep the Lakeside estate and the development on Yates Close in Camperdown ward to reflect its likely future community ties to the new housing developments.

Camperdown and Weetslade

79 We received 20 submissions about our proposed Annitsford, Burradon & Backworth and Dudley, Seaton Burn & Wideopen wards, with five in support of our draft warding pattern and 15 opposed to it.

80 Our draft recommendations proposed a three-councillor ward that paired Annitsford, Burradon and Camperdown with the village of Backworth, which we named Annitsford, Burradon & Backworth, and a three-councillor Dudley, Seaton Burn & Wideopen ward.

81 As part of their response to our draft recommendations consultation, North Tyneside Council proposed two modified wards.

82 The Council proposed a slightly modified Dudley, Seaton Burn & Wideopen ward which included the Ashkirk area. This ward would have an electoral variance of 4% fewer electors than the average by 2028.

83 The Council also proposed a revised Annitsford & West Moor ward which paired the areas of Annitsford, Burradon and Camperdown with the West Moor community. This was in contrast to our draft recommendations which paired those areas with Backworth.

84 The Council's proposed Annitsford, Dudley & West Moor ward would have 13% fewer electors than the average for the borough by 2028. The Council argued that the A19 formed a strong boundary between Annitsford and Backworth which should not be breached in that location, but that it could be crossed in the area between Backworth and Holystone due to the stronger connections between those two areas.

85 We adopted the Council's suggested warding arrangement in this area as part of our further draft proposals.

86 In response to our further draft proposals, we received three submissions that referred to these wards. The Council and a local resident supported the further draft proposals but suggested that the wards revert to well-established local names of Camperdown and Weetslade for the two wards. We also received a submission from Councillor Walker who argued that the West Moor area had limited connections with places to its north.

87 Having considered all of the submissions received across all three consultations, we propose to adopt the further draft recommendations as final for these two wards.

88 As discussed above, we were persuaded that Backworth should not be paired with Annitsford and Burradon due to the strong boundary the A19 provides.

89 We considered whether it was possible to link West Moor with the area to its south or east but we could not find a proposal that had acceptable electoral equality, with all proposals that exclude West Moor from Camperdown ward resulting in very poor electoral equality of 37% fewer electors for that ward by 2028. We note that our proposed ward will have 13% fewer electors than the average for the borough but we consider that this level of electoral inequality is justified by the need to not divide communities nor cross strong boundaries such as the A19.

90 We accept the Council's proposal to move back to the existing ward names of Camperdown and Weetslade given the similarity between the final recommendations and the existing warding pattern.

Forest Hall and Longbenton & Benton

91 During our draft recommendations consultation, we received 69 submissions that referred directly to these two wards submissions. These representations were in support and opposition to the draft proposals.

92 The Council's revised proposal suggested a three-councillor ward named Forest Hall which they stated would include all of the Forest Hall community in a single ward by using the B1505 as a northern boundary, whereas the draft recommendations had divided it between wards. The Council's proposed Longbenton & Benton ward included the majority of the Benton community in a Longbenton & Benton ward.

93 Given the contrasting views we received, we were eager to hear further evidence for this area. We adopted the Council's revised warding pattern as part of our further draft proposals to enable residents and other interested parties to make submissions to the Commission on these wards.

94 In response to our further draft recommendations consultation, we received 19 submissions relating to these two wards. The Council and a local resident were in favour of the further draft recommendations. Seventeen local residents were not in favour of the Longbenton & Benton ward, preferring the Benton community to remain in a ward with Forest Hall. Whilst some of these submissions proposed a slightly different configuration to the streets around Benton station, no submission suggested an alternative warding pattern that provided for good electoral equality for both wards.

95 Having considered all the submissions we have received for these areas across all our consultations, we propose to adopt the further draft recommendations as our final recommendations.

96 Whilst these proposals do pair the communities of Benton and Longbenton in the same ward despite respondents suggesting the two areas lack a degree of

communities ties, this arrangement enables us to propose a ward that does not divide the Forest Hall community.

97 Our general view is for a preference towards proposing wards that contain more disparate areas together rather than dividing coherent communities. We also note that there was support for the proposed Longbenton and Benton ward as well as opposition to it.

98 Our final proposal for north-west North Tyneside is to adopt the Council's revised proposal for this area which we consider, on balance, offers the best reflection of our statutory criteria of electoral equality, community identities and interests and effective and convenient local government.

99 Our proposal is for six three-councillor wards of Backworth & Holystone, Camperdown, Forest Hall, Killingworth, Longbenton & Benton and Weetslade. These ward will have electoral variances of -7%, -11%, -4%, -12%, -5% and -4%, respectively, by 2028.

Conclusions

100 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality in North Tyneside, referencing the 2022 and 2028 electorate figures against the proposed number of councillors and wards. A full list of wards, names and their corresponding electoral variances can be found at Appendix A to the back of this report. An outline map of the wards is provided at Appendix B.

Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2022	2028
Number of councillors	60	60
Number of electoral wards	20	20
Average number of electors per councillor	2,632	2,756
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	8	3
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	2	0

Final recommendations

North Tyneside should be made up of 60 councillors serving 20 wards representing 20 three-councillor wards. The details and names are shown in Appendix A and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

Mapping

Sheet 1, Map 1 shows the proposed wards for North Tyneside.

You can also view our final recommendations for North Tyneside on our interactive maps at www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk

What happens next?

101 We have now completed our review of North Tyneside. 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 2024.

Equalities

102 The Commission has looked at how it carries out reviews under the guidelines set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. It has made best endeavours to ensure that people with protected characteristics can participate in the review process and is sufficiently satisfied that no adverse equality impacts will arise as a result of the outcome of the review.

Appendices

Appendix A

Final recommendations for North Tyneside

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2022)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2028)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Backworth & Holystone	3	6,229	2,076	-21%	7,663	2,554	-7%
2	Battle Hill	3	8,027	2,676	2%	7,991	2,664	-3%
3	Camperdown	3	6,936	2,312	-12%	7,364	2,455	-11%
4	Chirton & Percy Main	3	8,794	2,931	11%	9,115	3,038	10%
5	Cullercoats & Whitley Bay South	3	8,991	2,997	14%	9,037	3,012	9%
6	Forest Hall	3	7,854	2,618	-1%	7,899	2,633	-4%
7	Howdon	3	9,263	3,088	17%	9,381	3,127	13%
8	Killingworth	3	6,724	2,241	-15%	7,255	2,418	-12%
9	Longbenton & Benton	3	7,614	2,538	-4%	7,894	2,631	-5%
10	Monkseaton	3	8,854	2,951	12%	8,771	2,924	6%
11	New York & Murton	3	6,009	2,003	-24%	8,644	2,881	5%

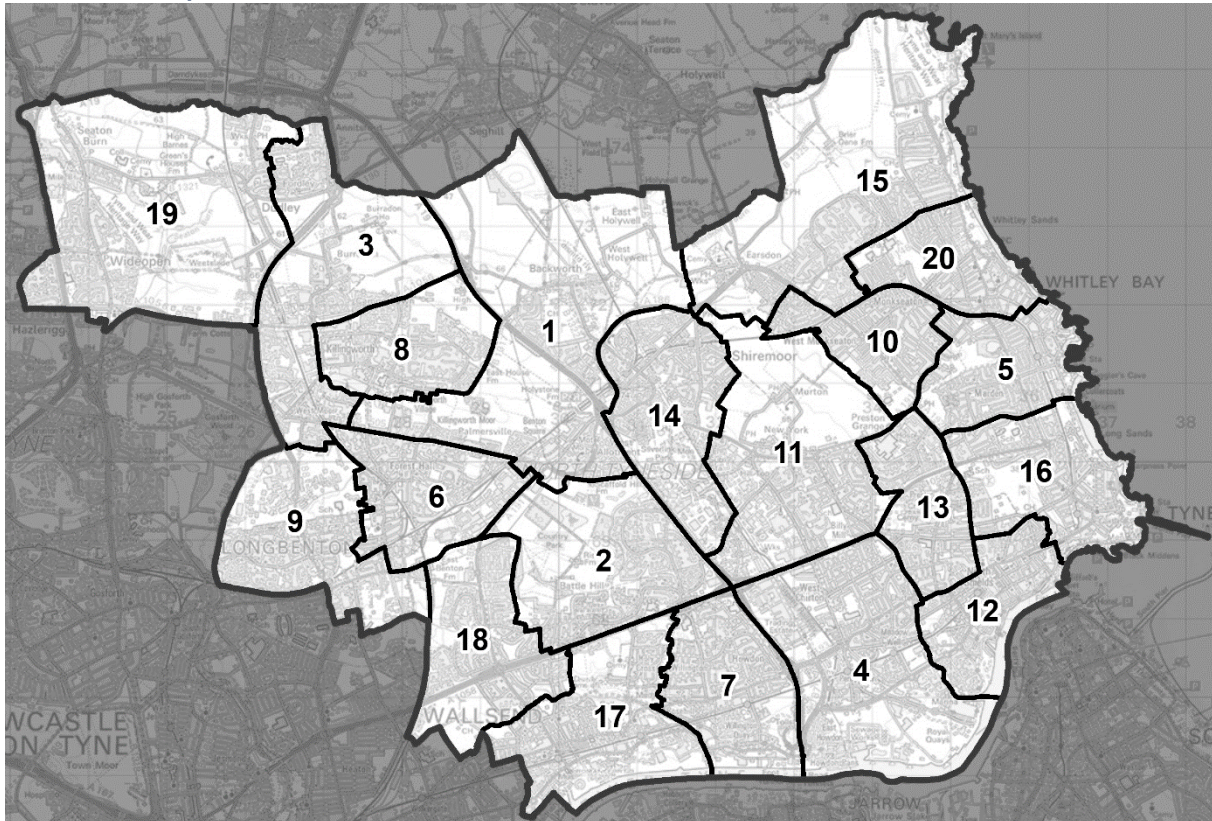
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2022)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2028)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
12 North Shields	3	8,008	2,669	1%	8,849	2,950	7%
13 Preston with Preston Grange	3	7,547	2,516	-4%	7,586	2,529	-8%
14 Shiremoor	3	7,881	2,627	0%	7,943	2,648	-4%
15 St Mary's	3	8,240	2,747	4%	8,261	2,754	0%
16 Tynemouth	3	8,058	2,686	2%	8,113	2,704	-2%
17 Wallsend Central	3	8,002	2,667	1%	7,924	2,641	-4%
18 Wallsend North	3	8,365	2,788	6%	9,101	3,034	10%
19 Weetslade	3	7,947	2,649	1%	7,925	2,642	-4%
20 Whitley Bay North	3	8,586	2,862	9%	8,614	2,871	4%
Totals	60	157,929	-	-	165,322	-	-
Averages	-	-	2,632	-	-	2,756	-

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by North Tyneside Council.

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

Appendix B

Outline map



Number	Ward name
1	Backworth & Holystone
2	Battle Hill
3	Camperdown
4	Chirton & Percy Main
5	Cullercoats & Whitley Bay South
6	Forest Hall
7	Howdon
8	Killingworth
9	Longbenton & Benton
10	Monkseaton
11	New York & Murton
12	North Shields
13	Preston with Preston Grange
14	Shiremoor
15	St Mary's
16	Tynemouth
17	Wallsend Central
18	Wallsend North
19	Weetslade
20	Whitley Bay North

A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/north-tyneside

Appendix C

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at:

www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/north-tyneside

Draft recommendations consultation

Local Authority

- North Tyneside Council

Political Groups

- North Tyneside Council Conservative Group
- North Tyneside Conservative Federation

Councillors

- Councillor L. Bartoli and Councillor C. Johnson – Joint Submission – (North Tyneside Council)
- Councillor L. Bones (North Tyneside Council)
- Councillor O. Scargill (North Tyneside Council)

Local Residents

- 313 local residents

Further draft recommendations consultation

Local Authority

- North Tyneside Council

Councillors

- Councillor J. Walker (North Tyneside Council)

Local Residents

- 20 local residents

Appendix D

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 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. We only take account of electors registered specifically for local elections during our reviews.
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 can 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

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) was set up by Parliament, independent of Government and political parties. It is directly accountable to Parliament through a committee chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons. It is responsible for conducting boundary, electoral and structural reviews of local government.

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