



New electoral arrangements for Nottingham City Council

Final recommendations

April 2018

Translations and other formats

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Tel: 0330 500 1525

Email: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

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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 Nottingham?

4 We are conducting a review of Nottingham City Council as the value of each vote in city council elections varies depending on where you live in Nottingham. Some councillors currently represent many more or fewer voters than others. This is 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where votes are as equal as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.

Our proposals for Nottingham

- Nottingham should be represented by 55 councillors, the same number as there is now.
- Nottingham should have 20 wards, the same number as there is now.
- The boundaries of 16 wards should change; four – Bestwood, Bulwell, Bulwell Forest and Wollaton West – will stay the same.

5 We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for Nottingham.

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)
- Susan Johnson OBE
- 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 Nottingham 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 city.

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 Nottingham. We then held two periods of consultation on warding patterns for the city. The submissions received during consultation have informed our draft and final recommendations.

12 This review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
16 May 2017	Number of councillors decided
27 June 2017	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
4 September 2017	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
31 October 2017	Publication of draft recommendations, start of second consultation
15 January 2018	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
3 April 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.

	2016	2023
Electorate of Nottingham	204,355	211,252
Number of councillors	55	55
Average number of electors per councillor	3,716	3,841

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 Nottingham will have good electoral equality by 2023.

18 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the city 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 3% by 2023.

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 Nottingham City Council currently has 55 councillors. We looked at evidence provided by the Council and Nottingham Conservatives (the Conservatives) and have concluded that keeping this number the same will ensure 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 55 councillors – for example, 55 one-councillor wards or a mix of one-, two- and three-councillor wards.

24 All the submissions we received during the consultation on our draft recommendations that referred to the number of councillors supported our proposal. Therefore, we have maintained 55 councillors for our final recommendations.

Ward boundaries consultation

25 We received 24 submissions to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included city-wide proposals from the Council, the Conservatives and a local resident. The Council proposed a pattern of 19 wards, largely based on the existing wards. The Conservatives proposed 31 wards, the majority of which would be represented by two councillors. The resident proposed 21 wards but supplied little community evidence to support them.

26 Having carefully considered the proposals received, we were of the view that most of the wards resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the city and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries. We based our draft recommendations on a combination of the city-wide schemes with some modifications to provide for better electoral equality and more identifiable boundaries.

27 Our draft recommendations were for five one-councillor, four two-councillor and 14 three-councillor wards. We considered that our draft recommendations provided for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests.

Draft recommendations consultation

28 We received 329 submissions during the consultation on our draft recommendations. These included comments from the Council and the Conservatives on most of the wards we proposed. Most of the other submissions referred to more than one ward, with the proposed wards mentioned most often being City, Embankment, Lenton & Wollaton East, New Meadows, The Park and Wollaton West.

29 Approximately 120 submissions discussed issues relating to single-councillor wards, with about half of them not specifically mentioning any of the wards we proposed. The vast majority of these submissions objected in principle to the creation of single-councillor wards in Nottingham. The main arguments were that multi-councillor wards ensure there is cover when councillors are ill or on holiday and that they allow councillors in the same ward to support each other. It was also argued that they allow councillors to specialise rather than having to become all-rounders, and that this can lead to greater diversity amongst councillors both in individual wards and across the city as a whole.

30 Given that the Council elects as a whole every four years, there is no requirement in legislation that it has a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards. We are of the view that this flexibility allows us to recommend single- or two-councillor wards where they provide a better reflection of community identities and ensure effective and convenient local government. Therefore, while we have noted all the submissions received in relation to this matter, we have considered each proposed ward on its individual merits.

31 Our final recommendations are based on the draft recommendations, with changes made to the boundaries of eight of the wards we proposed. We have merged several wards: Arboretum and Hyson Green into a new Hyson Green & Arboretum ward, City and The Park into a new Castle ward, and Embankment and New Meadows into a Meadows ward. We have also made changes to our wards in Clifton.

Final recommendations

32 Pages 8–22 detail our final recommendations for each area of Nottingham. 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

33 Our final recommendations are for five two-councillor wards and 15 three-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.

34 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table on pages 26–27 and on the large map accompanying this report.

⁴ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Clifton East and Clifton West

35 We received 27 submissions in relation to our wards south of the Trent in addition to the city-wide submissions. Only one submission supported the draft recommendations, with the resident who provided it including little additional evidence. However, while objecting to our proposals, some submissions acknowledged that the boundary we proposed was clearer than that between the existing Clifton wards.

36 The Council and 16 other submissions argued that our draft recommendations and indeed any north/south warding pattern split the main 1950s Clifton estate. They stated that most of the estate's facilities are on Southchurch Drive and this is seen by most people as the centre of the community. However, the A453 and Clifton Lane are seen as major barriers within Clifton itself. The Council proposed a three-councillor Clifton East ward consisting of the area to the east of Clifton Lane and the A453, and to the south of Farnborough Road. The Council's two-councillor Clifton West ward consisted of the rest of Clifton as well as Silverdale and Wilford. It was argued that the Clifton West ward consisted of a group of smaller communities that are separate from the main estate and less reliant on its services. It was pointed out, for example, that Clifton village has its own residents' group, church and community centre.

37 Six objections, including that of Clifton Village Residents' Association, proposed a four-councillor Clifton ward and a single-councillor Silverdale & Wilford ward. They argued that Clifton is one community and that using the A453 as a boundary would be deeply divisive. However, they also stated that Silverdale and Wilford are completely separate and distinct from Clifton with few social links between the two areas.

38 The Conservatives and four other objectors supported a single-councillor Silverdale & Wilford ward. They argued that this area is entirely separate from Clifton, with residents using services and social facilities in Nottingham city centre and West Bridgford rather than Clifton.

39 Finally, the Conservatives proposed an alternative boundary between their two-councillor Clifton wards that ran to the north of the Hartness Road area and which added a small area around Brandish Crescent into Clifton North ward.

40 We have carefully considered all the submissions and counter-proposals. While a four-councillor Clifton ward, as proposed by Clifton Village Residents' Association and others, would have acceptable electoral equality, our policy is that we do not create wards with more than three councillors as we consider this dilutes councillors' accountability to their electorate. No principal councils in England have wards with more than three councillors.

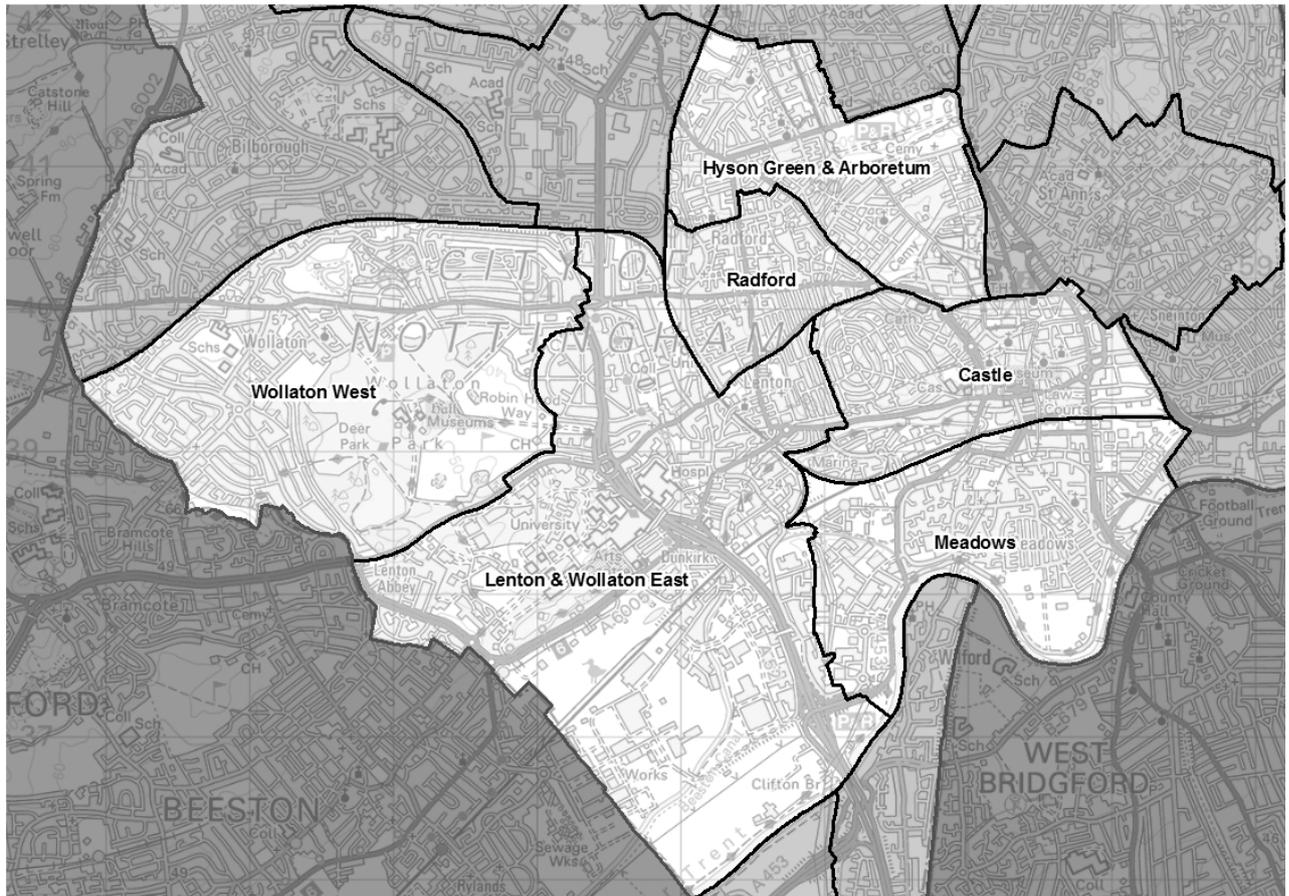
41 When we visited Clifton prior to developing our draft recommendations, we considered that the boundary proposed by the Conservatives between their Clifton North and Clifton South wards was confusing and potentially divided the area. We consider that is still the case with their revised proposal. While we acknowledge the difficulty of creating a warding pattern in this area, we consider that the new

boundaries proposed by the Conservatives would still be confusing for councillors and the electorate.

42 We consider that the best-evidenced proposal in relation to Clifton itself was that of the Council. We accept the argument they and their supporters made that residents on both sides of our proposed boundary on Green Lane use the same facilities. Having visited the area, we also agree that the A453 appears to be a substantial barrier. We are therefore proposing to amend our draft recommendations to create a Clifton East ward, as proposed by the Council. While we have noted the objections of residents living to the west of the A453, we consider that we have received sufficiently strong evidence in relation to the differences between the communities on both sides of the road to justify using it as a boundary.

43 In relation to Clifton West, we note that it would be possible to divide the ward proposed by the Council into two single-councillor wards with good electoral equality, using Fairham Brook as the boundary. However, while we did receive some community evidence in support of a single-councillor Silverdale & Wilford ward, it was relatively limited. We also received no evidence to support the single-councillor Clifton West ward that would result from a Silverdale & Wilford ward. We are therefore adopting the two-councillor Clifton West ward proposed by the Council as part of our final recommendations.

Central and Western Nottingham



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Castle	2	-3%
Hyson Green & Arboretum	3	-2%
Lenton & Wollaton East	3	-6%
Meadows	2	-7%
Radford	2	-7%
Wollaton West	3	-3%

Meadows

44 We received 36 submissions that referred to this area in addition to the two city-wide submissions. Four residents and the Conservatives supported the draft recommendations, arguing that the area around Victoria Embankment is separate from the Meadows estate, with residents mainly using facilities in West Bridgford and rarely going into the Meadows itself. On the other hand, our New Meadows ward had much newer housing and a very different demographic to the Victoria Embankment.

45 The Council and 32 other respondents objected to the draft recommendations, proposing that we combine our Embankment and New Meadows wards. They argued that our proposals split the Meadows Estate as there are a number of facilities that are used by residents in both the wards we proposed, such as Meadows Library and Arkwright Meadows in Embankment or the Queens Walk Community Centre and the Bridgeway Centre in New Meadows. There were also objections to the location of our proposed boundary with people arguing that it was unclear and confusing. Finally, several submissions pointed out that we had included the area around St Saviour's Church in our Embankment ward, despite the housing type being very distinctly that of the New Meadows area. We did note, however, that around a dozen of the objections also argued that it was right to separate the Meadows from the city centre because the two areas are distinct and separate.

46 We have considered all the submissions and have decided to create a two-councillor Meadows ward. We accept there may be a small community around the Victoria Embankment that looks more to West Bridgford than to the Meadows. However, we consider that we have now received good evidence as to the extent of the Meadows community and that it would be better represented by combining the two wards we proposed. We are therefore proposing a two-councillor Meadows ward as part of our final recommendations.

Hyson Green & Arboretum and Radford

47 We received approximately 40 submissions that referred to one of these wards in addition to the city-wide submissions.

48 The Council and about 20 residents argued that our Arboretum and Hyson Green wards should be combined. They pointed out that many residents in Arboretum look to Hyson Green for services, for example by using the shops on Gregory Boulevard or Radford Road. Residents in both Hyson Green and Arboretum share community centres and the sporting facilities at Forest Recreation Ground. There are also good transport links through the ward. Chris Leslie MP (Nottingham East) expressed concern that our proposed Hyson Green ward would cross strong boundaries and include fragmentary parts of adjoining communities.

49 The Conservatives and four residents supported our Arboretum and Hyson Green wards. They argued that Arboretum is a ward predominantly populated by students who primarily look to the city centre for amenities and leisure activities. Conversely, Hyson Green has a distinct identity and was clearly separated from the Arboretum area by the Forest Recreation Ground.

50 The other submissions referred to our Radford ward. While one submission was broadly supportive, the others objected to our proposals primarily because of

the inclusion of the area between Hartley Road and Alfreton Road in our Hyson Green ward. The submissions argued that this area is part of Radford and should be warded with it. Some submissions also discussed whether the Lenton Sands area might be better warded with other parts of Lenton or the Park Estate to the south rather than Radford. However, while these submissions objected to our proposals, the only one that proposed an alternative arrangement had unclear boundaries and was supported by little community evidence.

51 The Conservatives supported our Radford ward arguing that the boundaries were clear and that it had good electoral equality. The Council also supported our proposal due to the substantial impact on other wards if changes were made to Radford.

52 We have carefully considered all the evidence in relation to our Arboretum and Hyson Green wards and have decided, on balance, that there is more to support merging the wards than to keep them apart. While the Arboretum area would appear to contain some students, we are persuaded that our boundary on Forest Road East and Forest Road West would split local residents from the shops and services they use. We have been persuaded that our proposed ward boundary here would not have reflected community identities and interests. We therefore propose a three-councillor Hyson Green & Arboretum ward as part of our final recommendations.

53 We have noted the objections to the inclusion of the area between Hartley Road and Alfreton Road in our Radford ward. However, if we were to add this area into our Hyson Green & Arboretum ward this would lead to electoral variances of over 15% in both wards and we are not prepared to accept this level of electoral inequality. In the absence of a well-evidenced alternative warding pattern for the area with good electoral equality, we confirm our Radford ward as final without amendment.

Castle, Lenton & Wollaton East and Wollaton West

54 We received more submissions for this area than any other part of the city. They included three alternative proposals that were supported by some community evidence and had acceptable electoral equality.

55 The Council and 19 other submissions supported either our Lenton & Wollaton East or Wollaton West wards. They argued that Wollaton West was a good reflection of the community that lives around Wollaton Village and Wollaton Park and that Lenton & Wollaton East was dominated by the University of Nottingham and the Queen's Medical Centre. They also argued that there are shared facilities such as Lenton Recreation Ground, Dunkirk Primary School and the Lakeside Arts Theatre. There are also good transport links between the different parts of the ward.

56 The Conservatives and 32 other submissions, including Lenton Drives & Neighbours Residents' Association, objected either to our Lenton & Wollaton East or Wollaton West wards. The Residents' Association argued that our Lenton & Wollaton East ward simply joined areas of students and did not take community identity into account. It stated that the Park Estate and Lenton are closely connected, with residents having similar concerns, particularly in relation to noise and houses in multiple occupation. The areas also shared facilities such as Edna G. Olds Academy

and the shops on Derby Road. The Residents' Association proposed an alternative pattern of wards in this area consisting of two, two-councillor Wollaton wards, which included Lenton Abbey, and a three-councillor ward consisting of Lenton, the Park Estate and the city centre.

57 The Conservatives made a broadly similar argument to the residents in relation to the lack of connection between Lenton and Wollaton but instead proposed two, two-councillor Wollaton wards and a two-councillor ward made up of Dunkirk, Lenton and Lenton Abbey.

58 The Conservatives and five other submissions supported our City ward, arguing that the city centre is very different to its surrounding communities and therefore has very different needs and interests. Most residents in City live in apartments surrounded by shops, restaurants, bars and offices. This is unique in Nottingham and our proposals reflected that.

59 The Conservatives and 31 other submissions supported our The Park ward, arguing that it reflected the community and did not dilute the voice of the Park Estate by merging it with any of its neighbouring communities.

60 The Council and 30 other submissions objected to either our City or The Park wards, with most of the residents writing in support of the Council's alternative proposal, which was to combine the two wards. The submissions pointed out that the Park Estate itself is purely residential and that the people who live there primarily use shops and social facilities in the city centre. In addition, by the Council's estimate, only 55% of The Park's electorate live in the Park Estate itself. People living in flats on The Ropewalk or Castle Boulevard in our The Park ward saw themselves as city centre residents and did not identify with the Park Estate in any way.

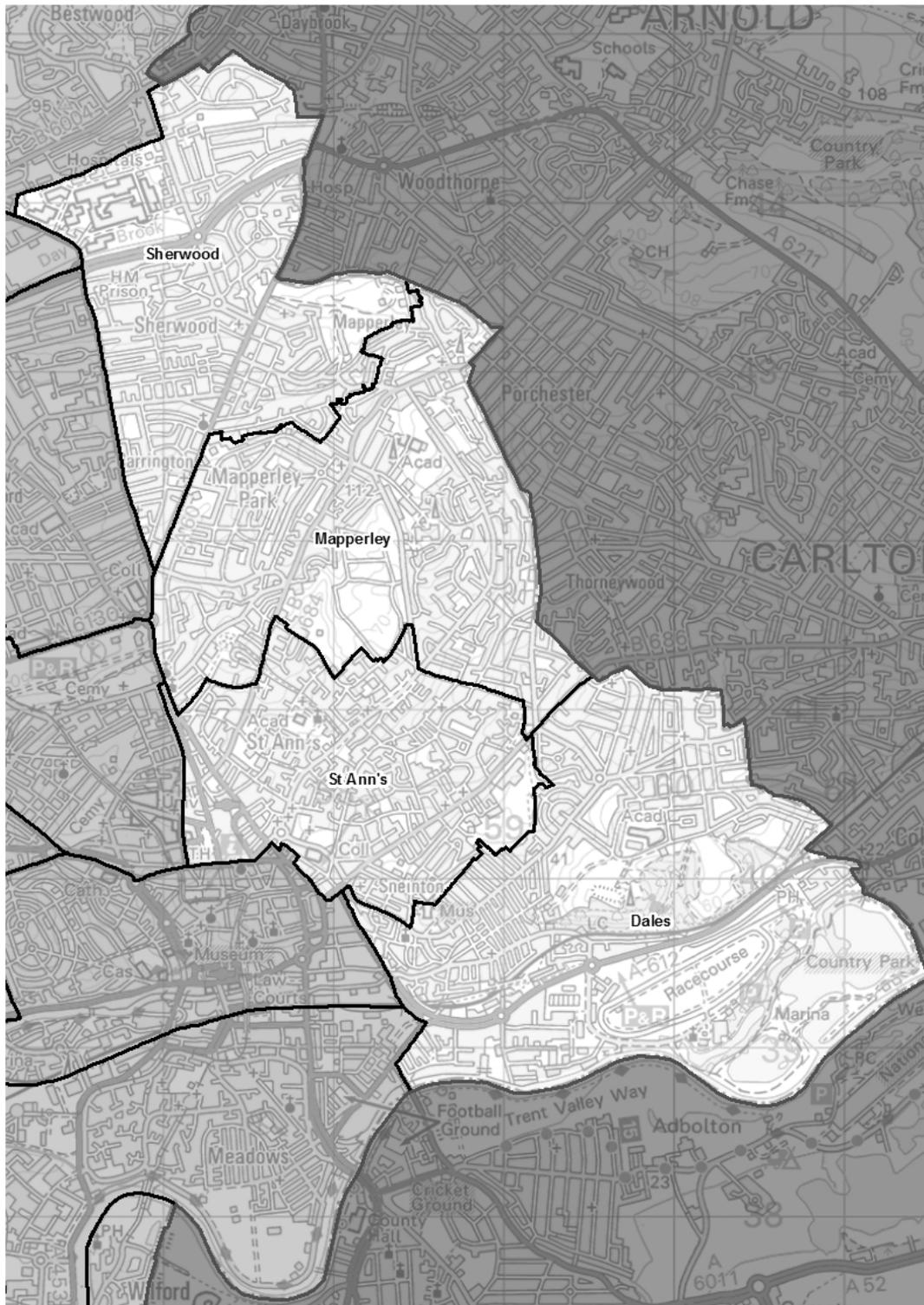
61 We have very carefully considered all the submissions and also revisited this part of the city on foot to look at the alternative boundaries more closely on the ground.

62 In relation to Wollaton and Lenton, when we visited we were very concerned about the quality of the alternative boundaries proposed by both Lenton Drives & Neighbours Residents' Association and the Conservatives. The Residents' Association's boundary between Deer Park and May Avenue and the Conservatives' boundary on Torvill Drive are both potentially confusing and risk splitting the communities on either side. We investigated whether it would be possible to move the boundary of either proposal to Russell Drive, which appeared to be the most logical boundary in the area, but we were unable to come up with an alternative arrangement that had acceptable electoral equality. Therefore, we are unable to adopt either proposal as part of our final recommendations.

63 We note that there was some support amongst local residents and others for our Lenton & Wollaton East and Wollaton West wards. In addition, we received some evidence of shared facilities between residents in the different parts of our Lenton & Wollaton East ward. Therefore, we have decided to confirm our Lenton & Wollaton East and Wollaton West wards as final without amendment.

64 Regarding City and The Park, we consider that we have received some evidence to support retaining City as a single-councillor ward. However, we are of the view that the evidence for combining City with The Park is stronger. While it is very clear that the Park Estate is a separate residential area, it is not a self-contained unit as residents need to leave the estate to access any services. In addition, the estate itself is too small for a ward on its own and the areas we included with it, such as The Ropewalk and Castle Boulevard, appear to be an extension of the city centre. Using Maid Marian Way as a boundary would split them from their natural community. Therefore, as part of our final recommendations we are proposing to combine our City and The Park wards into a two-councillor ward called 'Castle', as proposed by the Council.

Eastern Nottingham



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Dales	3	2%
Mapperley	3	2%
Sherwood	3	-3%
St Ann's	3	3%

Dales, Mapperley, Sherwood and St Ann's

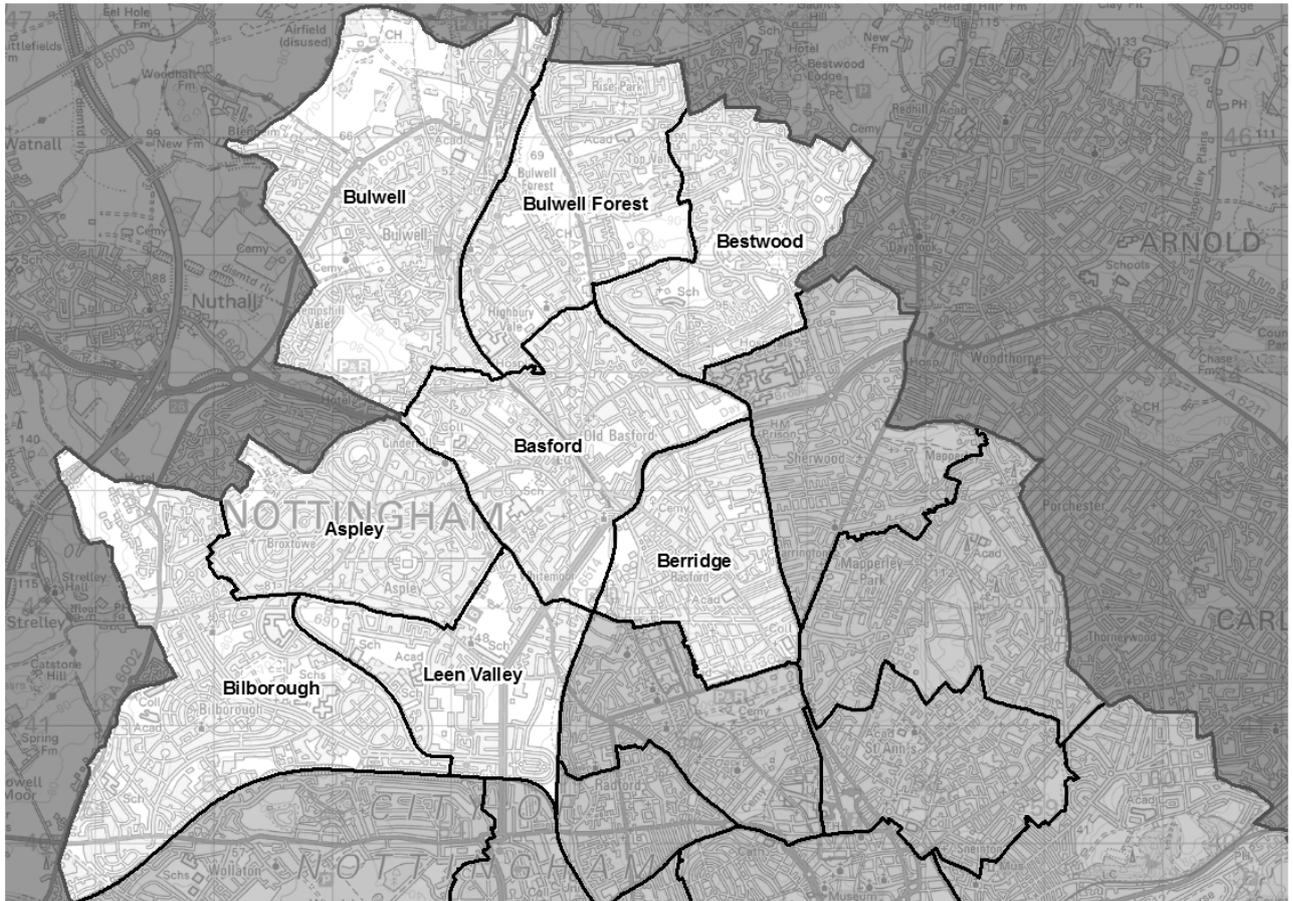
65 The only substantial submission we received relating to this area was from Mapperley Park Residents' Association, which argued that none of our wards in this part of the city reflected local communities. Most notably, it was argued that our proposed St Ann's ward was too far to the south and west to properly reflect the St Ann's community. It was also argued that our proposed Dales ward consisted of the two very different communities of Sneinton and Bakersfield, and that Sherwood's eastern boundary should follow Mansfield Road. The Residents' Association stated that its preferred solution was a two-councillor Mapperley ward that used Mapperley Road, Mansfield Road, Woodthorpe Park and Woodborough Road/Alexandra Park as its boundaries. However, when we analysed this ward we found that it had an electoral variance of -20%. The Residents' Association also proposed an alternative pattern of wards. However, the exact boundaries for the wards were unclear and at least one had very poor electoral equality.

66 We received two other objections to our Dales ward but they, like the 42 supportive submissions we received for wards in this area, contained little additional evidence.

67 The Council supported all four of these wards without providing any additional evidence. The Conservatives supported our St Ann's ward. They argued that the other three wards, particularly Dales and Mapperley, did not represent communities in the most ideal way. However, due to the difficulties presented by the city boundary to the east and the considerable knock-on effect of any changes to wards in this part of the city, they did not make an alternative proposal for any of the wards.

68 We have considered all the submissions we received, noting that the only alternative warding pattern was provided by Mapperley Park Residents' Association. However, as noted above, their proposal, particularly their preferred Mapperley ward, had very poor electoral equality. Therefore, we are confirming our proposed Dales, Mapperley, Sherwood and St Ann's wards as final without amendment.

Northern Nottingham



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Aspley	3	1%
Basford	3	2%
Berridge	3	-4%
Bestwood	3	6%
Bilborough	3	9%
Bulwell	3	1%
Bulwell Forest	3	-6%
Leen Valley	2	-8%

Basford

69 We received 14 submissions that referred to this ward in addition to the city-wide submissions. The three objections, along with the Conservatives, argued that Basford and Cinderhill have separate identities with residents in the latter looking towards Bulwell and Hempshill Vale for services as much as Basford. We noted that the Conservatives' revised proposals for this area included a Cinderhill ward that had an electoral variance of over 20%.

70 The 11 submissions that supported the draft recommendations pointed out that historically Basford has always crossed the River Leen, as well as the train and tram lines that follow the river's course through Basford. This means that facilities such as Basford Library or Basford Hall College are used by people from across the area. It was also pointed out that there are issues relating to noise, maintenance, anti-social behaviour, traffic management and commuter parking that are the same on both sides of the river, train and tram lines. These would be dealt with more effectively in a single three-councillor ward.

71 Having considered all the submissions, we consider that good evidence has been provided in support of our draft recommendations, particularly in relation to the value of having councillors who can address issues that occur either side of the river, train and tram lines. We are also not persuaded that Cinderhill is so separate from Basford that it justifies having its own ward. Therefore, we confirm our Basford ward as final without amendment.

Berridge

72 We received eight submissions that referred to this ward, in addition to the city-wide submissions. The only objection was from Mapperley Park Residents' Association, which argued that the ward lacked any cohesion and, even if its boundaries were not changed, it should be renamed Sherwood West or Forest Rise.

73 While we have noted the comments of the Residents' Association, we consider that there is value from the perspective of continuity in retaining the existing name, particularly as only minor changes have been made to the boundaries of the current ward. Therefore, we confirm our Berridge ward as final without amendment.

Bulwell Forest

74 We received two submissions that referred to this ward in addition to the city-wide submissions. The Council supported the draft recommendations without making any further comments. The Conservatives and the other two submissions objected to the draft recommendations, arguing that Top Valley and Rise Park are distinct from Highbury Vale and separated from it by the substantial boundary of the A611 and Bulwell Forest Golf Club. In addition, residents in Highbury Vale tend to look to Bulwell for services, while residents in Top Valley and Rise Park use shops, schools and other facilities in Rise Park.

75 We have carefully considered the objections but have decided not to change our draft recommendations. Whilst we accept the A611 and Bulwell Forest Golf Club create a substantial boundary, the Conservatives' alternative proposal contained more than 1,500 electors in their two-councillor Bulwell Forest ward who live east of the A611. We are concerned that some of them, particularly those living in the area

around Westglade Primary School, would be split from the rest of their community. We consider in situations such as this that it is preferable to combine separate communities in one ward than to risk splitting areas unnecessarily. Therefore, we confirm our Bulwell Forest ward as final without amendment.

Leen Valley

76 We received three submissions that referred to this ward in addition to the city-wide submissions. A city councillor and the Council supported the draft recommendations. A local resident argued that the ward should be renamed Western Boulevard as the River Leen was hardly visible in the ward and Western Boulevard linked the ward's communities. Conversely, the Conservatives proposed the ward be renamed Beechdale as it aligned more with the local community. Finally, Lilian Greenwood MP (Nottingham South) proposed that the Kennington Road and Southwold Drive areas in Lenton & Wollaton East be transferred to either Leen Valley or Radford as this area has few student households and has services used by Radford residents. However, we do not intend to adopt this proposal as it leads to poor electoral equality in Lenton & Wollaton East.

77 In relation to the ward's name, we have noted that, as with Berridge, our proposed ward has similar boundaries to the current Leen Valley ward. As residents will have grown familiar with this name since it was created at the last review in 2000, we consider there is value in retaining it. Therefore, we confirm our Leen Valley ward as final without amendment.

Aspley, Bestwood, Bilborough and Bulwell

78 The only objection we received to any of these wards was from a resident who was concerned that we were proposing a single-councillor ward in Bilborough. As this is not the case – our Bilborough ward has three councillors – and the other 22 submissions were broadly supportive of the draft recommendations, we confirm our Aspley, Bestwood, Bilborough and Bulwell wards as final without amendment.

Conclusions

79 The table below shows the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2016 and 2023 electorate figures.

Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2016	2023
Number of councillors	55	55
Number of electoral wards	20	20
Average number of electors per councillor	3,716	3,841
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	3	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	1	0

Final recommendation

Nottingham City Council should be made up of 55 councillors serving 20 wards representing five two-councillor wards and 15 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 Nottingham.

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

3 What happens next?

80 We have now completed our review of Nottingham. 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

81 The Commission has looked at how it carries out reviews under the guidelines set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. It has made best endeavours to ensure that people with protected characteristics can participate in the review process and is sufficiently satisfied that no adverse equality impacts will arise as a result of the outcome of the review.

Appendix A

Final recommendations for Nottingham City Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2016)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Aspley	3	11,594	3,865	4%	11,692	3,897	1%
2	Basford	3	11,606	3,869	4%	11,735	3,912	2%
3	Berridge	3	10,559	3,520	-5%	11,113	3,704	-4%
4	Bestwood	3	12,192	4,064	9%	12,270	4,090	6%
5	Bilborough	3	12,128	4,043	9%	12,504	4,168	9%
6	Bulwell	3	11,604	3,868	4%	11,685	3,895	1%
7	Bulwell Forest	3	10,620	3,540	-5%	10,831	3,610	-6%
8	Castle	2	5,899	2,950	-21%	7,416	3,708	-3%
9	Clifton East	3	12,510	4,170	12%	12,592	4,197	9%
10	Clifton West	2	8,081	4,041	9%	8,089	4,045	5%
11	Dales	3	11,460	3,820	3%	11,705	3,902	2%
12	Hyson Green & Arboretum	3	10,529	3,510	-6%	11,243	3,748	-2%

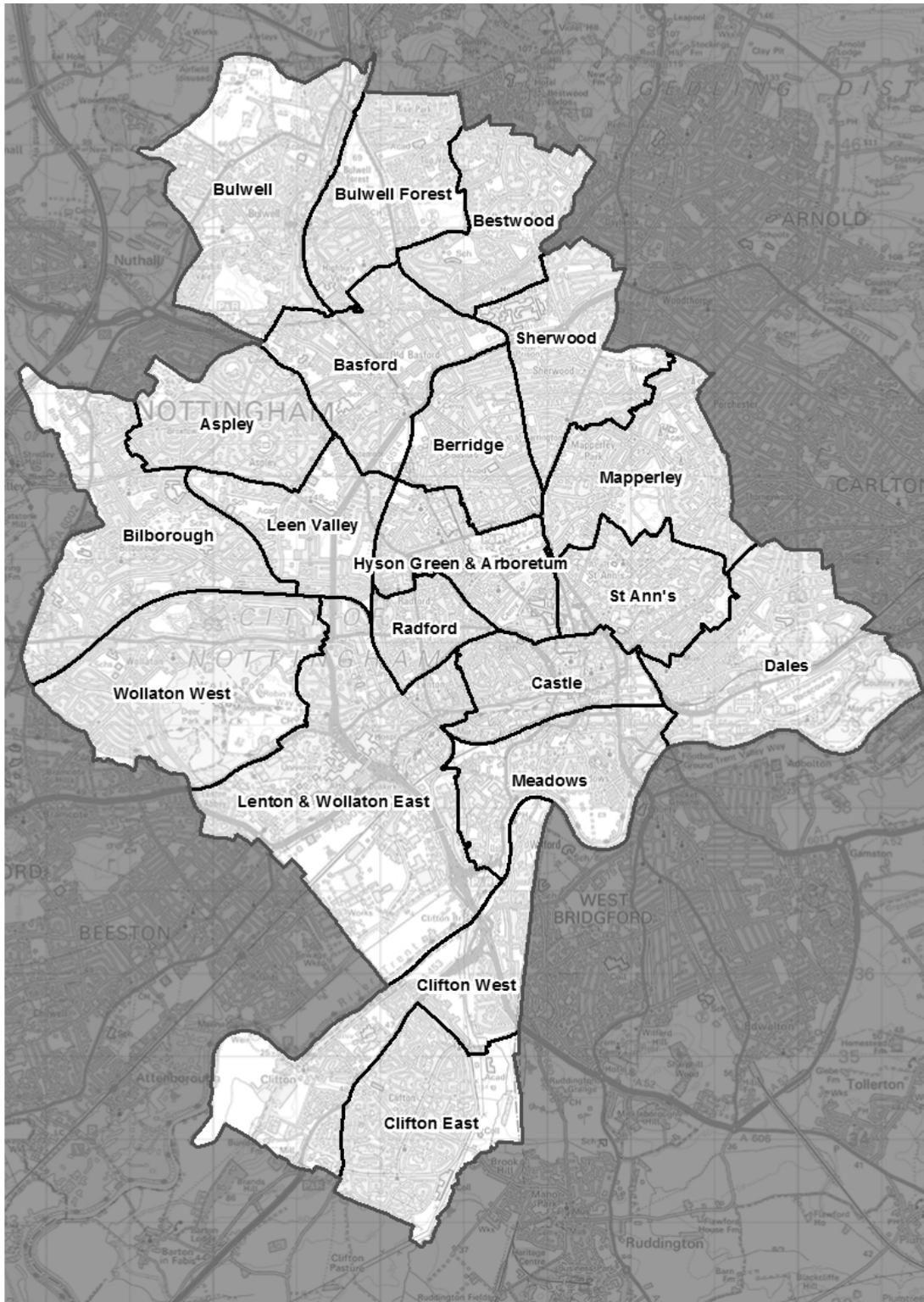
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2016)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13 Leen Valley	2	6,080	3,040	-18%	7,067	3,534	-8%
14 Lenton & Wollaton East	3	10,582	3,527	-5%	10,875	3,625	-6%
15 Mapperley	3	11,441	3,814	3%	11,781	3,927	2%
16 Meadows	2	6,707	3,354	-10%	7,163	3,582	-7%
17 Radford	2	7,007	3,504	-6%	7,164	3,582	-7%
18 Sherwood	3	11,051	3,684	-1%	11,217	3,739	-3%
19 St Ann's	3	11,523	3,841	3%	11,878	3,959	3%
20 Wollaton West	3	11,182	3,727	0%	11,222	3,741	-3%
Totals	55	204,355	-	-	211,252	-	-
Averages	-	-	3,716	-	-	3,841	-

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Nottingham City 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

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/east-midlands/nottinghamshire/nottingham>

Appendix C

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at

<http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/east-midlands/nottinghamshire/nottingham>

Local Authority

- Nottingham City Council
- The Electoral Registration Officer, Nottingham City Council

Political Groups

- Nottingham City Liberal Democrats
- Nottingham Conservatives
- Nottingham Labour Local Campaign Forum

Councillors

- Cllr L. Ali (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr C. Barnard (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr M. Bryan (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr G. Chapman (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr J. Collins (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr J. Cook (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr M. Edwards (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr C. Gibson (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr B. Grocock (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr N. Heaton (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr M. Ibrahim (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr G. Jenkins (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr C. Jones (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr S. Longford (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr J. Morris (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr S. Piper (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr G. Power (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr W. Smith (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr D. Trimble (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr S. Webster (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr M. Wood (Nottingham City Council)
- Cllr L. Woodings (Nottingham City Council)

Members of Parliament

- Lilian Greenwood MP (Nottingham South)
- Chris Leslie MP (Nottingham East)

Local Organisations

- Clifton Village Residents' Association
- Lenton Drives & Neighbours Residents' Association (two submissions)
- Mapperley Park Residents' Association
- New Meadows Tenants' & Residents' Association
- Nottingham City Homes
- Nottingham Park Residents' Association
- Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner
- Old Meadows Tenants' & Residents' Association
- Sneinton Tenants' & Residents' Association
- The Bridges Community Trust
- The Lenton Centre
- The Nottingham Park Estate Limited

Local Residents

- 287 local residents

Appendix D

Glossary and abbreviations

Council size	The number of councillors elected to serve on a council
Electoral Change Order (or Order)	A legal document which implements changes to the electoral arrangements of a local authority
Division	A specific area of a county, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever division they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the county council
Electoral 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
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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
14th floor, Millbank Tower
London
SW1P 4QP

Telephone: 0330 500 1525
Email: reviews@lgbce.org.uk
Online: www.lgbce.org.uk or
www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk
Twitter: @LGBCE