

HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Council
11 December 2012

From: The Director of Corporate Services

**Subject: LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION DRAFT
RECOMMENDATIONS**

All Wards

1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 The Local Government Boundary Commission has recently published its draft recommendations for electoral review of Hambleton District Council. A formal consultation will now take place ending on 7 January 2013, following which the Commission will formulate its final recommendations in spring 2013.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to determine whether the Council wishes to make any representations on the draft recommendations.
- 1.3 The Electoral Arrangements Working Group met on 27 November 2012 and its views are set out below.

2.0 THE DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 Members have had a copy of the draft recommendations sent to them. They comprise a report and accompanying map. A summary is attached to this report.
- 2.2 The draft recommendations reflect the Council's view that 28 Members is the appropriate size for the Council. However, the recommendations do not fully reflect the Council's view on warding arrangements.
- 2.3 The Commission have broken their proposals into four areas:-

South Hambleton:

The LGBC are proposing a 3 seat Easingwold Ward and a 1 seat Huby Ward. HDC had proposed 2, two seat Wards in this area. It should be noted that there is an error in the attached summary because Beningbrough Parish is erroneously referred to as being in the proposed Huby Ward.

Central Hambleton:

The LGBC adopted HDC's proposal for the Thirsk and Sowerby/Topcliffe Wards, but have transferred some parishes (Catton and Skipton-on-Swale) from Sowerby/Topcliffe to Thirsk and added some further Wards (Kirby Knowle, Newsham and Breckenbrough and Sandhutton) to Thirsk.

The LGBC accepted without amendment HDC's proposals for new Bagby and Thorntons and Raskelf and White Horse Wards.

The LGBC accepted without amendment HDC's proposal for a Romanby Ward and made slight amendments to the boundaries of HDC's proposed Northallerton North and Brompton and Northallerton South Wards.

West Hambleton:

The LGBC is proposing a 3 Member Bedale Ward (which includes the whole of Aiskew parish) and a single Member Tanfield Ward in contrast to HDC's proposals for a 2 Member Bedale Ward and two single Member Wards.

North Hambleton:

The LGBC have retained three single Member Wards in the area to the north, east and west of Northallerton, but have made significant changes to the HDC proposals, most notably the proposed Osmotherley Ward.

The LGBC have accepted HDC's proposal for a 2 Member Great Ayton Ward, but have merged HDC's proposed Stokesley and Rudby Wards to create a 3 Member Ward.

Overall:

The LGBC proposals reduce the number of Wards from HDC's proposed 17 to 16.

Some minor changes are made to warding arrangements for Northallerton Town Council (reducing the Wards from 4 to 3), but no other changes are made to parishes.

3.0 THE WORKING GROUP'S COMMENTS:

3.1 The Working Group generally supported the LBGC's proposals. It noted that the Parish of Burrill-with-Cowling is part of a combined Parish Council and should therefore be included in the proposed Tanfield Ward.

3.2 It also noted that the proposed constituency boundary between the Richmondshire and Thirsk and Malton constituencies bisects the proposed Wards of Morton-on-Swale and Bagby and Thorntons and felt that the LGBC should take note of the practical implications for running parliamentary elections, but that no changes to the draft recommendations be made.

4.0 CONCLUSION:

4.1 The LGBC has accepted some of the warding proposals made by HDC and amended others. The Council now needs to decide whether it wishes to make formal representations on the draft recommendations. Individuals and other organisations will be able to make representations directly to the LGBC.

4.2 Electoral numbers for parishes will be available at the meeting of the Working Group.

5.0 RECOMMENDATION:

- 5.1 That Council support the Working Group's observations in paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 above and that these be passed to the Local Government Boundary Commission.

MARTYN RICHARDS

Background papers: None

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Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Hambleton District Council

Summary

Who we are:

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body which conducts electoral reviews of local authority areas.

Electoral reviews:

The purpose of an electoral review is to decide on the appropriate electoral arrangements – the number of councillors, the names, number and boundaries of wards – for a local authority.

Why Hambleton?

The Commission carries out some electoral reviews at the request of local authorities.

Hambleton District Council approached the Commission to conduct a review to consider the total number of councillors who represent the district.

Council size

The Commission recommends that Hambleton District Council should be represented by 28 councillors in future: 16 fewer than under the current arrangements.

We consider that a council size of 28 members will ensure the council can discharge its roles and responsibilities effectively and will provide for a pattern of wards that reflects community identities across Hambleton.

Electoral arrangements

Our draft recommendations propose that Hambleton District Council's 28 councillors should represent seven single-member, six two-member and three three-member wards.

The Commission believes its draft recommendations meet its obligations - which are set out in law - to:

- Deliver electoral equality for voters.
- Reflect local community interests and identities.
- Promote effective and convenient local government.

The Commission welcomes proposals for alternative boundaries that better reflect the three criteria above.

General analysis

The Commission's proposals are largely based on the scheme submitted to us by the council in central and eastern Hambleton. In the rest of the district, we have moved away from the council's proposals where we believe an alternative pattern would better meet the criteria listed above.

To view the proposals in detail, visit: consultation.lgbce.org.uk
You can view the full report and maps at: www.lgbce.org.uk

Stage starts	Description
27 March 2012	Public consultation on council size
20 June 2012	Invitation to submit proposals for new warding arrangements
29 August 2012	Commission's analysis of responses and formulation of draft recommendations
13 November 2012	Publication of draft recommendations and consultation on them
8 January 2013	Analysis of submissions received and formulation of final recommendations

South Hambleton

For the Easingwold part of Hambleton, we propose a three-member Easingwold ward comprising the parishes of Aldwark, Alne, Beninbrough, Flawith, Linton-on-Ouse, Newton-on-Ouse, Overton, Shipton, Tollerton, Youlton and Crayke.

To the east of Easingwold, we propose a single-member Huby ward combining the parishes of Beningbrough, Brandsby-cum-Stearsby, Dalby-cum-Skewsby, Farlington, Marton-cum-Moxby, Stillington, Sutton-on-the-Forest, Whenby and Yearsley.

Central Hambleton

The Commission proposes to adopt the council's scheme for a Sowerby & Topcliffe ward.

However, we propose to modify their scheme by including the parishes of Catton and Kipton-on-Swale in a two-member Thirsk ward. This means that the Sowerby & Topcliffe ward would comprise the parishes of Sowerby, Dalton, Eldmire with Crakehill, Hutton Sesay, Sessay and Topcliffe.

Our proposed Thirsk ward would include the parishes of Thirsk, Carlton Minniot, Catton, Skipton-on-Swale, Kirby Wiske, Newsham with Breckenbrough and Sandhutton.

We also propose two single-member wards called Bagby & Thorntons and Raskelf & White Horse.

Bagby & Thorntons ward would comprise the parishes of Kepwick, Landmoth-cum-Catto, Nether Silton, Over Silton, Cotcliffe, Crosby, Thornton-le-Beans, Thornton-le-Moor, Thornton-le-Street, Bagby, Balk, Boltby, Borrowby, Cowesby, Felixkirk, Hood Grange, Kirby Knowle, Knayton with Brawith, Leake, North Kilvington, South Kilvington, Sutton-under-Whitstonecliffe, Thirlby, Thornbrough and Upsall.

Raskelf & White Horse ward

comprises the parishes of Birdforth, Brafferton, Fawdington, Helperby, Myton-on-Swale, Raskelf, Tholthorpe, Thormanby, Angram Grange, Carlton Husthwaite, Coxwold, Husthwaite, Kilburn High and Low, Newburgh, Oulston, Thirkleby High & Low with Osgodby, Thornton-on-the-Hill, Wildon Grange.

For Northallerton and surrounding area, we propose Northallerton & Brompton ward to the north of the town and a Northallerton South ward which would include the central part of the town.

The Commission also proposes a two-member Romanby ward which is coterminous with the parish of that name.

West Hambleton

For Bedale and surrounding area, we propose a three-member Bedale ward comprising the parishes of Ainderby Miers With Holtby, Aiskew, Bedale, Crakehall, Exelby, Leeming & Newton, Gatenby, Hackforth, Langthorne, Rand Grange, Burrill with Cowling and Theakston.

To the south, we propose a single-member Tanfield ward comprising the parishes of Ainderby Quernhow, Burneston, Carthorpe, Clifton-on-Yore, East Tanfield, Firby, Holme, Howe, Howgrave, Kirklington-cum-Upsland, Pickhill With Roxby, Rookwith, Sinderby, Snape With Thorp, Swainby With Allerthorpe, Sutton With Howgrave, Thirn, Thornton Watlass, Well and West Tanfield.

North Hambleton

To the west of Northallerton, we propose a single-member Morton-on-Swale comprising the parishes of Ainderby Steeple, Danby Wiske With Lazenby, Great Langton, Killerby, Kiplin, Kirkby Fleetham With Fencote, Little Langton, Morton-on-Swale, North Otterington, Scruton, Thrintoft, Warlaby, Whitwell, Yafforth, Maunby, Newby Wiske and South Otterington.

We also propose a single-

member Cowtons ward comprising the parishes of Appleton Wiske, Birkby, Deighton, East Cowton, East Rounton, Girsby, Great Smeaton, High Worsall, Hornby, Hutton Bonville, Little Smeaton, Low Worsall, Over Dinsdale, Picton, South Cowton, Welbury and West Rounton.

To the east of Northallerton, our draft recommendation is for a single-member Osmotherley & Swainby ward comprising the parishes of Carlton, East Harlsey, Ellerbeck, Faceby, Great Busby, Ingleby Arncliffe, Kirby Sigston, Little Busby, Osmotherley, Potto, Sowerby-under-Cotcliffe, Thimbleby, West Harlsey, Whorlton, Winton, Stank & Hallikeld.

In the rural north east part of Hambleton, we propose a three-member Stokesley ward comprising the parishes of Stokesley, Crathorne, Kirkby, Middleton-on-Leven, Seamer, Sexhow, Skutterskelfe, Newby, Great and Little Broughton, Hutton Rudby and Rudby.

At the north east edge of the district, our draft recommendation is for a two-member Great Ayton ward comprising the parishes of Bilsdale Midcable, Easby, Great Ayton, Ingleby Greenhow, Kildale and Little Ayton.

What happens next?

There will now be an eight-week consultation period on the draft recommendations. The consultation closes on **7 January 2013**.

Write to us:

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Or email:

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The full report and interactive maps are available to view at: consultation.lgbce.org.uk and www.lgbce.org.uk