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Who we are

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

Electoral review

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

Why Hertfordshire?

We are conducting an electoral review of Hertfordshire County Council as the Council currently has high levels of electoral inequality where some councillors represent many more or many fewer voters than others. This means that the value of each vote in county council elections varies depending on where you live in Hertfordshire. Based on December 2012 electorate data, 34% of the county's divisions currently have a variance of more than 10%. Of these, one division – Hatfield North – has an electoral variance of 55%.

Our proposals for Hertfordshire

Hertfordshire County Council currently has 77 councillors. Based on the evidence we received during previous phases of the review, we consider that increasing the council size to 78 members will ensure the Council can discharge its roles and responsibilities effectively.

Electoral arrangements

Our final recommendations propose that Hertfordshire County Council's 78 councillors should represent 78 single-member divisions. Two of our proposed 78 divisions would have an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for Hertfordshire by 2020.

We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for Hertfordshire.

1 Introduction

1 This electoral review is being conducted following our decision to review Hertfordshire County Council's ('the Council's') electoral arrangements to ensure that the number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the county.

What is an electoral review?

2 Our three main considerations in conducting an electoral review are set out in legislation[1] and are to:

- Improve electoral equality by equalising the number of electors each councillor represents
- Reflect community identity
- Provide for effective and convenient local government

3 Our task is to strike the best balance between these criteria when making our recommendations. Our powers, as well as the guidance we have provided for electoral reviews and further information on the review process, can be found on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Consultation

4 We wrote to the Council as well as other interested parties, inviting the submission of proposals on council size. We then held four periods of consultation, first on division patterns for the Council, on our draft recommendations and on further draft recommendations in Stevenage. The submissions received during our consultations have informed our final recommendations.

This review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
15 April 2014	Division pattern consultation
9 September 2014	Draft recommendations consultation
4 November 2014	Analysis of submissions received and formulation of final recommendations
17 February 2015	Further limited consultation on Stevenage Borough
12 May 2015	Publication of final recommendations

How will the recommendations affect you?

5 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which division you vote in, which other communities are in that division and, in some instances, which parish council wards you vote in. Your division name may also change, as may the names of parish or town council wards in the area. The names or boundaries of parishes will not change as a result of our recommendations.

[1] Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

What is the Local Government Boundary Commission for England?

6 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Members of the Commission are:

Max Caller CBE (Chair)
Professor Colin Mellors (Deputy Chair)
Dr Peter Knight CBE DL
Alison Lowton
Sir Tony Redmond
Professor Paul Wiles CB

Chief Executive: Jolyon Jackson CBE

2 Analysis and final recommendations

7 Legislation states that our recommendations are not intended to be based solely on the existing number of electors[2] in an area, but also on estimated changes in the number and distribution of electors likely to take place over a five-year period from the date of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for the wards we put forward at the end of the review.

8 In reality, the achievement of absolute electoral fairness is unlikely to be attainable and there must be a degree of flexibility. However, our approach is to keep variances in the number of electors each councillor represents to a minimum.

9 In seeking to achieve electoral fairness, we work out the average number of electors per councillor by dividing the electorate by the number of councillors as shown on the table below.

	2013	**2020**
Electorate of the county	849,819	918,135
Number of Councillors	78	78
Average number of electors per councillor	10,895	11,771

10 Under our final recommendations, two of our proposed divisions will have electoral variances of greater than 10% from the average for the county by 2020. We consider that in these cases there is strong evidence to justify a departure from our usual electoral equality criterion. We are therefore satisfied that we have achieved good levels of electoral fairness for Hertfordshire.

11 Additionally, in circumstances where we propose to divide a parish between wards or county divisions, we are required to divide it into parish wards so that each parish ward is wholly contained within a single ward or county division. We cannot make amendments to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

12 These recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of Hertfordshire County Council or result in changes to postcodes. Nor is there any evidence that the recommendations will have an adverse effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums. The proposals do not take account of parliamentary constituency boundaries, and we are not, therefore, able to take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

Submissions received

13 See Appendix B for details of submissions received. All submissions may be inspected at our offices at Millbank Tower. All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

[2] Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

Electorate figures

14 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2020, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2015. These forecasts were broken down to polling district levels and projected an increase in the electorate of 8% to 2020.

15 Having considered the information provided by the Council, we are satisfied that the projected figures are the best available at the present time and these figures form the basis of our final recommendations.

Council size

16 In its submission to us during the preliminary stage of this review, Hertfordshire County Council proposed retaining its existing council size of 77 members, all representing single-member divisions. However, during the formulation of our draft recommendations, it became apparent that it was difficult to create a pattern of divisions in Welwyn Hatfield which would meet our statutory criteria. Welwyn Hatfield presently has seven county councillors, and it contains a division, Hatfield North, which currently has 55% more electors than the county average. We considered that it was appropriate to add an eighth councillor to the district, in order to accommodate the increase in electorate in this district since the last electoral review of Hertfordshire in 1999.

17 We have therefore developed our final recommendations based on there being 78 county councillors in Hertfordshire, an increase of one on the current total.

Division patterns

18 We received 38 submissions during the initial consultation on division patterns for Hertfordshire. We received two county-wide submissions, from Hertfordshire Conservative Party and the Liberal Democrat Group on the County Council. We also received submissions from nine parish and town councils, three county councillors, one borough councillor, two local authorities, three political groups or parties, and 18 local residents.

Draft recommendations

19 We received 233 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations for Hertfordshire. We received submissions relating to each of the districts in the county, with Three Rivers being the district for which we received the most submissions.

Final recommendations

20 We received objections to our proposals in the Loudwater and South Oxhey areas of Three Rivers. We received over 110 submissions in relation to these areas. We also received proposals for alternative division arrangements in Stevenage, as well as submissions in relation to specific areas in all 10 districts in the county.

Broxbourne Borough

21 We received 11 submissions regarding Broxbourne, ten of which related to the Turnford and Wormley area. All of the respondents had conflated district ward boundaries with the county division boundaries which are the focus of this review. We also received a submission proposing a change to our proposed Hoddesdon North and Hoddesdon South divisions. We are not proposing any changes to our proposed divisions in Broxbourne.

Dacorum Borough

22 We received 11 submissions in relation to our proposals in Dacorum. These focused on our proposed boundaries in Hemel Hempstead and also in the north-west of the borough. We have slightly amended our draft recommendations in Hemel Hempstead and also have included the parish of Aldbury in Tring electoral division.

East Hertfordshire District

23 We received two submissions relating to East Hertfordshire. One was from Ware Town Council and the other was from Buntingford Town Council. As a result of evidence received during the consultation, we have changed the name of our proposed Braughing division to Buntingford.

Hertsmere Borough

24 During the consultation on our draft recommendations we received four submissions relating to Hertsmere Borough. These all related to the Borehamwood area. We are not changing any of our proposed electoral division boundaries in Hertsmere. The only change we are making is to parish councillor allocation on Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council.

North Hertfordshire District

25 In relation to our proposed electoral divisions in North Hertfordshire District we received seven responses, including one from Sir Oliver Heald MP (North East Hertfordshire). The other responses were from members of the public. We are changing two division names from those proposed in our draft recommendations, but we are not proposing changes to any division boundaries.

St Albans City

26 We received 27 responses in relation to St Albans, the majority of which focused on the boundary between our proposed St Albans East and London Colney divisions. A number of local residents argued that our proposed boundary did not reflect community identities. Taking this evidence into account, we have amended the boundary between St Albans East and London Colney divisions.

27 We have also amended part of the boundary between our proposed St Stephen's and St Albans South divisions, to include all of Ragged Hall Lane in the same division.

Stevenage Borough

28 We received 14 responses regarding our proposed electoral divisions in Stevenage, including two different borough-wide proposals for electoral divisions that were notably different from our draft recommendations. The Liberal Democrat Group and Stevenage Constituency Labour Party (supported by Hertfordshire County Labour Party and the Stevenage Borough Council Labour Group) each submitted borough-wide schemes.

29 We considered that the pattern of divisions put forward in the Labour scheme would provide a better balance between the statutory criteria than the divisions we proposed in our draft recommendations. Given that this pattern of divisions had not been consulted upon previously, we decided to consult locally in Stevenage on whether this new pattern of divisions should be adopted as part of our final recommendations.

30 We received seven submissions during the consultation period, five of which supported the alternative proposal put forward by the Labour Party. We are therefore amending our draft recommendations in Stevenage. We consider that the alternative proposal provides for reasonable electoral equality, and reflects community identities and interests in Stevenage.

Three Rivers District

31 The majority of the responses to our consultation were received in relation to Three Rivers District. Around 135 submissions were received, many of which opposed our proposals. The two areas upon which most of these submissions focused were Loudwater and the South Oxhey and Eastbury areas. Respondents in Loudwater opposed our proposal to include them in a division with Croxley, arguing that they felt stronger community ties to Chorleywood. Those responding from the South Oxhey and Eastbury areas argued that Eastbury and Moor Park should remain in the same division, and that Eastbury and South Oxhey had no shared community identity.

32 We received support for our proposals in the north of the district, and in the Croxley Green area in the south of Three Rivers District.

33 We have made changes to our proposed Abbots Langley and Three Rivers Rural divisions, as well as including Loudwater in Three Rivers Rural division, thus retaining its link with Chorleywood. We have not made any changes to our proposed South Oxhey & Eastbury and Rickmansworth East & Oxhey Park divisions. This is because we could not find a suitable alternative division pattern proposal for this area that would meet our statutory criteria.

Watford Borough

34 We received 16 submissions in relation to our proposed divisions in Watford, some of which also referred to our recommendations in other districts. We had proposed to retain the existing electoral division boundaries, only changing some of the division names. Generally the responses in Watford were in support of our proposals, and we are not making any changes to our proposed arrangements in this borough.

Welwyn Hatfield Borough

35 As mentioned above, we added an extra county councillor to Welwyn Hatfield in order to be able to propose a pattern of electoral divisions which met our statutory criteria. We received three responses regarding this borough in our consultation. One, from Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council, supported our proposed boundaries. Of the other two, one proposed minor boundary changes and the other proposed a division name change. We are not making any changes to our proposed electoral division arrangements in the borough.

Detailed divisions

36 The tables on pages 9–24 detail our final recommendations for each area of Hertfordshire. Where we have moved away from our draft recommendations, we have outlined how the proposed arrangements reflect the three statutory criteria of:

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

Broxbourne Borough

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Cheshunt Central	1	7%	This division comprises the majority of Cheshunt town.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Flamstead End & Turnford	1	8%	This division comprises the communities of Flamstead End and Turnford, as well as parts of Rosedale and Hammond Street.	We received 10 submissions regarding our draft recommendations in this area. Respondents had incorrectly thought that we were changing the borough ward boundaries of Broxbourne. None of the submissions commented on our proposed electoral division arrangements.
Goffs Oak & Bury Green	1	8%	This division contains the communities of Goffs Oak and Bury Green as well as part of Hammond Street.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Hoddesdon North	1	10%	This division contains the northern part of Hoddesdon town.	We received a submission from a local resident proposing to move an area of our proposed Hoddesdon South division into this division. We do not consider that the evidence we received was sufficient for us to depart from our draft recommendations. Therefore we are confirming this division as part of our final recommendations.
Hoddesdon South	1	6%	This division contains the southern part of Hoddesdon town.	As mentioned above, we received a submission that favoured including an area of our proposed Hoddesdon North division in to this division. However, we are not making any changes to our proposed divisions here, and as such we confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Waltham Cross	1	7%	This division comprises Waltham Cross and part of Cheshunt.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.

Dacorum Borough

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Berkhamsted	1	8%	This division comprises the majority of Berkhamsted town.	We received one submission relating to this division, from Berkhamsted Town Council, which suggested alternative names for some of our proposed parish wards. We received no comments on our proposed electoral division boundaries. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Bridgewater	1	-6%	This division comprises the mainly rural area of the north-east of the district, as well as containing part of Berkhamsted town.	We received a submission from Northchurch Parish Council which supported our proposed division. We also received seven submissions opposing our inclusion of Aldbury parish in this division. The submissions argued that Aldbury's community links are strongest with Tring, and so the parish should be in Tring division. We consider that the evidence in favour of moving Aldbury from this division is strong, and we are amending the division accordingly.
Hemel Hempstead East	1	-4%	This division comprises the eastern part of Hemel Hempstead.	We received two submissions specifically relating to this division, one from a borough councillor and one from a political group. These submissions proposed various amendments to our proposed electoral division boundaries in Hemel Hempstead. Based on these submissions we have decided to amend the boundary between this division and our proposed Hemel Hempstead North East division. An area north-east of Hemel Hempstead industrial estate and Three Cherry Trees Lane will now be included in Hemel Hempstead North East division.
Hemel Hempstead North East	1	-9%	This division comprises the north-eastern part of Hemel Hempstead.	A political group proposed including the community of Piccotts End in this division, removing it from our proposed Hemel Hempstead St Paul's division. However, we are not persuaded that sufficient evidence has been received to justify this

				change. As mentioned above, we have amended the boundary between this division and Hemel Hempstead East division.
Hemel Hempstead North West	1	4%	This division comprises the north-western part of Hemel Hempstead.	A political group suggested moving an area of this division in to Hemel Hempstead Town division. We are not persuaded that there is sufficient evidence to justify this, and as such we are confirming our proposed division as final.
Hemel Hempstead South East	1	2%	This division comprises the south-eastern part of Hemel Hempstead.	A political group suggested moving an area of this division into Hemel Hempstead East division. We are not persuaded that there is sufficient evidence to justify this, and we consider that the current proposed boundary along Bennetts End Road is a strong one. As such we are confirming our proposed division as final.
Hemel Hempstead St Paul's	1	-1%	This division comprises a part of the central area of Hemel Hempstead.	As mentioned above, we received a submission from a political group proposing to include Piccotts End in a different division. We do not consider that, given the road links in the area, Piccotts End is more logically suited to being included in this division. We therefore confirm this division as final.
Hemel Hempstead Town	1	-1%	This division comprises a part of the central and south-western areas of Hemel Hempstead.	As mentioned above, a political group proposed a change to this division, but we do not consider that sufficient evidence has been received to change our draft recommendations here. Therefore we confirm this division as final.
Kings Langley	1	-5%	This division comprises the rural area to the south of Hemel Hempstead.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Tring	1	11%	This division comprises the town of Tring, and the rural area around it.	As mentioned in relation to Bridgewater division, we are changing our draft recommendations here, by including Aldbury parish in this division. We received strong evidence stating that Aldbury has a shared community identity with other parts of our proposed Tring division. Despite this division having a relatively high electoral variance, we consider that the strong community

				evidence justifies this and provides the best balance between our three statutory criteria.

East Hertfordshire District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Bishop's Stortford East	1	0%	This division comprises the eastern area of Bishop's Stortford.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Bishop's Stortford Rural	1	-8%	This division comprises the southern area of Bishop's Stortford as well as the rural area to the west of the town.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Bishop's Stortford West	1	7%	This division comprises the western area of Bishop's Stortford.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Buntingford	1	-10%	This division comprises a largely rural area in the north of the district.	We received a submission from Buntingford Town Council arguing that the division that we had called Braughing in our draft recommendations instead be called Buntingford. We consider that, as Buntingford is the largest settlement in the proposed division, it is logical that the division name reflects this. We are therefore amending our proposed name for this division.
Hertford All Saints	1	-6%	This division comprises the northern part of Hertford, as well as a small rural area to the north of the town.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.

Hertford Rural	1	-5%	This division comprises the rural areas to the north, west and south of Hertford.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Hertford St Andrews	1	0%	This division comprises the southern part of Hertford.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Sawbridgeworth	1	10%	This division comprises the rural area south of Bishop's Stortford and east of Hertford.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Ware North	1	-2%	This division comprises the northern part of Ware as well as the rural area to the north.	We received a submission from Ware Town Council which proposed having the entire town represented by a single councillor. This would result in unacceptably high levels of electoral inequality, both in Ware and in the rural areas to its north and south. We therefore are not making any changes to our proposed divisions in this area as part of our final recommendations.
Ware South	1	0%	This division comprises the southern part of Ware as well as the rural area to the south.	As noted above, we are confirming as final our proposed division boundaries in this part of the district.

Hertsmere Borough

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Borehamwood North	1	2%	This division comprises the northern part of Borehamwood.	We received a submission from a local resident proposing that all of Eldon Avenue be included in Borehamwood South division, to ensure a more identifiable boundary. We did not consider that there was sufficient evidence in favour of making

				this change, and as such we are retaining this division as part of our final recommendations.
Borehamwood South	1	1%	This division comprises the southern part of Borehamwood.	As mentioned above, a local resident proposed a change in the boundary between this division and Borehamwood North. We also received a submission from Hertsmere Borough Council which argued that the Well End area should be included in a Borehamwood division, rather than in Potters Bar West & Shenley as we had proposed. Given the electoral inequality that would result from this change, we are not amending our recommendations in this area. Therefore, we are retaining this division in our final recommendations.
Bushey North	1	-8%	This division comprises the northern part of Bushey.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Bushey South	1	-7%	This division comprises the southern part of Bushey.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Potters Bar East	1	8%	This division comprises the eastern part of Potters Bar, as well as a rural area to its south.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Potters Bar West & Shenley	1	2%	This division comprises the western part of Potters Bar, as well as a rural area to the west which contains the village of Shenley.	As mentioned above, we received a submission arguing that Well End should be included in a Borehamwood division rather than this one. We also received a submission from a local resident which stated that Shenley has no shared interests or community links with Potters Bar. We are not proposing to change the boundaries in this area because we consider that our proposals achieve the best balance of our statutory criteria. Removing Shenley from this division would mean a high level of electoral inequality. Therefore, we are confirming this division as final.

Watling	1	-1%	This division comprises an area to the west and north of Borehamwood. It contains the settlements of Radlett and Elstree.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.

North Hertfordshire District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Baldock & Letchworth East	1	-1%	This division comprises the eastern part of Letchworth and the town of Baldock.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Hitchin North	1	4%	This division comprises the northern area of Hitchin.	We received a submission from a local resident suggesting that part of the Westmill area in the north-west of Hitchin be included in Hitchin North division, rather than Hitchin Rural as it was in our draft recommendations. The resident argued that the Westmill area has greater shared community identities with Hitchin town rather than the rural area. Including this area in Hitchin North would create significant electoral inequality in both this division and Hitchin Rural. Therefore, we are not proposing to make any changes to our proposed Hitchin North division.
Hitchin Rural	1	-8%	This division comprises a large rural area to the north, west and south of Hitchin. It also contains the Westmill community in the north-west of Hitchin.	A local resident suggested removing the Westmill area and an area south of Redhill Road from this division. The Westmill community would be moved to Hitchin North and the area south of Redhill Road would move to Hitchin South. Given the large electoral inequalities that would arise from this, we are not implementing this proposal as part of our final recommendations
Hitchin South	1	-2%	This division comprises the southern area of	As mentioned above, a local resident proposed adding an area from our proposed Hitchin Rural division into this one.

			Hitchin, as well as a rural area to the south-west of the town.	However, we are not making this change as part of our final recommendations because of the electoral inequality that the change would create.
Knebworth & Codicote	1	-7%	This division comprises a rural area south of Hitchin as well as the communities of Codicote, Kimpton and Knebworth.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Letchworth North	1	9%	This division comprises the northern part of Letchworth.	We received two submissions suggesting naming this division Letchworth North rather than Letchworth North West as we had in our draft recommendations. We consider that this division name is more reflective of the area covered by the division, and we have changed the name to Letchworth North as part of our final recommendations.
Letchworth South	1	4%	This division comprises the southern part of Letchworth.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Royston East & Ermine	1	-1%	This division comprises the eastern part of Royston as well as the rural area to the east of the town.	We received two submissions suggesting naming this division Royston East & Ermine Rural rather than Royston East as we had in our draft recommendations. We consider that this division name is more reflective of the area covered by the division in addition to Royston town. However, given the need to differentiate the name from Royston West & Rural, we are not using the word 'Rural' in this division name as part of our final recommendations.
Royston West & Rural	1	8%	This division comprises the western part of Royston as well as the large rural area to the west of the town.	We received two submissions suggesting naming this division Royston West & North Herts Rural rather than Royston West & Rural as we had in our draft recommendations. We are not changing this division name as we consider that the name proposed is adequately reflective of the area covered by the division.

				We also received submissions from two local residents regarding this division. One argued that our proposed division was too large in geographic size, and the other resident, based in Great Ashby, was concerned to be resident in a division so far from its major area of population. We do not consider that the evidence put forward is sufficiently strong to alter our draft recommendations in this area, and so we are confirming as final our proposed Royston West & Rural division.

St Albans City

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Colney Heath & Marshalswick	1	-7%	This division comprises the communities of Colney Heath, Jersey Farm and Marshalswick.	We received four submissions regarding this proposed division. Sandridge Parish Council objected to the parish being split across two divisions and argued for the retention of the existing arrangements. We also received a submission from Colney Heath Parish Council and a local resident which argued that Marshalswick has few community links with Colney Heath. Under the current arrangements, Sandridge division has a high degree of electoral inequality, so as part of our draft recommendations, this division was split between two divisions. Retaining the existing division was not possible, and so we proposed a pattern of divisions that we considered was most likely to meet the statutory criteria. We are not persuaded that the evidence is strong enough to warrant changing our draft recommendations here and have decided to confirm them as final.

Harpenden North East	1	-4%	This division comprises the north-eastern part of Harpenden.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Harpenden Rural	1	-3%	This division comprises the large rural area in the centre of the district, between Harpenden and St Albans.	We received a submission from a local resident who objected to our changing of this division's name from St Albans Rural to Harpenden Rural. We do not consider that we have received sufficient evidence to warrant this change, and as such we confirm our draft recommendations as final.
Harpenden South West	1	-1%	This division comprises the south-western part of Harpenden.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
London Colney	1	-12%	This division comprises the community of London Colney.	We received 19 submissions regarding this area, with all respondents opposing our proposal to include an area off New House Park in London Colney division. The respondents argued that this area is part of St Albans, and shared no community identity with London Colney. They stated that the A414 dual carriageway represented a clear dividing line between the two communities. We consider that the evidence in favour of changing our draft recommendations here was strong. We have therefore moved the above electors from London Colney division and included them in St Albans East division. We are amending the boundary between this division and St Albans East division to follow the A414. Despite the fact that this division is projected to have 12% fewer electors than the county average by 2020, we consider that the obvious community links justify this relatively high electoral variance.
St Albans Central	1	3%	This division comprises the central area of St Albans.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.

St Albans East	1	-4%	This division comprises the eastern area of St Albans.	As mentioned above, we have taken some electors from our proposed London Colney division and included them in this division to better reflect community identities in this area.
St Albans North	1	-7%	This division comprises mainly the northern part of St Albans, as well as a small rural area.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
St Albans South	1	-4%	This division comprises the south and south-west of St Albans.'	We received two submissions regarding the boundary between this division and our proposed St Stephen's division. St Albans City & District Council and Chiswell Green Residents' Association both argued that all of Ragged Hall Lane should be in the same division. We consider that including it all in St Stephen's division would provide for effective and convenient local government in this area and better reflect community identities. We are amending our draft recommendations here to include all of Ragged Hall Lane in St Stephen's division.
St Stephen's	1	0%	This division comprises an area to the south-west of St Albans and contains the communities of Chiswell Green and Smug Oak.	As mentioned above, we are making a minor amendment to the boundary between our proposed St Stephen's and St Albans South divisions.

Stevenage Borough

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Bedwell	1	-5%	This division contains the centre of the borough and comprises the	Following further limited consultation, we have moved away from our draft recommendations for the borough. We are content that the proposed division pattern provides a better

			communities of Bedwell and Pin Green.	reflection of the statutory criteria than our draft recommendations. In particular, we consider that the divisions proposed contain cohesive communities that share a sense of identity and follow more clearly defined boundaries when compared with our draft recommendations. We also note that the revised division pattern for the borough provides for reasonable electoral equality.
Broadwater	1	-6%	This division covers the south-west and south-east of the borough, and contains the community of Broadwater.	
Chells	1	-9%	This division contains the north-east of the borough, and the communities of Chells and Chells Manor.	
Old Stevenage	1	-8%	This division comprises the communities of Old Stevenage and Symonds Green, covering both sides of the railway line.	
Shephall	1	-7%	This division comprises the Shephall community in the east of the borough.	
St Nicholas	1	-5%	This division covers the north of the borough.	

Three Rivers District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Abbots Langley	1	9%	This division comprises the community of Abbots	We received five submissions specifically relating to this division. The submissions broadly supported our proposed division. We received a submission from a political group which

			Langley and part of Leavesden.	proposed an alternative boundary in the west of the division, meaning that the boundary would run along the railway line to the west of Gallows Hill and Hamilton Road. We consider that this would provide a clearer, more identifiable boundary between this division and Three Rivers Rural, while not affecting greatly the overall makeup of the division.
Croxley	1	-5%	This division comprises the community of Croxley Green, and a small area of Rickmansworth.	This proposed division was the subject of the largest amount of submissions we received for any area of the county. We received 89 submissions concerning this area. Respondents from Loudwater argued strongly that they have few shared community interests with residents of Croxley Green. They stated that they felt that their links were stronger with Chorleywood. We also received support from residents of Croxley Green for keeping the whole of that community within one division. We are amending our proposals in this area to include all of the Loudwater community in Three Rivers Rural, where it will be in the same division as Chorleywood. We consider that the evidence for this change was strong, and that it is a change which will be supported locally. We also note that we can make this change while still ensuring good electoral equality.
Rickmansworth East & Oxhey Park	1	9%	This division comprises the eastern part of Rickmansworth, as well as Moor Park and Carpenders Park.	We received approximately 40 submissions in relation to this division, and the neighbouring South Oxhey & Eastbury division. Respondents argued that our proposal to split Eastbury from Moor Park did not reflect community identities in the area. We appreciate the strength of feeling in this area. However, given the statutory criteria, and the fact that this area of the district is bordered by three other local authorities, there are few potential alternatives which would ensure good electoral equality. We did not receive any submissions which

				contained a viable alternative to the boundaries we have proposed in our draft recommendations. Therefore, we are confirming as final this division.
Rickmansworth West	1	0%	This division comprises the western area of Rickmansworth as well as the community of Maple Cross.	We received one submission specifically regarding this division, which supported our proposal. We confirm as final this division.
South Oxhey & Eastbury	1	8%	This division comprises the communities of Eastbury and South Oxhey.	As mentioned above, we received a significant amount of responses regarding this area. However, we are not persuaded to depart from our draft recommendations here.
Three Rivers Rural	1	9%	This division covers a large rural area of the district, and contains the communities of Chorleywood, Sarratt and Loudwater.	As discussed above, we are amending the boundaries between this division and Croxley and Abbots Langley, in order to reflect the evidence received during consultation. We consider that the final recommendations provide a better balance of the statutory criteria than our draft recommendations.

Watford Borough

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Central Watford & Oxhey	1	4%	This division comprises the centre of Watford, as well as an area in the south of the town.	A county councillor proposed moving an area from this division to Meriden Tudor. However, we do not consider that the councillor provided sufficient evidence to warrant a change to our recommendations here. Therefore we confirm our proposed division as final.
Meriden Tudor	1	-7%	This division covers an area in the north-east of the town.	As mentioned above, a county councillor proposed moving an area to this division from Central Watford & Oxhey division. We are, however, confirming this proposed division as final.

Nascot Park	1	6%	This division comprises an area in the north-west of Watford.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
North Watford	1	-2%	This division comprises the north of the town.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
West Watford	1	8%	This division comprises western and south-western parts of the town	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Woodside Stanborough	1	-6%	This division comprises an area on the edge of the town, to the north of central Watford	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.

Welwyn Hatfield Borough

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Haldens	1	9%	This division comprises the northern part of Welwyn Garden City.	We received two submissions regarding this division, both from local residents. One resident suggested that this division be named ‘Haldens & Panshanger’, while the other resident suggested a potential boundary change between this division and Welwyn Garden City South. We are not persuaded that the evidence received is sufficient to implement either of the changes proposed here, and we confirm as final our proposed Haldens division.
Handside & Peartree	1	9%	This division comprises the central and western parts of Welwyn Garden City.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.

Hatfield East	1	-6%	This division comprises the eastern part of Hatfield, as well as a rural area to the east and north-east of the town.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Hatfield North	1	-1%	This division comprises the northern part of Hatfield, as well as a rural area to the north of the town.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Hatfield Rural	1	-10%	This division comprises the largely rural area in the south-east of the borough.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Hatfield South	1	-7%	This division comprises the southern part of Hatfield, and contains the community of Welham Green.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Welwyn	1	8%	This division comprises a northern part of Welwyn Garden City, as well as Welwyn town itself, and the community of Digswell.	We received no submissions specifically relating to this division. We have therefore decided to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Welwyn Garden City South	1	8%	This division comprises the southern and south-eastern parts of Welwyn Garden City.	As mentioned above, we received a proposal to include an area of this division in Haldens division. However, we are confirming our proposed division here as final.

Conclusions

37 Table 1 shows the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2013 and 2020 electorate figures.

Table 1: Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2013	**2020**
Number of councillors	78	78
Number of electoral divisions	78	78
Average number of electors per councillor	10,895	11,771
Number of divisions with a variance more than 10% from the average	11	2
Number of divisions with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

Final recommendation
Hertfordshire County Council should comprise 78 councillors serving 78 single-member divisions. The details and names are shown in Table A1 and illustrated on the large map accompanying this report.

Mapping
Sheet 1, Map 1 illustrates in outline form the proposed divisions for Hertfordshire. **You can also view our final recommendations for Hertfordshire on our interactive maps at http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk**

Parish electoral arrangements

38 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.

39 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, the district councils in have powers under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct community governance reviews to effect changes to parish electoral arrangements.

40 As a result of our proposed division 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 Berkhamsted.

Final recommendation
Berkhamsted Town Council should return 15 parish councillors, as at present, representing four wards: All Saints ward (returning three members), Berkhamsted Castle (returning five members), Berkhamsted East (returning five members) and Lagley (returning two members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

41 As a result of our proposed division 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 Sandridge.

Final recommendation
Sandridge Parish Council should return 14 parish councillors, as at present, representing four wards: Jersey Farm (returning four members), Marshalswick East (returning four members), Marshalswick West (returning four members) and Village (returning two members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

42 As a result of our proposed division 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 Colney Heath.

Final recommendation
Colney Heath Parish Council should return nine parish councillors, as at present, representing three wards: Colney Heath (returning four members), Highfield (returning four members) and Hill End (returning one member). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

43 As a result of our proposed division 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 Abbots Langley.

Final recommendation
Abbots Langley Parish Council should return 15 parish councillors, as at present, representing seven wards: Abbots Langley (returning four members), Abbots Langley West (returning one member), Bedmond (returning one member), Hunton Bridge & Langleybury (returning one member), Hunton Park (returning one member), Leavesden (returning five members) and Primrose Hill (returning two members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

44 As a result of our proposed division 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 Chorleywood.

Final recommendation
Chorleywood Parish Council should return 17 parish councillors, as at present, representing five wards: Chorleywood Cedars (returning two members), Chorleywood Common & Loudwater (returning five members), Chorleywood East (returning two members), Chorleywood Quickswood (returning one member) and Chorleywood South (returning seven members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

45 As a result of our proposed division 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 Elstree & Borehamwood.

Final recommendation
Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council should return 13 parish councillors, as at present, representing seven wards: Borehamwood Brookmeadow (returning two members), Borehamwood Cowley Hill (returning three members), Borehamwood Hillside (returning three members), Borehamwood Kenilworth North (returning one member), Borehamwood Kenilworth South (returning one member), Borehamwood Shenley Road (returning one member) and Elstree (returning two members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

46 As a result of our proposed division 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 Hatfield.

Final recommendation
Hatfield Town Council should return 15 parish councillors, as at present, representing seven wards: Central (returning three members), East (returning three members), Newgate Street & Wildhill (returning one member), Oxlease (returning two members), South (returning two members), Villages (returning three members) and West (returning one member). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

47 As a result of our proposed division 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 Royston.

Final recommendation
Royston Town Council should return six parish councillors, as at present, representing four wards: Royston Meridian (returning two members), Royston Palace (returning two members), Royston South (returning one member) and Royston West (returning one member). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

48 As a result of our proposed division 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 St Michael.

Final recommendation
St Michael Parish Council should return seven parish councillors, as at present, representing two wards: St Michael (returning six members) and St Michael South East (returning one member). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

49 As a result of our proposed division 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 Watford Rural.

Final recommendation
Watford Rural Parish Council should return 14 parish councillors, as at present, representing five wards: Ashridge (returning one member), Carpenders Park (returning four members), Hayling (returning two members), Oxhey Hall (returning two members) and South Oxhey (returning five members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

3 What happens next?

50 We have now completed our review of Hertfordshire County 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 May 2017.

Equalities

51 This report has been screened for impact on equalities; with due regard being given to the general equalities duties as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. As no potential negative impacts were identified, a full equality impact analysis is not required

Appendix A

Table A1: Final recommendations for Hertfordshire County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2014)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2020)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
Broxbourne Borough								
1	Cheshunt Central	1	11,835	11,835	9%	12,633	12,633	7%
2	Flamstead End & Turnford	1	12,013	12,013	10%	12,759	12,759	8%
3	Goffs Oak & Bury Green	1	11,877	11,877	9%	12,693	12,693	8%
4	Hoddesdon North	1	12,165	12,165	12%	12,986	12,986	10%
5	Hoddesdon South	1	11,784	11,784	8%	12,469	12,469	6%
6	Waltham Cross	1	11,722	11,722	8%	12,575	12,575	7%
Dacorum Borough								
7	Berkhamsted	1	12,103	12,103	11%	12,767	12,767	8%
8	Bridgewater	1	10,574	10,574	-3%	11,077	11,077	-6%
9	Hemel Hempstead East	1	10,740	10,740	-1%	11,358	11,358	-4%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Hertfordshire County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2014)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2020)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
10	Hemel Hempstead North East	1	9,950	9,950	-9%	10,745	10,745	-9%
11	Hemel Hempstead North West	1	11,703	11,703	7%	12,272	12,272	4%
12	Hemel Hempstead South East	1	11,394	11,394	5%	12,058	12,058	2%
13	Hemel Hempstead St Paul's	1	11,062	11,062	2%	11,604	11,604	-1%
14	Hemel Hempstead Town	1	10,603	10,603	-3%	11,632	11,632	-1%
15	Kings Langley	1	10,602	10,602	-3%	11,164	11,164	-5%
16	Tring	1	12,384	12,384	14%	13,058	13,058	11%
East Hertfordshire District								
17	Bishop's Stortford East	1	10,621	10,621	-3%	11,818	11,818	0%
18	Bishop's Stortford Rural	1	9,968	9,968	-9%	10,883	10,883	-8%
19	Bishop's Stortford West	1	11,466	11,466	5%	12,637	12,637	7%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Hertfordshire County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2014)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2020)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
20	Buntingford	1	9,445	9,445	-13%	10,564	10,564	-10%
21	Hertford All Saints	1	9,897	9,897	-9%	11,008	11,008	-6%
22	Hertford Rural	1	9,956	9,956	-9%	11,175	11,175	-5%
23	Hertford St Andrews	1	10,483	10,483	-4%	11,715	11,715	0%
24	Sawbridgeworth	1	11,427	11,427	5%	13,002	13,002	10%
25	Ware North	1	10,390	10,390	-5%	11,544	11,544	-2%
26	Ware South	1	10,653	10,653	-2%	11,808	11,808	0%
Hertsmere Borough								
27	Borehamwood North	1	10,954	10,954	1%	11,952	11,952	2%
28	Borehamwood South	1	10,729	10,729	-2%	11,883	11,883	1%
29	Bushey North	1	9,720	9,720	-11%	10,789	10,789	-8%
30	Bushey South	1	10,053	10,053	-8%	10,895	10,895	-7%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Hertfordshire County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2014)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2020)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
31	Potters Bar East	1	11,683	11,683	7%	12,684	12,684	8%
32	Potters Bar West & Shenley	1	10,711	10,711	-2%	12,007	12,007	2%
33	Watling	1	11,259	11,259	3%	11,662	11,662	-1%
North Hertfordshire District								
34	Baldock & Letchworth East	1	10,851	10,851	0%	11,675	11,675	-1%
35	Hitchin North	1	11,404	11,404	5%	12,278	12,278	4%
36	Hitchin Rural	1	9,997	9,997	-8%	10,879	10,879	-8%
37	Hitchin South	1	10,665	10,665	-2%	11,554	11,554	-2%
38	Knebworth & Codicote	1	9,957	9,957	-9%	10,899	10,899	-7%
39	Letchworth North	1	11,947	11,947	10%	12,828	12,828	9%
40	Letchworth South	1	11,351	11,351	4%	12,296	12,296	4%
41	Royston East & Ermine	1	11,682	11,682	7%	11,641	11,641	-1%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Hertfordshire County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2014)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2020)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
42	Royston West & Rural	1	10,784	10,784	-1%	12,699	12,699	8%
St Albans City								
43	Colney Heath & Marshalswick	1	10,374	10,374	-5%	10,960	10,960	-7%
44	Harpenden North East	1	10,714	10,714	-2%	11,269	11,269	-4%
45	Harpenden Rural	1	11,010	11,010	1%	11,411	11,411	-3%
46	Harpenden South West	1	11,032	11,032	1%	11,622	11,622	-1%
47	London Colney	1	8,770	8,770	-20%	10,324	10,324	-12%
48	St Albans Central	1	10,959	10,959	1%	12,078	12,078	3%
49	St Albans East	1	10,479	10,479	-4%	11,341	11,341	-4%
50	St Albans North	1	10,117	10,117	-7%	10,934	10,934	-7%
51	St Albans South	1	10,436	10,436	-4%	11,308	11,308	-4%
52	St Stephen’s	1	11,076	11,076	2%	11,821	11,821	0%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Hertfordshire County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2014)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2020)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
Stevenage Borough								
53	Bedwell	1	11,026	11,026	1%	11,191	11,191	-5%
54	Broadwater	1	10,982	10,982	1%	11,088	11,088	-6%
55	Chells	1	10,668	10,668	-2%	10,718	10,718	-9%
56	Old Stevenage	1	10,748	10,748	-1%	10,813	10,813	-8%
57	Shephall	1	10,774	10,774	-1%	10,891	10,891	-7%
58	St Nicholas	1	11,004	11,004	1%	11,208	11,208	-5%
Three Rivers District								
59	Abbots Langley	1	11,460	11,460	5%	12,817	12,817	9%
60	Croxley	1	10,686	10,686	-2%	11,195	11,195	-5%
61	Rickmansworth East & Oxhey Park	1	11,773	11,773	8%	12,803	12,803	9%
62	Rickmansworth West	1	11,002	11,002	1%	11,827	11,827	0%
63	South Oxhey & Eastbury	1	11,701	11,701	7%	12,678	12,678	8%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Hertfordshire County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2014)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2020)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
64	Three Rivers Rural	1	12,041	12,041	11%	12,840	12,840	9%
Watford Borough								
65	Central Watford & Oxhey	1	11,715	11,715	8%	12,273	12,273	4%
66	Meriden Tudor	1	10,785	10,785	-1%	10,923	10,923	-7%
67	Nascot Park	1	12,189	12,189	12%	12,435	12,435	6%
68	North Watford	1	11,344	11,344	4%	11,563	11,563	-2%
69	West Watford	1	12,161	12,161	12%	12,770	12,770	8%
70	Woodside Stanborough	1	10,949	10,949	0%	11,106	11,106	-6%
Welwyn Hatfield Borough								
71	Haldens	1	10,988	10,988	1%	12,809	12,809	9%
72	Handside & Peartree	1	11,034	11,034	1%	12,798	12,798	9%
73	Hatfield East	1	8,928	8,928	-18%	11,090	11,090	-6%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Hertfordshire County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2014)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2020)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
74	Hatfield North	1	9,483	9,483	-13%	11,607	11,607	-1%
75	Hatfield Rural	1	9,858	9,858	-10%	10,628	10,628	-10%
76	Hatfield South	1	9,082	9,082	-17%	10,891	10,891	-7%
77	Welwyn	1	10,890	10,890	0%	12,727	12,727	8%
78	Welwyn Garden City South	1	11,017	11,017	1%	12,756	12,756	8%
	Totals	**78**	**849,819**	**–**	**–**	**918,135**	**–**	**–**
	Averages	**–**	**–**	**10,895**	**–**	**–**	**11,771**	**–**

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Hertfordshire County Council.

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

Appendix B

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/eastern/hertfordshire/hertfordshire-county-council

Local authorities

- Hertsmere Borough Council
- Stevenage Borough Council
- St Albans City & District Council
- Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Political Parties

- Hemel Hempstead Conservative Association
- North East Herts Conservative Association
- South West Herts Conservative Association
- St Albans Constituency Labour Party
- Stevenage Borough Council Labour Group
- Stevenage Constituency Labour Party (and Hertfordshire County Labour Party)
- Stevenage Borough Council Liberal Democrat Group
- Three Rivers District Council Labour Group

MP

- O. Heald MP

Councillors

- Councillor M. Bedford (Three Rivers District Council)
- Councillor S. Bedford (Hertfordshire County Council)
- Councillor M. Brooks (Three Rivers District Council)
- Councillor E. Connolly (Stevenage Borough Council)
- Councillor D. Edmunds (Three Rivers District Council)
- Councillor P. Getkahn (Three Rivers District Council)
- Councillor N. Hollinghurst (Hertfordshire County Council)
- Councillor R. Hollinghurst (Dacorum Borough Council)
- Councillor R. Khiroya (Three Rivers District Council)
- Councillor J. King (Hertfordshire County Council)
- Councillor A. McGuinness (Stevenage Borough Council)
- Councillor J. Mann (Three Rivers District Council)
- Councillor J. Marshall (Dacorum Borough Council)
- Councillor D. Morris (Three Rivers District Council)
- Councillor R. Parker (Hertfordshire County Council)
- Councillor R. Ranger (Three Rivers District Council)

- Councillor A. Shaw (Three Rivers District Council)
- Councillor A. Scarth (Three Rivers District Council)
- Councillor A. Scarth (Three Rivers District Council)
- Councillor G. Snell (Stevenage Borough Council)
- Councillor S. Stibbs (Three Rivers District Council)
- Councillor J. Thomas (Stevenage Borough Council)
- Councillor K. Turner (Three Rivers District Council)
- Councillor A. Wall (Three Rivers District Council)
- Councillor C. Whately-Smith (Three Rivers District Council)

Town and parish councils and councillors

- Abbots Langley Parish Council
- Aldbury Parish Council
- Berkhamsted Town Council
- Buntingford Town Council
- Colney Heath Parish Council
- Croxley Green Parish Council
- Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council
- Northchurch Parish Council
- Sandridge Parish Council
- Ware Town Council
- Watford Rural Parish Council
- Councillor P. Brading (Croxley Green Parish Council)
- Councillor P. Quigg (Aldbury Parish Council)

Local organisations

- Seven local community organisations

Residents

- 178 local residents

Appendix C

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 fairness	When one elector's vote is worth the same as another's
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. For the purposes of this report, we refer specifically to the electorate for local government elections
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 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