

## Fosse Villages – Highcross and Stoney Cove Wards

Proposed Ward Name	Response
Fosse Highcross (Fosse Villages South)	<p>The LGBC proposal is to include the village of Elmesthorpe in this Ward. The LGBC notes that there are no direct road links into the proposed Ward, however, in favour of electoral equality they still propose that this should be included.</p> <p>We would argue that this splits Elmesthorpe from its natural and existing community. Although the village is on the edge of the district and has links to HBBC settlement of Earl Shilton, the residents use the facilities in Stoney Stanton, such as schools, social centres and shops. There are direct road links into Stoney Stanton. The village of Elmesthorpe is covered by the Fosse Villages policing beat and it is encompassed within the Fosse Villages Neighbourhood Plan area which was voluntarily agreed across all the parishes covered as a consensus was reached that they all have common interests and concerns, indicating a strong community link.</p> <p>Although excluding Elmesthorpe from Fosse Highcross Ward would give a ratio of electors to Ward Members in of -17% we feel that the need to maintain strong community interests and identities would outweigh the argument for equality of representation. This would enable the Ward Members of Fosse Highcross to cover a geographically large area that is spread out, more effectively.</p>
Fosse Stoney Cove (Fosse Villages Central)	<p>The LGBC proposal is to exclude the village of Elmesthorpe in this Ward and to place it in Fosse Highcross.</p> <p>We would argue that Elmesthorpe forms a community with Stoney Stanton village. There is direct road access between the 2 villages. Although the village of Elmesthorpe is on the edge of the district, the residents use the facilities in Stoney Stanton, such as schools, social centres and shops. The village is covered by the Fosse Villages policing beat and it is encompassed within the Fosse Villages Neighbourhood Plan area which was voluntarily agreed across all the parishes covered as a consensus was reached that they all have common interests and concerns indicating a strong community link.</p> <p>Although including Elmesthorpe into the Fosse Stoney Cove Ward would give a ratio of electors to Ward Members of 17% we feel that the need to maintain strong community interests and identities would outweigh the argument for equality of representation.</p>

## Kirby Muxloe and LFE/Lubbesthorpe Wards

<p>Leicester Forest Lubbesthorpe Ward and Kirby Muxloe Ward</p>	<p>The LGBC have recommended that these 2 communities are joined together despite both the Conservative party and Officers recommending that Lubbesthorpe should form a separate Ward.</p> <p>We would argue that this is not in the interest of strong community or effective local governance for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Lubbesthorpe is a multi award-winning development that has been commended for delivering a 'new' community that benefits the local economy and residents through partnership working. The focus has been developing this settlement as an independent community with schools, shops, Community Centre and facilities at the heart of this. The aim is for Lubbesthorpe to have its own identity.</li> </ul> <p>Prior to any building, there has been a drive to encourage a strong community bond as more residents settle in the area. Blaby District Council, the developers and partners have created a Community Hub and Community Development Worker role to support new residents and plan for initiatives promoting the creation of this new community.</p> <p>At 1 April 2021, approximately 500 homes had been built and a primary school had opened to serve the new community. By April 2027, 1,650 homes are expected to be built and new facilities such as local shops will be open.</p> <p>Although there are currently only 770 electors in Lubbesthorpe Ward, it is forecast for 3,020 electors from 2027. There is expected to be further expansion in residents over a relatively short space of time in the following years. As this is a new community that is being developed, the electoral forecast could fluctuate depending on house-building progress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We would continue to propose a separate Ward for Leicester Forest East due to the geographical and residential areas which justify the desire to contain the community within one ward.</li> </ul> <p>The ward has strong transport links, community facilities (schools, GP surgery, local shops) and local governance arrangements, with the proposal following the current Parish boundary. We feel that the links there are not strong between the LFE and Kirby Muxloe parishes, which is supported by the view of a resident in response to the consultation who also rejected links between Leicester Forest East and Kirby Muxloe parishes.</p> <p>The residents of LFE are strongly aligned to their own community and it is envisaged will not be in favour of being subsumed into new Lubbesthorpe. This would pose difficulties for Ward Members who will effectively be splitting themselves between 2 strong, independent communities.</p> <p>This will not lead to effective and convenient local governance, potentially putting adverse strain on any members trying to represent both communities.</p>
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	<p>The northern extent of the proposed Ward boundary is bounded by the A47 and the Ivanhoe railway line. The southern extent of the proposed Ward boundary is defined by the parish boundary and reflects the outer reaches of the built-up area of the parish to the south-east and the parish boundary to the south-west, which is open countryside.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consolidation of the village of Kirby Muxloe as one individual Ward. The village has a strong identity and facilities within its boundaries.</li> </ul> <p>The A47 is a man-made boundary to the south of the village that separates Kirby Muxloe from Leicester Forest East. The District Council administrative boundary forms the north and west boundary to the Ward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the above reasons we would suggest that there is therefore a strong argument to maintain LFE, Lubbesthorpe and Kirby Muxloe as separate, self-contained Wards in the interests of maintaining community and identity, and also to provide effective local governance.</li> </ul>
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## Blaby District Council

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### Comment text:

Please find file attached in regard to the Draft Recommendations for the Blaby District Electoral Boundary Warding Review. This submission is made by the Officers of Blaby District Council.  
Regards Alison Moran

### Uploaded Documents:

**Download ([https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/download\\_document?file=draft%2F1649674446\\_BDC+Officer+Response+to+LGBC+Recommendations+110422.docx](https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/download_document?file=draft%2F1649674446_BDC+Officer+Response+to+LGBC+Recommendations+110422.docx))**