

New electoral arrangements for Bassetlaw District Council Draft Recommendations

July 2024

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A note on our mapping:

The maps shown in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Whilst best efforts have been made by our staff to ensure that the maps included in this report are representative of the boundaries described by the text, there may be slight variations between these maps and the large PDF map that accompanies this report, or the digital mapping supplied on our consultation portal. This is due to the way in which the final mapped products are produced. The reader should therefore refer to either the large PDF supplied with this report or the digital mapping for the true likeness of the boundaries intended. The boundaries as shown on either the large PDF map or the digital mapping should always appear identical.

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Introduction

Who we are and what we do

1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament.¹ We are not part of government or any political party. We are accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons. Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

2 The members of the Commission are:

- Professor Colin Mellors OBE (Chair)
- Andrew Scallan CBE (Deputy Chair)
- Amanda Nobbs OBE
- Steve Robinson
- Wallace Sampson OBE
- Liz Treacy
- Ailsa Irvine (Chief Executive)

What is an electoral review?

3 An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority. A local authority's electoral arrangements decide:

- How many councillors are needed.
- How many wards or electoral divisions there should be, where their boundaries are and what they should be called.
- How many councillors should represent each ward or division.

4 When carrying out an electoral review the Commission has three main considerations:

- Improving electoral equality by equalising the number of electors that each councillor represents.
- Ensuring that the recommendations reflect community identity.
- Providing arrangements that support effective and convenient local government.

5 Our task is to strike the best balance between these three considerations when making our recommendations.

6 More detail regarding the powers that we have, as well as the further guidance and information about electoral reviews and review process in general, can be found on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

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

Why Bassetlaw?

7 We are conducting a review of Bassetlaw District Council ('the Council') as its last review was completed in 2000, and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.² Additionally, some councillors currently represent many more or fewer electors than others. We describe this as 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where the number of electors per councillor is as even as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.

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

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

Our proposals for Bassetlaw

9 Bassetlaw should be represented by 48 councillors, the same number as there are now.

10 Bassetlaw should have 26 wards, one more than there are now.

11 The boundaries of 24 existing wards should change; one will stay the same.

How will the recommendations affect you?

12 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which ward you vote in, which other communities are in that ward, and, in some cases, which parish council ward you vote in. Your ward name may also change.

13 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the district or result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. The recommendations will not have an effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums and we are not able to consider any representations which are based on these issues.

Have your say

14 We will consult on the draft recommendations for a 10-week period, from 30 July 2024 to 7 October 2024. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to

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

comment on these proposed wards as the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be in making our final recommendations.

15 We ask everyone wishing to contribute ideas for the new wards to first read this report and look at the accompanying map before responding to us.

16 You have until 7 October 2024 to have your say on the draft recommendations. See page 33 for how to send us your response.

Review timetable

17 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Bassetlaw. We then held a period of consultation with the public on warding patterns for the district. The submissions received during consultation have informed our draft recommendations.

18 The review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
13 February 2024	Number of councillors decided
20 February 2024	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
29 April 2024	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
30 July 2024	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
7 October 2024	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
4 March 2025	Publication of final recommendations

Analysis and draft recommendations

19 Legislation³ states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors⁴ there are now, but also on how many there are likely to be in the five years after the publication of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for our wards.

20 In reality, we are unlikely to be able to create wards with exactly the same number of electors in each; we have to be flexible. However, we try to keep the number of electors represented by each councillor as close to the average for the council as possible.

21 We work out the average number of electors per councillor for each individual local authority by dividing the electorate by the number of councillors, as shown on the table below.

	2023	2030
Electorate of Bassetlaw	89,347	96,639
Number of councillors	48	48
Average number of electors per councillor	1,861	2,013

22 When the number of electors per councillor in a ward is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the ward as having ‘good electoral equality’. All of our proposed wards for Bassetlaw are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Submissions received

23 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Electorate figures

24 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2030, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2025. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 8% by 2030.

25 We considered the information provided by the Council and are satisfied that the projected figures are the best available at the present time. We have used these figures to produce our draft recommendations.

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

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

26 Our mapping tool uses geocoded electoral registers supplied by the Council to locate electors, by associating addresses with specific geographic coordinates. It considers each elector's location to produce precise elector counts for each ward. There can be very slight differences between the electorate figures published on our website at the beginning of the review and the electorate figures published in this report. However, these are very minor and do not impact on our recommendations'

Number of councillors

27 Bassetlaw District Council currently has 48 councillors. We have looked at evidence provided by the Council, Bassetlaw & Newark Conservatives, and the Bassetlaw Labour Group ('Labour'), and have concluded that keeping this number the same will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

28 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 48 councillors for example, 48 one-councillor wards, 16 three-councillor wards, or a mix of one-, two- and three-councillor wards.

29 We received one submission about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on ward patterns. The submission advocated for fewer councillors because they were of the view that it was difficult for political parties to field 48 candidates every four years. They suggested that 20 to 25 councillors would be better. However, the council size decision is about the number of councillors the Council needs to carry out its duties effectively, and not about elections. We therefore based our draft recommendations on a 48-councillor council.

Ward boundaries consultation

30 We received 48 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included three district-wide proposals from the Council, Bassetlaw Conservatives ('the Conservatives') and Bassetlaw Council Labour Group ('Labour').

31 The Council's and Labour's schemes were identical and proposed a mixed pattern of 26 one-, two- and three-councillor wards for Bassetlaw.

32 The Conservatives proposed 36 one- and two-councillor wards for the local authority area. They expressed the view that for effective governance, single-councillor wards are best placed to provide accountability and representation for residents.

33 The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for wards arrangements in particular areas of the district.

34 We carefully considered the proposals received and were of the view that the proposed patterns of wards resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the authority and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries.

35 Our draft recommendations are based on the proposals and comments from all the district-wide proposals.

36 They also take into account local evidence that we received, which provided further evidence of community links and locally recognised boundaries. In some areas we considered that the proposals did not provide for the best balance between our statutory criteria and so we identified alternative boundaries.

37 We conducted a virtual tour of the area in order to look at the various different proposals on the ground. This virtual tour of Bassetlaw helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

Draft recommendations

38 Our draft recommendations are for eight three-councillor wards, six two-councillor wards and 12 one-councillor wards. We consider that our draft recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

39 The tables and maps on pages 8–30 detail our draft recommendations for each area of Bassetlaw. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory⁵ criteria of:

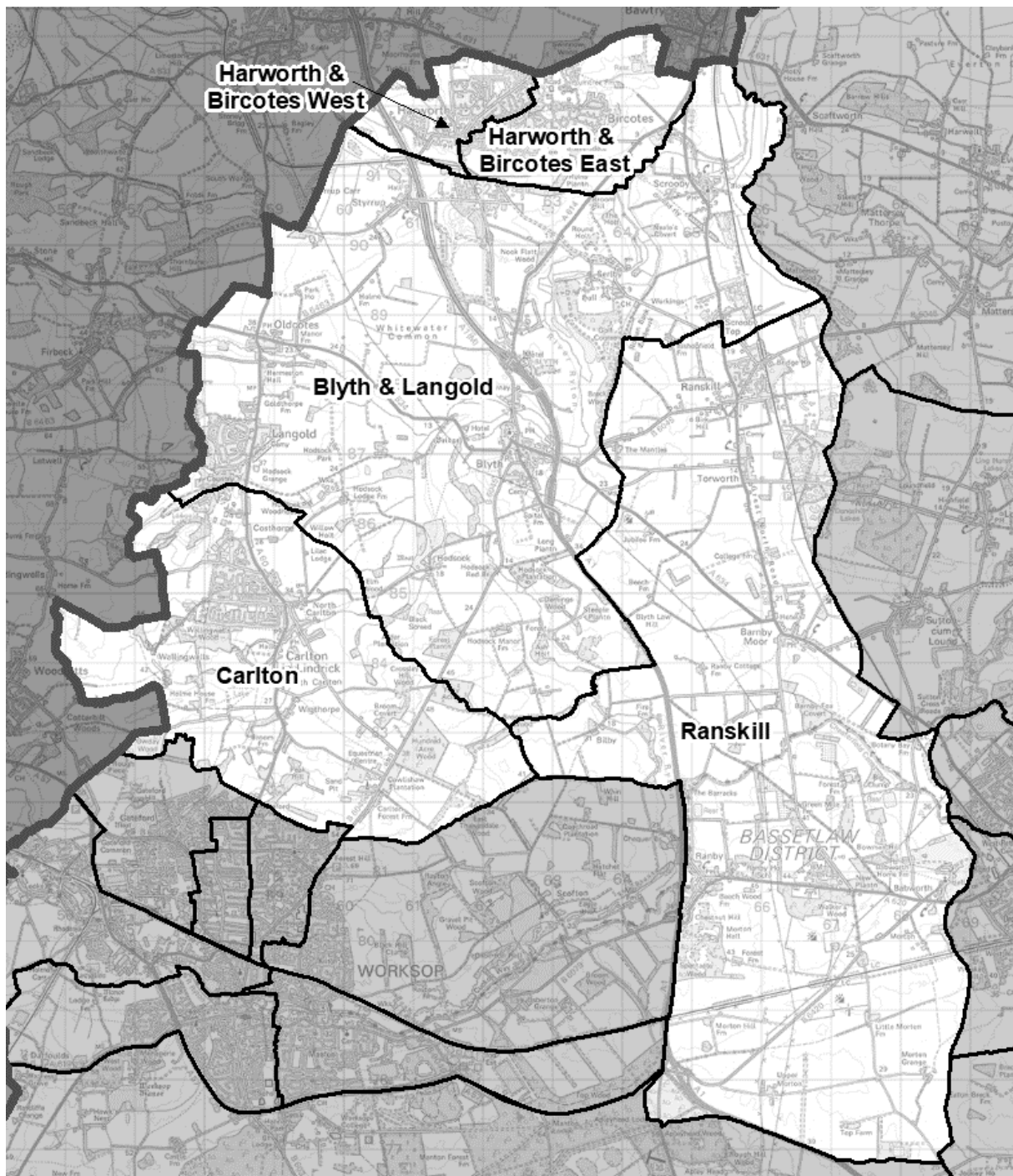
- Equality of representation.
- Reflecting community interests and identities.
- Providing for effective and convenient local government.

40 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 39 and on the large map accompanying this report.

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

⁵ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

West



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Blyth & Langold	2	9%
Carlton	3	-10%
Harworth & Bircotes East	2	-5%
Harworth & Bircotes West	2	7%
Ranskill	1	4%

Blyth & Langold and Carlton

42 In addition to the district-wide proposals, we received submissions from Councillor Bailey, Councillor Coultate, Carlton in Lindrick Parish Council, Hodsock Parish Council and a resident, for this area.

43 The Council and Labour proposed creating a two-councillor Blyth & Langold ward and a three-councillor Carlton ward. Their proposed Blyth & Langold ward was a merger of the existing single-councillor Blyth and Langold wards but excluded Scrooby parish. The Council points to Blyth and Langold parishes being in the same county division. It also stated that Scrooby parish had closer vehicular links with the rest of the existing Ranskill ward, than with Blyth.

44 The Council and Labour also proposed a three-councillor Carlton ward based on the existing ward but excluding the area of new development north of Thievesdale Lane and west of Blyth Road. This was coterminous with Carlton in Lindrick and Wallingwells parishes.

45 The Council expressed the view that Carlton and Langold communities were distinct from each other, with the Langold Country Park separating them. It argued that although Carlton in Lindrick parish was made up of different hamlets, the area as a whole was seen as a distinct community, with Costhorpe very much a part of it.

46 The Conservatives proposed a two-councillor Carlton ward which excluded the Costhorpe area of Carlton in Lindrick parish. They included Costhorpe in a ward with Langold. They were of the view that Rotherham Baulk was a distinctive and natural boundary between the two wards, and that this warding pattern placed all of Langold Country Park in a single district ward. The Conservatives retained the existing Blyth ward which includes Scrooby parish.

47 Councillor Bailey was also of the view that Costhorpe had a close relationship with Langold. Councillor Coultate believed that the Council's proposal for a Blyth & Langold ward undermined the Blyth community.

48 Carlton in Lindrick Parish Council advocated for the retention of the existing three-councillor ward based on the increased population as reflected in the Neighbourhood Plan.

49 Hodsock Parish Council felt that the existing Langold ward was underrepresented with a single councillor and wanted two councillors, to reflect the growing electorate.

50 We considered all the submissions we received. The district-wide proposals took into account the forecast underrepresentation of a single-councillor Langold ward, and proposed two-councillor wards, in the area, albeit with very different boundaries as stated above.

51 On our virtual tour of Rotherham Baulk, we noted that the residents on both sides of the eastern half of the road would most likely share some community, and we were not persuaded to use it as a boundary. We also considered that Langold Country Park is, and will continue to be, split across two different parishes, and therefore there will always be councillors from more than one community who will have an interest in the park.

52 Accordingly, we have adopted the identical proposals for Carlton ward from the Council and Labour, as part of our draft recommendations.

53 Our draft recommendations also include a two-councillor Blyth & Langold ward based on both proposals. It includes the existing single-councillor Blyth and Langold wards. Therefore, it also includes Scrooby parish.

54 While we note the Council's comments about Scrooby parish having closer vehicular routes to Ranskill, including Scrooby here facilitates a better warding pattern in Ranskill and ensures that we can avoid splitting close neighbours across wards in that area. We are content that while not an 'A' road, there is a vehicular route between Scrooby and the rest of the ward which does not necessitate leaving the ward. Accordingly, we consider this arrangement the best balance of our statutory criteria.

55 Blyth & Langold is a two-councillor ward forecast to have 9% more electors per councillor than the average of the district. Carlton ward has three councillors and is forecast to have 10% fewer electors per councillor than the average for the local authority area, by 2030.

Harworth & Bircotes East and Harworth & Bircotes West

56 The district-wide submissions were the only ones we received for this area. Both schemes proposed two two-councillor wards for the Harworth & Bircotes Town Council area as a way to address the poor variance forecast for the existing three-councillor ward.

57 The Council indicated that in the past, there had been two wards covering this area. Labour stated that there were two communities with a strong identity within this parish, and that Bircotes was to the east of the area.

58 The Conservatives stated that according to the Neighbourhood Plan for the area, Harworth comprises most of the area to the west of Bawtry Road while Bircotes is the land to the east. They named their proposed wards accordingly.

59 We noted that there were similarities between the proposals. They included Bawtry Road and the area west of it in a ward to the west. The Council and Labour also included Mulberry Way, Water Fir Drive, Willow Grove and All Saints Harworth

Church of England (Aided) Primary School, east of Bawtry Road and north of Scrooby Road in this ward. The Conservatives included a larger area east of Bawtry Road as well as an area south of Scrooby Road in this ward.

60 On careful consideration of the submissions, we note that the Conservatives' Bircotes and Harworth wards are forecast to have 34% fewer and 34% more electors, respectively, than the average for Bassetlaw in 2030. We consider this too high and have not adopted them.

61 Accordingly, we have based our draft recommendations for this area on the Council's proposals which we note include some of the boundaries also proposed by the Conservatives. In doing that we have modified it to place Mulberry Way, Water Fir Drive, Willow Grove and All Saints Harworth Church of England (Aided) Primary School in the ward to the east. As part of the draft recommendations we have adopted the ward names proposed by the Council and Labour. However, we invite comments on whether naming them Bircotes and Harworth wards would better reflect the communities in the area.

62 Harworth & Bircotes East and Harworth & Bircotes West are both two-councillor wards forecast to have 5% fewer and 7% more electors per councillor than the average for Bassetlaw, by 2030.

Ranskill

63 In addition to the district-wide proposals for this area, we received a submission from Babworth Parish Council.

64 The Council's and Labour's proposed Ranskill ward included Scrooby parish but excluded Torworth which they included in their proposed Sutton ward to the south. They cited easy vehicular access between Scrooby and the rest of the ward as one reason in support of this ward.

65 The Conservatives proposed a Ranskill ward made up of Babworth, Barnby Moor, Ranskill and Torworth parishes stating that the A638 ran through most of the area, and the parishes shared a number of public services including doctors, schools and a bus service.

66 On careful consideration we noted that the Council's and Labour's proposed boundary between Ranskill and Torworth parishes cuts across properties and also appears to split close neighbours and, in other words, a community. Therefore, we were not persuaded to adopt this warding pattern.

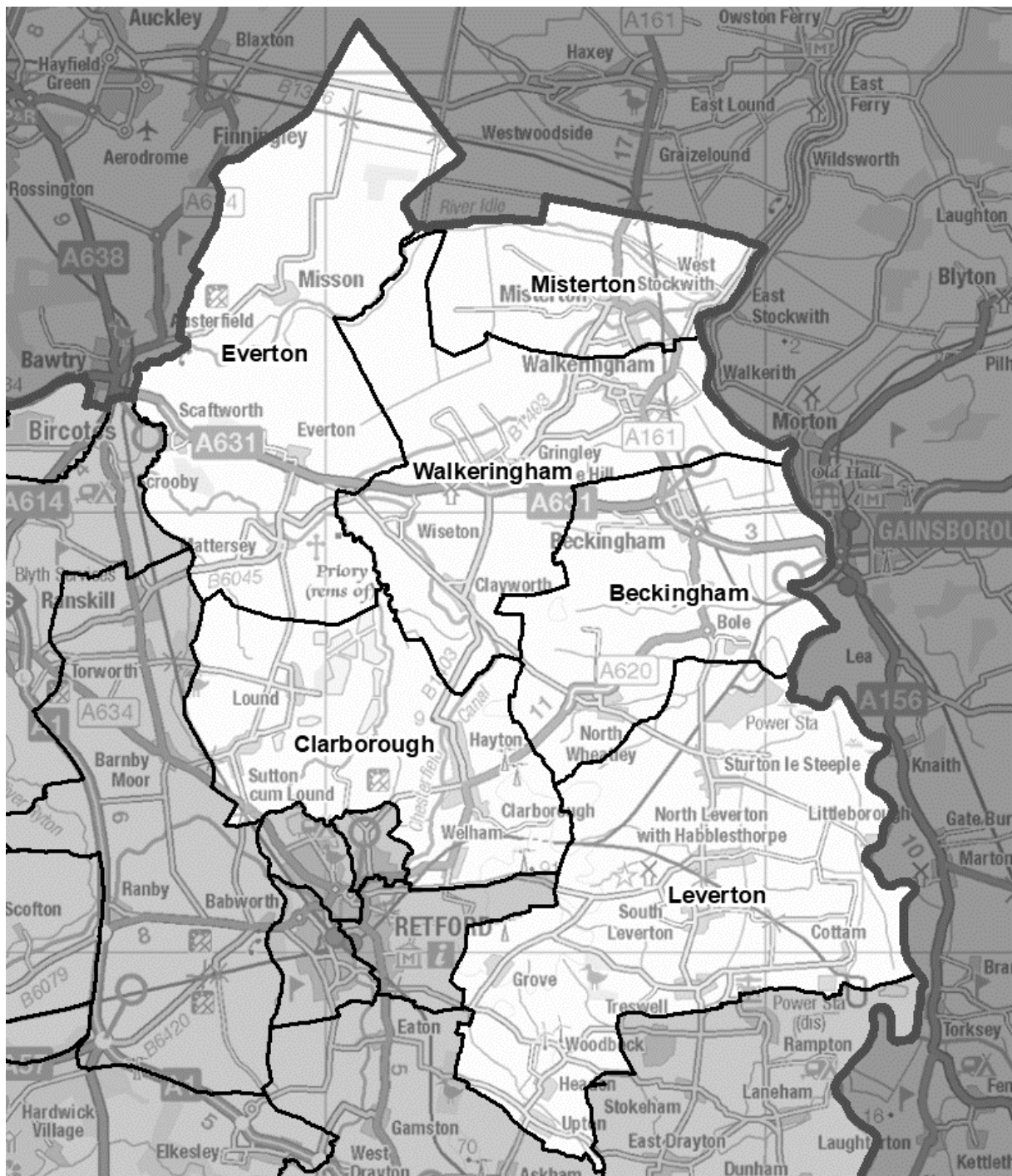
67 Accordingly, we based our draft recommendations for Ranskill ward on the Conservatives' proposal, with one modification. The Conservatives' use of the A1 for most of the western boundary excluded the detached part of Barnby Moor parish from this ward. With fewer than 50 electors, that would require the creation of a very

small parish ward. Therefore, we have included all of Barnby Moor parish in this ward.

68 Ranskill ward is a single-councillor ward forecast to have 4% more electors per councillor than the average for Bassetlaw, by 2030.

69 Babworth Parish Council stated that it objected to sharing councillors between wards. Babworth parish is part of the existing single-councillor Sutton ward. Our draft recommendations include it in the single-councillor Ranskill district ward, along with a number of other parishes. None of the district ward councillors are shared with other wards.

North and East



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Beckingham	1	-1%
Clarborough	1	8%
Leverton	1	10%
Misterton	1	9%
Walkeringham	1	-5%

Beckingham, Everton and Walkeringham

70 In addition to the district-wide submissions, we received additional ones from Councillor Wilson, Councillor Goacher and North & South Wheatley Parish Council about this area.

71 The Council and Labour proposed one change to the two existing wards in this area. They proposed addressing the poor forecast variance for Beckingham ward by moving an area around Newells Terrace in the north of Walkeringham parish, into Misterton ward.

72 Labour stated that the existing Everton ward had good forecast electoral equality and ‘contains a cohesive collection of small rural communities’.

73 The Conservatives, on the other hand, advocated for three new wards covering this area and Clayworth, Mattersey and Wiseton parishes. They addressed the poor variance in Beckingham ward by excluding Walkeringham parish from the ward. Instead, they included Bole, North & South Wheatley and Saundby parishes in their proposed Beckingham ward. They stated that this ward includes communities linked by the A620.

74 At the same time they proposed a Walkeringham ward comprised of Clayworth, Gringley on the Hill, Walkeringham and Wiseton parishes, three of which they say are connected via the 597 bus service and are in very close proximity to one another. They stated that this ward also shares a number of public services including Riverside Gringley GP surgery and primary and secondary school catchment areas without splitting them. And they expressed the view that Gringley on the Hill is the central village for these communities, providing the local services such as the GP surgery as well as the Community Centre.

75 Their proposed Everton ward is based on the existing ward of the same name, but does not include Gringley on the Hill parish. It includes Mattersey parish instead. The Conservatives say that Everton and Mattersey parishes are connected by the 27 bus service and that all four parishes in this ward look to Bawtry as their main commercial centre.

76 We considered these very different proposals carefully. As we explain further in the section on Misterton (paragraph 99), we have been persuaded to exclude the Newells Terrace area from a ward with the rest of Walkeringham parish, as proposed by the Council and Labour.

77 We note the transport and community links provided in support of the Conservatives’ proposals for the area. Furthermore, we note North & South Wheatley Parish Council’s and councillors Goacher’s and Wilson’s objections to the Council’s proposal to include the parish in a ward with Clayworth and other parishes to its west, on the grounds that it was geographically separated from them. The

parish council stated that Clayworth and Gringley-on-the-Hill parishes had worked together on shared issues pertaining to shared land earmarked for solar farm development, and one of its suggestions was to expand the existing Clayworth ward to include Gringley-on-the-Hill parish. This was something the Council said it had considered but decided against because of the geographical spread of such a ward.

78 We note that the inclusion of Clayworth and Gringley-on-the-Hill parishes in the same ward is in line with the Conservatives' proposal and that the Council had considered including these two parishes in a single ward.

79 We also note that the Council stated that Beckingham and Walkeringham have 'distinct and separate' natures. Therefore, we are content to place these parishes in separate district wards.

80 Accordingly, we have adopted the Conservatives' proposed wards as part of our draft recommendations.

81 While we have been persuaded to place North & South Wheatley parish in a different ward than the parishes to its west, we have included it in Beckingham ward and not in a ward with Sturton le Steeple and West Burton parishes for electoral equality reasons, and for reasons explained in the section on Leverton (paragraph 85). We consider this the best balance of our statutory criteria.

82 Beckingham and Walkeringham are both single-councillor wards forecast to have 1% and 5% fewer electors per councillor, respectively, than the average for Bassetlaw, by 2030. Everton is also a single-councillor ward forecast to have a similar number of electors per councillor as the average for the district, by 2030.

Leverton

83 In addition to the district-wide proposals, we received submissions from Headon-cum-Upton, Grove & Stokeham Parish Council, North & South Wheatley Parish Council, Councillor Coultate, Councillor Goacher, Councillor Whelan, Councillor Wilson and five residents.

84 The Council's and Labour's proposed Leverton ward was very similar to the one proposed by the Conservatives, and was based on the existing Rampton and Sturton wards. The only difference was that the Council included Bole parish in this ward while the Conservatives included it in Beckingham ward to the north. None of the proposals placed the three grouped parishes of Headon-cum-Upton, Grove and Stokeham in a single ward – on electoral equality grounds.

85 The Council indicated that North & South Wheatley parish was in a different school catchment area from the rest of the existing Sturton ward and that other villages besides it would be more affected by the development traffic from the STEP (Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production) project. Labour believed that the

proposed Leverton ward was a coherent grouping of rural communities, more so as it united North and South Leverton parishes in a single ward.

86 The Conservatives state that the proposed ward is made up of rural villages to the southeast of Bassetlaw with road connections between the larger villages.

87 Councillor Whelan, Headon-cum-Upton, Grove & Stokeham Parish Council and residents objected to the Council's proposal to split the three parishes across three different district wards. They pointed to the shared farming heritage and facilities between the constituent parishes, and the shared Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Coultate did not think that North Leverton and South Leverton parishes identified as one community because each had their own pubs and community spaces.

88 As mentioned in the section on Beckingham, Everton and Walkeringham, the North & South Wheatley Parish Council objected to the parish being excluded from a ward with others in the existing Sturton ward. They pointed to established relationships among the constituent parishes and shared issues around the STEP project in West Burton.

89 Some residents objected to the existing Rampton ward being split across wards. One resident was of the view that this was an opportunity to restore some traditional links, such as the one between North and South Leverton.

90 We considered all the views that were expressed carefully. With regards to the grouped parishes within Headon-cum-Upton, Grove & Stokeham Parish Council, we considered uniting them in a single ward. To include them all in Leverton ward, ideally we would have to include Rampton & Woodbeck parish. Doing this produced Leverton and Trent wards forecast to have 46% more and 27% fewer electors, respectively, than the average for Bassetlaw, by 2030.

91 We also considered uniting them in East Markham ward after the changes we are making to the proposals we received for that ward (see section on East Markham ward). However, we have not done so as part of these draft recommendations because we do not have sufficient community evidence to support this. We welcome comments on whether we should unite Headon-cum-Upton, Grove and Stokeham parishes in our draft recommendations East Markham ward, subject to Bothamsall and Haughton parishes being included in a ward to the west of East Markham.

92 We noted that the Conservatives' proposed warding pattern split the parish council area over two district wards, and not three district wards as proposed by the Council and Labour. We considered this a more desirable outcome than splitting them over three district wards. However, the Conservatives' proposed ward to the south is forecast to have 17% more electors than the average for the local authority area.

93 Therefore, we modified the Conservatives' proposals by moving Headon-cum-Upton parish into Leverton ward. This not only partially mitigated the split of the grouped parish area, but also facilitated a ward with good electoral equality to the south of Leverton ward.

94 Leverton is a single-councillor ward forecast to have 10% more electors per councillor than the average for the district in 2030.

Misterton

95 The district-wide proposals for Misterton were the only ones we received. The only difference between them was their proposal for the Newells Terrace area.

96 The existing Misterton ward is coterminous with Misterton parish. The Council and Labour advocate the inclusion of Bramley Way, Newells Terrace and Pippin Close from Walkeringham parish in this ward while the Conservatives retain the boundaries of the existing ward.

97 The Council state that during the Neighbourhood Plan consultation, the Newells Terrace area was included in the development boundary for Misterton because of its proximity and linkages to the area. It also says that residents use shops and facilities in Misterton. Labour are of the view that residents of Newells Terrace and the surrounding roads identify with Misterton, and not Walkeringham.

98 The Conservatives do not propose any changes to the existing ward which is comprised of Misterton and West Stockwith villages. They state that the villages are connected via the A161 (Marsh Lane) and Stockwith Road. They also point to the ward having good electoral equality.

99 On consideration of the evidence, we have been persuaded that because of their close proximity to Misterton and neighbours along Marsh Lane and Fox Covert Lane, residents of the Newells Terrace area will most likely look to Misterton for their community, amenities and services. Accordingly, we have been persuaded to include them in Misterton ward.

100 Our draft recommendations are based on the Council's and Labour's identical proposals. Misterton is a single-councillor ward forecast to have 9% more electors per councillor than the average for the local authority area, by 2030.

Clarborough

101 In addition to the district-wide proposals for this area, we received comments from North & South Wheatley Parish Council and Councillor Wilson.

102 The Council and Labour proposed a ward based on the existing Clayworth ward but with the addition of North & South Wheatley parish to address the poor forecast variance in the existing ward. The Council point out that the A620 provides a

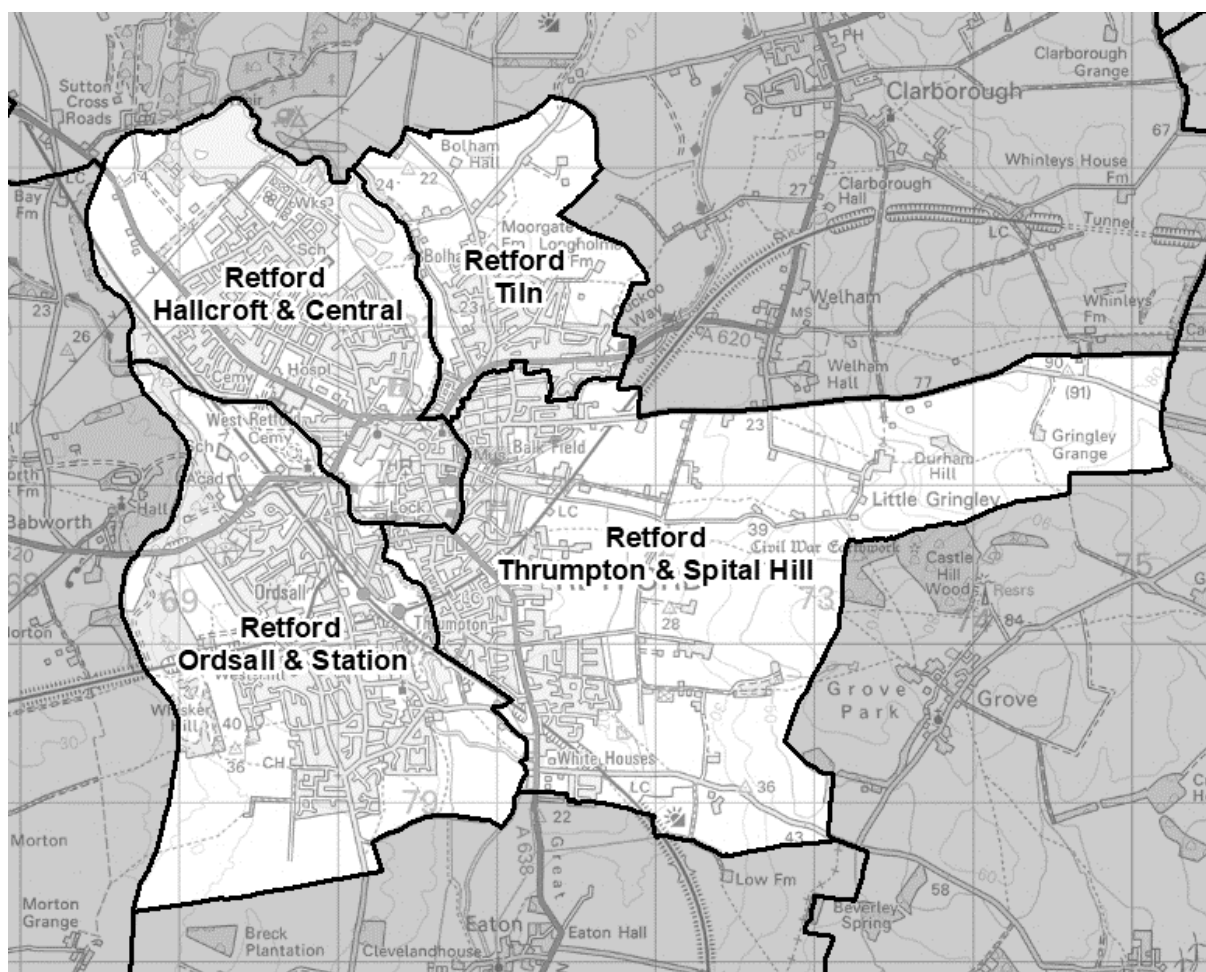
direct link from the North & South Wheatley parish to the southern area of the ward and Wheatley Road links to the north.

103 The Conservatives proposed a ward with communities that they state have shared interests in the Idle Valley Nature Reserve and surrounding wetlands and who have been working together to oppose development near the nature reserve. Furthermore, the ward will be connected by Chainbridge Lane which they say is used 'by residents to access public services and commercial units across the proposed ward'.

104 In light of our decision to keep close neighbours in Ranskill and Torworth parishes in the same ward (see section on Ranskill ward), and our decision not to include North & South Wheatley parish in a ward with Clayworth, Hayton and Wiseton parishes, as explained in the section on Beckingham, Everton and Walkeringham wards, we have adopted the Conservatives' proposals. Furthermore, we note that while Chainbridge Lane is not a major road, the communities in this ward have some shared interests. Accordingly, we are content to include them in the same ward.

105 Clarborough is a single-councillor ward forecast to have 8% more electors per councillor than the average for the district, by 2030.

Retford



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Retford Hallcroft & Central	3	-9%
Retford Ordsall & Station	3	1%
Retford Thrumpton & Spital Hill	3	-2%
Retford Tiln	1	0%

106 In addition to the district-wide submissions, we received comments from Councillor Henderson, East Retford Charter Trustees, Retford Business Forum and two residents.

107 Councillor Henderson expressed support for the proposals put forward by the Council.

108 East Retford Charter Trustees did not want the boundaries of the town changed as they felt that the current boundaries, being those of the former Borough of Retford, were representative of the town. They also requested the use of geographical features as natural boundaries and wanted the entirety of the town centre in a single ward and not split across wards, as it currently was. We note that

uniting the town centre in a single ward was something that all the proposals we received sought to do.

109 Retford Business Forum believed that uniting the town centre would facilitate better representation of the specific and unique needs of the Retford Town Centre Neighbourhood Plan area and proposed two alternative warding patterns which both created a single-councillor Town Centre ward.

110 Under the option one, the eastern boundary would run along the A638 Arlington Way. Under option two, it runs along the existing boundary along Churchgate and Carolgate. However, on careful consideration we found that even under option one, which creates a bigger town centre ward, the proposed ward is forecast to have at least 66% fewer electors than the average for the district in 2030. Under these proposals, East Retford West ward is also proposed to have 18% or 22% more electors. We consider these electoral variances too high and did not adopt either of these options. Nevertheless, we understand the desire to unite the area in a single ward.

111 The Council and Labour proposed three three-councillor and one single-councillor wards for Retford, while the Conservatives proposed two two-councillor and six single-councillor wards. The proposals included almost identical boundaries for a ward in the northeast of Retford.

112 The Conservatives' proposed Retford Hallcroft, Retford Trinity and Retford Whitehouses wards were forecast to have variances of -21%, -11% and 19%, respectively, by 2030. We were not persuaded to create wards with such high variances. We therefore did not adopt them as part of our draft recommendations.

113 A resident suggested that the wards should be pre-fixed with 'Retford' and not 'East Retford'. We note that all the district-wide schemes have dropped the current 'East Retford' prefix and we are content to do so as part of our draft recommendations.

Retford Hallcroft & Central

114 The Council and Labour proposed a three-councillor ward which included a significant part of the existing East Retford North ward. They united the town centre in this ward and extended its southwestern boundary to run along Babworth Road instead of the Chesterfield Canal and to the east used the River Idle as a natural boundary.

115 Labour said that the Hallcroft area of Retford is linked to the town centre through the 'highly urbanised A638' (North Road). The Council explained that the River Idle represents a clear and identifiable boundary and that the eastern boundary of the current East Retford North ward along Tiln Lane artificially split communities.

116 After careful consideration of the submissions, we are content to adopt the identical proposals by the Council and Labour as part of our draft recommendations, with one modification. We consider that residents on both sides of Babworth Road should be in the same ward, and that the Chesterfield Canal is an identifiable boundary. We also note that this boundary was used by the Conservatives for one of their wards. We have been persuaded to use it.

117 Retford Hallcroft & Central ward is a three-councillor ward forecast to have 9% fewer electors per councillor than the average for Bassetlaw, by 2030.

Retford Tiln

118 The Council, Labour and the Conservatives proposed almost identical boundaries for a single-councillor ward in the northeast of Retford. The only difference was that while the Council and Labour unite both sides of the A620 Moorgate/Welham Road in a single ward, the Conservatives use the A620 Moorgate as a boundary before uniting both sides of the A620 Welham Road in this ward.

119 We were told that the proposed ward unites the Tiln community which is currently split across wards. The Conservatives stated that the ward shares a number of public services including Carr Hill Primary School and is connected by two bus services.

120 We have considered these representations and are content that this ward has identifiable boundaries and good community links. On our virtual tour of Moorgate, we were persuaded that both sides of this road share community identity. We have therefore united both sides of the road in our draft recommendations, as proposed by the Council and Labour. However, we welcome comments on this.

121 We name the ward Retford Tiln as proposed by the Council and Labour but we invite comments on whether Retford Bolham, suggested by the Conservatives, better reflects the community in this ward.

122 Retford Tiln is a single-councillor ward, forecast to have a similar number of electors per councillor as the average for the district, by 2030.

Retford Ordsall & Station

123 The Council and Labour proposed a three-councillor Retford Ordsall & Station ward in this area while the Conservatives proposed three single-councillor wards: Retford Ordsall North, Retford Ordsall South and Retford Westfield.

124 The Council and Labour both stated that Ordsall had a strong community identity as was evidenced by various community groups including Friends of Ordsall and Ordsall Community Watch. The Council was of the view that the current boundary along the Sheffield–Lincoln railway line split the community of Ordsall unsatisfactorily.

125 The Conservatives state that their proposed Ordsall North has its own distinct community around Newlands Community Centre 'away from the traditional centre of Ordsall in Ordsall South ward who holds a different community centre'. They suggest that their Ordsall South ward will bring together the most recent 'Glen Eagles Estate' with the oldest section of Ordsall. Their Ordsall Westfield & Station covers residents north of the railway line and south of Chesterfield Canal.

126 We have considered both proposals very carefully. We note the community facilities that residents in the Conservatives' proposed wards will use and possibly gravitate towards. We were not persuaded that the proposed boundary between their Retford Ordsall North and Retford Ordsall South wards did not split a community across wards.

127 While we considered creating a single-councillor Retford Ordsall Westfield & Station ward to the north of the railway line and a two-councillor Ordsall ward to its south, we did not want to inadvertently split a cohesive community across wards, especially since there are community groups which serve the entire community of Ordsall suggesting that the community does extend across the railway line.

128 Therefore, as part of our draft recommendations, we have adopted the Council's and Labour's proposals. Nevertheless, we are asking if creating two wards as we considered doing would better reflect the way communities are organised in this area.

129 We note that both proposals include Retford Station and its surrounding roads in a ward here, and not with the Thrumpton area from which it is separated by the River Idle. The Council said that it shares greater community with Ordsall and that there is a public footpass and tunnel connecting the Retford Station area with Ordsall. We are content to include these areas in the same ward.

130 Retford Ordsall & Station is a three-councillor ward forecast to have 1% more electors per councillor, than the average for the district, by 2030.

Retford Thrumpton & Spital Hill

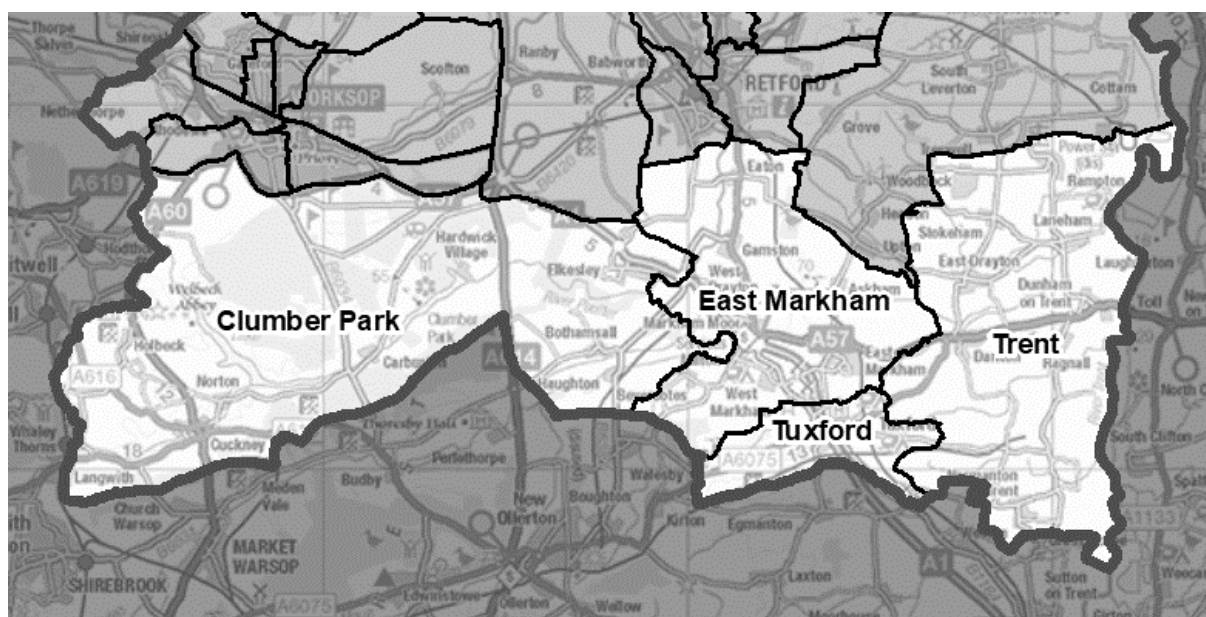
131 The Council and Labour proposed a three-councillor ward covering the existing East Retford East ward with the exception of the Tiln area and the eastern part of the city centre.

132 They were of the view that the A638 London Road unites the community and should not be used as a boundary. They state that the north and south of the ward are linked together by the A638 Arlington Way/London Road.

133 We considered the boundaries of the proposed ward and are content that it has good electoral equality and includes entire communities. Retford Thrumpton &

Spital Hill is a three-councillor ward forecast to have 2% fewer electors per councillor, than the average for the district, by 2030.

South



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Clumber Park	1	6%
East Markham	1	-6%
Trent	1	10%
Tuxford	1	8%

Clumber Park and East Markham

134 We received submissions from Councillor Marples, Councillor Palmer and Norton, Cuckney, Holbeck & Welbeck Parish Council for this area in addition to the district-wide ones.

135 The Council and Labour proposed an East Markham ward which included Headon-cum-Upton parish, and a Welbeck ward which included the rural parts of Worksop, south of the A60/A57 with the existing Welbeck ward. The Council acknowledged that its proposed East Markham ward was forecast to have a 13% variance, outside of what we consider good electoral equality. However, it felt that it was difficult to find an alternative warding pattern given the number of changes required in the east of the district.

136 The Conservatives advocated for the Bothamsall and Haughton parishes to be moved from East Markham to Welbeck ward because of the parishes shared community and transport links with Elkesley parish in the east of the existing ward.

137 Like the Council, they proposed including an area of Worksop south of the A57 in a ward with the existing Welbeck ward, but one of their boundaries departed from the A57 and ran along Old Coach Road/Windmill Lane instead placing residents on this road in a Worksop ward. They proposed that Welbeck ward be renamed

Clumber Park after the National Trust's Clumber Park which takes up a significant part of the ward.

138 Norton, Cuckney, Holbeck & Welbeck Parish Council proposed a ward similar to the Conservatives' Clumber Park ward although they used the A57 and not Windmill Lane as the northern boundary. They were of the view that this ward includes communities with similar issues and that although covering a significant geographical area, as rural communities they were used to large geographical 'divides and barriers to even their closest neighbours'. They suggested that it be called Clumber Park or Dukeries. Councillors Marples and Palmer supported the parish council's proposals with Councillor Palmer favouring the ward being named Dukeries because it would be made up of the ducal estates of Clumber and Welbeck.

139 On careful consideration of the submissions we received, we note that the Council state that Elkesley parish has never felt connected to the ward. Geographically, it is isolated to the east of Clumber Park. However, it has been retained in this ward for electoral equality reasons, which we understand.

140 We note that the Conservatives and Norton, Cuckney, Holbeck & Welbeck Parish Council proposed including Elkesley parish's closest neighbours (i.e., Bothamsall and Haughton parishes) in the ward. These are parishes which we understand have links with Elkesley. We also note that it facilitates an East Markham ward with good electoral equality.

141 Accordingly, we have been persuaded to adopt the Conservatives' proposals, including proposed names, for wards in this area as part of our draft recommendations, with one modification. We do not use Windmill Lane as any part of the northern boundary of Clumber Park ward. We would particularly welcome comments from residents of Bothamsall and Haughton parishes. We also invite comments on whether the name Dukeries will better reflect the communities in Clumber Park ward.

142 Clumber Park and East Markham wards are both single-councillor wards forecast to have 6% more and 6% fewer electors than the average per councillor for the district by 2030.

Trent

143 The district-wide proposals for this area were identical in many respects, except that the Conservatives included Headon-cum-Upton parish here. As mentioned in the section on Leverton, this produced a Trent ward forecast to have 17% more electors than the district average. We were not persuaded to create a ward with such a high variance so we did not adopt this proposal.

144 Instead we have adopted the Council's and Labour's identical proposals as part of our draft recommendations for Trent.

145 Trent is a single-councillor ward forecast to have 10% more electors per councillor than the average for the local authority area, by 2030.

Tuxford

146 In addition to the district-wide submissions, we received comments from Councillor Coultate and a resident.

147 The district-wide submissions proposed identical boundaries for a single-councillor Tuxford ward coterminous with Tuxford parish.

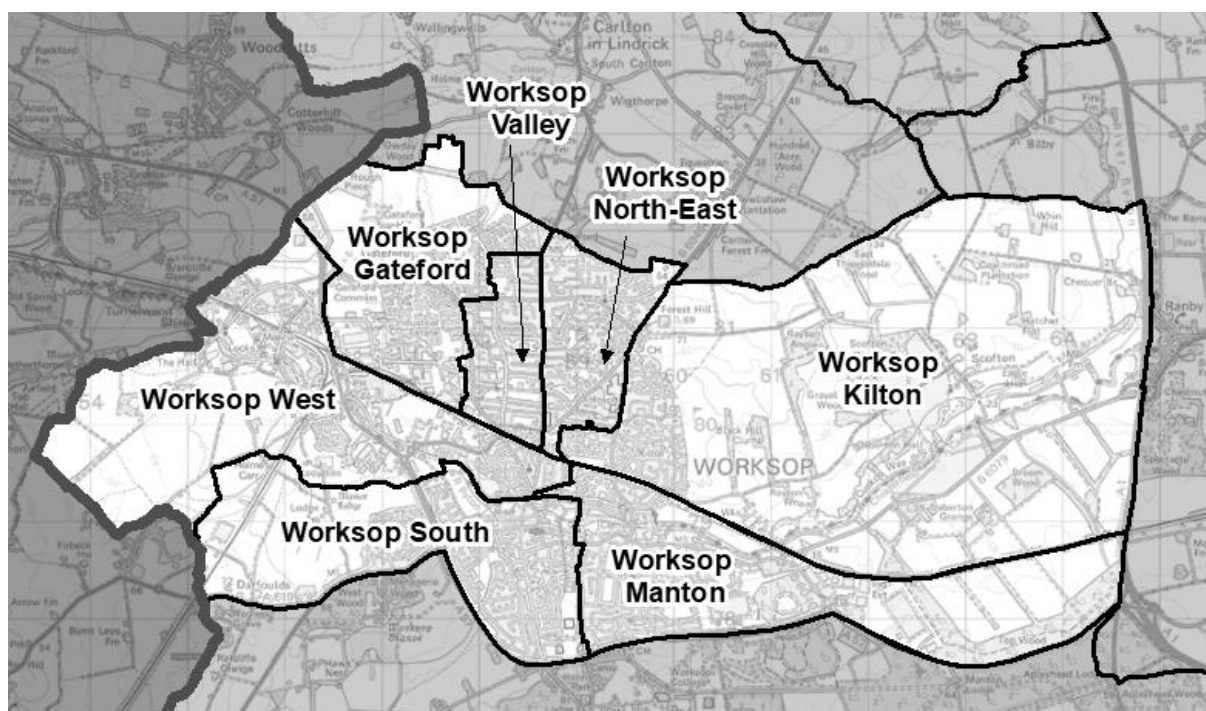
148 The Council stated that as a market town Tuxford has a distinct urban nature in contrast to the surrounding rural communities. Labour said that it was only made part of a two-councillor urban/rural ward at the last electoral review for electoral equality purposes, and that that was no longer needed.

149 The Conservatives expressed the view that Tuxford had a strong community identity with shared public services across the town.

150 Councillor Coultate questioned why the Council proposed splitting the existing two-councillor Tuxford & Trent ward and a resident objected to any changes. Neither submission provided any community evidence in support of the existing ward.

151 Accordingly, after consideration of the submissions we have adopted the identical proposals from the Council, Conservatives and Labour for a single-councillor Tuxford ward, as part of our draft recommendations. It is forecast to have 8% more electors per councillor than the average for the district, by 2030.

Worksop



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Worksop Gateford	3	6%
Worksop Kilton	2	-3%
Worksop Manton	3	-6%
Worksop North-East	3	-8%
Worksop South	3	3%
Worksop Valley	2	4%
Worksop West	2	4%

152 The district-wide proposals we received for Worksop, including Rhodesia and Shireoaks parishes, were the only ones which proposed boundaries for this area. They were very different from each other which meant that it was difficult to adopt one proposal in a particular area and then wards proposed by the other respondent in the neighbouring area.

153 On consideration of the submissions, we noted that some of the wards proposed by the Conservatives had poor electoral equality. For instance, their Worksop Thievesdale, Worksop Valley and Worksop Watermeadows & Sparken Hill wards had forecast variances of 13%, -23% and 21%, respectively, by 2030. So we did not adopt these wards. In addition, all the proposed Worksop wards around Worksop Watermeadows & Sparken Hill, had positive variances which meant that it was not possible to modify it and retain good electoral equality in the wards around it while using good boundaries and without splitting communities. A similar situation arose with Worksop Valley ward and the wards to its west.

154 Accordingly, while taking note of the Conservatives' boundaries, we have based our draft recommendations in Worksop on the identical boundaries proposed by the Council and Labour. We modified them in places to achieve a better balance of our statutory criteria.

Worksop Gateford and Worksop Valley

155 The Council and Labour propose two wards, Worksop Gateford and Worksop Valley, in the area between the A60 Carlton Road, A57 and north of Claylands Avenue. The Council state that Gateford ward is comprised of newer housing in the area. Labour indicate that Gateford is a well-recognised area in Worksop.

156 Labour state that Worksop Valley is made up of 'established housing within Worksop' while the Council point to a number of shared facilities within the ward, for example Valley Academy, Valley Young people's Centre, Worksop Valley running track and Valley play area. The proposed Worksop Valley ward is forecast to have 14% more electors than the average for the district by 2030.

157 We have considered the proposed wards. We note that the Council's and Labour's proposed Worksop Gateford ward covers a similar area to the Conservatives' proposed Worksop Gateford North and Worksop Gateford Meadows wards, indicating that there is a degree of consensus about the Gateford area and community in Worksop. Furthermore, we consider that the proposed boundaries are logical and identifiable.

158 Accordingly, we are content to base our draft recommendations on these proposals. To improve the electoral equality of Worksop Valley ward, we have modified the boundary between the wards to run along a section of B6040 Gateford Road, which we note is the existing boundary. We note that the Council did not use it because there is no access to the west of the Dawber Street area. Even so, there is access to the rest of Worksop Gateford ward along the boundary. Nevertheless, we welcome comments from residents of the Dawber Street area about whether their community interests lie within Worksop Valley ward instead.

159 We have also modified the southern boundary of Worksop Gateford to run along the railway line, a boundary proposed by the Conservatives. This unites the industrial estate north of the railway line in a single ward and provides for a strong and more identifiable boundary.

160 Worksop Gateford is a three-councillor ward forecast to have 6% more electors than the average for Bassetlaw, by 2030. Worksop Valley is a two-councillor ward forecast to have 4% more electors than the average for the district, by 2030.

Worksop Kilton and Worksop North-East

161 The Council and Labour proposed two wards, Worksop North-East and Worksop Kilton in the area to the east of the A60 and north of the railway line and

Retford Road (B6079). They are based on the existing Worksop East and Worksop North-East wards adjusted for electoral equality reasons.

162 The boundary between these wards runs along most of Kilton Hill. However, Worksop Kilton ward crosses Kilton Road, south of Shepherd's Avenue, placing Kilton Close, Kingsway, Queensway, South Parade, Sunny Bank and The Oval in this ward.

163 Labour expressed the view that the proposed Worksop Kilton ward more accurately reflects the Kilton area of the town and that the ward name resonates with residents as there are facilities which have Kilton in their name.

164 We considered boundaries of the proposed wards carefully. We considered modifying them to place Kilton Close, Kingsway, Queensway, South Parade, Sunny Bank and The Oval in Worksop North-East ward and utilise all of Kilton Road as a boundary. However, this leaves a Worksop Kilton ward forecast to have 21% fewer electors than the average for the district. We considered this variance too high and did not do this.

165 We noted that the proposed wards have good forecast variances and logical boundaries. The proposed Worksop Kilton ward shared a lot of boundaries with the Conservatives' proposed Worksop Kilton & Bracebridge area. Nonetheless, we noted that the proposed boundary along Retford Road (B6079) in this rural part of Worksop appears to place close neighbours across different district wards. We have therefore moved that section of the boundary south to continue along the railway line, as proposed by the Conservatives. We welcome comments on this and on the name of the ward. Subject to this modification, we have adopted the Council's and Labour's proposals as part of our draft recommendations.

166 Worksop Kilton is a two-councillor ward forecast to have 3% fewer electors than the average for Bassetlaw, by 2030. Worksop North-East is a three-councillor ward forecast to have 8% fewer electors than the average for the district, by 2030.

Worksop Manton, Worksop South and Worksop West

167 The Council's Worksop West and Labour's Worksop North-West are identical and mirror the existing Worksop North-West ward minus the Gateford area north of the railway line. It includes Rhodesia and Shireoaks parishes and shares many similarities with the Conservatives' proposed Worksop Shireoaks & Rhodesia ward.

168 The Council state that Shireoaks parish is well connected to Worksop by rail and that the Chesterfield Canal provides a non-vehicular route from Worksop through the ward.

169 Labour explains that its proposals for Worksop Manton and Worksop South wards ensure that the town centre is united in Worksop South.

170 As mentioned earlier, we are unable to adopt the Conservatives' proposals here because its Worksop Watermeadows & Sparken Hill ward has a forecast variance of 21%. Nevertheless, we note that most of the area in the Conservatives' proposed Worksop Town Centre ward is included in the Council's Worksop South ward indicating that there is significant consensus on which area is considered the centre of Worksop.

171 Furthermore, they all proposed that the southern boundary for Worksop town wards should run along the A57 or just south of it, and not as far south as the boundary with the parishes to the south of Worksop, placing the rural and sparsely populated areas of Worksop in a rural ward.

172 We also noted they all considered creating a single-councillor ward with just Rhodesia and Shireoaks parishes but they decided against it on electoral equality grounds.

173 The Conservatives implied that their proposed Worksop Shireoaks & Rhodesia ward reflected the desires of residents to be represented by a ward which is more homogenous and does not have conflicting interests between different communities which have little in common given the contrast between the more rural and urban communities. This proposed ward did not extend as far east into Worksop but still included some parts of the town. By contrast, the Council and Labour retained the existing boundaries to the west.

174 Although we are basing our draft recommendations on the Council's and Labour's proposals, we considered moving the boundary between Worksop Manton and Worksop West to run along Carlton Road. We have not done so at this stage because we do not want to inadvertently split communities in the area. We welcome comments on whether doing this will better reflect communities in this area.

175 Worksop Manton and Worksop South are both three-councillor wards forecast to have 6% fewer and 3% more electors respectively, than the average for the district by 2030. Worksop West has two-councillors and is forecast to have 4% more electors than the average for Bassetlaw, by 2030.

176 We have adopted the Council's name for Worksop West ward as we consider it more geographically accurate.

Conclusions

177 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality in Bassetlaw District Council, referencing the 2023 and 2030 electorate figures against the proposed number of councillors and wards. A full list of wards, names and their corresponding electoral variances can be

found at Appendix A to the back of this report. An outline map of the wards is provided at Appendix B.

Summary of electoral arrangements

	Draft recommendations	
	2023	2030
Number of councillors	48	48
Number of electoral wards	26	26
Average number of electors per councillor	1,861	2,013
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	8	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	1	0

Draft recommendations

Bassetlaw District Council should be made up of 48 councillors serving 26 wards representing 12 single-councillor wards, six two-councillor wards and eight three-councillor wards. The details and names are shown in Appendix A and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

Mapping

Sheet 1, Map 1 shows the proposed wards for Bassetlaw District Council. You can also view our draft recommendations for Bassetlaw on our interactive maps at www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk

Parish electoral arrangements

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

179 Under the 2009 Act we only have the power to make changes to parish electoral arrangements where these are as a direct consequence of our recommendations for principal authority warding arrangements. However, Bassetlaw District Council has powers under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct community governance reviews to effect changes to parish electoral arrangements.

180 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 Harworth Bircotes parish and Walkeringham parish.

181 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Harworth Bircotes parish.

Draft recommendations

Harworth & Bircotes Town Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Harworth & Bircotes East	7
Harworth & Bircotes West	8

182 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Walkeringham parish.

Draft recommendations

Walkeringham Parish Council should comprise 11 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Newells Terrace	1
Walkeringham	10

Have your say

183 The Commission has an open mind about its draft recommendations. Every representation we receive will be considered, regardless of who it is from or whether it relates to the whole district or just a part of it.

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

185 Our website is the best way to keep up to date with progress on the review and to have your say www.lgbce.org.uk

186 Each review has its own page with details of the timetable for the review, information about its different stages and interactive mapping.

187 Submissions can also be made by emailing reviews@lgbce.org.uk or by writing to:

Review Officer (Bassetlaw)
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England
LGBCE
7th Floor
3 Bunhill Row
London
EC1Y 8YZ

188 The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for Bassetlaw District Council which delivers:

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

189 A good pattern of wards should:

- Provide good electoral equality, with each councillor representing, as closely as possible, the same number of electors.
- Reflect community interests and identities and include evidence of community links.
- Be based on strong, easily identifiable boundaries.

- Help the council deliver effective and convenient local government.

190 Electoral equality:

- Does your proposal mean that councillors would represent roughly the same number of electors as elsewhere in Bassetlaw?

191 Community identity:

- Community groups: is there a parish council, residents' association or other group that represents the area?
- Interests: what issues bind the community together or separate it from other parts of your area?
- Identifiable boundaries: are there natural or constructed features which make strong boundaries for your proposals?

192 Effective local government:

- Are any of the proposed wards too large or small to be represented effectively?
- Are the proposed names of the wards appropriate?
- Are there good links across your proposed wards? Is there any form of public transport?

193 Please note that the consultation stages of an electoral review are public consultations. In the interests of openness and transparency, we make available for public inspection full copies of all representations the Commission takes into account as part of a review. Accordingly, copies of all representations will be placed on deposit at our offices and on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk A list of respondents will be available from us on request after the end of the consultation period.

194 If you are a member of the public and not writing on behalf of a council or organisation we will remove any personal identifiers. This includes your name, postal or email addresses, signatures or phone numbers from your submission before it is made public. We will remove signatures from all letters, no matter who they are from.

195 In the light of representations received, we will review our draft recommendations and consider whether they should be altered. As indicated earlier, it is therefore important that all interested parties let us have their views and evidence, **whether or not** they agree with the draft recommendations. We will then publish our final recommendations.

196 After the publication of our final recommendations, the changes we have proposed must be approved by Parliament. An Order – the legal document which

brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in draft in Parliament. The draft Order will provide for new electoral arrangements to be implemented at the all-out elections for Bassetlaw District Council in 2027.

Equalities

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

Appendices

Appendix A

Draft recommendations for Bassetlaw District Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Beckingham	1	1,792	1,792	-4%	2,002	2,002	-1%
2	Blyth & Langold	2	3,831	1,916	3%	4,404	2,202	9%
3	Carlton	3	4,671	1,557	-16%	5,439	1,813	-10%
4	Clarborough	1	2,144	2,144	15%	2,181	2,181	8%
5	Clumber Park	1	1,934	1,934	4%	2,135	2,135	6%
6	East Markham	1	1,850	1,850	-1%	1,897	1,897	-6%
7	Everton	1	1,888	1,888	1%	2,003	2,003	0%
8	Harworth & Bircotes East	2	2,892	1,446	-22%	3,813	1,907	-5%
9	Harworth & Bircotes West	2	3,720	1,860	0%	4,288	2,144	7%
10	Leverton	1	2,147	2,147	15%	2,220	2,220	10%
11	Misterton	1	2,092	2,092	12%	2,198	2,198	9%

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
12 Ranskill	1	2,030	2,030	9%	2,089	2,089	4%
13 Retford Hallcroft & Central	3	4,888	1,629	-12%	5,504	1,835	-9%
14 Retford Ordsall & Station	3	5,809	1,936	4%	6,109	2,036	1%
15 Retford Thrumpton & Spital Hill	3	5,513	1,838	-1%	5,904	1,968	-2%
16 Retford Tiln	1	1,923	1,923	3%	2,009	2,009	0%
17 Trent	1	2,147	2,147	15%	2,207	2,207	10%
18 Tuxford	1	2,058	2,058	11%	2,184	2,184	8%
19 Walkeringham	1	1,799	1,799	-3%	1,905	1,905	-5%
20 Worksop Gateford	3	5,711	1,904	2%	6,393	2,131	6%
21 Worksop Kilton	2	3,852	1,926	3%	3,920	1,960	-3%
22 Worksop Manton	3	5,348	1,783	-4%	5,653	1,884	-6%
23 Worksop North-East	3	5,371	1,790	-4%	5,578	1,859	-8%
24 Worksop South	3	5,868	1,956	5%	6,222	2,074	3%
25 Worksop Valley	2	4,103	2,052	10%	4,198	2,099	4%

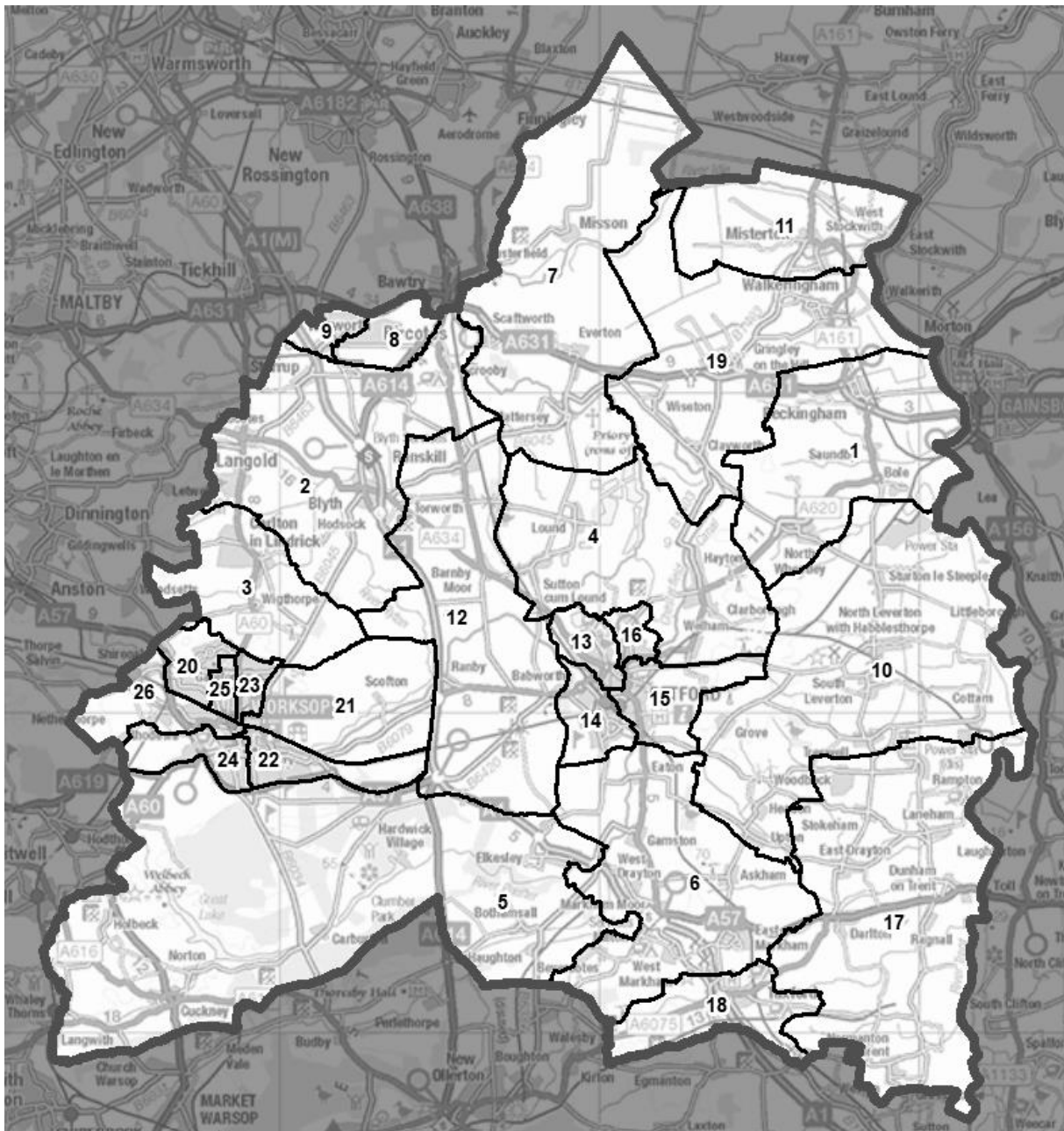
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
26 Worksop West	2	3,966	1,983	7%	4,184	2,092	4%
Totals	48	89,347	–	–	96,639	–	–
Averages	–	–	1,861	–	–	2,013	–

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Bassetlaw District Council.

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

Appendix B

Outline map



Number	Ward name
1	Beckingham
2	Blyth & Langold
3	Carlton
4	Clarborough
5	Clumber Park
6	East Markham
7	Everton
8	Harworth & Bircotes East

9	Harworth & Bircotes West
10	Leverton
11	Misterton
12	Ranskill
13	Retford Hallcroft & Central
14	Retford Ordsall & Station
15	Retford Thrumpton & Spital Hill
16	Retford Tiln
17	Trent
18	Tuxford
19	Walkeringham
20	Worksop Gateford
21	Worksop Kilton
22	Worksop Manton
23	Worksop North-East
24	Worksop South
25	Worksop Valley
26	Worksop West

A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/bassetlaw

Appendix C

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at:

www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/bassetlaw

Local Authority

- Bassetlaw District Council

Political Groups

- Bassetlaw Conservatives
- Bassetlaw Council Labour Group

Councillors

- Councillor C. Bailey (Nottinghamshire County Council)
- Councillor A. Coultate (Bassetlaw District Council)
- Councillor L. Dinsdale (Rampton & Woodbeck Parish Council)
- Councillor J. Goacher (North & South Wheatley Parish Council)
- Councillor D. Henderson (Bassetlaw District Council)
- Councillor S. Manson (East Drayton Parish Council)
- Councillor C. Marples (Norton, Cuckney, Holbeck & Welbeck Parish Council)
- Councillor G. Palmer (Norton, Cuckney, Holbeck & Welbeck Parish Council)
- Councillor J. Palmer (Norton, Cuckney, Holbeck & Welbeck Parish Council)
- Councillor S. Whelan (Headon-cum-Upton, Grove & Stokeham Parish Council)
- Councillor V. Wilson (North & South Wheatley Parish Council)
- Councillor N. Wright (Norton, Cuckney, Holbeck & Welbeck Parish Council)

Members of Parliament

- Brendan Clarke-Smith MP (Bassetlaw)⁶

Local Organisations

⁶ Brendan Clarke-Smith was the Member of Parliament for Bassetlaw up until May 2024 when the July 2024 elections were announced.

- East Retford Charter Trustees
- Retford Business Forum

Parish and Town Councils

- Babworth Parish Council
- Carlton in Lindrick Parish Council
- Headon-cum-Upton, Grove & Stokeham Parish Council
- Hodsock Parish Council
- North & South Wheatley Parish Council
- Norton, Cuckney, Holbeck & Welbeck Parish Council

Local Residents

- 24 local residents

Appendix D

Glossary and abbreviations

Council size	The number of councillors elected to serve on a council
Electoral Change Order (or Order)	A legal document which implements changes to the electoral arrangements of a local authority
Division	A specific area of a county, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever division they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the county council
Electoral inequality	Where there is a difference between the number of electors represented by a councillor and the average for the local authority
Electorate	People in the authority who are registered to vote in elections. We only take account of electors registered specifically for local elections during our reviews.
Number of electors per councillor	The total number of electors in a local authority divided by the number of councillors
Over-represented	Where there are fewer electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Parish	A specific and defined area of land within a single local authority enclosed within a parish boundary. There are over 10,000 parishes in England, which provide the first tier of representation to their local residents

Parish council	A body elected by electors in the parish which serves and represents the area defined by the parish boundaries. See also 'Town council'
Parish (or town) council electoral arrangements	The total number of councillors on any one parish or town council; the number, names and boundaries of parish wards; and the number of councillors for each ward
Parish ward	A particular area of a parish, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever parish ward they live for candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the parish council
Town council	A parish council which has been given ceremonial 'town' status. More information on achieving such status can be found at www.nalc.gov.uk
Under-represented	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Variance (or electoral variance)	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward or division varies in percentage terms from the average
Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council

The
Local Government
Boundary Commission
for England

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) was set up by Parliament, independent of Government and political parties. It is directly accountable to Parliament through a committee chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons. It is responsible for conducting boundary, electoral and structural reviews of local government.

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