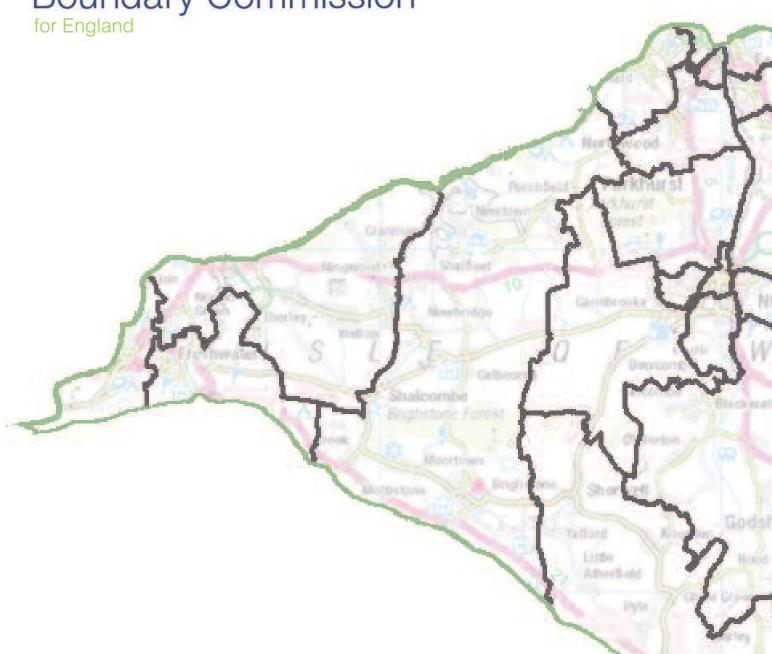
Local Government Boundary Commission



New electoral arrangements for Isle of Wight Council

**Final recommendations** 

June 2019

#### Translations and other formats:

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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 the Isle of Wight?	2
Our proposals for the Isle of Wight	2
How will the recommendations affect you?	2
Review timetable	3
Analysis and final recommendations	5
Submissions received	5
Electorate figures	5
Number of councillors	6
Draft recommendations consultation	7
Further draft recommendations	7
Final recommendations	8
Cowes	9
Newport	11
Ryde	13
East	18
Lake, Sandown and Shanklin (The Bay Area)	20
South	22
West	27
Conclusions	31
Summary of electoral arrangements	31
Parish electoral arrangements	31
What happens next?	35
Equalities	37
Appendices	39
Appendix A	39
Final recommendations for Isle of Wight	39
Appendix B	43
Outline map	43
Appendix C	45

Submissions received	45
Appendix D	48
Glossary and abbreviations	48

## 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.<sup>1</sup> 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)
  - Susan Johnson OBE
  - Peter Maddison QPM
  - Amanda Nobbs OBE

- Steve Robinson
- Andrew Scallan CBE
- Jolyon Jackson CBE (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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

More detail regarding the powers that we have, as well as the further guidance and information about electoral reviews and review process in general, can be found on our website at <a href="https://www.lgbce.org.uk">www.lgbce.org.uk</a>

# Why the Isle of Wight?

- We are conducting a review of the Isle of Wight Council ('the Council') as the value of each vote in county council elections varies depending on where you live in the Isle of Wight. Some councillors currently represent many more or fewer voters than others. This is 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where votes are as equal as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.
- 8 This electoral review is being carried out to ensure that:
  - The divisions in the Isle of Wight are in the best possible places to help the Council carry out its responsibilities effectively.
  - The number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the county.

# Our proposals for the Isle of Wight

- 9 The Isle of Wight should be represented by 39 councillors, one fewer than there are now.
- 10 The Isle of Wight should have 39 divisions, the same number as there are now.
- 11 The boundaries of 30 divisions should change; nine will stay the same.
- We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for the Isle of Wight.

# How will the recommendations affect you?

- 13 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which division you vote in, which other communities are in that division, and, in some cases, which parish council ward you vote in. Your division name may also change.
- Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the county 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 take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

# Review timetable

15 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for the Isle of Wight. We then held three periods of consultation with the public on division patterns for the county. This comprised our regular two consultations and an additional consultation in three specific areas of the island. All of the submissions received during consultation have informed our final recommendations.

#### 16 The review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
24 April 2018	Commission take an initial view that there should be 40 councillors in future
1 May 2018	Start of consultation seeking views on new divisions
9 July 2018	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
4 September 2018	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation. Number of councillors changed from 40 to 39
12 November 2018	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
5 March 2019	Start of limited consultation in three areas (Freshwater, Ventnor, Ryde)
1 April 2019	End of further limited consultation, we began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
4 June 2019	Publication of final recommendations

# Analysis and final recommendations

- 17 Legislation<sup>2</sup> states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors<sup>3</sup> 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 divisions.
- In reality, we are unlikely to be able to create divisions 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.
- 19 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.

	2018	2024
Electorate of the Isle of Wight	111,567	115,133
Number of councillors	39	39
Average number of electors per councillor	2,861	2,952

When the number of electors per councillor in a division is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the division as having 'good electoral equality'. All but two of our proposed divisions for Isle of Wight are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2024.

#### Submissions received

21 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed at our offices by appointment, or on our website at <a href="https://www.lgbce.org.uk">www.lgbce.org.uk</a>

# Electorate figures

- The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2024, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2019. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 3% by 2024.
- 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 final recommendations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

### Number of councillors

- 24 Isle of Wight Council currently has 40 councillors. We looked at evidence provided by the Council and initially concluded that keeping this number the same would ensure the Council could carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.
- We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of divisions that would be represented by 40 councillors for example, 40 one-councillor divisions, or a mix of one-, two- and three-councillor divisions.
- We received two submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on our division patterns. The Isle of Wight Conservative Association noted their support for the county to be represented by 40 councillors. Bembridge Parish Council proposed that the Isle of Wight should be represented by 32 one-councillor divisions; however, this recommendation was not supported by persuasive evidence and we did not adopt it.
- Whilst drawing up the draft recommendations for the Isle of Wight, we found that it was not possible to create a division pattern for 40 councillors that had good levels of electoral equality or that reflected the topography and the community identities of parishes across the county. We noted that a division pattern based on 39 councillors would provide for better levels of electoral equality across the Isle of Wight. In our guidance we state that the Commission reserves the right to alter the council size by one or two to improve levels of electoral representation across an authority. Accordingly, we therefore based our draft recommendations on a council size of 39.
- We received one submission about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on the draft recommendations. The submission from the Ventnor & District Branch of the Isle of Wight Constituency Labour Party proposed the retention of 40 councillors. However, it did not provide persuasive evidence that we considered justified recommending divisions with poor levels of electoral equality that a council size of 40 would result in. Our final recommendations are therefore based on 39 councillors.

#### Division boundaries consultation

We received 25 submissions in response to our first consultation on division boundaries. These included detailed county-wide proposals from the Council. The Isle of Wight Conservative Association noted their support for the Council's county-wide proposals, except for the Lake South area. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for division arrangements in particular areas of the county.

- 30 We based our draft recommendations largely on the Council's county-wide scheme. Our draft recommendations also took 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.
- 31 We visited the area in order to look at the various different proposals on the ground. This tour of the Isle of Wight helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.
- 32 Our draft recommendations were for one two-councillor division and 37 one-councillor divisions. We considered that our draft recommendations would provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

### Draft recommendations consultation

- 33 We received 84 submissions during the consultation on our draft recommendations, including from the Council and a number which referred to more than one division. These included alternative proposals from the Sandown Independents and a local resident. The Isle of Wight Conservative Association expressed their support for the Council's proposals and made suggestions on division names. The majority of the other submissions focused on specific areas, particularly our proposals in the Bay area, Godshill, Havenstreet, Newchurch, Ryde, Ventnor, Wroxall, and the west of the island around Freshwater.
- 34 The largest number of submissions from local residents referred to our proposals in the Ventnor and Wroxall area. Most of the submissions expressed a desire for Godshill and Wroxall to be in the same division. Respondents opposed our decision to include Wroxall in a division with Ventnor and opposed having a two-member Ventnor & Wroxall division more generally.

#### Further draft recommendations

- 35 Having considered the representations received on the original draft recommendations, we undertook further limited consultation in the area around Freshwater, in Ryde, and in Ventnor and Wroxall.
- We received 13 submissions in response to this consultation, including from the Council, two political groups, two parish/town councils, two councillors and a number of residents.

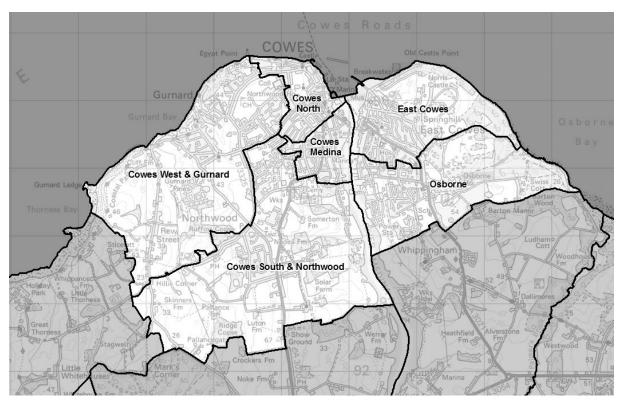
#### Final recommendations

- 37 Our final recommendations take into account the information we received during all three consultation periods. In those areas where we undertook further consultation, we are broadly adopting the changes that we outlined in the later consultation. In those areas where we did not hold an extra period of consultation, we are broadly adopting the original draft recommendations with some minor amendments.
- 38 A number of submissions included proposals to rename divisions. Our approach is that division names should, as accurately and succinctly as possible, describe the area concerned. The division's name should also be immediately recognisable to as many residents in the division as possible. Where the proposals put forward in submissions achieved this, we have renamed divisions accordingly.
- Our final recommendations are for 39 one-councillor divisions. We consider that our final 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 9–29 detail our final recommendations for each area of the Isle of Wight. They detail how the proposed division arrangements reflect the three statutory<sup>4</sup> criteria of:
  - Equality of representation.
  - Reflecting community interests and identities.
  - Providing for effective and convenient local government.
- A summary of our proposed new divisions is set out in the table starting on page 39 and on the large map accompanying this report.

-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

#### Cowes



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2024
Cowes Medina	1	3%
Cowes North	1	-3%
Cowes South & Northwood	1	-2%
Cowes West & Gurnard	1	3%
East Cowes	1	7%
Osborne	1	5%

#### Cowes North, Cowes South & Northwood and Cowes West & Gurnard

- We received six submissions which related to this area in response to our draft recommendations. The Council supported our draft recommendations as they were based on its original proposal. Cowes Town Council and Northwood Parish Council stated that they supported the Isle of Wight Council's proposals and not the Commission's draft recommendations. However, the Commission adopted the Council's proposals.
- 43 Gurnard Parish Council supported our draft recommendations. A local resident supported the boundary change between Cowes North and Cowes West & Gurnard.
- Another resident argued that we had missed an opportunity to unite Cowes. He noted that the existing and proposed divisions both put together the distinct communities of West Cowes and Gurnard. He suggested that West Cowes be

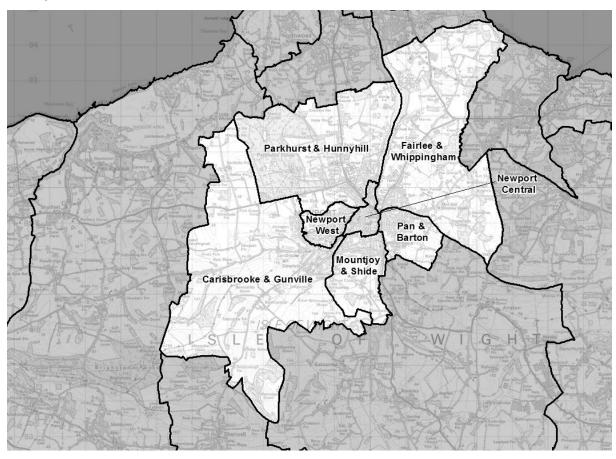
included in a division with the rest of Cowes and that Gurnard should constitute a division on its own. The resident did not provide any further details of which division he proposed to add West Cowes to, and we also note that the proposed Gurnard division would produce an electoral variance of -40%. Accordingly, we are not persuaded to adopt this proposal.

We are satisfied that our draft recommendations for these divisions do not split communities and will produce good electoral equality. We propose no changes to our draft recommendations.

#### Cowes Medina, East Cowes and Osborne

46 The Council supported our draft recommendations for this area, and we received no other submissions specific to these divisions. We therefore propose to confirm our draft recommendations as final in this area.

# Newport



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2024
Carisbrooke & Gunville	1	-3%
Fairlee & Whippingham	1	-1%
Mountjoy & Shide	1	-5%
Newport Central	1	-8%
Newport West	1	-2%
Pan & Barton	1	9%
Parkhurst & Hunnyhill	1	-7%

#### Carisbrooke & Gunville and Parkhurst & Hunnyhill

We received no submissions specific to these divisions other than from the Council which supported the divisions. We therefore confirm our draft recommendations for Carisbrooke & Gunville and Parkhurst & Hunnyhill.

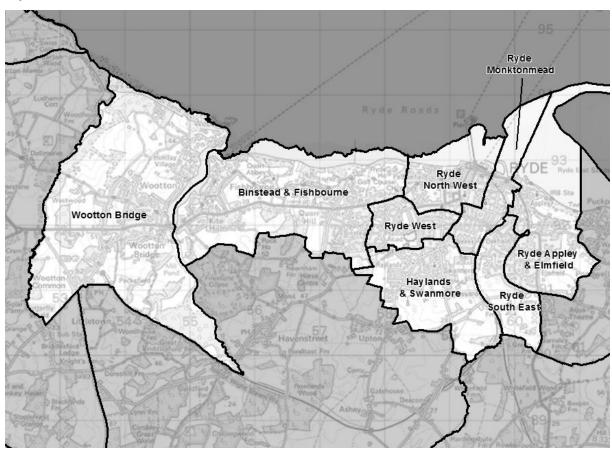
### Fairlee & Whippingham

The Commission received one submission from the Isle of Wight Conservative Association who noted that the parish ward comprising the Fairlee area of Newport parish should not include the name 'Whippingham'. We agree and are proposing to rename the parish ward as Fairlee.

#### Mountjoy & Shide, Newport Central, Newport West and Pan & Barton

- We received one submission from Councillor Brodie, who was generally supportive of our draft recommendations but proposed two alterations. He reiterated his suggestion from the warding pattern stage that Carnforth House at the northern end of Medina Avenue be moved from Mountjoy & Shide division into Newport Central division. He considered that the property was somewhat isolated from the eastern side of Medina Avenue. We reconsidered this proposal and are now including Carnforth House in Newport Central division. We are persuaded that this amendment reflects local community identity.
- Councillor Brodie also proposed moving a few electors on the corner of Pan Lane and Burnt House Lane into Mountjoy & Shide division from Pan & Barton division. He argued that that end of Pan Lane had become a cul-de-sac and therefore the residents had no through road to get to the rest of Pan & Barton. We considered this but note that there is an alternative route into the rest of the division along St George's Way. We are therefore not proposing any changes to this part of the division.
- Councillor Brodie further suggested that Pan & Barton should have three Newport parish councillors as this would be consistent with the levels of representation in Ryde parish. However, the Commission does not compare levels of representation at parish level nor do we seek to change the total number of councillors elected to parish councils. This can be considered as part of a Community Governance Review undertaken by the Isle of Wight Council.
- We are confirming our draft recommendations as final in this area, subject to the minor boundary change around Carnforth House that affects Mountjoy & Shide and Newport Central.

# Ryde



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2024
Binstead & Fishbourne	1	-1%
Haylands & Swanmore	1	-7%
Ryde Appley & Elmfield	1	5%
Ryde Monktonmead	1	5%
Ryde North West	1	5%
Ryde South East	1	5%
Ryde West	1	-8%
Wootton Bridge	1	-3%

### Binstead & Fishbourne and Wootton Bridge

We received no submissions specific to these divisions in response to our draft recommendations, other than from the Council who supported our proposals. The other submissions which referred to this area primarily related to our Havenstreet (now Newchurch, Havenstreet & Ashey) division described later in this report. Our draft recommendations in this area are therefore confirmed as final.

#### Haylands & Swanmore, Ryde North West and Ryde West

- The Commission received five submissions relating to these divisions in response to our draft recommendations: one was from the Council, three from Isle of Wight councillors and one from a resident.
- Councillor Churchman proposed an alteration to the south-western boundary of Ryde South West division so that it continues along Upton Road then runs along Carter Road, instead of across fields. While we note that this would provide a neat and easily understood boundary, the division boundary we have proposed follows the parish boundary in this area. To deviate from the parish boundary would require us to create a parish ward in the area. Councillor Churchman's proposal affected fewer than 20 electors and we would not wish to create a parish ward with so few electors. We are therefore not adopting this amendment.
- Councillor Moody supported our draft recommendations for Ryde West division. He welcomed the new division boundaries along the whole length of Green Street and Argyll Street. The councillor also supported our proposal to transfer an area in the south-east of the current Ryde West division into Ryde South West (now Haylands & Swanmore). He believed that our proposed boundaries produced a more coherent Ryde West division.
- Councillor Critchley expressed support for our proposals to transfer part of 57 Binstead from Ryde North West division. He noted that the area in question was separate and had different issues from the rest of the division. He opposed. however, the transfer of Argyll Street and Arthur Street from Ryde North West to Ryde West division and proposed using the cemetery as a boundary. In support of his proposal, he argued that residents north of the cemetery shared similar issues with those in Ryde North West and that the cemetery itself formed a natural boundary. He suggested that if Ryde North West had too many electors as a result of this amendment, some areas east of the High Street and Union Street could be moved. We considered this proposal carefully. Including Argyll Street and Arthur Street within Ryde North West division would produce high electoral imbalances by 2024: 27% for Ryde North West and -30% in the case of Ryde West. Moving the areas east of the High Street and Union Street to Ryde Monktonmead as he suggested (to deal with any resulting imbalance) gave even poorer variances. Therefore, we are not persuaded to adopt his proposal.
- A resident submitted a proposal which aimed to improve electoral variances. This proposal involved moving the boundary of Ryde West to include the southern side of Queens Road and Newport Street. While this would have given marginally improved electoral variances (-7% for Ryde North West and 4% for Ryde West), the resident did not provide any other evidence to support the scheme and we consider that the proposal would not provide strong division boundaries. We are therefore not persuaded to change our draft recommendations here.

- The Council was content with the draft recommendations but suggested the renaming of Ryde South West division to Haylands & Swanmore to reflect the local communities within the division. This was supported by Councillor Churchman. The Commission is content to rename the division accordingly.
- Having considered all the evidence received, we do not propose to make any changes to the boundaries in our draft recommendations for these divisions. The only change in this area is renaming the Ryde South West division to Haylands & Swanmore.

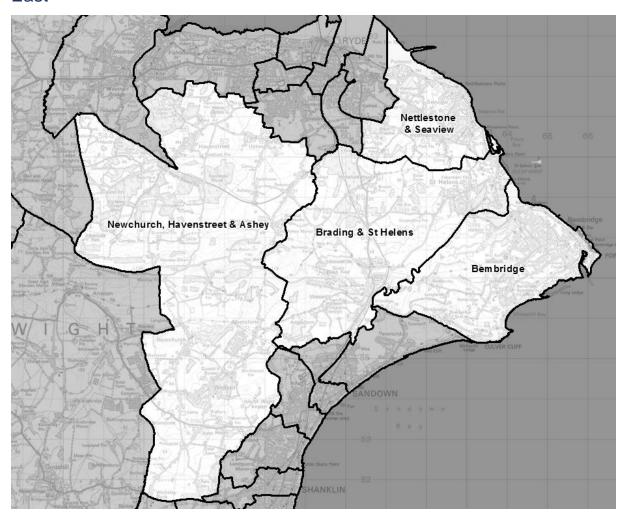
#### Ryde Appley & Elmfield, Ryde Monktonmead and Ryde South East

- 61 In addition to the initial warding pattern consultation, we carried out two more consultations for this area: one on our draft recommendations and an additional limited consultation on our further draft recommendations.
- We received 10 submissions, including the Council's, during the consultation on our original draft recommendations for this area. The Council accepted the Commission's draft recommendations but proposed some minor alterations to bring together the floodplain area within one division.
- Councillor Lyons from Havenstreet & Ashey Parish Council questioned the timescales for the Pennyfeathers development and its use as a basis for restructuring divisions in the Ryde area. The Commission acknowledges that forecasting is an inexact science and recognises the difficulty in projecting figures. We also acknowledge that population and development trends are dynamic. In light of this, we consider that a line must be drawn under the forecasts, and that the figures provided and agreed at the beginning of a review are those that should be used as the base forecast throughout.
- During the initial warding pattern consultation, Councillor Lilley submitted a proposal which included using St John's Hill as a boundary between his proposed Ryde North and Ryde South divisions. Our draft recommendations were based on his proposal with a number of amendments, one of which was to extend the northern boundary of his Ryde South division to run along West Hill Road and Park Road, instead of along St John's Hill. We renamed the divisions Ryde North East and Ryde South East.
- However, in error, we published two different maps on our webpage. The portal (which is our online consultation tool) showed St John's Hill as the boundary reflecting Councillor Lilley's original proposal while the PDF map on our website showed the boundary that the Commission intended should form the division boundary.

- The submissions we received relating to this area appeared to be based on the incorrect mapping. Respondents stated that they supported the boundaries identified in Councillor Lilley's original submission as shown on the portal mapping. However, to adopt St John's Hill as a boundary would result in a -18% variance for the draft Ryde North East division.
- Having visited the area twice, we were content that the boundary of West Hill Road and Park Road that we previously identified and had intended to publish across all maps provided the best reflection of the statutory criteria. Councillor Lilley's original boundary along St John's Hill provides for a variance of -18% which we do not consider is justified. Given the error in the mapping, we re-published the draft recommendations for a limited period of consultation.
- In addition to clarifying the boundary along West Hill Road and Park Road, we made minor amendments to the boundary between Ryde North East and Ryde Central as proposed by the Council. These amendments, which did not affect any electors, ensured all the railway buildings were in the same division and also brought together the floodplain area into one division. Furthermore, they moved the boating lake on the Esplanade from Ryde North East to Ryde Central. These changes were reflected in our further draft recommendations.
- 69 A number of submissions requested that we rename Ryde Central after the Monkton Brook. The Council proposed the name Ryde Monktonmead and we adopted this division name as part of our further draft recommendations.
- Our further draft recommendations were published on 5 March. In response to them, we received five submissions relating to this area, all of which supported our further draft recommendations.
- 71 Councillor Lilley's submission expressed the overwhelming support the recommendations for Ryde North East received at a special ward meeting convened to discuss them. However, on behalf of residents who lived close to the boating lake, he requested a minor amendment to reverse one of the changes we made at the previous stage. These residents raised specific issues sometimes associated with the lake, including parking, access and geese. Under our proposals, the lake had become part of Ryde Monktonmead. Therefore, the responsibility for this water facility would fall to another councillor and not the one representing their division. The change which would put the boating lake back in Ryde North East does not involve any electors. We are content to make this change.
- 72 Councillor Lilley also proposed changing the name of the division to Ryde Appley & Elmfield to better reflect the communities who live there. We accept this proposal and have renamed the division accordingly.

- The Isle of Wight Conservative Association pointed out that single digit differences in the forecast electorate for some of the Ryde parish wards made a difference in the number of parish councillors allocated to them. Ryde Town Council is made up of 16 councillors. These are allocated to parish wards according to their proportion of the forecast electorate, regardless of how big or small the margins are. This results in two parish wards having an additional councillor even though they only have a few more electors than two other parish wards.
- The Conservative Association therefore asked us to reduce the overall number of parish councillors in Ryde parish from 16 to 14 so each parish ward would be allocated the same number of councillors (two). We recognise that in this instance such a tiny difference in the forecast electorate results in an uneven distribution of parish councillors and we understand the views of the Conservative Association. However, in conducting electoral reviews, the Commission does not seek to change the total number of councillors elected to parish councils and accordingly is constrained by the need to distribute them as evenly as possible. Altering the total number of parish councillors can be considered as part of a Community Governance Review undertaken by Isle of Wight Council.
- 75 In our draft recommendations, we transposed the forecast electorate for Ryde South East and Ryde North East (now Ryde Appley & Elmfield) parish wards. Our further draft recommendations updated and corrected this, and we are now confirming these figures as part of our final recommendations.
- Our final recommendations are for three single-member divisions of Ryde Appley & Elmfield, Ryde Monktonmead and Ryde South East.

#### East



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2024
Bembridge	1	11%
Brading & St Helens	1	-5%
Nettlestone & Seaview	1	-6%
Newchurch, Havenstreet & Ashey	1	-1%

### Bembridge and Brading & St Helens

- 77 We received three submissions from St Helens Parish Council and two local residents in addition to the Council's submission. All were supportive of our draft recommendations which provided for single-member divisions.
- 78 We therefore confirm our draft recommendations for Bembridge and Brading & St Helens divisions as final.

#### Nettlestone & Seaview

79 The Commission received no submissions specific to this area other than from the Council who supported our draft recommendations. We therefore confirm our draft recommendations for Nettlestone & Seaview division as final.

#### Newchurch, Havenstreet & Ashey

- In response to our draft recommendations, we received seven submissions in addition to the response from the Council. A number of them, including those from two residents, argued that there were poor links between Newchurch and Havenstreet and that they should not be united in the same division. Arreton Parish Council objected to their separation from Newchurch with whom they considered they had a better geographical affinity. Havenstreet & Ashey Parish Council considered that they had better and well-established links with Haylands, in the proposed Haylands & Swanmore division. Councillor Lyons of Havenstreet & Ashey Parish Council suggested Havenstreet village be included in one of the adjacent divisions to the north or east, for example any one of Wootton Bridge, Binstead & Fishbourne or Ryde South West (now Haylands & Swanmore) divisions. A resident also supported the inclusion of Havenstreet in Binstead & Fishbourne division. The resident argued that Newchurch division should not extend that far north.
- We note these comments and considered whether the alternative proposals could be adopted. However, including Havenstreet & Ashey parish in any of the suggested divisions would produce unacceptably high electoral variances: 16% in Haylands & Swanmore, 21% in Wootton Bridge or 23% in Binstead & Fishbourne. In all three scenarios, the residual Newchurch division would be too small and have a variance of more than -20%.
- A number of the submissions, including the Council's and Councillor Mosdell's, raised the importance of including Havenstreet in the name of the new division. Havenstreet & Ashey Parish Council requested that Ashey be included in the name as well. We accept that including both Havenstreet and Ashey in the name of the new division would better reflect its constituent communities and have renamed the division Newchurch, Havenstreet & Ashey accordingly.
- The Commission does not propose to make any changes to the boundaries in this area and confirms its draft recommendations in Newchurch, Havenstreet & Ashey division as final.

Lake, Sandown and Shanklin (The Bay Area)



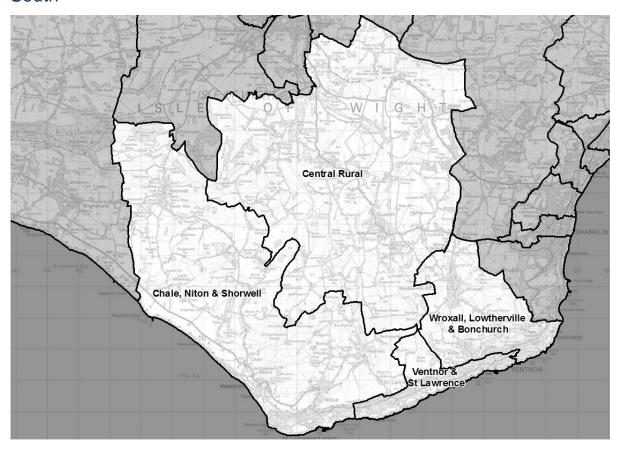
Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2024
Lake North	1	-2%
Lake South	1	0%
Sandown North	1	-9%
Sandown South	1	-6%
Shanklin Central	1	-2%
Shanklin South	1	3%

# Lake North, Lake South, Sandown North, Sandown South, Shanklin Central and Shanklin South

- We received 11 submissions in this area, the majority of which opposed our draft recommendations. When formulating our draft recommendations, we sought to address the lack of direct road access either side of the railway line in the existing Sandown South division. The Council, Shanklin Town Council, Lake Parish Council and residents all opposed our draft recommendations.
- 85 The Sandown Independents, however, did support using the railway near Sandown station as a boundary, while Councillor Brading expressed broad support for our proposals for Lake South.

- The Council requested that its original submission be revisited. It proposed maintaining the existing Sandown North and Sandown South divisions, with a slight alteration which would improve the variances of the divisions. It also proposed maintaining the existing two Lake and two Shanklin divisions. The Council argued that the boundaries of these four divisions were effective and, except for Lake South, were coterminous with parish boundaries and were forecast to have good electoral equality. Furthermore, the Council noted that elected members and Lake Parish Council were concerned that parts of Lake parish would be in divisions that did not bear the name 'Lake'. This reflected comments from residents, some of whom considered that the draft recommendations moved parts of Lake into Sandown and vice versa. One resident said we had split the Lake community by doing this.
- 87 One resident also supported keeping the existing boundaries with the option of transferring one or two roads between the Sandown divisions to reduce the electoral variance in Sandown North.
- 88 In the existing Sandown South division there is no vehicular access from north to south due to the railway line that bisects the area. When identifying draft recommendations, we originally considered that this lack of access justified moving away from the proposals submitted by the Council. However, in light of the representations received, we visited the area again. We observed that the short railway underpass was in regular use by residents and the community appeared to extend to both sides of the railway line. The lack of vehicular access did not seem to constitute as much of a barrier as we first thought, and we are satisfied to revise our recommendations in this area.
- We reconsidered the Council's scheme and now propose to adopt the Council's proposals which broadly maintain the existing boundaries across the Bay Area with one minor amendment. The amendment is to revise the boundary between the two Sandown divisions so that it runs along the rear of properties to the south of Station Avenue instead of the north. This will produce electoral variances of -9% and -6% for Sandown North and Sandown South divisions respectively.
- 90 As part of the final recommendations, the Commission is adopting Lake North, Lake South, Shanklin Central, Shanklin North, Sandown North and Sandown South divisions described above, as proposed by the Council.

#### South



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2024
Central Rural	1	3%
Chale, Niton & Shorwell	1	0%
Ventnor & St Lawrence	1	9%
Wroxall, Lowtherville & Bonchurch	1	6%

#### Chale, Niton & Shorwell

- 92 We received two submissions for this area in response to our draft recommendations. The Council was content with our draft recommendations while Brighstone Parish Council wanted Shorwell and Brighstone to remain in the same division because of their strong historical link. Although the Parish Council did not provide any further details, we considered this suggestion. However, it would produce a high electoral variance of -20% by 2024 for the residual 'Chale & Niton' division.
- 93 We do not consider divisions with such poor variances should be adopted without significant justification and do not propose making any changes to the draft recommendations for this area and are confirming our draft recommendations as final.

The Council suggested the Niton division be renamed to reflect the local communities within the division. We are content to reflect this in our final recommendations for this area and are renaming the division Chale, Niton & Shorwell.

#### Central Rural, Ventnor & St Lawrence and Wroxall, Lowtherville & Bonchurch

- 95 In addition to the initial warding pattern consultation, we carried out two consultations for this area: one on our draft recommendations and an additional limited consultation on further draft recommendations.
- We received 30 submissions in response to our original draft recommendations for this area, including from the Council, Ventnor Town Council, Godshill Parish Council, Wroxall Parish Council, Rookley Parish Council, county councillors, parish councillors, the Isle of Wight Conservative Association, the Labour Party (Ventnor & District Branch), the Green Party and residents. We also received a submission from a Cherwell district councillor.
- 97 The Ventnor & District Branch of the Isle of Wight Labour Party proposed the retention of 40 councillors and therefore three divisions in this area: Wroxall, Ventnor East and Ventnor West. We noted that the submission provided no persuasive evidence to change the council size and therefore we are not minded to increase the number of councillors or adopt its proposals here.
- 98 Respondents opposed the Ventnor & Wroxall two-member division outlined in our original draft recommendations for two reasons. Firstly, respondents, notably Wroxall Parish Council, considered that Wroxall as a rural parish should not be included in a division with a town with which it considered it had no shared community identity. We also received opposition to the principle of a two-member division, with respondents noting and objecting to the fact that it was the only multi-member division in the county.
- 99 The parish councils and residents expressed a desire for the rural parishes of Wroxall, Godshill and Rookley to be included in a single division. They considered that the rural nature and closeness of these communities made this a good option and that including Wroxall in the same division as an urban parish like Ventnor would not reflect community identities. While this proposed rural division would have good electoral equality, the remaining Ventnor area would be forecast to have an average variance of -17% by 2024. We recognised that it was not ideal to link these two parishes together but did not consider that adopting a scheme that would result in such significant over-representation in Ventnor was justified. We also considered that it was better to link communities that do not have a strong sense of community than to divide communities between divisions.

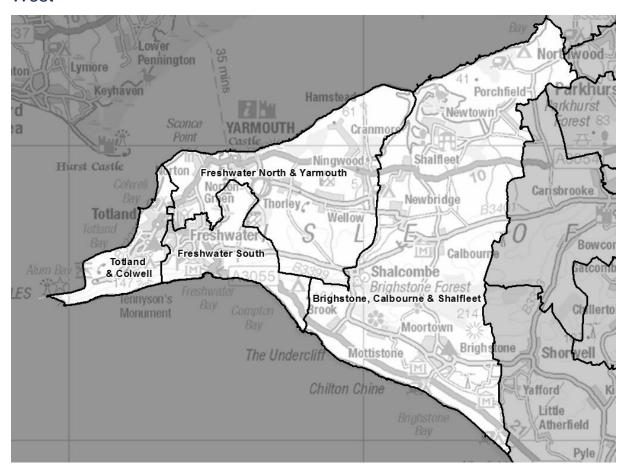
- 100 We also noted that the proposed rural division put forward by Wroxall Parish Council would have a knock-on effect on the draft recommendations around the proposed Godshill division the parishes left in this division would need to be accommodated in other divisions, for which we have received no justification or evidence. The knock-on effect would be substantial and affect a number of surrounding divisions.
- 101 Accordingly, we were not persuaded to amend the boundaries of the Godshill division outlined in our draft recommendations. However, we were persuaded to change its name to better reflect the communities within the new division in response to submissions from the Council and Arreton Parish Council. When publishing our further draft recommendations, we renamed this division Central Rural division.
- 102 Having taken the decision not to include Wroxall parish with the parishes to the north, we considered the strong opposition to the fact that we had recommended a two-member division. A number of respondents expressed concern that rural Wroxall parish would be subsumed by the larger and more urban Ventnor parish and that its views will not be adequately represented in such a division. One respondent, Councillor Downer, although stating a preference for Wroxall and Godshill parishes to remain in the same division, also suggested that if Wroxall had to be included in a division with Ventnor, then it would be better if the division was split.
- 103 Accordingly, we were persuaded to publish further draft recommendations and seek views on the best way to divide our two-member division into two single-member divisions that would reflect our statutory criteria.
- 104 Before publishing our further draft recommendations, we considered the proposals put forward by the Isle of Wight Council and Councillor Bond, from Ventnor Town Council, who provided detailed proposals for dividing the division in two.
- 105 Councillor Bond considered that the existing Bonchurch parish ward should be included in the same division as Ventnor Town, due to historical and contemporary connections as well as their close proximity. He proposed that St Lawrence parish ward, together with Lowtherville parish ward, should be included with Wroxall parish in another division.
- 106 The Council, however, included Bonchurch parish ward and Lowtherville parish ward in the same division as Wroxall parish. It considered St Boniface Down a landmark shared by both Bonchurch and Wroxall.
- 107 Having decided to consult on two single-member divisions, we considered both proposals carefully on our second tour of the area. We were persuaded that the Council's proposals, as supported by Ventnor Town Council, were likely to better

reflect the communities than Councillor Bond's proposal. We were not persuaded that the area of St Lawrence should be included with Wroxall and considered that it was more appropriate to include Bonchurch with Wroxall.

- 108 Accordingly, our further draft recommendations were based on the Council's proposal, with a slight modification to include the properties north of Ocean View Road in our Ventnor West division to improve electoral equality. We also included the property behind Holy Trinity Church in Ventnor West division. We invited further views on the precise location of this boundary.
- 109 Our further draft recommendations were for a Ventnor East & Wroxall division with an 8% variance and a Ventnor West division with a 7% variance. We received nine submissions in response to our limited consultation on the further draft recommendations in this area.
- 110 The Council and the Isle of Wight Conservatives were content with our further draft recommendations for this area. The Sandown Independents also supported our proposals but suggested different names for the divisions. Our further draft recommendations reflected the proposal supported by Ventnor Town Council, and it did not comment on division arrangements but proposed combining two parish wards to enhance effective representation at the parish level.
- 111 The submission from Wroxall Parish Council also re-stated the points it made previously. It sought to be included in a division with other similar rural parishes, specifically Godshill and Rookley. It referred to the 2007 Lyons Inquiry report which advocated greater flexibility for local authorities to 'place shape' with less control from the centre.
- 112 We also received submissions from two local residents which, like Wroxall Parish Council, expressed a desire to be in a division with other rural parishes. These respondents did not provide any alternative division patterns that we had not considered already. While we note these views, for Wroxall to be included in a division with Godshill and Rookley would give rise to unjustifiable electoral variances of -17% in the Ventnor area and 51% for Central Rural. Therefore, we were not persuaded to accept this proposal. Although they opposed our further draft recommendations, the submissions did not provide a workable alternative.
- 113 Two people proposed modifications to the single-member divisions that we had identified. Councillor Bond asked us to reconsider his original single-member divisions that he proposed. He argued that Bonchurch was too small to make up a division with Wroxall and Upper Ventnor without adding parts of Ventnor Town; that our divisions divided Ventnor Town and separated it from Bonchurch with which it shared close ties; that Ventnor would have to be re-warded; and that the proposed Ventnor East parish ward was peculiarly shaped.

- 114 Councillor Bond also highlighted the lack of any internal road connection between Wroxall and Bonchurch and that the proposed Ventnor East parish ward did not lend itself to effective representation. Finally, the councillor reiterated his earlier point about St Boniface Down being a natural boundary as well as the parish boundary.
- 115 Another resident proposed an amendment to our proposed boundary between Ventnor West and Ventnor East & Wroxall divisions so that it runs along the middle of Ocean View Road, Mitchell Avenue and St Boniface Road. He argued that including the properties north of these roads in Ventnor East & Wroxall division produced a more easily recognised boundary, which would enhance local representation. We reconsidered this boundary in the light of this submission and agree that it is a stronger boundary. Accordingly, we propose to adopt this amendment and note that this addresses Councillor Bond's concern that there is no direct road connection within this division. With this one minor amendment to the boundary and the name changes described below, we are confirming our further draft recommendations as final recommendations.
- 116 We also accept that the names proposed in our further draft recommendations do not fully reflect the individual communities within the divisions. The Sandown Independents in their submission proposed that the divisions be named Ventnor & St Lawrence and Wroxall & Lowtherville instead of Ventnor West and Ventnor East & Wroxall divisions respectively. Subject to a slight amendment to reflect all the constituent communities, we accept these and propose to rename them Ventnor & St Lawrence division and Wroxall, Lowtherville & Bonchurch division.
- 117 In response to the consequential changes to parish wards in our further draft recommendations, Ventnor Town Council proposed the merger of Bonchurch and Ventnor East parish wards into a two-member parish ward. It felt that the size and geography of our proposed Ventnor East parish ward would make it difficult to represent effectively. We are content to make this change and our final recommendations reflect this.
- 118 Our final recommendations confirm our further draft recommendations for Central Rural. Our two-single member divisions are for a Ventnor & St Lawrence division and a Wroxall, Lowtherville & Bonchurch division, the boundaries of which are as proposed by the resident as described above.

#### West



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2024
Brighstone, Calbourne & Shalfleet	1	-7%
Freshwater North & Yarmouth	1	-10%
Freshwater South	1	7%
Totland & Colwell	1	11%

#### Brighstone, Calbourne & Shalfleet

119 We received three submissions in addition to the Council's county-wide submission in relation to the Brighstone division outlined in our draft recommendations. The Council preferred that Shalfleet parish is not divided by a division boundary. Shalfleet Parish Council raised a similar objection. We acknowledge the desire to keep parishes whole and we seek to keep communities in the same division wherever possible. However, in this instance, keeping the whole of Shalfleet in one division provides very poor variances of at least 23% for Brighstone. We considered that there is a sufficient distinction between east Shalfleet and west Shalfleet that it is reasonable to divide the parish between divisions.

- 120 Brighstone Parish Council wanted to remain in the same division as Shorwell parish. Doing this is forecast to result in poor electoral variances as discussed in paragraph 92 above, and we are not persuaded to adopt this change.
- 121 A resident argued that the boundary proposed in our draft recommendations should be moved so that the division is divided north and south rather than east and west but did not provide any details to enable us map out this proposal.
- 122 The Council suggested the inclusion of 'Calbourne & Shalfleet' in the name of the division and we are content to adopt this change.
- 123 We do not propose to make any changes to our draft recommendations with the exception of the name change and confirm our draft recommendations for Brighstone, Calbourne & Shalfleet as final.

#### Freshwater North & Yarmouth, Freshwater South and Totland & Colwell

- 124 In addition to the initial consultation, we carried out two consultations for this area: one on our draft recommendations and an additional limited consultation on further draft recommendations.
- 125 In response to the consultation on our draft recommendations, we received four submissions. Three of the submissions from the Council, Freshwater Parish Council and a local resident opposed the inclusion of the shopping area around Avenue Road within our original Totland division as this was considered a fundamental part of Freshwater. The Council and the local resident proposed alternative schemes for this area, both putting the shopping area back into a Freshwater division.
- 126 The Council and the local resident also suggested including part of the Colwell area of Freshwater parish in a Totland & Colwell division. The Council argued that the coastal areas of Totland and Colwell have a lot in common and are linked by road and by the coastal path running along the sea wall.
- 127 We noted that the Council's proposal also moved a number of other areas out of Freshwater North division and into the Freshwater South division. Its divisions would provide electoral variances of -11% in Freshwater North & Yarmouth and 19% in Freshwater South. We considered 19% too high and were therefore not persuaded to accept the Council's proposal in its entirety.
- 128 Accordingly, we based our further draft recommendations on both the Council's and local resident's proposals. We were persuaded that this shopping area around Avenue Road is part of Freshwater and should not be included in a Totland division. We therefore proposed transferring it into our Freshwater North division. We also extended Totland division to include the Brambles and much of the Linstone Chine

area as proposed by the Council. We considered that this would keep the Colwell area of Freshwater in one division and better reflect community identities.

- 129 We also revised the boundary between Freshwater South division and Totland division in the Middleton area and have reverted to the parish boundary. We noted that there was support from the Freshwater Bay Residents' Association for our draft recommendation as it unites residents on both sides of Middleton Road in the same division. However, because of the changes elsewhere in the division, it was not possible to retain this in our further draft recommendations. Furthermore, both the Council and local resident argued for the current boundary to be retained in that area.
- 130 We were content to rename the Totland division as Totland & Colwell division and the Freshwater North division to Freshwater North & Yarmouth division, to better reflect the communities that comprise the divisions.
- 131 Our further draft recommendations were for a Freshwater North & Yarmouth division with a -10% variance, a Freshwater South division with a 7% variance and a Totland & Colwell division with an 11% variance.
- 132 We received five submissions in response to our further draft recommendations from the Council, the Isle of Wight Conservative Association, the Sandown Independents and two local residents. The first three of these respondents expressed their support for the further draft recommendations.
- 133 One resident asked us to move the boundary between Yarmouth and Shalfleet parishes. The Commission does not have the power to change parish boundaries as part of an electoral review. Parish boundary changes can be considered as part of a Community Governance Review undertaken by the Isle of Wight Council.
- 134 The other resident did not provide any comments on the boundaries but requested that Freshwater North & Yarmouth division be renamed Yarmouth & Freshwater North. He considered that Yarmouth was an older settlement and, therefore, its name should precede Freshwater. However, we are satisfied that the name proposed under the further draft recommendations already reflects the local communities within the division and are not minded to make this change.
- 135 We therefore confirm our further draft recommendations as final for these divisions.

## **Conclusions**

136 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality in the Isle of Wight, referencing the 2018 and 2024 electorate figures. A full list of divisions, names and their corresponding electoral variances can be found at Appendix A to the back of this report. An outline map of the divisions is provided at Appendix B.

# Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2018	2024
Number of councillors	39	39
Number of electoral divisions	39	39
Average number of electors per councillor	2,861	2,952
Number of divisions with a variance more than 10% from the average	5	2
Number of divisions with a variance more than 20% from the average	1	0

#### Final recommendations

The Isle of Wight should be made up of 39 councillors serving 39 divisions representing 39 single-councillor divisions. 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 divisions for the Isle of Wight. You can also view our final recommendations for Isle of Wight Council on our interactive maps at <a href="https://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk">www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk</a>

# Parish electoral arrangements

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

138 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, the Isle of Wight 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.

139 As a result of our proposed division 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 Cowes Town Council, Freshwater Parish Council, Newport & Carisbrooke Parish Council, Ryde Town Council, Sandown Town Council, Shalfleet Parish Council, Shanklin Town Council and Ventnor Town Council.

140 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Cowes parish.

#### Final recommendations

Cowes Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing four wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Cowes Medina	6
Cowes North	6
Cowes South	2
Cowes West	2

141 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Freshwater parish.

#### Final recommendations

Freshwater Parish Council should comprise 14 councillors, as at present, representing three wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Freshwater Colwell	2
Freshwater North	3
Freshwater South	9

142 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Newport & Carisbrooke parish.

#### Final recommendations

Newport & Carisbrooke Parish Council should comprise 14 councillors, as at present, representing seven wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Carisbrooke & Gunville	2
Fairlee	2
Mountjoy & Shide	2
Newport Central	2
Newport West	2
Pan & Barton	2
Parkhurst & Hunnyhill	2

143 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Ryde parish.

#### Final recommendations

Ryde Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing seven wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Binstead	2
Haylands & Swanmore	2
Ryde Appley & Elmfield	3
Ryde Monktonmead	3
Ryde North West	2
Ryde South East	2
Ryde West	2

144 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Sandown parish.

#### Final recommendations

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

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Sandown North	6
Sandown South	6

145 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Shalfleet parish.

#### Final recommendations

Shalfleet Parish Council should comprise six councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Shalfleet East	2
Shalfleet West	4

146 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Shanklin parish.

### Final recommendations

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

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Shanklin Central	6
Shanklin North	3
Shanklin South	6

147 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Ventnor parish.

#### Final recommendations

Ventnor Town Council should comprise 11 councillors, as at present, representing four wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Bonchurch & Ventnor East	2
Lowtherville	2
St Lawrence	1
Ventnor West	6

# What happens next?

148 We have now completed our review of Isle of Wight. The recommendations must now be approved by Parliament. A draft Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in Parliament. Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements will come into force at the local elections in 2021.

## **Equalities**

149 The Commission has looked at how it carries out reviews under the guidelines set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. It has made best endeavours to ensure that people with protected characteristics can participate in the review process and is sufficiently satisfied that no adverse equality impacts will arise as a result of the outcome of the review.

Appendices

# Appendix A

## Final recommendations for Isle of Wight

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2018)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Bembridge	1	3,269	3,269	14%	3,286	3,286	11%
2	Binstead & Fishbourne	1	2,911	2,911	2%	2,916	2,916	-1%
3	Brading & St Helens	1	2,800	2,800	-2%	2,803	2,803	-5%
4	Brighstone, Calbourne & Shalfleet	1	2,646	2,646	-8%	2,738	2,738	-7%
5	Carisbrooke & Gunville	1	2,750	2,750	-4%	2,858	2,858	-3%
6	Central Rural	1	2,918	2,918	2%	3,036	3,036	3%
7	Chale, Niton & Shorwell	1	2,950	2,950	3%	2,962	2,962	0%
8	Cowes Medina	1	3,039	3,039	6%	3,045	3,045	3%
9	Cowes North	1	2,854	2,854	0%	2,865	2,865	-3%
10	Cowes South & Northwood	1	2,901	2,901	1%	2,904	2,904	-2%

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2018)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
11	Cowes West & Gurnard	1	2,884	2,884	1%	3,031	3,031	3%
12	East Cowes	1	3,138	3,138	10%	3,155	3,155	7%
13	Fairlee & Whippingham	1	2,922	2,922	2%	2,931	2,931	-1%
14	Freshwater North & Yarmouth	1	2,628	2,628	-8%	2,662	2,662	-10%
15	Freshwater South	1	3,126	3,126	9%	3,167	3,167	7%
16	Haylands & Swanmore	1	2,732	2,732	-4%	2,735	2,735	-7%
17	Lake North	1	2,901	2,901	1%	2,904	2,904	-2%
18	Lake South	1	2,958	2,958	3%	2,958	2,958	0%
19	Mountjoy & Shide	1	2,804	2,804	-2%	2,807	2,807	-5%
20	Nettlestone & Seaview	1	2,510	2,510	-12%	2,775	2,775	-6%
21	Newchurch, Havenstreet & Ashey	1	2,906	2,906	2%	2,914	2,914	-1%
22	Newport Central	1	2,680	2,680	-6%	2,722	2,722	-8%
23	Newport West	1	2,902	2,902	1%	2,902	2,902	-2%

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2018)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
24	Osborne	1	2,959	2,959	3%	3,097	3,097	5%
25	Pan & Barton	1	2,560	2,560	-11%	3,211	3,211	9%
26	Parkhurst & Hunnyhill	1	2,721	2,721	-5%	2,732	2,732	-7%
27	Ryde Appley & Elmfield	1	2,975	2,975	4%	3,107	3,107	5%
28	Ryde Monktonmead	1	3,086	3,086	8%	3,103	3,103	5%
29	Ryde North West	1	3,049	3,049	7%	3,097	3,097	5%
30	Ryde South East	1	1,737	1,737	-39%	3,093	3,093	5%
31	Ryde West	1	2,687	2,687	-6%	2,719	2,719	-8%
32	Sandown North	1	2,672	2,672	-7%	2,692	2,692	-9%
33	Sandown South	1	2,770	2,770	-3%	2,780	2,780	-6%
34	Shanklin Central	1	2,889	2,889	1%	2,903	2,903	-2%
35	Shanklin South	1	2,979	2,979	4%	3,039	3,039	3%
36	Totland & Colwell	1	3,215	3,215	12%	3,274	3,274	11%
37	Ventnor & St Lawrence	1	3,146	3,146	10%	3,206	3,206	9%

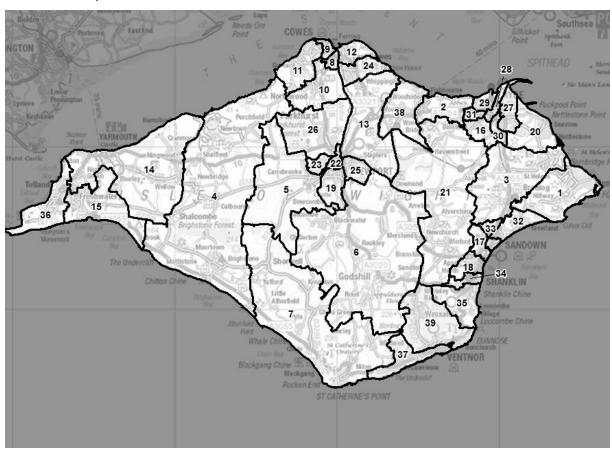
	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2018)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
38	Wootton Bridge	1	2,871	2,871	0%	2,874	2,874	-3%
39	Wroxall, Lowtherville & Bonchurch	1	3,122	3,122	9%	3,130	3,130	6%
	Totals	39	111,567	-	-	115,133	-	-
	Averages	-	-	2,861	-	-	2,952	_

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Isle of Wight Council.

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

# Appendix B

## Outline map



Number	Division name
1	Bembridge
2	Binstead & Fishbourne
3	Brading & St Helens
4	Brighstone, Calbourne & Shalfleet
5	Carisbrooke & Gunville
6	Central Rural
7	Chale, Niton & Shorwell
8	Cowes Medina
9	Cowes North
10	Cowes South & Northwood
11	Cowes West & Gurnard
12	East Cowes
13	Fairlee & Whippingham
14	Freshwater North & Yarmouth
15	Freshwater South
16	Haylands & Swanmore
17	Lake North

18	Lake South
19	Mountjoy & Shide
20	Nettlestone & Seaview
21	Newchurch, Havenstreet & Ashey
22	Newport Central
23	Newport West
24	Osborne
25	Pan & Barton
26	Parkhurst & Hunnyhill
27	Ryde Appley & Elmfield
28	Ryde Monktonmead
29	Ryde North West
30	Ryde South East
31	Ryde West
32	Sandown North
33	Sandown South
34	Shanklin Central
35	Shanklin South
36	Totland & Colwell
37	Ventnor & St Lawrence
38	Wootton Bridge
39	Wroxall, Lowtherville & Bonchurch

A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: <a href="https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/south-east/isle-of-wight/isle-of-wight">https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/south-east/isle-of-wight/isle-of-wight</a>

## Appendix C

#### Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at: <a href="https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/south-east/isle-of-wight/isle-of-

#### **Submissions on draft recommendations**

#### Local Authority

• Isle of Wight Council

#### Political Groups

- Isle of Wight Conservative Association
- Isle of Wight Green Party
- Sandown Independents
- Ventnor & District Branch, Labour Party

#### Councillors

- Councillor A. Beere (Cherwell District Council)
- Councillor I. Bond (Ventnor Town Council)
- Councillor P. Brading (Isle of Wight Council)
- Councillor G. Brodie (Isle of Wight Council)
- Councillor V. Churchman (Isle of Wight Council)
- Councillor J. Critchley (Ryde Town Council)
- Councillor R. Downer (Isle of Wight Council)
- Councillor A. Gallop (Wroxall Parish Council)
- Councillor M. Lilley (Isle of Wight Council and Ryde Town Council)
- Councillor M. Lyons (Havenstreet & Ashey Parish Council)
- Councillor J. Moody (Ryde Town Council)
- Councillor C. Mosdell (Isle of Wight Council)

### Local Organisations

Freshwater Bay Residents' Association

#### Parish and Town Councils

- Arreton Parish Council
- Brighstone Parish Council
- Calbourne Parish Council (now Calbourne, Newtown & Porchfield Parish Council)
- Cowes Town Council
- Freshwater Parish Council
- Godshill Parish Council
- Gurnard Parish Council
- Havenstreet & Ashey Parish Council
- Lake Parish Council
- Northwood Parish Council
- Rookley Parish Council
- Shalfleet Parish Council
- Shanklin Town Council
- St Helens Parish Council
- Ventnor Town Council
- Wroxall Parish Council

#### Local Residents

• 50 local residents

#### Submissions on further draft recommendations

#### Local Authority

Isle of Wight Council

#### Political Groups

- Isle of Wight Conservative Association
- Sandown Independents

#### Councillors

- Councillor I. Bond (Ventnor Town Council)
- Councillor M. Lilley (Isle of Wight Council and Ryde Town Council)

### Parish and Town Councils

- Ventnor Town Council
- Wroxall Parish Council

### Local Residents

• 6 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 fairness	When one elector's vote is worth the same as another's
Electoral inequality	Where there is a difference between the number of electors represented by a councillor and the average for the local authority
Electorate	People in the authority who are registered to vote in elections. For the purposes of this report, we refer specifically to the electorate for local government elections
Number of electors per councillor	The total number of electors in a local authority divided by the number of councillors
Over-represented	Where there are fewer electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Parish	A specific and defined area of land within a single local authority enclosed within a parish boundary. There are over 10,000 parishes in England, which provide the first tier of representation to their local residents

Parish council	A body elected by electors in the parish which serves and represents the area defined by the parish boundaries. See also 'Town council'
Parish (or town) council electoral arrangements	The total number of councillors on any one parish or town council; the number, names and boundaries of parish wards; and the number of councillors for each ward
Parish ward	A particular area of a parish, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors vote in whichever parish ward they live for candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the parish council
Town council	A parish council which has been given ceremonial 'town' status. More information on achieving such status can be found at <a href="https://www.nalc.gov.uk">www.nalc.gov.uk</a>
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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