



Hampshire County Council

Further Electoral Review of Hampshire County Council

Submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England: Response to the Commission's Draft

Recommendations on a new pattern of divisions – January 2016



Hampshire
County Council

www.hants.gov.uk

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1. Introduction

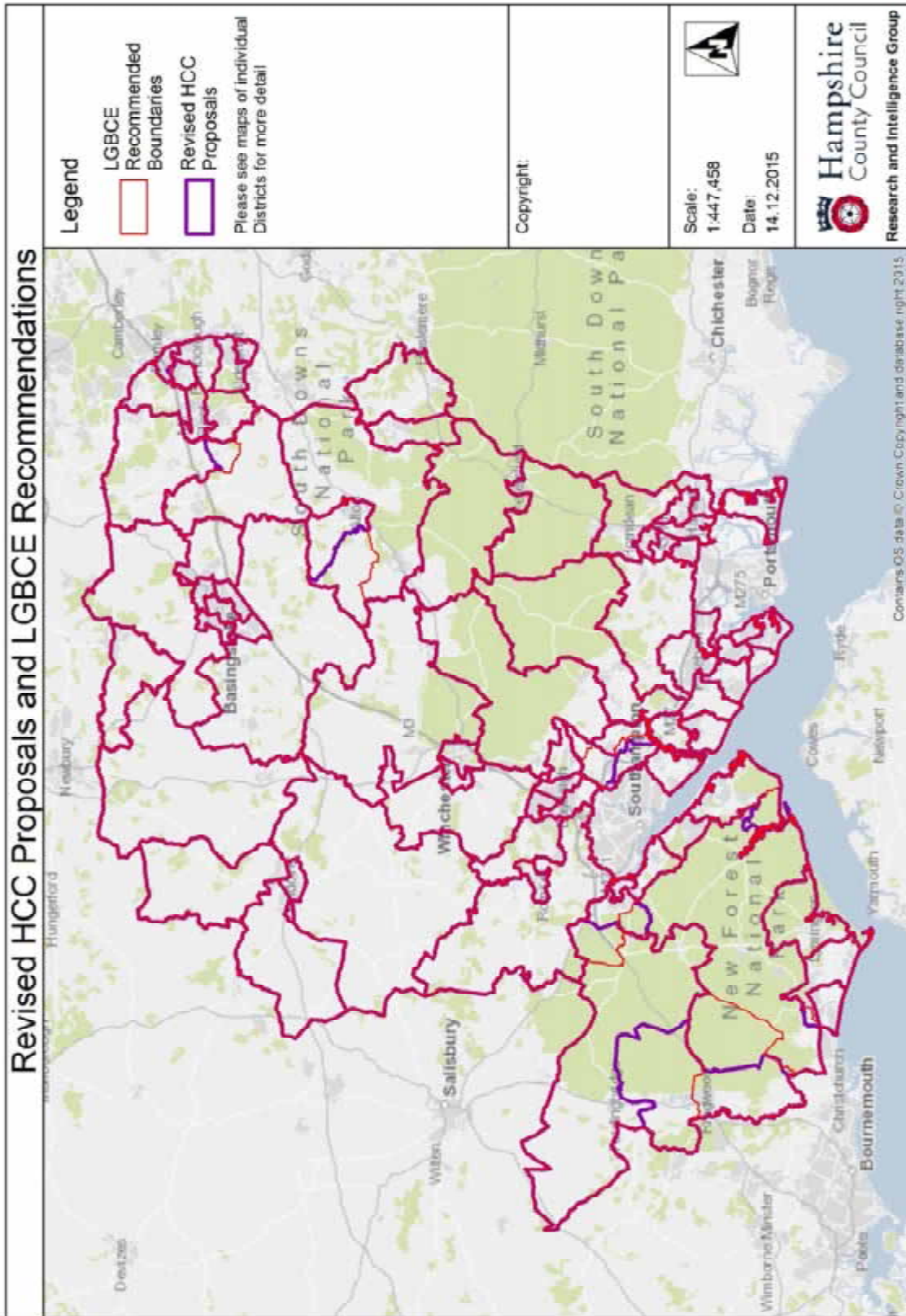
- 1.1 On 29 August 2014 the Local Government Boundary Commission for England ('the Commission') advised the County Council that the Commission had determined that a Further Electoral Review of the County Council's Electoral Arrangements should take place.
- 1.2 So far as the County Council is concerned, Electoral Arrangements means:
 - 1.2.1 the total number of County Councillors elected to the County Council;
 - 1.2.2 the number and boundaries of electoral divisions in the County Council;
 - 1.2.3 the number of County Councillors in respect of any electoral division;
and
 - 1.2.4 the name of any electoral division of the County Council.
- 1.3 In consequence of paragraph 1.2.1 above a submission on Council Size, approved by the County Council on 13 April 2015, was made to the Commission. The submission on Council Size was that the County Council should remain with 78 County Councillors.
- 1.4 On 26 May 2015 the Commission advised the County Council that the Commission was 'minded to' recommend that the size of the County Council should remain at 78 County Councillors. The Commission advised that it was inviting proposals from the County Council, interested parties and members of the public on a pattern of electoral divisions.
- 1.5 In consideration of a pattern of Electoral Divisions, the County Council is advised that in exercise of its judgement the Commission will have regard to three statutory criteria, namely:
 - 1.5.1 to deliver electoral equality, that is that each County Councillor should represent roughly the same number of registered electors as other County Councillors across the County Council;
 - 1.5.2 that the pattern of electoral divisions should, as far as possible, reflect the interests and identities of local communities and have readily identifiable boundaries; and

- 1.5.3 that the Electoral Arrangements of the County Council should provide for effective and convenient Local Government.
- 1.6 At its meeting on 13 April 2015 the County Council approved a proposal that a Members' Working Group with representation from all Political Groups represented on the County Council be convened. Each Member of the Working Group would have a local co-ordinating role in respect of each District/Borough Council area, to make recommendations to Political Group Leaders on a proposed pattern of electoral divisions, having regard to the three statutory criteria set out in paragraph 1.5 above.
- 1.7 In consequence of Paragraph 1.6 above a submission on a proposed pattern of electoral divisions, approved by the County Council on 16 July 2015, was made to the Commission.
- 1.8 On 17 November 2015 the Commission published their draft recommendations <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/5188> for a proposed pattern of electoral divisions for implementation in May 2017 when the County Council holds its next elections.
- 1.9 In considering the Commission's draft recommendations Members of the Members' Working Group have conducted further consultation with all other County Council Members within the District/Borough Council area allocated to them, and with District/Borough/Parish Councils, and local community groups and organisations, as required. Members of the Members' Working Group have also used their local knowledge in formulating revised proposals.
- 1.10 The Political Group Leaders have met and carefully considered the Commission's draft recommendations and the draft proposals of the Members' Working Group to respond to the Commission's draft recommendations.
- 1.11 The County Council is content with the Commission's draft recommendations for the Basingstoke & Deane borough, with a proposed change of name for one division, Fareham borough, Havant borough, Test Valley borough and Winchester city areas.
- 1.12 The County Council is proposing changes to the Commission's draft recommendations for East Hampshire district, Eastleigh borough, Gosport borough, Hart district, New Forest district and Rushmoor borough.
- 1.13 The Commission states in its guidance "*How to propose a pattern of wards*" that it will not always be possible for them to put forward boundary proposals that clearly meets all three statutory criteria and that the statutory criteria can sometimes contradict each other, for example where a proposal might reflect

the shape of local communities but delivers poor levels of electoral equality. The County Council's revised proposals have been prepared in accordance with the Commission's criteria and in so doing, it has been mindful to ensure that the importance of community identity and convenient and effective local government are fully promoted. The detail of the revised proposals together with the supporting evidence is set out below.

- 1.14 A map showing the revised County Council proposals and the Commission's draft recommendations follows.

Map showing revised County Council proposals and the Commission's draft recommendations



2. Basingstoke & Deane

2.1. The Commission has recommended that Basingstoke and Deane Borough continues with 10 County Councillors, each representing one division.

2.2. **Basingstoke Central**

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Basingstoke Central	1	4%	This division comprises the centre of Basingstoke.
Detail This division is largely based on county-wide proposals for central Basingstoke. In order to improve electoral equality in Basingstoke South East division we have included Chester Place, Bramblys Drive and Penrith Road in Basingstoke Central division. These changes ensure Basingstoke Central better reflects the statutory criteria.			

2.3. **Hampshire County Council response:**

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation to better reflect the statutory criteria. On the basis that the eastern side of Essex Road and Bramblys Close (as well as Bramblys Drive) are within this division, the County Council is content with the recommendation.

2.4. **Basingstoke North**

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Basingstoke North	1	4%	This division comprises the South View and Popley areas of Basingstoke.
Detail This division is based on county-wide proposals for north Basingstoke. We consider this division reflects communities and provides for good electoral equality.			

2.5. **Hampshire County Council response:**

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

2.6. **Basingstoke North West**

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Basingstoke North West	1	4%	This division comprises Rooksdown parish and the Buckskin and Winklebury areas of Basingstoke.
Detail This division is based on county-wide proposals for north-west Basingstoke. We consider this division reflects communities and provides for good electoral equality.			

2.7. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

2.8. Basingstoke South East

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Basingstoke South East	1	8%	This division comprises the Brighton Hill and Eastrop areas of Basingstoke.
Detail The county-wide proposals for Basingstoke South East division resulted in a variance of 10% more electors per councillor than the average. To reduce this variance we have included Chester Place, Bramblys Drive and Penrith Road in Basingstoke Central division. These changes ensure Basingstoke South East division better reflects the statutory criteria.			

2.9. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation to better reflect the statutory criteria and is content with the recommendation on the basis that the eastern side of Essex Road and Bramblys Close (as well as Bramblys Drive) are located in the Basingstoke Central division.

2.10. Basingstoke South West

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Basingstoke South West	1	4%	This division comprises the Hatch Warren and Kempshott areas of Basingstoke.
Detail This division is based on county-wide proposals for south-west Basingstoke. We consider this division reflects communities and provides for good electoral equality.			

2.11. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

2.12. Calleva

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Calleva	1	-9%	This division comprises the parishes of Bramley, Hannington, Hartley Wespall, Monk Sherborne, Mortimer West End, Pamber, Sherborne St John, Silchester, Stratfield Saye, Stratfield Turgis, Wootton St Lawrence and part of Sherfield on Loddon parish.
Detail This division is based on the county-wide proposals for Basingstoke & Deane Borough. We received a submission proposing that Pamber Heath should be included in Tadley & Baughurst division. However, this proposal would result in Calleva division having an electoral variance of more than 10%. We consider the county-wide proposals for this division better reflect the statutory criteria in that they reduce the electoral variance in this area. We have therefore put them forward as part of our draft recommendations.			

2.13. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in

line with the County Council’s proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

2.14. Candovers

The Commission’s draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Candovers	1	-6%	This division comprises the parishes of Bradley, Candovers, Cliddesden, Deane, Dummer, Ellisfield, Farleigh Wallop, Herriard, Laverstoke, North Waltham, Nutley, Oakley, Overton, Popham, Preston Candover, Steventon, Tunworth, Upton Grey, Weston Corbett, Weston Patrick and Winslade.
Detail			
We received five submissions relating to this division. Two respondents argued for retaining the existing arrangements. The other respondent commented that Hurstbourne Priors and Whitchurch parishes should be included in this division; however, including both parishes would result in very poor levels of electoral equality. A parish council suggested a division name change to Overton, Oakley & the Candovers. We consider the existing division name better reflects the statutory criteria in that it is shorter and identifies the main population centre of the proposed division and therefore forms part of our draft recommendations.			

2.15. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission’s draft recommendation is in line with the County Council’s proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

2.16. Loddon

The Commission’s draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Loddon	1	6%	This division comprises the parishes of Chineham, Mapledurwell & Up Nately, Newnham, Old Basing & Lychpit and part of Sherfield on Loddon parish.

<p>Detail This division is based on the existing division arrangements. The county-wide proposals for Basingstoke & Deane Borough supported retaining the existing arrangements. Loddon division reflects the statutory criteria and forms part of our draft recommendations.</p>			

2.17. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

2.18. Tadley & Baughurst

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Tadley & Baughurst	1	-8%	This division comprises the parishes of Ashford Hill with Headley, Baughurst, Tadley and part of Ecchinswell, Sydmonton & Bishops Green parish.

<p>Detail We received two submissions relating to this division. As mentioned above, one of the submissions argued that Pamber Heath instead of Bishops Green should be included in Tadley & Baughurst division. We have not made this change as this would increase the electoral variance in Calleva division. We consider that the proposed division in the county-wide scheme has better electoral equality, and therefore forms part of our draft recommendations.</p>			
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2.19. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals. The County Council therefore supports this recommendation.

2.20. Whitchurch & Clere

The Commission's draft recommendation:

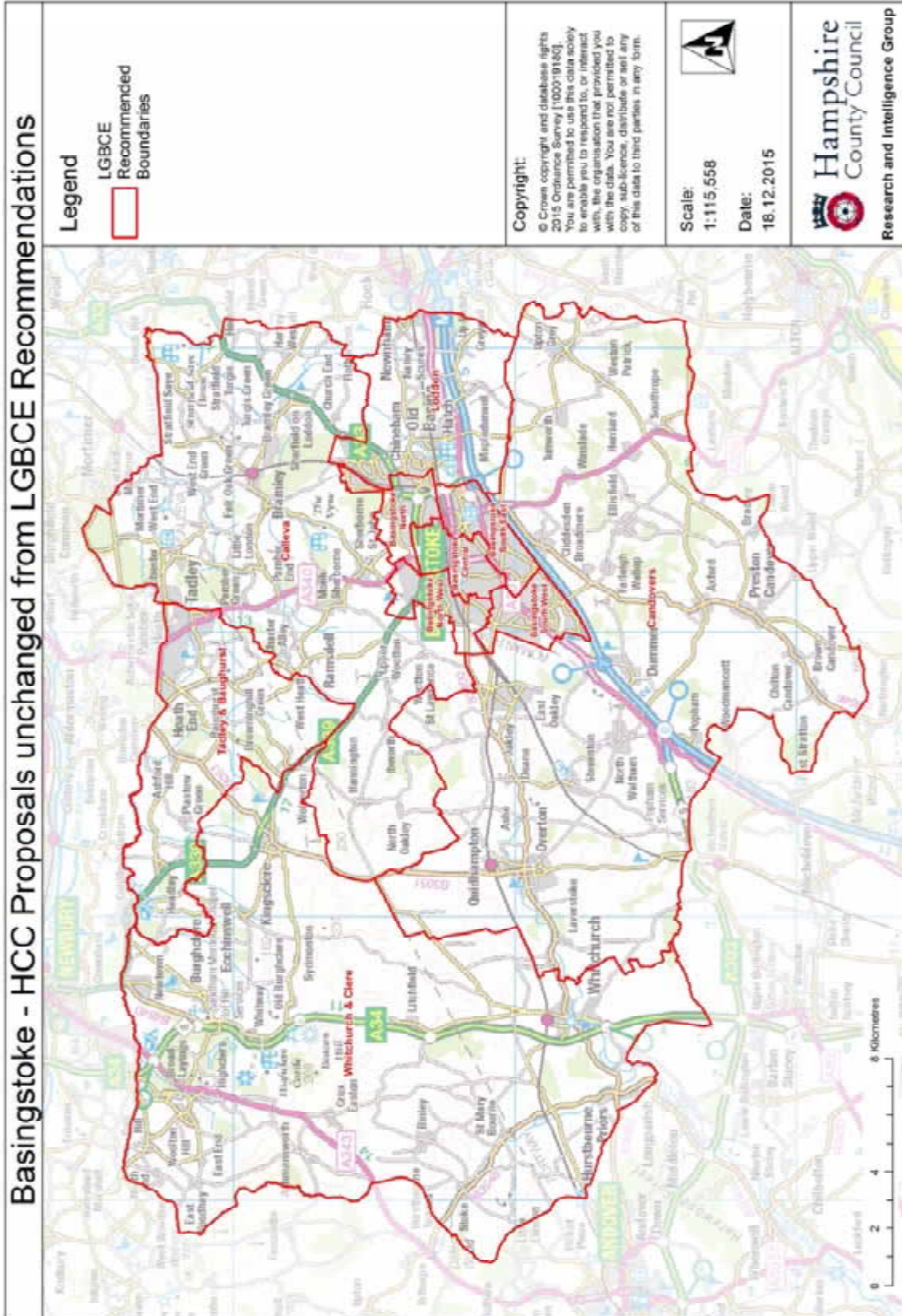
Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Whitchurch & Clere	1	0%	This division comprises the parishes of Ashmansworth, Burghclere, East Woodhay, Highclere, Hurstbourne Priors, Kingsclere, Litchfield & Woodcott, Newtown, St Mary Bourne, Whitchurch and part of Ecchinswell, Sydmonton & Bishops Green parish.
Detail - This division is based on the county-wide proposals for Basingstoke & Deane Borough. We received a submission proposing Hurstbourne Priors and Whitchurch parishes be included in Candovers division. However, this proposal would result in poor electoral equality for both divisions. We consider the county-wide proposals for this division better reflect the statutory criteria and it therefore forms part of our draft recommendations.			

2.21 Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission’s draft recommendation is in line with the County Council’s proposals. The County Council therefore supports this recommendation in respect of electoral equality. However, the County Council requested that this division be renamed “Whitchurch & The Cleres” to reflect that Burghclere, Highclere and Kingsclere are now all contained within this one division. The County Council therefore requests the Commission to re-consider the change of name for this division to Whitchurch & The Cleres to fully reflect community identity.

2.22 Proposals for Basingstoke & Deane (unchanged from Commission recommendations)

Division name	Members	LGBCE Recommend		HCC Revised Proposal	
		2021 Electorate	2021 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Basingstoke Central	1	14,412	4.1%	14,412	4.1%
Basingstoke North	1	14,358	3.7%	14,358	3.7%
Basingstoke North West	1	14,398	4.0%	14,398	4.0%
Basingstoke South East	1	14,956	8.0%	14,956	8.0%
Basingstoke South West	1	14,981	8.2%	14,981	8.2%
Calleva	1	12,534	-9.5%	12,534	-9.5%
Candovers	1	12,986	-6.2%	12,986	-6.2%
Loddon	1	14,659	5.9%	14,659	5.9%
Tadley & Baughurst	1	12,693	-8.3%	12,693	-8.3%
Whitchurch & The Cleres	1	13,907	0.4%	13,907	0.4%
Total	10	139,884		139,884	



3. East Hampshire

3.1. The Commission has recommended that East Hampshire District continues with seven County Councillors, each representing one division.

3.2. Alton Rural

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Alton Rural	1	-10%	This division comprises the parishes of Bentley, Binsted, Chawton, Farringdon, Four Marks, Froyle, Kingsley, Medstead, Newton Valence, Selborne, Worldham and the Holybourne area of Alton Town.

Detail

We have included the Holybourne area of Alton Town and Newton Valence parish in this division to try to minimise the electoral imbalance in this area. We have included Beech, Bentworth, Lasham, Shalden and Wield parishes to Alton Town division as the alternative proposals would result in the town being completely surrounded by a rural division effectively forming a 'doughnut'. We are not normally inclined to adopt such a division pattern as it is unlikely to reflect community identities and interests or communication links in the rural area. We consider that our draft recommendations for Alton Rural division will better reflect the statutory criteria in this part of East Hampshire than the alternatives put forward during consultation.

3.3. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation. To achieve stronger community identity and greater electoral equality the County Council proposes that the parishes of Beech, Bentworth and Wield are moved from the Alton Town division to this division.

3.4. Alton Town

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
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Alton Town	1	6%	This division comprises the parishes of Beech, Bentworth, Lasham, Shalden, Wield and the majority of Alton Town.
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Detail

Our recommendations for Alton Town division includes the majority of the town, except the area of Holybourne, as mentioned above. We also have included the parishes of Beech, Bentworth, Lasham, Shalden and Wield in order to avoid a division which is completely surrounded by an Alton Rural division. We consider this arrangement will provide the best reflection of our statutory criteria.

3.5. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the proposed changes outlined in paragraph 3.3 above for the Alton Rural division. The County Council proposes that the parishes of Beech, Bentworth and Wield are moved from this division to the Alton Rural division to achieve stronger community identity and greater electoral equality.

3.6. Catherington

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Catherington	1	-6%	This division comprises the parishes of Horndean and Rowlands Castle.

Detail

This division is based on the county-wide proposals received for East Hampshire. We are persuaded by the comments of a parish council and parish councillor that all of Rowlands Castle parish be included in this division. We also received a localised scheme for this area; however, we consider the county-wide proposals more effectively reflect community identities and interests.

3.7. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

3.8. Headley & Liphook

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Headley & Liphook	1	-6%	This division comprises the parishes of Bramshott & Liphook, Grayshott and Headley.
Detail			
We received a submission from a parish council which suggested a division name change to include the settlements of Liphook and Grayshott. As the electorates of Headley and Liphook comprise the majority of the population of the division, we consider both areas should be reflected in the division name. Headley & Liphook division is based on the county-wide proposals received for East Hampshire. We consider this division reflects community identity and provides for good electoral equality.			

3.9. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals. The County Council therefore supports this recommendation with the exception of the proposed change of name for the division to "Headley & Liphook". To fully reflect community identity the division would need to be referred to as "Headley, Grayshott & Bramshott & Liphook". The County Council notes that the Commission prefers to keep division names short and recognises that a longer division name is unlikely to be supported. The County Council therefore requests that the Commission re-consider retaining the current name of Headley for this division.

3.10. Petersfield Butser

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Petersfield Butser	1	-5%	This division comprises the parishes of Buriton, Clanfield, East Meon and Langrish.
Detail			
We received county-wide and localised proposals for this division. Having considered both proposals we have decided that the county-wide proposals provide for a better reflection of the statutory criteria. We include this division as part of our draft recommendations.			

3.11. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission’s draft recommendation is in line with the County Council’s proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

3.12. Petersfield Hangers

The Commission’s draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Petersfield Hangers	1	-4%	This division comprises the parishes of Colemore & Priors Dean, East Tisted, Froxfield & Privett, Greatham, Hawley, Liss, Ropley, Sheet, Steep, Stroud, West Tisted and the north of Petersfield parish.
Detail This division is largely based on county-wide proposals for this part of East Hampshire. We have transferred Newton Valence parish to Alton Rural division, as described above. Petersfield Hangers division provides for good electoral equality and reflects community identities in this part of the district.			

3.13. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission’s draft recommendation is largely in line with the County Council’s proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

3.14. Whitehill, Bordon & Lindford

The Commission’s draft recommendation:

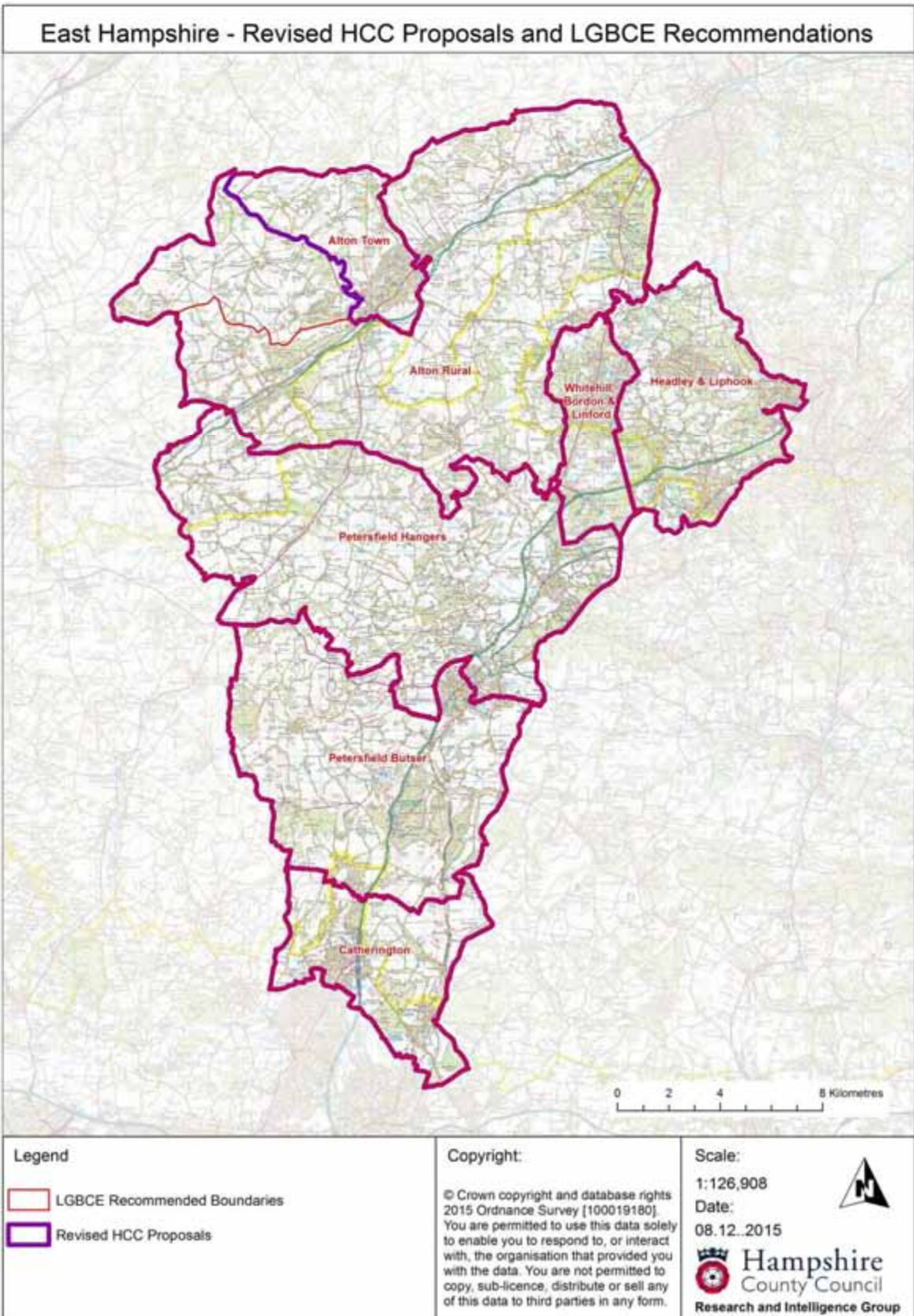
Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Whitehill, Bordon & Lindford	1	-7%	This division comprises the parishes of Lindford and Whitehill.
Detail - We received a submission from a parish council requesting changes to parish and district ward arrangements in Whitehill. We are unable to consider such changes as part of this review. Our draft recommendations are based on the county-wide proposals received for East Hampshire and are identical to the existing arrangements in this area. We consider this division reflects community identities and provides for good electoral equality.			

3.15. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

3.16. Revised proposals for East Hampshire

Division name	Members	LGBCE Recommend		Revised HCC Proposal	
		2021 Electorate	2021 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Alton Rural	1	12,514	-9.6%	13,593	-1.8%
Alton Town	1	14,704	6.2%	13,625	-1.6%
Catherington	1	13,071	-5.6%	13,071	-5.6%
Headley	1	12,952	-6.5%	12,952	-6.5%
Petersfield Butser	1	13,104	-5.4%	13,104	-5.4%
Petersfield Hangers	1	13,232	-4.4%	13,232	-4.4%
Whitehill, Bordon & Lindford	1	12,901	-6.8%	12,901	-6.8%
Total	7	92,478		92,478	



4. **Eastleigh**

- 4.1. The Commission has recommended that Eastleigh Borough has eight County Councillors each representing one division with the exception of Hedge End & West End division, which is to be represented by two County Councillors.

The County Council has considered the Commission’s draft recommendations and supports them in respect of the Bishopstoke & Fair Oak division (with a proposed change of name), Chandler’s Ford, Eastleigh North, Eastleigh South and Hamble divisions as indicated in paragraphs 4.3, 4.7, 4.9, 4.11 & 4.13.

In respect of the Commission’s draft recommendations for the Botley & Fair Oak and the Hedge End & West End divisions, the County Council is submitting revised proposals to achieve improved electoral equality, for a stronger reflection of the interests and identity of local communities, and to provide for more convenient and effective local government respecting identifiable boundaries. The revised proposals are supported by Botley Parish Council, Hedge End Town Council and West End Parish Council. The County Council’s revised proposal for Botley & Fair Oak division is preferred by Fair Oak & Horton Heath Parish Council to that of the Commission’s draft recommendation. Bursledon Parish Council has also indicated support for the County Council’s proposed split of the Commission’s draft two-Member division. The detail of the revised proposals is set out in paragraphs 4.5 and 4.15.

The County Council’s revised proposals achieve a uniform pattern of eight single member electoral divisions within Eastleigh borough.

4.2. **Bishopstoke & Fair Oak**

The Commission’s draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Bishopstoke & Fair Oak	1	-7%	This division comprises the parish of Bishopstoke and the northern part of Fair Oak & Horton Heath parish.
Detail			
This division is largely based on the county-wide proposals for this part of Eastleigh Borough. We are satisfied that this division reflects the communities of Bishopstoke and the northern part of Fair Oak & Horton Heath. The division also achieves good electoral equality. Therefore, it forms part of our draft recommendations.			

4.3. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission’s draft recommendation is in line with the County Council’s proposals and therefore supports this recommendation. In the interests of community identity, the County Council proposes that this division be renamed “Bishopstoke & Fair Oak North”.

4.4. Botley & Fair Oak

The Commission’s draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Botley & Fair Oak	1	-10%	This division comprises parts of Botley, Fair Oak & Horton Heath and Hedge End parishes.

Detail

We received 19 submissions relating to this division. All of the respondents objected to the county-wide proposals which divided Botley parish between divisions. In particular, it was argued that Boorley Green and Botley have close community links. It was also argued that West Botley should be in the same division as Botley. After considering the evidence received, we are persuaded that Boorley Green and Botley should be in the same division. The railway line is not a barrier between both communities. However, we are constrained by the electoral variances in adjoining divisions. We are unable to include all of Botley parish in one division. As a result, we have included West Botley in Hedge End & West End division. The remainder of this division comprises parts of Hedge End and Fair Oak & Horton Heath parish.

4.5. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission’s draft recommendation. To improve electoral equality the County Council proposes that this division comprise Fair Oak South, Horton Heath, West End North and Townhill Park. This proposal brings together the Horton Heath development area (from the Hedge End and West End division) with the community of Horton Heath. This proposal is supported by West End Parish Council and is preferred to the Commission’s draft recommendation by Fair Oak & Horton Heath Parish Council.

In the interests of community identity, the County Council proposes that this division be renamed “Fair Oak and Horton Heath”.

4.6. Chandler's Ford

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Chandler's Ford	1	-9%	This division comprises the north-eastern part of Chandler's Ford parish.
Detail This division is based on the county-wide proposals received for Eastleigh Borough. Chandler's Ford division is identical to the existing arrangements in this area. We are persuaded that retaining the existing division will reflect our statutory criteria.			

4.7. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

4.8. Eastleigh North

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Eastleigh North	1	-7%	This division comprises the parish of Allbrook & North Boyatt and the north of Eastleigh.
Detail This division is based on the county-wide proposals received for Eastleigh Borough. We consider this division reflects the Eastleigh community to the north of Leigh Road and the railway line. Eastleigh North also provides for good electoral equality.			

4.9. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

4.10. Eastleigh South

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Eastleigh South	1	6%	This division comprises the south-western part of Chandler's Ford parish and the south of Eastleigh.
Detail This division is based on the county-wide proposals received for Eastleigh Borough. We consider this division reflects the Chandler's Ford and Eastleigh communities which are linked by Leigh Road. Eastleigh South also provides for good electoral equality.			

4.11. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

4.12. Hamble

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Hamble	1	3%	This division comprises the parishes of Hamble-le-Rice, Hound and part of Bursledon parish to the south of the M27.
Detail This division is based on the county-wide proposals received for Eastleigh Borough. We consider this division reflects community identities and also provides for good electoral equality.			

4.13. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

4.14. Hedge End & West End

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Hedge End & West End	2	-9%	This division comprises West End parish and parts of Botley, Bursledon and Hedge End parishes.
Detail			
<p>The county-wide proposal for West End argued for a division with an electoral variance of 19% fewer electors per councillor. This is an unacceptably high electoral variance. On our visit to the area, we noted that West End is enclosed by the M27 and a considerable distance from Eastleigh and Hedge End. There are also no obvious parts of Eastleigh or Hedge End which could be included in this division in order to reduce the high electoral variance. However, in order to resolve the high electoral variance, we have joined both West End and the majority of Hedge End in a two-member division. This ensures that communities in this part of Eastleigh are not arbitrarily divided between divisions. The division also includes West Botley and properties north of Grange Road. These additions improve electoral equality for the division.</p>			

4.15. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation. To improve electoral equality the County Council proposes that two single Member divisions are created namely "Botley & Hedge End North" and "Hedge End & West End South".

Botley & Hedge End North will comprise Grange Park, all of Botley and Shamblehurst. This proposal avoids the need to create a new small polling district, and Town Council ward, in Hedge End Grange Park and keeps all of Botley in one division. This responds to the objections from Botley and Boorley Green residents opposed to splitting Botley parish between divisions. This proposal is supported by Botley Parish Council and by Hedge End Town Council.

Hedge End & West End South will comprise Hedge End St. Johns, St. Helens, Freegrunds and Wildern Town Council wards, West End's Kanes Hill, St. James and Telegraph Woods and Bursledon North. In splitting West End parish, this proposal respects keeping the Townhill Farm community together and in all other respects follows the established boundary between West End North and West End South Borough Council wards. This proposal also reunites West End and Fair Oak along the shared Allington Lane and Burnetts Lane corridors in one division, as prior to the previous boundary

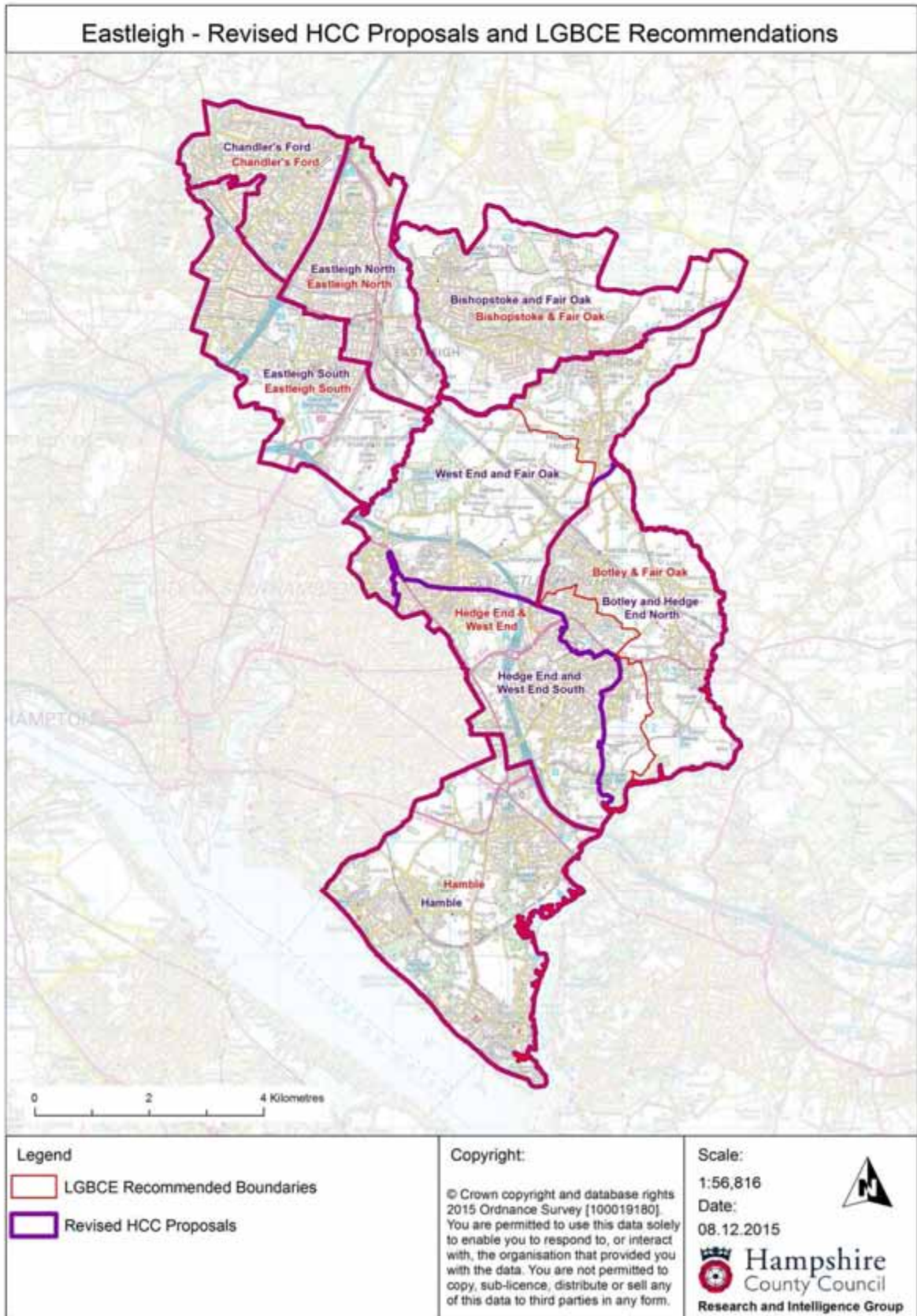
review. This proposal is supported by Hedge End Town Council and West End Parish Council. The split of the two-Member division is also supported by Bursledon Parish Council with minor variation to the proposed Bursledon North parish ward.

4.16. Revised proposals for Eastleigh

Division name	Members	LGBCE Recommend		HCC Revised Proposal	
		2021 Electorate	2021 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Bishopstoke & Fair Oak North	1	12,934	-6.6%	12,934	-6.6%
Chandler's Ford	1	12,540	-9.4%	12,540	-9.4%
Eastleigh North	1	12,816	-7.4%	12,816	-7.4%
Eastleigh South	1	14,738	6.4%	14,738	6.4%
Fair Oak & Horton Heath ¹	1	12,402	-10.4%	12,656	-8.6%
Hamble	1	14,248	2.9%	14,248	2.9%
Botley & Hedge End North ²	1	25,290	-8.7%	12,514	-9.6%
Hedge End & West End South ²	1			12,522	-9.6%
Total	8	104,968		104,968	

¹ Named "Botley & Fair Oak" in the LGBCE recommendations

² Combined as a two-member division named "Hedge End & West End" in the LGBCE recommendations



5. Fareham

5.1 The Commission has recommended that Fareham Borough continues with seven County Councillors each representing one division with the exception of Fareham Town, which is to be represented by two County Councillors.

5.2. Fareham Crofton

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Fareham Crofton	1	-4%	This division comprises the Hill Head and Stubbington areas which are located on the coast of the Solent. It also comprises a small area of Fareham Town.
Detail			
We received two submissions that proposed a Fareham Crofton division with an electoral variance of 16% fewer electors per councillor. We consider this to be an unacceptably high electoral variance. To reduce this variance we have included electors situated between Bishopsfield Road, Longfield Avenue, Peak Lane and The Avenue from Fareham Town division. While electors in this area are nearly two miles from the centre of Stubbington, we consider this division will ensure good electoral equality while still reflecting local communities.			

5.3. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation to achieve greater electoral equality and is content with the recommendation.

5.4. Fareham Portchester

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Fareham Portchester	1	2%	This division comprises the suburb of Portchester which is located between the M27 and Portsmouth Harbour.
Detail			
This division is largely based on the county-wide proposals received for Fareham Borough. It was argued that The Ridgeway and adjoining roads should be included			

in Fareham Town division as these roads share closer links with Fareham. We do not consider this to be a suitable arrangement and propose The Ridgeway and adjoining roads remain in Fareham Portchester division. This would better reflect the Portchester community which is separated from Fareham by the A27 dual carriageway. Fareham Portchester reflects the statutory criteria and therefore forms part of our draft recommendations.

5.5. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission’s draft recommendation to achieve stronger community identity and is content with the recommendation.

5.6. Fareham Sarisbury

The Commission’s draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Fareham Sarisbury	1	-3%	This division comprises the Burrige, Sarisbury and Swanwick areas. The division borders the River Hamble to the west.

Detail

This division is based on identical county-wide and borough-wide proposals received for Fareham Borough. Fareham Sarisbury division is identical to the existing arrangements in this area.

5.7. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission’s draft recommendation is in line with the County Council’s proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

5.8. Fareham Titchfield

The Commission’s draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Fareham Titchfield	1	-6%	This division comprises the Catisfield, Heathfield and Titchfield areas and part of Locks Heath.

Detail

This division is largely based on borough-wide proposals for Fareham Borough. We consider that using the railway line instead of Blackbrook Road in the north-east of the division provides for a clearer boundary and better reflects communities. We also propose using part of The Avenue as it also provides for a clearer boundary in this area. Fareham Titchfield division will have good electoral equality by 2021 and forms parts of our draft recommendations.

5.9. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation to achieve greater electoral equality and is content with the recommendation.

5.10. Fareham Town

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Fareham Town	2	-8%	This division comprises Fareham Town which is located at the north-west tip of Portsmouth Harbour.

Detail

This division is largely based on county-wide proposals received for Fareham Borough. We also received borough-wide proposals which divided the centre of Fareham into two single-member divisions. However, this would require accepting changes in the adjoining Fareham Portchester division which we have not adopted as they do not use clear division boundaries or reflect local communities. We consider this two-member division reflects communities in this part of the borough and provides for reasonably good electoral equality.

5.11. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is largely in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

5.12. Fareham Warsash

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Fareham Warash	1	-1%	This division comprises the Warsash area which is located at the mouth of the

			River Hamble and Titchfield Common to the east.
Detail			
This division is based on identical county-wide and borough-wide proposals received for Fareham Borough. Fareham Warsash division is identical to the existing arrangements in this area, and the proposals received all supported the retention of the existing arrangements. This division also reflects our statutory criteria.			

5.13. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

5.14. Proposals for Fareham (unchanged from Commission recommendations)

Division name	Members	LGBCE Recommend		HCC Revised Proposal	
		2021 Electorate	2021 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Fareham Crofton	1	13,229	-4.5%	13,229	-4.5%
Fareham Portchester	1	14,117	2.0%	14,117	2.0%
Fareham Sarisbury	1	13,456	-2.8%	13,456	-2.8%
Fareham Titchfield	1	12,992	-6.2%	12,992	-6.2%
Fareham Town	2	25,513	-7.9%	25,513	-7.9%
Fareham Warsash	1	13,669	-1.3%	13,669	-1.3%
Total	7	92,976		92,976	

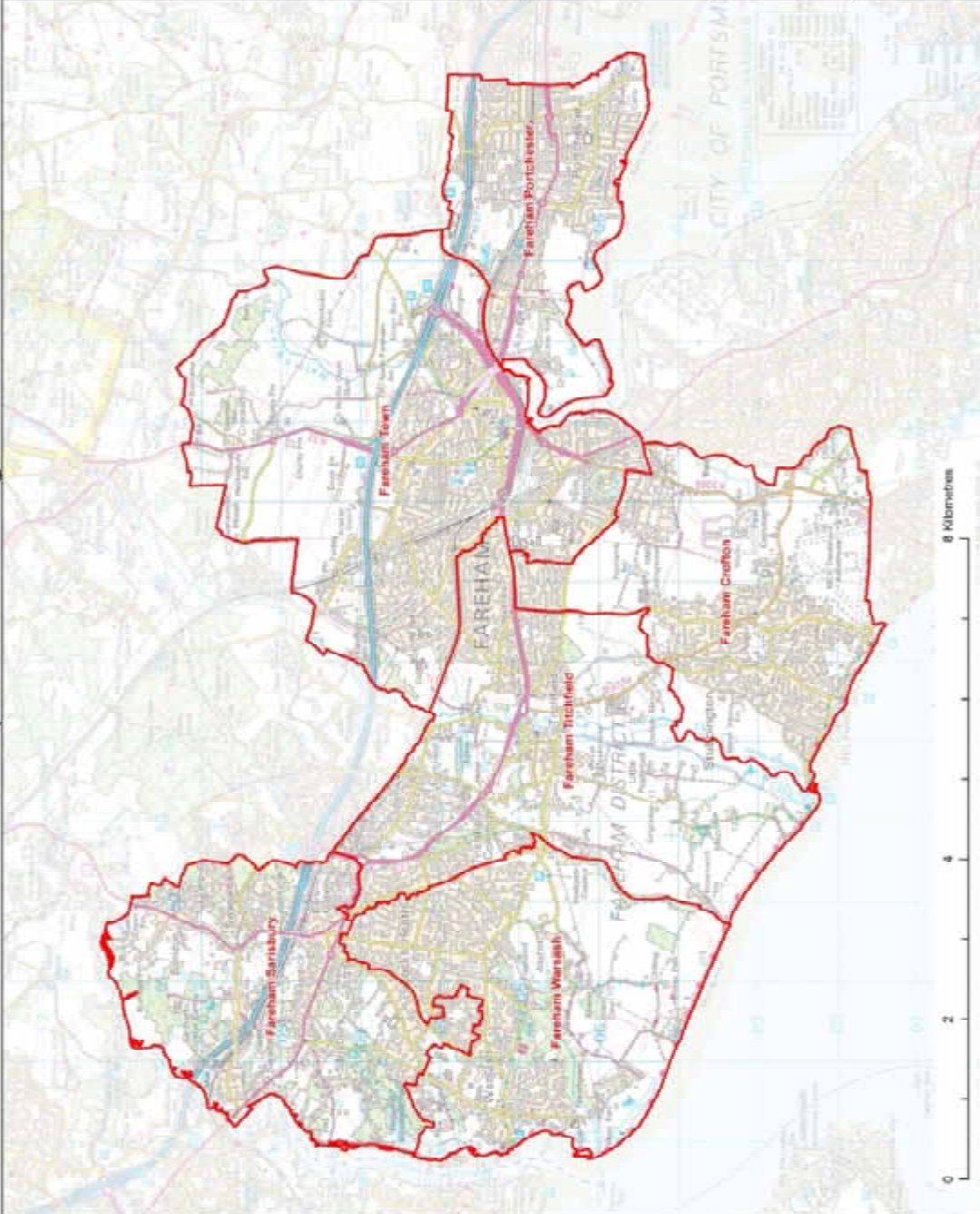
Fareham - HCC Proposals unchanged from LGBCE Recommendations

Legend
LGBCE
Recommended
Boundaries

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6. Gosport

6.1. The Commission has recommended that Gosport Borough continues with five County Councillors each representing one division with the exception of Leesland & Town division, which is to be represented by two County Councillors.

6.2. Bridgemary

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Bridgemary	1	-3%	The Bridgemary area is on the borough boundary to the west and bounded by the A32 (Fareham Road) to the east.
Detail This division is based on the county-wide proposals received for Gosport Borough. We are satisfied that Bridgemary division reflects local community identities and provides for good electoral equality.			

6.3. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

6.4. Hardway

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Hardway	1	-4%	The Hardway area is bordered by Portsmouth Harbour to the east and the A32 (Brockhurst Road) to the west.
Detail This division is largely based on county-wide proposals received for Gosport Borough. In order to provide for clearer boundaries between Hardway and Leesland & Town divisions we have included Chilworth Grove, Lees Lane, Norman Road, St			

Johns Close and Trafalgar Square in Leesland & Town division.

6.5. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission’s draft recommendation and notes that this would result in the majority of roads in polling district Leesland GM1 moving to this division. However, the County Council further notes that this would leave Halliday Close to the south of Forton Road split away and isolated from the rest of the Leesland GM1 polling district. In the interests of community identity, the County Council therefore proposes moving the whole of Leesland GM1 polling district from Leesland & Town to this division as per the County Council’s original proposal.

6.6. Lee

The Commission’s draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Lee	1	-6%	Lee is located on the coast of the Solent. It is primarily a residential area.
Detail This division is based on county-wide proposals received for Gosport Borough. We are satisfied that Lee division reflects communities and provides for good electoral equality.			

6.7. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission’s draft recommendation is in line with the County Council’s proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

6.8. Leesland & Town

The Commission’s draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Leesland & Town	2	-9%	This division comprises the Alverstoke, Ann’s Hill and Clayhall areas. These areas are located in the south of Gosport Borough.

Detail

This division is largely based on the county-wide proposals received for Gosport Borough. To improve electoral equality and provide for clearer division boundaries, we have included Chilworth Grove, Lees Lane, Norman Road, St Johns Close and Trafalgar Square in this division. This reduces an electoral variance of -10%, as proposed in the county-wide scheme. We consider our modifications better reflect the statutory criteria.

6.9. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation and refers to paragraph 6.5 above for the Hardway division. To avoid Halliday Close to the south of Forton Road being split away and isolated from the rest of the Leesland GM1 polling district, the County Council proposes that the whole of Leesland GM1 polling district be moved from this division to the Hardway division as per the County Council's original proposal in the interests of community identity.

Furthermore the County Council wishes it to be noted that the Leesland & Town division comprises seven borough wards.

6.10. Revised proposals for Gosport

Division name	Members	LGBCE recommend		Revised HCC proposal ¹	
		2021 Electorate	2021 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Bridgemaury	1	13,488	-2.6%	13,488	-2.6%
Hardway	1	13,233	-4.4%	13,564	-2.0%
Lee	1	13,008	-6.1%	13,008	-6.1%
Leesland & Town	2	25,298	-8.6%	24,967	-9.8%
Total	5	65,027		65,027	

¹ Revised HCC proposal reverts back to original HCC proposal



7. Hart

7.1. The Commission has recommended that Hart District continues with five County Councillors, each representing one division.

7.2. Church Crookham & Ewshot

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Church Crookham & Ewshot	1	10%	This division comprises the parishes of Church Crookham and Ewshot and parts of Crookham Village and Fleet parishes.
Detail This division is based on the existing division arrangements. The county-wide proposals for Hart District proposed retaining the existing arrangements in this area.			

7.3. The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

7.4. Fleet North & Yateley East

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Fleet North & Yateley East	1	8%	This division comprises Blackwater & Hawley parish and parts of Elvetham Heath, Fleet and Yateley parishes.
Detail This division includes the northern part of Fleet parish with Yateley Town. It is based on the county-wide proposals received for Hart District. We are satisfied that this division reflects the statutory criteria and therefore forms part of our draft recommendations.			

7.5. The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation and notes the proposed consequential changes to Yateley Town parish electoral arrangements, as below:

“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 Yateley Town parish”.

“Draft recommendation

Yateley Town Council should return 13 town councillors, as at present, representing four wards: Frogmore (two members), Yateley East (returning four members), Yateley North (returning one member) and Yateley West (returning six members).”

The proposed “Yateley East” ward for Yateley Town Council reflects proposals made originally as a consequence of the last Hart District Council ward boundary review, but with the proposed “Yateley North” ward logically separated off. Those consequential proposals were superseded by a Community Governance Review (CGR) carried out by Hart District Council to provide more community-based wards at town council level. This CGR was implemented at the May 2015 Yateley Town Council elections. To reflect the outcome of that CGR the proposed Yateley East Town Council ward should be divided into two two-member wards, namely Yateley Village and Darby Green & Potley Hill, using the boundaries established by the CGR, which would then require no further change in this ward apart from the separation of Yateley North.

The proposed “Frogmore” ward for Yateley Town is identical in all respects to the CGR and is therefore fully supported.

In regard to the name of the division, the County Council requests the Commission to consider changing this to “Fleet North, Yateley East & Blackwater” in recognition of the settlements of Darby Green, Frogmore, Blackwater and Hawley all sharing a Blackwater identity, including a Blackwater postal address.

7.6. Fleet Town

The Commission’s draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Fleet Town	1	10%	This division comprises the majority of Fleet parish, and parts of Crookham Village and Elvetham Heath parishes.
Detail			
Our division for Fleet Town includes that part of the town to the south of the railway line and a small part of Crookham Village parish. We have also included the western			

part of Elvetham Heath parish which has a direct road link over the railway line into Fleet. We are constrained in reducing the electoral variances further in this division due to high electoral variances that would result in adjoining divisions and the need to reflect community identities in this area. We consider this division best reflects the statutory criteria and therefore forms part of our draft recommendations.

7.7. The County Council notes that the Commission’s draft recommendation is in line with the County Council’s proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

7.8. Hartley Wintney & Yateley West

The Commission’s draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Hartley Wintney & Yateley West	1	8%	This division comprises the parishes of Bramshill, Dogmersfield, Eversley, Hartley Wintney, Heckfield, Mattingley and Winchfield parishes, and part of Yateley parish.
Detail			
This division is largely based on the county-wide proposals received for Hart District. We have included Dogmersfield parish in order to improve electoral equality in Odiham & Hook division. We are satisfied that this division reflects the statutory criteria.			

7.9. The County Council has considered the Commission’s draft recommendation and notes the proposal to move Dogmersfield Parish into this division from the Odiham & Hook division. The County Council considers that this move is unnecessary and it is therefore not supported as both this division and the proposed Odiham & Hook division are less than 10% above the Hampshire average electorate. The Commission’s draft recommendation does not take account of the fact that Winchfield, which is in this division, has been identified as the location for a strategic new settlement in the emerging Hart Local Plan process, and that the change would also split the Odiham District Council ward unnecessarily. Therefore to increase the electorate of this division from 6.7% to 8.5% would mean it exceeding the +10% threshold sooner than is necessary.

The County Council also notes the proposed consequential changes to Yateley Town parish electoral arrangements, as below:

“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 Yateley Town parish”.

“Draft recommendation

Yateley Town Council should return 13 town councillors, as at present, representing four wards: Frogmore (two members), Yateley East (returning four members), Yateley North (returning one member) and Yateley West (returning six members).”

As with Yateley East (paragraph 7.5), the proposed “Yateley West” ward for Yateley Town Council also repeats proposals made originally as a consequence of the last Hart District Council ward boundary review. Again, those proposals were superseded by a Community Governance Review (CGR) carried out by Hart District Council to provide more community-based wards at town council level. This CGR was implemented at the May 2015 Yateley Town Council elections. To reflect the outcomes of that CGR the Yateley West Town Council ward should be divided into two three-member wards, namely Yateley Green and Yateley Tudor & Vigo, using the boundaries established by the CGR, which would then require no change in this ward.

The proposed “Yateley North” ward for Yateley Town Council is fully supported as a logical consequence of the proposed County divisional boundaries.

7.10. Odiham & Hook

The Commission’s draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Odiham & Hook	1	8%	This division comprises the parishes of Crondall, Greywell, Hook, Long Sutton, Odiham, Rotherwick and South Warnborough.
Detail			
This division is largely based on the county-wide proposals received for Hart District. Under the county-wide proposals, the variance was 10% more electors than the county average. We have reduced this variance by including Dogmersfield parish in Hartley Wintney & Yateley West division.			

7.11. The County Council has considered the Commission’s draft recommendation. As detailed in paragraph 7.9. above, the move of Dogmersfield parish from this division to the Hartley Wintney & Yateley West division is considered

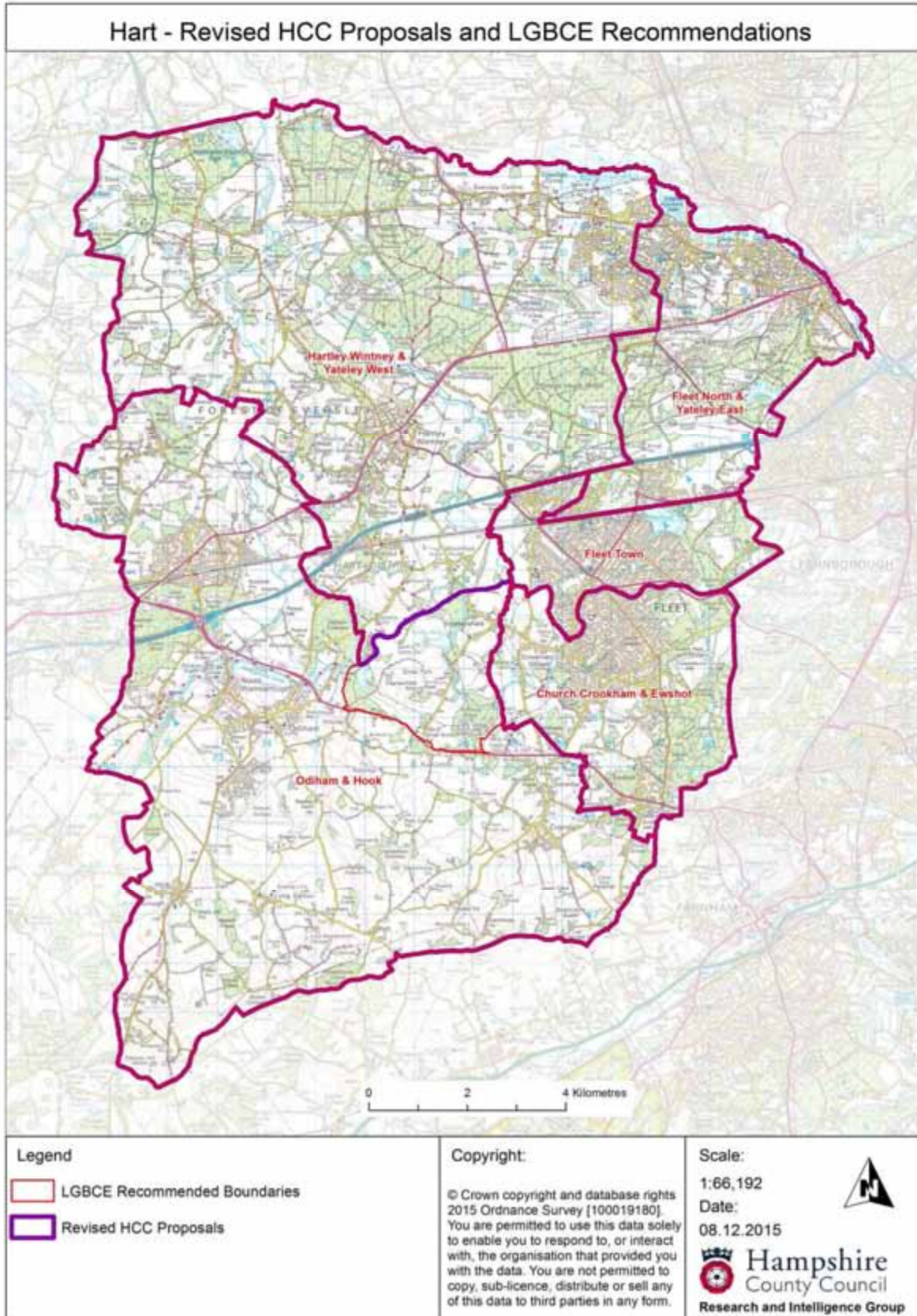
unnecessary and therefore is not supported. In the interests of community identity the County Council is of the view that Dogsmerfield parish should remain in Odiham division.

7.12 Revised proposals for Hart

Division name	Members	LGBCE Recommend		HCC Revised Proposal	
		2021 Electorate	2021 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Church Crookham & Ewshot	1	15,162	9.5%	15,162	9.5%
Fleet North, Yateley East & Blackwater ¹	1	14,941	7.9%	14,941	7.9%
Fleet Town	1	15,229	10.0%	15,229	10.0%
Hartley Wintney & Yateley West	1	15,023	8.5%	14,765	6.6%
Odiham & Hook	1	14,905	7.6%	15,163	9.5%
Total	5	75,260 ²		75,260 ²	

¹ Named "Fleet North & Yateley East" in the LGBCE recommendations

² LGBCE electorate recommendations sum to 10 greater than the correct total (75,250)



8. Havant

8.1. The Commission has recommended that Havant Borough has seven County Councillors, each representing one division.

8.2. Cowplain & Hart Plain

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Cowplain & Hart Plain	1	-8%	This division comprises the Cowplain area and part of Waterlooville. These areas are in the north-west of the borough.
Detail			
This division is partly based on the county-wide and borough-wide proposals received for Havant Borough. We propose to transfer Hart Plain Avenue, Orchard Grove, Silvester Road and adjoining roads into Waterloo & Stakes North division in order to reduce the high electoral variance that was proposed. We consider this division better reflects the statutory criteria.			

8.3. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation to better reflect the statutory criteria and is content with this recommendation.

8.4. Emsworth & St. Faiths

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Emsworth & St. Faiths	1	8%	This division comprises the Denvilles, Emsworth, Langstone and Warblington areas. The division is north of Hayling Island.
Detail			
This division is based on the county-wide proposals received for Havant Borough. We also received a borough-wide proposal for this division; however, this would result in an electoral variance of 15% more electors per councillor. We consider our draft recommendations provide a better reflection of the statutory criteria.			

8.5. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

8.6. Hayling Island

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Hayling Island	1	8%	This division comprises an island of the same name and is linked to Havant borough by Langstone Bridge.
Detail This division is based on the existing division arrangements. The county-wide and borough-wide schemes for Hayling Island division both supported this arrangement. This division also reflects our statutory criteria.			

8.7. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

8.8. North East Havant

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
North East Havant	1	9%	This division comprises the West Leigh area. It is bordered to the east by the borough boundary.
Detail This division is based on county-wide proposals received for Havant Borough. We also received borough-wide proposals which divided this area between two divisions. After considering both proposals, we are content that a North East Havant division provides a better reflection of communities in this part of Havant and have adopted it as part of our draft recommendations.			

8.9. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

8.10. North West Havant

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
North West Havant	1	6%	This division comprises the Bedhampton area. It is bordered to the west by the A3(M).
Detail			
This division is based on the county-wide proposals received for Havant Borough. We also received borough-wide proposals for a Bedhampton & Havant South division. However, this division would lead to a relatively high electoral variance. We consider our draft recommendations better reflect the statutory criteria.			

8.11. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

8.12. Purbrook & Stakes South

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Purbrook & Stakes South	1	-8%	This division comprises the Purbrook area in the south-west of Havant Borough.
Detail			
This division is based on the existing division arrangements. The county-wide and borough-wide schemes for Purbrook & Stakes South division both supported this. This division also reflects our statutory criteria.			

8.13. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this

recommendation.

8.14. Waterloo & Stakes North

The Commission's draft recommendation:

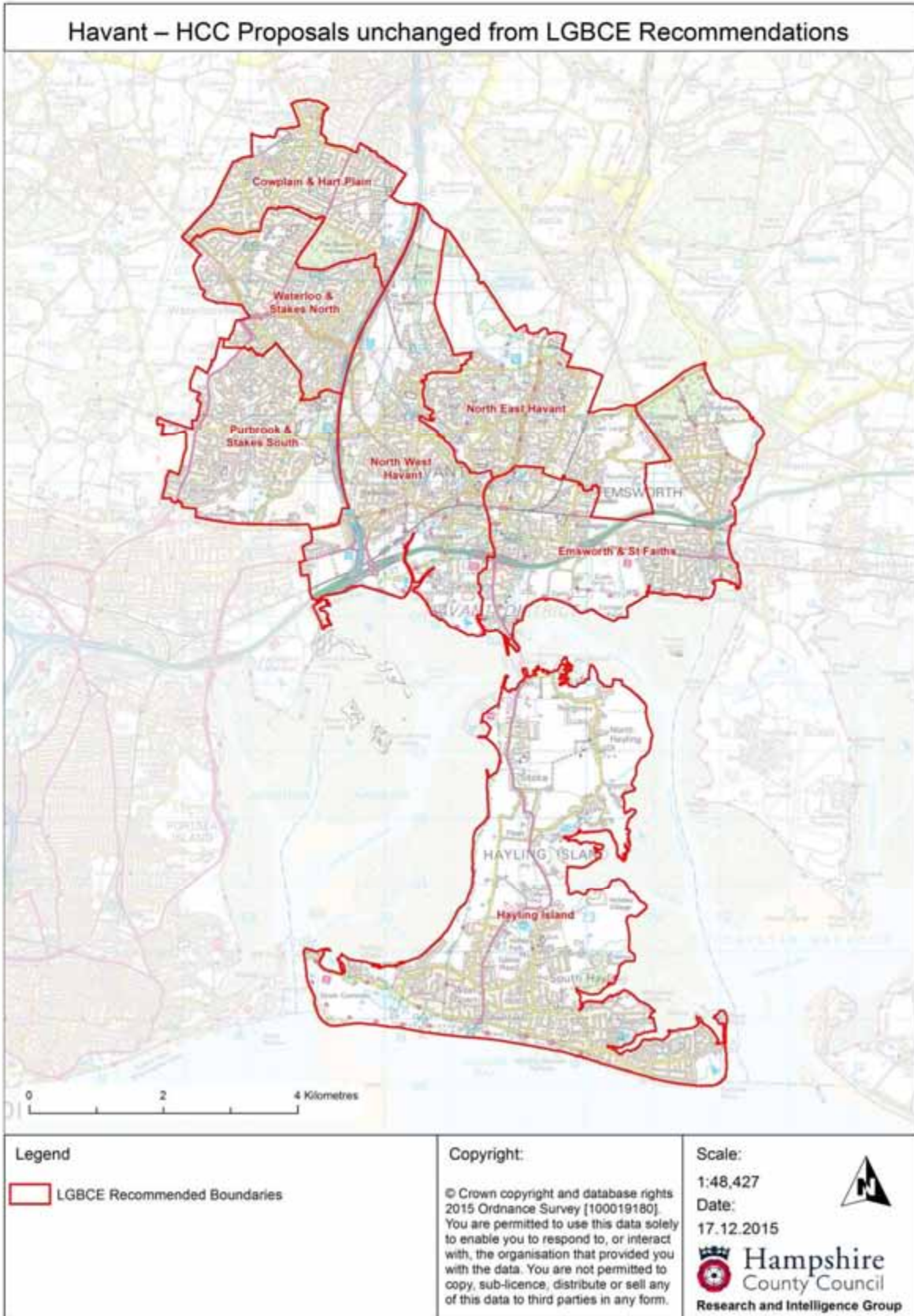
Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Waterloo & Stakes North	1	-4%	This division comprises the Waterlooville area and is situated between the borough border and the A3(M).
Detail			
We received two submissions that proposed a Waterloo & Stakes North division with an electoral variance of 12% fewer electors per councillor than the county average. In order to reduce this high electoral variance, we have included Hart Plain Avenue, Orchard Grove, Silvester Road and adjoining roads into this division. These modifications significantly improve electoral equality and form part of our draft recommendations for this division.			

8.15. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation to better achieve electoral equality and is content with this recommendation.

8.16. Proposals for Havant (unchanged from Commission recommendations)

Division name	Members	LGBCE Recommend		HCC Revised Proposal	
		2021 Electorate	2021 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Cowplain & Hart Plain	1	12,713	-8.2%	12,713	-8.2%
Emsworth & St Faiths	1	14,991	8.3%	14,991	8.3%
Hayling Island	1	15,004	8.4%	15,004	8.4%
North East Havant	1	15,081	8.9%	15,081	8.9%
North West Havant	1	14,698	6.2%	14,698	6.2%
Purbrook & Stakes South	1	12,726	-8.1%	12,726	-8.1%
Waterloo & Stakes North	1	13,349	-3.6%	13,349	-3.6%
Total	7	98,562		98,562	



9. New Forest

- 9.1 The Commission has recommended that the New Forest district reduces from 11 to 10 County Councillors, each representing one division. The County Council has strong concerns that the loss of one County division would result in an average forecast electorate of 14,291 per County Councillor in the New Forest. As a consequence the promotion of community identity and effective and convenient local government is severely challenged.

The County Council requests the Commission to take into account the land mass of the New Forest, which is a predominantly rural area and contains the New Forest National Park. The inner New Forest has a widely dispersed population that leads to two of the largest divisions in the county with multiple parish councils within them that require the attendance of their County Councillor at monthly meetings if good local governance is to be achieved. There are numerous village communities in the New Forest, each with distinct identities and shared interests, which are very important to their people.

There are a range of unique considerations that apply in the New Forest. For example, the representational complexity and the protracted decision-making in the divisions which are located wholly or partly within the New Forest National Park, in terms of the necessity to consult with the organisations who have the power of veto, namely Natural England, the Court of Verderers, the Forestry Commission, the National Park Authority, New Forest District Council and parish councils, as well as the Commoners Defence Association who have influence and rights under statute. These additional considerations add to the workload of Members already serving large geographical divisions.

The geographical size of the New Forest, the number of parish councils, the need to consult with several statutory authorities and the limited transport network makes the task of a County Councillor to adequately represent the electorate in the New Forest divisions very challenging.

The County Council is concerned that the Commission's draft recommendations split a number of parishes which will, as a result, have difficulty in identifying who should represent them and on what subject as they will have two County Councillors. This would apply to the very large division of Brockenhurst which is to take parts of Bransgore, Netley Marsh and New Milton parishes, with the remainder of Bransgore parish in the Ringwood division; the proposed Lyndhurst & Fordingbridge division takes part of Copythorne parish with the remainder in the Totton North division. This involves splitting well established communities who have strong identities, boundaries and commonality of interests.

For the reasons outlined above the County Council requests that the Commission consider an increase to 79 County Councillors to ensure the New Forest district area can continue to be adequately represented by maintaining its complement of 11 County Councillors.

Whilst the County Council urges the Commission to retain 11 divisions in the New Forest for the reasons set out above, the Commission's draft recommendations for 10 divisions have been given careful consideration.

Set out below are revised proposals for the 10-division model to achieve greater electoral equality, to restore some commonality of interests and community cohesion, which may be more comprehensible to the many parishes and villages in the New Forest, and to achieve more effective and convenient local government.

9.2 Brockenhurst

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Brockenhurst	1	8%	This division comprises the parishes of Ashurst & Colbury, Beaulieu, Brockenhurst, Denny Lodge, East Boldre, Exbury & Lepe, Sway and parts of Bransgore, Netley Marsh and New Milton parishes.
Detail			
This division is based on our own arrangements and on the correct allocation of 10 councillors for New Forest District. While this division is geographically large, we consider it broadly reflects the rural communities which make up the New Forest National Park. The A35 also provides a road link to either side of the division.			

9.3 Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation and notes that Bransgore parish is split between this division and the Ringwood division. To avoid splitting Bransgore parish, the County Council proposes that the remaining parts of Bransgore parish be moved from the Ringwood division to this division to reunite the parish area and better reflect community identity. The County Council also proposes that Burley parish be moved from the proposed Ringwood division to this division to improve electoral equality and in the interests of retaining rural community identity.

In the interests of community identity the County Council proposes that Exbury & Lepe parish be moved from this division to the South Waterside division on the basis that geographically Exbury & Lepe parish sits better within the South Waterside division boundary due to the correlation between Exbury Road, Lepe and the Lepe Country Park.

The County Council further notes that Netley Marsh parish is split between this division and the Totton North division. To avoid splitting the parish, the County Council proposes that the remaining parts of Netley Marsh parish be moved from this division to the Totton North division to reunite the parish area and better reflect community identity.

To achieve improved electoral equality and to make better sense of geographical boundaries, the County Council further proposes that polling district Bashley 2 (NG) be moved from this division to the Milford & Hordle division.

9.4. **Dibden & Hythe**

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Dibden & Hythe	1	4%	Dibden and Hythe are located by the shore of Southampton Water. The division comprises the majority of Hythe & Dibden parish.
Detail			
This division is based on the existing division arrangements. The county-wide proposals for New Forest District supported retaining the existing arrangements. This division also reflects our statutory criteria.			

9.5. **Hampshire County Council response:**

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

9.6. **Lymington & Boldre**

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Lymington & Boldre	1	7%	This division comprises the parishes of Boldre and Lymington & Pennington parishes.
Detail			
This division is based on our own arrangements and on the correct allocation of 10 councillors for New Forest District. In order to provide for divisions with good electoral equality we propose to join Boldre and Lymington & Pennington parishes in the same division. Although the River Lymington runs through the middle of this division, both parishes are connected by Bridge Road and Rodlease Lane in the north of the division.			

9.7. **Hampshire County Council response:**

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation and is content with this recommendation.

9.8. **Lyndhurst & Fordingbridge**

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Lyndhurst & Fordingbridge	1	8%	This comprises the parishes of Bramshaw, Breamore, Damerham, Ellingham, Harbridge & Ibsley, Fordingbridge, Godshill, Hale, Hyde, Lyndhurst, Martin, Minstead, Rockbourne, Sandleheath, Whitsbury Woodgreen and part of Copythorne parish.
Detail			
This division is based on our own recommendations and on the correct allocation of 10 councillors for New Forest District. While this division is geographically large, we consider it reflects the identities and interests of the rural communities which form the New Forest National Park. Lyndhurst & Fordingbridge division also results in improved electoral equality.			

9.9. **Hampshire County Council response:**

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation. The County Council proposes that polling district Copythorne S (CS) be moved from Totton North division to this division to better reflect the identities and interests of the rural communities which form the New Forest and fall within the boundaries of the New Forest National Park Authority.

In the interests of retaining rural community identity, the County Council also proposes that Ellingham, Harbridge & Ibsley parish and Hyde parish be moved from this division to the Ringwood division.

9.10. **Milford & Hordle**

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Milford & Hordle	1	0%	This division comprises the parishes of Hordle and Milford-on-Sea and part of New Milton parish.
Detail This division is based on the existing division arrangements. The county-wide proposals for New Forest District supported retaining the existing arrangements. We are satisfied that this division reflects our statutory criteria.			

9.11. **Hampshire County Council response:**

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation. To achieve improved electoral equality and to make better sense of geographical boundaries, the County Council proposes that polling district Bashley 2 (NG) be moved from Brockenhurst division to this division.

To better reflect community identity, the County Council requests the Commission to consider renaming this division Milford, Hordle & Fernhill.

9.12. **New Milton**

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
New Milton	1	5%	Barton-on-Sea and New Milton comprise this division. The division is located on the shore of Christchurch Bay.
Detail This division is based on the existing division arrangements. The county-wide proposals for New Forest District supported retaining the existing arrangements. We are satisfied that this division reflects our statutory criteria.			

9.13. **Hampshire County Council response:**

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

9.14. **Ringwood**

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Ringwood	1	8%	This division comprises the parishes of Ringwood, Sopley and part of Bransgore parish.
Detail This division is based on our own proposals and on the correct allocation of 10 councillors for New Forest District. We consider that our proposals provide for the best balance of the statutory criteria and accurately reflect community identities and interests in Ringwood and its immediate environs.			

9.15. **Hampshire County Council response:**

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation and notes that Bransgore parish is split between this division and the Brockenhurst division. To avoid splitting Bransgore parish, the County Council proposes that the remaining parts of Bransgore parish be moved from this division to the Brockenhurst division to reunite the parish area.

To improve electoral equality and in the interests of retaining rural community identity the County Council further proposes that Burley parish be moved from this division to the Brockenhurst division.

In the interests of retaining rural community identity, the County Council also proposes that Ellingham, Harbridge & Ibsley parish and Hyde parish be moved from the proposed Lyndhurst & Fordingbridge division to this division.

9.16. **South Waterside**

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
South Waterside	1	-9%	This division comprises Fawley parish and part of Hythe & Dibden parish. The division is located at the foot of Southampton water.
Detail			
This division is based on the existing division arrangements. The county-wide proposals for New Forest District supported retaining the existing arrangements. We are satisfied that this division reflects our statutory criteria.			

9.17 **Hampshire County Council response:**

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation. In the interests of community identity the County Council proposes that Exbury & Lepe parish be moved from the Brockenhurst division to this division on the basis that geographically Exbury & Lepe parish sits better within this division boundary due to the correlation between Exbury Road, Lepe and the Lepe Country Park.

9.18. **Totton North**

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Totton North	1	2%	This division comprises the northern part of Totton & Eling parish and parts of Copythorne and Netley Marsh parishes.

Detail

This division is based on our own recommendations and on the correct allocation of 10 councillors for New Forest District. This division includes part of Copythorne and Netley Marsh parishes which have road access over the M27 and via the A36 road towards Totton. We consider that our proposals provide for the best balance of the statutory criteria.

9.19 Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission’s draft recommendation and proposes that polling district Copythorne S (CS) be moved from this division to the proposed Fordingbridge & Lyndhurst division to better reflect the identities and interests of the rural communities which form the New Forest and fall within the boundaries of the New Forest National Park Authority.

The County Council notes that Netley Marsh parish is split between this division and the Brockenhurst division. To avoid splitting the parish, the County Council proposes that the remaining parts of Netley Marsh parish be moved from Brockenhurst division to this division to reunite the parish area and better reflect community identity.

9.20. Totton South & Marchwood

The Commission’s draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Totton South & Marchwood	1	0%	This division comprises Marchwood parish and the southern part of Totton & Eling parish.

Detail

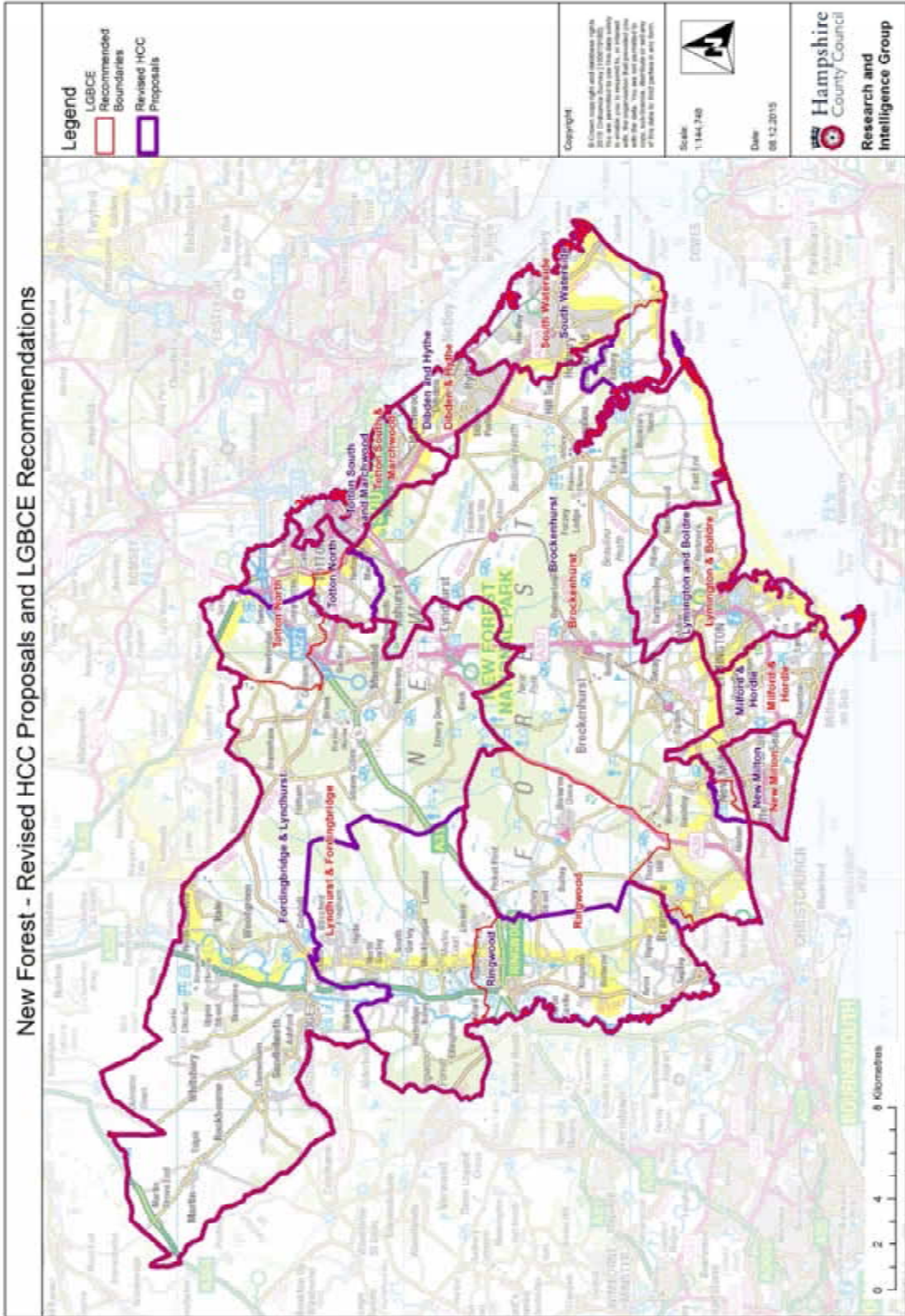
This division is based on the existing division arrangements. The county-wide proposals for New Forest District supported retaining the existing arrangements. This division reflects our statutory criteria.

9.21. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission’s draft recommendation is in line with the County Council’s proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

9.22. Revised proposals for New Forest

Division name	Members	LGBCE Recommend		HCC Revised Proposal	
		2021 Electorate	2021 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Brockenhurst	1	15,010	8.4%	14,964	8.1%
Dibden & Hythe	1	14,371	3.8%	14,371	3.8%
Lymington & Boldre	1	14,749	6.5%	14,749	6.5%
Lyndhurst & Fordingbridge	1	14,935	7.9%	14,231	2.8%
Milford & Hordle	1	13,877	0.2%	14,989	8.3%
New Milton	1	14,511	4.8%	14,511	4.8%
Ringwood	1	14,930	7.8%	13,871	0.2%
South Waterside	1	12,602	-9.0%	12,738	-8.0%
Totton North	1	14,144	2.2%	14,705	6.2%
Totton South & Marchwood	1	13,781	-0.5%	13,781	-0.5%
Total	10	142,910		142,910	



10. Rushmoor

10.1. The Commission has recommended that Rushmoor Borough continues with five County Councillors, each representing one division.

10.2. Aldershot East

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Aldershot East	1	-2%	This division comprises a large part of Aldershot, east of the railway line.
Detail This division is based on borough-wide proposals received for Rushmoor. We are satisfied that Aldershot East division reflects communities and provides for good electoral equality.			

10.3. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation and is content with this recommendation.

10.4. Aldershot West

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Aldershot West	1	-1%	This division comprises Aldershot, west of the railway line.
Detail This division is based on borough-wide proposals received for Rushmoor. We are satisfied that Aldershot West division reflects communities and provides for good electoral equality.			

10.5. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation and is content with this recommendation.

10.6. Farnborough North

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Farnborough North	1	-3%	This division comprises the Hawley Lane and Fox Lane areas. The M3 passes through the centre of the division.
Detail			
This division is largely based on borough-wide proposals received for Rushmoor. We have transferred Middleton Gardens, Newfield Avenue and part of Fernhill Road to Farnborough West division and used a brook as the division boundary. We consider our modification provides for a better reflection of communities in Farnborough and has good electoral equality.			

10.7. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation. The transfer of Middleton Gardens, Newfield Avenue and part of Fernhill Road to Farnborough West division splits both the West Heath district ward and the West Heath B (WHB) polling district. The move of this area away from Cove to the Hawley area, which has a different demographic and identity, will also split a cohesive community. Therefore in the interests of retaining strong community identity, the County Council requests the Commission to re-consider its original proposal for Farnborough North division.

10.8. Farnborough South

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Farnborough South	1	3%	This division comprises Farnborough Airport, Farnborough Park and South Farnborough.
Detail			
This division is based on borough-wide proposals received for Rushmoor. We are satisfied that Farnborough South division reflects communities and provides for good electoral equality.			

10.9. **Hampshire County Council response:**

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation and is content with this recommendation.

10.10. **Farnborough West**

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Farnborough West	1	-7%	This division comprises the Southwood and West Heath areas.
Detail			
This division is based on borough-wide proposals received for Rushmoor. Our proposals include Middleton Gardens, Newfield Avenue and part of Fernhill Road from Farnborough North division. Our modifications to Farnborough West division better reflect the statutory criteria.			

10.11. **Hampshire County Council response:**

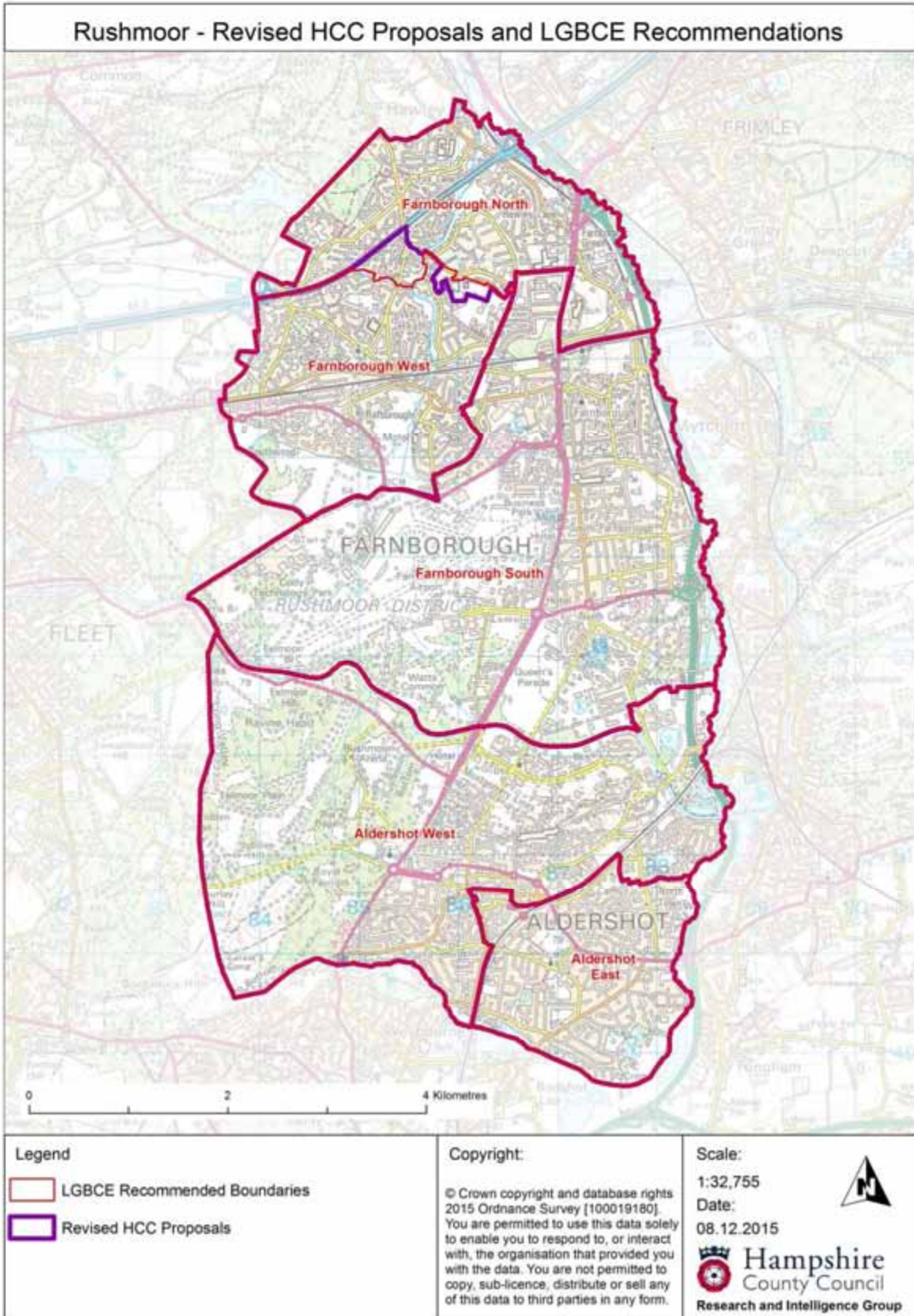
The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation and refers to paragraph 10.7 above for the Farnborough North division.

Therefore in the interests of retaining strong community identity, the County Council requests the Commission to re-consider its original proposal for the Farnborough West division.

10.12. **Revised proposals for Rushmoor**

Division name	Members	LGBCE Recommend		HCC Revised Proposal	
		2021 Electorate	2021 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Aldershot East	1	13,551	-2.1%	13,551	-2.1%
Aldershot West	1	13,773	-0.5%	13,773	-0.5%
Farnborough North ¹	1	13,371	-3.4%	12,654	-8.6%
Farnborough South	1	14,248	2.9%	14,248	2.9%
Farnborough West ¹	1	12,854	-7.2%	13,571	-2.0%
Total	5	67,797		67,797	

¹ Revised HCC proposal reverts back to original HCC proposal



11. Test Valley

11.1. The Commission has recommended that Test Valley Borough continues with seven County Councillors, each representing one division.

11.2. Andover North

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Andover North	1	-4%	This division comprises the parishes of Enham Alamein, Facombe, Hurstbourne Tarrant, Linkenholt, Smannell, Tangle, Vernhams Dean and parts of Andover Town parish both to the north and south of the railway line.
Detail			
We have considered the county-wide and localised evidence from respondents for this part of Andover as well as from rural parishes in the north. We have decided to largely base our draft recommendations for this division on the county-wide proposals received. We have transferred Charlton Road, Junction Road and roads to the north of Northern Avenue to Andover South division as these roads have stronger community links with the south of Andover. We have used the railway line as the boundary between divisions which is a clear and identifiable boundary.			

11.3. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

11.4. Andover South

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Andover South	1	7%	The majority of this division comprises parts of Andover Town parish to the south of the railway line.

Detail

We have considered the county-wide and localised evidence received during consultation. We have decided to largely base our draft recommendations on the county-wide proposals received. We have included Charlton Road, Junction Road and roads to the north of Northern Avenue in this division and use the railway line as the boundary. In the south of the division, we have made minor modifications to ensure the division boundary follows the parish boundary. We consider this change will better reflect community identities and provides good electoral equality. It therefore forms parts of our draft recommendations.

11.5. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

11.6. Andover West

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Andover West	1	8%	This division comprises the parishes of Amport Appleshaw, Charlton, Fyfield, Grateley, Kimpton, Monxton, Penton Grafton, Penton Mewsey, Quarley, Shipton Bellinger, Thruxton and part of Andover parish to the west of the railway line.

Detail

We have considered the county-wide and localised evidence received and have based our draft recommendations on the county-wide proposals. We consider this division reflects the Andover community with a strong road connection to rural parishes to the west of Andover. It therefore forms part of our draft recommendations.

11.7. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

11.8. Baddesley

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Baddesley	1	-8%	This division comprises the parishes of Ampfield, Braishfield, North Baddesley and Valley Park.
Detail			
This division is partly based on the county-wide proposals received for Test Valley Borough. We received a submission from a parish council stating that it has strong community links with Romsey Rural division. We are persuaded by the parish council's evidence in support of grouping it with Romsey Rural division. The transfer of Chilworth parish still results in good electoral equality for Baddesley division and reflects community identity.			

11.9. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation to achieve stronger community identity and is content with the recommendation.

11.10. Romsey Rural

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Romsey Rural	1	5%	This division comprises the parishes of Awbridge, Buckholt, Chilworth, East Dean, East Tytherley, Frenchmoor, Lockerley, Melchet Park & Plaitford, Michelmersh & Timsbury, Mottisfont, Nursling & Rownhams, Sherfield English, Wellow, West Tytherley and the majority of Romsey Extra parish.
Detail			
We received a county-wide and a localised schemes for this division. The local scheme proposed that Ashley, Kings Somborne and Little Somborne parishes be included in Romsey Rural division. We also received evidence from a parish council			

to include Chilworth parish as well. As mentioned above, we have included Chilworth parish in this division as we consider the community evidence persuasive.

11.11. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation to achieve stronger community identity and is content with the recommendation.

11.12. Romsey Town

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Romsey Town	1	4%	This division comprises Romsey Town and part of Romsey Extra parish.
Detail			
A parish council objected to dividing Romsey Extra parish between divisions; however, we consider the community surrounding Campion Drive, School Road and Woodley Close have a closer affiliation with the town than with rural areas on the other side of the parish. Romsey Town better reflects community identities and provides for good electoral equality.			

11.13. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

11.14. Test Valley Central

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Test Valley Central	1	0%	This division comprises the parishes of Abbotts Ann, Ashley, Barton Stacey, Bossington, Broughton, Bullington, Chilbolton, Goodworth Clatford, Houghton, Kings Somborne, Leckford, Little

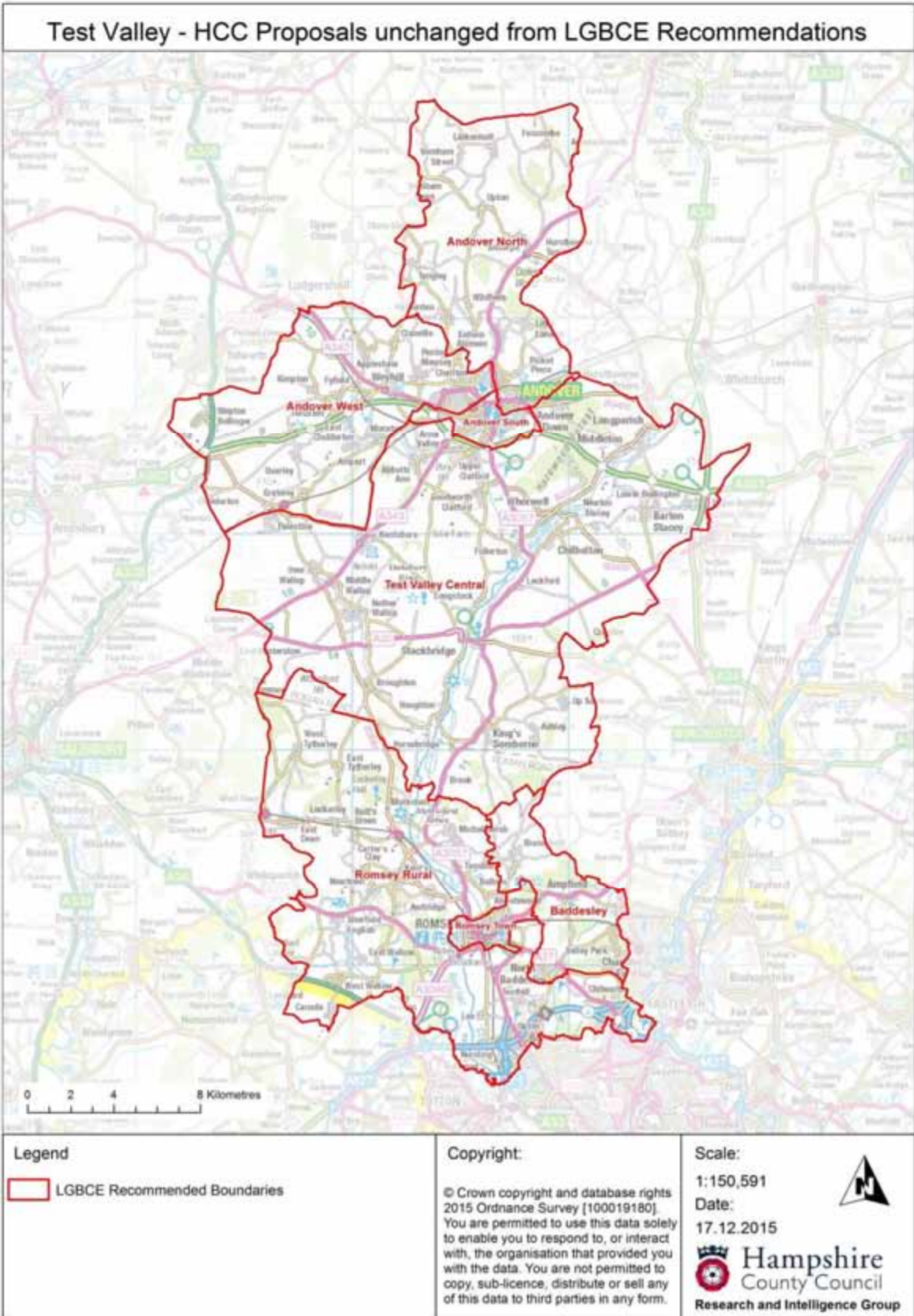
			Somborne, Longparish, Longstock, Nether Wallop, Over Wallop, Stockbridge, Upper Clatford and Wherwell.
<p>Detail We have considered the county-wide and local schemes received for this division. We have decided that the county-wide proposals provide a better reflection of communities and result in good electoral equality for this division. This division has strong A road connections which span throughout the division and link rural communities together. Therefore, this division forms part of our draft recommendations.</p>			

11.15. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission’s draft recommendation is in line with the County Council’s proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

11.16. Proposals for Test Valley (unchanged from Commission recommendations)

Division name	Members	LGBCE Recommend		HCC Revised Proposal	
		2021 Electorate	2021 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Andover North	1	13,349	-3.6%	13,349	-3.6%
Andover South	1	14,809	7.0%	14,809	7.0%
Andover West	1	15,005	8.4%	15,005	8.4%
Baddesley	1	12,793	-7.6%	12,793	-7.6%
Romsey Rural	1	14,590	5.4%	14,590	5.4%
Romsey Town	1	14,440	4.3%	14,440	4.3%
Test Valley Central	1	13,846	0.0%	13,846	0.0%
Total	7	98,832		98,832	



12. Winchester

12.1. The Commission has recommended that Winchester City continues with seven County Councillors, each representing one division.

12.2. Bishops Waltham

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Bishops Waltham	1	0%	This division comprises of parishes of Beauworth, Bishops Sutton, Bishops Waltham, Brandean & Hinton Ampner, Cheriton, Colden Common, Durley, Kilmiston, Owslebury, Tichborne, Twyford and Upham.
Detail			
We received three submissions relating to this division. Two parish councils commented that Durley, Upham and Bishops Waltham are grouped together in the same division. Our division is based on the county-wide proposals received for Winchester City and groups these three parishes together. We consider this division reflects communities and provides for good electoral equality.			

12.3. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

12.4. Itchen Valley

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Itchen Valley	1	6%	This division comprises of parishes of Bighton, Chilcomb, Headbourne Worthy, Itchen Stoke & Ovington, Itchen Valley, Kings Worthy, Micheldever, New

			Alresford, Northington, Old Alresford and Wonston.
<p>Detail This division is based on county-wide proposals received for Winchester City. We consider this division reflects communities and provides for good electoral equality.</p>			

12.5. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

12.6. Meon Valley

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Meon Valley	1	5%	This division comprises of parishes of Corhampton & Meonstoke, Curdrige, Droxford, Exton, Hambledon, Shedfield, Swanmore, Warnford, West Meon, Whiteley and part of Soberton parish.

<p>Detail This division is based on county-wide proposals received for Winchester City. We received a submission from a parish council requesting that we take account of district ward boundaries. Where this meets our three statutory criteria, we have sought to do this. We are satisfied that our proposed Meon Valley division provides a good reflection of the statutory criteria and adopt it as part of our draft recommendations.</p>			
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12.7. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation to better reflect the statutory criteria and is content with this recommendation.

12.8. Winchester Downlands

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
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Winchester Downlands	1	6%	This division comprises of parishes of Badger Farm, Compton & Shawford, Crawley, Hursley, Littleton & Harestock, Olivers Battery, Otterbourne, South Wonston, Sparsholt and part of Winchester.
<p>Detail</p> <p>We received a submission from a parish council commenting that it should be represented by one councillor and that the division should reflect local district ward boundaries in Winchester. We have sought to reduce the high electoral variances proposed in the county-wide scheme in this part of the district. We have transferred an area between Andover Road, Stoney Lane and Stockbridge Road in Winchester to this division to improve electoral equality here and in Winchester Westgate division. We consider our modifications better reflect the statutory criteria and they therefore form part of our draft recommendations.</p>			

12.9. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation to better reflect the statutory criteria and is content with this recommendation.

12.10. Winchester Eastgate

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Winchester Eastgate	1	5%	This division comprises the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, University of Winchester and parts of Winchester to the east and west of the railway line.
<p>Detail</p> <p>The county-wide scheme proposed a Winchester Eastgate division with 14% more electors per councillor. To improve electoral equality, we have transferred an area between Andover Road and Worthy Road to Winchester Westgate division. We consider our modifications provide a good reflection of the statutory criteria and they therefore form part of our draft recommendations.</p>			

12.11. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation

to better reflect the statutory criteria and is content with this recommendation.

12.12. Winchester Southern Parishes

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Winchester Southern Parishes	1	4%	This division comprises of parishes of Boarhunt, Denmead, Southwick & Widley, Wickham and part of Soberton parish.
Detail			
We received two submissions relating to this division. One of the submissions commented that a new housing development being built west of Waterlooville should not be split between divisions. The second submission was the county-wide proposals received for Winchester City. We have based this division on the county-wide proposals. A part of the new housing development is also contained within this division. We consider this division reflects communities and provides for good electoral equality.			

12.13. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council notes that the Commission's draft recommendation is in line with the County Council's proposals and therefore supports this recommendation.

12.14. Winchester Westgate

The Commission's draft recommendation:

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description
Winchester Westgate	1	6%	This division comprises parts of Winchester that straddle the east and west of the railway line.
Detail			
We received a county-wide scheme that proposed a Winchester Westgate division with 14% more electors than the average for the county. As mentioned above, we have transferred an area between Andover Road, Stoney Lane and Stockbridge Road to Winchester Downlands division. We have also included an area between Andover Road and Worthy Road to improve electoral equality in Winchester Eastgate division.			

12.15. Hampshire County Council response:

The County Council has considered the Commission's draft recommendation to achieve greater electoral equality and is content with the recommendation.

12.16. Proposals for Winchester (unchanged from Commission recommendations)

Division name	Members	LGBCE Recommend		HCC Revised Proposal	
		2021 Electorate	2021 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Bishops Waltham	1	13,839	-0.1%	13,839	-0.1%
Itchen Valley	1	14,615	5.6%	14,615	5.6%
Meon Valley	1	14,512	4.8%	14,512	4.8%
Winchester Downlands	1	14,700	6.2%	14,700	6.2%
Winchester Eastgate	1	14,591	5.4%	14,591	5.4%
Winchester Southern Parishes	1	14,364	3.7%	14,364	3.7%
Winchester Westgate	1	14,694	6.1%	14,694	6.1%
Total	7	101,315		101,315	



13. Conclusions

- 13.1. The County Council's submission on proposed Electoral Division Patterns was based on the three statutory criteria of: electoral equality, community identity, and effective and convenient local government, as referred to in paragraph 1.5 of this submission.
- 13.2. In making its submission on proposed Electoral Division Patterns the County Council aimed to achieve electoral equality as far as possible, whilst taking into account local interest and communities, geographical boundaries, and the need to ensure that the pattern of electoral divisions proposed works in terms of size and topography of geographical area, both rural and urban, effectiveness of representation, and the requirement to work within the parameters of existing District Council boundaries.
- 13.3. In light of the Commission's draft recommendations and having given them careful consideration, the County Council is now submitting revised proposals for six areas namely East Hampshire district, Eastleigh borough, Gosport borough, Hart district, New Forest district and Rushmoor borough.
- 13.4. In regard to Basingstoke & Deane borough area the County Council requests the Commission to re-consider the change of name for the Whitchurch & Clere division to "Whitchurch & The Cleres" to fully reflect community identity.
- 13.5. The County Council's revised proposal for the Alton Rural and Alton Town divisions in East Hampshire district provides for improved electoral equality and promotes stronger community identity. The County Council is also requesting the Commission to re-consider their proposed change of name for the Headley division and in the interests of community identity, retain the current name.
- 13.6. The County Council's revised proposals for the Botley & Fair Oak division and the creation of two new single-Member divisions, "Botley & Hedge End North" and "Hedge End & West End South" in place of the two-Member division Hedge End and West End in the Eastleigh borough area achieves improved electoral equality, provides for a stronger reflection of the interests and identity of local communities, and provides for more convenient and effective local government respecting identifiable boundaries. The revised proposals are supported by Botley Parish Council, Hedge End Town Council and West End Parish Council. The County Council's proposal for Botley & Fair Oak division is preferred by Fair Oak & Horton Heath Parish Council to that of the Commission's draft recommendation. Bursledon Parish Council has also indicated support for the

County Council's proposed split of the Commission's two-Member division.

- 13.7. In the interests of community identity, the County Council proposes that the Botley & Fair Oak division be renamed "Fair Oak and Horton Heath".
- 13.8. The County Council's revised proposal for the Hardway and Leesland & Town divisions in Gosport borough avoids a small area being split away and isolated from the rest of the Leesland GM1 polling district. Therefore in the interests of strong community identity the Commission is requested to re-consider the County Council's original proposal for these divisions.
- 13.9. The County Council's revised proposals for the Hart district area responds to both County Council and local concerns regarding the Fleet North & Yateley East division, the Hartley Wintney & Yateley West division and the Odiham & Hook division.
- 13.10. The County Council considers the move of Dogmersfield parish from the Odiham & Hook division to the Hartley Wintney & Yateley West division as unnecessary and it is therefore not supported given that both divisions are less than 10% above the Hampshire average electorate.
- 13.11. In respect of revised parish electoral arrangements as a consequence of the Commission's draft recommendations, the County Council's revised proposals for the Fleet North & Yateley East and the Hartley Wintney & Yateley West divisions in Hart district area also addresses local concerns and takes account of the outcomes of a Community Governance Review (CGR) carried out by Hart District Council to provide more community-based wards at town council level. This CGR was implemented at the May 2015 Yateley Town Council elections.
- 13.12. The County Council requests the Commission to consider changing the name of the Fleet North & Yateley East division to "Fleet North, Yateley East & Blackwater" in recognition of the settlements of Darby Green, Frogmore, Blackwater and Hawley all sharing a Blackwater identity, including a Blackwater postal address.
- 13.13. The County Council has previously put forward proposals to continue with 78 County Councillors. However, in light of the Commission's draft recommendations for the New Forest district area, which severely challenges the promotion of community identity and effective and convenient local government, the County Council requests the Commission to re-consider an 11-Member model to ensure the New Forest can continue to be adequately represented and in order to achieve this, increase the number of County Councillors to 79.
- 13.14. Whilst the County Council urges the Commission to retain 11 divisions in the New Forest for the reasons set out in paragraph 9.1 above, the Commission's

draft recommendations for 10 divisions have been given careful consideration. The County Council considers its revised proposals for the 10-division model achieves greater electoral equality, restores some commonality of interests and community cohesion, which may be more comprehensible to the many parishes and villages in the New Forest, and achieves more effective and convenient local government.

- 13.15. In respect of the Rushmoor borough area, the County Council requests the Commission to re-consider its original proposals for the Farnborough North division and the Farnborough West division in the interests of retaining strong community identity.
- 13.16. The County Council's revised proposals have been prepared in accordance with the Commission's criteria and in so doing, it has been mindful to ensure that the importance of community identity and convenient and effective local government are fully promoted.

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