Report of the Director: Governance and Communities

Agenda Item 11 Meeting: 18 May 2022

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL

PERIODIC ELECTORAL REVIEW – FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To update and inform Council of the final recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) for new electoral arrangements for North Lincolnshire Council.
- 1.2 The final recommendations come into effect from and form the basis of the council's next scheduled elections in May 2023 following an Order made, laid before, and approved by parliament by this Autumn, when it will then become law.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Council has received reports at previous meetings -
 - (i) confirming that the LGBCE in phase1 of the electoral review concluded that the appropriate council size continue to be 43 councillors for North Lincolnshire, and
 - (ii) in phase2 of the review, on the LGBCE's initial draft recommendations for warding arrangements in terms of numbers, names, boundaries and the number of councillors to be elected in each ward in North Lincolnshire.
- 2.2 The Council approved and made submissions to the LGBCE as part of both phases of the electoral review and also approved a response/representation to initial draft recommendations for electoral arrangements at its meeting on 14 December 2021. The LGBCE had consulted residents, key stakeholder groups and organisations, town and parish councils and North Lincolnshire Council on the initial draft recommendations. It then analysed all responses/representations received and reached conclusions on its final recommendations publishing them on 1 March 2022. The LGBCE's final recommendations are attached as an appendix.

3. **OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 The LGBCE' final recommendations for electoral arrangements in North Lincolnshire amend some of its initial draft recommendations following the consultation period and state that as well as its residents being represented by 43 councillors, the same as current arrangements, North Lincolnshire should have 19 wards, two more than there are now, and boundaries of six existing wards should change. There will be seven three-councillor wards, ten two-councillor wards and two single-councillor wards across the borough. The LGBCE's report on its final recommendations is attached as an appendix and its tables and maps on pages 9 to19 detail the final recommendations for each area of North Lincolnshire.
- 3.2 As previously stated, the final recommendations come into effect from and form the basis of the council's next scheduled elections in May 2023 following an Order made, laid before, and approved by parliament by this Autumn, when it will then become law.
- 3.3 The final recommendations for new wards and amending boundaries of existing wards will therefore require work to commence in due course on reviewing current arrangements for polling districts and places within those wards.
- 3.4 There are no other proposed options, and the council will be required by the expected parliamentary approved Order and subsequent law to implement the LGBCE's final recommendations.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 The Council is required to receive the LGBCE's final recommendations.
- 4.2 The LGBCE consider that its final recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where such evidence was received during consultation. They will also provide equality of representation and provide effective and convenient local government, so reflecting the three statutory criteria of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Constriction Act 2009.
- 4.3 Any proposed changes to polling districts and places within new wards and those where boundaries have been changed will be submitted to and require the approval of Council prior to implementation for the North Lincolnshire Council elections in May 2023.

5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)

5.1 There are no direct resource implications associated with consideration of this report.

6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)

6.1 There are no other relevant implications.

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

7.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment is not required for this report.

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

- 8.1 No conflicts of interest have been identified or declared.
- 8.2 The LGBCE has been responsible for leading on all public consultation aspects of the electoral review process.
- 8.3 Council will be consulted on, and its approval sought before any proposed changes to polling districts and places are implemented for the new wards and where boundaries have been recommended to change by the LGBCE.

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 (i) That Council receives the LGBCE's final recommendations for electoral arrangements in North Lincolnshire as detailed in its document attached as an appendix; and

(ii) that the commencement of a review of Polling Districts and Places as appropriate for new wards and where boundaries have been recommended to change by the LGBCE be approved.

DIRECTOR: GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNITIES

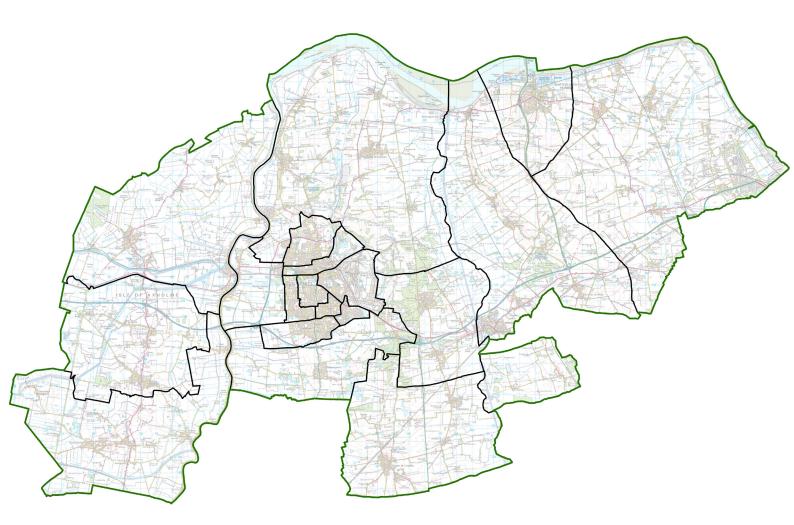
Church Square House 30-40 Church Square SCUNTHORPE North Lincolnshire DN15 6NL Author: R A Mell Date: 27 April 2022

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

LGBCE Electoral Reviews Technical Guidance April 2014.

Reports to full Council 25 January, 25 February, 26 July 2021,14 December 2021. LGBCE Final Recommendations on New Electoral Arrangements for North Lincolnshire Council.

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England



New electoral arrangements for North Lincolnshire Council Final Recommendations

March 2022

Translations and other formats:

To get this report in another language or in a large-print or Braille version, please contact the Local Government Boundary Commission for England at: Tel: 0330 500 1525 Email: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

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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.

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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.¹ 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)
 - Andrew Scallan CBE (Deputy Chair)
 - Susan Johnson OBE
 - Peter Maddison QPM
- What is an electoral review?

- Amanda Nobbs OBE
- Steve Robinson
- Jolyon Jackson CBE (Chief Executive)

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.

¹ Under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

6 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 <u>www.lgbce.org.uk</u>

Why North Lincolnshire?

7 We are conducting a review of North Lincolnshire Council ('the Council') as its last review was carried out in 2001 and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.² Additionally, some councillors currently represent many more or fewer electors than others. We describe this as 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where the number of electors per councillor is as even as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal

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

- The wards in North Lincolnshire are in the best possible places to help the Council carry out its responsibilities effectively.
- The number of electors represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the district.

Our proposals for North Lincolnshire

9 North Lincolnshire should be represented by 43 councillors, the same number as there are now.

10 North Lincolnshire should have 19 wards, two more than there are now.

11 The boundaries of all but 11 wards should change.

12 We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for North Lincolnshire.

How will the recommendations affect you?

13 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.

14 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the district or result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. The recommendations will not have an effect on local

² Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 56(1).

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 North Lincolnshire. We then held two periods of consultation with the public on warding patterns for the district. The submissions received during consultation have informed our final recommendations.

Stage starts	Description
16 March 2021	Number of councillors decided
18 May 2021	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
26 July 2021	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
5 October 2021	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
13 December 2021	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
1 March 2022	Publication of final recommendations

16 The review was conducted as follows:

Analysis and final recommendations

17 Legislation³ states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors⁴ 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.

18 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.

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.

	2021	2027
Electorate of North Lincolnshire	129,632	136,802
Number of councillors	43	43
Average number of electors per councillor	3,015	3,181

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'. Sixteen of our proposed wards for North Lincolnshire will have good electoral equality by 2027, with two wards, Burringham & Gunness and Ridge, having 11% more and 11% fewer electors than the district average by 2027, respectively.

Submissions received

21 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed on our website at <u>www.lgbce.org.uk</u>

Electorate figures

The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2027, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2022. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 6% by 2027.

23 In response to the draft recommendations, we received some comments about the levels of development in the north area of Scunthorpe. We have looked at the

³ Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

⁴ Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

information provided, but believe the developments mentioned are reflected in the forecast figures or otherwise fall beyond the five-year forecast period that the legislation tells us to consider. We therefore remain satisfied that the information provided by the Council is the best available at the present time. We have used these figures to produce our final recommendations.

Number of councillors

24 North Lincolnshire Council currently has 43 councillors. The Council, the Labour Group on the Council ('Labour Group') and a local resident all expressed support for the retention of the existing council size. Having looked at the evidence provided, we concluded that keeping this number the same will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

25 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 43 councillors.

26 In response to our warding patterns and draft recommendations consultations, we received a number of general comments about the number of councillors. However, no significant new evidence was provided to persuade us to move away from a council size of 43. We have therefore used this number as the basis of the final recommendations.

Ward boundaries consultation

27 We received 51 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included district-wide proposals from the Council and the Labour Group. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for warding arrangements in particular areas of the district.

28 The Council's scheme provided a mixed pattern of two- and three-councillor wards, with four wards having variances over 10% from the average by 2027. The submission stated that the Council did not wish to have single-councillor wards, but did not provide compelling reasoning. The Labour Group provided a mixed pattern of single-, two- and three-member wards with two wards over 10%. We noted that there were a number of areas of agreement between the proposals.

29 We noted the comments from the Council about single-councillor wards, but we were not of the view that the representation provided strong evidence against the inclusion of single-councillor wards. We therefore considered all options as part of the draft recommendations, when seeking to balance the statutory criteria.

30 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 As a result of the unprecedented circumstances related to the outbreak of Covid-19, we were unable to conduct a visit to the area to look at the various different proposals on the ground. However, we were able to conduct a detailed, virtual tour of North Lincolnshire. This helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

32 Our draft recommendations were for 10 three-councillor wards, six twocouncillor wards and one single-councillor ward. We considered that our draft recommendations provided for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

Draft recommendations consultation

33 We received 60 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations. These included district-wide comments from the Council and North Lincolnshire Council Labour Group ('Labour Group'). The majority of the other submissions focused on specific areas, particularly our proposals in Axholme; Burton upon Stather & Winterton, Crosby & Park and Town; Ashby and Kingsway with Lincoln Gardens; and Ridge.

We note the comments from Kirton in Lindsey Town Council about the impact of a Community Governance Review on the town council. However, Community Governance Reviews are the responsibility of the local authority.

35 Our final recommendations are based on the draft recommendations, subject to some minor modifications to the wards in Axholme, Burton upon Stather & Winterton, Crosby & Park, Ridge and Town.

Final recommendations

36 Our final recommendations are for seven three-councillor wards, 10 twocouncillor wards and two single-councillor wards. 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.

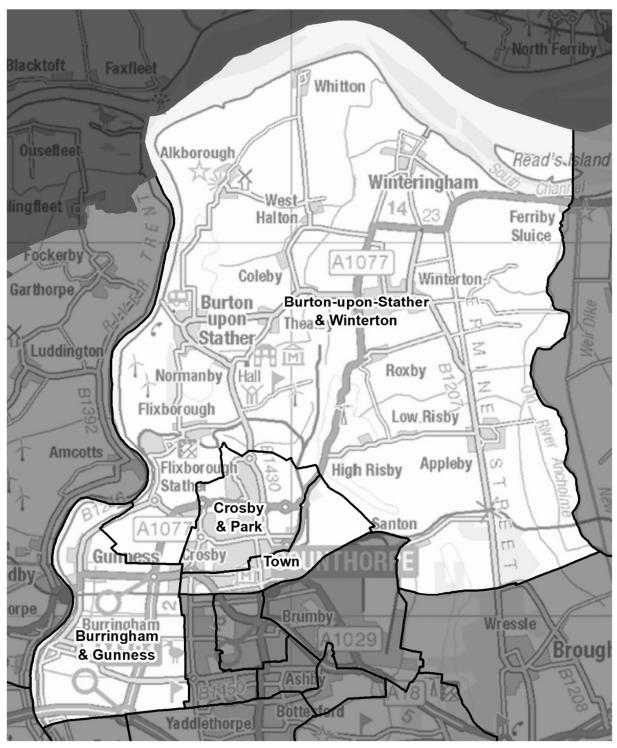
37 The tables and maps on pages 9–19 detail our final recommendations for each area of North Lincolnshire. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory⁵ criteria of:

⁵ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

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

A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 27 and on the large map accompanying this report.

North Scunthorpe and rural area



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Burringham & Gunness	1	11%
Burton upon Stather & Winterton	3	10%
Crosby & Park	3	5%
Town	2	-4%

Burton upon Stather & Winterton, Crosby & Park and Town

39 In response to the draft recommendations, we received a mixture of support and objections for these wards. While the Council expressed support, they argued that Crosby & Park ward should be renamed Crosby, Park & Skippingdale to reflect the inclusion of the Skippingdale Estate in the ward. Burton upon Stather Parish Council expressed support for our proposed arrangement, particularly the retention of three councillors for its ward. Flixborough Parish Council put forward a general comment about remaining viable as a parish.

40 The Labour Group, Scunthorpe Charter Trustees, Councillors Ali, O'Sullivan and Yeadon and a number of residents objected to the proposals in this area. Comments included a rejection of the argument that the draft recommendations 'unite' the Skippingdale Estate in a single ward. Respondents argued that the parished area of the Skippingdale Estate is separated by Luneberg Way from urban unparished Scunthorpe to the east, adding that the areas are different developments. The submissions also objected to the fact that the inclusion of Skippingdale Estate necessitated the existing boundary between Crosby & Park and Town wards to be changed to secure electoral equality. They argued that our proposed boundary moves away from the identifiable boundary of Berkeley Street and requires a number of residential streets to be split, which does not reflect community links.

41 A number of respondents also argued that the draft proposals for Crosby & Park and Town wards created wards with relatively poor electoral equality at 8%, and that development in Scunthorpe area was likely to worsen electoral equality in the town wards to over 10%. They stated that this level of under-representation would be detrimental in one of the more deprived areas of the district.

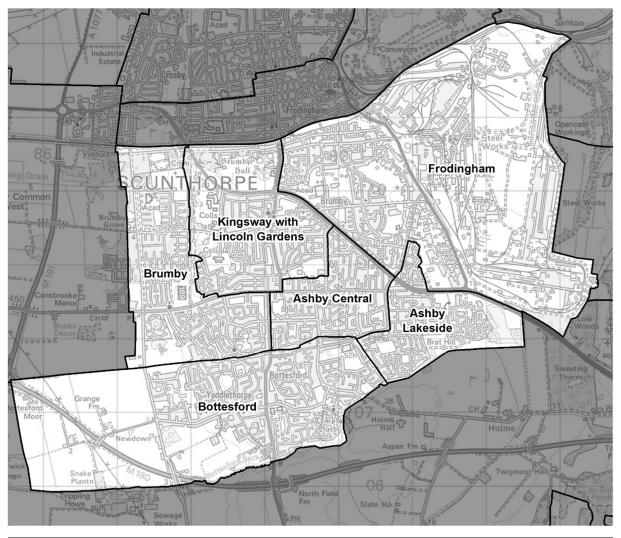
42 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received. We note the support for the draft proposals, but also the significant objections. As stated, the draft proposals sought to unite an area, but the evidence in response suggests that this has not been the case. In addition, we acknowledge the argument that bringing in the Skippingdale area has weakened the boundary between Crosby & Park and Town wards.

43 Therefore, on balance, we are persuaded to move away from the draft recommendations. We propose retaining the Skippingdale area of Flixborough parish in our Burton upon Stather & Winterton ward. While this worsens electoral equality there from 2% fewer electors than the district average by 2027 to 10% more, it does avoid the need to divide Flixborough parish. In addition, such an arrangement enables us to revert to the existing ward boundary between Crosby & Park and Town wards, while also improving electoral equality in those wards to 5% more and 4% fewer than the district average by 2027.

Burringham & Gunness

44 In response to the draft recommendations, we received general support for this ward from the Council, the Labour Group, Scunthorpe Charter Trustees, Ashby Parkland Parish Council and a number of residents. We received no other significant comments and are therefore confirming Burringham & Gunness ward as final.

South Scunthorpe



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Ashby Central	2	-3%
Ashby Lakeside	2	-7%
Bottesford	3	-3%
Brumby	3	-7%
Frodingham	2	-4%
Kingsway with Lincoln Gardens	2	4%

Ashby Central, Ashby Lakeside, Brumby, Frodingham and Kingsway with Lincoln Gardens

45 In response to the draft recommendations, the Council expressed support for the Ashby Central, Brumby and Kingsway with Lincoln Gardens wards. However, the Council requested that the Grange Farm area is transferred from Ashby Lakeside ward to Frodingham ward. We also received significant support for the draft recommendations in this area from the Labour Group, Scunthorpe Charter Trustees, Councillor Rayner and a number of residents. There was explicit support for including the Grange Farm area in Ashby Lakeside ward, with some respondents rejecting any suggestion that it is moved to Frodingham ward. A resident questioned why New Brumby and Old Brumby are not included in Brumby ward.

46 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting the support for many of our draft proposals for this area. We note the comment from a resident about Brumby ward. However, our draft Brumby ward reflects the existing ward of the same name, the retention of which was locally proposed. With support for this ward and no other objections, we do not propose changes to it.

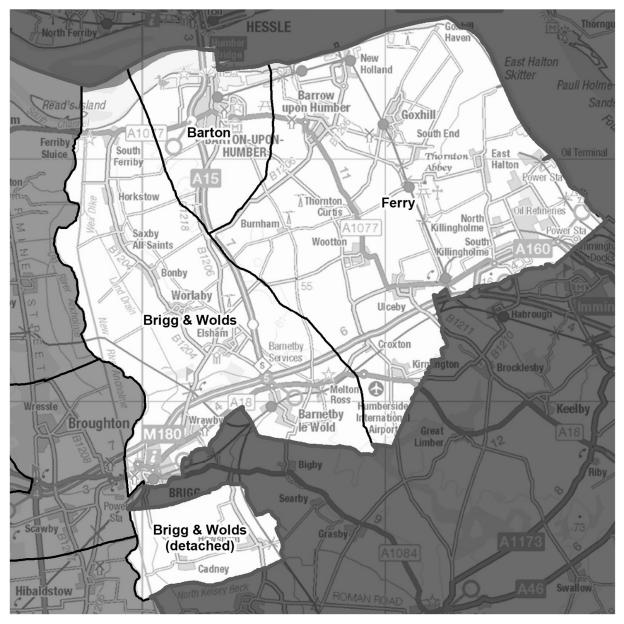
47 We acknowledge the Council's objection to the inclusion of the Grange Farm area in Ashby Lakeside ward, but also note the significant support for this proposal. As discussed in our draft recommendation report, transferring this area to Frodingham ward would worsen electoral equality in Ashby Lakeside to 16% fewer electors than the district average by 2027. Given the support for our proposed Ashby Lakeside and Frodingham wards and the poor level of electoral equality that would result from transferring the Grange Farm area, we are confirming our draft recommendation for these two wards as final. Given the support for the other wards in the area, we are also confirming these wards as final.

Bottesford

48 In response to the draft recommendations, we received general support for this ward. However, a number of respondents objected to the proposed ward name of Bottesford & Yaddlethorpe. Respondents argued that Bottesford is a longstanding name for the area that reflects the town and parish of that name and that adding 'Yaddlethorpe', while ignoring other parts of the area, did not make sense.

49 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting the support for the Bottesford & Yaddlethorpe ward, but objections to its name. We note that the Council expressed support for the name, but we acknowledge the concerns of the objectors and accept that the inclusion of 'Yaddlethorpe' in the name does not provide clarity. Therefore, while we are confirming the boundaries of our draft proposals here as final, we are reverting to the Bottesford name.

East North Lincolnshire



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Barton	3	3%
Brigg & Wolds	3	8%
Ferry	3	-3%

Barton and Ferry

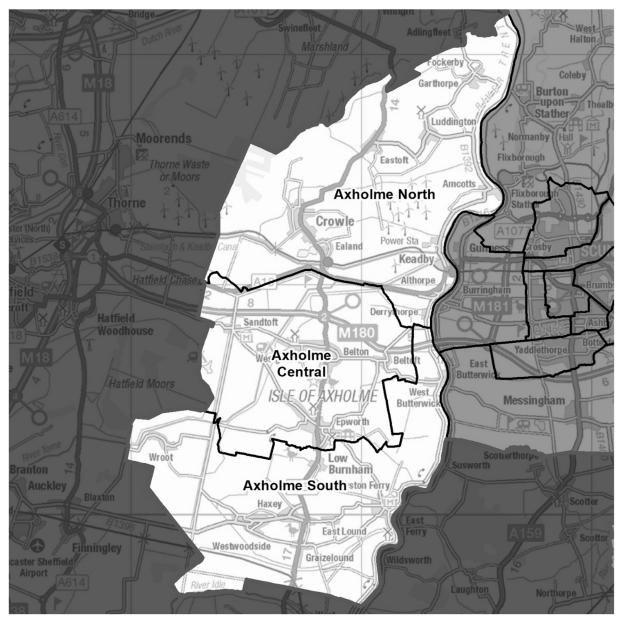
50 In response to the draft recommendations, the Council and Labour Group expressed support for the Barton and Ferry wards. Ulceby Road Safety Group stated that Ferry ward is too large and should be divided, but did not provide any suggestion for how to divide it. We received no other significant comments. 51 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received. We note the comment from Ulceby Road Safety Group, but it is not clear how Ferry ward should be divided or what benefit this would give. The proposed ward comprises whole parishes and secures good electoral equality. In addition, there was support for this ward. We are therefore confirming Barton and Ferry wards as final.

Brigg & Wolds

52 In response to the draft recommendations, we received a mixture of support and objections. The Council expressed support for this ward. The Labour Group and a number of residents expressed concern about the inclusion of Cadney parish in Brigg & Wolds ward. Some respondents stated that Cadney has better links to towns in Ridge ward or towns outside the district. Other submissions connected their objection to the fact that the draft recommendations rejected consideration of a twomember Ridge ward (discussed below) on the basis that our proposals for Cadney parish would worsen electoral equality in Ridge ward to 11%. One respondent expressed support for the inclusion of Cadney parish in Brigg & Wolds, arguing that it has much closer links there.

53 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received. We are not persuaded by the argument that Cadney has better links to towns in Ridge ward and remain of the view it is best served in Brigg & Wolds ward. As discussed in the Messingham and Ridge section (below), we are now proposing a two-councillor Ridge ward with a variance of 11% fewer, which should allay concerns about simply placing Cadney parish in Ridge ward to justify that ward. We are therefore confirming our draft recommendation for Brigg & Wolds ward as final.

West North Lincolnshire



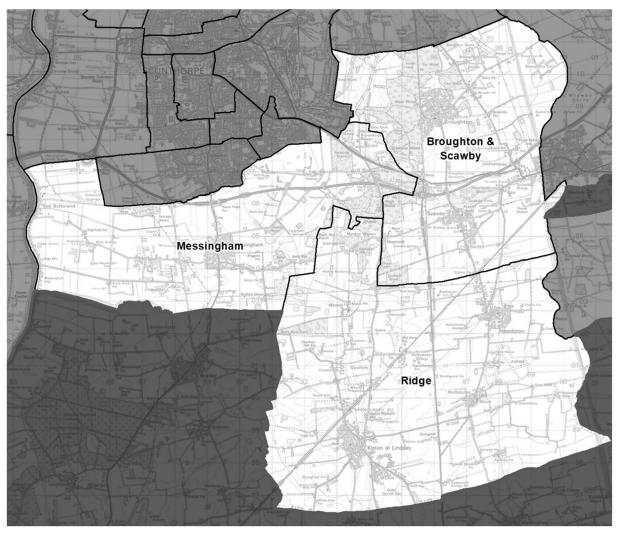
Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Axholme Central	2	-3%
Axholme North	2	6%
Axholme South	2	-5%

Axholme Central, Axholme North and Axholme South

54 In response to the draft recommendations, we received a mixture of support and objections to our proposals. The Council, Haxey Parish Council and a resident expressed general support for the proposed wards. A resident stated that Axholme South ward should be named 'Haxey & District'. 55 The Labour Group, Scunthorpe Charter Trustees and around 13 local residents objected to our proposal to move away from the existing arrangement of three two-councillor wards to two three-councillor wards. Respondents put forward a range of objections, including an argument that the M180 effectively divides the area north to south and that while Belton parish straddles the motorway, the town itself lies to the south and has links into other parishes to the south including Epworth. Respondents argued that Belton does not have any significant links to Crowle & Ealand parish, which itself is a focus for parishes to the north. Respondents also stated that the small improvements achieved by the move to two three-member wards do not justify wards that do not reflect communities as well as the existing wards. Finally, submissions pointed out the area to the north is served by a different school to the area to the south.

56 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, acknowledging the support for our draft recommendations. However, we also note the persuasive argument that our draft proposals created wards that join areas with limited links. We are persuaded to return to the existing three two-councillor wards, with an Axholme North ward focused around Crowle & Ealand parish, an Axholme Central ward focused around Belton and Epworth parishes, and an Axholme South ward focused around Haxey. These wards secure good electoral quality, with the wards forecast to have 3% fewer, 6% more and 5% fewer electors than the district average by 2027, respectively.

South North Lincolnshire



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Broughton & Scawby	2	1%
Messingham	1	5%
Ridge	2	-11%

Broughton & Scawby

57 In response to the draft recommendations, we received some general support for this ward from the Council, the Labour Group and Scunthorpe Charter Trustees. We received no other significant comments. We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations for a two-councillor Broughton & Scawby ward as final.

Messingham and Ridge

58 In response to the draft recommendations, the Council expressed support for our draft recommendations for a three-councillor Ridge ward. However, we also received a number of objections. The Labour Group objected to the Ridge ward name, but also requested further consideration is given to a single-councillor Messingham ward, comprising East Butterwick and Messingham parishes. Scunthorpe Charter Trustees and a number of residents also requested that further consideration is given to a single-councillor Messingham ward. They restated earlier arguments that Messingham would dominate a three-councillor Ridge ward and cited its proximity and direct links into Scunthorpe. Respondents also argued that the creation of a single-councillor Messingham ward and two-councillor Ridge ward should not be ruled out because of the worse levels of electoral equality that would result in the Ridge ward, because of the inclusion of Cadney parish in Brigg & Wolds ward (discussed above).

59 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting some support for the draft recommendations. However, we are of the view that we have received good evidence for creating a single-member Messingham ward, comprising East Butterwick and Messingham parishes. We note that the parishes have good links between each other, as well as into Scunthorpe. As stated in the draft recommendation report, this option would leave the remaining area as a twomember ward. Given our view that Cadney parish should remain in the Brigg & Wolds ward (discussed above), this ward would have 11% fewer electors than the district average. However, we consider this can be justified since our proposals for Brigg & Wolds and Messingham wards better reflect communities.

We are therefore proposing a single-councillor Messingham and two-councillor Ridge ward. These would have 5% more and 11% fewer electors than the district average by 2027. We note the Labour Group's objection to the 'Ridge' name, but without evidence or alternative suggestion, we are retaining this name.

Conclusions

61 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality in North Lincolnshire, referencing the 2021 and 2027 electorate figures against the proposed number of councillors and wards. A full list of wards, names and their corresponding electoral variances can be found at Appendix A to the back of this report. An outline map of the wards is provided at Appendix B.

Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations		
	2021	2027	
Number of councillors	43	43	
Number of electoral wards	19	19	
Average number of electors per councillor	3,015	3,181	
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	1	2	
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0	

Final recommendations

North Lincolnshire Council should be made up of 43 councillors serving 19 wards representing two single-councillor wards, 10 two-councillor wards and seven 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 North Lincolnshire Council. You can also view our final recommendations for North Lincolnshire Council on our interactive maps at <u>www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk</u>

What happens next?

62 We have now completed our review of North Lincolnshire Council. 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 2023.

Equalities

63 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 North Lincolnshire Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2027)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Ashby Central	2	5,998	2,999	-1%	6,180	3,090	-3%
2	Ashby Lakeside	2	5,518	2,759	-8%	5,934	2,967	-7%
3	Axholme Central	2	6,043	3,022	0%	6,159	3,080	-3%
4	Axholme North	2	6,470	3,235	7%	6,724	3,362	6%
5	Axholme South	2	5,901	2,951	-2%	6,028	3,014	-5%
6	Barton	3	9,311	3,104	3%	9,817	3,272	3%
7	Bottesford	3	8,913	2,971	-1%	9,225	3,075	-3%
8	Brigg & Wolds	3	9,508	3,169	5%	10,316	3,439	8%
9	Broughton & Scawby	2	6,176	3,088	2%	6,406	3,203	1%
10	Brumby	3	8,393	2,798	-7%	8,916	2,972	-7%
11	Burringham & Gunness	1	3,015	3,015	0%	3,545	3,545	11%

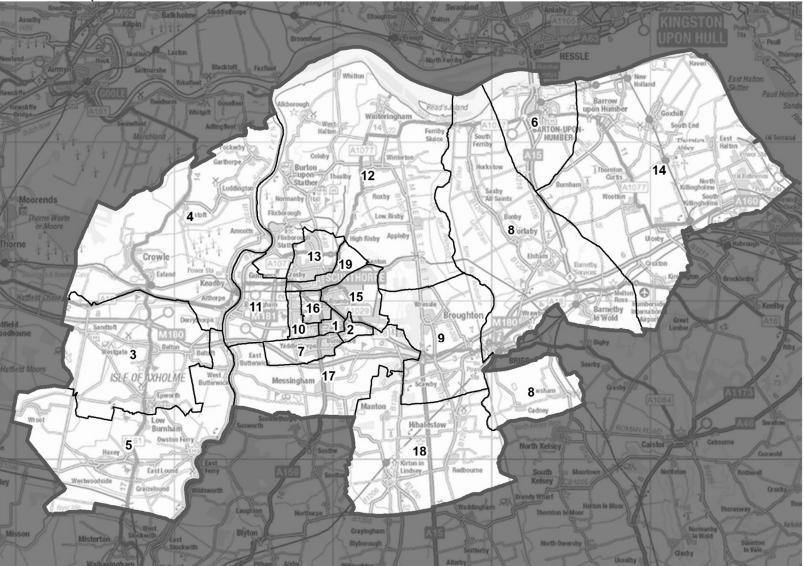
	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2027)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
12	Burton upon Stather & Winterton	3	9,725	3,242	8%	10,460	3,487	10%
13	Crosby & Park	3	9,352	3,117	3%	9,990	3,330	5%
14	Ferry	3	9,018	3,006	0%	9,276	3,092	-3%
15	Frodingham	2	5,782	2,891	-4%	6,123	3,062	-4%
16	Kingsway with Lincoln Gardens	2	6,405	3,203	6%	6,617	3,309	4%
17	Messingham	1	3,215	3,215	7%	3,329	3,329	5%
18	Ridge	2	4,936	2,468	-18%	5,633	2,817	-11%
19	Town	2	5,953	2,977	-1%	6,124	3,062	-4%
	Totals	43	129,632	-	_	136,802	-	-
	Averages	-	-	3,015	-	-	3,181	-

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by North Lincolnshire 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 district. 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	Ward name
1	Ashby Central
2	Ashby Lakeside
3	Axholme Central
4	Axholme North
5	Axholme South
6	Barton
7	Bottesford
8	Brigg & Wolds
9	Broughton & Scawby
10	Brumby
11	Burringham & Gunness
12	Burton upon Stather & Winterton
13	Crosby & Park
14	Ferry
15	Frodingham
16	Kingsway with Lincoln Gardens
17	Messingham
18	Ridge
19	Town

A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: <u>www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/yorkshire-and-the-humber/north-lincolnshire/north-lincolnshire</u>

Appendix C

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at: <u>www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/yorkshire-and-the-humber/north-lincolnshire/north-lincolnshire</u>

Local Authority

• North Lincolnshire Council

Political Groups

• North Lincolnshire Council Labour Group

Councillors

- Councillor C. O'Sullivan (North Lincolnshire Council)
- Councillor H. Rayner (North Lincolnshire Council)
- Councillors L. Yeadon & M. Ali (North Lincolnshire Council)

Local Organisations

- Scunthorpe Charter Trustees
- Ulceby Road Safety Group

Parish and Town Councils

- Ashby Parkland Parish Council
- Burton upon Stather Parish Council
- Flixborough Parish Council
- Haxey Parish Council
- Kirton in Lindsey Town Council

Local Residents

• 48 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 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. We only take account of electors registered specifically for local elections during our reviews.
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 can 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 <u>www.nalc.gov.uk</u>
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 (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. Local Government Boundary Commission for England 1st Floor, Windsor House 50 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0TL

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