

# New electoral arrangements for Brentwood Borough Council Final Recommendations

March 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.<sup>1</sup> 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<sup>2</sup> are:

- Professor Colin Mellors OBE (Chair)
- Andrew Scallan CBE (Deputy Chair)
- Susan Johnson OBE
- Amanda Nobbs OBE
- Steve Robinson
- 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.

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<sup>1</sup> Under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

<sup>2</sup> Peter Maddison QPM was present during Board meetings where draft/final recommendations were discussed and agreed. He ceased his role as a Commissioner on 31 December 2022.

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](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

## Why Brentwood?

7 We are conducting a review of Brentwood Borough Council ('the Council') as the last review was completed in 2000, and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, some councillors currently represent many more or fewer electors than others. We describe this as 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where the number of electors per councillor is as even as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.

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

- The wards in Brentwood 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 Brentwood

9 Brentwood should be represented by 39 councillors, two more than there are now.

10 Brentwood should have 13 wards, two fewer than there are now.

11 The boundaries of most wards should change; two will stay the same.

12 We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for Brentwood.

## 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 or result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. The recommendations will not have an effect on local

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<sup>3</sup> Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 56(1).

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.

## Review timetable

15 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Brentwood. We then held two 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
25 April 2022	Number of councillors decided
10 May 2022	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
18 July 2022	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
4 October 2022	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
12 December 2022	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
7 March 2023	Publication of final recommendations



## Analysis and final recommendations

17 Legislation<sup>4</sup> states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors<sup>5</sup> 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 Brentwood	58,957	65,748
Number of councillors	39	39
Average number of electors per councillor	1,512	1,686

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 our proposed wards for Brentwood 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](http://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 20%.

23 However, we determined that this forecast was too high, based on the evidence provided. This was productively discussed with the Council and we worked with officers to revise these figures. The revised forecast from the Council produced an

<sup>4</sup> Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

<sup>5</sup> Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

increase of 12% and we agreed to use this electorate forecast as the basis of our draft recommendations.

24 During consultation on warding patterns, we received four borough-wide schemes. Three of these came from the Brentwood Conservative Group ('the Conservatives'), the Brentwood Liberal Democrat Group ('the Liberal Democrats') and the Brentwood Labour Group ('Labour'). Towards the end of the consultation, when these political groups submitted proposals for new warding arrangements, we noted that the forecast figures used by them did not reflect the agreed forecast. It became clear that they had used a forecast figure of 70,877 electors, which represented the 20% increase forecast the Council had initially submitted to us. This was higher than the forecast of 65,748 electors that we had agreed upon with the Council and published on our website.

25 Nonetheless, having examined each of the three borough-wide schemes carefully, we found that they still generally produced wards with good electoral equality on a forecast of 65,748 electors.

26 We raised all the above with the Council, which notified each of the political groups. We received no further correspondence from the political groups. We therefore concluded that the electorate forecast agreed upon at the start of the review would be the one on which we would base our recommendations.

27 In response to our draft recommendations, we received submissions from the Liberal Democrats and West Horndon Parish Council which referred to the electorate forecasts for Shenfield ward and Herongate, Ingrave & West Horndon wards, respectively. These are discussed below in the relevant sections of this report. We remain content that the five-year forecast agreed with the Council at the start of the review remains the best available and have used it when developing our final recommendations.

## Number of councillors

28 Brentwood Borough Council currently has 37 councillors. Having looked at evidence provided by the Council and the Liberal Democrats, we have concluded that increasing this number by two will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

29 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 39 councillors. As the Council elects by thirds (meaning it has elections in three out of every four years), there is a presumption in legislation<sup>6</sup> that

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<sup>6</sup> Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 2(3)(d) and paragraph 2(5)(c).

the Council have a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards. We will only move away from this pattern should we receive compelling evidence during consultation that an alternative pattern of wards will better reflect our statutory criteria.

30 We received two submissions opposing the increase in the number of councillors for Brentwood in response to the consultation on our draft recommendations. One local resident opposed the increase on the basis it could increase the financial burden on the Council and thereby local residents, while another local resident stated that the current Leader and Cabinet system of governance meant that the 'backbench' councillor workload was not high enough to warrant an increase in councillors. However, we have not been persuaded that sufficiently detailed evidence has been received to justify moving away from a 39-councillor scheme. We are also mindful of the presumption in law that the Council should ideally have a council size divisible by three to reflect its cycle of elections by thirds. Therefore, we have decided to base our final recommendations for Brentwood on a pattern of wards formed of 39 councillors.

## Ward boundaries consultation

31 We received 18 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included four borough-wide proposals from the Conservatives, the Liberal Democrats, Labour and a local resident. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for warding arrangements in particular areas of the borough.

32 The four borough-wide schemes all provided for a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards for Brentwood. 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 identifiable boundaries.

33 Therefore, our draft recommendations represented a combination of the four borough-wide schemes submitted. Our draft recommendations 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 the best balance between our statutory criteria, so we identified alternative boundaries.

34 We visited the area to look at the various proposals on the ground. This tour of Brentwood helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

35 Our draft recommendations were for 13 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

36 We received 10 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations. These included responses from the Brentwood Conservative Group and the Brentwood Liberal Democrat Group.

37 Our final recommendations are based on the draft recommendations with a modification to the ward boundary between Pilgrims Hatch and Brizes & South Weald wards. We are also recommending a ward name change to Brizes & South Weald ward.

## Final recommendations

38 Our final recommendations are for 13 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.

39 The tables and maps on pages 9–18 detail our final recommendations for each area of Brentwood. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory<sup>7</sup> criteria of:

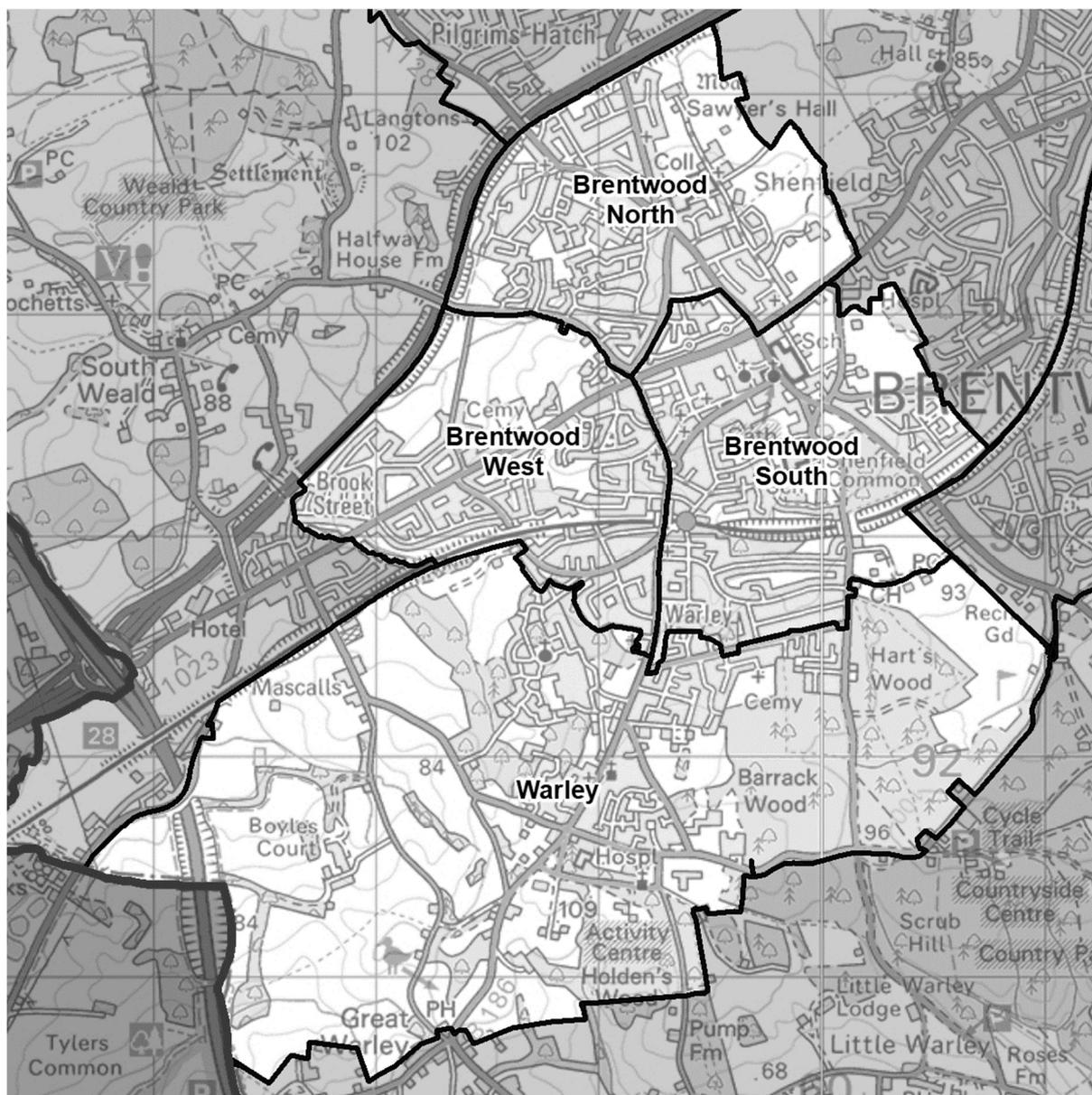
- Equality of representation.
- Reflecting community interests and identities.
- Providing for effective and convenient local government.

40 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 25 and on the large map accompanying this report.

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<sup>7</sup> Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

## Brentwood and Warley



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
Brentwood North	3	4%
Brentwood South	3	1%
Brentwood West	3	6%
Warley	3	-8%

### *Brentwood North, Brentwood South, Brentwood West and Warley*

41 The Conservatives supported our draft recommendations for Brentwood town, expressing strong support for our proposal to include both sides of Brentwood High Street in a single ward. They also considered that the continued use of compass points for the ward names remained appropriate for these three wards.

42 They endorsed the boundaries of our proposed Warley ward, expressing support for our decision to include the entirety of Clements Park and The Galleries in a single ward, as they represent ‘a clearly recognisable community and this (proposal) will lead to more effective local government by providing clearer representation’.

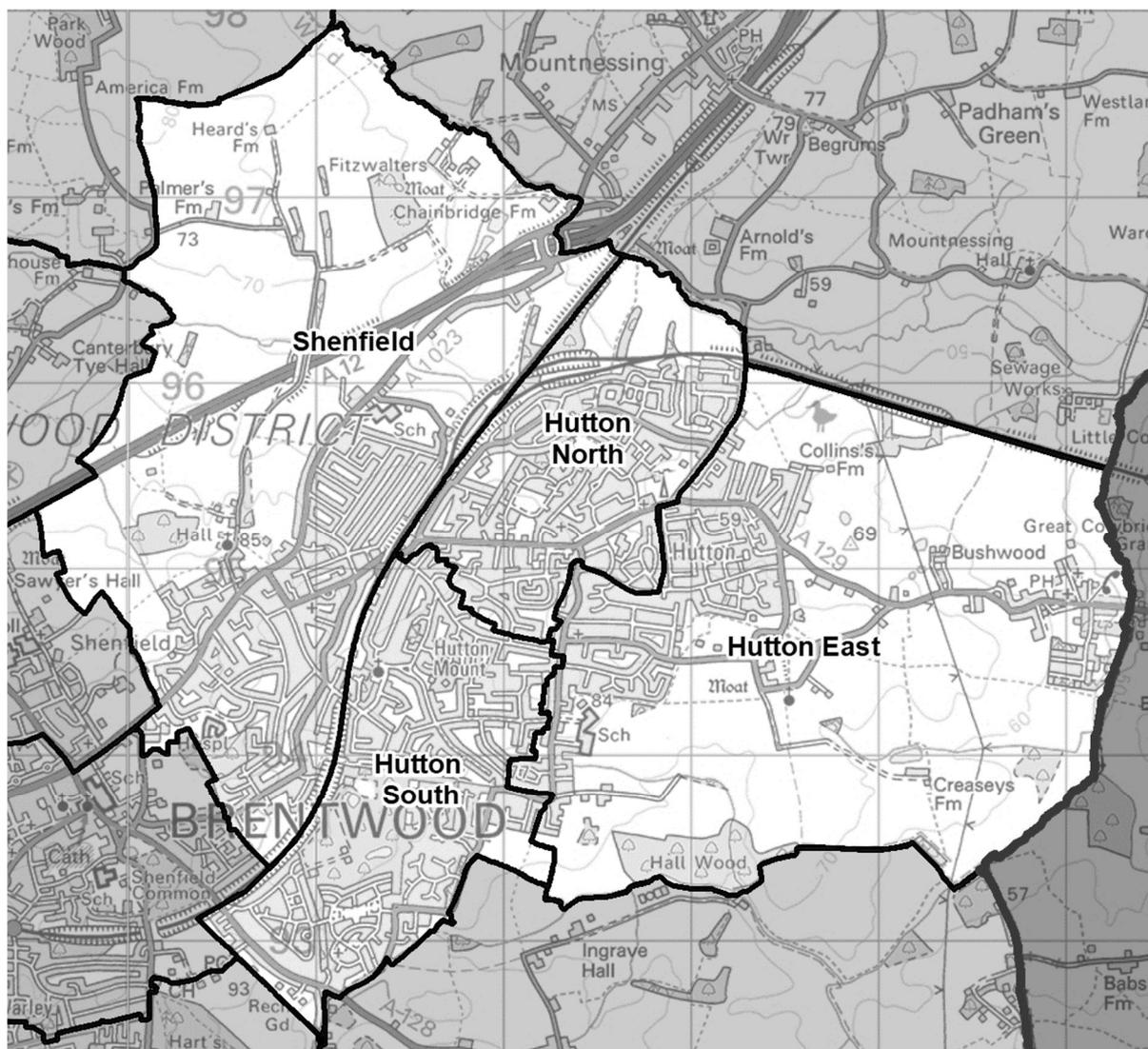
43 On the other hand, the Liberal Democrats opposed our proposals for Brentwood town and Warley, stating that our Brentwood South ward had ignored following strong boundaries such as the Liverpool Street–Shenfield railway line. The Liberal Democrats and Councillor Kendall also argued that our Brentwood South ward would divide the Warley community. A local resident opposed the ‘shrinking’ of the current Warley ward.

44 Given the contrasting views submitted, we carefully considered the four submissions received relating to this area. However, we have decided to make no changes to our draft recommendations. We consider that our proposals for the Brentwood and Warley areas best reflect our statutory criteria and that the alternative proposals did not represent an improvement on our recommendations. For example, we were concerned that the Liberal Democrats’ previously proposed Warley and Brentwood West wards would divide the Warley community along Warley Hill.

45 Councillor Kendall requested that the residential development at the former Ford offices be included in our Herongate, Ingrave & West Horndon ward, stating that ‘they are located on the Little Warley side of Eagle Way’. We decided not to adopt this proposal, as we consider electors here will have stronger links with the Warley area to the north, rather than the villages to the south. Councillor Kendall also stated a preference for the Clements Park area to remain in a Brentwood West ward. However, we agree with the Conservatives that placing the area in a Warley ward with The Galleries will unite a community into a single ward and this warding arrangement will better reflect our statutory criteria.

46 We were also not persuaded to adopt the alternative ward names of either Warley Woods or Warley North, as proposed by the Conservatives. We consider our proposed name of Warley remains the most representative of the largest community that forms this ward.

## Hutton and Shenfield



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
Hutton East	3	-9%
Hutton North	3	-6%
Hutton South	3	4%
Shenfield	3	8%

### *Hutton East and Hutton North*

47 We received support for these two wards from the Conservatives, expressing support in particular for our decision to retain the rural community of Haverings Grove in a Hutton East ward.

48 A local resident opposed our proposal to abolish the current two-councillor Hutton Central ward, with the ward subsumed into our three-councillor Hutton East and Hutton North wards. However, given that Brentwood elects a third of its

councillors each year, there is a presumption in law that it will have a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards. We deemed it necessary to incorporate the current Hutton Central ward into our Hutton East and Hutton North wards to maintain a three-councillor warding pattern and to achieve good electoral equality in the Hutton area. In addition, we considered the evidence provided by the local resident not to be compelling enough to move away from a uniform three-councillor pattern of wards.

49 With no further submissions relating to these two wards, we have decided to confirm our draft recommendations for Hutton East and Hutton North ward as final.

#### *Hutton South*

50 The Conservatives supported our proposed boundaries for Hutton South ward but expressed a preference for the ward to be renamed to Hutton South & Thriftwood (or similar) to acknowledge the inclusion of the Three Arches and East Ham estates within the ward.

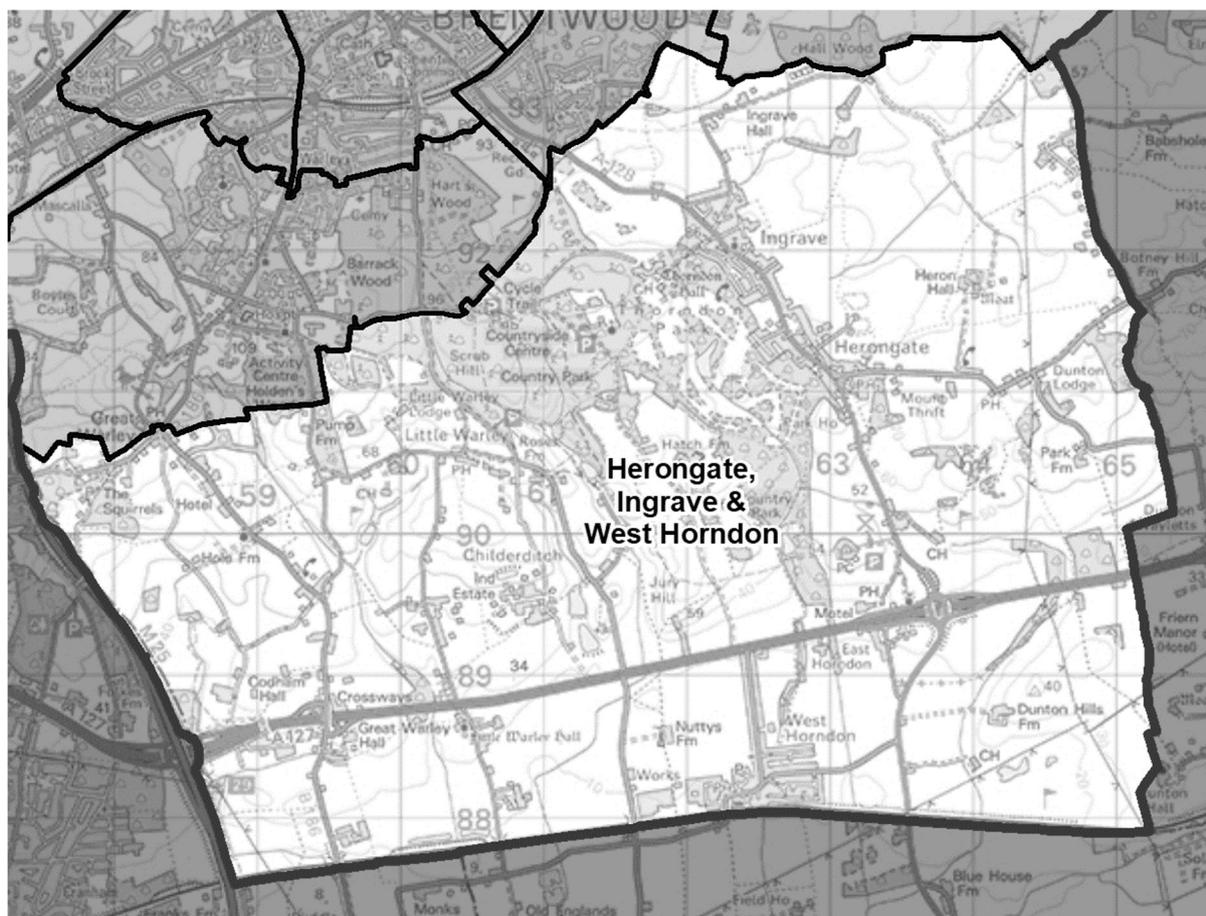
51 After careful consideration, we decided to retain the proposed name of Hutton South as part of our final recommendations. We were not persuaded that sufficient community-based evidence had been received that demonstrated electors in the southern part of this ward, residing on the Three Arches and East Ham estates, strongly associate themselves with Thriftwood. We therefore confirm our draft recommendations for Hutton South ward as final.

#### *Shenfield*

52 The Conservatives supported the retention of the current Shenfield ward as part our draft recommendations, which is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2028. However, the Liberal Democrats questioned whether our Shenfield ward took into account the full extent of developments in the Shenfield area and reaffirmed their view that the Officers Meadow development should have been included in their proposed Ingatestone Manor ward.

53 The Council's electorate forecast for the Shenfield area anticipates that approximately 1,100 electors will reside in four separate developments by 2028. We are content that all substantial developments in the area, which are expected to contain electors by 2028, have been included in the electorate forecast. In addition, we envisage that future electors residing at the Officers Meadow development will share closer geographic and community links with the Shenfield community and should therefore be warded in our Shenfield ward. We do not expect the development to share as strong links with the Ingatestone community, as asserted by the Liberal Democrats. We are therefore not proposing any changes to our draft Shenfield ward as part of our final recommendations.

## Herongate, Ingrave & West Horndon



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
Herongate, Ingrave & West Horndon	3	-9%

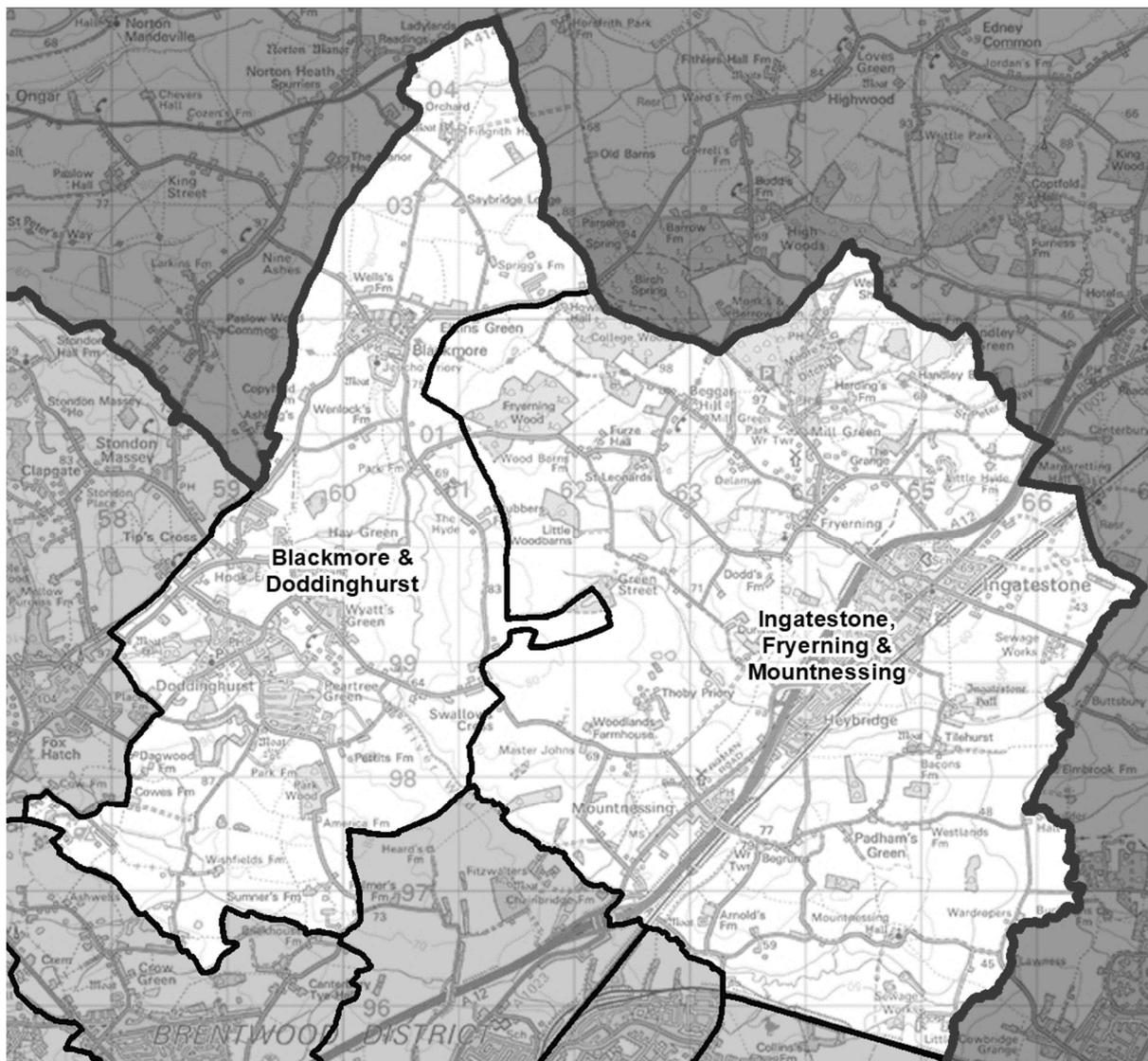
### *Herongate, Ingrave & West Horndon*

54 The Conservatives supported the boundaries of our proposed Herongate, Ingrave & West Horndon ward but disagreed with the name, stating that the inclusion of Little Warley, Great Warley and Childerditch in the proposed new ward made the use of the existing name inappropriate. They instead suggested Brentwood Rural South (or similar) as a potential alternative. However, we decided not to adopt this name, or any similar alternative, as we maintain the view outlined in our draft recommendations that our proposed name suitably describes the main communities that are included in the ward.

55 West Horndon Parish Council expressed concern that ‘not enough weight had been given in these proposals to the two major housing developments planned for West Horndon Parish over the next ten to fifteen years as identified in the Brentwood Borough Council Local Development Plan’. However, as outlined in paragraph 17, we are legally required to only take account of electors likely to be in the local authority five years after our final recommendations are published. We cannot

therefore base our recommendations for Brentwood on electorate forecasts any later than 2028. Nonetheless, we note that the forecast electoral variance of our proposed ward is -9% from the borough average, meaning this relatively low variance should allow the ward to maintain a good level of electoral equality post-2028.

## Blackmore & Doddinghurst and Ingatestone, Fryerning & Mountnessing



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
Blackmore & Doddinghurst	3	-2%
Ingatestone, Fryerning & Mountnessing	3	9%

### *Blackmore & Doddinghurst*

56 The Conservatives supported this ward in full, stating that the ward represented a 'good pairing of parishes with shared community assets (e.g., shops, churches and community groups)'. With no further submissions received in relation to this ward, we confirm our Blackmore & Doddinghurst ward as final.

### *Ingatestone, Fryerning & Mountnessing*

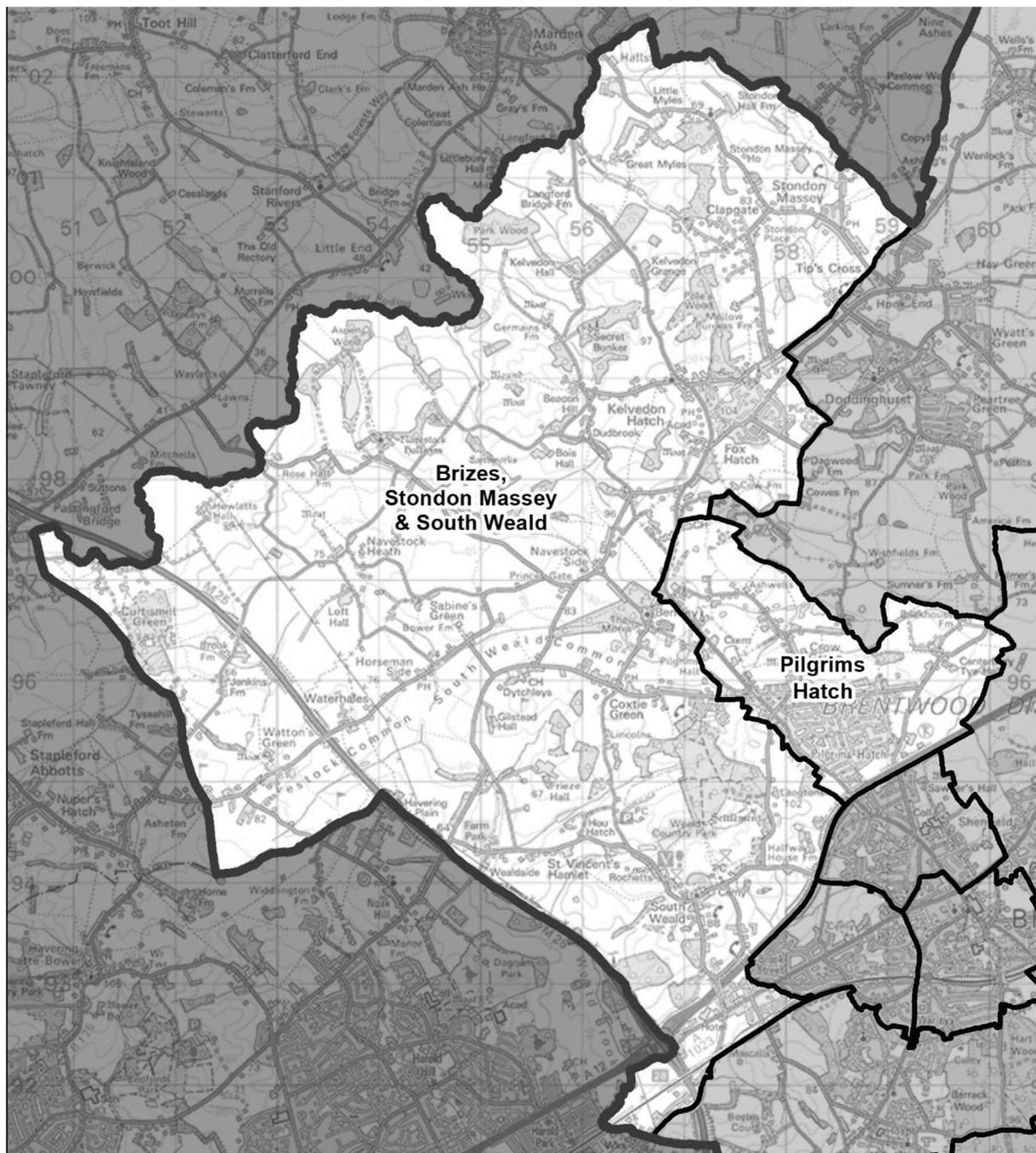
57 The Conservatives supported the retention of the existing ward, asserting that the ward would maintain 'the close connection between the two villages/parishes of Mountnessing and Ingatestone & Fryerning'.

58 Conversely, the Liberal Democrats expressed disappointment that their proposal, made during the first consultation, was not adopted in our recommendations. They had proposed to split Ingatestone, Fryerning and Mountnessing either side of the A12, to form a new ward consisting of the urban area of Ingatestone, the rural area of Mountnessing and the Officers Meadow development north of Shenfield. They stated that we had ignored strong boundaries in the area, such as the A12, in favour of parish boundaries.

59 We note the argument made by the Liberal Democrats and recognise that major roads such as the A12 could be used as a boundary between wards. However, when conducting electoral reviews in areas that are parished, we generally regard parishes as building blocks for new wards. Parishes often form cohesive communities and, in those circumstances, we seek to avoid dividing them between wards unless absolutely necessary. In this case, good electoral equality can be achieved by keeping Ingatestone & Fryerning and Mountnessing parishes within a single ward, and we maintain the view outlined in our draft recommendations that the division of both parishes between borough wards would not reflect community identities, nor promote effective and convenient local government.

60 We therefore recommend no changes to this ward as part of our final recommendations and confirm our Ingatestone, Fryerning & Mountnessing ward as final.

## Brizes, Stondon Massey & South Weald and Pilgrims Hatch



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2028
Brizes, Stondon Massey & South Weald	3	-2%
Pilgrims Hatch	3	3%

### *Brizes, Stondon Massey & South Weald*

61 The Liberal Democrats opposed our decision not to follow London Road as a boundary for this ward. They stated that our recommendations would exclude a community in 'The Homesteads' and South Weald Parish Hall, which are both

situated in the current and proposed Brentwood West ward. Conversely, the Conservatives supported the boundaries of our proposed Brizes & South Weald, stating that it would effectively represent the rural communities that make up this ward. They did, however, propose that the ward name include reference to Stondon Massey to better reflect the constituent communities within the ward.

62 We have decided not to adopt the proposal made by the Liberal Democrats. We consider the existing ward boundary, which follows the stream south of Brook Road, represents a clear boundary. We have nonetheless adopted the Conservatives' proposal to rename this ward, as we agree that the inclusion of Stondon Massey in the ward name will better reflect its constituent communities.

### *Pilgrims Hatch*

63 The Conservatives and Councillor Kendall supported the retention of the existing Pilgrims Hatch ward, with the latter stating that it keeps the Pilgrims Hatch community together in a single ward.

64 The Liberal Democrats reasserted their preference to reduce the size of the ward, as a result of future residential development. They proposed moving the boundary southwards from the Doddinghurst, Kelvedon Hatch and Navestock parish boundaries towards Crow Green. However, as per our draft recommendations, we remain unpersuaded to alter our Pilgrims Hatch ward here. We consider that following the parish boundaries for our ward boundary will aid effective and convenient local government.

65 We have nonetheless adopted their proposal to include electors residing on Bellhouse Lane, Apple Gate and part of Coxtie Green Road in our proposed Pilgrims Hatch ward. We were persuaded by the evidence received that these electors share close links with the Pilgrims Hatch area and that this relatively minor boundary amendment will better reflect local community identities.

## Conclusions

66 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality in Brentwood, 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	39	39
Number of electoral wards	13	13
Average number of electors per councillor	1,512	1,686
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	4	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	1	0

#### Final recommendations

Brentwood Borough Council should be made up of 39 councillors serving 13 three-councillor wards. The details and names are shown in Appendix A and illustrated on the large map accompanying this report.

#### Mapping

Sheet 1, Map 1 shows the proposed wards for Brentwood.

You can also view our final recommendations for Brentwood Borough Council on our interactive maps at [www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)



## What happens next?

67 We have now completed our review of Brentwood Borough Council. 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

68 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 Brentwood Borough Council

	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	Blackmore & Doddington	3	4,736	1,579	4%	4,967	1,656	-2%
2	Brentwood North	3	5,010	1,670	10%	5,270	1,757	4%
3	Brentwood South	3	4,218	1,406	-7%	5,095	1,698	1%
4	Brentwood West	3	4,953	1,651	9%	5,339	1,780	6%
5	Brizes, Stondon Massey & South Weald	3	4,571	1,524	1%	4,973	1,658	-2%
6	Herongate, Ingrave & West Horndon	3	3,530	1,177	-22%	4,579	1,526	-9%
7	Hutton East	3	4,544	1,515	0%	4,585	1,528	-9%
8	Hutton North	3	4,605	1,535	2%	4,773	1,591	-6%
9	Hutton South	3	5,235	1,745	15%	5,274	1,758	4%
10	Ingatestone, Fryerning & Mountnessing	3	5,029	1,676	11%	5,526	1,842	9%
11	Pilgrims Hatch	3	4,657	1,552	3%	5,213	1,738	3%

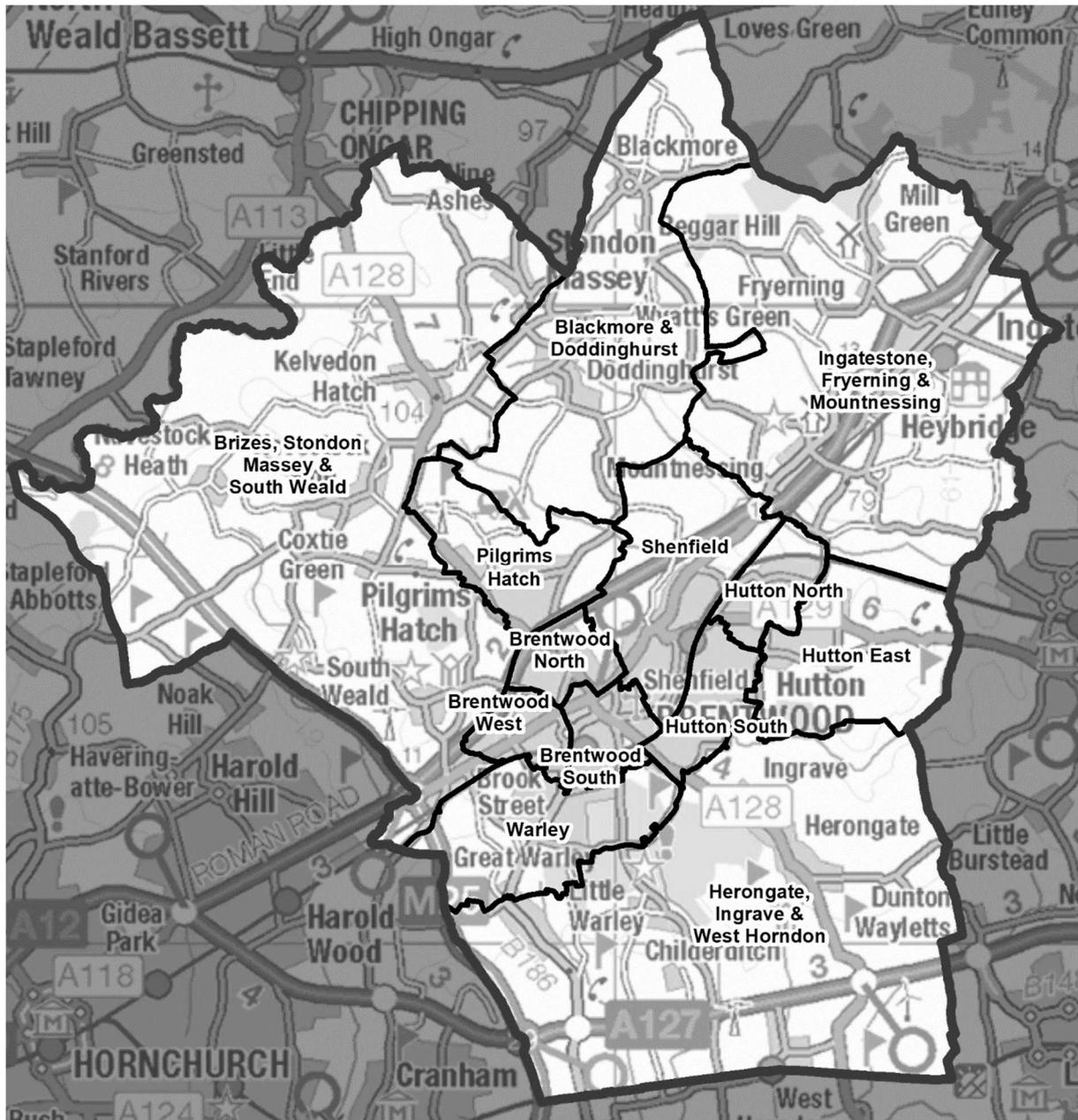
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2022)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2028)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
12 Shenfield	3	4,252	1,417	-6%	5,476	1,825	8%
13 Warley	3	3,617	1,206	-20%	4,677	1,559	-8%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>58,957</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>65,748</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Averages</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>1,512</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>1,686</b>	<b>–</b>

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Brentwood Borough 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



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/eastern/essex/brentwood](http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/eastern/essex/brentwood)

## Appendix C

### Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at:  
[www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/eastern/essex/brentwood](http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/eastern/essex/brentwood)

#### *Political Groups*

- Brentwood Conservative Group
- Brentwood Liberal Democrat Group

#### *Councillors*

- Councillor D. Kendall (Brentwood Borough Council)

#### *Parish and Town Councils*

- West Horndon Parish Council

#### *Local Residents*

- Six 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 <a href="http://www.nalc.gov.uk">www.nalc.gov.uk</a>
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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