

New electoral arrangements for Cumberland Council Draft Recommendations

June 2025

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A note on our mapping:

The maps shown in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Whilst best efforts have been made by our staff to ensure that the maps included in this report are representative of the boundaries described by the text, there may be slight variations between these maps and the large PDF map that accompanies this report, or the digital mapping supplied on our consultation portal. This is due to the way in which the final mapped products are produced. The reader should therefore refer to either the large PDF supplied with this report or the digital mapping for the true likeness of the boundaries intended. The boundaries as shown on either the large PDF map or the digital mapping should always appear identical.

Contents

Introduction	1
Who we are and what we do	1
What is an electoral review?	1
Why Cumberland?	2
Our proposals for Cumberland	2
How will the recommendations affect you?	2
Have your say	3
Review timetable	3
Analysis and draft recommendations	5
Submissions received	5
Electorate figures	5
Number of councillors	6
Ward boundaries consultation	6
Draft recommendations	7
North-east	9
Carlisle and Houghton	15
Fells & Solway	23
Workington & Seaton	27
Whitehaven and neighbouring parishes	32
Midwest and Central Cumberland and Maryport	36
South Cumberland	41
Conclusions	48
Summary of electoral arrangements	48
Parish electoral arrangements	48
Have your say	56
Equalities	60
Appendices	62
Appendix A	62
Draft recommendations for Cumberland Council	62
Appendix B	67
Outline map	67
Carlisle and Houghton	68
Whitehaven and surrounding wards	69

Workington and surrounding wards	70
Appendix C	73
Submissions received	73
Appendix D	75
Glossary and abbreviations	75

Introduction

Who we are and what we do

1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament.¹ 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.

2 The members of the Commission are:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| • Professor Colin Mellors OBE
(Chair) | • Steve Robinson |
| • Andrew Scallan CBE
(Deputy Chair) | • Wallace Sampson OBE |
| • Amanda Nobbs OBE | • Liz Treacy |
| | • Ailsa Irvine (Chief Executive) |

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

4 When carrying out an electoral review the Commission has three main considerations:

- Improving electoral equality by equalising the number of electors that each councillor represents.
- Ensuring that the recommendations reflect community identity.
- Providing arrangements that support effective and convenient local government.

5 Our task is to strike the best balance between these three considerations when making our recommendations.

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

6 More details regarding the powers that we have, as well as further guidance and information about electoral reviews and the review process in general, can be found on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Why Cumberland?

7 We are conducting a review of Cumberland Council ('the Council') as it is a new authority, whose electoral arrangements have not been reviewed since its establishment in 2023. The existing electoral arrangements were intended to be interim for the purposes of the first elections to the authority. Additionally, some councillors currently represent many more or fewer electors than others. We describe this as 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where the number of electors per councillor is as even as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.

8 This electoral review is being carried out to ensure that:

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

Our proposals for Cumberland

9 Cumberland should be represented by 55 councillors, nine more than there are now.

10 Cumberland should have 55 wards, nine more than there are now.

11 The boundaries of two wards will stay the same, the rest will change.

How will the recommendations affect you?

12 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 council ward you vote in. Your ward name may also change.

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

Have your say

14 We will consult on the draft recommendations for a 10-week period, from 3 June 2025 to 11 August 2025. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to comment on these proposed wards as the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be in making our final recommendations.

15 We ask everyone wishing to contribute ideas for the new wards to first read this report and look at the accompanying map before responding to us.

16 You have until 11 August 2025 to have your say on the draft recommendations. See page 55 for how to send us your response.

Review timetable

17 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Cumberland. We then held a period of consultation with the public on warding patterns for the local authority area. The submissions received during consultation have informed our draft recommendations.

18 The review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
19 November 2024	Number of councillors decided
26 November 2024	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
24 February 2025	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
3 June 2025	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
11 August 2025	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
2 December 2025	Publication of final recommendations

Analysis and draft recommendations

19 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.

20 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.

21 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.

	2024	2030
Electorate of Cumberland	216,592	214,482
Number of councillors	55	55
Average number of electors per councillor	3,938	3,900

22 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 but five of our proposed wards for Cumberland are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Submissions received

23 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Electorate figures

24 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2030, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2025. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted a decrease in the electorate of around 1% by 2030.

25 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 draft recommendations.

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.

26 Our mapping tool uses geocoded electoral registers supplied by the Council to locate electors, by associating addresses with specific geographic coordinates. It considers each elector's location to produce precise elector counts for each ward. There can be very slight differences between the electorate figures published on our website at the beginning of the review and the electorate figures published in this report. However, these are very minor and do not impact on our recommendations.

Number of councillors

27 Cumberland Council currently has 46 councillors. We looked at evidence provided by the Council and have concluded that increasing this number by nine will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

28 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.

29 We received 21 submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on ward patterns. Most of them objected to the increase in councillor numbers, with some questioning how this will be funded. Some objected because of their views of the Council's performance.

30 A few respondents supported the increase with one advocating a further increase of nine bringing the total number of councillors to 64. This respondent based their recommendation on a reduction of the elector per councillor number, but did not explain why a councillor-electors ratio of around 3,400 was the right one for Cumberland.

31 We therefore based our draft recommendations on a 55-councillor council.

Ward boundaries consultation

32 We received 82 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included three authority-wide proposals, from the Council, Cumberland Conservatives and Cumberland Liberal Democrats. We also received a proposal from Whitehaven & Workington Labour Party (Whitehaven & Workington Labour) for 18 wards covering its parliamentary constituency area, and a submission from Councillor Davison on behalf of the Cumberland Council Green Group (Green Group). The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for ward arrangements in particular areas of the local authority area.

33 The authority-wide schemes provided a uniform pattern of one-councillor wards, as did the partial scheme from Whitehaven & Workington Labour.

34 We carefully considered the proposals received and were of the view that the proposed patterns of wards resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the authority and generally used identifiable boundaries. We commend the authors for the time, thought and attention to detail expended in producing these proposals.

35 The district-wide schemes were very different in most areas. Therefore, in many areas, once we had adopted the boundaries of one scheme, it was difficult to adopt another scheme in other areas. Nevertheless, we considered the merits of the individual boundaries of all the schemes, and so were able to adopt different proposals in some places.

36 Our draft recommendations take into account local evidence that we received, which provided further evidence of community links and locally recognised boundaries. In some areas we considered that the proposals did not provide for the best balance between our statutory criteria and so we identified alternative boundaries.

37 We also note that most of the district-wide and partial schemes did not provide detailed community evidence to support their proposals. All of them relied heavily on polling district boundaries and merging polling districts. It is worth pointing out that we do not consider that polling districts necessarily reflect communities: they are administrative tools for facilitating elections. Following this review of Cumberland, the Council will carry out a review of its polling districts to ensure that they align with the new wards being created.

38 If following the consultation on these draft recommendations we need additional clarification in any area, we will carry out a physical tour prior to the publication of final recommendations for the district.

Draft recommendations

39 Our draft recommendations are for 55 one-councillor wards. We consider that our draft recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

40 The tables and maps on pages 9–46 detail our draft recommendations for each area of Cumberland. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory⁴ criteria of:

- Equality of representation.

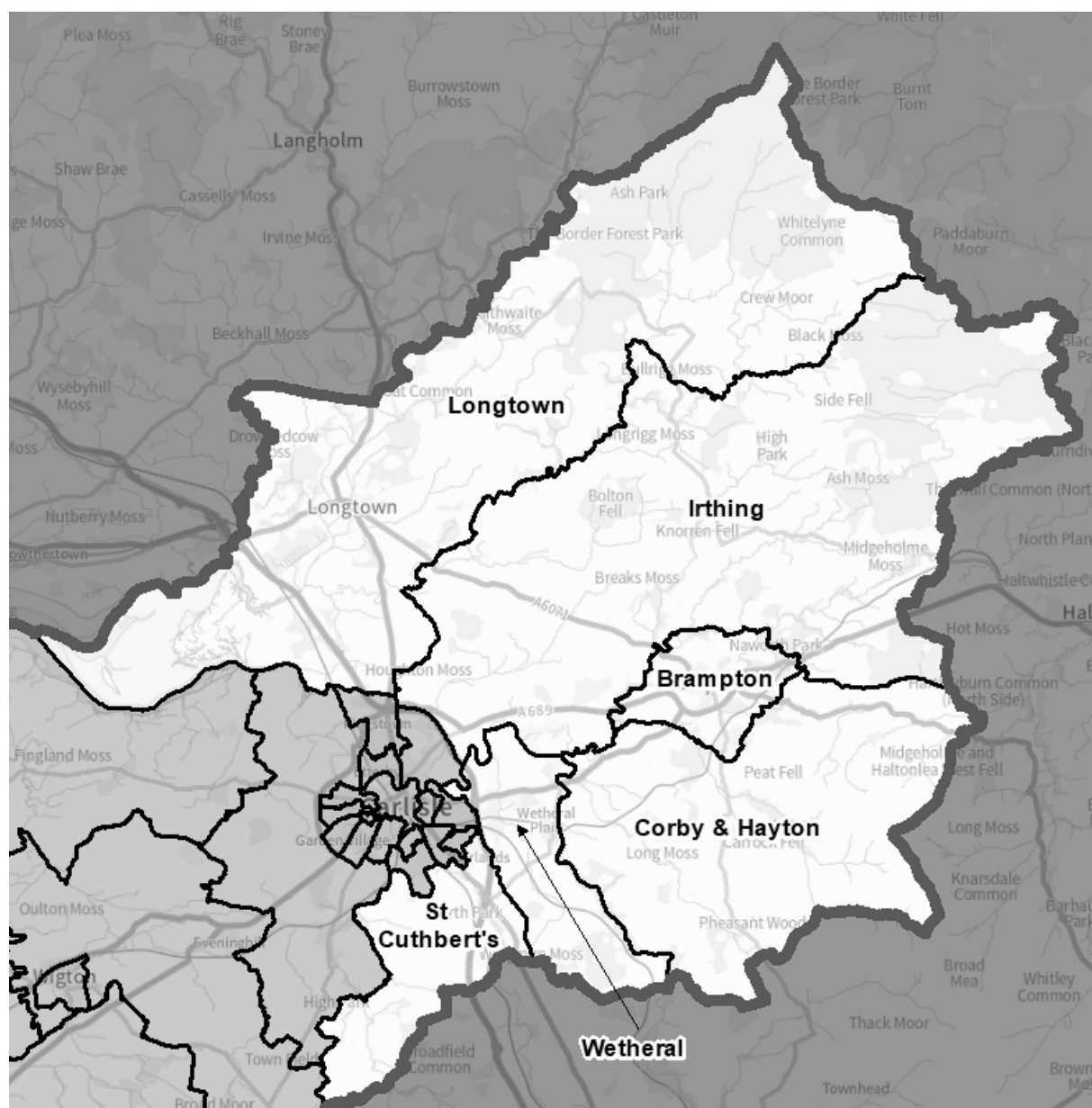
⁴ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

- Reflecting community interests and identities.
- Providing for effective and convenient local government.

41 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 61 and on the large map accompanying this report.

42 We welcome all comments on these draft recommendations, particularly on the location of the ward boundaries and the names of our proposed wards.

North-east



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Brampton	1	-1%
Corby & Hayton	1	0%
Irthing	1	-12%
Longtown	1	3%
St Cuthbert's	1	-7%
Wetheral	1	0%

Brampton

43 In addition to the district-wide proposals, we received submissions from the
Green Group and some residents about Brampton ward.

44 Currently, Brampton parish is included in a ward with six smaller parishes to its northeast.

45 The Council and Liberal Democrats both proposed a Brampton ward coterminous with Brampton parish boundaries. The Council stated that this preserved this market town as a single ward with capacity for the development expected in future years. The Green Group expressed broad support for the Liberal Democrats' proposed ward in this area.

46 The Conservatives' proposals split Brampton town and parish across two wards. They acknowledged that based on 2030 forecast figures, Brampton parish could form a district ward. However, in their view splitting the parish across two district wards would prevent the creation of a doughnut ward completely surrounding Brampton or a geographically large ward comprising the rural parishes either side of the parish.

47 A resident stated that the River Eden was a natural boundary in the east, for Brampton ward. A resident of Talkin village advocated to be in Brampton ward instead of Corby & Hayton, as at present. They also felt Talkin should be in Castle Carrock parish and not Hayton, for community identity reasons.

48 A resident of Irthington also advocated to be placed in Brampton ward because it was the nearest town to Irthington.

49 We considered the different viewpoints carefully. We note that due to the rural nature of most of Cumberland, there will be some geographically large wards in some area of the district – as proposed by all the district-wide schemes that we received. Therefore, we were not persuaded to split Brampton town just to avoid the creation of a large ward elsewhere. We considered that keeping Brampton town in a single ward better reflected the community identity and would facilitate effective and convenient local government in Brampton.

50 While we noted the comments about Irthington and Talkin villages being close to Brampton, we consider that within any warding pattern, there will always be villages close to towns that will be in different wards.

51 Accordingly, we have adopted the proposals submitted by the Council and the Liberal Democrats as part of our draft recommendations.

52 Brampton ward is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

53 On Talkin village being in Hayton parish and not Castle Carrock parish, this is a matter for Cumberland Council and outside the scope of our electoral review.

Corby & Hayton

54 In addition to the district-wide proposals, we received submissions from the Green Group and Councillor Dobson.

55 The district-wide submissions all advocated for the retention of the existing ward. This was also supported by the Green Group.

56 The Liberal Democrats described the existing ward as being made up of the villages south of Brampton with the River Eden as a natural boundary to the west.

57 Councillor Dobson was also of the view that there was no compelling need to change the existing ward. He pointed out that the existing ward was forecast to have very good electoral equality by 2030, and that all the parishes within the ward had shared issues around road, bus and rail transport services.

58 We considered these comments and note that in addition to these shared issues, this ward has clearly identifiable boundaries: River Eden to the west and the district boundary to the south and east. We also note the consensus by all those who wrote in to us. Accordingly, we are content to adopt it as part of our draft recommendations.

59 Corby & Hayton ward is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Irthing & Longtown

60 We received submissions from Councillor Pickstone and a resident in addition to the district-wide proposals for this area.

61 The Council's and Liberal Democrats' proposals for Longtown ward were similar. While the Liberal Democrats retained the boundaries of the existing ward, the Council excluded Harker village from its proposed ward.

62 Their proposals for the parishes between Longtown and Brampton wards had a few more differences. The Liberal Democrats included the entire area in its Irthing ward which had the M6 as its western boundary. The Council's Houghton & Walton ward included most of the same area but included more of Stanwix Rural parish and placed Irthington parish in a ward to the south. The Liberal Democrats say that the River Irthing runs through most of their proposed Irthing ward, and that it represents the rural villages north of Brampton.

63 The Conservatives excluded Bewcastle and Solport parishes from their proposed Longtown ward and had included them in their proposals for the Brampton area. We consider that our proposed wards in Brampton are a good reflection of our statutory criteria, and we do not consider we should move away from them to adopt their proposal here.

64 Councillor Pickstone advocated for the retention of the existing Longtown ward. He stated that this ward was unique because it was made up of the entirety of northwest England's border with Scotland. This created shared issues with the eastern villages in the area using health services in Scotland.

65 He was of the view that all the villages looked to Longtown village for most of their amenities, and that there were good community and transport links between most of the villages.

66 As mentioned in the section on Brampton, a resident wanted Irthington included in Brampton ward due to its proximity to Brampton town.

67 After careful consideration, we have been persuaded to retain the boundaries of the existing Longtown ward as part of our draft recommendations. At the same time, we have not been persuaded to move Irthington into a ward to the south of this area.

68 Furthermore, we have been persuaded that the M6 is a strong identifiable boundary. Accordingly, we have adopted the Liberal Democrats' proposals for Irthing ward as part of our draft recommendations, with one modification in the south of the ward. There do not appear to be any direct crossings between Aglionby and Warwick-on-Eden in the south and the rest of the Liberal Democrats' proposed ward. Therefore, we have moved the southern boundary of this ward so that it runs from the M6 along the River Eden, which is the boundary between Stanwix Rural and Wetheral parishes.

69 This reduces the size of this geographically large rural ward and it now has slightly fewer electors per councillor than we would normally recommend. Nevertheless, we consider this the best balance of our statutory criteria.

70 Irthing ward is forecast to have 12% fewer electors than the average for the district. Longtown ward is forecast to have 3% more electors than the average for Cumberland, by 2030.

St Cuthbert's and Wetheral

71 In addition to the district-wide proposals, we received a submission from the Green Group and some residents. The Green Group expressed broad support for the Liberal Democrats' proposals on the southern outskirts of Carlisle.

72 The district-wide proposals were very different here.

73 The Council proposed a Garlands & Durdar ward and a Wetheral ward. Its Wetheral ward included an area of Scotby, south of the railway line just north of Parkett Hill. It said that the new Garlands & Durdar ward capitalised on the increased

connectivity across the southern edge of Carlisle. The rest of Scotby was included in a Carlisle-facing ward to the west. The southern boundary of this ward was north of Cotehill and Low Cotehill which it included with most of St Cuthbert Without parish in its Garlands & Durdar ward.

74 The Conservatives also proposed two wards in the area: St Cuthbert's and Wetheral & Scotby. Like the Council, they excluded Cotehill and Low Cotehill villages from Wetheral ward and included them in St Cuthbert's. Unlike the Council, they included all of Scotby village in one ward. They say that this ward utilises the River Eden as a natural boundary to the north. Their proposed St Cuthbert's ward did not include the Garlands area of St Cuthbert Without parish, but it included Blackwell and also Raughton Head in Dalston parish.

75 The Liberal Democrats created a Dalston ward comprising Dalston parish and a significant part of St Cuthbert Without parish. However, they excluded Blackwell from this ward. Their proposals for Wetheral ward excluded the Garlands area of St Cuthbert Without parish but included the Carleton area.

76 We carefully considered the proposals presented to us. We were not persuaded to split the Scotby community across district wards as proposed by the Council. As mentioned in the previous section, neither were we persuaded to exclude Aglionby and Warwick-on-Eden from wards in this area and include them in Irthing ward to the north.

77 At the same time, we were not convinced that Cotehill and Low Cotehill had good road connections within Cumberland district with St Cuthbert Without parish.

78 Therefore, after very careful consideration, including what will facilitate a good warding pattern in Carlisle, we have based our draft recommendation wards in this area on aspects of all the three district-wide schemes.

79 Wetheral ward comprises Wetheral parish with the exception of Durrhill and Great Corby parish wards. This ward is bounded by the River Eden, the district boundary and parish boundaries.

80 St Cuthbert's western boundary is based on the Conservatives' proposal while its northern and most of the eastern boundary is based on the Council's proposal and also on aspects of the Liberal Democrats' proposed ward.

81 We welcome comments with community evidence on whether we should rename the wards St Cuthbert's & Garlands and Wetheral and Scotby as part of our final recommendations.

82 St Cuthbert's and Wetheral wards are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

83 A resident requested that Barley Edge be moved from Wetheral parish. Another resident also mentioned that Wetheral parish crossed the M6 and that Barley Edge and other neighbouring roads should be part of Botcherby ward. This area is currently in Botcherby ward and we propose retaining it there.

84 At the same time we recognise that the streets in questions are in Wetheral parish. However, changing parish boundaries is outside the scope of an electoral review like this one. Modifying parish boundaries is the responsibility of Cumberland Council after carrying out a Community Governance Review.

A detailed map of the City of Carlisle, showing the boundaries of its 15 wards. The wards are labeled in bold black text: Lowry Hill & Crindledyke, Houghton, Stanwix & Houghton, Etterby & Stanwix West, Rickerby, Belle Vue, Castle, St Aidans, Sandsfield, Botcherby & Keenan Park, Morton West, Morton East, Denton Holme, Currock, Harraby West, Harraby East, and Blackwell. The map also shows surrounding areas like Grindsdale, Stainton, Willow Holme, Longswerby, Cummersdale, Durdar, Brisco, North Park, and Sawpit Park. Major roads like the A595 and A66 are visible.

Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Belle Vue	1	-2%
Botcherby & Keenan Park	1	-8%
Castle	1	-10%
Currock	1	-2%
Denton Holme	1	-7%
Etterby & Stanwix West	1	-2%
Harraby East	1	-10%
Harraby West	1	-6%
Lowry Hill & Crindledyke	1	9%
Morton East	1	7%
Morton West	1	8%
Sandsfield	1	3%
St Aidans	1	3%
Stanwix & Houghton	1	0%
Upperby	1	-1%

85 The district-wide proposals we received for Carlisle were very different in most places. Nevertheless, all of them used the River Eden as a boundary between the wards to the north and those in the south of Carlisle.

86 In addition to these we received submissions from the Green Group and some residents. These additional comments helped us decide between the different boundaries.

87 The Green Group was of the view that the Liberal Democrats' proposed wards for Carlisle better reflected the communities in the city.

88 A few residents pointed out that the area around Windsor Way and Raisbeck Close, called Windsor Park, was currently split across three existing wards. They advocated for this entire area, including any nearby new developments, be united in a single district ward.

89 Two residents questioned why the Ascot Way/Newbury Way area of Carlisle was in Wetheral ward when residents looked to Carlisle for all their community.

90 Other comments we heard included that the Castle community did not extend as far east as the Cumberland Infirmary, that Raffles Estate was split across the existing wards and that part of Currock was currently in Upperby ward.

91 On careful consideration of these comments and looking at the different proposed boundaries, we considered that the industrial estate at the north of Currock

Road was a 'boundary' between the Currock community to its south and those residents to the north. We were persuaded to use the River Petteril as a strong boundary between Botcherby and the community to its west. We were also persuaded to include the Newbury Way area in a Carlisle-facing ward. Furthermore, we considered the boundaries of the proposed St Aidans ward very strong and identifiable and that it was unlikely that Botcherby extended as far west as the alternative proposal suggested.

92 Accordingly, we have based our draft recommendations for Carlisle broadly on the Conservatives' proposals to the north of the River Eden, the Liberal Democrats' proposals to the west and south, and the Council's proposals to the east. We modified these proposals to better reflect our statutory criteria. We welcome comments with evidence on the names as well as the boundaries of these wards

93 Another resident wanted the wards to align with Integrated Care Communities. However, they did not give details of how this will meet our three statutory criteria.

Etterby & Stanwix West, Lowry Hill & Crindledyke and Stanwix & Houghton

94 The proposals we received for this area all placed the Windsor Park area in a single district ward, even though the makeup of the proposed wards were different.

95 The Council's proposed Stanwix ward extended from just south of the M6 all the way south to the River Eden, while excluding Knowe Park Avenue. It also utilised a parish boundary which split Greymoor Way across district wards. We considered that residents on the eastern end of Greymoor Way would have little in common with those of Cargo village. We were not persuaded that this split reflected the community identity in the area. Accordingly, we did not adopt this proposal more so as there were other options available to us. Furthermore, these residents would have to cross into Stanwix ward to access the rest of their ward, which is not ideal.

96 The Liberal Democrats' proposed Belah and Stanwix wards were based on the existing wards with some modifications. Their proposed Houghton & Kingstown ward was forecast to have 15% fewer electors than the district average by 2030, but more importantly did not have motor access within the ward between Houghton and the rest of the ward to the west.

97 The Conservatives proposed a Lowry Hill & Crindledyke ward comprising communities which they say have similar issues on planning and schooling. They also state that Houghton and Stanwix have a number of shared services, e.g., GP services and schools. They point to the new developments in the area which they believe are bringing the communities closer together. Their proposals also include an Etterby & Stanwix West ward.

98 After careful consideration of the evidence we received, we have based our draft recommendations on the Conservatives' proposals with some modifications to the eastern boundary of Stanwix & Houghton ward, which we move to the M6.

99 We consider that our draft recommendation wards have good boundaries and reflect communities in the area.

100 Etterby & Stanwix West, Lowry Hill & Crindledyke and Stanwix & Houghton wards are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Botcherby & Keenan Park and St Aidans

101 The Council's proposed St Aidans ward and the Conservatives' Brunton Park ward were near identical, the only difference being that the Conservatives united residents of Rydal Street in this ward while the Council used Rydal Street as a boundary. Both of them state that their proposed ward reflects the community in the area and the Conservatives add that the ward uses Melbourne Park as a recognisable boundary to the west.

102 Both proposals also propose a ward in Botcherby with many shared boundaries although different. The Council includes part of Scotby here while the Conservatives include an area south of the railway line instead. The Conservatives explain that this area around Keenan Park which has been included here is accessible by road through travel by Eastern Way and Pennine Way and has an established footpath access underneath the rail line.

103 The Liberal Democrats proposed a Botcherby ward which straddles the River Petteril with the area west of Brook Street and Greystone Road in a different ward to the west. They also include a larger area south of the railway line in a ward with residents to the north of it.

104 We considered the different proposals and note the identifiable boundaries of the St Aidans/Brunton Park ward proposed by the Council and Conservatives, and we have been persuaded to adopt this as part of our draft recommendations in light of these strong boundaries.

105 We have placed both sides of Rydal Street in the same ward but welcome comments about this. We have adopted St Aidans as the name of this ward because we are not sure if the community there will identify with Brunton Park. We welcome comments on this.

106 In the section on Wetheral we explained that we were not persuaded to split Scotby across wards. Accordingly, we did not adopt the entirety of the Council's proposal. Instead, we have adopted the Conservatives' proposal for a Botcherby & Keenan Park ward. We considered using the railway line as a boundary but this

produced wards with poor electoral equality e.g., a Botcherby ward forecast to have 15% fewer electors than the average for the district. We note that there are road connections between Keenan Park and Botcherby to the north, and we are content that this reflects our statutory criteria. We did not include a wider area south of the railway line as proposed by the Liberal Democrats as not doing this facilitates a ward with good electoral equality in Harraby.

107 Botcherby & Keenan Park and St Aidans wards are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Currock and Upperby

108 The southern boundary for Currock ward was identical in all the district-wide proposals which all placed Lund Crescent and the Currock Community Centre on Lediard Avenue in this ward. We heard that Lund Crescent and Lediard Avenue areas are traditionally considered part of Currock and not Upperby where they currently sit.

109 The Council and Conservatives proposed an identical Currock ward which extended past Carlisle station in the north, while the Liberal Democrats utilised the trading estate at the northern end of Currock Road as a boundary between this ward and Castle ward to the north.

110 The Council and the Liberal Democrats proposed an identical Upperby ward which included the Newbury Way area. The Council stated that this ward covers the whole of Upperby Park. The Conservatives' proposed ward retained the Newbury Way area in a St Cuthbert Without parish-based ward. Their proposed Upperby & Petteril Bank ward utilised the road connections between the two communities in this ward.

111 We note that the Council's and Liberal Democrats' Upperby ward reflects the community identity expressed by residents of the Newbury Way area. While we acknowledge the road connection between Upperby and Petteril Bank, we also note that the railway line is a more identifiable boundary. Accordingly, we are adopting the identical Upperby ward proposed by the Council and Liberal Democrats.

112 With regards to Currock ward, we note that the trading estate at the northern end of Currock Road appears to split the area into two and forms an identifiable boundary between residents to the south and those to the north. We have not been persuaded that the Currock community extends all the way past Carlisle train station.

113 We have therefore adopted the ward proposed by the Liberal Democrats.

114 Currock and Upperby wards are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

115 We note that the Conservatives mention that the Council's Upperby ward includes a 'polling district which can only be reached by driving through two other divisions to reach it'. As mentioned elsewhere in this report, we do not consider polling districts as reflecting communities. They are administrative areas created by the Council to facilitate elections. Following this electoral review, the Council will need to carry out a polling district review.

Harraby East and Harraby West

116 The Conservatives and Liberal Democrats included the Garlands area in their warding arrangement while the Council excluded it due to its growing size.

117 The Conservatives' proposals for this area excluded Petteril Bank, which we have not included in our Upperby ward to the west. We consider that Petteril Bank looks east rather than west and is more appropriately included here.

118 The Liberal Democrats included a lot more of the area around Keenan Park in Botcherby ward, which we have not done. Nevertheless, we considered including the Garlands area in a Harraby ward but because of the level of development in the area, the wards had poor electoral equality. We even considered creating a two-councillor Harraby ward here if it would improve the electoral equality. However, it produced a ward with 25% more electors than the average for the local authority.

119 Accordingly, we have based our draft recommendations for the Harraby area on the Council's proposals, with some modifications. The Council used the eastern section of Cumwhinton Road as a boundary, but to the west of Edgehill Road, they unite both sides of the road in Harraby West. However, we have run the boundary along Cumwhinton Road all the way to London Road (A6). We consider this more identifiable. It also facilitates a ward with good electoral equality because of decisions we have made in the Keenan Park area.

120 We note that all the proposals used the parish boundary which cut across Settle Close and therefore placed those at the eastern end in St Cuthbert's ward. We could not identify an alternative pattern which would not create an unviable parish ward in the area and therefore our wards utilise this boundary. We are content that this is the best balance of our statutory criteria.

121 Harraby East and Harraby West wards are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Castle

122 We have based our draft recommendations for Castle ward broadly on the Conservatives' proposal taking account of the boundaries proposed by the Council and Liberal Democrats, and making a number of modifications.

123 The Council retained much of the eastern boundary, which included the Cumberland Infirmary, in this ward. The Conservatives and Liberal Democrats, while proposing different boundaries in that area, excluded the hospital from their proposed ward. This reflected comments we heard from elsewhere which suggested that this community did not extend that far to the west of Carlisle. Instead, we considered that the Caldewgate area was more central and closer to other parts of the proposed Castle ward. Therefore, we have included much of it here.

124 We have moved the boundary proposed by the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats from Wastwater Close and Abbots Road to run behind the properties on Buttermere Close to reflect the access of those residents. We also exclude Carlisle Dental Centre, which we include with the hospital in a ward to the west. Granville Road and Peel Street are not included in this ward in line with the Liberal Democrats' proposals and because it facilitates good electoral equality in this ward.

125 As mentioned in the section on Currock, we have included Carlisle train station in this ward. We have retained the name Castle for the ward but welcome comments on whether Castle & Cathedral is a better reflection of the community in the area.

126 Castle ward is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Denton Holme, Morton East and Morton West

127 The Council's Denton Holme ward was confined to an area just south of Castle ward. It explained that its proposal sought to create a ward around the Denton Holme Estate with the Denton Holme Community Centre at its heart.

128 The Council say that its Morton Park ward includes the estate of the same name together with Longsowerby Estate across the Dalston Road. It also explains that its Morton ward is a collection of communities which look towards each other and share facilities like shops and pubs. The proposed ward sits mostly north of its Morton Park ward.

129 The Conservatives' Morton ward has a different footprint and is located in the south of the area. Its Chances Park ward covers some of the same area as the Council's Morton ward but extends further to the south.

130 Both the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats proposed a Denton Holme ward which extends south past the cemetery to the Cummersdale parish boundary. The Liberal Democrats also create Morton East and Morton West wards which for the most part use Orton Road and Wigton Road as boundaries.

131 On careful consideration we note that the Council retains the use of a section of a parish boundary which splits the Garden Village residential area across district wards. We also note that it did not provide any detailed evidence that Morton Park

Estate and Longsowerby Estate further north along Dalston Road have any shared community between them.

132 We consider that the boundaries proposed by the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats with regards to most of Denton Holme are more identifiable than the Council's boundary. Furthermore, without additional community evidence, we are not persuaded that the Council's boundary does not split a community. Accordingly, we are adopting the Conservatives' proposal for Denton Holme as part of our draft recommendations. This is similar to the Liberal Democrats' proposal except for where we have made a decision in the north with regards to Caldewgate.

133 Furthermore, we are adopting the Liberal Democrats' proposals for Morton East and Morton West wards. They have stronger and more identifiable boundaries than the east to west boundaries proposed by the Council and Conservatives between their wards in this area, west of Denton Holme ward. We note that Morton East ward shares some similarities with the existing Morton division. Nevertheless, we welcome comments on whether including Dale Meadows in the south of Denton Holme in Morton East ward instead would better reflect the community identity of the residents there.

134 Denton Holme, Morton East and Morton West wards are all forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Belle Vue and Sandsfield

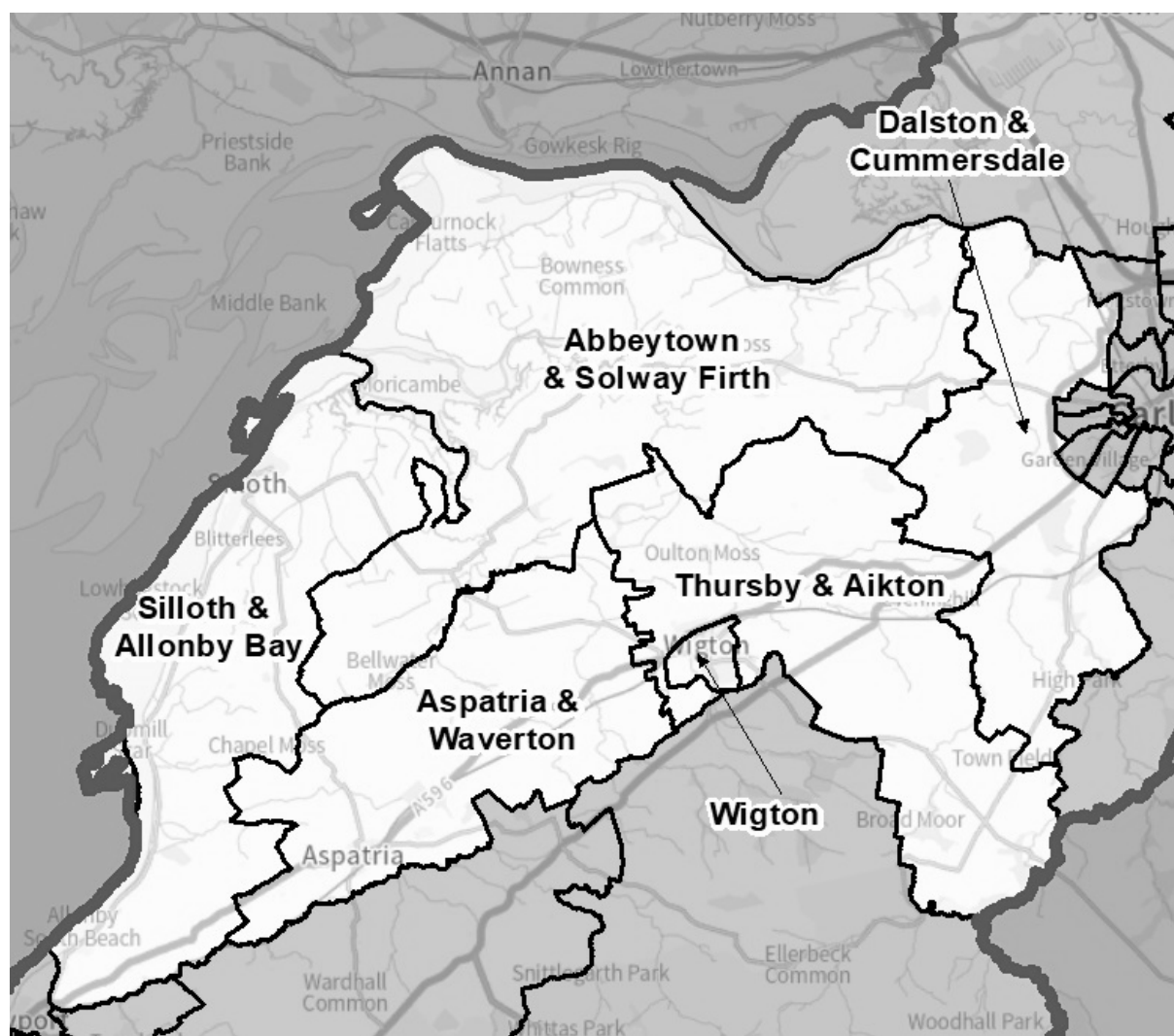
135 Due to decisions made in Morton, we have based our draft recommendations for these wards on the Liberal Democrats' proposals.

136 Belle Vue ward has Newtown Road as its spine and includes the Cumberland Infirmary, reflecting comments from a resident about this area being more appropriately excluded from Castle ward to the east. Sandsfield ward spans the area around Parham Drive, Parham Grove and Yewdale Road. We welcome comments on the boundary between these two wards

137 We make one modification to the Liberal Democrats' proposals to facilitate a Castle ward with good electoral equality, by excluding Caldew Lea School and the area around Canal Court from Belle Vue ward.

138 Belle Vue and Sandsfield wards are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Fells & Solway



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Abbeytown & Solway Firth	1	-6%
Aspatria & Waverton	1	-7%
Dalston & Cummersdale	1	-8%
Silloth & Allonby Bay	1	11%
Thursby & Aikton	1	-13%
Wigton	1	6%

139 As mentioned earlier, the district-wide schemes we received for Cumberland utilised very different boundaries most of the time. This was the case in this area of the authority. Therefore, we could only adopt one scheme here, while noting the boundaries used by the others and modifying where appropriate.

140 Because of decisions we had made in north and south Carlisle, and to facilitate a coherent warding pattern across Cumberland, we have adopted the Conservatives'

proposals for this area. We believe these proposals reflect the challenges in warding a large rural area, and while two of the wards have variances outside of what we would normally recommend, we are content that they reflect our statutory criteria.

141 Furthermore, the Liberal Democrats proposed splitting Bowness parish in a way that meant that there was no road access from Bowness-on-Solway and Cardurnock to the rest of their ward without going out of it.

Dalston & Cummersdale

142 In addition to the district-wide schemes, we received submissions from the Green Group, Beaumont Parish Council and Dalston Parish Council.

143 The Green Group expressed support for the Council's Dalston & Caldbeck ward.

144 Beaumont Parish Council's submission was about modifying the parish boundaries. This is outside the scope of an electoral review or our powers. This is something that Cumberland Council could do after carrying out a Community Governance Review.

145 We also received a submission from Dalston Parish Council which appeared to suggest that the existing Dalston & Burgh district ward was too big for a single councillor. It might be helpful to explain that we are required by law to achieve a similar number of electors per councillor in each ward. This electoral equality is what determines the relative size of each ward in terms of numbers. However, we recognise that where these electors are spread out in rural areas, the geographical size of each ward will differ greatly.

146 Nevertheless, our draft recommendations for Dalston & Cummersdale ward has a smaller footprint than the existing Dalston & Burgh ward as it excludes Burgh By Sands parish and part of Dalston parish.

147 We note that the Conservatives point to the Northern Bypass as connecting the ward from north to south. We considered that this ward uses mostly well-recognised boundaries and comprises communities that look to Carlisle and are used to working together.

148 Dalston & Cummersdale is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Abbeytown & Solway Firth and Silloth & Allonby Bay

149 We note that while the Council's proposed Silloth & Allonby does not extend as far south to Maryport as the Conservatives', and its Burgh & Bowness ward differs slightly from the Conservatives' Abbeytown & Solway Firth, their proposals included many of the same parishes.

150 The Conservatives stated the view that its Abbeytown & Solway Firth ward combines the Solway Firth communities. Both the Council and Conservatives point to the shared coastal and economic links within their Silloth & Allonby wards. We note that the B5300 traverses the length of the Conservatives' longer ward. We consider that the additional parishes of Crosscanonby, Hayton & Mealo and Allerby village are likely to have similar issues and interests as the ones included in the Council's smaller ward. So while we note that Silloth & Allonby is forecast to have slightly more electors per councillor than we would normally recommend, we are content to do so to create a strong coastal ward. We make one modification to include Biglands settlement in Abbeytown & Solway Firth to avoid creating a parish ward in Aikton parish with too few electors.

151 Abbeytown & Solway Firth and Silloth & Allonby Bay are forecast to have 6% fewer and 11% more electors respectively than the average for the local authority area by 2030.

Wigton

152 Wigton parish has too many electors for a single-councillor ward if we are to provide for a good level of electoral equality. Therefore, to retain a single-councillor ward, a part of the parish will have to be included in another ward.

153 The Council and Conservatives proposed that the Station Hill area of Wigton be included in a different ward. The Liberal Democrats, on the other hand, exclude the Western Bank area from this ward.

154 The Council explained that it had sought to include the 'old' town of Wigton in this ward and use the A596 bypass as an identifiable boundary, putting the newer Station Hill development in a separate ward.

155 After due consideration we have been persuaded by the Council's rationale for which area to exclude from this ward, and have adopted its proposal. It is identical to the one proposed by the Conservatives.

156 Wigton ward is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Aspatria & Waverton and Thursby & Aikton

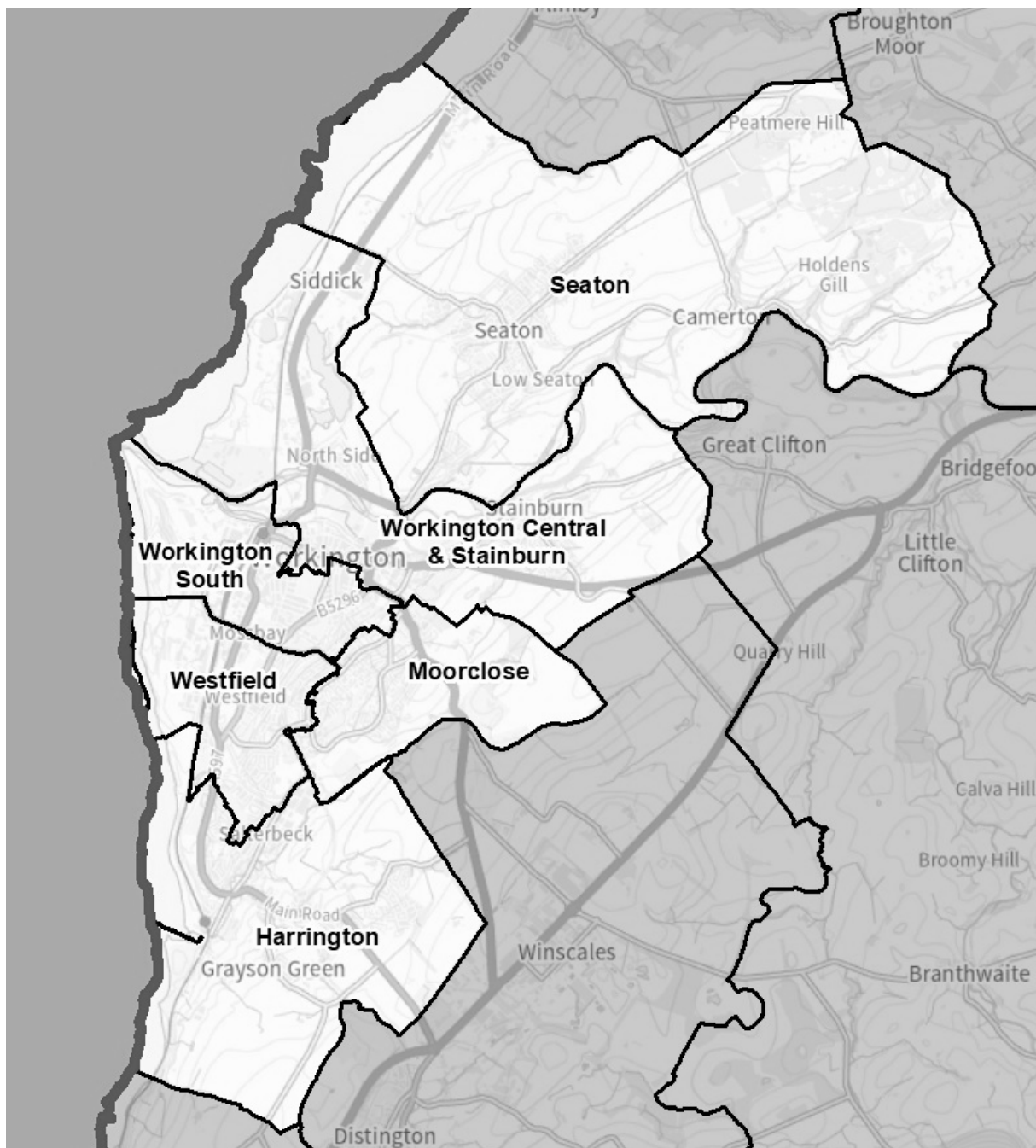
157 Aspatria & Waverton ward has the A596 linking most of the parishes within it. The main difference from the existing ward is the exclusion of the coastal parishes and inclusion of Waverton parish.

158 Thursby & Aikton is also linked in part by the A596 as well as the A505. The Conservatives tell us that it is made up of parishes which look to either Wigton or Dalston.

159 We note that Thursby & Aikton is forecast to have 13% fewer electors than the average for the district and we considered merging it with Wigton ward for electoral equality reasons. However, we have not done so as part of our draft recommendations because we do not think that that merging a largely rural ward with an urban one would necessarily reflect community identities. We welcome comments on this.

160 Aspatria & Waverton and Thursby & Aikton wards are forecast to have 7% fewer and 13% fewer electors per councillor than the average for Cumberland local authority area by 2030.

Workington & Seaton



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Harrington	1	4%
Moorclose	1	-3%
Seaton	1	9%
Westfield	1	0%
Workington Central & Stainburn	1	-4%
Workington South	1	4%

161 In addition to the district-wide submissions, we received submissions from Josh MacAlister MP and some residents who expressed support for the proposals put forward by Whitehaven & Workington Labour. We also received a submission from Workington Town Council who advocated that the existing wards are retained.

162 On careful consideration of the submissions we received, we noted that the Council's warding proposals split the High Harrington area. We considered that while splitting the densely populated centre of Workington town was unavoidable, we were not persuaded to split what appeared to be a discrete settlement if we did not have to.

163 We were also not persuaded by the Conservatives' proposed Northside & Vulcan Park ward and the southern section of its proposed Moss Bay & St Michael's ward. In the case of the latter ward, we considered that the southern and northern sections of that ward might not share the same community interests and identity.

164 We were not persuaded by the Liberal Democrats' proposals for its St John's ward, particularly because it isolated residents north of Fisher Street, South William Street and Finkle Street. We considered that it also extended too far to the south around Banklands and Mason Street. Furthermore, we were not persuaded to adopt their proposals for Seaton ward because Camerton parish, which they excluded from this ward, most likely looks west to Seaton for its amenities and not east or south, based on the road layout and proximity.

165 Furthermore, we are unable to retain the existing wards because the number of councillors representing Cumberland will increase and therefore we have to create new wards to fit the new council size.

166 Our draft recommendations for Workington are based on the proposals put forward by Whitehaven & Workington Labour. However, we note that in some cases they are identical or share similarities with the other proposals.

Seaton

167 Our draft recommendations for Seaton ward are based on the identical proposals from the Council, Conservatives and Whitehaven & Workington Labour. They proposed a ward made up of the neighbouring parishes of Camerton and Seaton. The Conservatives mention that Camerton is closer to Seaton than to Great Broughton to the east and give that as one reason for the proposed warding pattern.

168 We make one modification as part of our draft recommendations. We move the southern boundary of this ward to run along River Derwent south of Meadow Edge. This unites the area along Calva Brow and Workington Road and also ensures that we are not using a defaced parish boundary in this area.

169 Seaton ward is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Workington Central & Stainburn and Workington South

170 Whitehaven & Workington Labour told us that its proposed Workington Central & Stainburn ward combines Stainburn and the centre of Workington with communities on the north side of the river which look to Workington for their services and amenities, and which are a natural extension of the town centre. They point out that these areas are connected by a footbridge, roads, bus and rail services. It states that its Workington South ward brings together the south and west of Workington.

171 We note that there are similarities between these proposals and those of the Liberal Democrats, which suggests some consensus around the communities and boundaries.

172 Accordingly, we are basing our draft recommendations on these proposals.

173 We considered moving the proposed boundary between the two Workington wards to run straight along Jane Street, Oxford Street and Station Road, which we consider is a clearer and more identifiable boundary than the one proposed. We noted that doing this would keep the Workington Community Hospital and the roads either side of it in the same ward which would potentially facilitate more convenient and effective local government. While we have not adopted this road as a boundary at this stage we do consider it has considerable merit and we welcome comments and community evidence on whether we should adopt this stronger boundary as part of our final recommendations. This would result in Workington Central & Stainburn and Workington South wards forecast to have slightly poorer electoral equality with 11% fewer and 11% more electors respectively than the average for the district by 2030.

174 We gave some consideration to combining the two Workington wards to form a two-councillor ward, and we also welcome comments on this option.

175 Workington Central & Stainburn and Workington South wards are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Moorclose and Westfield

176 We are adopting the identical proposals submitted by the Liberal Democrats and Whitehaven & Workington Labour for Moorclose as part of our draft recommendations. For Westfield, we are adopting the Whitehaven & Workington Labour proposal while noting the similarities with the Liberal Democrats' proposed ward. Both wards share some boundaries with the Council and Conservative proposals.

177 Whitehaven & Workington Labour states that the Moorclose and Westfield wards split and expand the current Mossbay and Moorclose ward into the Mossbay and Westfield communities, maintaining important community ties.

178 We are adopting its proposals as part of our draft recommendations with three minor modifications. Firstly, we unite the Industrial Estate on Moorclose Road in a different ward. We also move one property on Pearl Road into Westfield ward with the rest of the road. Finally, we move three properties at the junction of Wether Riggs Road and Wordsworth View out of Westfield Road to place them in the same ward with their neighbours.

179 Moorclose and Westfield wards are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Harrington

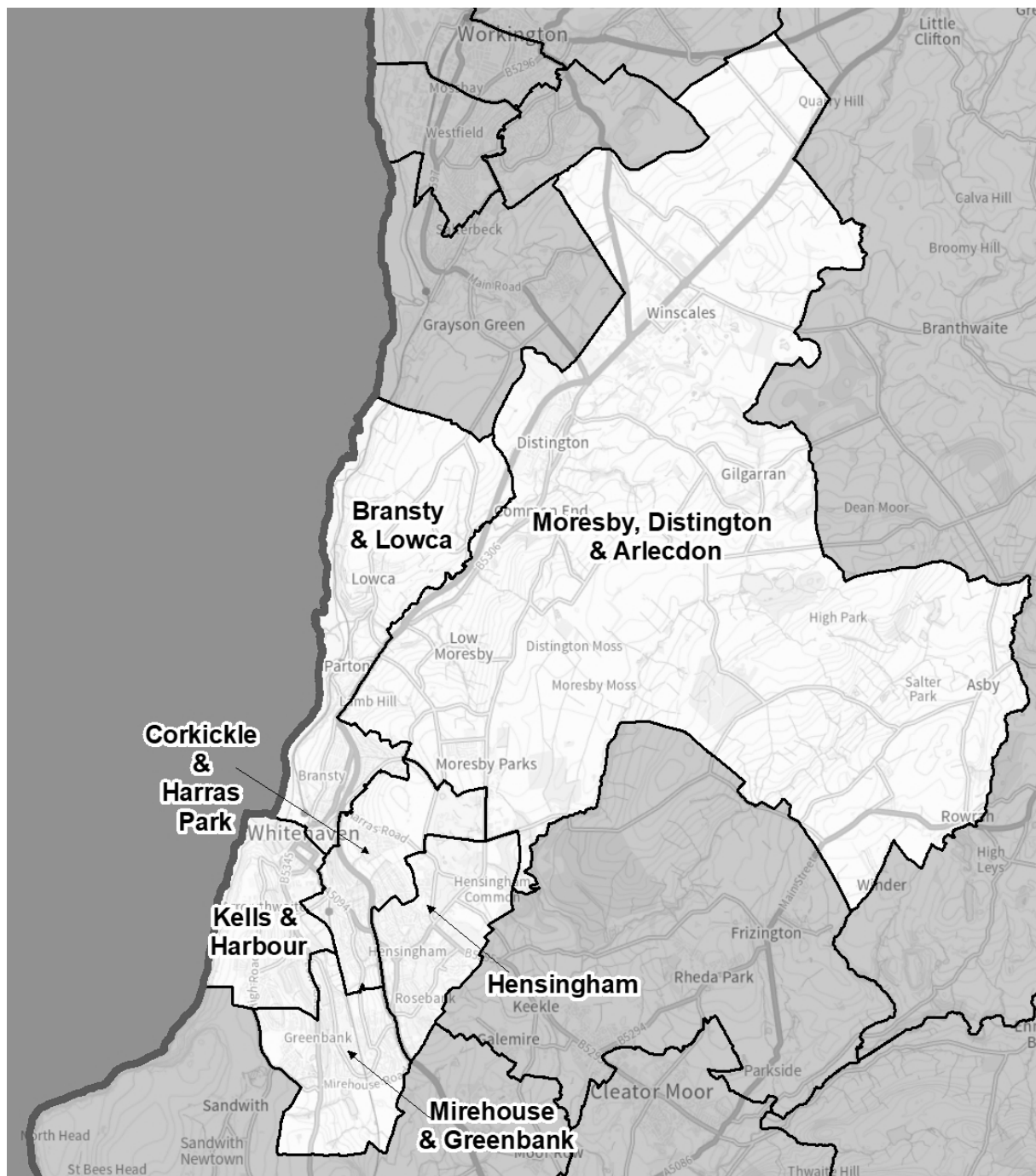
180 The Conservatives retain most of the boundaries of the existing ward which includes Winscales parish. Whitehaven & Workington Labour say that its proposed Harrington ward includes the distinct and well-established communities of Harrington and Salterbeck. It excludes Winscales parish from this ward, as do the Liberal Democrats.

181 On careful consideration of submissions, we note that the main road routes from Winscales are along the A595 and A596 and lead to Distington. We also note that the Council reflected this in its proposals.

182 Accordingly, we have decided to exclude Winscales parish from this ward. We are therefore adopting the ward proposed by Whitehaven & Workington Labour as part of our draft recommendations.

183 Harrington ward is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Whitehaven and neighbouring parishes



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Bransty & Lowca	1	7%
Corkickle & Harras Park	1	-8%
Hensingham	1	7%
Kells & Harbour	1	1%
Mirehouse & Greenbank	1	11%
Moresby, Distington & Arlecdon	1	5%

184 In addition to the district-wide schemes and the one from Whitehaven & Workington Labour, we received a submission from a resident with regards to Whitehaven.

185 The Council told us that its proposals for Whitehaven built on existing ward structures and historical communities and that the changes it proposed were to better reflect elector distribution and natural boundaries. We did not receive any more detailed information about the communities here.

186 With regards to the proposals by Whitehaven & Workington Labour, we have not been persuaded based on the limited community information provided that Kells extends as far south as Clarendon Drive and Clyde Way.

187 The proposals we received utilised different boundaries. Therefore, due to decisions we have made elsewhere in the district, particularly in Cleator Moor, St Bees and Sandwith, it was not possible to adopt different proposals in this area. For this reason and some others which we highlight below, we are basing our draft recommendations for Whitehaven on the Conservatives' proposals. These wards also facilitate a good warding pattern across the rest of the district, especially to the east.

Hensingham and Mirehouse & Greenbank

188 With the exception of the Liberal Democrats, all the other proposals united Mirehouse East and Mirehouse West communities in a single Mirehouse ward on community identity grounds.

189 The Council included part of Corkickle in its ward while Whitehaven & Workington Labour included a part of Hensingham in this ward. The Conservatives placed the Greenbank area here instead.

190 The Conservatives state that their proposed Hensingham ward is made up of an established area and has good transport links. Furthermore, they say their proposals for Mirehouse include the Greenbank area of Whitehaven using Meadow Road, Mirehouse Road and the B5345 to provide a coherent road link through the area. Whitehaven & Workington Labour say that its proposal brings the whole Mirehouse estate together with the areas of Hensingham that are in the current Mirehouse ward.

191 On carefully considering the proposals, we were persuaded to unite Mirehouse in the same ward to reflect the community identity of residents in this area. However, we were not persuaded by the Council's proposal to place the Park Drive and Leathwaite areas in a separate ward from Corkickle without any detailed community evidence to support it. We note that Whitehaven & Workington Labour appeared to split Hensingham across wards right in the centre along the main street. This might

be necessary in urban areas, but we considered that the Conservatives' boundaries around Woodhouse Road and south of Hillcrest Avenue more identifiable.

192 Accordingly, we have adopted the Conservatives' proposal as part of our draft recommendations for these two wards. We make two modifications to their proposals. Firstly, we include all of Meadow Road in Mirehouse & Greenbank ward. We also move the boundary along a section of Highfields to run behind the properties on The Crest to reflect their access.

193 We note that Mirehouse & Greenbank is forecast to have 11% more electors per councillor than the average for the district, slightly higher than we would normally recommend. However, we are content that it is a good balance of our statutory criteria.

194 Hensingham ward is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Kells & Harbour and Corkickle & Harras Park

195 Our draft recommendations for these two wards are based on the Conservatives' proposals.

196 The Conservatives say that Kells & Harbour ward includes most of the main services within the Whitehaven area. In their view, Kells is well-linked to the harbour by the existing road network and by public transport. They also explain that this ward unites the harbour area which has similar issues such as shop vacancy and harbour pollution.

197 We note that this ward shares some similarities with the Liberal Democrats' Lowther ward who have also based their ward on the harbour, the town centre and the Kells area to the west.

198 The Conservatives also state that Corkickle & Harras Park ward is centred around Harras Wood and has good transport links between it. While we note that the ward is made up of two communities on either side of Harras Wood, we do consider that they will have shared issues and interests relating to the woods. We also sometimes include two separate communities within a single ward if it facilitates a good warding pattern elsewhere in the local authority area. We note that the new developments north of Standings Rise will bring the two areas closer.

199 We made one modification to the proposed boundaries by moving St Begh's Catholic Junior School and Whitehaven Castle into Corkickle & Harras Park ward to improve the electoral equality of that ward.

200 Kells & Harbour and Corkickle & Harras Park wards are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Bransty & Lowca and Moresby, Distington & Arlecdon

201 The Council placed the parishes of Lowca, Moresby and Parton in a single ward together with an area south of Hensingham Common in the heart of Whitehaven and a fair distance away from the rest of the ward. We were not persuaded by this warding arrangement. It created a second ward comprising the parishes of Great Clifton, Little Clifton and Winscales, and part of Distington and Greysouthen parishes.

202 A resident told us that the parishes of Lowca, Moresby and Parton have long-standing associations and that more recently they have worked with Distington Parish Council. They acknowledged that it would be difficult to include all these areas in the same ward without impacting on Whitehaven town, and expressed support for the Whitehaven & Workington Labour proposal which created a Bransty & Parton ward and a Howgate ward. Bransty & Parton ward was made up of the Bransty area and Parton parish. Howgate included the parishes of Distington, Moresby, Winscales and part of Weddicar. However, as mentioned elsewhere in this report, we have included Weddicar parish in a different ward to the east.

203 The Liberal Democrats split Distington and Moresby parishes across its wards in this area. Their proposals also included Frizington village which we have included elsewhere.

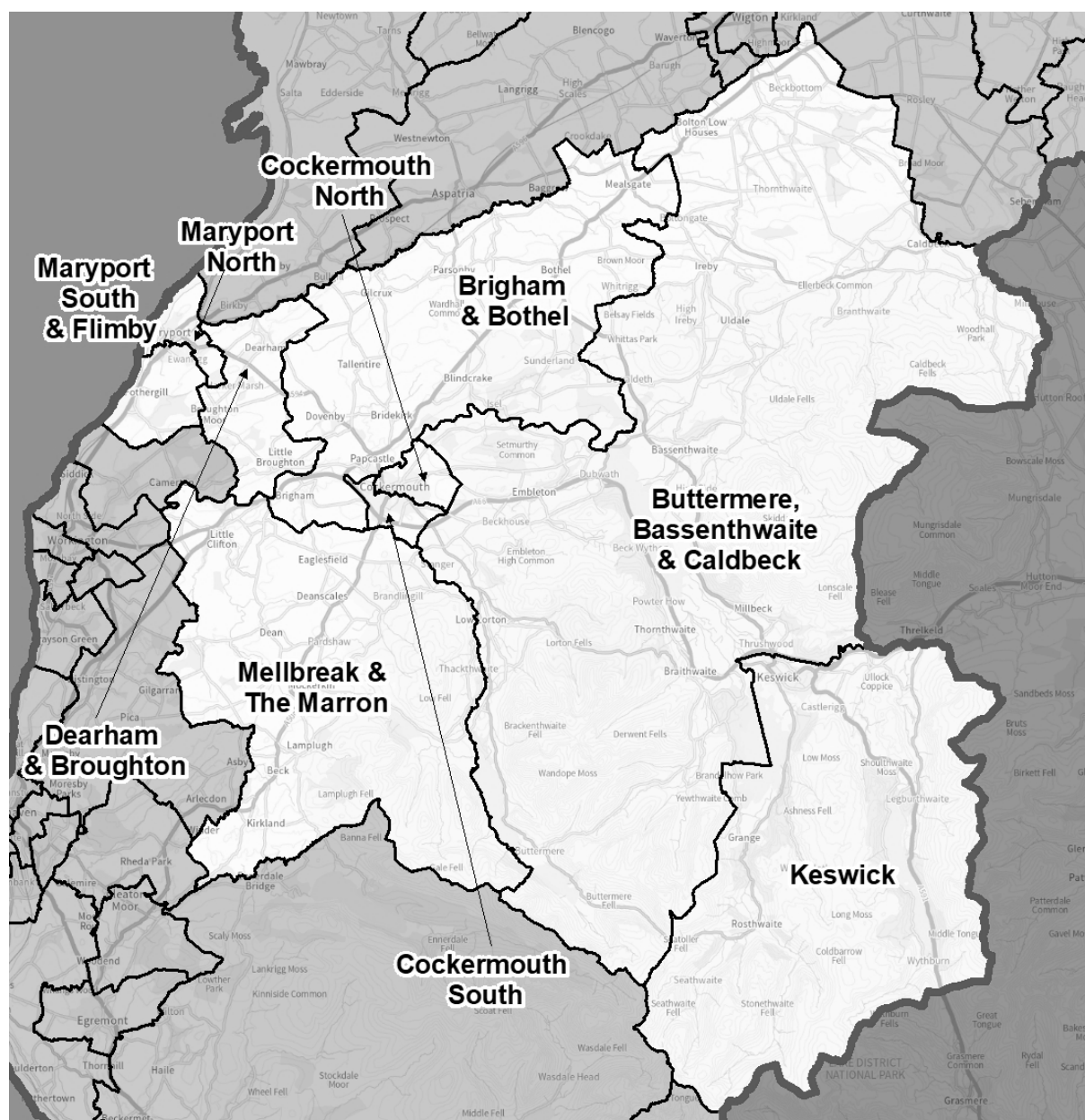
204 It is clear that it is difficult to include all four parishes in a single ward while reflecting our statutory criteria. Even keeping Lowca, Moresby and Parton together necessitates splitting two other parishes across district wards and including an additional area within the ward.

205 Accordingly, we have based our draft recommendations for Bransty & Lowca ward on the Conservatives' proposals. This ward comprises the parishes of Lowca and Parton, and the Bransty area of Whitehaven. We make a slight modification to run the southern boundary along George Street. We welcome comments on this.

206 Our draft recommendations for Moresby, Distington & Arlecdon ward are based in part on the proposals from the Conservatives and Whitehaven & Workington Labour. This ward includes Winscales parish and Arlecdon village. It does not include the parish of Lowca.

207 Bransty & Lowca and Moresby, Distington & Arlecdon wards are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Midwest and Central Cumberland and Maryport



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Brigham & Bothel	1	-5%
Buttermere, Bassenthwaite & Caldbeck	1	-6%
Cockermouth North	1	-2%
Cockermouth South	1	-8%
Dearham & Broughton	1	5%
Keswick	1	7%
Maryport North	1	9%
Maryport South & Flimby	1	-2%
Mellbreak & The Marron	1	-9%

Cockermouth North and Cockermouth South

208 We received submissions from Penrith & Solway Constituency Labour Party (Cockermouth Branch), Cockermouth Town Council and some residents in addition to the district-wide proposals.

209 The Council and the Liberal Democrats both included Papcastle in its warding arrangements for Cockermouth. The Conservatives proposed two wards which together were coterminous with Cockermouth parish boundaries.

210 Cockermouth Town Council advocated for a two-councillor ward to be created for its parish boundaries based on the similarity of issues that were faced across the town. A resident also felt that the existing Cockermouth South ward, which comprises rural parishes together with part of Cockermouth, did not work well, and that Cockermouth town itself was now big enough to form wards without the inclusion of any rural parishes.

211 Penrith & Solway Constituency Labour Party (Cockermouth Branch) advocated for three wards in Cockermouth. However, the number of electors in Cockermouth does not support three councillors and this would result in wards with poor electoral equality. It would also impact on the number of councillors in the rest of the local authority area. Accordingly, we did not adopt this proposal.

212 After careful consideration, we have decided to exclude the rural parishes from our warding pattern for Cockermouth and adopt the Conservatives' proposal. Although this creates two single-councillor wards across Cockermouth parish, we welcome wider comments on whether we should create a two-councillor ward in line with the town council's wishes.

213 Cockermouth North and Cockermouth South wards are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Dearham & Broughton, Maryport North and Maryport South & Flimby

214 The district-wide schemes were the only proposals we received for boundaries in the Maryport parish area.

215 The Council's and the Conservatives' wards in this area were similar. They proposed two wards which together were coterminous with Maryport parish boundaries and one that was made up of Broughton, Broughton Moor and Dearham parishes. The main difference between the proposals was that the Council included Ellenfoot Drive and Moorside Drive, and the streets off them, in its Maryport South ward while the Conservatives place them in Maryport North ward.

216 The Liberal Democrats proposed different boundaries for their Maryport North and South wards. They placed Ellenfoot Drive and Moorside Drive, and the streets

off them, in a ward with Dearham parish to the east of this area. They did not provide us with any community evidence why these few roads were included in a rural ward to the east of Maryport.

217 Accordingly, we have been persuaded to base our draft recommendations on the similar proposals from the Council and the Conservatives. We include Ellenfoot Drive and Moorside Drive, and the streets off them, in Maryport North and we use Church Road as a more identifiable boundary. We welcome comments and community interest evidence on whether these roads should be included in Maryport South ward.

218 Dearham & Broughton, Maryport North and Maryport South & Flimby are all forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Brigham & Bothel, Buttermere, Bassenthwaite & Caldbeck and Mellbreak & The Marron

219 These wards encompass the large rural area around Cockermouth parish, east of Workington and Maryport. We note that each scheme presented a different configuration of these and other parishes in this area, but there is a significant overlap between them.

220 Whitehaven & Workington Labour's proposals only extended as far east as Dean and Lamplugh parishes and did not encompass the entire area. We were unable to make their limited proposals work with any of the others and we did not adopt them.

221 To facilitate our proposals elsewhere in the district, we have based our draft recommendations on the Conservatives' scheme and not the proposals from the Council and Liberal Democrats. We welcome comments on the boundaries and names of these wards.

222 We note that Brigham & Bothel is a ward with the A595 as its spine. The Conservatives say that most of the ward has farming as its predominant industry. We consider that these communities will therefore have some shared issues and interests.

223 The Conservatives tell us that Buttermere, Bassenthwaite & Caldbeck ward is an area that also relies extensively on farming and tourism as its main economic industries. We note that it includes many of the parishes in the existing Bothel & Wharrels ward and those links will be maintained here.

224 We note that the parishes that make-up Mellbreak & The Marron ward are connected by the A5086 and the roads coming off it. We understand that most of

these parishes have previously been included in the same division and share some commonalities.

225 Brigham & Bothel, Buttermere, Bassenthwaite & Caldbeck and Mellbreak & The Marron are all forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Keswick

226 We received a submission from Keswick Town Council and a resident in addition to the district-wide submissions.

227 The Council and Conservatives proposed an identical ward comprising Borrowdale, Keswick and St John's, Castlerigg & Wythburn parishes. The Conservatives state that Calvert Way, which is now being added to the existing Keswick ward under these proposals, is more aligned to Keswick than to Underskiddaw to the north.

228 The Liberal Democrats' Keswick ward included Keswick parish, a northern section of St John's, Castlerigg & Wythburn parish and Underskiddaw parish to the north of the A66. They placed most of St John's, Castlerigg & Wythburn parish and Borrowdale parish in a Derwent ward which extends as far east as Loweswater parish and to Setmurthy parish in the north. They state that almost all these parishes are within the Lake District National Park, and are well connected by bus services. They include Underskiddaw parish in Keswick ward because Keswick parish is too small to form a ward on its own.

229 Keswick Town Council advocated for Calvert Way to be included in Keswick ward so that the boundary aligned with the parish boundary. It also expressed the view that it needed two councillors to deal with the workload.

230 A resident was of the view that Borrowdale had a strong connection to Keswick which was its main local support town, and that this connection ought to be maintained.

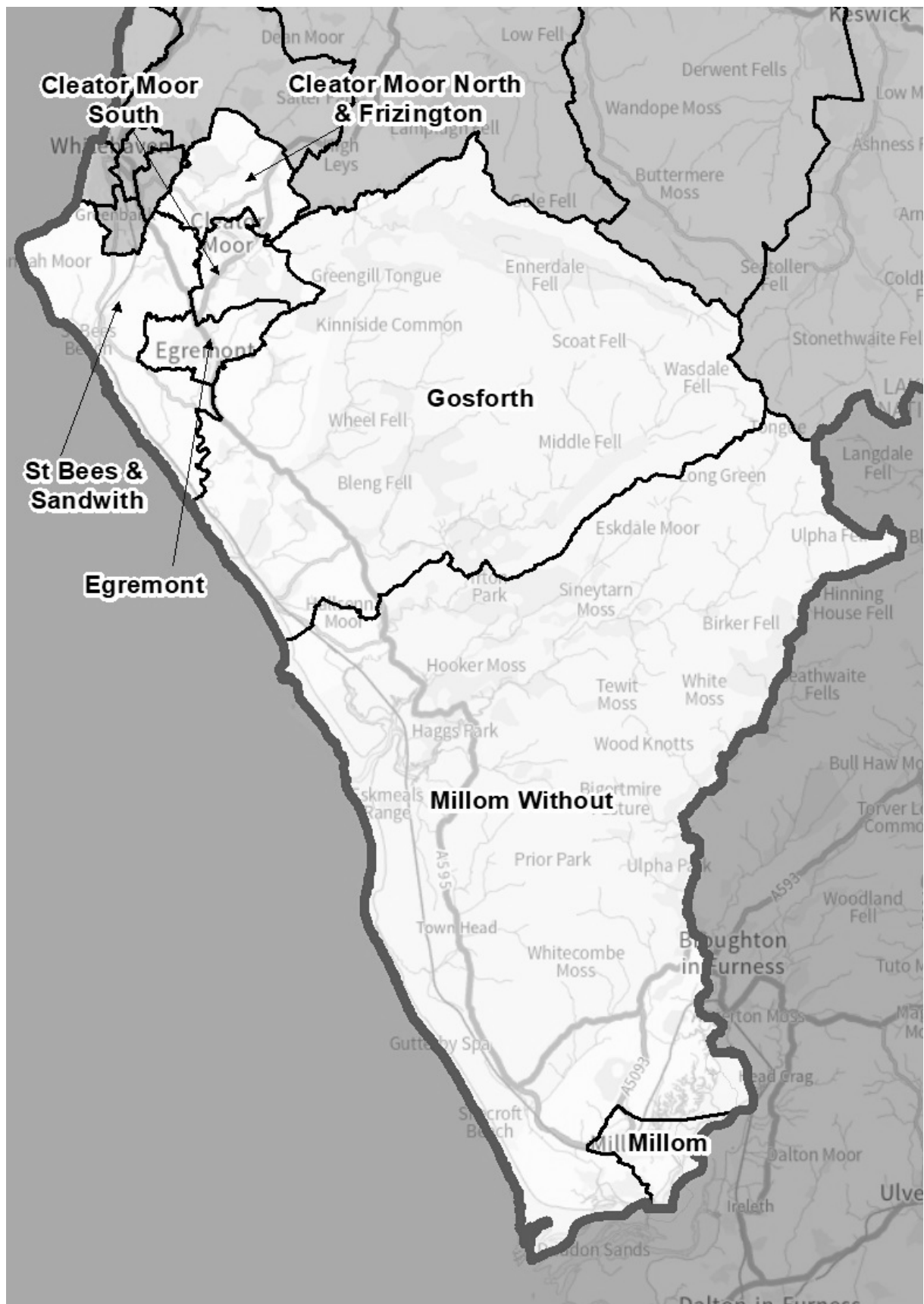
231 While we note the rationale behind the warding pattern for a Derwent ward as expressed by the Liberal Democrats, we have not been persuaded to include Keswick in a ward with Underskiddaw parish. We note that Keswick and Borrowdale share issues around the demand for affordable housing as expressed by the Conservatives. We also note the comments made by the resident about Borrowdale looking to Keswick for its services.

232 Accordingly, we are adopting the identical ward proposed by the Council and Conservatives as part of our draft recommendations.

233 Keswick ward is forecast to good electoral equality by 2030.

234 With regards to the number of councillors, this is determined by the number of forecast electors in any given area. If Keswick were to have two councillors it would be forecast to have 46% fewer electors than the average for Cumberland Council. This is very poor electoral equality and we are not minded to create such a ward especially as electoral equality is one of our statutory criteria.

South Cumberland



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Cleator Moor North & Frizington	1	5%
Cleator Moor South	1	-8%
Egremont	1	18%
Gosforth	1	-3%
Millom	1	10%
Millom Without	1	-1%
St Bees & Sandwith	1	7%

Millom and Millom Without

235 In addition to the district-wide proposals, we received submissions from Bootle Parish Council, Millom Without Parish Council, Whicham Parish Council and residents. Although Whitehaven & Workington Labour's proposals do not include most of this area, it does include two parishes in the north of the area.

236 The Council and Conservatives retained the boundaries of the existing divisions for these two wards. The Council is of the view that this arrangement retains a compact ward centred on the town of Millom that reflects the urban nature of the town and a Millom Without ward which reflects the rural geography and economy of the area between Millom and Egremont. Millom ward is forecast to have 12% more electors per councillor than the average for Cumberland Council area, by 2030.

237 To address the slightly high electoral variance, the Liberal Democrats moved an area around Queen's Park and Palmers Lane into Millom Without ward. They also proposed that Drigg & Carleton and Irton with Santon parishes move into a ward to the north of the area. Whitehaven & Workington Labour also includes these two parishes in its proposals to the north.

238 The parish councils that wrote to us stated that the existing Millom Without division was geographically too large with one councillor being responsible for 11 parishes. They wanted us to consider the geographical spread and not just elector numbers when creating wards. Millom Without Parish Council advocated that it be split into two separate wards with one councillor being responsible for each of them.

239 A resident of Muncaster also stated that Millom Without ward was too large. They felt more aligned to Seascale, Drigg and Gosforth and not the other parishes further south.

240 Another resident who lived in Drigg & Carleton parish felt that the parish was like rest of rural Millom Without ward with similar industry, services and

infrastructure, and faced similar needs and problems. They felt that Drigg & Carlton parish would not 'relate' to the parishes to its north.

241 We note the comments about the size of Millom Without ward. However, we are required by law to take account of the number of electors per councillor. The geographical spread of wards is a common feature of rural areas.

242 We have been persuaded by the resident who explained how Drigg & Carleton parish fit in with the other rural parishes in the south of Cumberland to retain this parish in Millom Without ward. We have not been persuaded to split Millom in the way the Liberal Democrats suggest just to get the numbers down.

243 Accordingly, we are basing our draft recommendations on the proposals submitted by the Council and Conservatives. Nevertheless, we do improve the variance by moving a few electors on the outskirts of Millom into Millom Without ward.

244 Millom and Millom Without wards are both forecast to have good electoral by 2030.

245 We note that the Conservatives proposed renaming Millom Without ward Black Combe & Scawfell. We welcome comments on whether this name better reflects the communities in that area.

Gosforth and St Bees & Sandwith

246 In addition to the district-wide proposals and the proposal from Whitehaven & Workington Labour, we received submissions from two residents.

247 The Council addressed the poor forecast electoral equality in the existing Gosforth ward by moving Lowside Quarter parish into its proposed St Bees ward. It proposed that St Bees should include an area of Whitehaven between James Pit Road and extending north to Woodhouse and the area just south of Ennerdale Terrace.

248 Although they did not propose identical wards, the Conservatives and Whitehaven & Workington Labour both included Ennerdale & Kinniside parish in Gosforth ward, and Sandwith in a ward with St Bees. In the Conservatives' view the inclusion of Ennerdale & Kinniside parish in Gosforth ward 'complements rural Wasdale'. Whitehaven & Workington Labour say that bringing the Ennerdale and Wasdale valleys together brings the Western Fells and western stretch of the Lake District National Park together into one ward.

249 Whitehaven & Workington Labour included Drigg & Carleton and Irton with Santon parishes in its Gosforth ward. As explained in the section on Millom Without, we have included these parishes elsewhere.

250 The Liberal Democrats suggested a Gosforth ward not too dissimilar from the Council's but which also included Drigg & Carleton and Irton with Santon parishes. Their proposed Egremont South & St Bees ward is forecast to have 36% fewer electors than the average for the Cumberland Council area, by 2030. We were not minded to create a ward with such poor electoral equality, and we did not adopt these proposals.

251 One resident felt that Sandwith village would be better placed with the similarly rural St Bees parish rather than retained in a ward with Kells in Whitehaven. The other resident stated that Thornhill village should be within Egremont and not Gosforth.

252 On careful consideration, we have not been persuaded to include the area between Wilson Pit Road and Ennerdale Terrace in a ward with St Bees, as proposed by the Council. We have not received any evidence to suggest that residents here look south for their community, and we are not convinced that they do. At the same time we are content to include Sandwith in a ward with St Bees, as proposed by the Conservatives, Whitehaven & Workington Labour and a resident. This retains much of the eastern boundary of the existing ward in the area. We also consider that Ennerdale & Kinniside and Wasdale parishes will have shared issues.

253 Accordingly, we have based our draft recommendations for these wards on the Conservatives' boundaries with a slight modification around Woodend in Egremont parish. We exclude all of Woodend from the wards in this area. We also retain the name Gosforth for one of the wards although we note that the Conservatives proposed renaming it Seascale & Beckermest after two of the coastal parishes to the east of the ward. All the other proposals retained Gosforth as the name and we have done so. We welcome comments on this.

254 Gosforth and St Bees and Sandwith wards are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Egremont

255 The district-wide proposals and those from Whitehaven & Workington Labour were the only ones we received for this area.

256 The town of Egremont will have significantly more electors than the average if this area is contained by itself in a single-member ward. To improve on this level of electoral equality the Council and Conservatives split it across two wards. They proposed identical boundaries for their respective Egremont and Egremont Ehen &

Orgill wards. Their Egremont ward would have a good level of electoral equality. Under this proposal an area of Egremont east of Croadalla Avenue and north of St Mary's Church is moved into a ward with part of Cleator Moor parish. The Conservatives explain that they have allocated the 'northernmost polling district' into a ward to the north.

257 The Liberal Democrats proposed an Egremont ward which shared the same boundaries as the whole of Egremont parish. This includes the built-up part of Egremont town plus the surrounding rural part of the parish to the north. A ward based on the entire parish would have a forecast variance of 36%. We considered this too high and did not adopt this proposal.

258 Whitehaven & Workington Labour stated that it was important to keep Egremont town in a single ward and its proposed ward reflected that. In its view, the town has its own very distinct identity and community ties. The northern boundary of the proposed ward extended to just south of Dalzell Street in Woodend, and the ward was forecast to have 19% more electors per councillor than the average for Cumberland district, by 2030.

259 We considered the different proposals and conducted a virtual tour of the area. We note that while the ward proposed by the Council and Conservatives had good electoral equality, the boundary was not easily identifiable or strong, neither was the split of the town based on any community identity and interests. We looked at other ways to split the town, for example placing the area between the A595 and River Ehen into a ward with Cleator Moor. However, while this will undoubtedly improve the electoral variance of the ward, we considered that Egremont was a town that was clearly bounded on the east by the A595 and River Ehen and that those residents may not share any community interests with those in Cleator Moor.

260 Accordingly, we have decided that adopting a ward with a high variance as proposed by Whitehaven & Workington Labour, while retaining identifiable boundaries and community interests and identities, is the best balance of our statutory criteria in this instance. While this high level of electoral inequality is not something that we would normally recommend, we consider that splitting the built-up area of Egremont will not reflect the community identity in the area. We have made one modification to Whitehaven & Workington Labour's proposal. We were not persuaded that urban Egremont extended as far north as Woodend. We considered that the proposed boundary actually split the Woodend area. As part of our draft recommendations we have therefore excluded that entire area from Egremont ward.

261 Our proposed Egremont ward is forecast to have 18% more electors per councillor than the average for the district, by 2030.

Cleator Moor North & Frizington and Cleator Moor South

262 In addition to the district-wide proposals and the one from Whitehaven & Workington Labour, we received a submission from a resident.

263 Cleator Moor town has too many electors for one councillor and too few for two if it is to have a good level of electoral equality. Therefore, it has to be split across two wards and warded with other communities.

264 The Council stated that the way it split the town reflects the natural communities within the town. As mentioned above it includes an area of Egremont in its warding for the area, as did the Conservatives. However, while the Council excluded Frizington village from its warding in this area, the Conservatives proposed a Frizington & Cleator Moor North ward which shared many similarities with Whitehaven & Workington Labour's Cleator Moor West & Frizington ward.

265 Whitehaven & Workington Labour was of the view that Frizington naturally connected to the west of Cleator Moor via Bowthorn Road. It felt that this was the best place to split Cleator Moor, and that it kept Frizington village in a single ward. It also stated that its proposed Cleator East kept the main communities of Cleator Moor and Cleator in one ward.

266 The Liberal Democrats state that its Cleator Moor North ward consisted of a third of Cleator Moor itself and the immediately adjacent communities of Moor Road, Galemire, Keekle and Rheda Park. Its Cleator Moor South comprises the southern two-thirds of Cleator Moor itself, the adjacent community of Cleator, and the more rural Ennerdale Kinniside parish.

267 The resident was of the view that Cleator Moor ought to include Keekle and Parkside, and that the entire area should be split into two wards. We are not sure if the first part of this proposal refers to making changes to Cleator Moor parish boundaries to include areas currently in other parishes. If so, this is out of scope of this electoral review. Changes to parish boundaries can only be made by Cumberland Council after conducting a Community Governance Review.

268 On considering the submissions we received, we have been persuaded by the explanation given by Whitehaven & Workington Labour for how they split Cleator Moor town and kept its main community together in a ward with Cleator. We note that the Liberal Democrats also use this boundary. We have also been persuaded of the good connection between Frizington and Cleator Moor and are content to create a ward reflecting this.

269 Without supporting community evidence, we were not persuaded to split Frizington and Rheda Park villages across wards as proposed by the Liberal Democrats due to their close proximity. We explain in the section on Gosforth that

we have included Ennerdale & Kinniside and Wasdale parishes in the same ward due to their shared geography and issues. Accordingly, we have not adopted the Liberal Democrats' proposal which includes Ennerdale & Kinniside parish in a Cleator Moor ward. We have also not adopted the Council's proposal which excludes Frizington and places it in a ward with Ennerdale & Kinniside parish. We consider that Frizington looks more towards Cleator Moor than Ennerdale & Kinniside parish.

270 Accordingly, our draft recommendations are mainly based on the other two proposals – with modifications to reflect decisions made earlier and facilitate effective and convenient local government. We note that some of the individual boundaries were also proposed by the Council and Liberal Democrats.

271 Our draft recommendations are for a Cleator Moor North & Frizington ward and a Cleator Moor South ward. Bigrigg village is excluded from these wards but Woodend is included in Cleator Moor South ward. To facilitate a Cleator Moor South ward with good electoral equality after making changes elsewhere, we have moved part of the boundary in Cleator Moor slightly west of St John's Church and Crossfield Road. Finally, we include all of Weddicar parish in Cleator Moor North & Frizington ward to avoid creating a parish ward with too few electors in the north of the parish.

272 Cleator Moor North & Frizington and Cleator Moor South wards are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030

Conclusions

273 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality in Cumberland, referencing the 2024 and 2030 electorate figures against the proposed number of councillors and wards. A full list of wards, names and their corresponding electoral variances can be found in Appendix A to the back of this report. An outline map of the wards is provided in Appendix B.

Summary of electoral arrangements

	Draft recommendations	
	2024	2030
Number of councillors	55	55
Number of electoral wards	55	55
Average number of electors per councillor	3,938	3,900
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	8	7
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

Draft recommendations

Cumberland Council should be made up of 55 councillors serving 55 single-councillor wards. The details and names are shown in Appendix A and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

Mapping

Sheet 1, Map 1 shows the proposed wards for Cumberland Council. You can also view our draft recommendations for Cumberland Council on our interactive maps at www.lgbce.org.uk

Parish electoral arrangements

274 As part of an electoral review, we are required to have regard to the statutory criteria set out in Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (the 2009 Act). The Schedule provides that if a parish is to be divided between different wards it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single ward. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

275 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, Cumberland 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.

276 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 Aikton, Allhallows, Arlecdon & Frizington, Beckermest, Boltons, Cleator Moor, Cockermouth, Dalston, Egremont, Kingmoor, Maryport, Millom, Oughterside & Allerby, St Cuthbert Without, Stanwix Rural, Westward, Whitehaven, Wigton and Workington.

277 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Aikton parish.

Draft recommendations

Aikton Parish Council should comprise 10 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Aikton & Wiggonby	8
Biglands & Whitrigglees	2

278 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Allhallows parish.

Draft recommendations

Allhallows Parish Council should comprise eight councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Baggrow	2
Fletchertown	6

279 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Arlecdon & Frizington parish.

Draft recommendations

Arlecdon & Frizington Parish Council should comprise nine councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Arlecdon	3
Frizington	6

280 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Beckermet parish.

Draft recommendations

Beckermet Parish Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Beckermet	5
Thornhill	7

281 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Boltons parish.

Draft recommendations

Boltons Parish Council should comprise 10 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Boltongate	8
Mealsgate	2

282 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Cleator Moor parish.

Draft recommendations

Cleator Moor Town Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Cleator Moor North	4
Cleator Moor South	8

283 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Cockermouth parish.

Draft recommendations

Cockermouth Town Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing four wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
All Saints	4
Christchurch	2
Double Mills	3
Fitz	1
South Lodge	2

284 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Dalston parish.

Draft recommendations

Dalston Parish Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Dalston	13
Raughton & Stockdalewath	2

285 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Egremont parish.

Draft recommendations

Egremont Town Council should comprise 10 councillors, as at present, representing four wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Bigrigg & Moor Row	2
East	1
South & Central	6
Woodend	1

286 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Kingmoor parish.

Draft recommendations

Kingmoor Parish Council should comprise eight councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Cargo	3
Fenwick	5

287 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Maryport parish.

Draft recommendations

Maryport Town Council should comprise 18 councillors, as at present, representing four wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Ellenborough	5
Ewanrigg & Glasson	6
Flimby	3
Netherhall	4

288 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Millom parish.

Draft recommendations

Millom Town Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing three wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Haverigg	3
Holborn Hill	5
New Town	7

289 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Oughterside & Allerby parish.

Draft recommendations

Oughterside & Allerby Parish Council should comprise nine councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Allerby	2
Oughterside	7

290 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for St Cuthbert Without parish.

Draft recommendations

St Cuthbert Without Parish Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing four wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Parklands	7
Speckled Wood	1
St Cuthbert Without	3
Upperby	4

291 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Stanwix Rural parish.

Draft recommendations

Stanwix Rural Parish Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing three wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Crosby & Linstock	4
Houghton	8
Windsor Park	3

292 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Westward parish.

Draft recommendations

Westward Parish Council should comprise 10 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
West Curthwaite	6
Westward	4

293 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Whitehaven parish.

Draft recommendations

Whitehaven Town Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing 10 wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Corkickle	1
Greenbank	1
Harras Park	1
Hillcrest	1
Kells	1
Mirehouse	2
Sandwith	1
Snekyeat	1
Whitehaven Central North	2
Whitehaven Central South	1

294 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Wigton parish.

Draft recommendations

Wigton Town Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Station Hill	2
Wigton	13

295 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Workington parish.

Draft recommendations

Workington Town Council should comprise 25 councillors, as at present, representing 12 wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Harrington	3
Moorclose	3
Northside	1
Poole Road	2
Salterbeck	2
Seaton	1
St John's	2
St Joseph's	2
St Michael's	1
Stainburn	2
Westfield	3
Workington South	3

Have your say

296 The Commission has an open mind about its draft recommendations. Every representation we receive will be considered, regardless of who it is from or whether it relates to the whole district or just a part of it.

297 If you agree with our recommendations, please let us know. If you don't think our recommendations are right for Cumberland, we want to hear alternative proposals for a different pattern of wards.

298 Our website is the best way to keep up to date with progress on the review and to have your say www.lgbce.org.uk

299 Each review has its own page with details of the timetable for the review, information about its different stages and interactive mapping.

300 Submissions can also be made by emailing reviews@lgbce.org.uk or by writing to:

Review Officer (Cumberland)
LGBCE
7th Floor
3 Bunhill Row
London
EC1Y 8YZ

301 The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for Cumberland Council which delivers:

- Electoral equality: each local councillor represents a similar number of electors.
- Community identity: reflects the identity and interests of local communities.
- Effective and convenient local government: helping your council discharge its responsibilities effectively.

302 A good pattern of wards should:

- Provide good electoral equality, with each councillor representing, as closely as possible, the same number of electors.
- Reflect community interests and identities and include evidence of community links.
- Be based on strong, easily identifiable boundaries.
- Help the council deliver effective and convenient local government.

303 Electoral equality:

- Does your proposal mean that councillors would represent roughly the same number of electors as elsewhere in Cumberland?

304 Community identity:

- Community groups: is there a parish council, residents' association or other group that represents the area?
- Interests: what issues bind the community together or separate it from other parts of your area?
- Identifiable boundaries: are there natural or constructed features which make strong boundaries for your proposals?

305 Effective local government:

- Are any of the proposed wards too large or small to be represented effectively?
- Are the proposed names of the wards appropriate?
- Are there good links across your proposed wards? Is there any form of public transport?

306 Please note that the consultation stages of an electoral review are public consultations. In the interests of openness and transparency, we make available for public inspection full copies of all representations the Commission takes into account as part of a review. Accordingly, copies of all representations will be placed on deposit at our offices and on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk A list of respondents will be available from us on request after the end of the consultation period.

307 If you are a member of the public and not writing on behalf of a council or organisation we will remove any personal identifiers. This includes your name, postal or email addresses, signatures or phone numbers from your submission before it is made public. We will remove signatures from all letters, no matter who they are from.

308 In the light of representations received, we will review our draft recommendations and consider whether they should be altered. As indicated earlier, it is therefore important that all interested parties let us have their views and evidence, **whether or not** they agree with the draft recommendations. We will then publish our final recommendations.

309 After the publication of our final recommendations, the changes we have proposed must be approved by Parliament. An Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in draft in Parliament. The draft

Order will provide for new electoral arrangements to be implemented at the all-out elections for Cumberland Council in 2027.

Equalities

310 The Commission is satisfied that it complies with its legal obligations under the Equality Act and that no adverse equality impacts will arise as a result of the outcome of the review.

Appendices

Appendix A

Draft recommendations for Cumberland Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Abbeytown & Solway Firth	1	3,751	3,751	-5%	3,664	3,664	-6%
2	Aspatria & Waverton	1	3,595	3,595	-9%	3,616	3,616	-7%
3	Belle Vue	1	3,968	3,968	1%	3,830	3,830	-2%
4	Botcherby & Keenan Park	1	3,710	3,710	-6%	3,598	3,598	-8%
5	Brampton	1	3,859	3,859	-2%	3,862	3,862	-1%
6	Bransty & Lowca	1	4,303	4,303	9%	4,171	4,171	7%
7	Brigham & Bothel	1	3,818	3,818	-3%	3,688	3,688	-5%
8	Buttermere, Bassenthwaite & Caldbeck	1	3,790	3,790	-4%	3,663	3,663	-6%
9	Castle	1	3,854	3,854	-2%	3,499	3,499	-10%
10	Cleator Moor North & Frizington	1	4,119	4,119	5%	4,112	4,112	5%

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
11	Cleator Moor South	1	3,659	3,659	-7%	3,604	3,604	-8%
12	Cockermouth North	1	3,891	3,891	-1%	3,821	3,821	-2%
13	Cockermouth South	1	3,667	3,667	-7%	3,586	3,586	-8%
14	Corby & Hayton	1	4,043	4,043	3%	3,881	3,881	0%
15	Corkickle & Harras Park	1	3,404	3,404	-14%	3,574	3,574	-8%
16	Currock	1	3,,993	3,993	1%	3,835	3,835	-2%
17	Dalston & Cummersdale	1	3439	3,439	-13%	3,585	3,585	-8%
18	Dearham & Broughton	1	4,047	4,047	3%	4,093	4,093	5%
19	Denton Holme	1	3,826	3,826	-3%	3,,636	3636	-7%
20	Egremont	1	4,615	4,615	17%	4,611	4,611	18%
21	Etterby & Stanwix West	1	3,887	3,887	-1%	3,831	3,831	-2%
22	Gosforth	1	3,889	3,889	-1%	3,781	3,781	-3%
23	Harraby East	1	3,644	3,,644	-7%	3,502	3,502	-10%

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
24	Harraby West	1	3,800	3800	-4%	3,682	3,682	-6%
25	Harrington	1	4,097	4,097	4%	4,052	4,052	4%
26	Hensingham	1	4,206	4,206	7%	4,171	4,171	7%
27	Irthing	1	3,520	3,520	-11%	3,416	3,416	-12%
28	Kells & Harbour	1	4,032	4,032	2%	3,941	3,941	1%
29	Keswick	1	4,310	4,310	9%	4,188	4,188	7%
30	Longtown	1	4,130	4,130	5%	4,033	4,033	3%
31	Lowry Hill & Crindledyke	1	4,135	4,135	5%	4,248	4,248	9%
32	Maryport North	1	4,369	4,369	11%	4,265	4,265	9%
33	Maryport South & Flimby	1	3,781	3,781	-4%	3,829	3,829	-2%
34	Mellbreak & The Marron	1	3,665	3,665	-7%	3532	3,532	-9%
35	Millom	1	4,296	4,296	9%	4,275	4,275	10%
36	Millom Without	1	3,861	3,861	-2%	3,869	3,869	-1%

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
37	Mirehouse & Greenbank	1	4,235	4,235	8%	4,335	4,335	11%
38	Moorclose	1	3,567	3,567	-9%	3,785	3,785	-3%
39	Moresby, Distington & Arlecdon	1	4,163	4,163	6%	4,086	4,086	5%
40	Morton East	1	4,249	4,249	8%	4,177	4,177	7%
41	Morton West	1	4,257	4,257	8%	4,228	4,228	8%
42	Sandsfield	1	4,187	4,187	6%	4,027	4,027	3%
43	Seaton	1	4,198	4,198	7%	4,252	4,252	9%
44	Silloth & Allonby Bay	1	4,414	4,414	12%	4,324	4,324	11%
45	St Aidans	1	4,294	4,294	9%	4,014	4,014	3%
46	St Bees & Sandwith	1	4,225	4,225	7%	4,180	4,180	7%
47	St Cuthbert's	1	3,241	3,241	-18%	3,619	3,619	-7%
48	Stanwix & Houghton	1	4,008	4,008	2%	3,918	3,918	0%
49	Thursby & Aikton	1	3,343	3,343	-15%	3,391	3,391	-13%

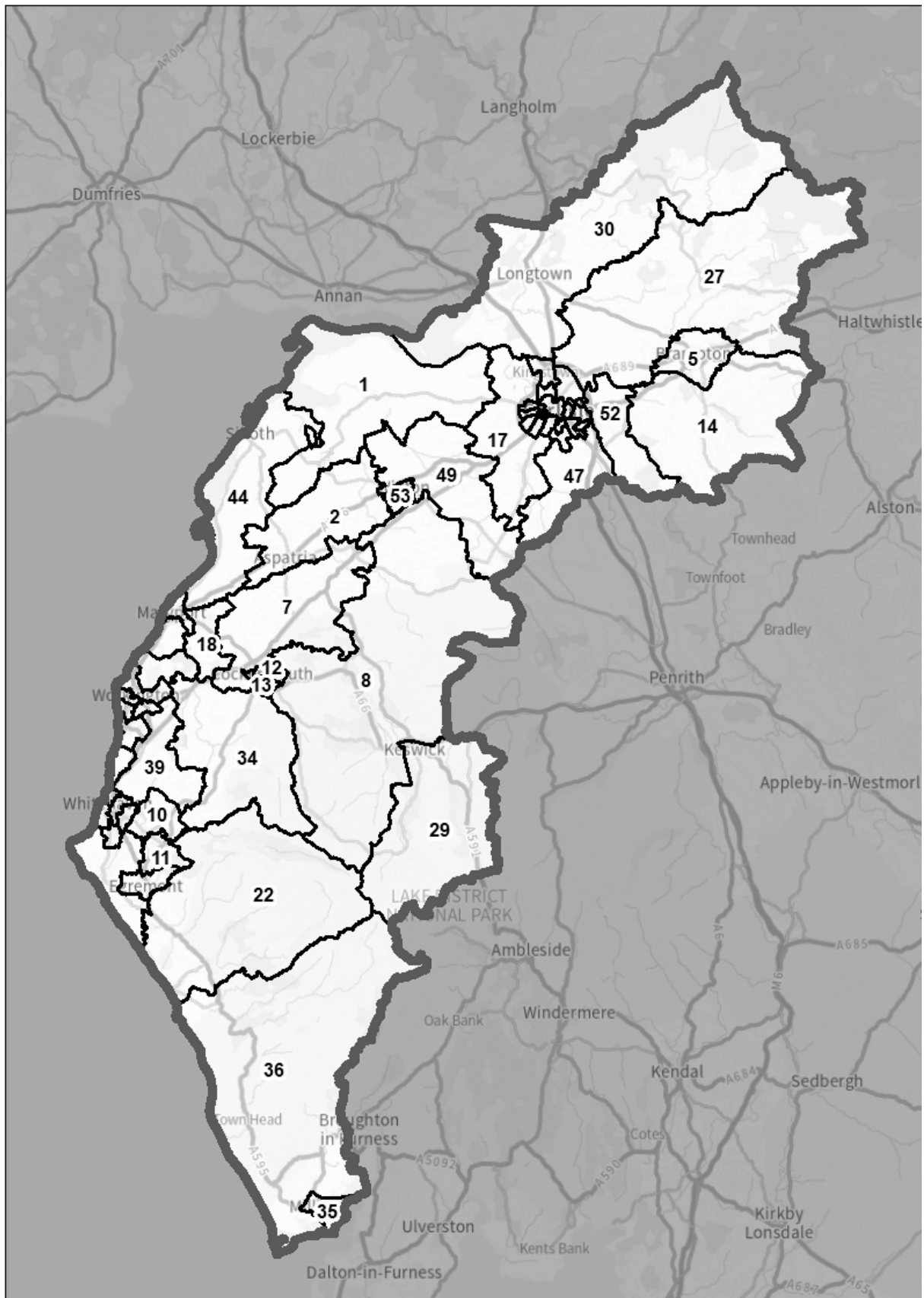
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
50 Upperby	1	3,673	3,673	-7%	3,862	3,862	-1%
51 Westfield	1	3,749	3,749	-5%	3,903	3,903	0%
52 Wetheral	1	3,860	3,860	-2%	3,894	3,894	0%
53 Wigton	1	4,050	4,050	3%	4,140	4,140	6%
54 Workington Central & Stainburn	1	3,798	3,798	-4%	3,730	3,730	-4%
55 Workington South	1	4,108	4,108	4%	4,073	4,073	4%
Totals	55	216,592	–	–	214,482	–	–
Averages	–	–	3,938	–	–	3,900	–

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

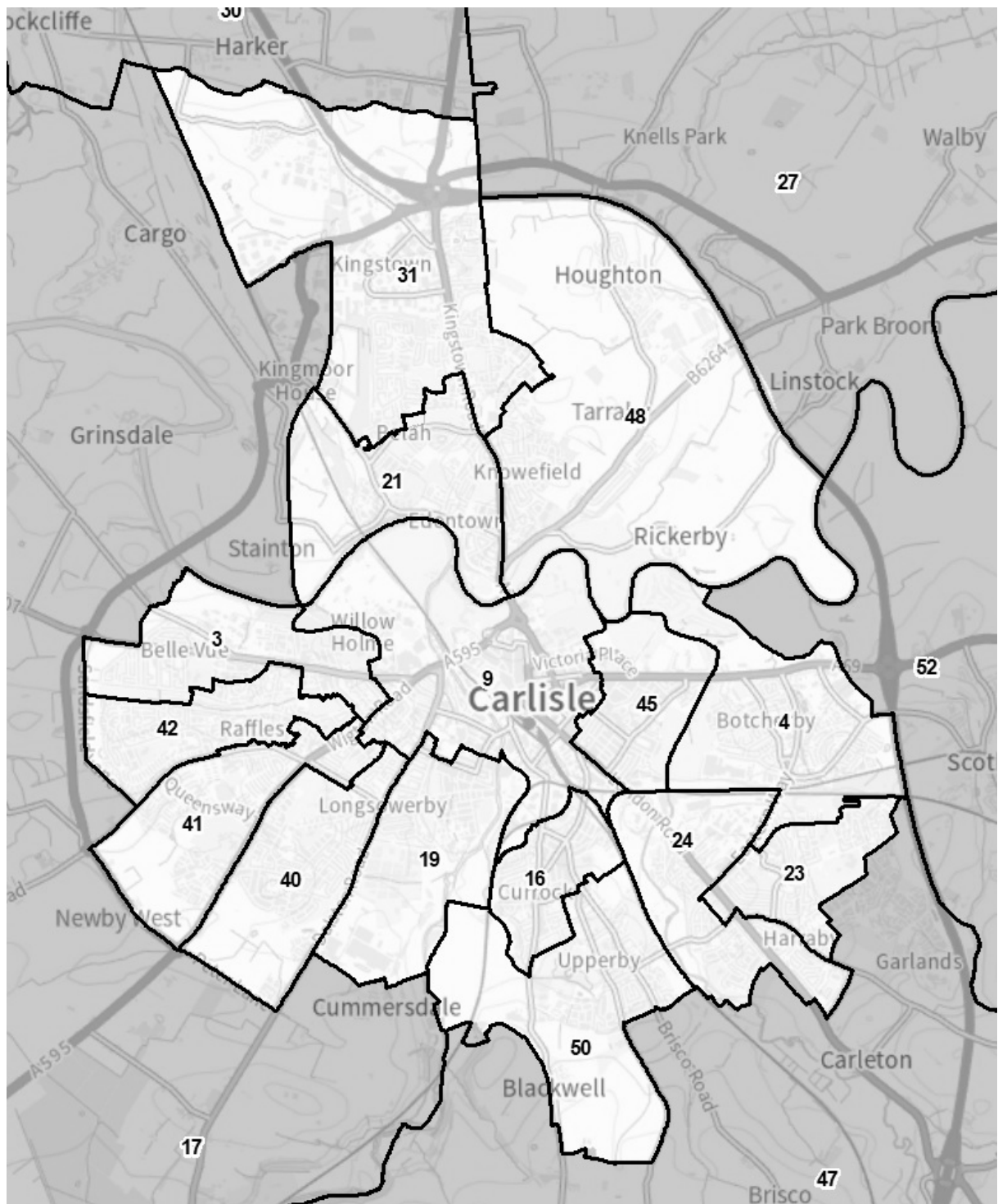
Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the number of electors per councillor in each electoral ward varies from the average for the authority. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole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

Appendix B

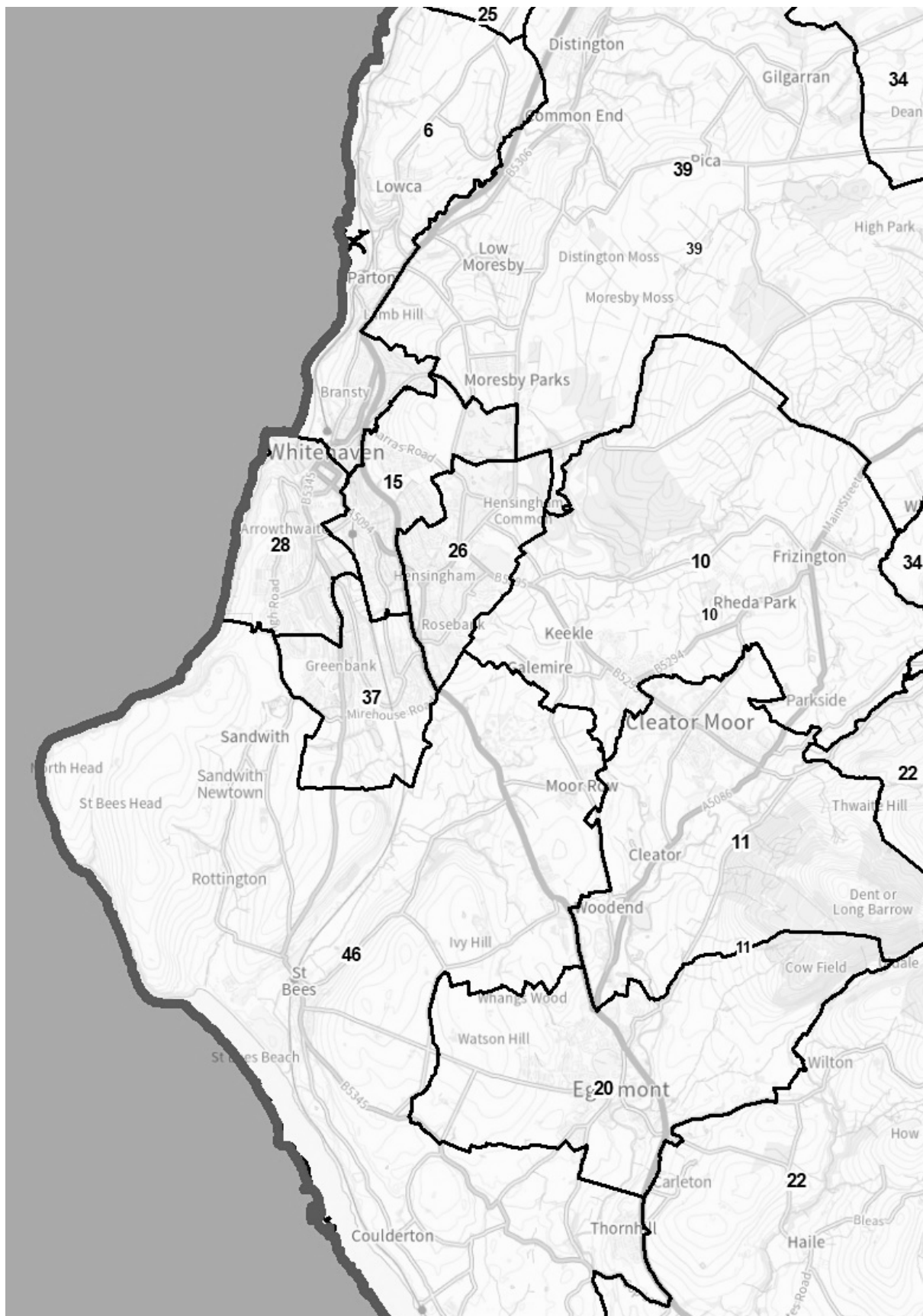
Outline map



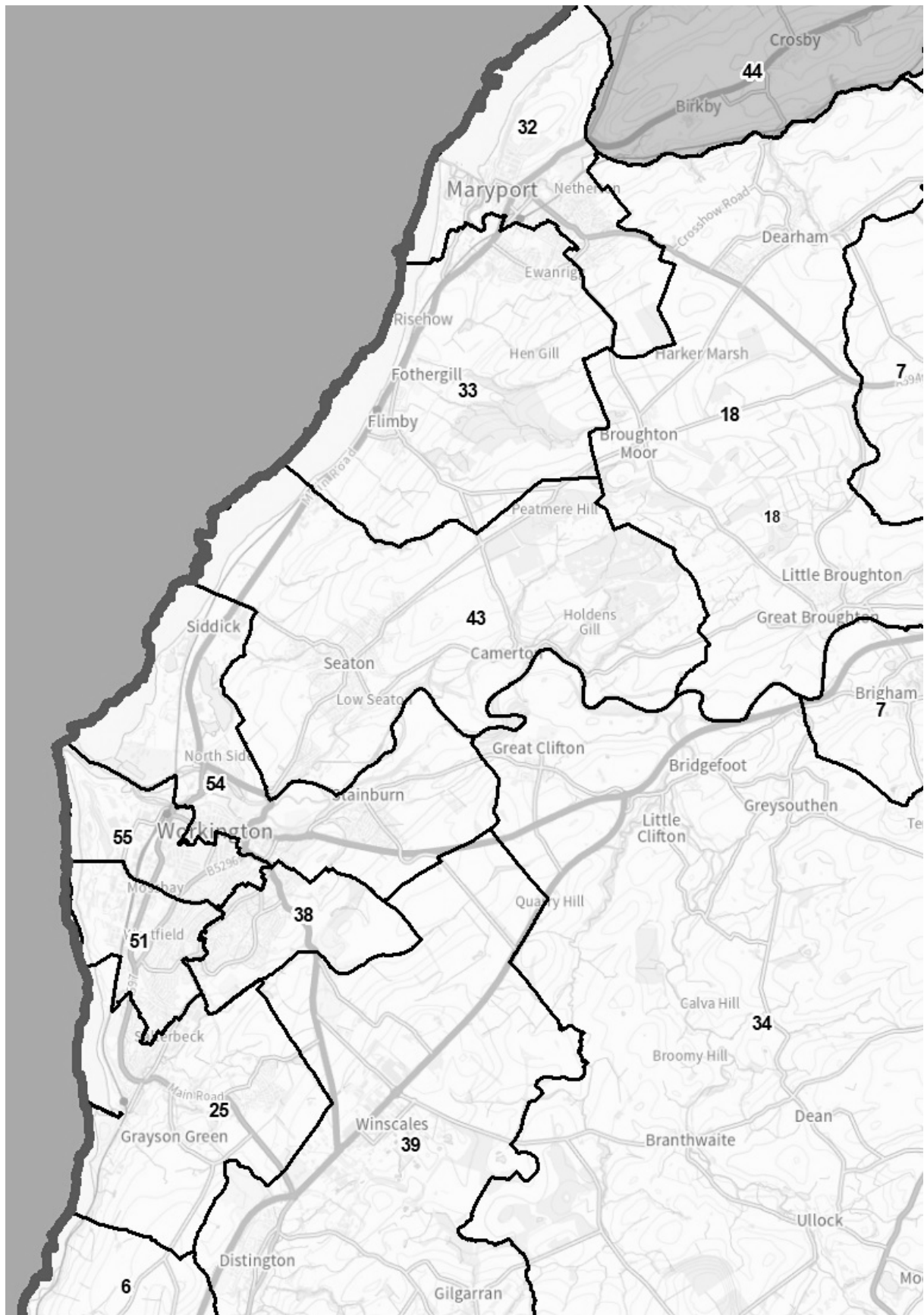
Carlisle and Houghton



Whitehaven and surrounding wards



Workington and surrounding wards



Number	Ward name
1	Abbeytown & Solway Firth
2	Aspatria & Waverton
3	Belle Vue
4	Botcherby & Keenan Park
5	Brampton
6	Bransty & Lowca
7	Brigham & Bothel
8	Buttermere, Bassenthwaite & Caldbeck
9	Castle
10	Cleator Moor North & Frizington
11	Cleator Moor South
12	Cockermouth North
13	Cockermouth South
14	Corby & Hayton
15	Corkickle & Harras Park
16	Currock
17	Dalston & Cummersdale
18	Dearham & Broughton
19	Denton Holme
20	Egremont
21	Etterby & Stanwix West
22	Gosforth
23	Harraby East
24	Harraby West
25	Harrington
26	Hensingham
27	Irthing
28	Kells & Harbour
29	Keswick
30	Longtown
31	Lowry Hill & Crindledyke
32	Maryport North
33	Maryport South & Flimby
34	Mellbreak & The Marron
35	Millom
36	Millom Without
37	Mirehouse & Greenbank
38	Moorclose
39	Moresby, Distington & Arlecdon
40	Morton East
41	Morton West

42	Sandsfield
43	Seaton
44	Silloth & Allonby Bay
45	St Aidans
46	St Bees & Sandwith
47	St Cuthbert's
48	Stanwix & Houghton
49	Thursby & Aikton
50	Upperby
51	Westfield
52	Wetheral
53	Wigton
54	Workington Central & Stainburn
55	Workington South

A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/cumberland

Appendix C

Submissions received

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

www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/cumberland

Local Authority

- Cumberland Council

Political Groups

- Cumberland Conservatives Associations
- Cumberland Council Green Group
- Cumberland Liberal Democrats & Cumberland Council Liberal Democrats Group
- Penrith & Solway Constituency Labour Party (Cockermouth Branch)
- Whitehaven & Workington Labour Party

Member of Parliament

- Josh MacAlister MP (Whitehaven & Workington)

Councillors

- Councillor R. Dobson (Cumberland Council)
- Councillor M. Greaves (Brigham Parish Council)
- Councillor T. Norman (Gosforth Parish Council & Ponsonby Parish Council)
- Councillor J. Perry (Cumberland Council)
- Councillor T. Pickstone (Cumberland Council)
- Councillor G. Sewell (Moresby Parish Council)
- Councillor R. Watson (Cockermouth Town Council)

Parish and Town Councils

- Beaumont Parish Council
- Bootle Parish Council
- Cockermouth Town Council
- Dalston Parish Council
- Keswick Town Council
- Millom Without Parish Council

- Stanwix Rural Parish Council
- Whicham Parish Council
- Workington Town Council

Local residents

- 59 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 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. We only take account of electors registered specifically for local elections during our reviews.
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 can vote in whichever parish ward they live for candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the parish council
Town council	A parish council which has been given ceremonial 'town' status. More information on achieving such status can be found at www.nalc.gov.uk
Under-represented	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Variance (or electoral variance)	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward or division varies in percentage terms from the average
Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council

The
Local Government
Boundary Commission
for England

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

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England
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EC1Y 8YZ

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