

# Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Cheshire West & Chester Council

Electoral review

August 2017

## Translations and other formats

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# Summary

## Who we are and what we do

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

2 Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

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

## Why Cheshire West & Chester?

4 We are conducting a review of Cheshire West & Chester Council as the Council requested that a review take place to examine the number of councillors that should be elected to the authority. Furthermore, the value of each vote in borough elections also varies depending on where you live in Cheshire West & Chester. 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.

## Our proposals for Cheshire West & Chester

- Cheshire West & Chester Council should be represented by 70 councillors, five fewer than there are now.
- Cheshire West & Chester Council should have 43 wards, three fewer than there are now.
- The boundaries of 39 wards should change; four, Helsby, Malpas, Shakerley and Winsford Over & Verdin, will stay the same.

## Have your say

5 We are consulting on our draft recommendations for a ten-week period, from 29 August 2017 to 6 November 2017. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to contribute to the design of the new wards – the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be when analysing all the views we receive.

6 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.

**You have until 6 November 2017 to have your say on the draft recommendations. See page 38 for how to send us your response.**

# What is the Local Government Boundary Commission for England?

7 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament.<sup>1</sup>

8 The members of the Commission are:

- Professor Colin Mellors OBE (Chair)
  - Dr Peter Knight CBE, DL
  - Alison Lowton
  - Peter Maddison QPM
  - Sir Tony Redmond
- 
- Chief Executive: Jolyon Jackson CBE

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

# 1 Introduction

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

- The wards in Cheshire West & Chester 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 borough.

## What is an electoral review?

10 Our three main considerations are to:

- Improve electoral equality by equalising the number of electors each councillor represents
- Reflect community identity
- Provide for effective and convenient local government

11 Our task is to strike the best balance between them when making our recommendations. Our powers, as well as the guidance we have provided for electoral reviews and further information on the review process, can be found on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

## Consultation

12 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Cheshire West & Chester. We then held a period of consultation on warding patterns for the borough. The submissions received during consultation have informed our draft recommendations.

13 This review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
21 March 2017	Number of councillors decided
28 March 2017	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
5 June 2017	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
29 August 2017	Publication of draft recommendations, start of second consultation
6 November 2017	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
16 January 2018	Publication of final recommendations

## How will the recommendations affect you?

14 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.

## 2 Analysis and draft recommendations

15 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 wards.

16 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.

17 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.

	2016	2023
Electorate of Cheshire West & Chester	264,815	281,890
Number of councillors	70	70
Average number of electors per councillor	3,783	4,027

18 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 of our proposed wards for Cheshire West & Chester will have good electoral equality by 2023.

19 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the borough 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.

### Submissions received

20 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed at our offices by appointment, or on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

### Electorate figures

21 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2023, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2018. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 6% by 2023.

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

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

22 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.

## Number of councillors

23 Cheshire West & Chester Council currently has 75 councillors. We looked at evidence provided by three political parties and a councillor and concluded that decreasing the number of councillors by six would ensure the Council could carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

24 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 69 councillors – for example, 69 one-councillor wards, 23 three-councillor wards, or a mix of one-, two- and three-councillor wards.

25 We received four submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on ward patterns. Two submissions were broadly supportive of a reduction in the size of the Council without specifying an alternative number of councillors. The other two submissions objected to the proposed reduction of councillors. The first was on the grounds that the Council had more electors per councillor than neighbouring authorities and the second objected because the respondent believed that 75 councillors was the right number to serve the needs of the borough. Due to the lack of evidence in these submissions, we do not intend to significantly change the number of councillors we are proposing.

26 However, during the development of our draft recommendations we found that it was not possible to create a warding pattern for 69 councillors that had good electoral equality and reflected the community evidence we received. We noted that a 70-councillor warding pattern would better reflect community identities and interests, particularly in the large rural area running west from the north-eastern corner of the borough to the outskirts of Chester. We have therefore based our draft recommendations on a 70-member council. This approach is consistent with our guidance where we state it may be necessary to increase or decrease the council size by one or two members to ensure better boundaries or the better reflection of community identity.

## Ward boundaries consultation

27 We received 110 submissions to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included three borough-wide proposals from Chester West & Chester Conservative Group (the Conservative Group), Cheshire West Labour and Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats. The Conservative Group proposed a pattern of 41 wards to be represented by 69 councillors. Cheshire West Labour proposed 66 wards to be represented by 69 councillors. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed 61 wards to be represented by 73 councillors.

28 The three borough-wide schemes each provided for a mix of one-, two- and three-councillor wards for Cheshire West & Chester. We carefully considered the proposals received and concluded that some of the proposed wards would have

good levels of electoral equality and in some places used clearly identifiable boundaries.

29 Our draft recommendations are based on a combination of the borough-wide proposals that we received along with more localised proposals which provided evidence of community links and locally recognised boundaries. In some areas, we considered that the borough-wide proposals did not provide for the best balance between our statutory criteria and so we identified alternative boundaries. We also visited the area to look at the different proposals on the ground. This visit to Cheshire West & Chester helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

30 Our draft recommendations are for eight three-councillor wards, eleven two-councillor wards and twenty-four one-councillor wards. We consider that our draft recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we have received such evidence during consultation.

31 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table on page 35 and on the large map accompanying this report.

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

## Draft recommendations

33 The tables and maps on pages 10–34 detail our draft recommendations for each area of Cheshire West & Chester. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory<sup>4</sup> criteria of:

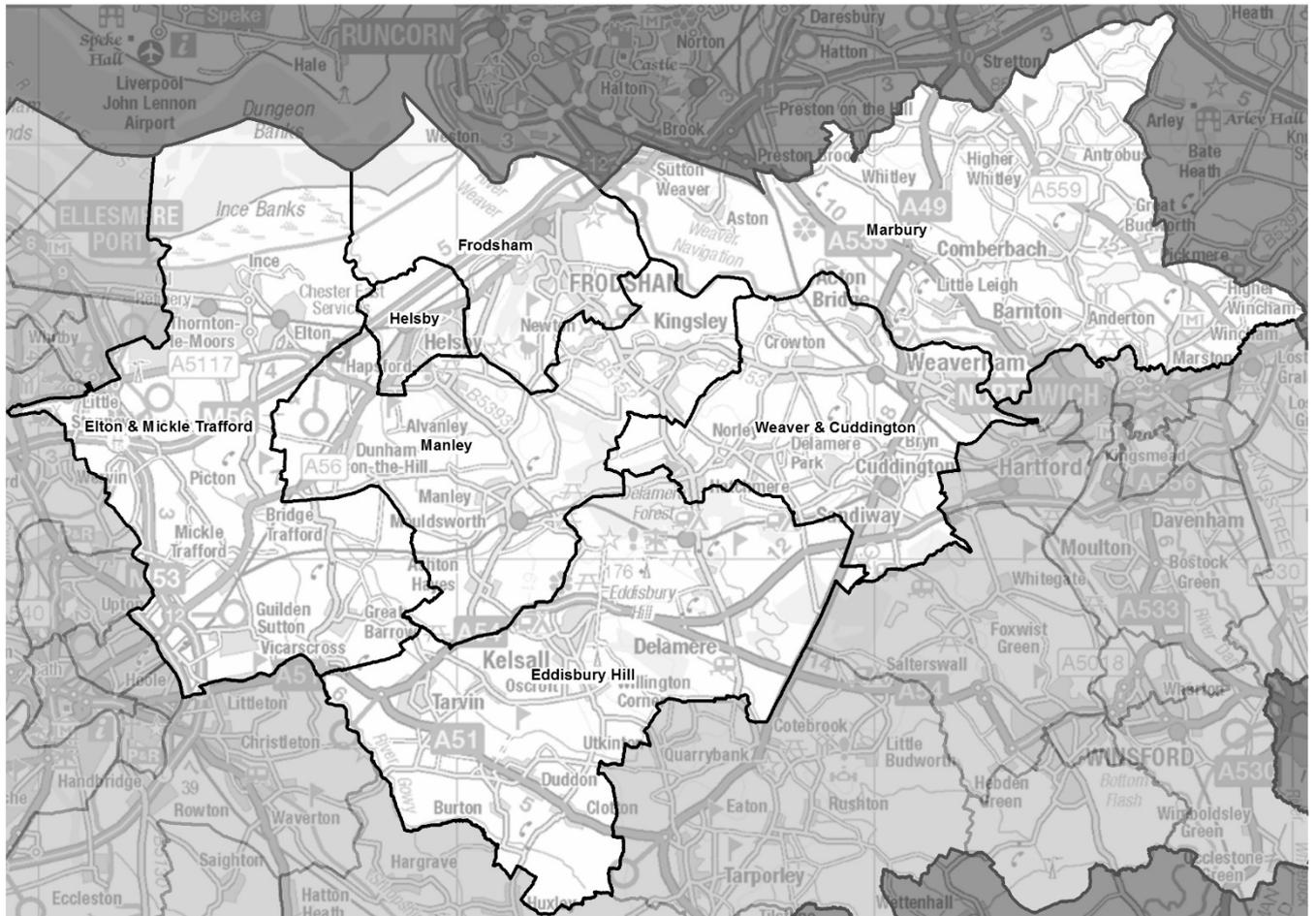
- Equality of representation
- Reflecting community interests and identities
- Providing for effective and convenient local government

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



## Northern rural wards



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
<b>Eddisbury Hill</b>	2	-2%
<b>Elton &amp; Mickle Trafford</b>	2	-8%
<b>Frodsham</b>	2	-5%
<b>Helsby</b>	1	9%
<b>Manley</b>	1	2%
<b>Marbury</b>	3	-9%
<b>Weaver &amp; Cuddington</b>	3	-2%

### *Marbury*

34 We received thirteen submissions in relation to this area in addition to the three borough-wide submissions. They were from all nine parish councils in the current Marbury ward, a borough councillor, a local organisation and two local residents.

35 Sutton Weaver Area Community Action Group requested that the current Kingsley ward be retained. The other twelve submissions argued that the current three-councillor Marbury ward should be retained with the addition of Lostock Gralam parish should we consider Marbury's projected variance of -16% to be too high. The key community arguments were: all nine parishes share services, including primary schools and the medical centre in Barnton; all nine parishes are rural and face similar issues; the A533, the Trent and Mersey Canal and the River Weaver are natural boundaries.

36 The Conservative Group proposed a two-councillor Marbury ward and a three-councillor Weaver & Cuddington ward that included three parishes from Marbury. Cheshire West Labour proposed three single-councillor wards that also included most of the current Kingsley ward. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed three single-councillor wards made up of the current Marbury ward and Lostock Gralam.

37 We have carefully considered all the submissions and have concluded, firstly, that we are not persuaded to retain the current Marbury ward in our draft recommendations as it will have an electoral variance of -16%. We do not consider the evidence we have received to be sufficient to justify such electoral inequality.

38 Several submissions correctly stated that adding Lostock Gralam parish to the current Marbury ward would address the issue of electoral inequality: such a ward would have a variance of 0%. However, it would then mean we would have to combine parishes from the current Shakerley ward either with parts of Northwich or with Davenham, Moulton and Stanthorne & Wimboldsley parishes. We are not willing to propose such a ward in our draft recommendations given the lack of evidence to support it and the geographical distances between its main population centres.

39 Therefore, our draft recommendation is for the expansion of the current Marbury ward to include the parishes of Aston, Dutton and Sutton Weaver. While they are predominantly west of the A533 and the Trent and Mersey Canal, all three parishes are north of the River Weaver. In addition, a substantial minority of Dutton's population lives very close to the boundary with Little Leigh (in Marbury). Furthermore, Aston and Sutton Weaver are geographically isolated, with their only in-borough road access through Frodsham.

### *Eddisbury Hill, Elton & Mickle Trafford, Manley and Weaver & Cuddington*

40 We received six submissions for this area in addition to the borough-wide submissions.

41 Ashton Hayes & Horton-cum-Peel Parish Council, Dunham-on-the-Hill & Hapsford Parish Council and Mouldsworth Parish Council all made similar submissions arguing that if the current Gowy ward could not be retained then they should be in a ward with other small rural communities, ideally from the current

Kingsley ward. They argued that larger rural communities such as Elton or Kelsall have very different priorities and concerns. Alternatively, a local resident proposed that the current Gowy ward be broken up, with its parishes warded with the neighbouring towns. Delamere & Oakmere Parish Council requested that it remain in a ward with Kelsall and Willington and, if possible, also be warded with Norley and Kingsley. A local resident pointed out that Mickle Trafford effectively merges with Guilden Sutton so they should be in the same ward.

42 In this area, the Conservative Group proposed one three-councillor ward that included part of the current Marbury ward, two two-councillor wards and one single-councillor ward. Cheshire West Labour proposed one two-councillor ward and seven single-councillor wards that included parts of the current Hartford & Greenbank, Marbury and Saughall & Mollington wards. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed two, two-councillor and five single-councillor wards that included part of the current Saughall & Mollington ward.

43 The only borough-wide submission that provided any meaningful community evidence was that of the Conservative Group. However, having carefully considered all the submissions, we are persuaded by the evidence of the three parish councils that the issues faced by large and small rural areas are different in this area. We have therefore created a warding pattern which both reflects that evidence and has acceptable electoral equality.

44 Our Manley ward consists of most of the current Gowy ward but with the addition of Kingsley parish as this leads to a ward with reasonable in-ward connectivity and good electoral equality. We also noted the point made by Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats that there is shared identity between the villages in this area.

45 Our Weaver & Cuddington ward is affected by our decisions in Manley and Marbury but is a compact ward south of the River Weaver with good electoral equality.

46 Our Eddisbury Hill ward is substantially the same as the current Tarvin & Kelsall ward but amended to reflect changes to parish boundaries since the last review. It reflects the evidence from parish councils as well as the Conservative Group. We also consider the name 'Eddisbury Hill' as proposed by the Conservative Group to be logical as it is a substantial local feature. However, we would welcome alternative suggestions during this consultation.

47 Finally, our Elton & Mickle Trafford ward is modelled on the Chester New Villages ward proposed by the Conservative Group. This was the only ward in the borough-wide submissions that reflected the community evidence we received (discussed below) for the retention of the eastern boundary of the current Saughall & Mollington ward. However, we have transferred three of the eastern parishes in the proposed ward to our Manley ward to reflect the submission of Dunham-on-the-Hill & Hapsford Parish Council.

48 While we note the Conservative Group's argument that the name 'Chester Villages' has helped to tie the current ward of that name together, it has a very

different combination of parishes to the Chester New Villages ward they proposed. Equally, we consider that the prefix 'New' is potentially confusing to the electorate. We have therefore named the ward after the two parishes with the highest electorates but would welcome alternative proposals during consultation.

49 The warding pattern is complex in this part of the borough as well as in Marbury so we would particularly welcome alternative proposals that have good electoral equality, are reflective of community identity and that also take account of the effect on neighbouring wards.

#### *Frodsham and Helsby*

50 We received four submissions in relation to this area in addition to the borough-wide schemes. One local resident proposed that the Frodsham and Helsby areas be combined as a three-councillor ward but did not provide any reasons for this.

51 The two borough councillors for Frodsham argued in an identical submission for a two-councillor Frodsham ward. Their reasons included: local people identify strongly with Frodsham and it should not be divided further; there are no natural divisions in the town that could be used as boundaries; facilities such as the medical centre and library are town-wide; many clubs, societies and sports groups draw their membership from across the town; there is one main retail area that serves the whole town.

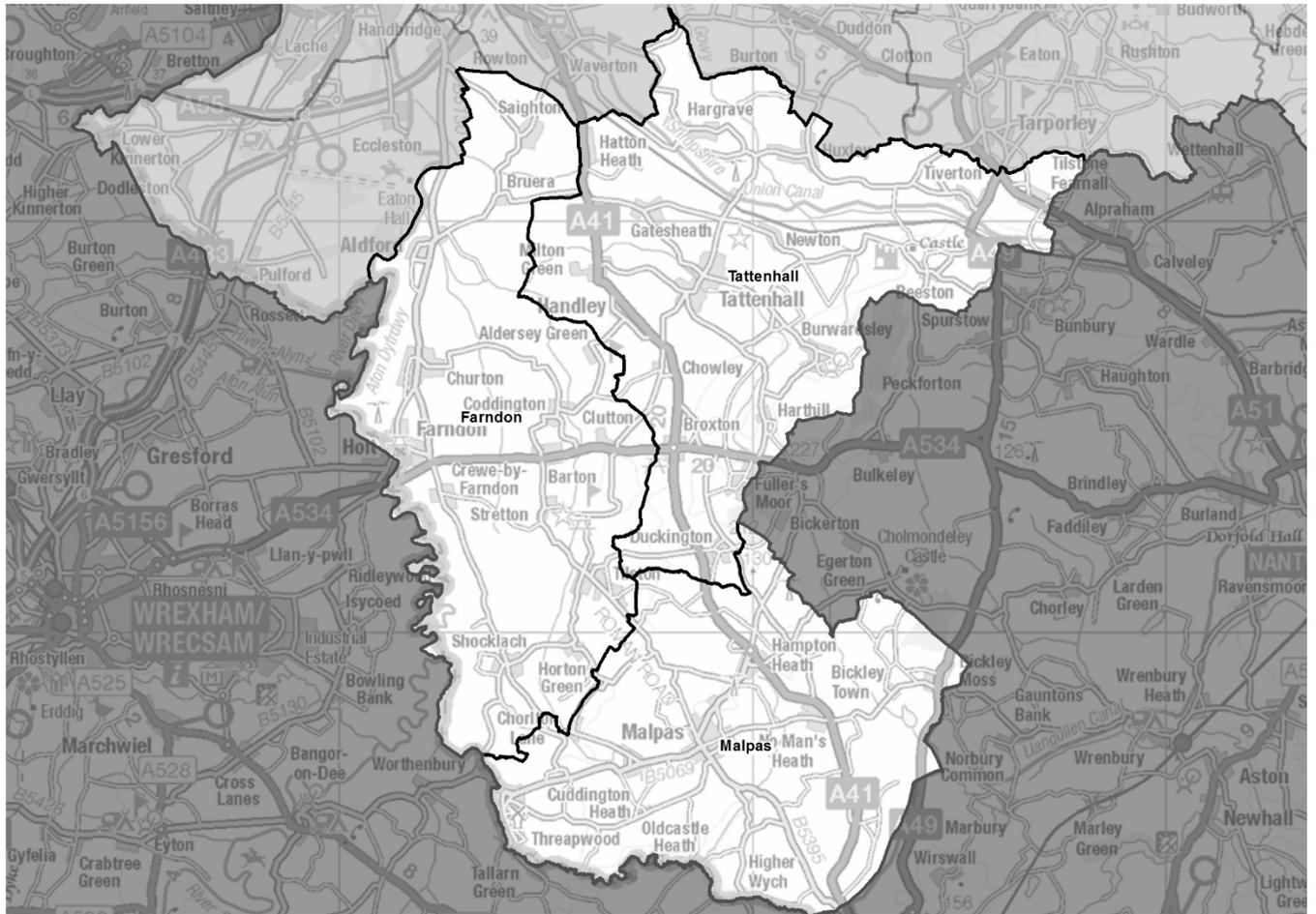
52 Helsby Parish Council argued that Helsby should remain a single-councillor ward and its reasons included: the town has its own schools, community centre and medical facilities; while some facilities are used by people from other areas, no other area was dependent on Helsby for most of its services; there are geographical breaks with Elton and Frodsham, and Alvanley is a very different community.

53 All three borough-wide submissions proposed identical single-councillor Helsby wards. The Conservative Group proposed a two-councillor Frodsham ward supported by similar evidence to the two councillors. Cheshire West Labour and Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed two single-councillor Frodsham wards with Cheshire West Labour also including Alvanley parish.

54 We consider the evidence of Helsby Parish Council to be persuasive in relation to the parish's distinctness and so propose to include a single-councillor Helsby ward in our draft recommendations.

55 We are also proposing a two-councillor Frodsham ward that follows the town council boundary. We consider that good evidence has been provided by the councillors and the Conservative Group that the town is a single, cohesive unit and it should be wholly in one ward.

## Southern rural wards



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Farndon	1	-6%
Malpas	1	1%
Tattenhall	1	3%

*Farndon, Malpas and Tattenhall*

56 The only submission we had for this area, other than the three borough-wide submissions, was from a resident who proposed adding the parishes of Duckington, Shocklach Oviatt & District and Tilston to the current Malpas ward. This would create considerable electoral inequality.

57 All three borough-wide schemes proposed retaining the current Malpas ward. The Conservative Group proposed combining the current Farndon and Tattenhall wards with the addition Tiverton & Tilstone Fearnall and the loss of Aldford & Saighton. Cheshire West Labour proposed retaining both existing wards. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed the removal of Tiverton & Tilstone Fearnall from the current Tattenhall ward.

58 We received little community evidence in relation to the Farndon and Tattenhall wards in any of the borough-wide submissions and, as the retention of the existing three wards in this area allows us to create the best overall pattern of wards in the southern part of the borough based on evidence we received elsewhere, we propose to retain the current three single-councillor wards in our draft recommendations with minor amendments to reflect changes to parish boundaries since the last review.

# Chester



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Blacon	3	2%
Boughton Heath	1	9%
Chester City	3	-3%
Christleton & Huntington	2	6%
Newton & Hoole	3	-6%
Overleigh	3	1%
Upton	2	-2%
Vickers Cross	1	1%

### *Christleton & Huntington and Overleigh*

59 We received fifteen submissions in relation to this area in addition to the borough-wide submissions.

60 Two councillors, one local organisation and six local residents argued that the current Lache and Handbridge Park wards should be combined. Their arguments were: it is the only part of the city south of the River Dee and is collectively known as 'South Chester'; residents across the area share common services, shops and schools; the police, fire and health services treat this as one area.

61 Four respondents pointed out that the construction of a development of around 1,400 houses is due to start at a site off Wrexham Road, with the first new occupants in place by around 2020. While the site is in Dodleston parish, the submissions argued that the new residents would be sharing services with residents in Westminster Park and Lache. They also noted that existing residents would be affected by issues such as increased traffic. It was therefore argued that the development site should form part of a Chester ward.

62 We also received submissions from Christleton, Littleton and Rowton parish councils arguing in favour of the current Chester Villages ward retaining two councillors, although none of the submissions contained significant community evidence.

63 The Conservative Group proposed a three-councillor Overleigh ward supported by similar evidence to that supplied by residents, and a two-councillor Dodleston & Huntington ward that ran from Dodleston to Littleton, but excluded the Waverton area. Cheshire West Labour proposed five single-councillor wards in this area, one of which had very high electoral inequality. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats also proposed five single-councillor wards, three of which had very high electoral inequality.

64 We visited the area and, based on what we saw and the submissions received, we consider that the case for a three-councillor Overleigh ward is highly persuasive. We fully accept the argument that there appears little to differentiate Lache and parts of Westminster Park and that residents from across the area share facilities. We have concluded that this site should be combined in a ward with neighbouring parts of Chester. We therefore propose to adopt a three-councillor Overleigh ward as part of our draft recommendations.

65 When we split parishes between more than one ward, as we have done in Dodleston, we are required to create parish wards that are entirely contained within the borough wards. Given the electorate in our proposed Lache Lane parish ward is projected to increase from under 100 to over 800 between the elections in 2019 and 2023, we have allocated only one parish councillor to this ward. Cheshire West & Chester Council has the power to change the number of parish ward councillors and it may choose to do so once the Wrexham Road development starts to be occupied.

66 In relation to our Christleton & Huntington ward we considered creating two single-councillor wards divided at the boundary of Huntington and Rowton but this would have led to an electoral variance of 12% in one of the wards. Equally, the

Conservative Group's proposal to exclude Waverton from their Dodleston & Huntington ward appeared to split communities in that area. While we have noted the parish councils' submissions, not only did they lack community evidence but retaining the current Chester Villages ward would lead to an unacceptably high electoral variance in 2023 of -13%. Therefore, we are proposing a two-councillor ward that runs from Dodleston to Littleton. We have named it Christleton & Huntington after the two most populated parishes in the ward but would welcome alternative suggestions.

#### *Newton & Hoole and Upton*

67 We received two submissions for this area in addition to the borough-wide submissions. Upton-by-Chester & District Parish Council requested that the whole parish remain in Upton ward. A local resident argued in favour of a Newton & Hoole ward, using the railway line as its southern and western boundary, as there was little or no shared identity between the communities on either side of the line.

68 The Conservative Group proposed a two-councillor Upton ward and a three-councillor Newton & Hoole ward. The Upton ward was justified on the basis that it was a clear community with many shared facilities. A small part of the unparished part of Chester was included in the ward as it was argued that residents there use facilities in Upton. Cheshire West Labour proposed five single-councillor wards, one of which had high electoral inequality. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed four single-councillor wards and one two-councillor ward, two of which had high electoral inequality.

69 Upton-by-Chester & District Parish Council is a grouped parish council along with Bache and Moston. The Commission's policy is that grouped parish councils would normally be placed in the same ward and, as we received a well-evidenced proposal for such a ward from the Conservative Group, we propose to adopt it as part of our draft recommendations. In relation to the area either side of Plas Newton Lane that has been included in this ward, we accept that it appears to have connections with Upton and also note that including it with Upton helps create the best level of electoral equality in this part of the city.

70 In relation to Newton & Hoole, we considered that the creation of single-councillor wards risked splitting communities unnecessarily and this was evident to us when we visited the area. We also accept the resident's argument that the railway line is a good boundary to the ward's south and west. We are therefore proposing a three-councillor ward for this area as part of our draft recommendations.

#### *Blacon, Boughton Heath, Chester City and Vicars Cross*

71 We received seven submissions that referred to this area in addition to the borough-wide submissions. One resident argued in favour of retaining the current three-councillor Blacon ward as it had strong boundaries and a strong local identity. One resident argued that the current Boughton, Chester City and Garden Quarter wards should be combined. Northgate Village Residents' Association and a local resident argued that Northgate Village and the area around it should be warded with the city centre. One resident stated that the Westbourne Road area should be added to the current Garden Quarter ward. The Garden Quarter Association and a local resident argued that the current Garden Quarter ward should be retained as it had a

distinct character from the surrounding area. One resident suggested that we move an area south of the A51 and west of the A55 into a ward with Great Boughton and transfer an area around Piper's Ash from Great Boughton to a different ward. (This would reflect changes to parish boundaries since the last review.)

72 The Conservative Group proposed two three-councillor wards and one two-councillor ward in this area. Chester West Labour proposed seven single-councillor wards, which included part of Huntington parish, one of which had poor electoral equality. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed one three-councillor and five single-councillor wards, two of which had poor electoral equality.

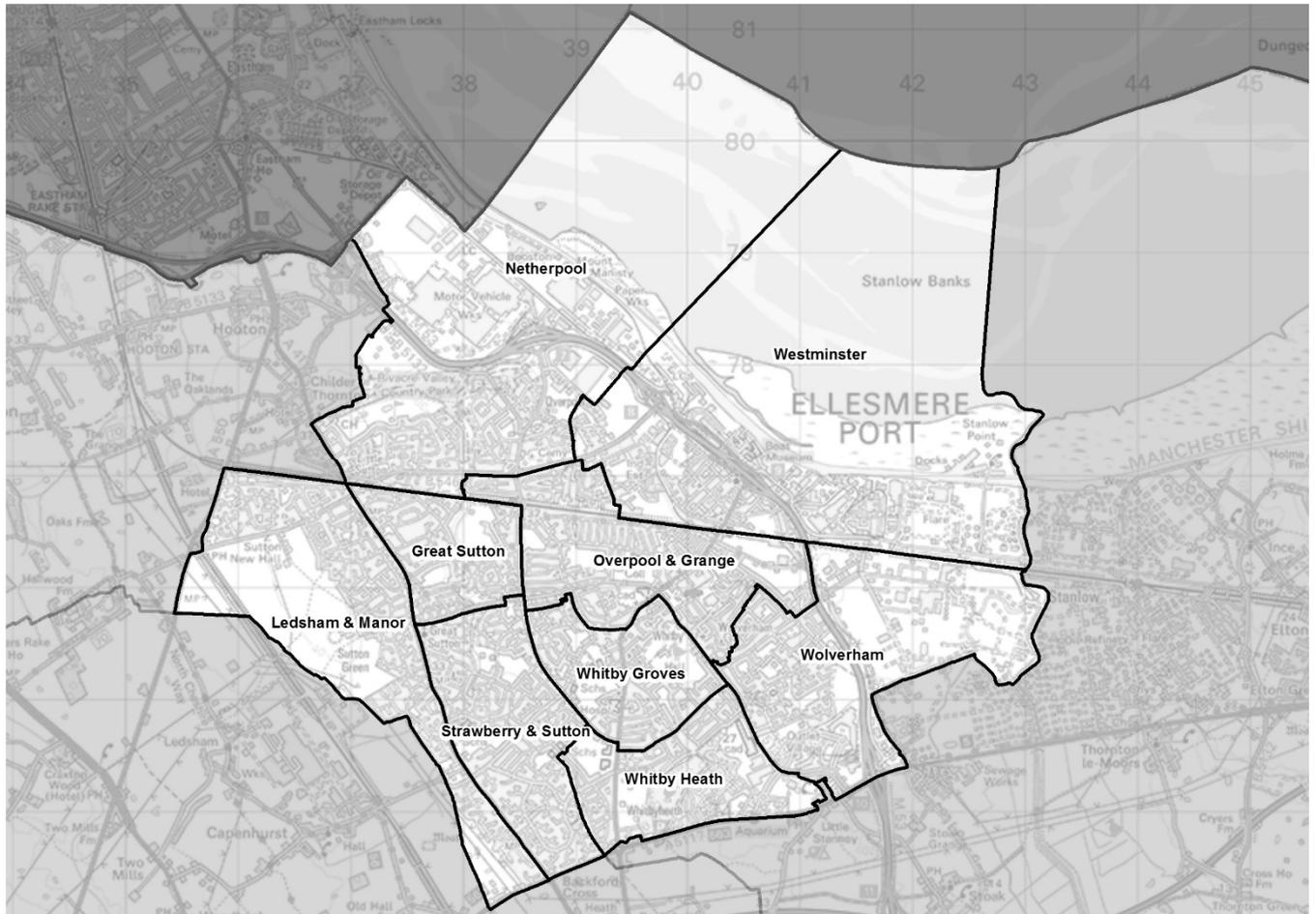
73 In relation to Blacon, we accept the arguments of the resident, the Conservative Group and Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats that this area would be best served by a three-councillor ward. When we visited Blacon we considered that the boundaries proposed by Cheshire West Labour were insufficiently clear, and would split communities, most notably in the Morton Road and Egerton Road areas.

74 Our proposal does lead to the splitting of the current Garden Quarter ward. Retaining the current Blacon ward would mean a ward with an electoral variance in 2023 of -15% which we consider to be unacceptable. There is good evidence for our Saughall & Mollington ward to the north of Blacon and there has been no suggestion of any community ties between these areas. To Blacon's east is Bache, which is part of a grouped parish council with Upton. Given that the Welsh border is to the west of Blacon and a bridgeless section of the River Dee is to its south, the only way to expand the ward is to the south-east. The Conservative Group argued that there are similarities between the western part of the current Garden Quarter ward and the area off Saughall Road and, having seen the area, we concur. We appreciate that our proposals may not find favour with all locally so would warmly welcome alternative proposals for this part of the city that have good electoral equality.

75 In relation to our Chester City ward we accept the arguments of the two residents and the Conservative Group that the Liverpool Road area should be part of a city centre ward. We also noted that Cheshire West Labour and Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed a ward in this area that had poor electoral equality. Therefore, we propose to adopt a three-councillor ward similar to that proposed by the Conservative Group, albeit with amendments to its south-eastern corner to create a clearer boundary and better electoral equality in our Boughton Heath ward.

76 The Conservative Group argued for a two-councillor Great Boughton ward as there were strong links and similarities between the communities either side of the Shropshire Union Canal. However, these were not apparent to us when we visited the area and, on balance, we prefer two single-councillor wards, particularly as Boughton Heath and Vicars Cross appear to be distinctive areas.

## Ellesmere Port



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Great Sutton	1	5%
Ledsham & Manor	2	7%
Netherpool	1	2%
Overpool & Grange	2	6%
Strawberry & Sutton	2	7%
Westminster	1	0%
Whitby Groves	1	3%
Whitby Heath	1	-7%
Wolverham	1	-1%

*Ledsham & Manor, Great Sutton, Strawberry & Sutton, Whitby Groves and Whitby Heath*

77 We received one submission from a resident in relation to this area who proposed that the parishes of Capenhurst and Ledsham are added to the current Ledsham & Manor ward but did not provide any supporting evidence.

78 In terms of the borough-wide schemes, the Conservative Group proposed two two-councillor wards and three single-councillor wards. Cheshire West Labour proposed seven single-councillor wards. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed one two-councillor ward and five one-councillor wards, two of which would have had poor electoral equality.

79 We do not consider that any one of the three borough-wide schemes wholly reflect our statutory criteria in this part of the town and our draft recommendations contain elements of all of them.

80 All three borough-wide submissions proposed identical Great Sutton wards, albeit with three different names. Given Great Sutton Village Hall is in this ward we have adopted this name as part of our draft recommendations. We would welcome local views on the proposed ward name during this period of consultation.

81 In relation to our Ledsham & Manor ward, when we visited the area the A41 (Chester Road) appeared to be a strong boundary in this part of the town. While we could have proposed a ward that crossed the A41 at its southern end, we consider our draft recommendations for this area will provide the best overall pattern of wards in this part of the town, all of which have clear boundaries and good electoral equality. Our proposal also ensures that the development at Sutton New Hall Farm is entirely contained in one ward.

82 To the east of the A41 we considered that the Conservative Group's proposal to include an area south of Hope Farm Road in their Whitbyheath ward would create an isolated community, particularly given the strength of Overpool Road as a boundary. However, we have not been able to create single-councillor Strawberry and Sutton wards with both good electoral equality and solid boundaries. We have therefore decided to recommend a two-councillor Strawberry & Sutton ward. While we considered including the area around Maple Grove in this ward it would result in very poor electoral equality.

83 In Whitby, we considered recommending a two-councillor ward but given that Underwood Drive appears to be a reasonable boundary we are proposing two single-councillor wards, both of which have good electoral equality.

*Netherpool, Overpool & Grange, Westminster and Wolverham*

84 The only submissions for this area were the borough-wide schemes which all proposed three single-councillor wards and one two-councillor ward, albeit in very different patterns.

85 Having visited the area we noted that the railway line does not appear to be a particularly strong boundary with two of the submissions proposing wards that cross it. However, we consider that Rossmore Road East does divide communities north of

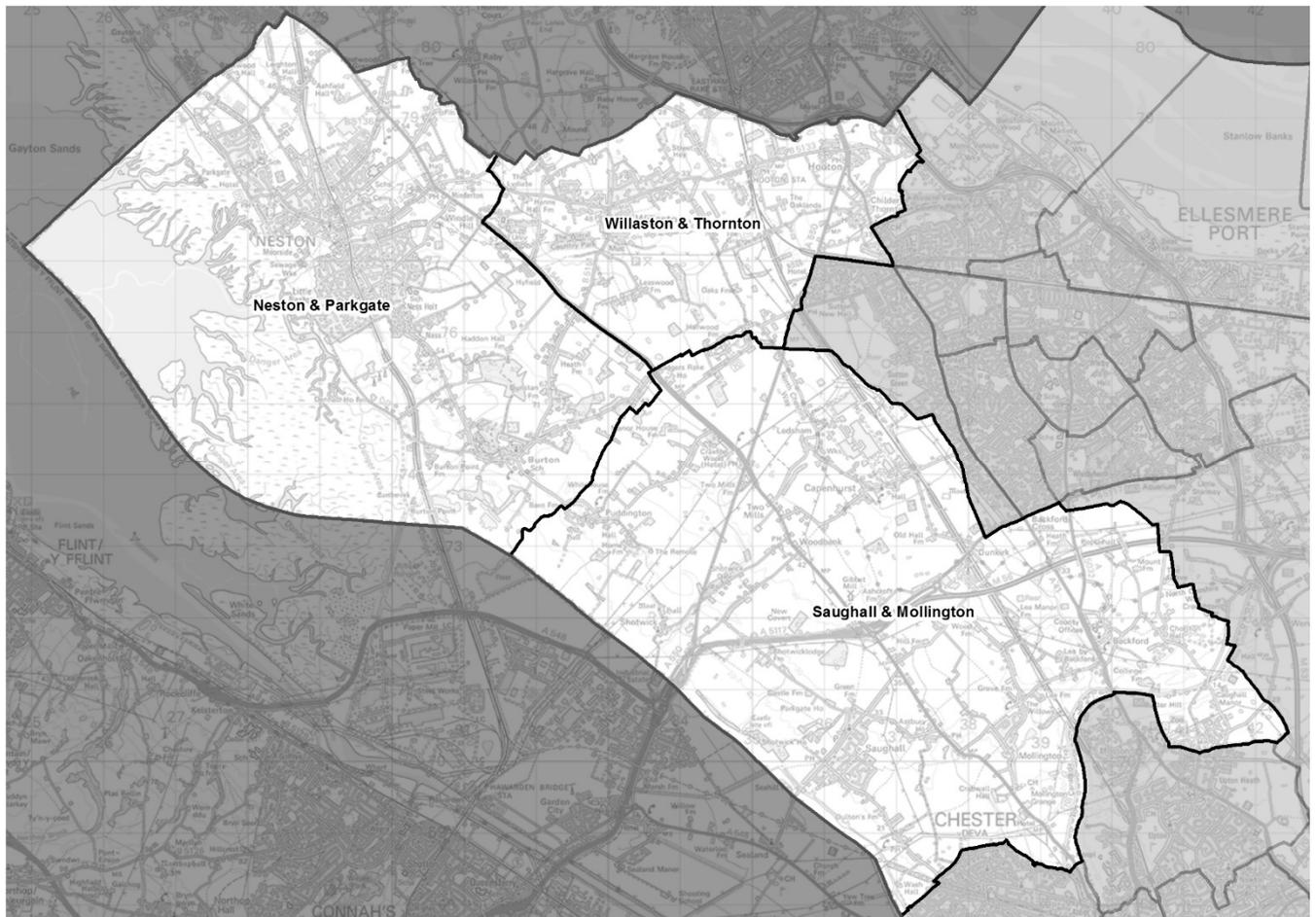
the railway line, particularly around the junction with Netherpool Road, so we preferred the submission of the Conservative Group in that area and have adopted their Overpool & Grange ward as part of our draft recommendations, subject to the amendments set out below in relation to Wolverham.

86 Having accepted the Conservative Group's Overpool & Grange ward, we have also decided to adopt their proposed Netherpool and Westminster wards as this leads to a pattern of wards with good electoral equality in this part of the town.

87 All three submissions proposed an identical single-councillor Wolverham ward that not only would have had an electoral variance of 16% but also split the development at Great Hall Park. We do not consider this electoral variance to be acceptable, particularly in the absence of substantial community evidence in support of the ward being proposed. Therefore, we have moved the north-eastern boundary of the ward so that the Great Hall Park development as well as the area around Trinity Road is in our Overpool & Grange ward.



# Neston



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Neston & Parkgate	3	9%
Saughall & Mollington	1	7%
Willaston & Thornton	1	-5%

### *Neston & Parkgate*

88 We received two submissions for this area in addition to the three borough-wide submissions. These were from a councillor who stated that residents would prefer single-councillor wards in the town and from Neston Town Council.

89 The Town Council submitted a scheme for three single-councillor wards, all of which would have good electoral equality in 2023. The Town Council explained that its proposal was based on a preference for single-councillor wards, accepting as a consequence that some of its boundaries 'are somewhat arbitrary'.

90 The Conservative Group proposed a three-councillor ward for Neston and Burton. Cheshire West Labour proposed three single-councillor wards while Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed two single-councillor wards and one two-councillor ward covering Neston and Burton, all of which had poor electoral equality.

91 We visited Neston and carefully considered the boundaries proposed. While these were logical in places they were also somewhat arbitrary in others, as the Town Council stated. We consider that the town is a cohesive unit and, given the limited community evidence in the submissions we received, dividing Neston into three wards risks splitting communities unnecessarily. Therefore, we propose to adopt the three-councillor ward proposed by the Conservative Group.

### *Saughall & Mollington*

92 We received four submissions in relation to this area in addition to the three borough-wide submissions. Backford Parish Council asked that the current Saughall and Mollington ward be retained. A local resident and a parish councillor argued that Backford and Mollington share common interests as well as a school and a village hall and so should be warded together.

93 The Conservative Group, supported by a councillor, proposed that Puddington was added to the current ward. Cheshire West Labour proposed a Saughall ward that included Puddington but without Backford and Lea-by-Backford. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed a Saughall ward that included Puddington but not Backford.

94 We consider that good evidence has been provided in support of Backford and Lea-by-Backford being warded with Mollington and note the lack of community evidence in the alternative proposals. Therefore, we have adopted the proposal of the Conservative Group as part of our draft recommendations.

### *Willaston & Thornton*

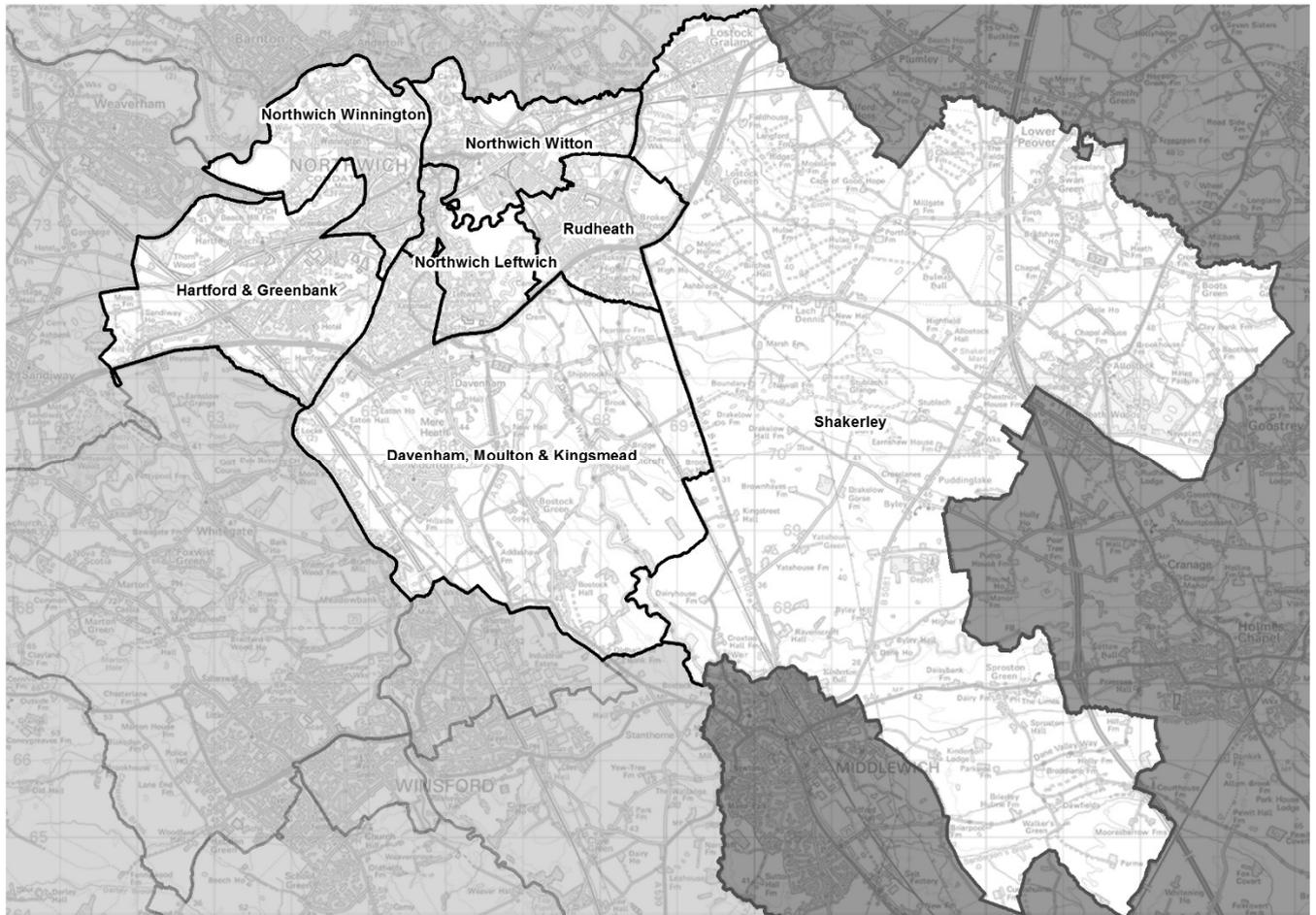
95 We received one submission in relation to this ward in addition to the three borough-wide submissions from a local resident who argued that the area around Quarry Road and Hanns Hall Road in Neston should be in a ward with Willaston. However, if we were to follow this submission, we would be required to create an additional ward of Neston Town Council that would have fewer than 50 electors. We consider that this is too few electors for the Town Council ward to be viable.

96 The Conservative Group proposed a ward consisting of Willaston, Thornton and a small part of Ellesmere Port north of the railway line. Cheshire West Labour proposed a ward consisting of Willaston, Thornton and Burton. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed a ward consisting of Willaston and Thornton that would have had high electoral inequality.

97 Given our proposals in the north and west of Ellesmere Port we propose adopting the Conservative proposals here. However, given the lack of community evidence received so far, we would welcome well-evidenced alternative proposals for this area.



# Northwich



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Davenham, Moulton & Kingsmead	2	6%
Hartford & Greenbank	2	-9%
Northwich Leftwich	1	1%
Northwich Winnington	2	-8%
Northwich Witton	1	8%
Rudheath	1	4%
Shakerley	1	2%

### *Hartford & Greenbank and Northwich Winnington*

98 In addition to the borough-wide submissions, we received a submission from Hartford Civic Society which proposed that the current Hartford & Greenbank ward be retained.

99 The Conservative Group proposed two two-councillor wards in this area. Cheshire West Labour proposed three single-councillor wards and one two-councillor ward that combined the western part of Hartford with Weaverham. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed two single-councillor wards and a two-councillor Hartford & Greenbank ward that included the parish of Whitegate & Marton. None of the proposed wards crossed the River Weaver.

100 When we visited the area we noted that Cheshire West Labour's proposal split the new Hartford Grange development and that no evidence was provided of the link between the west Hartford area and Weaverham. Equally, Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats did not supply any evidence of a link between Hartford and Whitegate & Marton. Therefore, we have adopted the proposal of the Conservative Group, subject to some minor amendments around Manor Street and the southern part of Moss Road to ensure acceptable electoral equality.

### *Davenham, Moulton & Kingsmead, Northwich Leftwich, Northwich Witton and Rudheath*

101 We only received the borough-wide submissions in this area. The Conservative Group proposed two two-councillor wards and one single-councillor ward. Cheshire West Labour proposed five single-councillor wards, two of which had poor electoral equality. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed four single-councillor wards and one two-councillor ward, the latter including most of the current Shakerley ward; two of the wards had poor electoral equality.

102 In relation to our Davenham, Moulton & Kingsmead ward, we noted that at least one of the wards proposed by both Cheshire West Labour and Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats in this area had poor electoral equality. We also noted the Conservative Group's argument that there is a link between the four parishes in our proposed ward. This was also borne out on our visit to the area when we were struck by the number of students crossing the A556 on their way home from school. We have added 'Kingsmead' to the ward's name as it is the parish with the highest electorate in the ward. We are aware that this creates a long name so would welcome alternative suggestions that are meaningful to local people.

103 We received no community evidence in relation to the eastern part of Northwich or Rudheath. We are concerned about the connections between the communities in the two-councillor Northwich East ward proposed by the Conservative Group and so are adopting a single-councillor warding pattern in this area similar to that proposed by Cheshire West Labour and Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats. However, we have made some minor amendments in the Belmont Road area to ensure better electoral equality.

### *Shakerley*

104 We received one submission for this area in addition to the three borough-wide submissions. Lach Dennis Parish Council argued that the current Shakerley ward

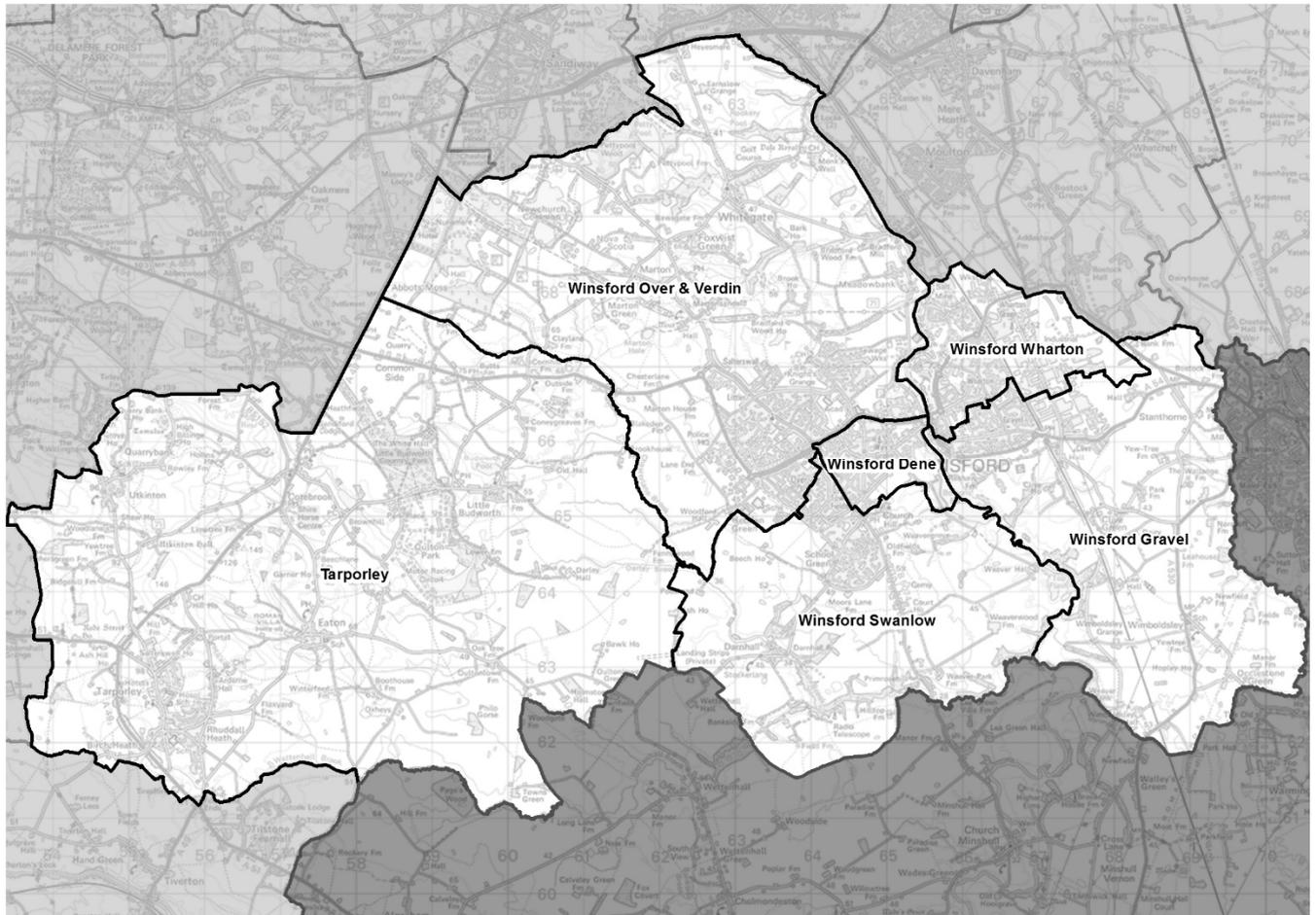
should have an extra councillor but we noted that this would lead to an electoral variance of -51%.

105 The Conservative Group and Cheshire West Labour proposed retaining the current Shakerley ward, the former on the grounds that there are close connections between the six parish councils in the ward. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed alternative arrangements here.

106 We note that this is a sparsely populated area on the edge of the borough with most residents in one parish, Sproston, having no in-borough road access. Given the lack of evidence in Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats' submission about the connection between the Davenham and Shakerley areas and the good electoral equality in the current ward, we propose to retain the current Shakerley ward in our draft recommendations.



## Winsford and Tarporley



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Tarporley	1	5%
Winsford Dene	1	-7%
Winsford Gravel	1	4%
Winsford Over & Verdin	3	-4%
Winsford Swanlow	1	-5%
Winsford Wharton	1	5%

### *Tarporley and Winsford Over & Verdin*

107 We received 46 submissions and a petition organised by Little Budworth Parish Council containing 227 signatures in relation to this area, in addition to the three borough-wide submissions.

108 The submissions from Little Budworth Parish Council, the petition and 43 residents objected to the potential inclusion of Little Budworth in a ward with parts of Winsford. Instead, they proposed the current Tarporley ward was retained, with the arguments including: Little Budworth has very similar issues to those faced by other parishes in the current Tarporley ward; residents in Little Budworth primarily access services in Tarporley; many residents go to social events at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall in Eaton (part of Rushton parish); Little Budworth children attend schools in Eaton and Tarporley, with very young children using the playgroup in Cotebrook. Several submissions noted that the only time Little Budworth residents go to Winsford is to use a large supermarket and they have very few connections with Whitegate.

109 Whitegate & Marton Parish Council proposed a new two-councillor ward consisting of itself, Little Budworth and the Over area of Winsford, which would have an electoral variance of -11%. Utkinton & Cotebrook Parish Council pointed out the changes to parish boundaries since the last electoral review.

110 The Conservative Group and Cheshire West Labour proposed alternative single-councillor Tarporley wards adding Tiverton & Tilstone Fearnall and Clotton Hoofield respectively. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats added Tiverton & Tilstone Fearnall to the current Tarporley ward. In Winsford the Conservative Group and Cheshire West Labour proposed one single- and one two-councillor ward; both proposed warding Little Budworth with Winsford. Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats proposed a three-councillor ward that had poor electoral equality.

111 We consider that Little Budworth Parish Council and its residents have made a very strong case for being warded with the other three parishes in the current Tarporley ward and also consider that there is little evidence for including Little Budworth in a ward with Whitegate or Winsford. We note in particular the number of facilities Little Budworth residents say they access in Tarporley or Eaton. Therefore, we propose to retain the current Tarporley ward in our draft recommendations, subject to it reflecting changes to parish boundaries since the last electoral review.

112 In relation to Winsford, the ward proposed by Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats had high electoral inequality and, having visited the area, we were concerned that the boundaries proposed by the Conservative Group and Cheshire West Labour split communities unnecessarily. We consider that the current Winsford Over & Verdin ward is coherent and so propose to include it in our draft recommendations.

### *Winsford Dene, Winsford Gravel, Winsford Swanlow and Winsford Wharton*

113 The only submissions we received in relation to these wards were the three borough-wide submissions. All three submissions proposed identical Swanlow and Dene wards. Cheshire West Labour included Bostock in their Winsford Wharton &

Bostock ward and Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats included Stanthorne & Wimboldsley in their Davenham & Moulton ward.

114 We have adopted the proposed Winsford Dene and Winsford Swanlow wards as part of our draft recommendations, subject to two minor amendments. The western boundary of Winsford Dene that was proposed cut through properties on Beeston Drive, Over Hall Drive and Swanlow Lane so instead we propose that it runs down the centre of Swanlow Lane. We have also ensured that the Charlotte Place development is wholly within the Dene ward rather than being split between wards.

115 There was little evidence provided for warding Bostock with Winsford Wharton or including Stanthorne & Wimboldsley with Davenham & Moulton. Therefore, we propose two single-councillor Winsford Gravel and Winsford Wharton wards. Both of our proposed wards will have good electoral equality and are, in our view, reflective of local communities.

## Conclusions

116 The table below shows the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2016 and 2023 electorate figures.

### Summary of electoral arrangements

	Draft recommendations	
	2016	2023
Number of councillors	70	70
Number of electoral wards	43	43
Average number of electors per councillor	3,783	4,027
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	11	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	1	0

#### **Draft recommendation**

Cheshire West & Chester Council should be made up of 70 councillors serving 43 wards representing twenty-four single-councillor wards, eleven two-councillor wards and eight three-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 Cheshire West & Chester Council. **You can also view our draft recommendations for Cheshire West & Chester Council on our interactive maps at <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>**

## Parish electoral arrangements

117 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.

118 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, Cheshire West & Chester 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.

119 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 Dodleston Parish Council, Northwich Town Council and Winsford Town Council.

120 As 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 Dodleston parish.

<b>Draft recommendation</b> Dodleston Parish Council should comprise 10 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:	
<b>Parish ward</b>	<b>Number of parish councillors</b>
Dodleston	9
Lache Lane	1

121 As 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 Northwich parish.

<b>Draft recommendation</b> Northwich Town Council should comprise 21 councillors, as at present, representing five wards:	
<b>Parish ward</b>	<b>Number of parish councillors</b>
Northwich Belmont	1
Northwich Greenbank	2
Northwich Leftwich	5
Northwich Winnington	8
Northwich Witton	5

122 As 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 Winsford parish.

**Draft recommendation**

Winsford Town Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing six wards:

<b>Parish ward</b>	<b>Number of parish councillors</b>
Winsford Dene	2
Winsford Gravel	2
Winsford Over	3
Winsford Swanlow	2
Winsford Verdin	3
Winsford Wharton	3

### 3 Have your say

123 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 borough or just a part of it.

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

125 Our website has a special consultation area where you can explore the maps and draw your own proposed boundaries. You can find it at [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

126 Submissions can also be made by emailing [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk) or by writing to:

**Review Officer (Cheshire West & Chester)  
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
14th Floor, Millbank Tower  
Millbank  
London SW1P 4QP**

127 The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for Cheshire West & Chester Council which delivers:

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

128 A good pattern of wards should:

- Provide good electoral equality, with each councillor representing, as closely as possible, the same number of voters
- 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

129 Electoral equality:

- Does your proposal mean that councillors would represent roughly the same number of voters as elsewhere in the council area?

130 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?

#### 131 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?

132 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 in Millbank (London) and on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk). A list of respondents will be available from us on request after the end of the consultation period.

133 If you are a member of the public and not writing on behalf of a council or organisation we will remove any personal identifiers, such as 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.

134 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.

135 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 Cheshire West & Chester Council in 2019.

## Equalities

136 This report has been screened for impact on equalities, with due regard being given to the general equalities duties as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. As no potential negative impacts were identified, a full equality impact analysis is not required.

## Appendix A

### Draft recommendations for Cheshire West & Chester

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2016)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Blacon	3	12,235	4078	8%	12,278	4,093	2%
2	Boughton Heath	1	4,422	4422	17%	4,404	4,404	9%
3	Chester City	3	10,908	3636	-4%	11,728	3,909	-3%
4	Christleton & Huntington	2	7,767	3884	3%	8,533	4,267	6%
5	Davenham, Moulton & Kingsmead	2	7,814	3907	3%	8,501	4,251	6%
6	Eddisbury Hill	2	7,171	3586	-5%	7,893	3,947	-2%
7	Elton & Mickle Trafford	2	7,421	3711	-2%	7,417	3,709	-8%
8	Farndon	1	3,482	3482	-8%	3,766	3,766	-6%
9	Frodsham	2	7,554	3777	0%	7,619	3,810	-5%
10	Great Sutton	1	4,185	4185	11%	4,233	4,233	5%
11	Hartford & Greenbank	2	6,251	3126	-17%	7,331	3,666	-9%
12	Helsby	1	4,078	4078	8%	4,381	4,381	9%

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2016)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13 Ledsham & Manor	2	7,574	3,787	0%	8,657	4,329	7%
14 Malpas	1	3,515	3,515	-7%	4,085	4,085	1%
15 Manley	1	4,085	4,085	8%	4,125	4,125	2%
16 Marbury	3	10,526	3,509	-7%	10,986	3,662	-9%
17 Neston & Parkgate	3	13,150	4,383	16%	13,209	4,403	9%
18 Netherpool	1	4,105	4,105	9%	4,121	4,121	2%
19 Newton & Hoole	3	11,449	3,816	1%	11,350	3,783	-6%
20 Northwich Leftwich	1	3,735	3,735	-1%	4,049	4,049	1%
21 Northwich Winnington	2	5,817	2,909	-23%	7,445	3,723	-8%
22 Northwich Witton	1	4,055	4,055	7%	4,366	4,366	8%
23 Overleigh	3	11,454	3,818	1%	12,164	4,055	1%
24 Overpool & Grange	2	7,617	3,809	1%	8,524	4,262	6%
25 Rudheath	1	4,166	4,166	10%	4,175	4,175	4%
26 Saughall & Mollington	1	4,221	4,221	12%	4,308	4,308	7%
27 Shakerley	1	3,731	3,731	-1%	4,098	4,098	2%

	<b>Ward name</b>	<b>Number of councillors</b>	<b>Electorate (2016)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>	<b>Electorate (2023)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>
28	Strawberry & Sutton	2	8,714	4,357	15%	8,615	4,308	7%
29	Tarporley	1	3,949	3,949	4%	4,241	4,241	5%
30	Tattenhall	1	3,701	3,701	-2%	4,150	4,150	3%
31	Upton	2	7,757	3,879	3%	7,909	3,955	-2%
32	Vicars Cross	1	4,106	4,106	9%	4,066	4,066	1%
33	Weaver & Cuddington	3	11,530	3,843	2%	11,842	3,947	-2%
34	Westminster	1	3,271	3,271	-14%	4,011	4,011	0%
35	Whitby Groves	1	4,194	4,194	11%	4,149	4,149	3%
36	Whitby Heath	1	3,772	3,772	0%	3,730	3,730	-7%
37	Willaston & Thornton	1	3,546	3,546	-6%	3,845	3,845	-5%
38	Winsford Dene	1	3,385	3,385	-11%	3,740	3,740	-7%
39	Winsford Gravel	1	3,388	3,388	-10%	4,180	4,180	4%
40	Winsford Over & Verdin	3	9,988	3,329	-12%	11,590	3,863	-4%
41	Winsford Swanlow	1	3,535	3,535	-7%	3,842	3,842	-5%
42	Winsford Wharton	1	3,710	3,710	-2%	4,248	4,248	5%

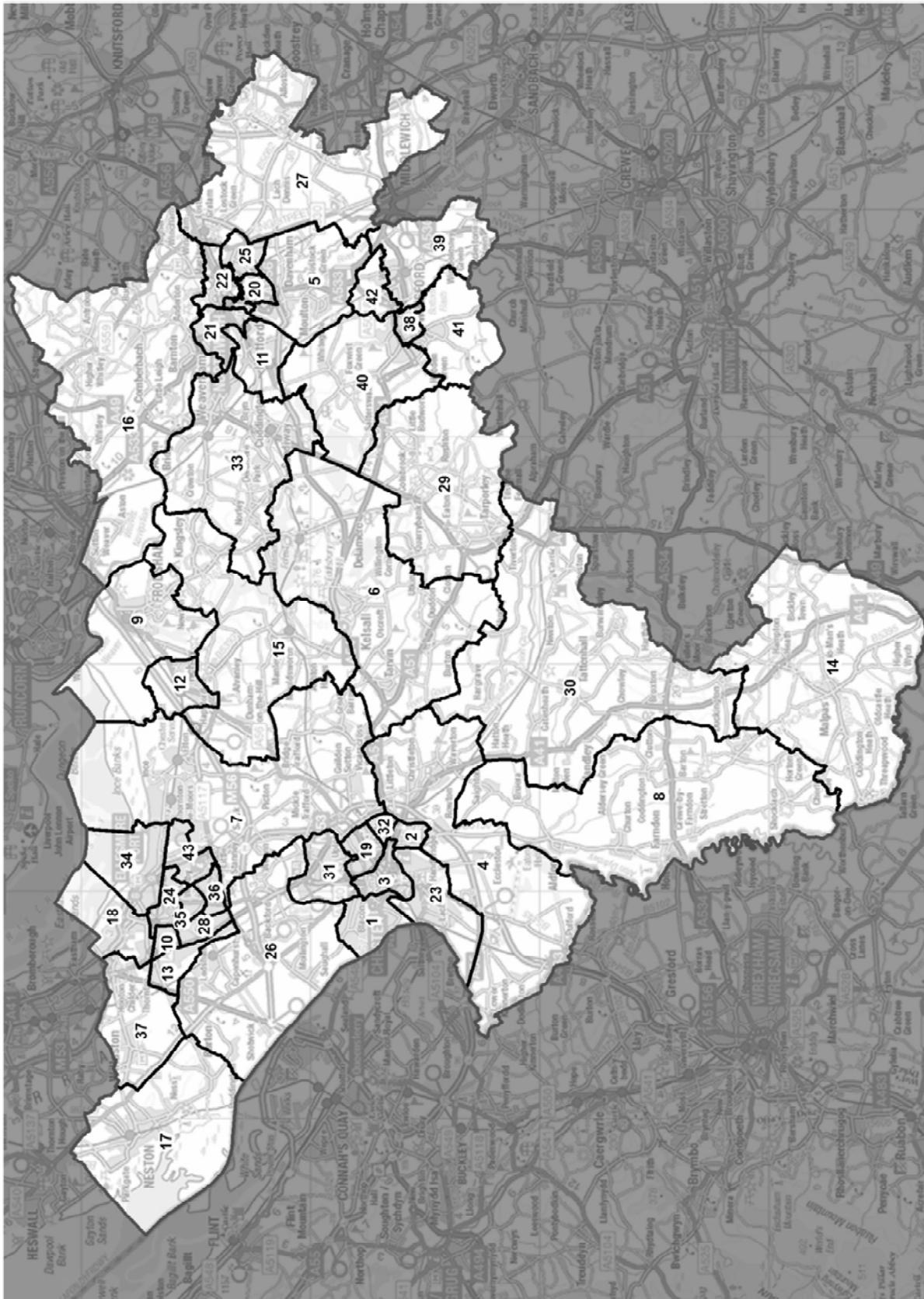
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2016)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
43 Wolverham	1	3,781	3,781	0%	3,986	3,986	-1%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>264,815</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>281,890</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Averages</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,783</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,027</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Cheshire West & Chester 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 borough. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

# Appendix B

## Outline map



## Key

1. Blacon
2. Boughton Heath
3. Chester City
4. Christleton & Huntington
5. Davenham, Moulton & Kingsmead
6. Eddisbury Hill
7. Elton & Mickle Trafford
8. Farndon
9. Frodsham
10. Great Sutton
11. Hartford & Greenbank
12. Helsby
13. Ledsham & Manor
14. Malpas
15. Manley
16. Marbury
17. Neston & Parkgate
18. Netherpool
19. Newton & Hoole
20. Northwich Leftwich
21. Northwich Winnington
22. Northwich Witton
23. Overleigh
24. Overpool & Grange
25. Rudheath
26. Saughall & Mollington
27. Shakerley
28. Strawberry & Sutton
29. Tarporley
30. Tattenhall
31. Upton
32. Vicars Cross
33. Weaver & Cuddington
34. Westminster
35. Whitby Groves
36. Whitby Heath
37. Willaston & Thornton
38. Winsford Dene
39. Winsford Gravel
40. Winsford Over & Verdin
41. Winsford Swanlow
42. Winsford Wharton
43. Wolverham

A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/north-west/cheshire/cheshire-west-and-chester>

# Appendix C

## Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/north-west/cheshire/cheshire-west-and-chester>

### Political Group

- Cheshire West & Chester Conservative Group
- Cheshire West Labour
- Cheshire West & Chester Liberal Democrats

### Councillors

- Councillor M. Baker (Cheshire West & Chester Council)
- Councillor A. Clarke (Mollington Parish Council)
- Councillor B. Crowe (Cheshire West & Chester Council)
- Councillor R. Daniels (Cheshire West & Chester Council)
- Councillor A. Dawson (Cheshire West & Chester Council)
- Councillor L. Gibbon (Cheshire West & Chester Council)
- Councillor L. Riley (Cheshire West & Chester Council)
- Councillor N. Sullivan (Cheshire West & Chester Council)

### Local Organisations

- Garden Quarter Association
- Handbridge Residents' Council
- Hartford Civic Society
- Northgate Village Residents' Association
- Sutton Weaver Area Community Action Group
- Westminster Park Residents' Association

### Parish and Town Councils

- Anderton with Marbury Parish Council
- Antrobus Parish Council
- Ashton Hayes & Horton-cum-Peel Parish Council
- Backford Parish Council
- Barnton Parish Council
- Christleton Parish Council
- Comberbach Parish Council
- Delamere & Oakmere Parish Council
- Dunham-on-the-Hill & Hapsford Parish Council
- Great Budworth Parish Council
- Helsby Parish Council
- Lach Dennis Parish Council

- Little Budworth Parish Council
- Little Leigh Parish Council
- Littleton Parish Council
- Marston Parish Council
- Mouldsworth Parish Council
- Neston Town Council
- Rowton Parish Council
- Upton-by-Chester & District Parish Council
- Utkinton & Cotebrook Parish Council
- Whitegate & Marton Parish Council
- Whitley Parish Council
- Wincham Parish Council

### **Local Residents**

- 68 local residents

### **Petition**

- Little Budworth Parish Council in relation to the potential warding arrangements for Little Budworth (227 signatures)

## 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="http://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