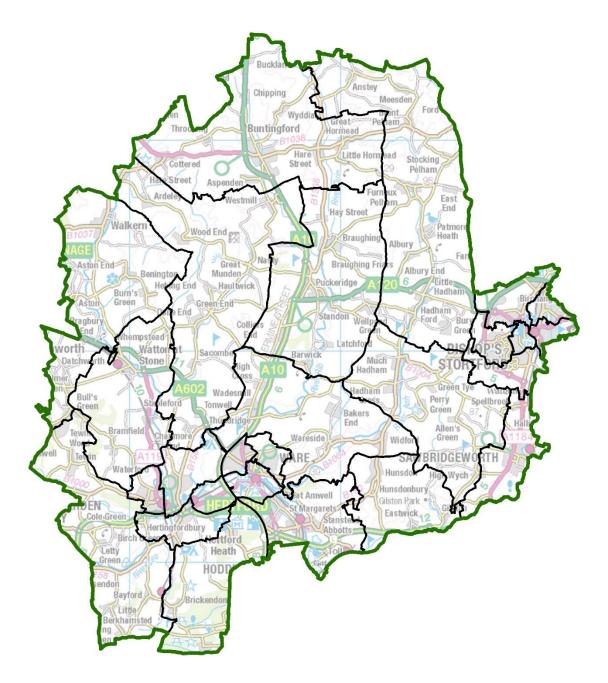
News Release from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Embargoed until: 00:01 2 August 2022

New political map for East Herts District Council

East Hertfordshire is set to have new boundaries for its council wards.



New wards for East Hertfordshire Credit: contains Ordnance Survey data (c) Crown copyright and database rights 2022 High resolution map available at https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lgbce/Reviews/Eastern/Hertfordshire/East%20Herts/Final/NoLabels.jpg

The Local Government Boundary Commission is the independent body that draws these boundaries. It has reviewed East Hertfordshire to make sure councillors will represent about the same number of electors, and that ward arrangements will help the council work effectively.

The Commission has published final recommendations for changes in East Hertfordshire. It says residents should be represented by 50 councillors. This is the same as the current arrangements.

Those councillors should represent 26 wards, four fewer than there are now. There will be six three-councillor wards, 12 two-councillor wards and eight single-councillor wards. The boundaries of most wards should change; three will stay the same.

Publishing the recommendations Professor Colin Mellors, Chair of the Commission, said:

"We are very grateful to people in East Hertfordshire. We looked at all the views they gave us. They helped us improve our earlier proposals.

"We believe the new arrangements will guarantee electoral fairness while maintaining local ties."

75 people and organisations made comments to help decide the new wards. Changes in response to what local people said include:

- Datchworth & Walkern ward renamed to Aston, Datchworth & Walkern, based on local evidence received
- The inclusion of Hormead parish into Buntingford ward to better reflect local community identities

The Commission has made further changes to its earlier proposals. Details can be found on its website at https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/eastern/hertfordshire/east-hertfordshire.

Parliament now needs to agree the changes. The new arrangements will then apply for the 2023 council elections.

Ends/

Notes to editors:

This consultation relates to the arrangements for <u>local government</u> elections. It is separate from consultations that are currently taking place across England on arrangements for <u>parliamentary</u> elections.

For further information contact the Commission's press office on 0330 500 1525 / 1250 or email press@lgbce.org.uk

An interactive map is available at https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/29963

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body accountable to Parliament. It recommends fair electoral and boundary arrangements for local authorities in England. In doing so, it aims to:

- Make sure that, within an authority, each councillor represents a similar number of electors
- Create boundaries that are appropriate, and reflect community ties and identities
- Deliver reviews informed by local needs, views and circumstances