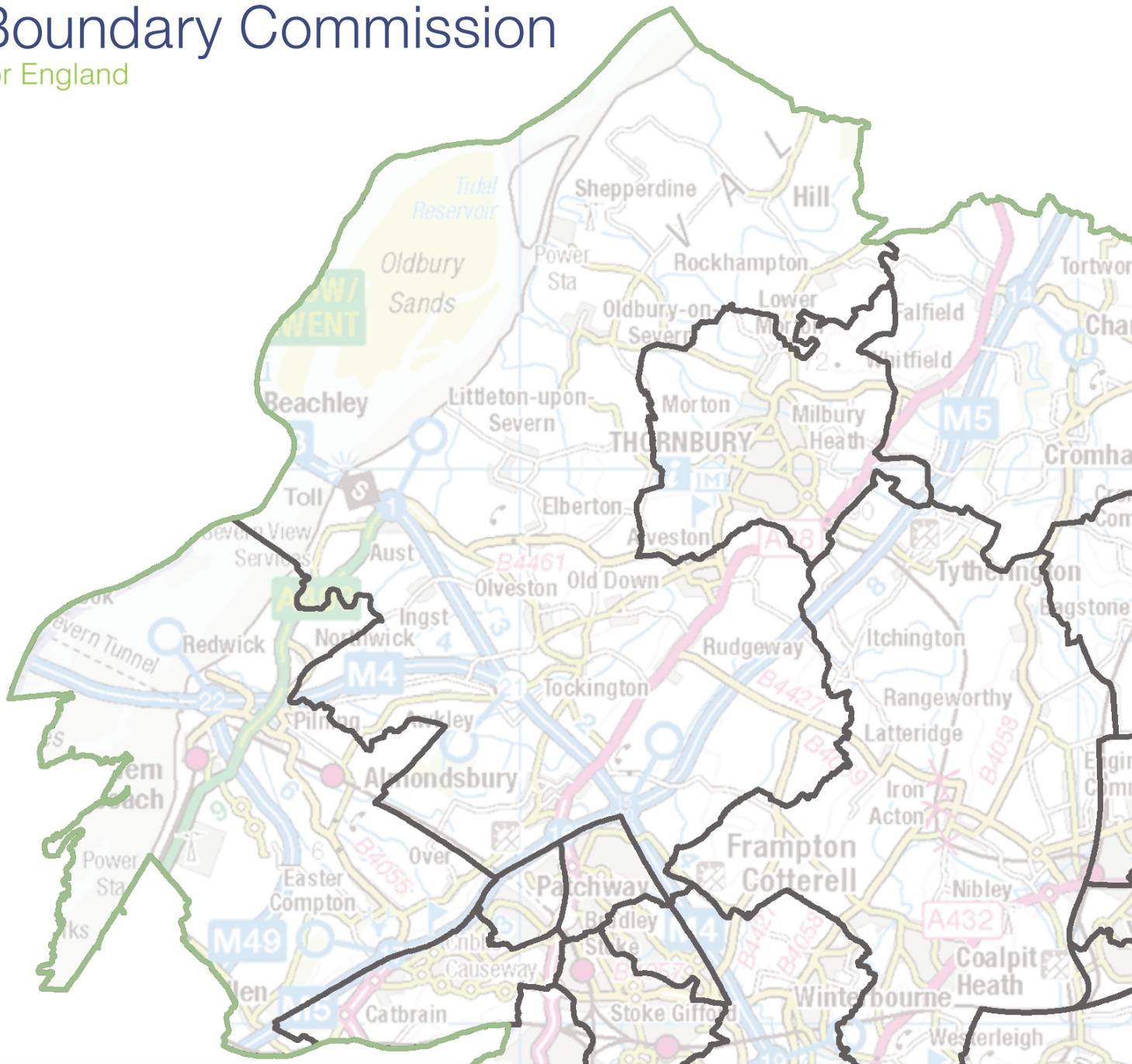


The
Local Government
Boundary Commission
for England



New electoral arrangements for
South Gloucestershire Council
Final recommendations

January 2018

Translations and other formats

For information on obtaining this publication in another language or in a large-print or Braille version, please contact the Local Government Boundary Commission for England:

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Summary

Who we are and what we do

1 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.

2 Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

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

Why South Gloucestershire?

4 We are conducting a review of South Gloucestershire Council, as a result of a request from the authority, in order that the number of councillors elected to the authority could be examined.

Our proposals for South Gloucestershire

- South Gloucestershire should be represented by 61 councillors, nine fewer than there are now.
- South Gloucestershire should have 28 wards, seven fewer than there are now.
- The boundaries of 27 wards should change; one will stay the same.

5 We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for South Gloucestershire.

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.¹

7 The members of the Commission are:

- Professor Colin Mellors OBE (Chair)
- Sir Tony Redmond (Deputy Chair)
- Alison Lowton
- Peter Maddison QPM
- Steve Robinson
- Andrew Scallan CBE

- Chief Executive: Jolyon Jackson CBE

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

1 Introduction

8 This electoral review was carried out to ensure that:

- The wards in South Gloucestershire are in the best possible places to help the Council carry out its responsibilities effectively.
- The number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the district.

What is an electoral review?

9 Our three main considerations are to:

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

10 Our task is to strike the best balance between them 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

11 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for South Gloucestershire. We then held two periods of consultation on warding patterns for the district. The submissions received during consultation have informed our draft and final recommendations.

12 This review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
21 March 2017	Number of councillors decided
28 March 2017	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards.
5 June 2017	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
29 August 2017	Publication of draft recommendations, start of second consultation
6 November 2017	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
16 January 2018	Publication of final recommendations

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 or town council ward you vote in. Your ward name may also change.

2 Analysis and final recommendations

14 Legislation² states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors³ 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.

15 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.

16 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.

	2017	2023
Electorate of South Gloucestershire	210,525	230,173
Number of councillors	61	61
Average number of electors per councillor	3,451	3,773

17 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 of our proposed wards for South Gloucestershire will have good electoral equality by 2023.

18 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of a district or result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. The recommendations will not have an effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums and we are not able to take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

Submissions received

19 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed at our offices by appointment, or on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Electorate figures

20 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2023, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2018. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 9% by 2023, largely driven by the Filton Airfield development in the proposed Charlton & Cribbs ward.

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

³ Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

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

Number of councillors

22 South Gloucestershire Council currently has 70 councillors. We looked at evidence provided by the Council and have concluded that decreasing by nine, to a council size of 61, will make sure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

23 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 61 councillors – for example, 61 one-councillor wards, or a mix of one-, two- and three-councillor wards.

24 We did not receive any submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on our draft recommendations. We have therefore maintained 61 councillors for our final recommendations.

Ward boundaries consultation

25 We received 28 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included three detailed district-wide proposals from two political groups and a member of the public. One political group submitted a partial scheme. All of the schemes received were based on a pattern of wards to be represented by 61 elected members.

26 The district-wide schemes each provided for a mixed pattern of one-, two- and three-councillor wards for South Gloucestershire. We carefully considered the proposals received and concluded that the proposed ward boundaries had good levels of electoral equality. We also considered that they generally used clearly identifiable boundaries. We based our draft proposals on a combination of the district-wide schemes that we received. We also took into account local evidence, where we received it, and where it provided evidence of community links and locally recognised boundaries. In some areas, we considered that the proposals did not provide for the best balance between our statutory criteria and so we identified alternative boundaries.

27 Our draft recommendations were for seven one-councillor, 15 two-councillor and eight three-councillor wards. We considered that our draft recommendations provided for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during the consultation period.

Draft recommendations consultation

28 We received 157 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations. These included 24 submissions relating to the ward named University in the draft recommendations, requesting that the name be altered. We also received 12 submissions relating to the proposed warding pattern in the town of

Yate, along with 24 submissions regarding the proposed wards in Bradley Stoke and Stoke Gifford, and 18 submissions on the warding arrangements for the draft wards of Sodbury Vale and Chipping Sodbury. We also received submissions on the other wards proposed as part of our draft recommendations.

29 Our final recommendations are based on the draft recommendations with a modification to the wards in Bradley Stoke and Stoke Gifford, and in Chipping Sodbury and Sodbury Vale, based on the submissions received. We are also changing the names of two wards.

Final recommendations

30 Pages 8–23 detail our final recommendations for each area of South Gloucestershire. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory⁴ criteria of:

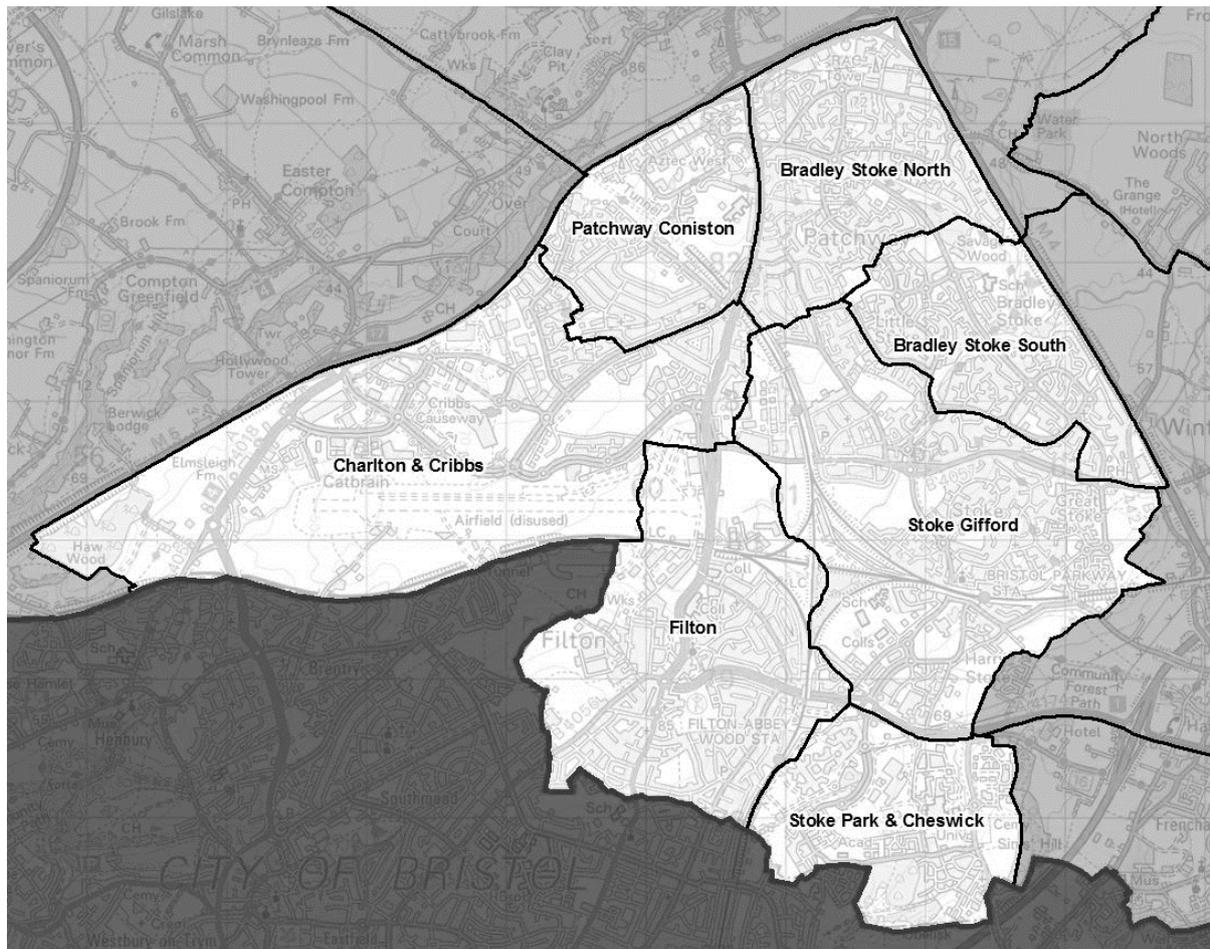
- Equality of representation
- Reflecting community interests and identities
- Providing for effective and convenient local government

31 Our final recommendations are for nine three-councillor wards, 15 two-councillor wards and four one-councillor wards. We consider that our final recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we have received such evidence during consultation.

32 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table on page 24 and on the large map accompanying this report.

⁴ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

South western areas



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Bradley Stoke North	2	10%
Bradley Stoke South	2	-7%
Charlton & Cribbs	3	4%
Filton	2	8%
Patchway Coniston	1	5%
Stoke Gifford	3	3%
Stoke Park & Cheswick	1	-8%

Bradley Stoke North, Bradley Stoke South and Stoke Gifford

33 We received 24 submissions that referenced the proposed wards in the Bradley Stoke and Stoke Gifford area of the district. A number of the submissions received referred to the parish of Stoke Lodge & The Common. As part of our draft recommendations, the parish of Stoke Lodge & The Common was split between our proposed Bradley Stoke North and Little Stoke wards. The submissions received, including from the Parish Council, argued that the recently formed parish should be completely retained within the Bradley Stoke North ward, to reflect the strong community identity in the area. We consider that including the whole of Stoke Lodge & The Common parish in the Bradley Stoke North ward would best reflect the community identity in this area, and we are therefore altering this ward as part of our final recommendations.

34 Significant evidence was received in a number of submissions about the Little Stoke ward proposed as part of the draft recommendations. Respondents argued that this area should not be separate from the proposed Stoke Gifford ward, as it was part of the same parish and had strong community links, including shared community centres, parish-administered recreation grounds and sports clubs, and other shared organisations. We considered that the evidence received was strong, and propose to combine the draft Little Stoke and Stoke Gifford wards into a three-member Stoke Gifford ward, with a variance of 3% by 2023.

35 A number of submissions requested that the area to the north of Winterbourne Road be included in the proposed Bradley Stoke South ward. However, this would result in electoral variances of 15% for Bradley Stoke South and -11% for Stoke Gifford, and we do not consider that sufficient evidence has been received to justify such high levels of electoral inequality. We are therefore not proposing any changes to our proposed Bradley Stoke South ward.

Charlton & Cribbs and Patchway Coniston

36 We received 12 submissions relating to the proposed Charlton & Cribbs and Patchway Coniston wards. A number of these requested that the existing Patchway ward in this area be retained; however, this would have an electoral variance of 59%, due to the significant levels of development underway on the airfield site, and no evidence was provided to justify such a high level of electoral inequality. Patchway Town Council proposed an alternative boundary between the two wards, allocating an extra councillor to their proposed Patchway ward; however, this would result in variances of -29% for Charlton & Cribbs, and 37% for Patchway Coniston, and we do not consider that any evidence was provided to justify such high levels of electoral inequality. We are therefore proposing to confirm our draft wards in this area as part of our final recommendations.

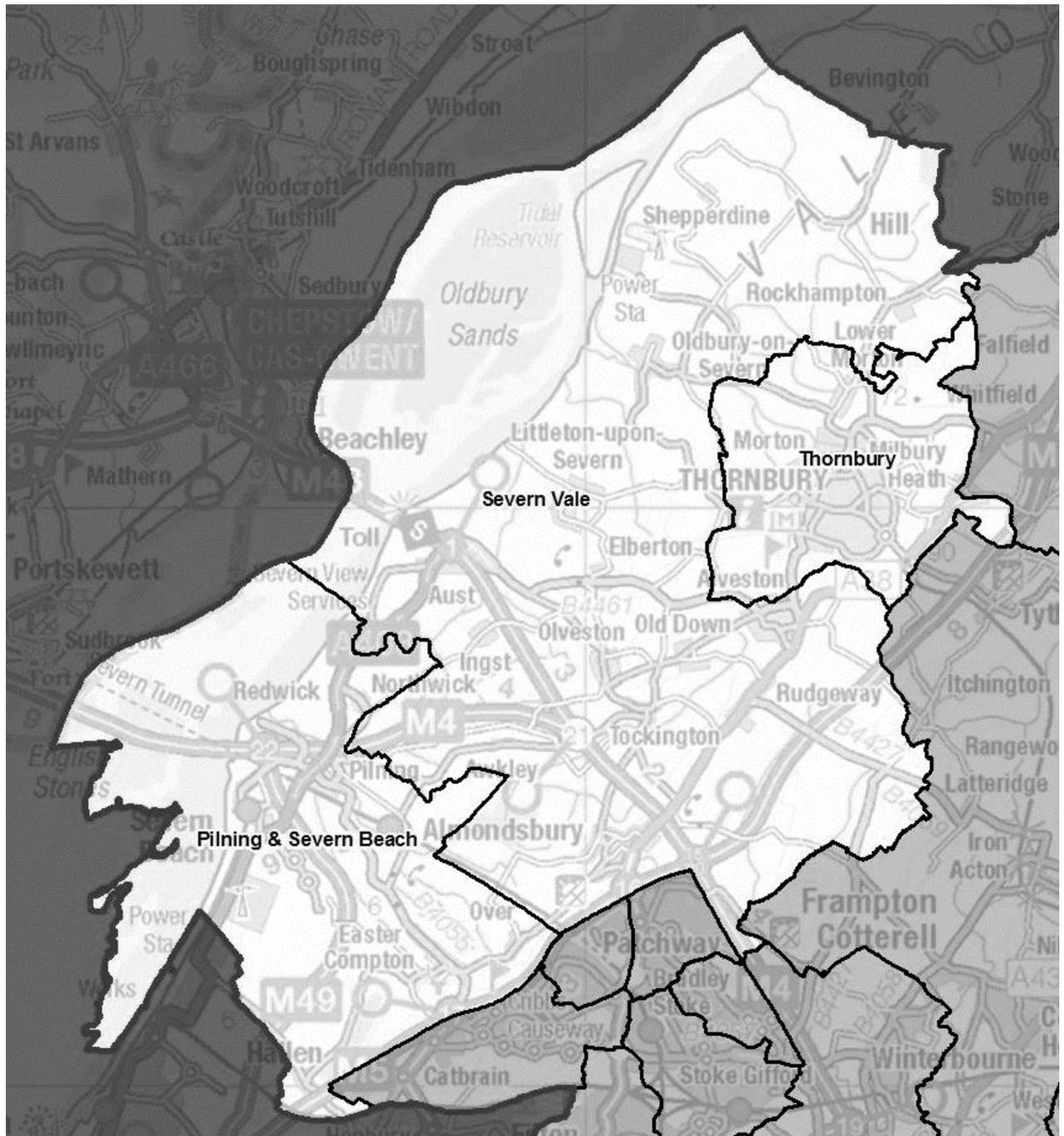
Filton

37 We received one submission relating to the proposed Filton ward, which referred to parliamentary constituencies. As this is outside the scope of the review, and the ward here is coterminous with the parish of Filton, we are confirming our proposed Filton ward as part of our final recommendations.

Stoke Park & Cheswick

38 We received 24 submissions relating to our proposed ward in this area, all of which were opposed to the ward name 'University' that was used in the draft recommendations, as it was felt that it was not representative of the areas of the ward that were not associated with the university. We are therefore proposing to rename this ward Stoke Park & Cheswick, in response to submissions received. We are not proposing any alterations to the boundary of this ward as part of the final recommendations.

Rural west



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Pilning & Severn Beach	1	2%
Severn Vale	2	5%
Thornbury	3	3%

Pilning & Severn Beach

39 We did not receive any submissions directly relating to the proposed Pilning & Severn Beach ward. We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.

Severn Vale

40 We received eight submissions relating to the proposed Severn Vale ward. Six of these supported the proposed ward. One submission, from Almondsbury Parish Council, objected to the allocation of parish councillors to the proposed Cribbs Causeway parish ward. However, the allocation of parish councillors is made using the projected electorate for 2023. We are therefore providing for an allocation of parish councillors that we consider appropriate for both the 2019 election and for the projected levels of development by 2023.

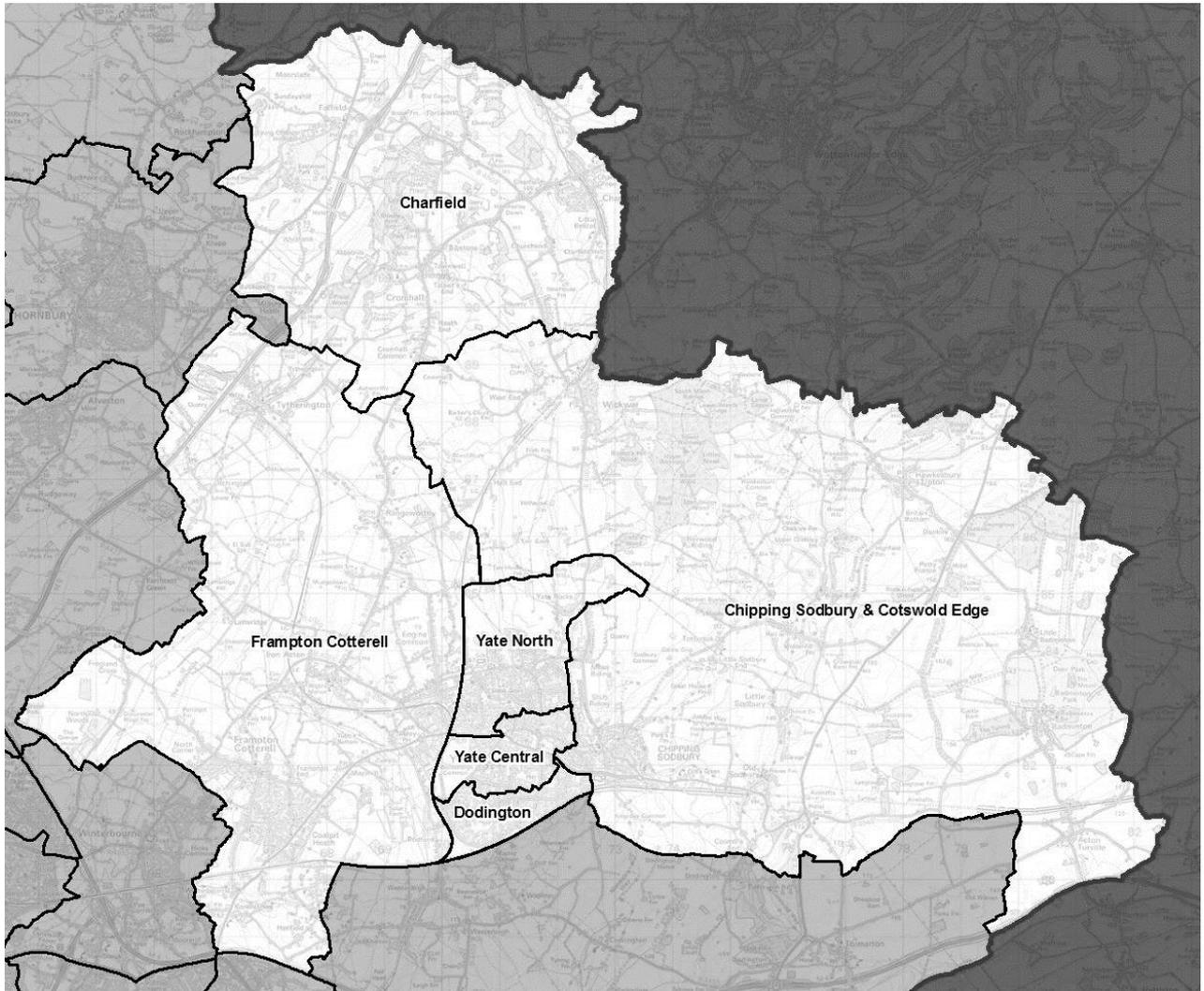
41 One submission received requested that the existing warding arrangements in this area be maintained. However, due to the reduction in council size, maintaining the status quo would result in wards with high variances that the Commission is not persuaded to adopt.

42 We are not proposing to make any alterations to the Severn Vale ward, and are confirming our draft recommendations as final.

Thornbury

43 We received three submissions relating to the proposed Thornbury ward. Two of these submissions agreed with the proposed boundaries, stating their support for a ward that was coterminous with the parish of Thornbury. One submission expressed concern about the projected figures for Thornbury; however, we are content that the figures provided by the local authority take into account planned development for the area up to 2023. We are therefore confirming our draft Thornbury ward as part of our final recommendations.

Rural east and Yate



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Charfield	1	-6%
Chipping Sodbury & Cotswold Edge	2	4%
Dodington	2	7%
Frampton Cotterell	3	-9%
Yate Central	2	-9%
Yate North	3	-1%

Charfield and Frampton Cotterell

44 We received seven submissions regarding the proposed Charfield and Frampton Cotterell wards. Two of these submissions supported the proposed ward, and one was neutral on the proposed alterations. One submission requested that North Road be moved from Frampton Cotterell into the Yate North ward; however, this ward boundary follows the parish boundary, and we do not consider that any evidence was provided to justify any alteration here. One submission stated that the proposed Frampton Cotterell ward was too large, but provided no alternative option for warding patterns in this area. One submission proposed a range of alterations to the ward and to the surrounding area, splitting the proposed ward. However, no evidence was provided to justify the alterations. We are not minded to make any alterations to the proposed Frampton Cotterell ward, and are confirming it as part of our final recommendations.

45 We also received a submission requesting that the parish of Wickwar be included within the proposed Charfield ward; however, this would result in a variance of 36% for the proposed Charfield ward. We consider that the draft Charfield ward reflects the communities in the area and we are not proposing any alterations as part of our final recommendations.

Chipping Sodbury & Cotswold Edge

46 We received 18 submissions regarding the draft Chipping Sodbury and Sodbury Vale wards during consultation. A number of these objected to the two wards, stating that the communities surrounding Chipping Sodbury viewed the area as a focal point, and that splitting the area into two wards would split an extended community into two. Evidence was provided regarding the strong transport links in the area. We are therefore proposing to reunite the two areas into one two-councillor ward. A number of respondents opposed the name 'Sodbury Vale', as it was not felt to be representative of the communities outside Sodbury, and we are therefore proposing to name the newly created ward Chipping Sodbury & Cotswold Edge, which we feel more accurately represents the communities in the ward. One submission, from Sodbury Town Council, queried the allocation of parish councillors to the two parish wards proposed under the draft recommendations. The ward proposed as part of the final recommendations negates the need for new parish warding arrangements in Sodbury parish and the existing parish electoral arrangements will therefore be retained.

47 We also received a number of submissions requesting that the parishes of Tormarton and Marshfield be included in the proposed ward north of the M4. However, this would result in a Boyd Valley ward with a variance of -22% and a Chipping Sodbury & Cotswold Edge ward with a variance of 22%, and no strong evidence was provided to justify such high levels of electoral inequality.

Dodington

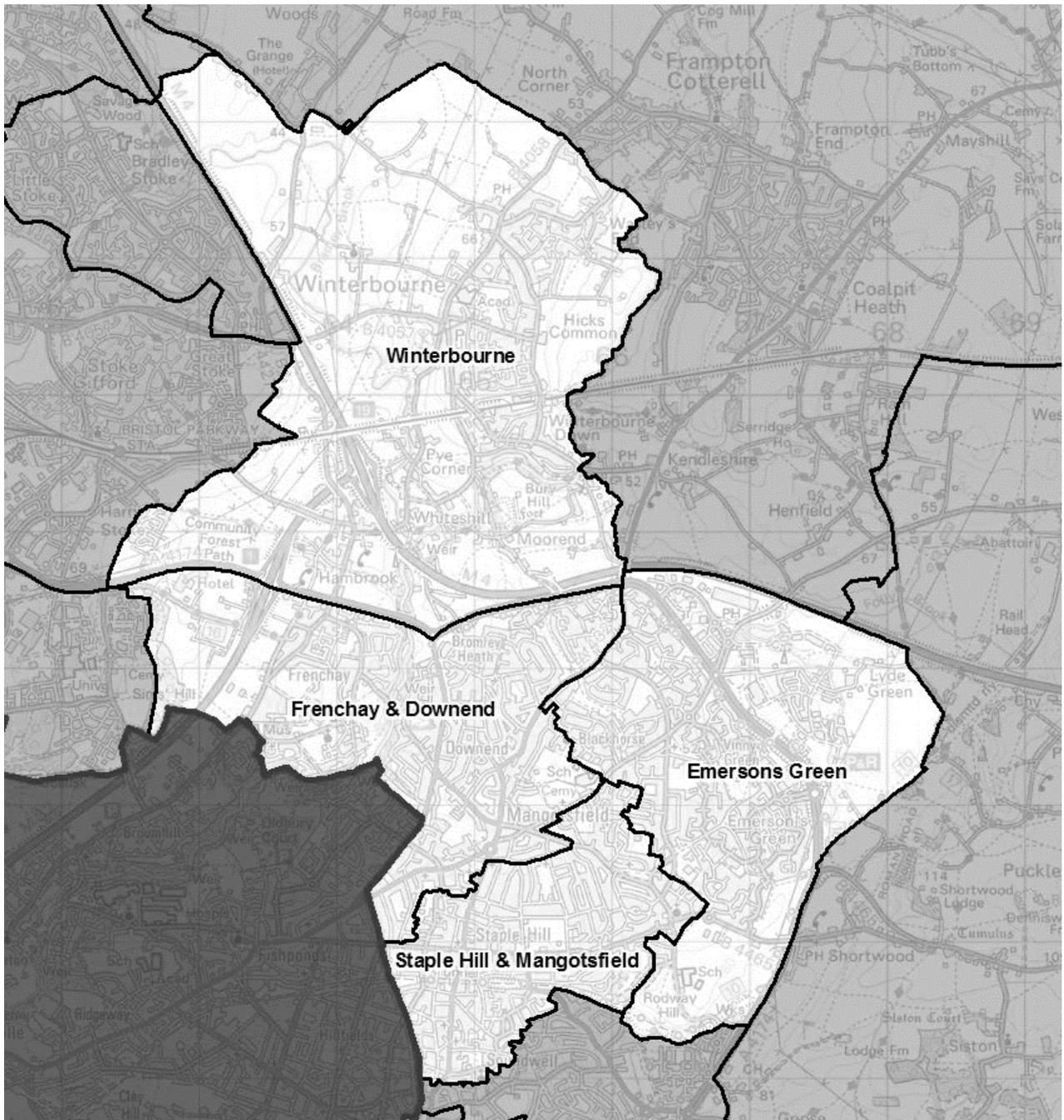
48 We received two submissions relating to the proposed Dodington ward. One of these was positive and supported the proposed ward, and one, from Dodington Parish Council, supported the proposed ward but expressed concern over the size of the neighbouring ward of Boyd Valley. However, no alternative warding arrangements were provided. We are confirming our draft Dodington ward as part of our final recommendations.

Yate Central and Yate North

49 We received 15 submissions relating to our proposed wards in Yate, which were based on proposals made by Yate Town Council at the previous stage of consultation. The Town Council's submission during the consultation on draft recommendations referred to parish warding arrangements; however, the parish councillor allocation is based on forecast electorate across the area, and we are not, therefore, in a position to make alterations here.

50 The submissions received regarding Yate focused on the Cranleigh Court Road area of the town, within the proposed Yate North ward. The submissions argued that this area is different from the Brimsham area to the north, and has different needs and requirements as a community. Whilst we recognise the strength of feeling regarding the differences between the two areas, moving the Cranleigh Court Road community into the Yate Central ward would result in unacceptable levels of electoral inequality, with a three-councillor Yate Central ward having a variance of -18%, and a two-councillor Yate North ward having a variance of 17%. The only way to rectify such variances would be to split another area elsewhere in Yate Central, and we have received no evidence to justify such an alteration. We acknowledge that the Cranleigh Court Road area is not directly linked with the Brimsham area to the north; however, we consider that it is preferable to retain two different communities in the same ward rather than splitting one community into two wards elsewhere. We are therefore confirming our draft Yate Central and Yate North wards as part of the final recommendations.

Western areas



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Emersons Green	3	6%
Frenchay & Downend	3	-3%
Staple Hill & Mangotsfield	3	1%
Winterbourne	2	-2%

Emersons Green

51 We received seven submissions relating to the proposed Emersons Green ward. Five of these submissions expressed support for the proposed ward, which is coterminous with the area covered by Emersons Green Town Council. One submission, from a member of the public, requested that Badminton Road be moved into a neighbouring parish, and into Frenchay & Downend ward. However, no evidence was provided to justify an alteration here, and we are not proposing to make this change.

52 One submission opposed the splitting of Richmond Road between Emersons Green and the neighbouring Staple Hill & Mangotsfield ward; however, as the Emersons Green ward is coterminous with the Town Council boundary, and as no alternative was provided, we are not minded to make any alteration here. We are therefore confirming our draft Emersons Green ward as part of our final recommendations.

Frenchay & Downend and Winterbourne

53 We received four submissions relating to the proposed Frenchay & Downend and Winterbourne wards. One of these, from Winterbourne Parish Council, was supportive of the proposals for Winterbourne. One of the submissions expressed disagreement with the proposed Frenchay & Downend ward, but did not provide any alternative warding patterns for the area.

54 Two of the submissions received disagreed with the proposed Frenchay & Downend ward, and wanted the Frenchay area to be included in a Winterbourne ward. However, this would require increasing the council size by one, in order to create a three-member Winterbourne ward, and we do not consider that sufficient evidence has been received to justify the change. We are not, therefore, proposing to make any alterations to our wards in this area, and are confirming both our draft wards as part of the final recommendations.

Staple Hill & Mangotsfield

55 We received 10 submissions relating to the proposed Staple Hill & Mangotsfield ward, one of which supported the proposals. The remainder of the submissions requested that Staple Hill should be in a separate ward to Mangotsfield. Whilst we acknowledge that the two areas are different communities, maintaining the current two-councillor Staple Hill ward would result in a variance of -19%, and we would consider that putting two different communities together is preferable to having a ward with significant electoral inequality, as we strive to balance our three statutory criteria. We are not, therefore, proposing any alterations to our proposed Staple Hill & Mangotsfield ward as part of our final recommendations.

Southern areas



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Hanham	3	-9%
Kingswood	2	-4%
Longwell Green	2	7%
New Cheltenham	2	-6%
Parkwall & Warmley	2	-1%
Woodstock	2	3%

Hanham and Longwell Green

56 We received nine submissions relating to the proposed Hanham and Longwell Green wards. Four submissions were fully supportive of the proposed wards in this area. One submission stated that the Longwell Green boundary with Parkwall & Warmley should run down Stevens Drive; the proposed draft boundary does run behind the houses on this road, and we are not proposing to change this boundary as part of our final recommendations.

57 Four of the submissions received opposed the northern boundary of the proposed Hanham ward, which takes in part of the unparished area north of Hanham parish. These submissions requested that this area be moved into the neighbouring Kingswood ward, and that the area of Hanham Abbots parish currently included in Longwell Green be included in Hanham. However, these alterations would significantly worsen the electoral inequality in these areas, resulting in a variance of 18% in Kingswood and -18% in Longwell Green by 2023. We do not consider that sufficient evidence has been received to justify such high variances, and we are therefore not proposing to make any alterations to the proposed Hanham and Longwell Green wards. We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations in this area as final.

Kingswood, New Cheltenham and Woodstock

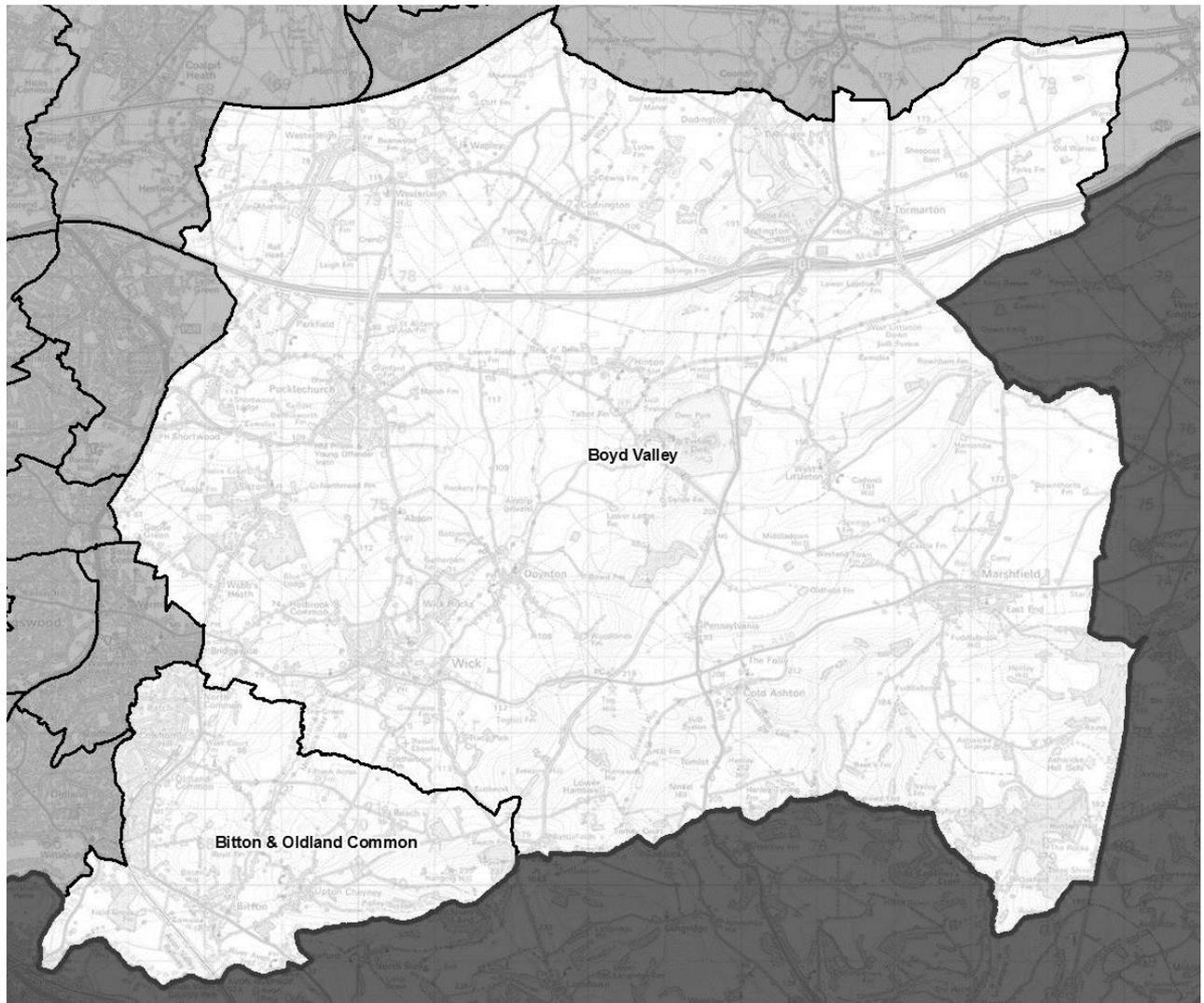
58 We received seven submissions regarding the proposed wards in this area. All of the submissions received supported the draft recommendations, and we are therefore confirming our draft Kingswood, New Cheltenham and Woodstock wards as part of the final recommendations.

Parkwall & Warmley

59 We received three submissions referring to the proposed Parkwall & Warmley ward. One submission, as mentioned above, stated that the Longwell Green boundary with Parkwall & Warmley should run down Stevens Drive; the proposed boundary does run behind the houses on this road, so we are not proposing an alteration here.

60 Two submissions, from a political group and a parish council, requested that the Cadbury Heath area be included in one ward. However, this would worsen the electoral inequality in Parkwall & Warmley, and we do not feel that any strong evidence was provided to justify altering the ward boundary here. We are therefore confirming our draft Parkwall & Warmley ward as final.

South eastern areas



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Bitton & Oldland Common	2	0%
Boyd Valley	2	-4%

Bitton & Oldland Common

61 We did not receive any submissions regarding this ward. We are therefore confirming our draft Bitton & Oldland Common ward as part of our final recommendations.

Boyd Valley

62 We received nine submissions that referred to the proposed Boyd Valley ward. These submissions requested that the parishes of Tormarton and Marshfield be moved into the neighbouring Chipping Sodbury & Cotswold Edge ward; however, this would result in a Boyd Valley ward with a variance of -22% and a Chipping Sodbury & Cotswold Edge ward with a variance of 22%, and no strong evidence was provided to justify such high levels of electoral inequality. We are not proposing any alteration to this ward, and are confirming our draft Boyd Valley ward as part of our final recommendations.

Conclusions

63 The table below shows the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2017 and 2023 electorate figures.

Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2017	2023
Number of councillors	61	61
Number of electoral wards	28	28
Average number of electors per councillor	3,451	3,773
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	13	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	2	0

Final recommendation

South Gloucestershire Council should be made up of 61 councillors serving 28 wards representing four single-councillor wards, 15 two-councillor wards and nine 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 South Gloucestershire.

You can also view our final recommendations for South Gloucestershire on our interactive maps at <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>

Parish electoral arrangements

64 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.

65 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, South Gloucestershire Council has powers under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct community governance reviews to effect changes to parish electoral arrangements.

66 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Almondsbury Parish Council, Bradley Stoke Town Council, Downend & Bromley Heath Parish Council, Hanham Abbots Parish Council, Oldland Parish Council, Patchway Town Council, Siston Parish Council, Stoke Gifford Parish Council, Westerleigh Parish Council, Winterbourne Parish Council and Yate Town Council.

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

Final recommendation Almondsbury Parish Council should comprise 13 councillors, as at present, representing three wards:	
Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Almondsbury	4
Compton	2
Cribbs Causeway	7

68 As result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Bradley Stoke parish.

Final recommendation Bradley Stoke Town Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing three wards:	
Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
North	6
South	7
Stoke Brook	2

69 As result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Downend & Bromley Heath parish.

Final recommendation Downend & Bromley Heath Parish Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:	
Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Downend	10
Staple Hill	2

70 As result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Hanham Abbots parish.

Final recommendation Hanham Abbots Parish Council should comprise 13 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:	
Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
East	4
West	9

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

Final recommendation Oldland Parish Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing three wards:	
Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Cadbury Heath	7
Longwell Green	7
Mount Hill	1

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

Final recommendation Patchway Town Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:	
Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Callicroft	9
Coniston	6

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

Final recommendation Siston Parish Council should comprise nine councillors, as at present, representing three wards:	
Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Common	3
Rural	1
Warmley	5

74 As result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Stoke Gifford parish.

Final recommendation Stoke Gifford Parish Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:	
Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Central	9
University	3

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

Final recommendation Westerleigh Parish Council should comprise nine councillors, as at present, representing two wards:	
Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Coalpit Heath	7
Westerleigh	2

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

Final recommendation Winterbourne Parish Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:	
Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Frenchay	4
Winterbourne	12

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

Final recommendation Yate Town Council should comprise 17 councillors, as at present, representing three wards:	
Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Central	6
North	9
South	2

3 What happens next?

78 We have now completed our review of South Gloucestershire. 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 2019.

Equalities

79 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

Final recommendations for South Gloucestershire

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2017)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Bitton & Oldland Common	2	7,348	3,674	6%	7,582	3,791	0%
2	Boyd Valley	2	7,187	3,594	4%	7,235	3,618	-4%
3	Bradley Stoke North	2	8,287	4,144	20%	8,291	4,146	10%
4	Bradley Stoke South	2	7,002	3,501	1%	7,002	3,501	-7%
5	Charfield	1	3,228	3,228	-6%	3,533	3,533	-6%
6	Charlton & Cribbs	3	4,534	1,511	-56%	11,723	3,908	4%
7	Chipping Sodbury & Cotswold Edge	2	7,719	3,860	12%	7,882	3,941	4%
8	Dodington	2	7,971	3,986	15%	8,063	4,032	7%
9	Emersons Green	3	10,106	3,369	-2%	12,002	4,001	6%
10	Filton	2	8,094	4,047	17%	8,175	4,088	8%
11	Frampton Cotterell	3	10,189	3,396	-2%	10,355	3,452	-9%
12	Frenchay & Downend	3	10,332	3,444	0%	10,930	3,643	-3%

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2017)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13 Hanham	3	10,250	3,417	-1%	10,356	3,452	-9%
14 Kingswood	2	6,571	3,286	-5%	7,244	3,622	-4%
15 Longwell Green	2	7,905	3,953	15%	8,039	4,020	7%
16 New Cheltenham	2	6,982	3,491	1%	7,075	3,538	-6%
17 Parkwall & Warmley	2	7,396	3,698	7%	7,457	3,729	-1%
18 Patchway Coniston	1	3,976	3,976	15%	3,976	3,976	5%
19 Pilning & Severn Beach	1	3,830	3,830	11%	3,840	3,840	2%
20 Severn Vale	2	7,870	3,935	14%	7,922	3,961	5%
21 Staple Hill & Mangotsfield	3	11,239	3,746	9%	11,422	3,807	1%
22 Stoke Gifford	3	11,068	3,689	7%	11,710	3,903	3%
23 Stoke Park & Cheswick	1	1,961	1,961	-43%	3,478	3,478	-8%
24 Thornbury	3	10,063	3,354	-3%	11,631	3,877	3%
25 Winterbourne	2	6,040	3,020	-12%	7,386	3,693	-2%
26 Woodstock	2	7,739	3,870	12%	7,777	3,889	3%
27 Yate Central	2	6,879	3,440	0%	6,898	3,449	-9%

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2017)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
28 Yate North	3	8,759	2,920	-15%	11,189	3,730	-1%
Totals	61	210,525	-	-	230,173	-	-
Averages	-	-	3,451	-	-	3,773	-

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by South Gloucestershire Council.

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

Appendix B

Outline map



A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/south-west/gloucestershire/south-gloucestershire>

Key

1. Bitton & Oldland Common
2. Boyd Valley
3. Bradley Stoke North
4. Bradley Stoke South
5. Charfield
6. Charlton & Cribbs
7. Chipping Sodbury & Cotswold Edge
8. Dodington
9. Emersons Green
10. Filton
11. Frampton Cotterell
12. Frenchay & Downend
13. Hanham
14. Kingswood
15. Longwell Green
16. New Cheltenham
17. Parkwall & Warmley
18. Patchway Coniston
19. Pilning & Severn Beach
20. Severn Vale
21. Staple Hill & Mangotsfield
22. Stoke Gifford
23. Stoke Park & Cheswick
24. Thornbury
25. Winterbourne
26. Woodstock
27. Yate Central
28. Yate North

Appendix C

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/south-west/gloucestershire/south-gloucestershire>

Political Group

- South Gloucestershire Council Conservative Group
- South Gloucestershire Council Labour Group
- South Gloucestershire Council Liberal Democrat Group

Councillors

- Councillor J. Adams
- Councillor B. Allinson
- Councillors Allinson, Cranney, Brown
- Councillor J. Bamford
- Councillor K. Bell
- Councillors Hardwick, Ashe, Avenin
- Councillor R. Hunt
- Councillors Jones, Pullin
- Councillor D. Kearns
- Councillor M. Lewis
- Councillor J. O'Neill
- Councillor S. Pomfret
- Councillors Pomfret, Hopkinson
- Councillor C. Price
- Councillor M. Riddle
- Councillor J. Sullivan

Member of Parliament

- Luke Hall MP
- Chris Skidmore MP

Local Organisations

- Frenchay Preservation Society
- Longwell Green Community Centre
- Mangotsfield Pre-School

Parish and Town Council

- Almondsbury Parish Council
- Aust Parish Council
- Bradley Stoke Town Council
- Dodington Parish Council
- Emersons Green Town Council
- Hanham Abbots Parish Council
- Hanham Parish Council
- Hawkesbury Parish Council
- Oldland Parish Council
- Olveston Parish Council
- Patchway Town Council
- Rockhampton Parish Council
- Siston Parish Council
- Sodbury Town Council
- Stoke Gifford Parish Council
- Stoke Lodge & The Common Parish Council
- Thornbury Town Council
- Tormarton Parish Council
- Westerleigh Parish Council
- Winterbourne Parish Council
- Yate Town Council

Local Residents

- 111 local residents

Anonymous

- One anonymous submission

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 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

The
Local Government
Boundary Commission
for England

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

Local Government Boundary Commission for
England
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