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# Summary

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body which conducts electoral reviews of local authority areas. The broad purpose of an electoral review is to decide on the appropriate electoral arrangements – the number of councillors, and the names, number and boundaries of wards or divisions – for a specific local authority. We are conducting an electoral review of City of York Council to provide improved levels of electoral equality across York.

The review aims to ensure that the number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same. The Commission commenced the review in 2012.

This review is being conducted as follows:

<b>Stage starts</b>	<b>Description</b>
24 July 2012	Consultation on council size
23 October 2012	Submission of proposals for warding arrangements to LGBCE
15 January 2013	LGBCE's analysis and formulation of draft recommendations
14 May 2013	Publication of initial draft recommendations and consultation on recommendations
6 August 2013	Analysis of submissions received and formulation of recommendations
4 February 2014	Publication of further draft recommendations and consultation on recommendations
1 April 2014	Analysis of submissions received and formulation of final recommendations

## Further draft recommendations

Following consultation on our draft recommendations, our attention was drawn to what was initially considered to be a mapping anomaly, involving the location of Halifax College campus of York University. Following investigation of the data and discussion with the Council, it became clear that there were inconsistencies between the electoral register and polling district mapping. The Council confirmed this is the case.

By law, we cannot revoke our final recommendations and republish. Therefore we published a further set of draft recommendations for York which put forward a revision of the ward boundary between the proposed Fulford & Heslington and Hull Road wards to ensure good electoral equality. During consultation on the further draft recommendations, we received nine submissions.

## Submissions received

We received 19 submissions during our consultation on council size and 36 submissions on warding patterns including four authority-wide schemes from the York Labour Party, the Green Party, York Central Liberal Democrats and York Outer

Liberal Democrats. During consultation on the initial draft recommendations, we received 101 submissions. We received nine submissions during consultation on the further draft recommendations for York. All submissions can be viewed on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

## Analysis and final recommendations

### Electorate figures

The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2019, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2014. This is prescribed in the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 ('the 2009 Act'). These forecasts projected an increase in the electorate of approximately 6% over this period. This increase is concentrated in a number of large development sites, which we visited during our tour of York. These figures formed the basis of the Council's original forecast for 2018. The Council have stated that they can be regarded as a robust reflection of forecast electorate for 2019 as well.

The City of York Labour Party and Green Party asserted that the electorate forecasts for the proposed Heworth ward amounted to overestimation of about 800 electors. We invited City of York Council to look into this matter and submit a response. The Council stated that the information provided to the Commission complied with the methodology it had set and provided 'robust and defensible figures'. We are satisfied with the evidence put forward by the Council regarding electorate forecasts for Heworth ward and have used these as the basis of our final recommendations.

We were therefore content to use the Council's forecasts as the basis of our final recommendations. We agree with the Council's projections for electorate growth of 6% across York by 2019.

### General analysis

Throughout the review process, the primary consideration has been to achieve good electoral equality, while seeking to reflect community identities and securing effective and convenient local government. Having considered the submissions received during the consultation on the further draft recommendations, we have sought to reflect community identities and improve the levels of electoral fairness. Our final recommendations for York are that the Council should have 47 members comprising a pattern of five single-member, six two-member and 10-three member wards. None of our proposed 21 wards would have an electoral imbalance of greater than 10% from the average for York by 2019.

### What happens next?

We have now completed our review of electoral arrangements for City of York Council. An Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in Parliament and will be implemented subject to Parliamentary scrutiny. The draft Order will provide for new electoral arrangements which will come into force at the next elections for City of York Council, in 2015.

We are grateful to all those organisations and individuals who have contributed to the review through expressing their views and advice. The full report is available to download at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

**You can also view our final recommendations for City of York Council on our interactive maps at <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>**

# 1 Introduction

1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body which conducts electoral reviews of local authority areas. This electoral review is being conducted following our decision to review City of York Council's electoral arrangements to ensure that the number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the authority.

2 The submissions received from City of York Council ('the Council') and political groups during the initial stage of consultation of this review informed our initial *Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for City of York Council*, which were published on 14 May 2013. We then undertook a further period of consultation which ended on 5 August 2013. As a result of a mapping anomaly which was confirmed by the Council we published a further set of draft recommendations for York and undertook a period of consultation which ended on 31 March 2014.

## What is an electoral review?

3 The main aim of an electoral review is to try to ensure 'electoral equality', which means that all councillors in a single authority represent approximately the same number of electors. Our objective is to make recommendations that will improve electoral equality, while also trying to reflect communities in the area and provide for effective and convenient local government.

4 Our three main considerations – equalising the number of electors each councillor represents; reflecting community identity; and providing for effective and convenient local government – are set out in legislation<sup>1</sup> and 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](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

## Why are we conducting a review in York?

5 We decided to conduct this review because based on December 2011 electorate figures, the existing Fulford ward has 33% fewer electors per councillor than the average for York.

## How will the recommendations affect you?

6 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 instances, which parish council ward you vote in. Your ward 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.

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<sup>1</sup> Schedule 2 to The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

## What is the Local Government Boundary Commission for England?

7 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament under the 2009 Act.

Members of the Commission are:

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

Chief Executive: Alan Cogbill  
Director of Reviews: Archie Gall

## 2 Analysis and final recommendations

8 We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for York.

9 As described earlier, our prime aim when recommending new electoral arrangements for City of York Council is to achieve a level of electoral fairness – that is, each elector’s vote being worth the same as another’s. In doing so we must have regard to the 2009 Act,<sup>2</sup> with the need to:

- secure effective and convenient local government
- provide for equality of representation
- reflect the identities and interests of local communities, in particular
  - the desirability of arriving at boundaries that are easily identifiable
  - the desirability of fixing boundaries so as not to break any local ties

10 Legislation also states that our recommendations are not intended to be based solely on the existing number of electors 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.

11 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. We therefore recommend strongly that in formulating proposals for us to consider, local authorities and other interested parties should also try to keep variances to a minimum, making adjustments to reflect relevant factors such as community identity and interests. As mentioned above, we aim to recommend a scheme which provides improved electoral fairness over a five-year period.

12 These recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of City of York 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.

13 As part of an electoral review, we are required to have regard to the statutory criteria set out in the 2009 Act. The Schedule provides that if a parish is to be divided between different divisions or wards it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single division or ward. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

### Submissions received

14 Prior to, and during, the initial stage of the review, we visited City of York Council (‘the Council’) and met with members and officers. We are grateful to all concerned for their co-operation and assistance.

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

15 We received 19 submissions during our consultation on council size and 36 submissions on warding patterns including four authority-wide schemes from the City of York Labour Party, the Green Party, York Central Liberal Democrats and York Outer Liberal Democrat parties. During consultation on our initial draft recommendations, we received 101 submissions. We received nine submissions during consultation on the further draft recommendations for York. All submissions can be viewed on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

16 We take the evidence received during consultation very seriously and the submissions received were carefully considered before we formulated our final recommendations. Officers from the Commission have been assisted by officers at the Council who have provided relevant information throughout the review.

## Electorate figures

17 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2019, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2014. This is prescribed in the 2009 Act. These forecasts projected an increase in the electorate of approximately 6% over this period. This increase is concentrated in a number of large development sites, which we visited during our tour of York. These figures formed the basis of the Council's original forecast for 2018. The Council have stated that they can be regarded as a robust reflection of forecast electorate for 2019 as well.

18 The City of York Labour Party and Green Party asserted that the electorate forecasts for the proposed Heworth ward amounted to overestimation of about 800 electors. We invited City of York Council to look into this matter and submit a response. The Council stated that the information provided to the Commission complied with the methodology it had set and provided 'robust and defensible figures'. We are satisfied with the evidence put forward by the Council regarding electorate forecasts for Heworth ward and have used these as the basis of our final recommendations.

19 We were therefore content to use the Council's forecasts as the basis of our final recommendations. We agree with the Council's projections for electorate growth of 6% across York by 2019.

## Council size

20 During the preliminary stage of the review, we met with the Council's Group Leaders. We subsequently received a submission from the City of York Labour Party and a joint submission from City of York Council Liberal Democrat and Green groups proposing to retain the current council size of 47 councillors, and a proposal from the York Conservative Association to reduce the council size by eight members to 39.

21 Based on the representations received during the preliminary stage, we undertook a public consultation on a council size of 47 members.

22 During the public consultation on council size, 19 submissions were received. These were from the City of York Council Liberal Democrat Group, York Outer Liberal Democrats, York Central Liberal Democrats, five parish councils and 11 local residents. We considered that the submissions supporting the current council size of

47 demonstrated consideration for effective governance and the representational responsibilities that the Council must undertake. We have therefore invited representations on warding arrangements based on a 47-member council.

## Electoral fairness

23 Electoral fairness, in the sense of each elector in a local authority having a vote of equal weight when it comes to the election of councillors, is a fundamental democratic principle. It is expected that our recommendations should provide for electoral fairness whilst ensuring that we reflect communities in the area, and provide for effective and convenient local government.

24 In seeking to achieve electoral fairness, we calculate the average number of electors per councillor. The city average is calculated by dividing the total electorate of the district (155,308 in 2012 and 164,910 by 2019) by the total number of councillors representing them on the council – 47 under our final recommendations. Therefore, the average number of electors per councillor under our final recommendations is 3,304 in 2012 and 3,509 by 2019.

25 Under our final recommendations, none of our proposed 21 wards will have an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for York by 2019.

## General analysis

26 We received 36 submissions during the initial consultation stage on warding patterns for York. Authority-wide warding patterns were proposed by the City of York Labour Party, the York Green Party, the York Outer Liberal Democrats and the York Central Liberal Democrats. Submissions were also received from Hugh Bayley MP (York Central), six parish councils, two city councillors, the University of York Students' Union and 22 local residents.

27 Our initial draft recommendations for York were based on some of the proposals put forward by the City of York Labour Party and Green Party with modifications to parts of their proposals. Our initial draft recommendations would result in 47 councillors representing four single-member wards, eight two-member wards and nine three-member wards.

28 We received 101 submissions during the consultation on the initial draft recommendations. These included submissions from the Council, York Conservative Group, York Conservative Association, York Green Party, two submissions from the City of York Labour Party, York Central Liberal Democrats and York Outer Liberal Democrats. In addition, we received responses from Hugh Bayley MP (York Central), Julian Sturdy MP (York Outer) and Baroness Harris of Richmond. We also received submissions from two local councillors, seven local organisations, 10 parish councils and 71 local residents (one of which included a petition containing 508 signatures). The majority of submissions received were in relation to the ward of Fulford & Heslington.

29 We made one change to our initial draft recommendations in the rural south and in the east of York, which was to transfer the University of York campuses from a single-member Fulford & Heslington ward to a three-member Hull Road ward.

30 Prior to the intended publication of our final recommendations in November 2013, our attention was drawn to a mapping anomaly involving the location of Halifax College campus. Following an investigation, we found there to be a disparity between the electoral register and the map of local polling districts supplied by the Council. The Council confirmed this to be the case. We therefore published further draft recommendations for City of York Council which united all the university campuses in Hull Road ward and invited comments on all areas of York.

31 We received nine submissions during the consultation on our further draft recommendations. These included submissions from the York Liberal Democrats, University of York Labour Club, University of York Students' Union, Fulford Parish Council and five local residents.

32 The majority of submissions received referred to the rural south and east of York. All submissions in these areas supported the further draft recommendations for Fulford & Heslington and Hull Road wards. We also received support for the further draft recommendations from a local resident in the rural north of York. Another local resident from this area stated there should be no electoral review of York and that the electorate forecasts for the review were incorrect. We have been in contact with the Council during the course of the review regarding its electorate forecasts and are satisfied with the evidence it has put forward.

33 Having considered the submissions received, we have decided to confirm our further draft recommendations as final for all wards in York. Our recommendations would result in five single-member, six two-member and 10 three-member wards. None of our proposed 21 wards would have an electoral imbalance of greater than 10% from the average for York by 2019.

## Electoral arrangements

34 This section of the report details the submissions we have received, our consideration of them, and our final recommendations for each area of York. The following areas are considered in turn:

- Rural west (pages 9–10)
- City west (page 10)
- Rural north (pages 10–11)
- Rural south (page 11)
- City east (pages 11–12)

35 Details of the final recommendations are set out in Table A1 on pages 17 –18 and illustrated on the large map accompanying this report.

### Rural west

36 As part of our further draft recommendations for the rural west, we proposed the single-member ward of Copmanthorpe, the two-member wards of Rural West York and three-member ward of Rawcliffe & Clifton Without. Our further draft recommendations were largely based on the proposals of the City of York Labour Party. In particular, our further draft recommendations were based on the principle that the rural parishes of Askham Bryan, Askham Richard and Rufforth with Knapton should not be included in a ward with any part of the urban area inside of the York

ring road.

37 We did not receive comments or alternative warding patterns for the rural west of York. We have therefore decided to confirm our further draft recommendations in this area as final. As stated in our further draft recommendations report, we are persuaded that the York ring road forms a strong boundary between the urban settlements in the city and rural areas to the west. The ring road also provides good access from Skelton parish to the rest of Rural West York ward. The wards in the rural west also provide for good electoral equality.

38 Our final recommendations for the rural west are for a single-member Copmanthorpe ward, two-member Rural West York ward and three-member Rawcliffe & Clifton Without ward. These wards are projected to have 2% fewer, 8% fewer and 7% fewer electors per councillor than the average for York by 2019, respectively. These proposals can be seen on the large map accompanying this report.

## City west

39 As part of our further draft recommendations for this area, we proposed the two-member wards of Acomb and Clifton and three-member wards of Dringhouses & Woodthorpe, Holgate, Micklegate and Westfield. Our further draft recommendations included the Green Party proposal for Holgate ward and broadly retained the existing wards with small amendments.

40 During consultation, we did not receive comments or alternative warding patterns for the west of the city. We have therefore decided to confirm our further draft recommendations for this area as final. We consider that our recommendations still provide for clear and identifiable ward boundaries and good electoral equality.

41 Our final recommendations for the city west area are for the two-member wards of Acomb and Clifton and the three-member wards of Holgate, Dringhouses & Woodthorpe, Micklegate and Westfield. These wards are projected to have 7% more, 6% more, 2% fewer, 9% fewer, 2% more and 2% more electors per councillor than the average for York by 2019, respectively. These proposals can be seen on the large map accompanying this report.

## Rural north

42 As part of our further draft recommendations for the rural north area, we proposed a single-member ward of Heworth Without, a two-member ward of Strensall and the three-member wards of Haxby & Wigginton and Huntington & New Earswick. Our further draft recommendations largely retained existing wards in this area with minor amendments to Heworth Without ward.

43 During the consultation on our further draft recommendations, we received two submissions from local residents regarding this area. One of the local residents supported the further draft recommendations for Strensall ward. The other local resident commented that there should be no electoral review of the Council and that the electorate forecasts supplied by the Council were incorrect. We have been in contact with the Council during the course of the review to ensure the accuracy of its electorate forecasts. The Council has defended its forecasts with robust evidence. As

stated earlier, we are satisfied that its forecasts are accurate.

44 We have therefore decided to confirm our further draft recommendations for wards in this area as final. We consider these rural wards will provide for good electoral equality, have good road and transport links as well as follow clear and identifiable boundaries.

45 Our final recommendations for the rural north are for a single-member ward of Heworth Without, a two-member ward of Strensall, and the three-member wards of Haxby & Wigginton and Huntington & New Earswick. These wards are projected to have 2% more, 7% fewer, 4% fewer and 3% fewer electors per councillor than the average for York by 2019, respectively. These proposals can be seen on the large map accompanying this report.

## Rural south

46 As part of our further draft recommendations in the rural south of York, we proposed the single-member wards of Bishopthorpe, Fulford & Heslington and Wheldrake, and a two-member Osbaldwick & Derwent ward. Our recommendations were based on the proposals of the City of York Labour Party.

47 During consultation on our further draft recommendations, we received four submissions, from Fulford Parish Council and three local residents. The Parish Council and two local residents supported our further draft recommendations to include the Halifax College campus with the rest of the university in Hull Road ward. Another local resident agreed with our further draft recommendations. She further commented that the Derwenthorpe development should be 'accepted as part of Osbaldwick & Derwent ward'.

48 Given the changes made to Fulford & Heslington ward in our further draft recommendations and that adjoining wards in this area provide for good electoral equality, we have decided to confirm our further draft recommendations in this area as final.

49 Our final recommendations for the rural south are for the single-member wards of Bishopthorpe, Fulford & Heslington and Wheldrake and a two-member ward of Osbaldwick & Derwent. These wards are projected to have 6% fewer, 10% more, 6% fewer and 6% fewer electors per councillor than average for York by 2019, respectively. These proposals can be seen on the large map accompanying this report.

## City east

50 As part of our further draft recommendations for this area, we proposed the two-member ward of Fishergate and the three-member wards of Guildhall, Heworth and Hull Road. Our further draft recommendations were based on a combination of the warding schemes put forward by the political parties, including the Green Party, York Outer Liberal Democrats, City of York Labour Party, along with some of our own proposals.

51 During the consultation on our further draft recommendations, we received three submissions from the York Liberal Democrats, University of York Labour Club

and University of York Students' Union. All three supported the further draft recommendations to include the Halifax College campus with the rest of the University in Hull Road ward. Both the University of York Labour Club and University of York Students' Union commented that the university has strong community links with areas in Hull Road ward, including Badger Hill, Tang Hall, Newland Park Drive and Thief Lane. We are satisfied that our proposals would also provide for good electoral equality and clear and identifiable ward boundaries. Therefore we have decided to confirm our further draft recommendations for Hull Road ward as final.

52 We received no further submissions relating to this area. We have therefore decided to confirm our further draft recommendations for these wards as final.

53 Our final recommendations for this area are for the two-member ward of Fishergate and the three-member wards of Guildhall, Heworth and Hull Road. These wards are projected to have 10% more, 9% more, 10% more and 2% more electors per councillor than the average for York by 2019, respectively. These proposals can be seen on the large map accompanying this report.

## Conclusions

54 Table 1 shows the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2012 and 2019 electorate figures.

**Table 1: Summary of electoral arrangements**

	Final recommendations	
	2012	2019
Number of councillors	47	47
Number of wards	21	21
Average number of electors per councillor	3,304	3,509
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	1	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

**Final recommendation**  
 City of York Council should comprise 47 councillors serving 21 wards, as detailed and named in Table A1 and illustrated on the large map accompanying this report.

## Parish electoral arrangements

55 As part of an electoral review, we are required to have regard to the statutory criteria set out in Schedule 2 to the 2009 Act. The Schedule provides that if a parish is to be divided between divisions or wards it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single division or ward. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

56 Under the 2009 Act we only have the power to make such changes as a direct consequence of our recommendations for principal authority ward arrangements. However, the respective principal authority (City of York 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.

57 To meet our obligations under the 2009 Act, we propose consequential parish warding arrangements for the parish of Heslington.

58 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we propose revised parish electoral arrangements for Heslington parish.

### **Final recommendation**

Heslington Parish Council should comprise nine councillors, as at present, representing two wards: Heslington North (returning seven members) and Heslington South (returning two members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

### 3 What happens next?

59 We have now completed our review of electoral arrangements for City of York Council. A draft Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in Parliament. The draft Order will provide for new electoral arrangements which will come into force at the next elections for City of York Council in 2015.

#### Equalities

60 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.

## 4 Mapping

### Final recommendations for York

61 The following maps illustrate our proposed ward boundaries for City of York Council:

- **Sheet 1, Map 1** illustrates in outline form the proposed wards for City of York Council.

You can also view our final recommendations for City of York Council on our interactive maps at <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>



## Appendix A

**Table A1: Final recommendations for City of York Council**

	<b>Ward name</b>	<b>Number of councillors</b>	<b>Electorate (2012)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>	<b>Electorate (2019)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>
1	Acomb	2	6,875	3,438	4%	7,538	3,769	7%
2	Bishopthorpe	1	3,295	3,295	0%	3,308	3,308	-6%
3	Clifton	2	7,200	3,600	9%	7,456	3,728	6%
4	Copmanthorpe	1	3,416	3,416	3%	3,425	3,425	-2%
5	Dringhouses & Woodthorpe	3	9,054	3,018	-9%	9,545	3,182	-9%
6	Fishergate	2	6,807	3,404	3%	7,698	3,849	10%
7	Fulford & Heslington	1	3,273	3,273	-1%	3,846	3,846	10%
8	Guildhall	3	10,005	3,335	1%	11,488	3,829	9%
9	Haxby & Wigginton	3	10,059	3,353	1%	10,122	3,374	-4%
10	Heworth	3	10,159	3,386	2%	11,542	3,847	10%
11	Heworth Without	1	3,538	3,538	7%	3,574	3,574	2%

**Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for City of York Council**

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2012)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2019)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
12 Holgate	3	9,708	3,236	-2%	10,306	3,435	-2%
13 Hull Road	3	10,510	3,503	6%	10,688	3,563	2%
14 Huntington & New Earswick	3	10,104	3,368	2%	10,196	3,399	-3%
15 Micklegate	3	9,700	3,233	-2%	10,710	3,570	2%
16 Osbaldwick & Derwent	2	5,815	2,908	-12%	6,628	3,314	-6%
17 Rawcliffe & Clifton Without	3	9,448	3,149	-5%	9,838	3,279	-7%
18 Rural West York	2	6,296	3,148	-5%	6,462	3,231	-8%
19 Strensall	2	6,315	3,158	-4%	6,516	3,258	-7%
20 Westfield	3	10,453	3,484	5%	10,718	3,573	2%
21 Wheldrake	1	3,278	3,278	-1%	3,306	3,306	-6%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>155,308</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>164,910</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Averages</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,304</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,509</b>	<b>-</b>

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

## Appendix B

### Glossary and abbreviations

AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty)	A landscape whose distinctive character and natural beauty are so outstanding that it is in the nation's interest to safeguard it
Constituent areas	The geographical areas that make up any one ward, expressed in parishes or existing wards, or parts of either
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 imbalance	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

Local Government Boundary Commission for England or LGBCE	The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is responsible for undertaking electoral reviews. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England assumed the functions of the Boundary Committee for England in April 2010
Multi-member ward or division	A ward or division represented by more than one councillor and usually not more than three councillors
National Park	The 13 National Parks in England and Wales were designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act of 1949 and can be found at <a href="http://www.nationalparks.gov.uk">www.nationalparks.gov.uk</a>
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
PER (or periodic electoral review)	A review of the electoral arrangements of all local authorities in England, undertaken periodically. The last programme of PERs was undertaken between 1996 and 2004 by the Boundary Commission for England and its predecessor, the now-defunct Local Government Commission for England
Political management arrangements	The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 enabled local authorities in England to modernise their decision making process. Councils could choose from two broad categories; a directly elected mayor and cabinet or a cabinet with a leader
Town council	A parish council which has been given ceremonial 'town' status. More information on achieving such status can be found at <a href="http://www.nalc.gov.uk">www.nalc.gov.uk</a>
Under-represented	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Variance (or electoral variance)	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward or division varies in percentage terms from the average
Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council

