

New electoral arrangements for Malvern Hills District Council Further Draft Recommendations

June 2022

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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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Analysis and further draft recommendations across Malvern Hills

1 Following our consultation on the draft recommendations for Malvern Hills, the Commission has decided to hold another period of consultation on further draft recommendations across the entire district, prior to publication of its final recommendations. The final recommendations for the whole of the district are due to be published in September 2022.

2 During consultation on the original draft recommendations that were published on 11 January 2022, we received 97 representations. Many submissions focused on specific areas across the district. We received a number of proposals for alternative warding arrangements across the district, which focused on ensuring that parishes could maintain existing relationships within wards.

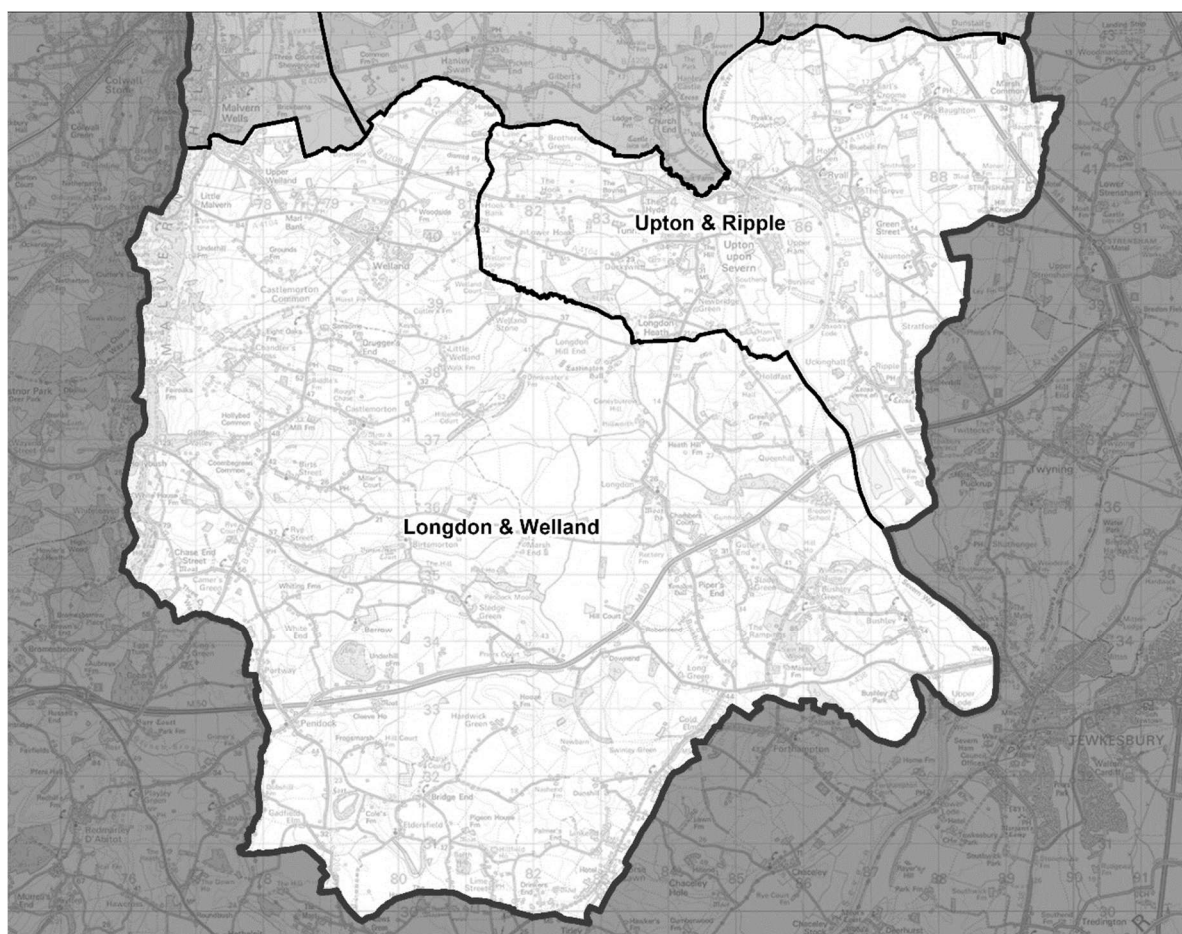
3 Accordingly, we have been persuaded to amend our proposals and publish further draft recommendations for the whole district. We are now inviting further views in order to identify whether these revised warding arrangements best reflect our statutory criteria.

4 We welcome all comments on these proposals, particularly on the location of the ward boundaries and the names of our proposed wards. This stage of consultation begins on 28 June 2022 and closes on 8 August 2022. Please see page 19 for more information on how to send us your response.

5 The tables and maps on pages 2-16 detail our further draft recommendations for wards across the district of Malvern Hills. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory criteria of:

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

Southern Malvern Hills



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Longdon & Welland	2	0%
Upton & Ripple	2	-5%

Longdon & Welland

7 Our draft proposals for this area were for single-councillor Longdon and Welland wards. These broadly reflected proposals from the Conservatives and Councillor Satterthwaite, respectively. We also moved Holdfast, Queenhill and Bushley parishes into a ward with Ripple, on the basis of responses from Ripple Parish Council and a resident.

8 In response to our proposals, we received many comments arguing that the separation of Holdfast and Queenhill parishes from Longdon parish was undesirable, given that they form a grouped parish. Respondents also commented on the River Severn as a barrier between Ripple and the parishes of Holdfast, Queenhill and Bushley. This was something we noted in our draft proposals and on which we were pleased to receive comments. Among the respondents who objected to our proposals were Longdon, Queenhill & Holdfast Parish Council.

9 We also received three comments of support, including from the Conservatives. A resident argued that this arrangement was preferable in that it combined similar rural areas together and did not involve placing them in the same ward as Upton-on-Severn.

10 Nevertheless, given the overwhelming opposition to our proposals, we considered ways we could avoid a ward which crossed the Severn. While few responses provided alternative options, a number suggested that, to accommodate the addition of Holdfast, Queenhill and Bushley parishes, the northern boundary of the proposed Longdon ward could be reduced and Welland reciprocally expanded.

11 Given our desire to avoid splitting parishes wherever feasible, this would have necessitated the removal of the entirety of Castlemorton parish. To do so would have gone against some of the responses to our original draft recommendations, which expressed support for linking Longdon and Castlemorton parishes. Therefore, we did not consider separating these parishes as appropriate.

12 We considered that an alternative way to accommodate the responses we had received was to combine our proposed Longdon & Welland wards. The increased size of the electorate means that the three aforementioned parishes can be added without creating a ward with poor electoral equality. We note that this goes against the notion of keeping these rural parishes and Welland separate, but our assessment is that combining unlike areas in a larger ward is better than separating similar ones for the sake of maintaining a geographically more compact ward.

Upton & Ripple

13 The remainder of our proposed Ripple ward (Ripple, Earl's Croome and Hill Croome parishes) would now be significantly undersized. We identified two possible areas with which these parishes could be combined to create a ward with good electoral equality.

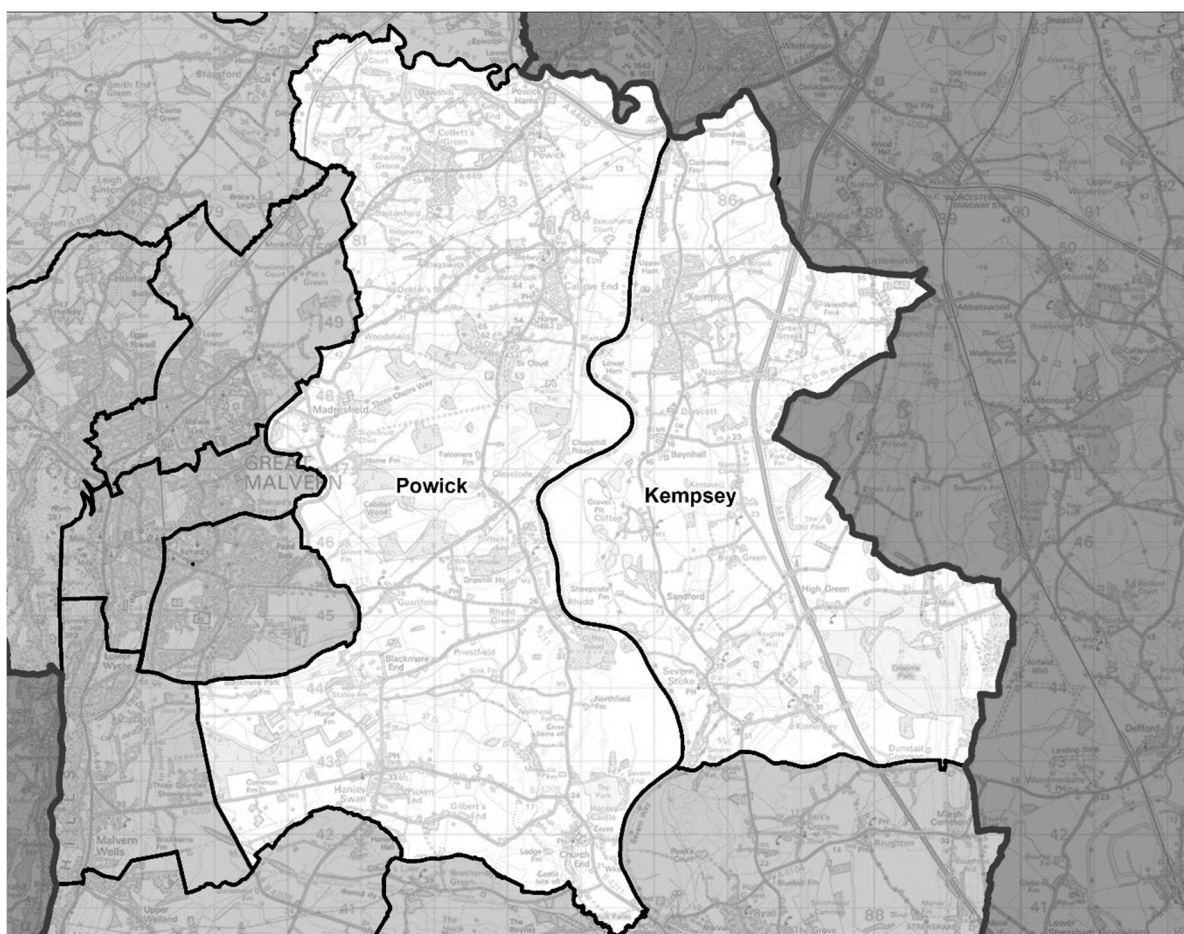
14 The first was the addition of Severn Stoke and Croome D'Abitot parishes. While this would accommodate Ripple Parish Council's request not to be in the same ward as Upton and would combine rural parishes to the east of the Severn, we were aware this would require amendments to our proposed Kempsey ward without any local comment to support this. We also received a submission from Severn Stoke requesting no further changes to our draft proposals, and Upton upon Severn Town Council again reiterating its preference to be in the same ward as Ripple.

15 Therefore, we are proposing the second option, which combines Ripple, Earl's Croome and Hill Croome parishes with our proposed Upton ward. As mentioned, this was the preference of Upton Town Council, and a resident noted that the Ryall area of Ripple has strong links with Upton, being just over Upton Bridge.

16 Further, by creating a two-councillor ward here it is possible to add the Hook parish ward to Upton and unite the whole of Upton upon Severn parish in one ward. This was not possible in our original recommendations for a single-councillor Upton ward as this ward would have had a high electoral variance of 13%. The unification of Upton parish within one district ward was supported by Upton upon Severn Town Council and a resident. This arrangement formed part of the Conservatives original proposal.

17 As we are proposing to move from single-councillor to two-councillor wards, and are making significant amendments to our draft proposals, we consider that it is appropriate to consult on whether these new proposals meet our statutory criteria.

Kempsey and Powick



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Kempsey	2	5%
Powick	2	5%

Kempsey

18 Our original draft recommendations for Kempsey retained the existing ward, formed of Kempsey, Severn Stoke and Croome D’Abitot parishes.

19 We received one comment on this proposed ward. The Conservatives argued that the needs of rural parishes would be neglected given the dominant size of Kempsey in this ward. We did consider, as outlined above in paragraph 14, warding the Severn Stoke and Croome D’Abitot parishes with Ripple and other parishes to the south. However, we were not minded to make this change, both because of the impacts on Ripple and because Severn Stoke argued for no changes to our original proposals for this area.

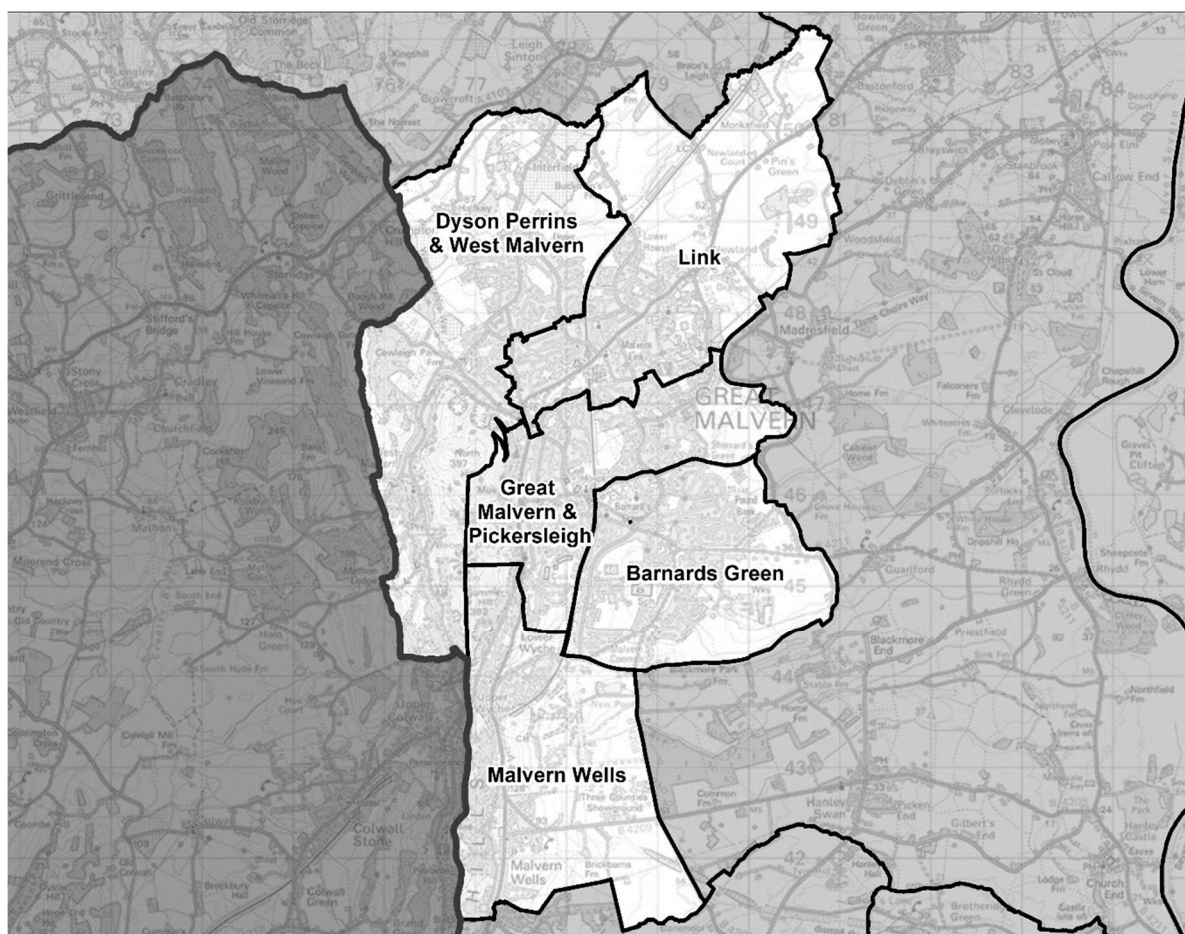
20 We are therefore still proposing a Kempsey ward which mirrors the existing ward.

Powick

21 In response to our draft proposal for a two-councillor Powick ward, we received comments from the Conservatives and a resident. Both argued that Hanley Castle parish should remain in a ward with Upton-on-Severn, and that it was too remote from Powick to be in the same ward.

22 The Conservatives acknowledged that the size of Powick parish meant that to reduce the size of this ward would require dividing Powick parish between wards. Without sufficient evidence to justify this on community grounds, we preferred the option of combining distinct areas in the same ward to separating a parish between district wards. We are therefore retaining our original draft recommendations for Powick ward.

Malvern



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Barnards Green	3	8%
Dyson Perrins & West Malvern	3	1%
Great Malvern & Pickersleigh	3	-6%
Link	3	-3%
Malvern Wells	1	-7%

Malvern Wells

23 In our original draft recommendations, we proposed a single-councillor Malvern Wells ward which covered the whole parish apart from the Upper Welland area which, in adopting Councillor Satterthwaite's suggestion, formed part of a ward with Welland parish.

24 We received a detailed submission from the Malvern Hills Trust. It argued that our proposals would disrupt the connection between those electors who pay a levy towards the Trust and those who have voting rights. They particularly pointed out that our proposal would see those electors in the Upper Welland part of Malvern Wells parish lose their rights to vote in Trust elections while still paying the related

levy. They argued we should not amend the external boundaries of Malvern wards so they were no longer aligned with the relevant parishes.

25 We carefully considered the evidence received from the Trust. While we acknowledge the administrative impact our recommendations may have, this is one factor of many we consider when developing our recommendations. The issue of voting rights and levy payers does not override the statutory criteria, as set out in legislation, that we must follow during this review. Our assessment is that the matters raised do not override our considerations of community identities and interests that led us to propose a Welland ward containing the Upper Welland part of Malvern Wells parish. We would also note that Little Malvern and Welland Parish Council, as well as a resident, expressed their support for the combination of Welland and Upper Welland, noting similarities between the two.

Barnards Green and Great Malvern & Pickersleigh

26 Some of the comments we received in this area of Malvern argued that the part of our proposed Priory ward to the east of the railway line formed part of the Pickersleigh community and should be within that ward. Evidence provided around this included educational links.

27 We received comments either broadly supporting our changes or objecting to them, but no further evidence or alternative warding patterns were submitted.

28 Overall, we were persuaded by the evidence concerning eastern part of Priory ward mentioned above. However it was not possible to add this to Pickersleigh without creating a ward with significant electoral inequality.

29 Therefore, we propose to merge our proposed Priory and Pickersleigh wards. This would create a three-councillor ward with good electoral equality, and we propose to amend the name to Great Malvern & Pickersleigh, as the West Worcestershire Liberal Democrats ('Liberal Democrats') argued that the name Great Malvern would be more identifiable and consistent.

30 We have decided not to make further amendments to our proposed Barnards Green ward.

Dyson Perrins & West Malvern and Link

31 We did not receive any specific comments about our proposals for Link ward. However, we received two comments on our proposal to include Newland parish in a ward with parts of Malvern. A resident argued that this arrangement would destroy the character of the village, while the Malvern Hills Trust again raised issues concerning the administrative effect of our recommendations arguing that they would result in Newland residents having Trust voting rights but without paying the levy.

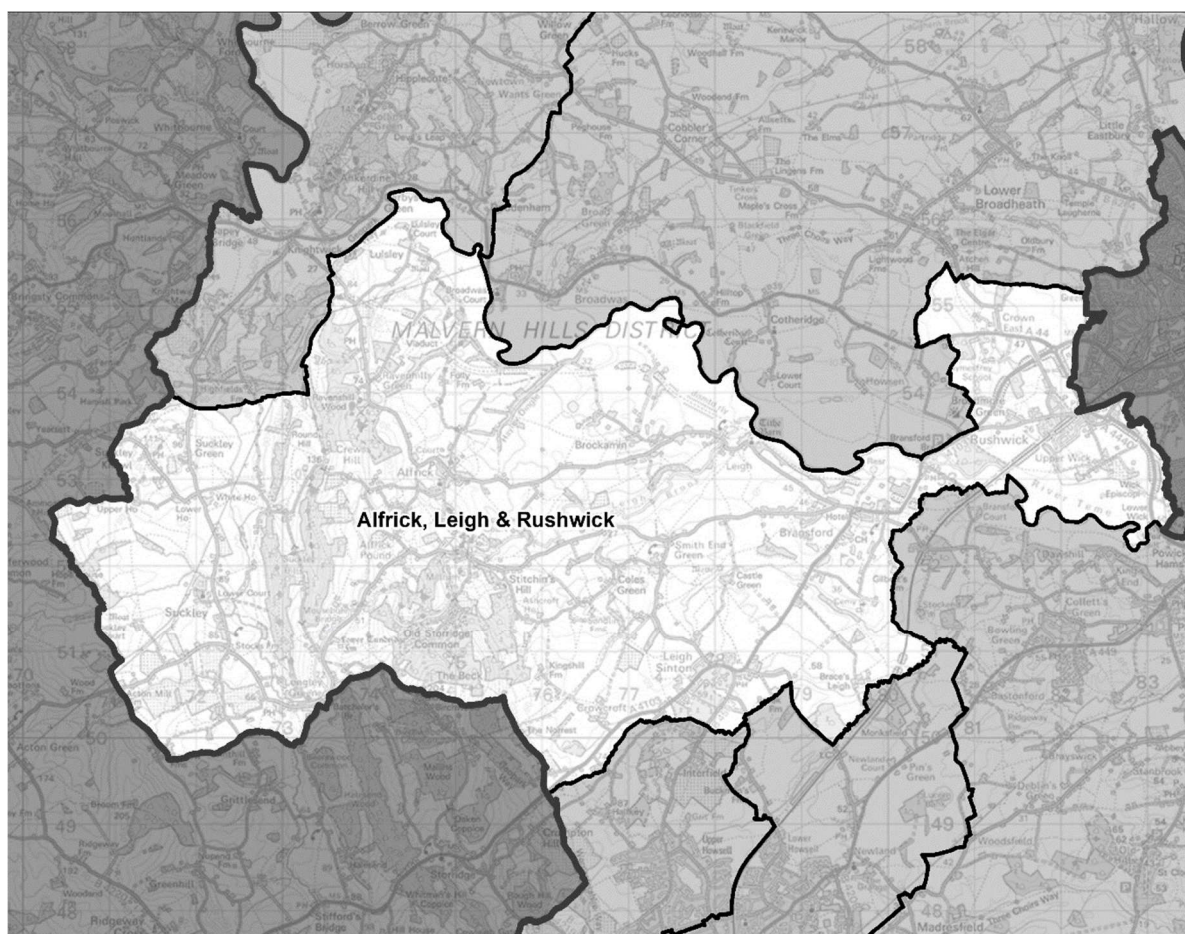
32 However, we note that other responses supported our proposed warding for Malvern in general. Additionally, all the schemes we received in the first stage of consultation included Newland in a ward with part of Malvern, and explicitly stated that this was because it now formed part of the Malvern built up area. We therefore do not make any alterations to our proposed Link ward as part of our further draft recommendations.

33 We received a number of submissions on our proposed single-councillor Upper Howsell ward. These included councillors Raine et al, who argued that our adoption of Malvern Town Council's proposal would separate areas which had shared amenities and educational links. They argued that the proposed Upper Howsell ward was not a distinct area and should remain combined in a district ward with the area to its west.

34 Other comments criticised our proposal to put the Dyson Perrins area and West Malvern parish within the same ward. One suggestion was to combine the latter in a ward with part of Link Top as it was argued there were stronger shared interests in such a ward. However, this would require a significant alteration of Link ward and would leave the remaining Dyson Perrins ward undersized, and we did not consider we had received sufficient evidence to justify such a significant change.

35 We are therefore combining our proposed West and Upper Howsell wards and, in recognition of comments regarding the Dyson Perrins ward, propose to call this ward Dyson Perrins & West Malvern.

Central Malvern Hills



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Alfrick, Leigh & Rushwick	2	6%

Alfrick, Leigh & Rushwick

36 As outlined in our draft recommendations, we proposed two single-councillor wards for this area of central Malvern Hills, those being Bransford & Rushwick, and Alfrick & Leigh. At the time, it was a finely balanced decision between this and the alternative of a two-councillor ward covering broadly the same area.

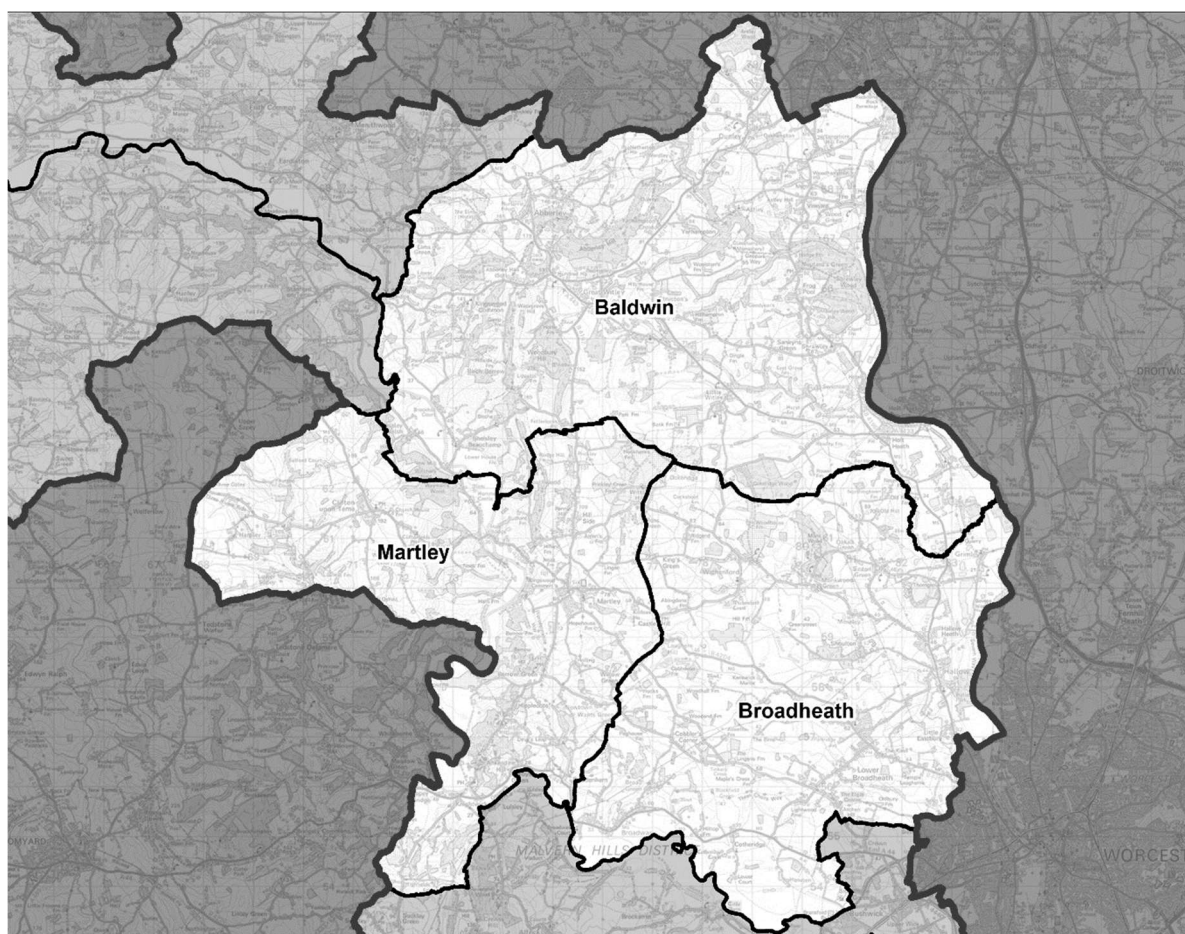
37 We received a significant number of responses to these proposals. The most common aspects of these comments were that, in separating the grouped parishes of Leigh and Bransford, and Alfrick and Lulsley between district wards, our proposals would not reflect community identities or promote effective and convenient local government. In particular, we received comments from Leigh & Bransford Parish Council detailing their linkages in respect of education and local amenities. The Parish Council also explained that the parish boundary between the two did not clearly demarcate different areas and that multiple roads straddled the boundary. The parish council concluded that our original recommendations would divide

communities between district wards. Alfrick & Lulsley Parish Council submitted similar comments, detailing the use of amenities in Alfrick by residents of Lulsley. They also expressed concerns about transport links between Lulsley and the remainder of the proposed Martley & Teme Valley ward.

38 Multiple residents, as well as Suckley and Martley parish councils also disagreed with our proposals to separate these parishes between wards. We did however receive comments in support of our proposals from several residents. Rushwick Parish Council expressed their support for the proposals and commented that a single councillor for Rushwick was the best option. Councillor Walton and the Liberal Democrats also supported the proposal.

39 We have carefully assessed the evidence put forward which would lead us to, in effect, combine these two wards into a two-councillor ward, with the addition of Lulsley. It is our assessment that, particularly for the purposes of effective and convenient local government and so that wards reflect community identity, this alternative is preferable on the basis of the evidence we have received so far. Given the scope of this amendment, we are consulting again on whether this warding pattern provides the best balance of our statutory criteria.

North-eastern Malvern Hills



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Baldwin	2	-11%
Broadheath	2	9%
Martley	1	5%

Baldwin, Broadheath and Martley

40 In our original recommendations, we were persuaded by the proposal put forward by Councillor Walton. This was to create a Hallow & Holt ward consisting of these two parishes and Grimley; a Baldwin ward enlarged to the west of its current boundaries, and a two-councillor Martley & Teme Valley ward which spans from Abberley in the north to Knightwick in the south.

41 We received a number of responses to these proposals. In support of them, Councillor Walton reiterated the points he made in his initial submission. Grimley Parish Council expressed their support for the draft proposals, and Councillor Clarke argued in favour of the combination of Holt and Hallow given educational and social links. He also supported Broadheath as a single-councillor ward. We did receive comments criticising our proposed ward name of Broadheath & Crown East, arguing

that the Crown East area was in Rushwick parish and so did not form part of this ward.

42 Set against this, we received numerous comments objecting to our proposals. These were focused on three elements – the separation of parishes including and near to Abberley, the placement of Holt parish, and the size of our proposed two-councillor Martley & Teme Valley ward.

43 On the first point, for example, a councillor argued that relationships built up between many parishes in this area on issues such as speeding and housebuilding would be broken if the parishes became part of different wards.

44 Holt Parish Council argued that it had more in common with the rural parishes to its north and west than with Hallow which is semi-urban and on the Worcester periphery. Councillor Pam Cumming echoed Holt Parish Council's comments, and a resident agreed that Holt should be in a ward with Abberley and other nearby parishes.

45 The largest number of comments concerned Martley & Teme Valley ward. The Council, as well as others, argued the geographical size as well as the number of parishes involved would make it difficult to represent for district councillors. Multiple respondents proposed splitting this ward into two single-councillor wards. To do so would either require us to split Martley parish between different wards, or to create wards with significantly higher electoral variances than we are prepared to accept. This was the basis of Martley Parish Council's response. The Parish Council proposed separating the ward with the boundary following the northern and western boundary of Martley parish. This proposal was supported by the Liberal Democrats. However, one of these proposed wards would have an electoral variance 14% below the average for the district and we were not persuaded that sufficient evidence had been provided to justify this.

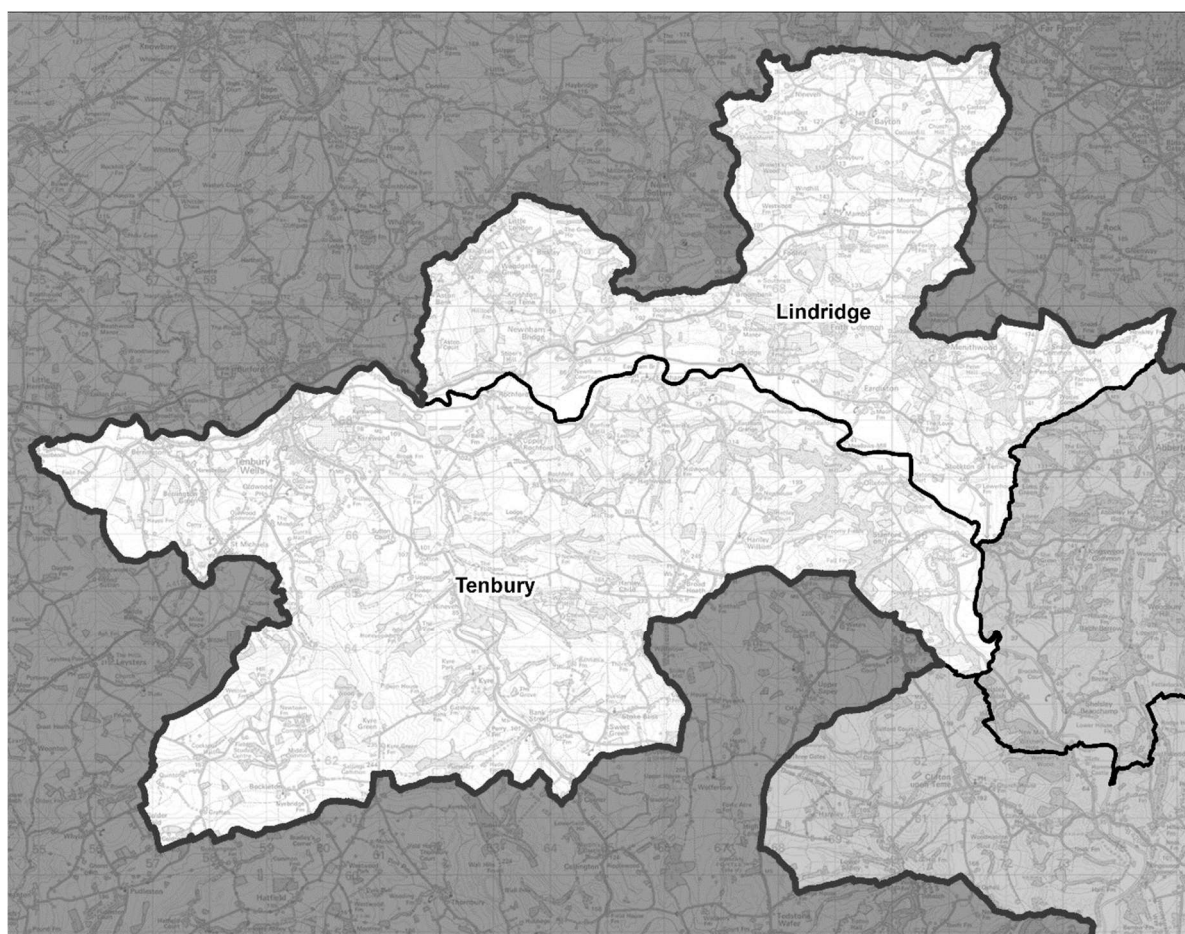
46 An alternative arrangement which avoided the need for a large two-councillor ward was put forward by Abberley Parish Council. This proposal necessitated a reworking of the whole warding pattern in the north-east of the district. It would see Broadheath expanded into a two-councillor ward to include parishes to its north and west, with Holt parish retained in Baldwin ward along with several other parishes in this area. This proposal would also provide for a single councillor Martley ward consisting of that parish, Doddenham, Knightwick, Martley, and Clifton upon Teme parishes. This proposal was justified on the basis of links between parishes in the north, and that Abberley would retain its place in a ward with Great Witley, with which it has strong links.

47 This proposal was explicitly supported by several residents, Councillor Paul Cumming, and Little Witley and Great Witley & Hillhampton Parish Councils. Other

respondents echoed aspects of the submission, including maintaining the link between Abberley and Great Witley. We propose to adopt this proposal in our further draft recommendations with one amendment – we were not persuaded that Wichenford and Kenswick parishes had stronger links to parishes to the north than to those to their east such as Hallow and Broadheath. We therefore propose to amend Abberley Parish Council’s proposal so that these parishes form part of Broadheath ward. We would particularly welcome comments during the current consultation on whether our revised proposals for this area provide a better reflection of local community identities and interests.

48 While this proposal does result in a significant change to our original recommendations for this area, we consider that this approach will provide the best reflection of our statutory criteria based on the evidence received thus far. Because of the scope of the changes, we are conducting a further round of consultation.

North-western Malvern Hills



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Lindridge	1	0%
Tenbury	2	-7%

Lindridge and Tenbury

49 Our draft proposals were for a single-councillor Lindridge ward and a two-councillor Tenbury ward. Malvern Hills District Council expressed their support for our proposals.

50 The only other comment we received that related to this area was from the Liberal Democrats. They argued that our proposed Tenbury ward was too expansive to represent the range of communities contained within it. They proposed separating this into two wards, one formed of Tenbury town, and the remainder formed of the Tenbury St Michaels area and other adjacent parishes. However, the rural ward this would create would have approximately 20% fewer electors per councillor than the average for the district by 2027. We do not consider that this level of electoral inequality was justified by the evidence received and we were not persuaded to adopt this as part of our further draft recommendations.

51 We are therefore proposing the same Lindridge and Tenbury wards as recommended in our original draft recommendations.

Parish electoral arrangements

52 As part of an electoral review, we are required to have regard to the statutory criteria set out in Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (the 2009 Act). The Schedule provides that if a parish is to be divided between different wards it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single ward. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

53 Under the 2009 Act we only have the power to make changes to parish electoral arrangements where these are as a direct consequence of our recommendations for principal authority warding arrangements. However, Malvern Hills District Council has powers under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct community governance reviews to effect changes to parish electoral arrangements.

54 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Malvern and Malvern Wells parishes.

55 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Malvern parish.

Further Draft recommendations

Malvern Town Council should comprise 20 councillors, as at present, representing seven wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Chase	4
Dyson Perrins & West	4
Great Malvern & Pickersleigh	5
Link	4
Lygon	1
Pound Bank	1
St Joseph	1

56 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Malvern Wells parish.

Further Draft recommendations

Malvern Wells Parish Council should comprise 13 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Upper Welland	3
Wells	10

Have your say

57 The Commission has an open mind about its further draft recommendations. Every representation we receive will be considered, regardless of who it is from or whether it relates to the whole district or just a part of it.

58 If you agree with our recommendations, please let us know. If you don't think our recommendations are right for Malvern Hills, we want to hear alternative proposals for a different pattern of wards.

59 Our website has a special consultation area where you can explore the maps. You can find it at www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk

60 Submissions can also be made by emailing reviews@lgbce.org.uk or by writing to:

Review Officer (Malvern Hills)
LGBCE
PO Box 133
Blyth
NE24 9FE

61 The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for Malvern Hills which delivers:

- Electoral equality: each local councillor represents a similar number of electors.
- Community identity: reflects the identity and interests of local communities.
- Effective and convenient local government: helping your council discharge its responsibilities effectively.

62 A good pattern of wards should:

- Provide good electoral equality, with each councillor representing, as closely as possible, the same number of electors.
- Reflect community interests and identities and include evidence of community links.
- Be based on strong, easily identifiable boundaries.
- Help the council deliver effective and convenient local government.

63 Electoral equality:

- Does your proposal mean that councillors would represent roughly the same number of electors as elsewhere in the area?

64 Community identity:

- Community groups: is there a parish council, residents' association or other group that represents the area?
- Interests: what issues bind the community together or separate it from other parts of your area?
- Identifiable boundaries: are there natural or constructed features which make strong boundaries for your proposals?

65 Effective local government:

- Are any of the proposed wards too large or small to be represented effectively?
- Are the proposed names of the wards appropriate?
- Are there good links across your proposed wards? Is there any form of public transport?

66 Please note that the consultation stages of an electoral review are public consultations. In the interests of openness and transparency, we make available for public inspection full copies of all representations the Commission takes into account as part of a review. Accordingly, copies of all representations will be placed on deposit at our offices in Westminster (London) and on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk. A list of respondents will be available from us on request after the end of the consultation period.

67 If you are a member of the public and not writing on behalf of a council or organisation we will remove any personal identifiers, such as postal or email addresses, signatures or phone numbers from your submission before it is made public. We will remove signatures from all letters, no matter who they are from.

68 In the light of representations received, we will review our further draft recommendations and consider whether they should be altered. As indicated earlier, it is therefore important that all interested parties let us have their views and evidence, **whether or not** they agree with the further draft recommendations. We will then publish our final recommendations.

69 After the publication of our final recommendations, the changes we have proposed must be approved by Parliament. An Order – the legal document which

brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in draft in Parliament. The draft Order will provide for new electoral arrangements to be implemented at the all-out elections for Malvern Hills District Council in 2023.

Equalities

70 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

Further draft recommendations for Malvern Hills

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2027)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Alfrick, Leigh & Rushwick	2	3,801	1,901	-5%	4,780	2,390	6%
2	Baldwin	2	3,595	1,798	-11%	3,998	1,999	-11%
3	Barnards Green	3	6,454	2,151	7%	7,299	2,433	8%
4	Broadheath	2	4,145	2,073	3%	4,933	2,467	9%
5	Dyson Perrins & West Malvern	3	6,387	2,129	6%	6,827	2,276	1%
6	Great Malvern & Pickersleigh	3	5,907	1,969	-2%	6,332	2,111	-6%
7	Kempsey	2	3,829	1,915	-5%	4,751	2,376	5%
8	Lindridge	1	2,124	2,124	6%	2,259	2,259	0%
9	Link	3	5,720	1,907	-5%	6,580	2,193	-3%
10	Longdon & Welland	2	4,286	2,143	7%	4,528	2,264	0%
11	Malvern Wells	1	1,956	1,956	-3%	2,088	2,088	-7%
12	Martley	1	2,189	2,189	9%	2,358	2,358	5%

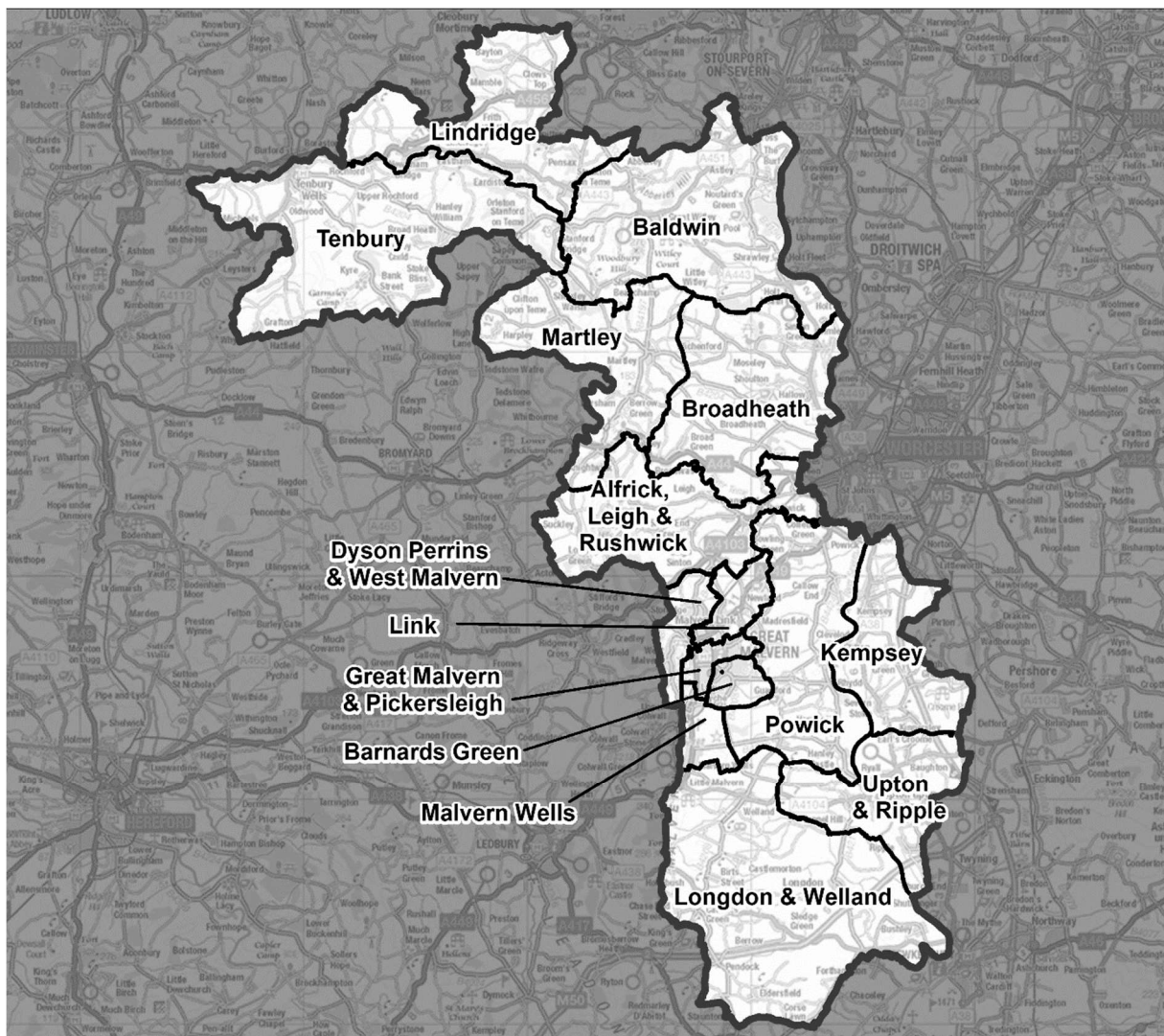
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2027)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13 Powick	2	4,308	2,154	7%	4,719	2,360	5%
14 Tenbury	2	3,619	1,810	-10%	4,182	2,091	-7%
15 Upton & Ripple	2	3,966	1,983	-1%	4,306	2,153	-5%
Totals	31	62,286	–	–	69,940	–	–
Averages	–	–	2,009	–	–	2,256	–

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Malvern Hills District 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 district. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Appendix B

Outline map



A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/west-midlands/worcestershire/malvern-hills>

Appendix C

Submissions received

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

<https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/west-midlands/worcestershire/malvern-hills>

Local Authority

- Malvern Hills District Council

Political Groups

- West Worcestershire Liberal Democrats
- West Worcestershire Conservatives

Councillors

- Councillor D. Clarke (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor Pam Cumming (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor Paul Cumming (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor M. Davies (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor B. Jones-Williams (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor J. Kinghorn (Bushey Parish Council)
- Councillor S. Outwin (Abberley Parish Council)
- Councillor J. Raine (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor D. Walton (Malvern Hills District Council)

Local Organisations

- Malvern Hills Trust
- Sykes Timber

Parish and Town Councils

- Abberley Parish Council
- Alfrick and Lulsley Parish Council
- Great Witley and Hillhampton Parish Council
- Grimley Parish Council
- Holt Parish Council
- Leigh and Bransford Parish Council
- Little Malvern and Welland Parish Council
- Little Witley Parish Council

- Longdon, Queenhill and Holdfast Parish Council
- Lower Broadheath Parish Council
- Martley Parish Council
- Rushwick Parish Council
- Severn Stoke and Croome D'abitot Parish Council
- Suckley Parish Council
- Upton upon Severn Town Council

Local Residents

- 68 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

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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