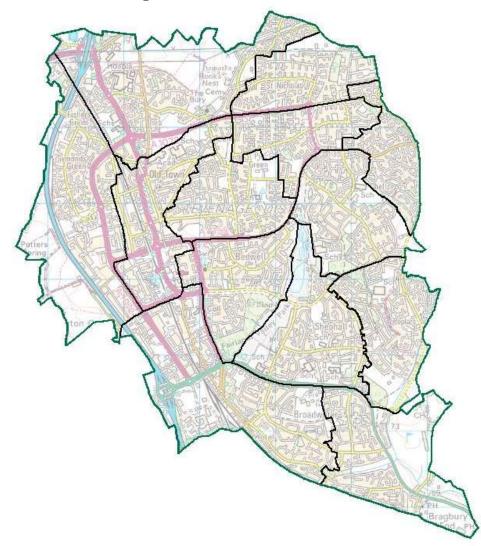
News Release from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Embargoed until: 00:01 31 May 2022

Have your say on a new political map for Stevenage Borough Council

New boundaries are being proposed for council wards in Stevenage Borough Council

The Local Government Boundary Commission wants to hear what residents and local organisations think about the proposals. A 10-week consultation on the proposals will run until 8 August 2022.



Proposed wards for Stevenage Credit: contains Ordnance Survey data (c) Crown copyright and database rights 2022 High resolution map available at <u>https://s3-eu-west-</u> 2.amazonaws.com/lgbce/Draft%20Recs%20-%20with%20labels.JPG The Commission is the independent body that draws these boundaries. It is reviewing Stevenage to make sure councillors will represent about the same number of electors, and that ward arrangements will help the council work effectively.

The Commission has published proposals for changes to Stevenage. It is proposing that there should be 13 wards with three councillors per ward. All wards will have different boundaries.

Proposed changes include:

- The town centre, an area of significant development, is split across three wards
- Lincoln and Salisbury roads are included in St Nicholas ward

Launching the consultation Professor Colin Mellors, Chair of the Commission, said:

"We want people in Stevenage to help us.

"We have drawn up proposals for new wards in Stevenage. We want to make sure these new electoral arrangements reflect communities. We also want them to be easy to understand and convenient for local people.

"Residents and local organisations can help us do that. We would like them to let us know whether they agree with our proposals before we take final decisions.

"It's easy to get involved. Go to our website. Or you can e-mail or write to us.

"Just tell us what you think and give us some details why you think that. It's really simple, so do get involved"

The Commission has a dedicated section on its website where people can see the detail of the proposals and comment on the names of wards and their boundaries: https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/30912

People can also give their views by e-mail at reviews@lgbce.org.uk, and by post:

Review Officer (Stevenage) LGBCE PO Box 133 Blyth NE24 9FE

Ends/

Notes to editors:

This consultation relates to the arrangements for local government elections. It is separate from consultations that are currently taking place across England on arrangements for parliamentary elections.

For further information contact the Commission's press office on 0330 500 1525 / 1250 or email press@lgbce.org.uk

An interactive map is available at https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/30912

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body accountable to Parliament. It recommends fair electoral and boundary arrangements for local authorities in England. In doing so, it aims to:

- Make sure that, within an authority, each councillor represents a similar number of electors
- Reflect the electoral cycle so that each ward is represented by three councillors
- Create boundaries that are appropriate, and reflect community ties and identities
- Deliver reviews informed by local needs, views and circumstances
- Deliver a uniform pattern of three member wards to reflect the electoral cycle