

# New electoral arrangements for Gateshead Council Final 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.<sup>1</sup> 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.

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

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

## Why Gateshead?

7 We are conducting a review of Gateshead Council ('the Council') as its last review was completed in 2003, and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.<sup>2</sup> 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 Gateshead 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 borough.

## Our proposals for Gateshead

9 Gateshead should be represented by 66 councillors, the same number as there are now.

10 Gateshead should have 22 wards, the same number as there are now.

11 The boundaries of most wards should change; two (Deckham and Dunston, Teams & Riverside) will stay the same.

12 We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for Gateshead.

## How will the recommendations affect you?

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

14 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the borough or result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary

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

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.

## Review timetable

15 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Gateshead. We then held three periods of consultation with the public on council size and warding patterns for the borough. The submissions received during consultation have informed our final recommendations.

16 The review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
21 March 2023	First consideration of appropriate council size
16 May 2023	Start of consultation seeking views on appropriate council size
10 July 2023	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and proposing an appropriate council size
15 August 2023	Number of councillors decided
22 August 2023	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
30 October 2023	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
30 January 2024	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
8 April 2024	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
July 2024	Publication of final recommendations

## Analysis and final recommendations

17 Legislation<sup>3</sup> states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors<sup>4</sup> there are now, but also on how many there are likely to be in the five years after the publication of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for our wards.

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

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

	2023	2029
Electorate of Gateshead	141,945	150,899
Number of councillors	66	66
Average number of electors per councillor	2,151	2,286

20 When the number of electors per councillor in a ward is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the wards as having 'good electoral equality'. All but one of our proposed wards for Gateshead (Ryton, Crookhill & Stella) are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2029.

## Submissions received

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

## Electorate figures

22 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2029, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2024. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 6% by 2029.

23 In response to the draft recommendations, we received a submission from Gateshead Green Party that supported the draft recommendations but queried the electorate forecasts which they considered should show a small decline. We queried

<sup>3</sup> Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

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



this with the Council which stated it had nothing to add to the forecasting methodology it submitted at the start of the review.

24 We looked again at the Council's methodology on the basis of the submission made by Gateshead Green Party. We have concluded that insufficient information has been provided to justify departing from the agreed forecast. Having examined the methodology again, we remain satisfied that the Council's projected figures are the best available at the present time. We have used these figures to produce our final recommendations.

## Number of councillors

25 Gateshead Council currently has 66 councillors. We looked at evidence provided by the Council and other respondents and concluded that we should consult with local people and organisations before making a decision on the number of members elected to the council.

26 The consultation took place from 16 May 2023 to 10 July 2023. During this consultation we received 293 submissions. A total of 254 of these submissions supported a reduction in council size; all of these submissions were from local residents. Twenty-five submissions did not support a reduction in councillors. Of these submissions, 15 were from locally elected representatives and 10 from local residents. The remaining submission made comments unrelated to the consultation.

27 We carefully considered the submissions received. Those submissions supporting a reduction in council size broadly focused on the current service functions of the council and mostly their dissatisfaction with it. In this respect, we were not persuaded that we had received sufficient evidence to support reducing the number of elected members. We concluded that the Council's original submission to retain 66 members was supported by sufficient evidence relating to the governance and decision-making role of the authority, as well as the representative role of councillors. We were therefore satisfied that retaining 66 councillors would ensure the Council could carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

28 We consequently invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 66 councillors. As Gateshead Council elects by thirds (meaning it has elections in three out of every four years) there is a presumption in legislation<sup>5</sup> that the Council have a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards. In each review of local authorities that elect by thirds, we will aim to deliver a pattern of three-member wards. However, in all cases this consideration will not take precedence over our other statutory criteria, and we will not recommend uniform patterns in the number of

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<sup>5</sup> Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 2(3)(d) and paragraph 2(5)(c).

councillors per ward if, in our view or as is shown in evidence provided to us, it is not compatible with our other statutory criteria.

29 We received 16 submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on warding patterns. These submissions were from local residents, and all supported a reduction in council size, but none provided evidence to explain why a reduction in council size would be appropriate for Gateshead and how the Council would operate under a reduced number. We therefore based our draft recommendations on a 66-councillor council.

30 In response to the consultation on our draft recommendations we received an additional 11 submissions from local residents, who all supported a reduction in council size. However, we remain of the view that insufficient evidence has been received throughout the review to justify moving away from the Council's rationale for retaining 66 members. We therefore based our final recommendations on a 66-councillor council.

## Ward boundaries consultation

31 We received 39 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included borough-wide proposals from Gateshead Council ('the Council'). We also received a submission from Gateshead Council Liberal Democrat Group which broadly supported the submission from the Council but suggested small changes to some boundaries and a number of ward name changes. The submission from Gateshead Green Party proposed that no changes be made to any ward name, ward boundary or number of councillors across the authority. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for warding arrangements in particular areas of the borough.

32 The borough-wide scheme provided a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards for Gateshead. 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.

33 Our draft recommendations were based on the scheme we received from the Council. We also took into account local evidence that we received, which provided further evidence of community links and locally recognised boundaries. In some areas we considered that the proposals did not provide for the best balance between our statutory criteria and so we identified alternative boundaries.

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

35 Our draft recommendations were for 22 three-councillor wards. We considered that our draft recommendations would provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

## Draft recommendations consultation

36 We received 89 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations. We received a response from Gateshead Green Party that supported the draft recommendations as well as making a query about the electorate forecasts, which is discussed in paragraphs 23–24. We also received submissions from a Gateshead councillor, Brighten Ryton Local Environment Group and 86 local residents. Of particular note were the 59 submissions related to the boundary between our proposed Ryton, Crookhill & Stella and Crawcrook & Greenside wards.

## Final recommendations

37 Our final recommendations are for 22 three-councillor wards. We consider that our final recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

38 Our final recommendations are based on the draft recommendations with a modification to the boundaries between Ryton, Crookhill & Stella and Crawcrook & Greenside wards, based on the submissions received. We also propose changes to Bridges, Low Fell and Saltwell wards. Additionally, we have made minor modifications to the boundaries between Dunston Hill & Whickham East and Whickham North & Swalwell.

39 The tables and maps on pages 9–20 detail our final recommendations for each area of Gateshead. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory<sup>6</sup> criteria of:

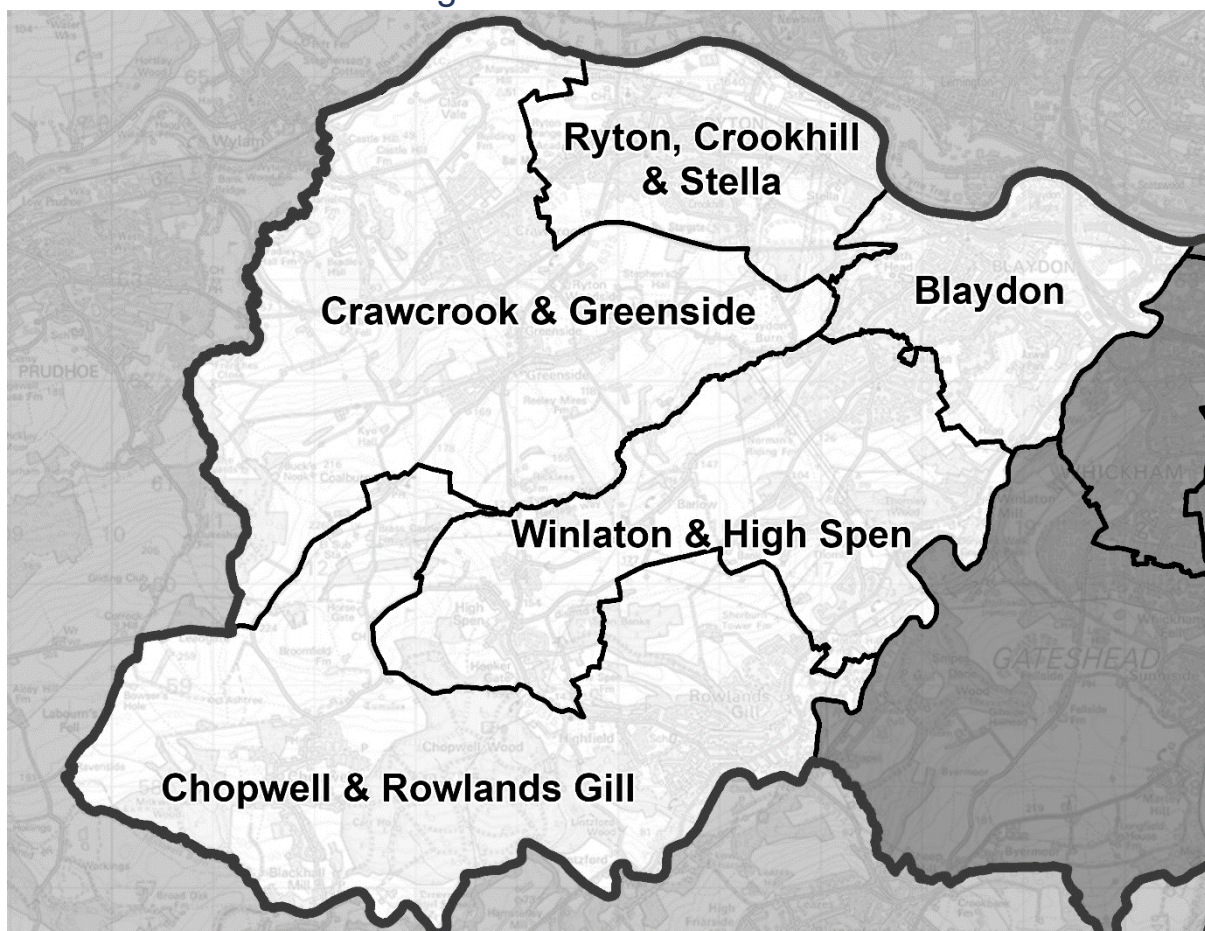
- Equality of representation.
- Reflecting community interests and identities.
- Providing for effective and convenient local government.

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

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<sup>6</sup> Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

## West of Gateshead Borough



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Blaydon	3	5%
Chopwell & Rowlands Gill	3	9%
Crawcrook & Greenside	3	5%
Ryton, Crookhill & Stella	3	13%
Winlaton & High Spen	3	8%

### *Crawcrook & Greenside and Ryton, Crookhill & Stella*

41 We received 59 submissions that related to these wards. The Green Party supported the draft recommendations across Gateshead including these two wards. The remaining 58 submissions were in opposition to our draft recommendations.

42 These submissions stated that our proposed changes broke significant community ties in the area by including part of the Barmoor community in Crawcrook & Greenside ward. It was also argued that some of the electors we had placed in Crawcrook & Greenside ward used Ryton Infant and Junior Schools and Thorp Academy, which are located in Ryton, Crookhill & Stella ward under our draft recommendations. The respondents also stated that the area of Barmoor in question is known as West Ryton which provided another indication of its community ties to

Ryton. In addition, respondents stated they used leisure facilities such as Ryton Cricket Club and Ryton Rugby Club and shopping facilities like Ryton Co-operative Store.

43 Transferring the Barmoor area into Ryton, Crookhill & Stella ward would result in that ward having an electoral variance of 13% by 2029. While this is a relatively high level of electoral inequality, we are persuaded that it is justified, particularly given the strong community evidence received which demonstrated that the area shares interests and identities with adjoining areas in Ryton, Crookhill & Stella ward. We therefore recommend that the Barmoor area be included in that ward as part of our final recommendations. This proposal reverts to the existing boundary between Crawcrook & Greenside and Ryton, Crookhill & Stella wards.

44 Our proposed wards of Crawcrook & Greenside and Ryton, Crookhill & Stella will have electoral variances of 5% and 13%, respectively, by 2029.

#### *Blaydon, Chopwell & Rowlands Gill and Winlaton & High Spen*

45 The Green Party supported all three of these wards. We received no other submissions that mentioned Chopwell & Rowlands Gill ward. We received two submissions that referred to the boundary between Blaydon and Winlaton & High Spen wards. Both submissions suggested that the boundary should follow Tyne Street so that properties on Clara Street, Florence Street and May Street are included in Winlaton & High Spen.

46 We carefully considered these submissions as well as those received throughout the review. We have decided not to make any changes to these two wards as part of our final recommendations. We are content that the draft recommendations provide a better reflection of our statutory criteria. In particular, we were persuaded by the Council's evidence during our warding arrangements consultation that Clara Street, Florence Street and May Street had stronger ties to Blaydon than to Winlaton.

47 Our final recommendations are for the three-councillor wards of Blaydon with an electoral variance of 5%, Chopwell & Rowlands Gill with an electoral variance of 9% and Winlaton & High Spen with a variance of 8% by 2029.

## Whickham



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Dunston Hill & Whickham East	3	8%
Whickham North & Swalwell	3	-3%
Whickham South & Sunnyside	3	-7%

### *Dunston Hill & Whickham East, Whickham North & Swalwell and Whickham South & Sunnyside*

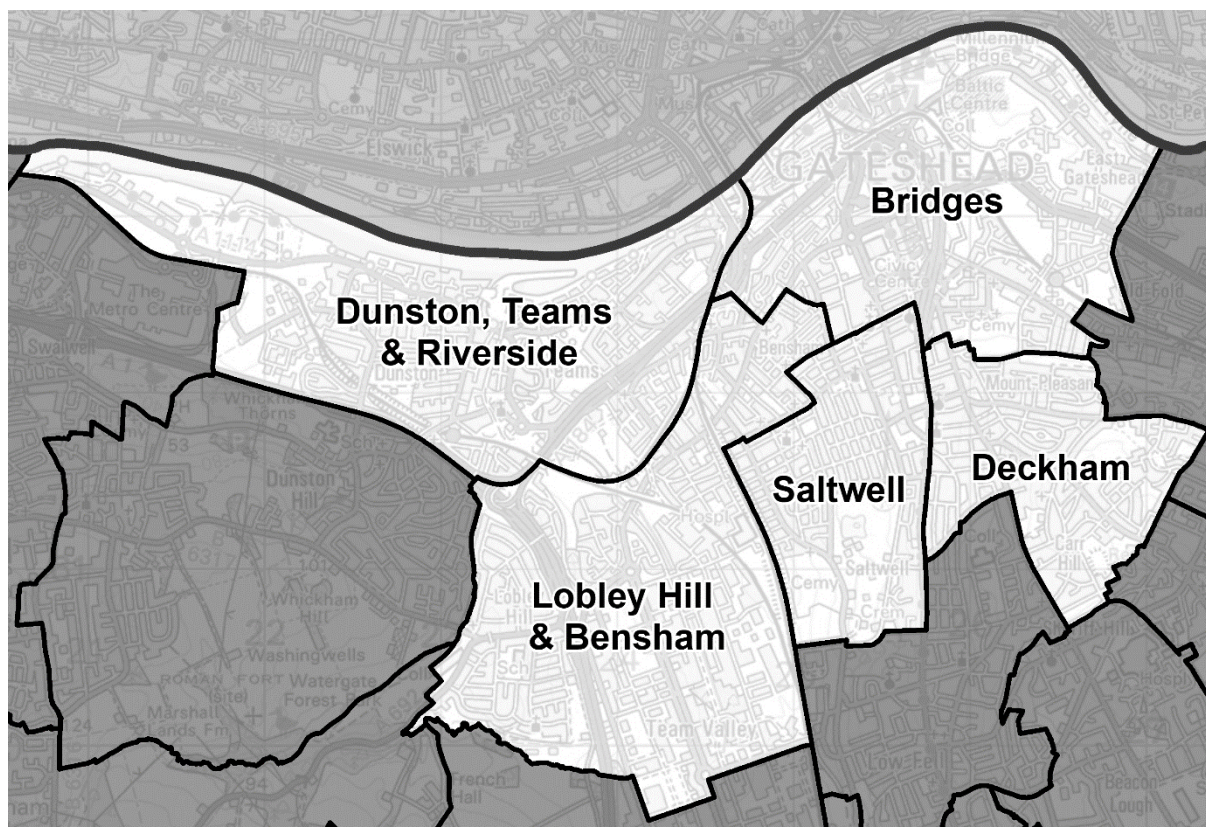
48 We received four submissions that mentioned these wards. The Green Party supported the draft recommendations. Two submissions related to Dunston Hill & Whickham East ward. One submission did not think that Dunston Hill should be included in a ward with Whickham, while another supported the inclusion of the

Glebe Terrace area in a Dunston & Teams ward as Gateshead Council had proposed during the previous consultation phase. The fourth submission related to the boundary between Dunston Hill & Whickham East and Whickham North & Swalwell. It was argued that our proposed boundary separated Swalwell Primary School from the rest of the Swalwell community by placing it in Dunston Hill & Whickham East ward.

49 We carefully considered these submissions and propose to make a small amendment to the boundary between Dunston Hill & Whickham East and Whickham North & Swalwell wards so that Swalwell Primary School is included in Whickham North & Swalwell. This proposed change affects no electors. We do not propose to amend the boundary between Dunston Hill & Whickham East and Dunston, Teams & Riverside wards as we consider that the A1 provides a strong and identifiable ward boundary.

50 Our final recommendations are for the three-councillor wards of Dunston Hill & Whickham East, Whickham North & Swalwell and Whickham South & Sunnyside. All three wards will have good electoral equality with variances of 8%, -3% and -7%, respectively, by 2029.

## Central Gateshead



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Bridges	3	-1%
Deckham	3	-6%
Dunston, Teams & Riverside	3	-10%
Lobley Hill & Bensham	3	0%
Saltwell	3	-5%

### *Bridges, Lobley Hill & Bensham and Saltwell*

51 We received four submissions that related to Saltwell ward. The Green Party supported the draft recommendations. Two electors wrote regarding our proposal to retain Ventnor Crescent and Ventnor Gardens in Saltwell ward. Both of these submissions supported the Council's suggested proposal to move this area to Low Fell ward. These submissions stated that Ventnor Crescent and Ventnor Gardens have strong ties to Low Fell given their proximity to that ward and their separation from the remainder of Saltwell ward by Saltwell Cemetery, Saltwell Park and Saltwell Road allotments.

52 We also received a submission from a local resident who noted the presence of a significant Jewish population in the area centred around the north of Saltwell ward, as well as in the neighbouring wards of Bridges and Lobley Hill & Bensham. The respondent added that the local population shared a community of interest and could



be united in Saltwell ward. The respondent did not specify a suggested ward boundary. We have carefully considered this submission and recognise the information in respect of the extent of the community in this area. However, we were not persuaded that sufficient evidence in respect of community identities and interests was provided to justify amending our recommendations in this area. Additionally, it should be noted that it is not possible to accommodate this area in a single ward and still provide for good electoral equality.

53 We do, however, propose to make two amendments to Saltwell ward. We propose to include the Ventnor Crescent and Ventnor Gardens area in Low Fell ward. We were persuaded by the evidence that these electors have stronger ties to that ward rather than to Saltwell ward, in which they are geographically isolated. In particular, we recognise the evidence which showed that this area was geographically separated from the majority of Saltwell ward by Saltwell Cemetery, Saltwell Park and the allotments to the north.

54 Moving this area into Low Fell ward would result in Saltwell ward having 12% fewer electors per councillor than the average for Gateshead by 2029. Therefore, in order to ensure Saltwell ward has good electoral equality we propose to amend its boundary with Bridges ward. The existing boundary runs along Bewick Road before turning south along Alexandra Road and east along Whitehall Road. We propose to move this boundary so that it runs along Bewick Road in its entirety, then heads south on High West Street and Durham Road. As well as providing for electoral equality we consider that this provides a stronger and more identifiable ward boundary.

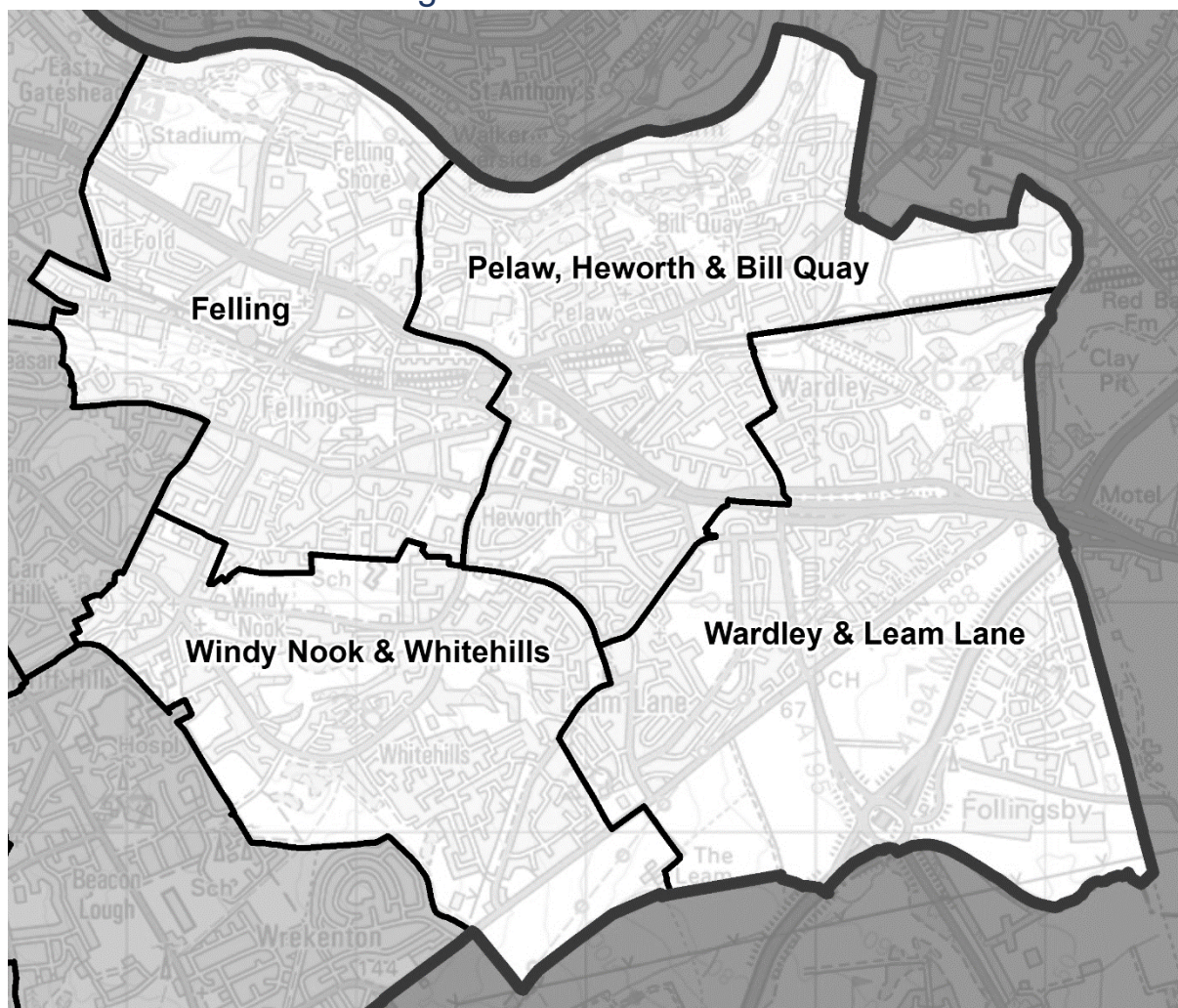
#### *Deckham and Dunston, Teams & Riverside*

55 We received three submissions that related to these wards. The Green Party supported the draft recommendations. One local resident did not think that Riverside should be added to the name of Dunston, Teams & Riverside ward. Another local resident stated that Dunston should not be considered as part of central Gateshead.

56 We do not propose to make any changes to these wards and are confident that using 'Riverside' in our proposed ward name accurately reflects the communities and extent of the proposed ward.

57 Our final recommendations for Central Gateshead are for the three-councillor wards of Bridges, Deckham, Dunston, Teams & Riverside, Lobley Hill & Bensham and Saltwell. These five wards will have electoral equality of -1%, -6%, -10%, 0% and -5% by 2029, respectively.

## East of Gateshead Borough



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Felling	3	-7%
Pelaw, Heworth & Bill Quay	3	-6%
Wardley & Leam Lane	3	0%
Windy Nook & Whitehills	3	-6%

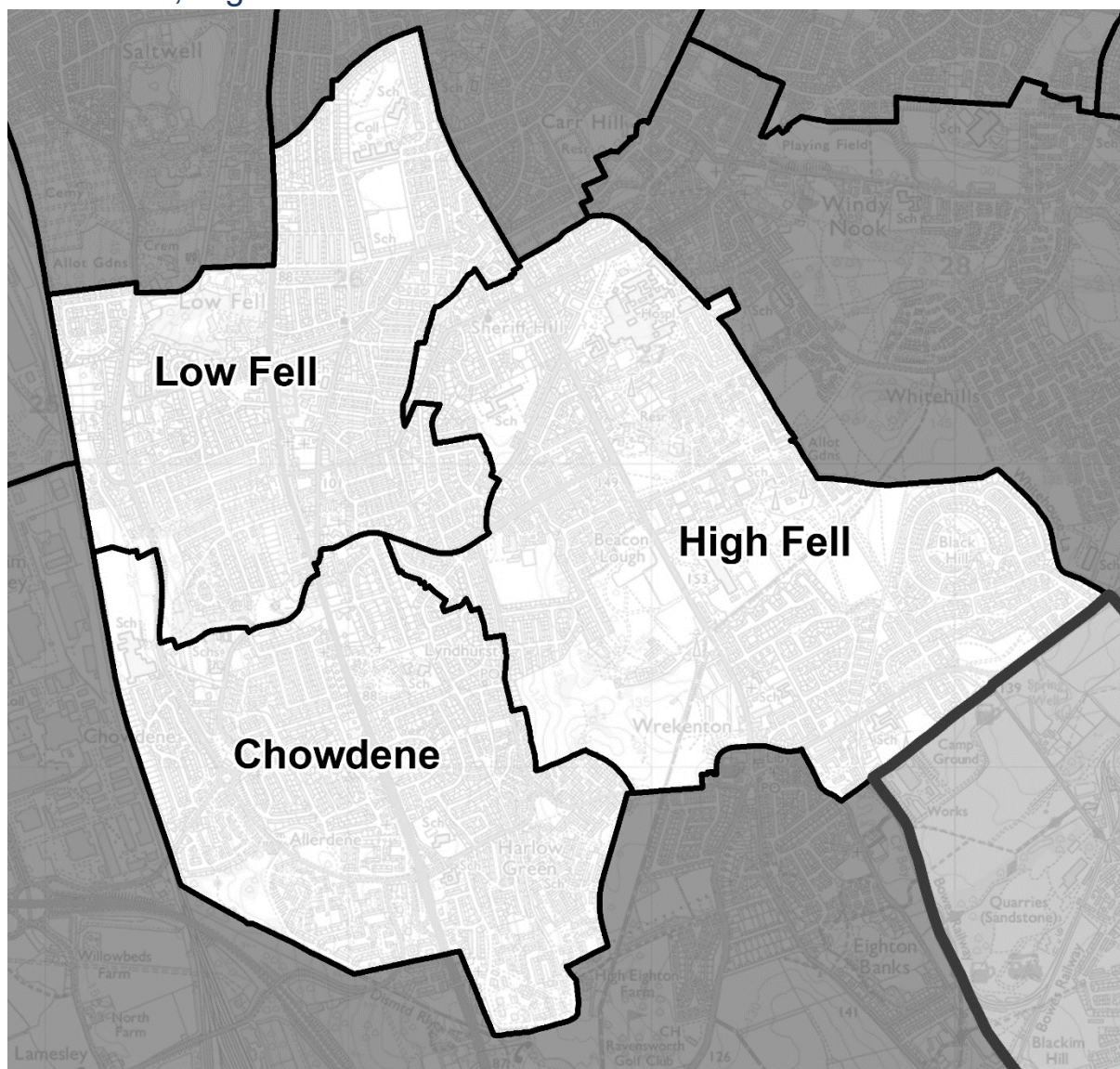
### *Felling and Pelaw, Heworth & Bill Quay, Wardley & Leam Lane and Windy Nook & Whitehills*

58 We received three submissions that related to these wards. The Green Party supported all four wards. A local councillor for the existing Pelaw & Heworth ward supported the addition of Bill Quay to the name of the ward and a local resident supported Wardley & Leam Lane ward. We received no further comments for this area and therefore confirm our draft recommendations as final.

59 Our final recommendations for the east of the borough are for the three-councillor wards of Felling, Pelaw, Heworth & Bill Quay, Wardley & Leam Lane and

Windy Nook & Whitehills. All four wards will have good forecast electoral equality by 2029 with variances of -7%, -6%, 0% and -6%, respectively.

## Chowdene, High Fell and Low Fell



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Chowdene	3	-4%
High Fell	3	-1%
Low Fell	3	-2%

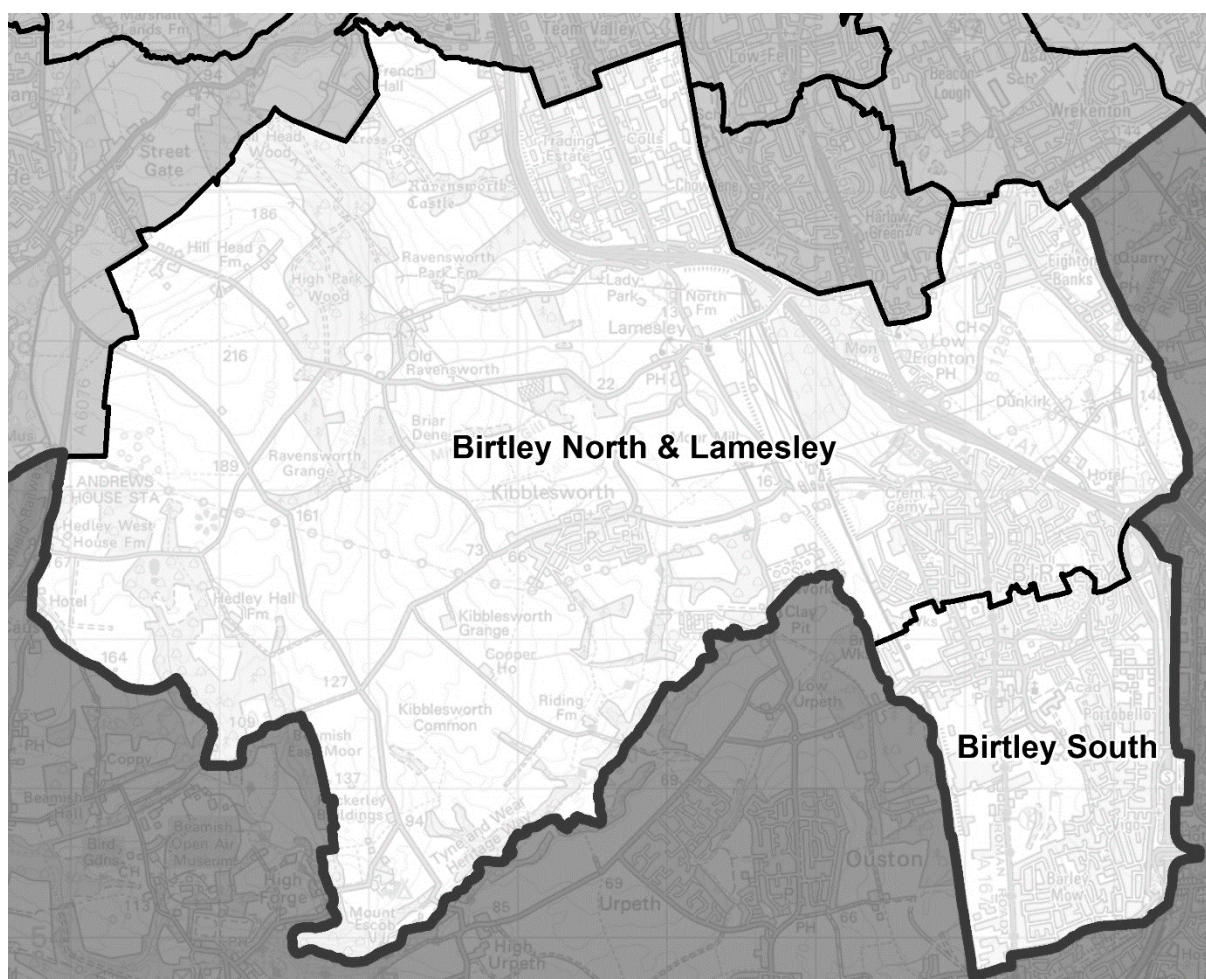
### *Chowdene, High Fell and Low Fell*

60 We received four submissions that made reference to these wards. We mentioned two of these in paragraphs 51–54 where we discuss our decision to include Ventnor Crescent and Ventnor Gardens in Low Fell ward. Of the remaining two submissions the Green Party supported our draft recommendations and a local resident suggested that High Fell ward be renamed Sheriff Hill, Beacon Lough & Wrekenton. They also proposed that the southern boundary of the ward be moved to follow the boundary of Lamesley parish.

61 We do not propose to amend our draft recommendations for this area. While we considered the proposal to use the Lamesley parish boundary as a ward boundary, we noted that the parish boundary has become defaced over time and passes directly through a number of properties. We do not consider that using this boundary would provide those electors, the parish or Gateshead Council with effective and convenient local government. If desired, a change to parish boundaries can be achieved by way of a Community Governance Review that would be conducted by Gateshead Council. We therefore propose to make no change to these three wards other than the decision in respect of Ventnor Crescent and Ventnor Gardens, which is discussed earlier in this report.

62 Our final recommendations provide for the three-councillor wards of Chowdene, High Fell and Low Fell with electoral equality of -4%, -1% and -2%, respectively, by 2029.

## Birtley and Lamesley



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Birtley North & Lamesley	3	3%
Birtley South	3	6%

### *Birtley North & Lamesley and Birtley South*

63 We received six submissions relating to these wards. The Green Party supported our draft recommendations. Four of the submissions suggested that the boundary in the Wrekenton and Eighton Banks area be amended so that both Wrekenton and Eighton Banks were wholly included in a single ward. Three submissions suggested that both areas should be included in High Fell, and one suggested both areas should be included in Birtley North & Lamesley. The remaining submission suggested that the boundary between Birtley North & Lamesley and Birtley South be extended northwards so that all of Birtley is included in a single ward.

64 We do not propose to adopt any of these changes as all would provide extremely poor electoral equality. Including all of Wrekenton and Eighton Banks in

High Fell ward would produce an electoral variance of 26% in that ward and -25% in Birtley North & Lamesley. Furthermore, including all of Wrekenton and Eighton Banks in Birtley North & Lamesley would result in an electoral variance of 41% in that ward and -40% in High Fell ward. In addition, including all of Birtley in a single ward would result in an electoral variance of 60%.

65 Our final recommendations provide for the three-councillor wards of Birtley North & Lamesley and Birtley South with electoral variances of 3% and 6%, respectively, by 2029.

## Conclusions

66 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality in Gateshead, referencing the 2023 and 2029 electorate figures against the proposed number of councillors and wards. A full list of wards, names and their corresponding electoral variances can be found at Appendix A to the back of this report. An outline map of the wards is provided at Appendix B.

### Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2023	2029
Number of councillors	66	66
Number of electoral wards	22	22
Average number of electors per councillor	2,151	2,286
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	1	1
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

#### Final recommendations

Gateshead Council should be made up of 66 councillors serving 22 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 Gateshead Council. You can also view our final recommendations for Gateshead Council on our interactive maps at [www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/gateshead](http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/gateshead)





## What happens next?

67 We have now completed our review of Gateshead. The recommendations must now be approved by Parliament. A draft Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in Parliament. Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements will come into force at the local elections in 2026.



## Equalities

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



# Appendices

## Appendix A

### Final recommendations for Gateshead

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2029)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Birtley North & Lamesley	3	6,783	2,261	5%	7,098	2,366	3%
2	Birtley South	3	6,641	2,214	3%	7,261	2,420	6%
3	Blaydon	3	6,898	2,299	7%	7,216	2,405	5%
4	Bridges	3	5,164	1,721	-20%	6,824	2,275	-1%
5	Chopwell & Rowlands Gill	3	6,722	2,241	4%	7,446	2,482	9%
6	Chowdene	3	6,427	2,142	0%	6,608	2,203	-4%
7	Crawcrook & Greenside	3	7,107	2,369	10%	7,215	2,405	5%
8	Deckham	3	6,256	2,085	-3%	6,429	2,143	-6%
9	Dunston Hill & Whickham East	3	6,553	2,184	2%	7,423	2,474	8%
10	Dunston, Teams & Riverside	3	5,984	1,995	-7%	6,207	2,069	-10%
11	Felling	3	5,935	1,978	-8%	6,391	2,130	-7%
12	High Fell	3	6,579	2,193	2%	6,770	2,257	-1%
13	Lobley Hill & Bensham	3	6,580	2,193	2%	6,868	2,289	0%
14	Low Fell	3	6,529	2,176	1%	6,737	2,246	-2%

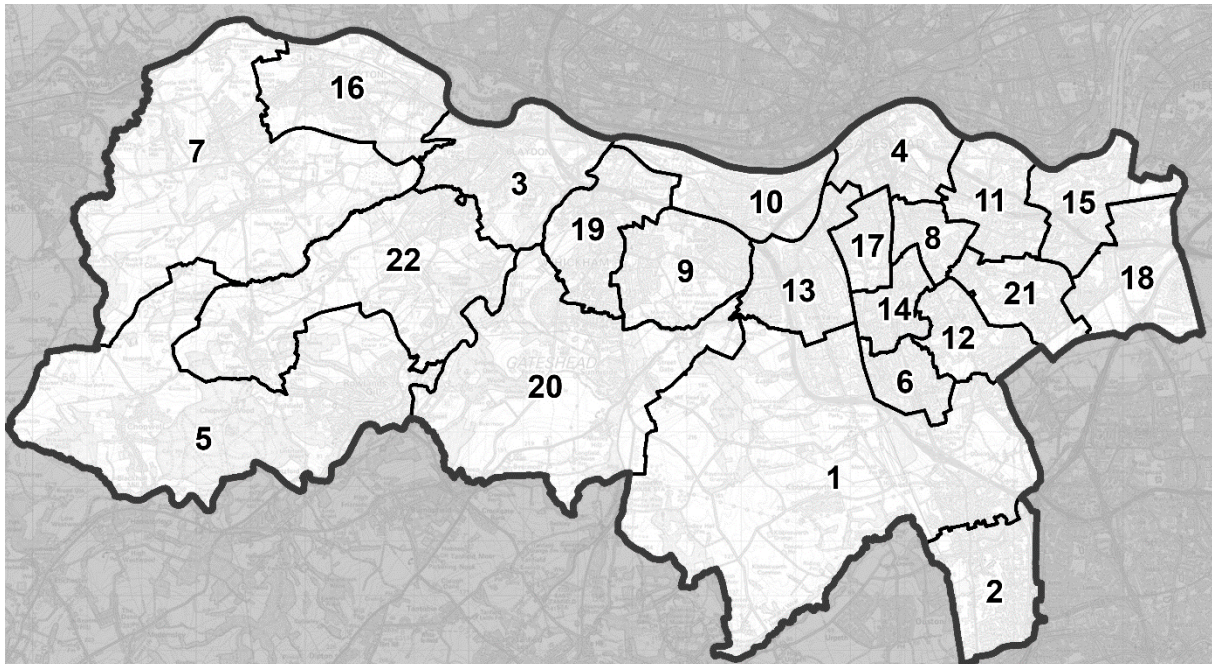
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2029)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
15 Pelaw, Heworth & Bill Quay	3	6,293	2,098	-2%	6,420	2,140	-6%
16 Ryton, Crookhill & Stella	3	6,799	2,266	5%	7,773	2,591	13%
17 Saltwell	3	6,291	2,097	-2%	6,536	2,179	-5%
18 Wardley & Leam Lane	3	6,391	2,130	-1%	6,826	2,275	0%
19 Whickham North & Swalwell	3	6,438	2,146	0%	6,624	2,208	-3%
20 Whickham South & Sunnyside	3	6,219	2,073	-4%	6,349	2,116	-7%
21 Windy Nook & Whitehills	3	6,296	2,099	-2%	6,472	2,157	-6%
22 Winlaton & High Spen	3	7,060	2,353	9%	7,406	2,469	8%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>141,945</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>150,899</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Averages</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,151</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,286</b>	<b>-</b>

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

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

## Appendix B

### Outline map



Number	Ward name	Number	Ward name
1	Birtley North & Lamesley	12	High Fell
2	Birtley South	13	Lobley Hill & Bensham
3	Blaydon	14	Low Fell
4	Bridges	15	Pelaw, Heworth & Bill Quay
5	Chopwell & Rowlands Gill	16	Ryton, Crookhill & Stella
6	Chowdene	17	Saltwell
7	Crawcrook & Greenside	18	Wardley & Leam Lane
8	Deckham	19	Whickham North & Swalwell
9	Dunston Hill & Whickham East	20	Whickham South & Sunnyside
10	Dunston, Teams & Riverside	21	Windy Nook & Whitehills
11	Felling	22	Winlaton & High Spenn

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/gateshead](http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/gateshead)



## Appendix C

### Submissions received

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

[www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/gateshead](http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/gateshead)

#### *Political Groups*

- Gateshead Green Party

#### *Councillors*

- Councillor A. Wintcher (Gateshead Council)

#### *Local Organisations*

- Brighten Ryton Local Environment Group

#### *Local Residents*

- 86 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 <a href="http://www.nalc.gov.uk">www.nalc.gov.uk</a>
Under-represented	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Variance (or electoral variance)	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward or division varies in percentage terms from the average
Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council

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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