

Final recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Warrington Borough Council

Electoral review

December 2015

Translations and other formats

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Summary

Who we are

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament. We are not part of government or any political party. We are accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons.

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

Electoral review

An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority. A local authority's electoral arrangements decide:

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

Why Warrington?

We are conducting an electoral review of Warrington Borough Council as the Council currently has high levels of electoral inequality where some councillors represent many more or many fewer voters than others. This means that the value of each vote in district council elections varies depending on where you live in Warrington. Overall, 41% of wards currently have a variance of more than 10% from the average for the borough.

Our proposals for Warrington

Warrington Borough Council currently has 57 councillors. Based on the evidence we received during previous phases of the review, we consider that an increase in council size by one to 58 members will ensure the Council can perform its roles and responsibilities effectively.

Electoral arrangements

In March 2015, Warrington Borough Council resolved to conduct all-out elections, having previously elected by thirds. Our final recommendations propose that Warrington Borough Council's 58 councillors should represent eight two-member wards and 14 three-member wards across the borough. None of our proposed wards would have an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for Warrington by 2020.

We have finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for Warrington.

1 Introduction

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

What is an electoral review?

2 Our three main considerations in conducting an electoral review are set out in legislation¹ and are to:

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

3 Our task is to strike the best balance between 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

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

This review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
12 May 2015	Warding pattern consultation
25 August 2015	Draft recommendations consultation
20 October 2015	Analysis of submissions received and formulation of final recommendations
1 December 2015	Publication of final recommendations

How will the recommendations affect you?

5 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which ward you vote in, which other communities are in that ward and, in some instances, which parish council wards 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.

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

What is the Local Government Boundary Commission for England?

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

Members of the Commission are:

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

Chief Executive: Jolyon Jackson CBE

2 Analysis and final recommendations

7 Legislation states that our recommendations are not intended to be based solely on the existing number of electors² in an area, but also on estimated changes in the number and distribution of electors likely to take place over a five-year period from the date of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for the wards we put forward at the end of the review.

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

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

	2015	2020
Electorate of Warrington Borough	163,078	168,901
Number of councillors	58	58
Average number of electors per councillor	2,812	2,912

10 Under our final recommendations, none of our proposed wards will have an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for the borough by 2020. We are therefore satisfied that we have achieved good levels of electoral fairness for Warrington.

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

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

Submissions received

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

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

Electorate figures

14 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2020, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2015. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and projected an increase in the electorate of approximately 4% to 2020.

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

Council size

16 Prior to consultation, Warrington Borough Council submitted a proposal to increase the council size from 57 to 58 members. We also received a submission from the Liberal Democrat Group on Warrington Borough Council proposing to retain the existing council size of 57.

17 We considered that the Council's submission provided stronger evidence to justify an increase. We are also satisfied that the Council had sufficiently demonstrated that the authority could operate efficiently and effectively under a council size of 58 and ensure effective representation of local residents.

18 During consultation on warding patterns, we received a submission which objected to the reduction in council size and proposed that we reduce the existing council size of 57. However, we consider that the evidence submitted to be insufficient to justify reducing the existing council size. We have therefore based our final recommendations on a council size of 58 elected members.

Warding patterns

19 During consultation on warding patterns, we received 16 submissions, including two borough-wide proposals. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for warding arrangements in Lymm, Great Sankey, Birchwood, Poulton and Woolston.

20 We based our draft recommendations broadly on a combination of the two borough-wide schemes. We made some amendments to improve electoral equality, and provide for stronger boundaries in some areas. We also took into account the localised submissions to inform our draft recommendations.

21 Our draft recommendations were for eight two-member wards and 14 three-member wards. We considered that our draft recommendations would provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation

Draft recommendations

22 We received 144 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations, including submissions from 15 borough councillors (some of whom sent joint submissions), five political organisations, 13 parish councils

(including a joint submission from three parish councils, and one parish council which sent us two submissions), three parish councillors, three local organisations, and 107 members of the public.

Final recommendations

23 The majority of submissions received related to three areas: the proposed Lymm North & Thelwall and Lymm South wards; the proposed Appleton ward; and the proposed Grappenhall ward. We also received submissions on Culcheth & Glazebury, Great Sankey and Poulton.

South Warrington

24 We received over 100 submissions referring specifically to the south of the borough, including a petition with over 700 signatures. Some respondents objected to our proposals to divide Lymm between two wards, on the grounds that the community should not be split. We did, however, receive some support for our proposed Lymm North & Thelwall and Lymm South wards.

25 We also received a large number of submissions which argued that the boundary between our proposed Stockton Heath and Appleton wards would not reflect community identities in the area. Some respondents also opposed the inclusion of Appleton Thorn in Grappenhall ward, and argued that it ought to be in Appleton ward.

West Warrington

26 We received 11 submissions in relation to this part of the borough, the majority of which related to Great Sankey, with some respondents arguing that our proposed ward did not accurately reflect historical community identities. We also received some submissions referring to our proposed Bewsey & Whitecross ward, with respondents arguing that a small part of our proposed ward should be in Latchford West ward, to better reflect community links in the area.

North Warrington

27 We received one submission relating to our proposals in this part of the borough, from a parish council which opposed our recommendations. It argued in favour of retaining the existing arrangements for Burtonwood & Winwick. However, our draft recommendations are very similar to the existing arrangements in this area.

Central Warrington

28 We received six submissions relating to this area, mostly relating to our proposed Poulton North and Poulton South wards. We received one submission supporting our proposed Poulton South ward, and some which opposed our split of the Poulton area.

29 We received two submissions relating to Latchford West ward. One of these, as mentioned above, argued in favour of including an area from Bewsey & Whitecross in this ward.

East Warrington

30 We received six submissions relating to our draft recommendations in this area. Two submissions supported our proposed Culcheth & Glazebury ward, with one submission suggesting that our proposed three-member ward be split into a two-

member ward and a single-member ward. We also received one submission in support of our proposed Birchwood ward.

31 We received two submissions arguing that the existing ward of Rixton & Woolston be retained. Our proposed ward here was almost identical to the existing ward, with one minor amendment to ensure the ward has acceptable electoral equality.

Detailed wards

32 The tables on pages 9–15 detail our final recommendations for each area of Warrington. Where we have moved away from our draft recommendations, we have outlined how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory criteria of:

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

South Warrington

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Appleton	3	8%	This ward comprises part of the parish of Appleton, the community of Cobbs, and the parishes of Hatton, Stretton and Walton.	<p>We received over 50 submissions in relation to our proposed Appleton ward. Most respondents opposed our proposed ward. Some respondents in the rural area and the parishes of Hatton, Stretton and Walton argued that rural matters would be subordinate to issues affecting the suburban area if the rural area was included in a ward with the more suburban Appleton.</p> <p>Other respondents who opposed our draft recommendations here were based in the area south of the Bridgewater Canal, which we have included in Stockton Heath ward. Respondents here argued that the canal is a logical boundary which should remain. However, including this area in a ward with Appleton would result in a 14% electoral variance by 2020 which is a higher figure than we would normally accept.</p> <p>Some residents of Appleton Thorn objected to our inclusion of it in Grappenhall ward, arguing that the communities of Appleton Thorn and Grappenhall do not share many community links.</p> <p>We have carefully considered potential alternatives in this part of the borough, to determine if any different boundary patterns would be possible here. We consider that the Manchester Ship Canal is a very strong boundary, and we have not proposed any wards which cross it. Additionally,</p>

				<p>this ward is also on the borough's external boundary, so there is limited scope for alternative patterns here.</p> <p>We consider that our draft recommendations provide the best balance of the statutory criteria, achieving good electoral equality and keeping similar communities together as far as possible. Therefore, we confirm as final our proposed ward here.</p>
Grappenhall	2	7%	This ward comprises the majority of Grappenhall, part of Appleton parish, and the community of Appleton Thorn.	<p>As mentioned above, we received some submissions opposing the inclusion of Appleton Thorn in this ward. We also received some submissions arguing that Grappenhall should be in a ward with Thelwall, as under the existing arrangements.</p> <p>We investigated whether it would be possible to change the boundaries we recommended here to accommodate these arguments. However, it would not be possible to make these changes without significant knock-on effects to other wards in this part of the borough, and we do not consider that we have received sufficient evidence to do this. Therefore, we have decided to confirm our proposed Grappenhall ward as final.</p>
Lymm North & Thelwall	3	8%	This ward comprises the northern half of Lymm, as well as most of Thelwall and part of Grappenhall.	<p>We received over 40 submissions in relation to this area. The majority of submissions opposed the proposal to divide Lymm between wards arguing that it is a distinct community and providing evidence in support of this. Some respondents also argued that Thelwall and Lymm share no community links. We did receive several submissions expressing support for our proposals, some of which noted that under our recommendations, Lymm would be represented by more councillors than it is under the existing arrangements.</p>
Lymm South	2	-7%	This ward comprises the southern half of Lymm.	

				We also received some submissions which suggested allocating an additional councillor to this area, and taking it from the Poulton and Rixton & Woolston area to the north. However, no proposals were made for amended boundaries in the Poulton and Rixton & Woolston area, and so we have not made any changes to our proposed ward boundaries here. We therefore confirm our draft recommendations here as final.
Stockton Heath	2	2%	This ward comprises Stockton Heath and Lower Walton.	As mentioned above, we received a number of submissions arguing that the boundary between this ward and Appleton should be amended. However, doing so would create an unacceptably high electoral variance in Appleton. We therefore confirm our draft recommendations for this ward as final.

West Warrington

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Bewsey & Whitecross	3	1%	This ward covers the town centre of Warrington, and the communities of Bewsey and Whitecross.	<p>We received three submissions in relation to this ward during the consultation on our draft recommendations. Two of these submissions suggested that a small area of housing should be moved into Latchford West ward. However, this proposal would result in Latchford West ward having an unacceptably high electoral variance.</p> <p>We also received a submission which suggested amending the boundary between this ward and Fairfield & Howley ward. We consider that our proposed boundary between these wards represents a strong and easily identifiable boundary, as it follows a main road, and we are therefore not persuaded to amend our draft recommendations here.</p>

Chapelford & Old Hall	3	2%	This ward comprises the communities of Old Hall and Chapelford.	We did not receive any submissions in relation to this ward, and therefore we confirm this ward as part of our final recommendations.
Great Sankey North & Whittle Hall	3	-6%	This ward comprises the area of Whittle Hall, and the northern part of Great Sankey.	We received eight submissions in relation to the wards in this area. One submission argued in favour of running the ward boundary between Great Sankey North & Whittle Hall along the whole of the A57, rather than only part of it as we proposed in our draft recommendations. We are not persuaded to make this change, as we consider that the evidence we received was not strong enough to change our proposals. Our proposed boundary was supported by evidence received during our consultation on ward boundaries for the borough. Some submissions which argued that our proposals ignored historical and cultural ties in this area. However, the submissions did not propose alternative arrangements and, given the need to provide for good electoral equality here, it is necessary to divide Great Sankey between borough wards. We consider that our proposals provide the best balance of the statutory criteria, and we are confirming our draft recommendations here as final.
Great Sankey South	3	-4%	This ward comprises the southern part of Great Sankey, and Sankey Bridges.	
Penketh & Cuerdley	3	-1%	This ward comprises the parishes of Penketh and Cuerdley, as well as an area south of Liverpool Road.	

North Warrington

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Burtonwood & Winwick	2	-10%	This ward comprises the communities of Burtonwood and Winwick.	We received one proposal regarding this ward, from a parish council which opposed our proposal. It argued in favour of retaining the existing arrangements here. Our proposed ward is almost identical to the existing one, and our change ensures that the ward has good electoral equality. We are

				therefore confirming our draft recommendations here as final.
Orford	3	3%	This ward comprises the communities of Orford and Longford.	We did not receive any submissions in relation to this ward, and therefore confirm this ward as part of our final recommendations.
Poplars & Hulme	3	3%	This ward sits to the south of the M62 and comprises the communities of Blackbrook, Hulme and Poplars.	We did not receive any submissions in relation to this ward, and therefore confirm this ward as part of our final recommendations.
Westbrook	2	-2%	This ward comprises the communities of Kingswood, Callands and Westbrook.	We did not receive any submissions in relation to this ward, and therefore confirm this ward as part of our final recommendations.

Central Warrington

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Fairfield & Howley	3	-1%	This ward comprises an area to the east of the centre of Warrington town, and contains the community of Howley and part of the community of Fairfield.	As mentioned above, we received a submission suggesting that the boundary between this ward and Bewsey & Whitecross be amended. We are not persuaded to make this change, and so confirm this ward as part of our final recommendations.
Latchford East	2	10%	This ward comprises an area between the Manchester Ship Canal and the River Mersey, and contains the community of Westy.	We did not receive any submissions in relation to this ward, and therefore confirm this ward as part of our final recommendations.
Latchford West	2	6%	This ward comprises an area between the Manchester Ship Canal and the River Mersey,	As mentioned above, we received a submission suggesting that the boundary between this ward and Bewsey & Whitecross be amended. Given the electoral inequality that

			and contains the communities of Latchford and Wilderspool.	would result, we are not amending our proposals here, and so confirm this ward as part of our final recommendations.
Poulton North	3	-9%	This ward comprises an area to the north-east of the town centre, situated between the M6 and the M62. It contains the communities of Cinnamon Brow, Longbarn and Houghton Green.	As mentioned above, we received a number of submissions suggesting the removal a councillor from the area covered by these two wards and Rixton & Woolston. However, no alternative boundaries were proposed, and so we do not propose any changes to the number of councillors here. We received five other submissions relating to these two wards. One submission supported our proposed Poulton South ward. We received a submission which proposed that the ward boundaries and parish boundaries in this area be coterminous. However, this would result in an unacceptably high electoral variance in neighbouring Poplars & Hulme ward.
Poulton South	2	-7%	This ward comprises an area between the River Mersey and Birchwood Way.	Two of the submissions opposed parts of the boundary between the two Poulton wards. While we acknowledge these concerns, we consider that our proposals provide the best balance of our statutory criteria. We explored whether the boundary between the wards could be changed, but considered that this would result in either high electoral inequality, or boundaries which would not be strong and easily identifiable. Therefore, we are confirming our proposed wards here as part of our final recommendations.

East Warrington

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Birchwood	3	-2%	This ward comprises the communities of Birchwood, Gorse Covert and Oakwood.	We received one submission relating to this area, which supported our proposed ward. We therefore confirm this ward as part of our final recommendations.
Culcheth, Glazebury & Croft	3	7%	This ward comprises the communities of Glazebury, Culcheth and Croft, and is situated in the north-east corner of the borough.	We received three submissions relating to this area. Two were from parish councils, which supported our proposal for a three-member ward. The other was from a local resident who suggested splitting the ward into a single-member ward and a two-member ward. We do not consider that strong evidence was provided for this proposal and, given the support our proposed ward received, we have decided to confirm it as part of our final recommendations.
Rixton & Woolston	3	-9%	This ward comprises the community of Rixton and a largely rural area to the east of the M6, as well as the community of Woolston.	We received two submissions in relation to this ward, which argued in favour of retaining the existing arrangements. Our proposed ward included a small area from the existing Poulton South ward, in order to achieve acceptable electoral equality for this ward. In order to minimise electoral variances, we do not propose to amend this ward, and confirm our draft recommendations as final.

Conclusions

33 Table 1 shows the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2015 and 2020 electorate figures.

Table 1: Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2015	2020
Number of councillors	58	58
Number of electoral wards	22	22
Average number of electors per councillor	2,812	2,912
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	2	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

Final recommendation
 Warrington Borough Council should comprise 58 councillors serving eight two-member wards and 14 three-member wards. The details and names are shown in Table A1 and illustrated on the large map accompanying this report.

Mapping
Sheet 1, Map 1 illustrates in outline form the proposed wards for Warrington. You can also view our final recommendations for Warrington on our interactive maps at <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>

Parish electoral arrangements

34 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 divisions 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.

35 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, Warrington Borough 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.

36 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 are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Appleton, Burtonwood & Westbrook, Grappenhall & Thelwall, Great Sankey, Lymm, Poulton-with-Fearnhead, Stockton Heath, Walton and Winwick.

37 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 are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Appleton parish.

Final recommendation

Appleton Parish Council should comprise 13 councillors, as at present, representing three wards: Cobbs & Hillcliffe (returning 10 members), Hillcliffe North (returning one member) and Thorn (returning two members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

38 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 are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Burtonwood & Westbrook parish.

Final recommendation

Burtonwood & Westbrook Parish Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing three wards: Burtonwood (returning six members), Old Hall (returning one member) and Westbrook (returning nine members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

39 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 are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Grappenhall & Thelwall parish.

Final recommendation

Grappenhall & Thelwall Parish Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing two wards: Thelwall (returning eight members) and Grappenhall (returning eight members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

40 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 are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Great Sankey parish.

Final recommendation

Great Sankey Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing five wards: Central (returning five members), Liverpool Road (returning one member), North (returning four members), South (returning four members) and South West (returning one member). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

41 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 are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Lymm parish.

Final recommendation

Lymm Parish Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing two wards: Lymm North (returning six members) and Lymm South (returning six members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

42 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 are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Poulton-with-Fearnhead parish.

Final recommendation

Poulton-with-Fearnhead Parish Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing four wards: Blackbrook (returning two members), Bruche (returning five members), Longbarn, Fearnhead & Cinnamon Brow (returning seven members) and Paddington (returning one member). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

43 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 are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Stockton Heath parish.

Final recommendation

Stockton Heath Parish Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing two wards: East (returning three members) and West (returning 12 members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

44 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 are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Walton parish. The Parish Council stated that one of our proposed ward names here would not reflect the community it covers, so we have amended it as part of our final recommendations.

Final recommendation

Walton Parish Council should comprise 11 councillors, as at present, representing two wards: Higher Walton (returning four members) and Lower Walton (returning seven members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

45 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 are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Winwick parish.

Final recommendation

Winwick Parish Council should comprise 10 councillors, as at present, representing three wards: Houghton Green (returning four members), Peel Hall (returning three members) and Winwick (returning three members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

3 What happens next?

46 We have now completed our review of Warrington Borough Council. The recommendations must now be approved by Parliament. A draft Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in Parliament. Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements will come into force at the local elections in 2016.

Equalities

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

Appendix A

Table A1: Final recommendations for Warrington Borough Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2015)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2020)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Appleton	3	8,850	2,950	5%	9,462	3,154	8%
2	Bewsey & Whitecross	3	8,636	2,879	2%	8,856	2,952	1%
3	Birchwood	3	8,565	2,855	2%	8,576	2,859	-2%
4	Burtonwood & Winwick	2	5,228	2,614	-7%	5,240	2,620	-10%
5	Chapelford & Old Hall	3	8,436	2,812	0%	8,892	2,964	2%
6	Culcheth, Glazebury & Croft	3	9,168	3,056	9%	9,352	3,117	7%
7	Fairfield & Howley	3	8,202	2,734	-3%	8,633	2,878	-1%
8	Grappenhall	2	5,634	2,817	0%	6,248	3,124	7%
9	Great Sankey North & Whittle Hall	3	7,174	2,391	-15%	8,169	2,723	-6%
10	Great Sankey South	3	8,368	2,789	-1%	8,386	2,795	-4%
11	Latchford East	2	6,035	3,017	7%	6,425	3,212	10%
12	Latchford West	2	5,978	2,989	6%	6,188	3,094	6%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Warrington Borough Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2015)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2020)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13	Lymm North & Thelwall	3	9,327	3,109	11%	9,407	3,136	8%
14	Lymm South	2	5,374	2,687	-4%	5,401	2,701	-7%
15	Orford	3	8,945	2,982	6%	9,032	3,011	3%
16	Penketh & Cuerdley	3	8,551	2,850	1%	8,649	2,883	-1%
17	Poplars & Hulme	3	8,752	2,917	4%	9,010	3,003	3%
18	Poulton North	3	7,992	2,664	-5%	7,993	2,664	-9%
19	Poulton South	2	5,040	2,520	-10%	5,425	2,712	-7%
20	Rixton & Woolston	3	7,895	2,632	-6%	7,921	2,640	-9%
21	Stockton Heath	2	5,809	2,905	3%	5,944	2,972	2%
22	Westbrook	2	5,121	2,560	-9%	5,691	2,846	-2%
	Totals	58	163,078	-	-	168,901	-	-
	Averages	-	-	2,812	-	-	2,912	-

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Warrington Borough Council.

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

Appendix B

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at:

<http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/north-west/cheshire/warrington-unitary-authority-ua>

Warrington Borough councillors

- Councillor B. Axcell
- Councillors P. Bretherton, B. Brinksman and T. McCarthy
- Councillors A. Dirir, L. Dirir and D. Keane
- Councillor E. Finnegan
- Councillor W. Johnson
- Councillor P. Kennedy
- Councillor M. McLaughlin
- Councillor S. Parish
- Councillor J. Walker
- Councillor J. Wheeler
- Councillor S. Woodyatt

Political groups

- Lymm Liberal Democrats
- Lymm Ward Labour Party
- Warrington Liberal Democrats
- Warrington North Conservatives
- Warrington South Conservative Association

Parish councils

- Appleton Parish Council
- Birchwood Town Council
- Croft Parish Council
- Culcheth & Glazebury Parish Council
- Grappenhall & Thelwall Parish Council
- Great Sankey Parish Council
- Hatton Parish Council
- Hatton, Stretton and Walton Parish Councils (joint submission)
- Lymm Parish Council
- Poulton-with-Fearnhead Parish Council
- Stockton Heath Parish Council
- Stretton Parish Council
- Walton Parish Council
- Woolston Parish Council

Parish councillors

- Councillor R. Hardie (Walton Parish Council)
- Councillor D. Hutchinson (Stretton Parish Council)
- Councillor H. Todd (Stockton Heath Parish Council)

Local organisations

- Blackbrook Community Association
- Fairfield & Howley Community Action Forum
- Lymm Environment & Heritage Group

Residents

- 107 local residents

Appendix C

Glossary and abbreviations

Council size	The number of councillors elected to serve on a council
Electoral Change Order (or Order)	A legal document which implements changes to the electoral arrangements of a local authority
Division	A specific area of a county, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever division they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the county council
Electoral fairness	When one elector's vote is worth the same as another's
Electoral inequality	Where there is a difference between the number of electors represented by a councillor and the average for the local authority
Electorate	People in the authority who are registered to vote in elections. For the purposes of this report, we refer specifically to the electorate for local government elections
Number of electors per councillor	The total number of electors in a local authority divided by the number of councillors
Over-represented	Where there are fewer electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average

Parish	A specific and defined area of land within a single local authority enclosed within a parish boundary. There are over 10,000 parishes in England, which provide the first tier of representation to their local residents
Parish council	A body elected by electors in the parish which serves and represents the area defined by the parish boundaries. See also 'Town council'
Parish (or Town) council electoral arrangements	The total number of councillors on any one parish or town council; the number, names and boundaries of parish wards; and the number of councillors for each ward
Parish ward	A particular area of a parish, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors vote in whichever parish ward they live for candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the parish council
Town council	A parish council which has been given ceremonial 'town' status. More information on achieving such status can be found at www.nalc.gov.uk
Under-represented	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Variance (or electoral variance)	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward or division varies in percentage terms from the average
Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council