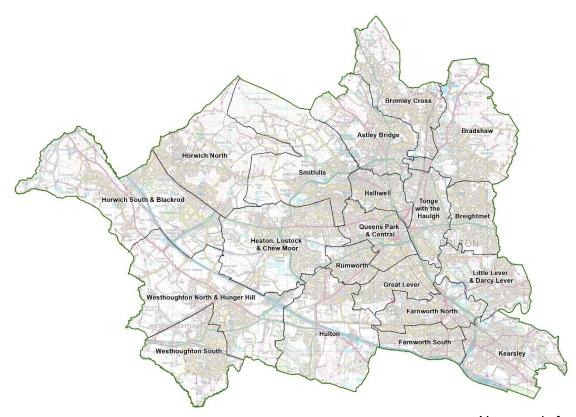
News Release from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Embargoed until: 00:01 18 January 2022

New political map for Bolton Council

Bolton is set to have new boundaries for its council wards.



New wards for Bolton Credit: contains Ordnance Survey data (c) Crown copyright and database rights 2022 High resolution map available at https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lgbce/Ward_labels.pdf

The Local Government Boundary Commission is the independent body that draws these boundaries. It has reviewed Bolton 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 final recommendations for changes in Bolton. It says residents should be represented by 60 councillors. This is the same as current arrangements.

There will be 20 three-councillor wards. This is the same as there are now. The boundaries of all wards have changed.

Publishing the recommendations Professor Colin Mellors, Chair of the Commission, said:

"We are very grateful to people in Bolton. We looked at all the views they gave us. They helped us improve our earlier proposals.

"We believe the new arrangements will guarantee electoral fairness while maintaining local ties."

258 people and organisations made comments to help decide the new wards. Changes in response to what local people said include:

- Placing the area centred on Primrose Street in Kearsley ward following community evidence
- Astley Bridge ward has been extended northwards to Eagley Brook to reflect community evidence

The Commission has made further changes to its earlier proposals. Details can be found on its website at <u>https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/north-west/greater-manchester/bolton</u>.

Parliament now needs to agree the changes. The new arrangements will then apply for the 2023 council elections.

Ends/

Notes to editors:

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/have-your-say/24340

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
- Create boundaries that are appropriate, and reflect community ties and identities
- Deliver reviews informed by local needs, views and circumstances