

New electoral arrangements for Derbyshire County 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.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 Commission² 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.

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

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

Why Derbyshire?

7 We are conducting a review of Derbyshire County Council ('the Council') as its last review was completed in 2012, and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.³ 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 divisions in Derbyshire 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 county.

Our proposals for Derbyshire

9 Derbyshire should be represented by 64 councillors, the same as there are now.

10 Derbyshire should have 64 divisions, three more than there are now.

11 We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for Derbyshire.

How will the recommendations affect you?

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

13 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the county 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 take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

³ Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 56(1).

Review timetable

14 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Derbyshire. We then held two periods of consultation with the public on division patterns for the county. The submissions received during consultation have informed our final recommendations.

15 The review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
21 March 2023	Number of councillors decided
9 May 2023	Start of consultation seeking views on new divisions
17 July 2023	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
23 January 2024	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
1 April 2024	We began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
30 July 2024	Publication of final recommendations

Analysis and final recommendations

16 Legislation⁴ states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors⁵ 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 divisions.

17 In reality, we are unlikely to be able to create divisions 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.

18 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.

	2022	2029
Electorate of Derbyshire	621,349	679,510
Number of councillors	64	64
Average number of electors per councillor	9,709	10,617

19 When the number of electors per councillor in a division is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the division as having 'good electoral equality'. Fifty-eight of our proposed divisions for Derbyshire are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2029.

Submissions received

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

Electorate figures

21 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 9% by 2029.

22 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 final recommendations.

⁴ Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

⁵ Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

Number of councillors

23 Derbyshire County Council currently has 64 councillors. We looked at evidence provided by the Council and concluded that retaining the existing council size would ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

24 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of divisions that would be represented by 64 councillors. We received no significant comments on council size during the first stage of consultation, so based the draft recommendations on a council size of 64.

25 At the beginning of the review the Council requested that this review be conducted as a 'single-member division' review.⁶ The Commission agreed to this request. If a review is conducted as a single-member review there is a presumption in legislation that the Council have a uniform pattern of single-councillor divisions. Accordingly, we will aim to deliver a pattern of single-member divisions. However, in all cases this consideration will not take precedence over our other statutory criteria, and we will not recommend a uniform pattern of single-member divisions if, in our view or as is shown in evidence provided to us, it is not compatible with our other statutory criteria.

26 We received no significant comments about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on our draft recommendations. We have therefore maintained 64 councillors for our final recommendations.

Councillor allocation and coterminosity

27 When conducting reviews of two-tier county councils there are a number of rules that we must follow. Firstly, we must not recommend any divisions that cross the district/borough boundary. Secondly, we must have regard for the district/borough wards that exist within each area. Where possible we try to use the district/borough wards to form the boundaries of the county divisions. The table below shows the allocation of county councillors between the district and borough councils in the county. It also shows the percentage of district/borough wards that are wholly contained within our proposed divisions. We refer to this as coterminosity.

District/Borough	Allocation of councillors	Coterminosity
Amber Valley	10	72%
Bolsover	6	76%
Chesterfield	8	88%
Derbyshire Dales	6	76%

⁶ Section 57 of Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Erewash	9	79%
High Peak	8	86%
North East Derbyshire	8	71%
South Derbyshire	9	47%

Division boundaries consultation

28 We received 74 submissions in response to our consultation on division boundaries. These included county-wide proposals from Derbyshire County Council ('the Council') and the Derbyshire County Council Labour Group ('the Labour Group'). The remaining submissions put forward specific localised comments, or comments for specific district/boroughs within Derbyshire county.

29 Both county-wide schemes provided a uniform pattern of one-councillor divisions for Derbyshire. We carefully considered the proposals received and based the draft recommendations on elements of both proposals, along with a number of amendments to reflect other evidence received. 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.

30 We received a number of comments that would require amendments to the boundaries of existing parishes, district wards or district boundaries. However, we are unable to amend these as part of this review. The ward boundaries would be addressed under a separate electoral review of the districts, while the parish boundaries are the responsibility of district/borough councils who can make changes as part of a Community Governance Review. The external boundary of any district/borough can only be amended by a Principal Area Boundary Review, which is separate to this review.

31 We also noted that a number of the proposals discussed below would require the creation of small parish wards. Our guidance states that we will not normally recommend the creation of parish wards that contain no or very few electors (fewer than a hundred) unless it can be demonstrated to us that, within a short period of time, there will be sufficient electors as to warrant the election of at least one parish councillor. Therefore, in a number of cases we have been unable to adopt proposals because they would require the creation of unviable parish wards.

Draft recommendations consultation

32 We received 236 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations. The Council put forward county-wide comments, including support for the draft recommendations in a number of districts/boroughs and amendments to some of the divisions in Derbyshire Dales, Erewash and High Peak. The Conservative Group expressed support for the Council's response. The Labour

Group also put forward county-wide comments, with support for a large number of divisions, but amendments in South Derbyshire. The remaining comments provided a mixture of support and objections across the county, although there were a significant number of objections to our draft recommendations for Chapel & Hope Valley and Glossop North & Bamford divisions, with respondents arguing they did not reflect the local geography.

33 As with the draft recommendations, we received a number of comments that would require amendments to the boundaries of existing parishes, district wards or district boundaries. However, we are unable to amend these as part of this review. The ward boundaries would be addressed under a separate electoral review of the districts, while the parish boundaries are the responsibility of district councils who can make changes as part of a Community Governance Review. The external boundary of any district can only be amended by a Principal Area Boundary Review, which is separate to this review.

Final recommendations

34 Our final recommendations are for 64 one-councillor divisions. 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.

35 Our final recommendations are based on the draft recommendations with a modifications to the divisions in the Long Eaton area of Erewash and the Buxton, Glossop and Hope Valley areas of High Peak and the Woodville area of South Derbyshire.

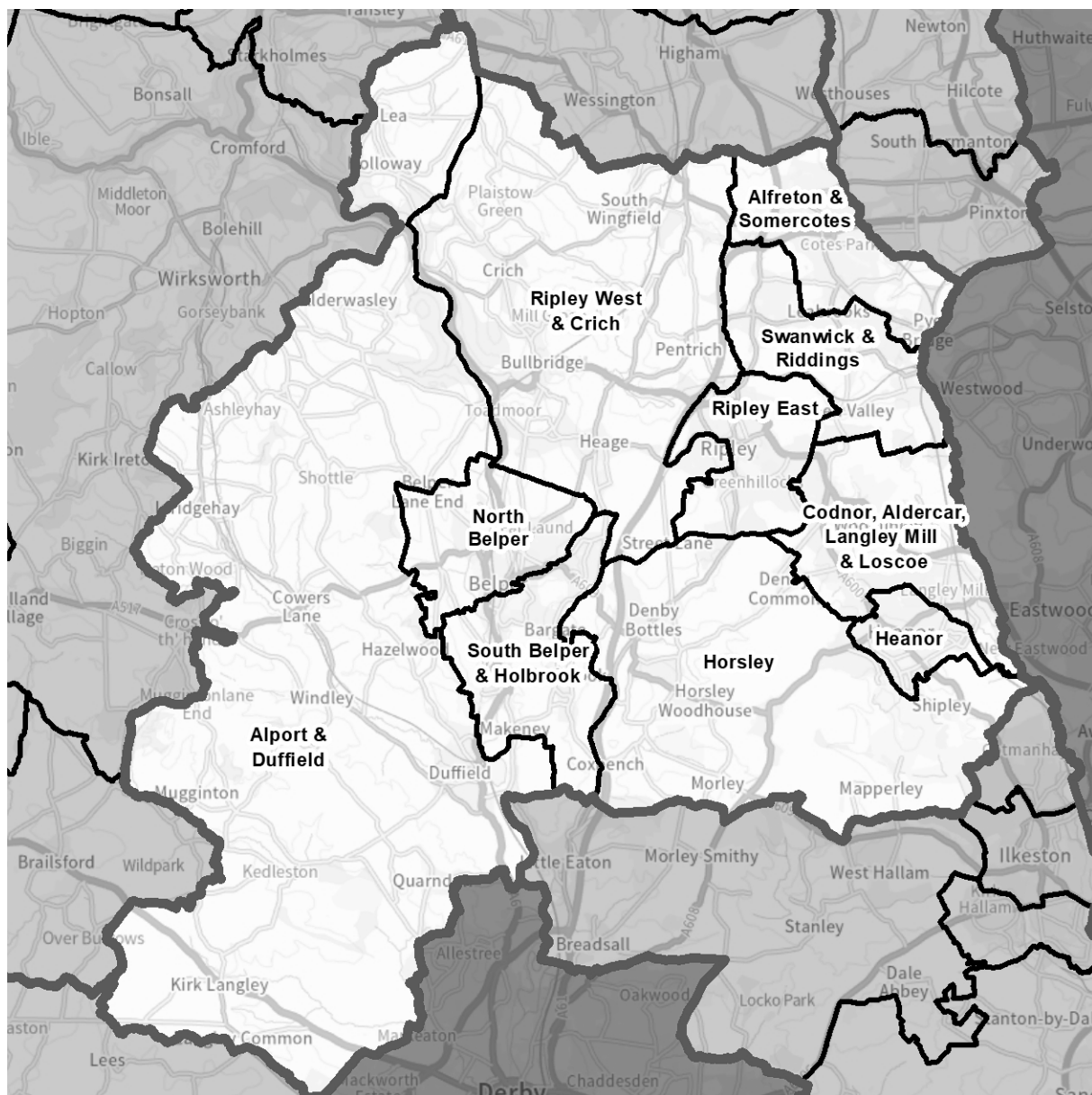
36 The tables and maps on pages 9–46 detail our final recommendations for each area of Derbyshire. They detail how the proposed division arrangements reflect the three statutory⁷ criteria of:

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

37 A summary of our proposed new divisions is set out in the table starting on page 57 and on the large map accompanying this report.

⁷ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Amber Valley



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Alfreton & Somercotes	1	3%
Alport & Duffield	1	8%
Codnor, Aldercar, Langley Mill & Loscoe	1	4%
Heanor	1	6%
Horsley	1	5%
North Belper	1	-4%
Ripley East	1	7%
Ripley West & Crich	1	7%
South Belper & Holbrook	1	-4%
Swanwick & Riddings	1	3%

38 Under a Council size of 64, Amber Valley is allocated 10 councillors, with each division entitled to an average of 4% more electors than the county average by 2029.

Alfreton & Somercotes and Swanwick & Riddings

39 In response to the draft recommendations we received general support for these divisions from the Council, Conservative Group and Labour Group, with the Council and Labour Group providing qualified commentary on how they relate to their original proposals. Alfreton Town Council also expressed support for the draft recommendations, arguing they minimise 'disturbance'.

40 In light of no other significant comments, we are confirming our draft recommendation for these divisions as final.

Codnor, Aldercar, Langle Mill & Loscoe, Heanor and Horsely

41 In response to the draft recommendations we received general support for these divisions from the Council, Conservative Group and Labour Group, with the Council and Labour Group providing qualified commentary on how they relate to their original proposals. Heanor & Loscoe Town Council expressed support for the draft recommendations, particularly a Heanor division covering the Heanor area of the parish and a Codnor, Aldercar, Langle Mill & Loscoe division linking the Loscoe area to its neighbouring rural parishes. A number of members of the public argued that Holbrook parish should be in a division with Horsley division, citing stronger links there than to Belper. One respondent stated that if this was not possible then Horsely parish should be included in the South Belper & Holbrook division.

42 We note the general support for the draft recommendations. We also note the concerns about Holbrook parish; however, including this in Horsley division would worsen Horsley division to 18% more electors than the county average by 2029, while South Belper & Holbrook would worsen to 17% fewer. We do not consider there to be sufficient evidence to justify this poor level of electoral equality. We also note the alternative suggestion for transferring Horsley parish to South Belper & Holbrook. While this would give good electoral equality, this suggestion was only made by a single respondent and with only limited evidence to support it. In light of the general support for the draft recommendations we are not persuaded to make the change. We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations for these divisions as final.

Ripley East and Ripley West & Crich

43 In response to the draft recommendations we received general support for these divisions from the Council, Conservative Group and Labour Group, with the Council and Labour Group providing qualified commentary on how they relate to their original proposals. Ripley Town Council expressed support for the draft recommendations.

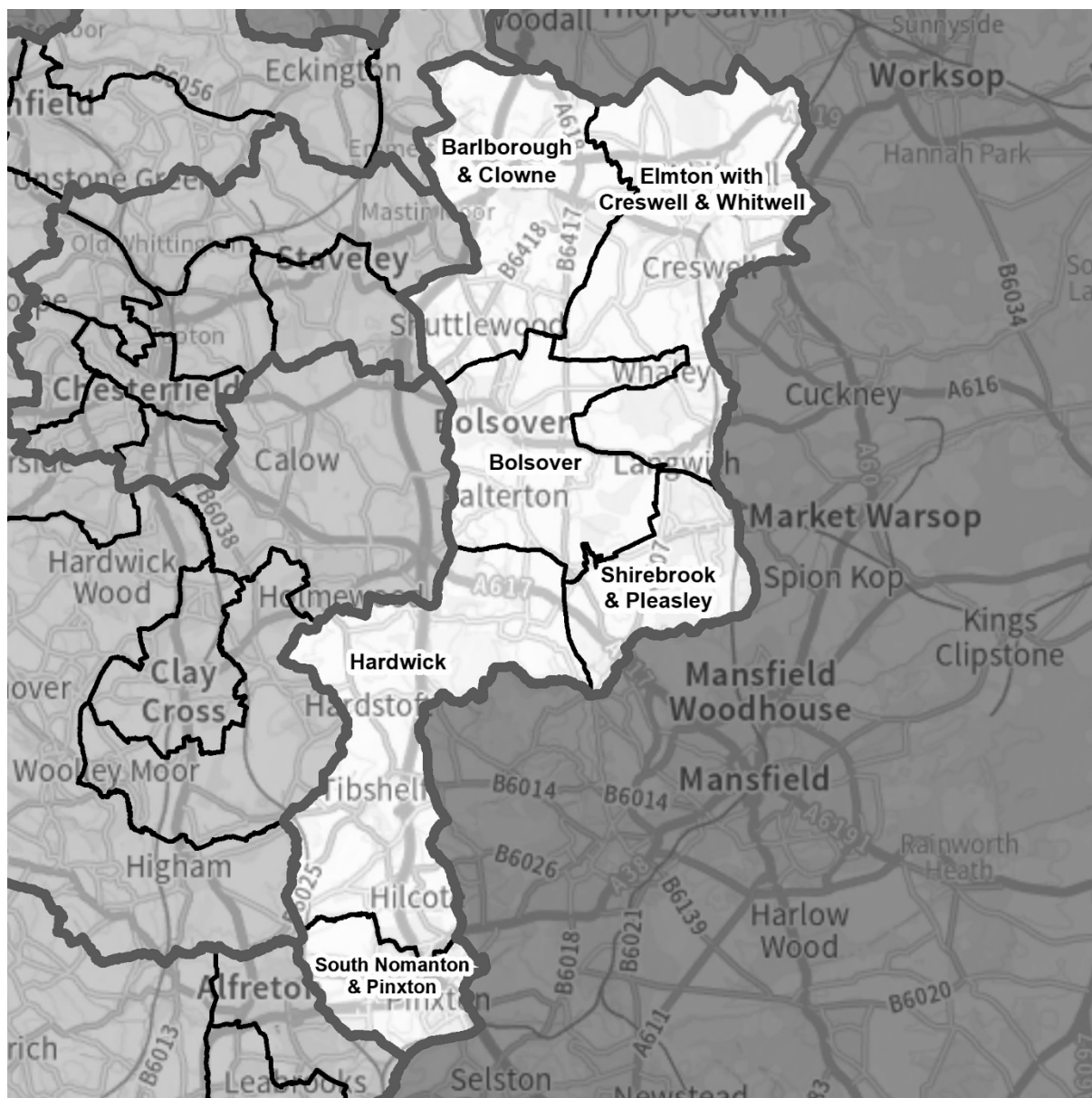
44 In light of no other significant comments, we are confirming our draft recommendation for these divisions as final.

Alport & Duffield, North Belper and South Belper & Holbrook

45 In response to the draft recommendations we received general support for the draft recommendations for these divisions from the Council, Conservative Group and Labour Group. Ripley Town Council expressed support for the draft recommendations. Parish Councillor McCormick (Belper Town Council) and a number of members of the public also expressed general support for the draft recommendations for these divisions. As stated in the Codnor, Aldercar, Langley Mill & Loscoe, Heanor and Horsely section, a number of respondents proposed including Holbrook parish in the Horsley division; however, we rejected this on the basis of the poor electoral equality that would result and rejected another alternative given the lack of support for it.

46 In light of no other significant comments, we are confirming our draft recommendation for these divisions as final.

Bolsover



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Barlborough & Clowne	1	5%
Bolsover	1	3%
Elmton with Creswell & Whitwell	1	-2%
Hardwick	1	8%
Shirebrook & Pleasley	1	11%
South Normanton & Pinxton	1	3%

47 Under a Council size of 64, Bolsover is allocated six councillors, with each division entitled to an average of 5% more electors than the county average by 2029.

Hardwick, Shirebrook & Pleasley and South Normanton & Pinxton

48 In response to the draft recommendations we received general support for these divisions from the Council, Conservative Group and Labour Group, with the Council and Labour Group providing qualified commentary on how they relate to their original proposals. Councillor Barron (Derbyshire County Council), North Derbyshire Conservative Federation, Councillor Wood (Bolsover District Council) and a member of the public also expressed general support for the draft recommendations.

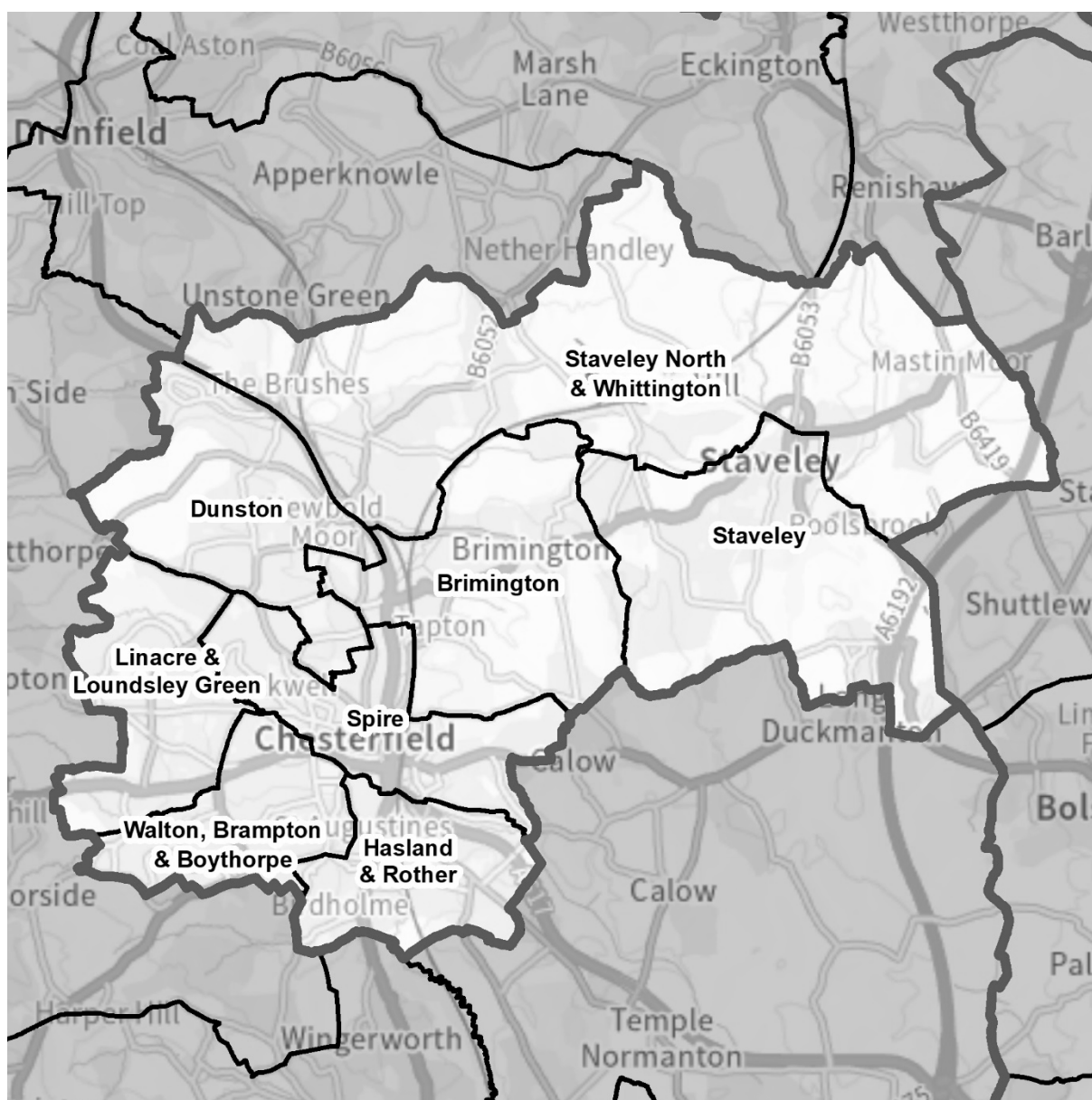
49 In light of no other significant comments, we are confirming our draft recommendation for these divisions as final.

Barlborough & Clowne, Bolsover and Elmton with Creswell & Whitwell

50 In response to the draft recommendations we received general support for these divisions from the Council, Conservative Group and Labour Group, with the Council and Labour Group providing qualified commentary on how they relate to their original proposals. Councillor Barron (Derbyshire County Council) expressed support for the Council's comments on the draft recommendations, with particular support for a single division covering Bolsover Town. North Derbyshire Conservative Federation, Councillor Wood (Bolsover District Council) and a member of the public also expressed general support for the draft recommendations.

51 In light of no other significant comments, we are confirming our draft recommendations for these divisions as final.

Chesterfield



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Brimington	1	-9%
Dunston	1	-4%
Hasland & Rother	1	4%
Linacre & Loundsley Green	1	-1%
Spire	1	-4%
Staveley	1	-2%
Staveley North & Whittington	1	3%
Walton, Brampton & Boythorpe	1	-1%

52 Under a Council size of 64, Chesterfield is allocated eight councillors, one fewer than it currently has, with each division entitled to an average of 2% fewer electors than the county average by 2029.

Brimington, Staveley, Staveley North & Whittington

53 In response to the draft recommendations we received general support for these divisions from the Council and Labour Group, with both providing qualified commentary on how they relate to their original proposals. North Derbyshire Conservative Federation and the Conservative Group also expressed support for the draft recommendations.

54 Councillor Bingham (Derbyshire County Council) expressed support for the Staveley North & Whittington division, noting it reflects the links between Staveley North and Whittington and avoids linking Whittington with Dunston. A member of the public objected to the draft recommendation to transfer an area to the west of the A61 to Brimington division, arguing that there are few community links and links around transport are 'tenuous'.

55 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting the support for the draft recommendations. We also note the concerns of a member of the public about a division that transfers an area to the west of the A61 to Brimington. We considered this would form a strong boundary when we were considering our draft recommendations, but rejected a proposal to use the A61 as a boundary, noting it resulted in a Brimington division with 15% fewer electors than the average for the county by 2029. In light of the qualified support for the draft recommendations, no significant new evidence and the poor electoral equality that would result from using the A61 as a boundary, we are not persuaded to move away from the draft recommendations. We are not persuaded that there is sufficient evidence to create a division in a more suburban area with this poor level of electoral equality. We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.

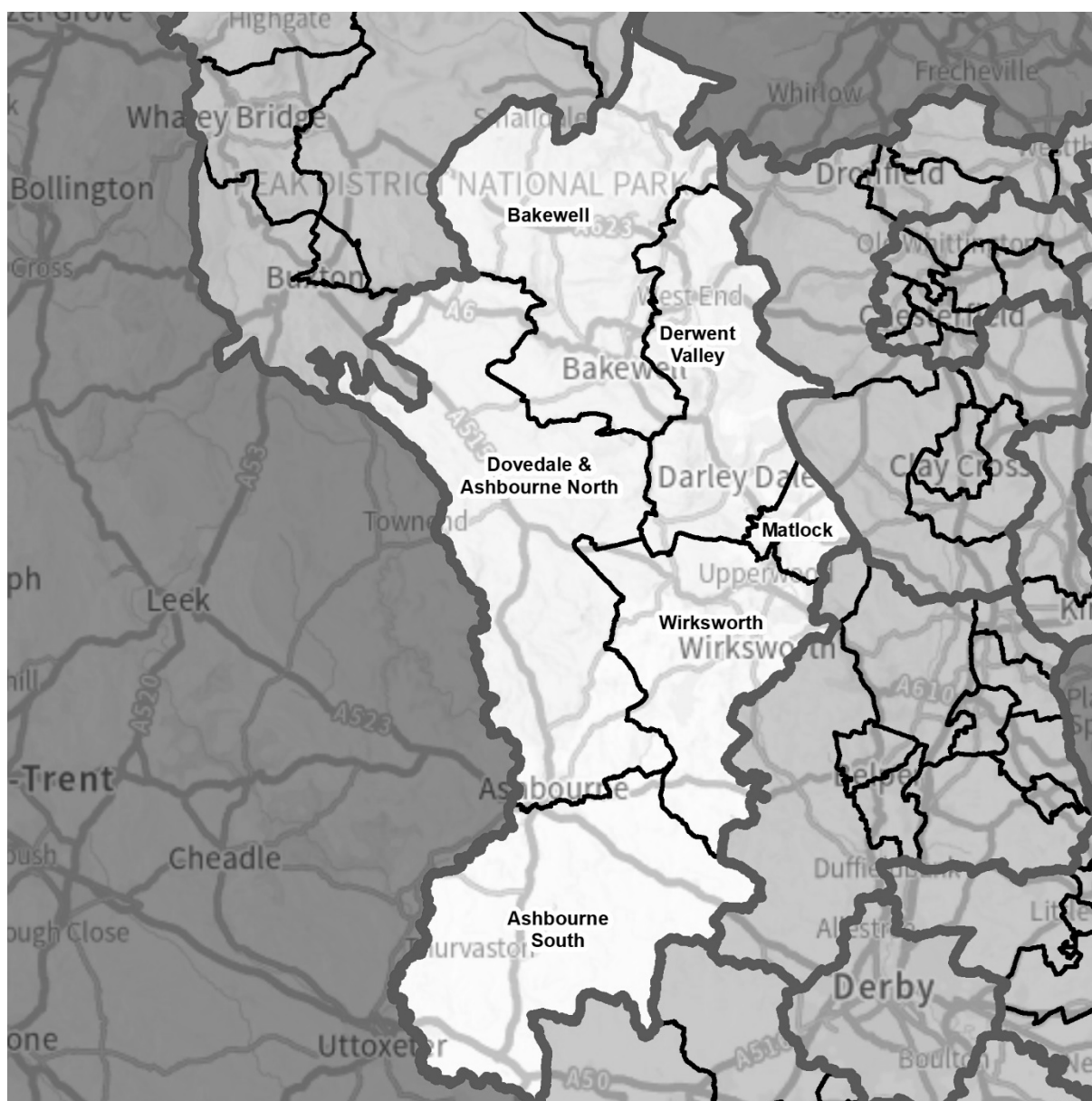
Dunston, Hasland & Rother, Linacre & Loundsley Green, Spire and Walton, Brampton & Boythorpe

56 In response to the draft recommendations we received general support for these divisions from the Council and Labour Group, with both providing qualified commentary on how they relate to their original proposals. North Derbyshire Conservative Federation and the Conservative Group also expressed support for the draft recommendations.

57 Councillor Mihaly (Derbyshire County Council) expressed support for Walton, Brampton & Boythorpe division. A member of the public argued that Linacre & Loundsley Green division should be renamed Linacre & West, and another member of the public argued that Linacre & Loundsley Green division should include Ashgate in the name.

58 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting the general support for the draft recommendations. We note the suggestions for a change to the Linacre & Loundsley Green division name, but also note that there was no agreement on an alternative name and general support for the proposals. We are therefore not adopting a name change and are confirming our draft recommendations for these divisions as final.

Derbyshire Dales



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Ashbourne South	1	-9%
Bakewell	1	9%
Derwent Valley	1	-9%
Dovedale & Ashbourne North	1	-7%
Matlock	1	-5%
Wirksworth	1	-6%

59 Under a Council size of 64, Derbyshire Dales is allocated six councillors, with each division entitled to an average of 4% fewer electors than the county average by 2029.

60 Following the completion of Derbyshire Dales' electoral review in January 2022, Derbyshire Dales District Council carried out a Community Governance Review. On 3 October 2022 it made The Derbyshire Dales District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order 2022. This Order transferred an area of Oaker & Snitterton parish ward (covering the Matlock Spa development) of South Darley parish to Matlock Bank & Sheriff Fields parish ward of Matlock parish.

61 Derbyshire Dales District Council subsequently requested that the Commission make a related alteration to ensure that the district wards of Bonsall & Winster and Matlock West are revised so that they are coterminous with the revised parish boundaries. This would mean the Matlock Spa development remains in Matlock West district ward, but the Oaker & Snitterton parish ward of South Darley parish is moved to Bonsall & Winster district ward, so that it is in the same district council ward as the rest of South Darley parish.

62 This order was made in April 2024. The final recommendations for Derbyshire take account of these changes to the parish boundaries and changes to the district wards.

Bakewell, Derwent Valley, Matlock and Wirksworth

63 In response to the draft recommendations we received a mixture of support and objections to these divisions. The Council proposed a number of amendments to the draft recommendations, including the transfer of Stoney Middleton parish from Bakewell division to Derwent Valley division, Winster parish from Derwent Valley division to Wirksworth division and Matlock Bath parish from Wirksworth Division to Matlock division. The Conservative Group expressed support for the Council's proposals. The Labour Group expressed support for the draft recommendations and provided arguments against the Council's proposed amendments.

64 The Council proposed transferring Stoney Middleton parish from Bakewell Division to Derwent Valley division. It argued that while this reduces coterminosity with Hathersage ward, it improves electoral equality in Bakewell division from 9% more than the county average by 2029, to 5%. It added that Stoney Middleton is currently in the Derwent Valley division. Councillor Hobson (Derbyshire County Council) supported the Council's amendment, including the improved electoral equality, but added that it would also reflect working on shared issues around highways and flooding.

65 The Labour Group and Councillor Butcher (Derbyshire Dales District Council) expressed support for the draft recommendations. They also objected to the Council's proposals, noting that while they improve electoral equality, they worsen coterminosity. While they accepted that Stoney Middleton parish has some shared interests with Calver parish in Derwent Valley division, it also has links to Eyam and Bakewell, which is a centre for jobs, shopping and leisure facilities.

66 The Council and Councillor Murphy (Derbyshire County Council) also argued for transferring Matlock Bath parish from Wirksworth division to Matlock Division providing good evidence of road and community links between the two areas. They argued that residents in Matlock Bath look to Matlock for a large range of community facilities and services, including tourism – with the areas being promoted together. While they acknowledged that this would worsen coterminosity in Cromford & Matlock Bath ward, they argued that Cromford has different priorities, with a focus on mining, with residents looking to Wirksworth for services.

67 The Council also proposed transferring Winster parish to Wirksworth division, offsetting the transfer of Matlock Bath parish to Matlock division. It acknowledged that this retained a three-way split of Bonsall & Winster ward, but argued that it reduced the ‘severity of the split’, keeping Bonsall and Winster parishes in the same division.

68 The Labour Group expressed support for the draft recommendations which kept Matlock and Matlock Bath separate, providing objections to the Council’s proposals. It acknowledged community and tourism links between Matlock and Matlock Bath parishes, but argued that the links between Matlock Bath and Cromford parishes should also be recognised. It argued that Matlock Bath and Cromford sit within the UNESCO World Heritage Site and therefore share significant tourism links, as well as the same train and road links that Matlock shares with Matlock Bath.

69 The Labour Group also rejected the Council’s proposal to transfer Winster parish to Wirksworth division. They argued that this was only required to secure electoral equality given the Council’s proposal to transfer Matlock Bath parish to from Wirksworth division to Matlock division. They argued that Winster has better transport links to Darley Dale, within the Derwent Valley division, with children attending secondary school in Wensley and Darley Dale.

70 Councillor Burfoot (Derbyshire County Council) expressed support for the draft recommendations for Matlock division, including the inclusion of the Morledge estate and part of Matlock Spa Development area. A number of residents also supported the inclusion of the Matlock Spa Development area in Matlock division.

71 Finally in this area, we received support for the inclusion of the whole of South Darley parish in Derwent Valley division from Councillor Higham (South Darley Parish Council) and a number of members of the public. They noted that this reflected its rural nature, which is distinct from the more urban Matlock.

72 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting the support for our draft recommendations, but also the alternative proposals from the Council and a number of other respondents. We note the Council’s proposal for including Stoney Middleton parish in Derwent Valley division. However, while this

improves electoral equality in Bakewell division, given their proposal to transfer Winster parish to Wirksworth division, it does not improve electoral equality in Derwent Valley division. Our visit to the area suggested that while Stoney Middleton has links to Calver parish in neighbouring Derwent Valley division, it also has links to Eyam and into Bakewell in the Bakewell division. When taken into consideration with the worsening of coterminosity with Hathersage ward, which the Council acknowledges, and limited community evidence, we are not persuaded by this change.

73 We are also not persuaded by the Council's proposal to include Matlock Bath parish in Matlock division, while also transferring Winster parish to Wirksworth division. While it provided some good community evidence for the transfer of Matlock Bath, the evidence for transferring Winster is less persuasive – indeed we consider the Labour argument that Winster has stronger links to Darley Dale in Derwent Valley division is more persuasive. In addition, we note that the Labour Group provided counter arguments against the transfer of Matlock Bath parish to Matlock division. It argued that Matlock Bath also has shared community interest with Cromford parish, particularly around tourism and the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Derwent Valley Mills. It also objected to the worsening of coterminosity that would result from separating Matlock Bath from the Cromford & Matlock Bath ward. Our visit to the area confirmed the links between Matlock and Matlock Bath, but also between Matlock Bath and Cromford. Therefore, we are not persuaded to remove Matlock Bath from Wirksworth division and transfer it to Matlock division.

74 On balance, while there is some rationale to the Council's proposals, we consider that the draft recommendations provide a stronger division pattern across this area. We are therefore confirming them as final.

Ashbourne South and Dovedale & Ashbourne North

75 In response to the draft recommendations we received general support for these divisions from the Council, Conservative Group and Labour Group, with the Council and Labour Group providing qualified commentary on how they relate to their original proposals. A member of the public objected to the Dovedale & Ashbourne North division, arguing that the northern area is very different from Ashbourne.

76 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting the general support for the draft recommendations. We note the objection from a member of the public, but also note they have not put forward alternative proposals. We have been unable to identify a division pattern that avoids linking parts of Ashbourne to areas to the north. We are therefore confirming the draft recommendations as final.

Erewash



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Breadsall & West Hallam	1	-1%
Breaston	1	0%
Ilkeston Central	1	3%
Ilkeston North	1	5%
Ilkeston South & Kirk Hallam	1	-9%
Long Eaton North	1	-8%
Long Eaton South	1	-10%
Sandiacre	1	-13%
Sawley	1	7%

77 Under a Council size of 64, Erewash is allocated nine councillors, with each division entitled to an average of 3% fewer electors than the county average by 2029.

Ilkeston Central, Ilkeston North and Ilkeston South & Kirk Hallam

78 In response to the draft recommendations the Council objected to the draft recommendations, arguing in favour of its original proposals based on the existing divisions. The Conservative Group expressed support for the Council's proposals. The Labour Group expressed support for the draft recommendations.

79 The Council objected to moving away from the existing east/west split of the Ilkeston area, citing differences in housing type and deprivation, arguing that their proposed divisions reflect this. They also argued that the draft recommendations move away from recognised boundaries like Heanor Road, while placing Bath Street in a single division means the town centre would no longer be 'championed by two voices'. They also rejected the argument for placing Kirk Hallam in a single division, arguing that the existing split between two divisions 'allows an area of high deprivation to receive representation by two members which would better support the higher workload and more complex cases coming from that community'. Finally, they argued that while the draft recommendations have better coterminosity than their original proposals, their original proposals secure better electoral equality.

80 The Ilkeston Branch of Erewash Conservatives expressed support for the existing divisions. A number of members of the public also expressed support for the existing divisions, including arguing in favour of the existing east/west split. They stated that the area to the east reflects its history as a 'market town founded on industry', with community facilities reflecting this, while the west is newer estates developed west of Heanor Road as well as larger properties.

81 The Labour Group expressed support for the draft recommendations for these divisions, noting the high degree of coterminosity compared to the existing divisions. They also supported the inclusion of the whole of the town centre and Kirk Hallam in a single division. They rejected the Council's argument in favour of their original proposals, rebuffing the argument that housing type and deprivation are better at reflecting community identity and interests than school catchments and church parishes. They also rejected the Council's argument that splitting Kirk Hallam enables it to be represented by two councillors, instead arguing that their proposals reflect a community being divided. They added that the Council has not used the same argument for dividing the east area, noting that this has higher deprivation than Kirk Hallam.

82 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received for this area, noting the arguments for and against the draft recommendations. We do not consider that the Council has put forward strong community evidence for why their

original proposal better reflects community, beyond arguments about housing types and levels of deprivation. While there may be some logic to the Council's argument that running boundaries along the high street and through the Kirk Hallam area enables the high street to be represented by two councillors, we think the benefits of a community being represented by a single councillor, particularly in Kirk Hallam, outweigh that in this instance. While the Council uses the existing division, which divides Kirk Hallam, we note that Kirk Hallam is separate from the rest of Ilkeston and consider it would be best served in a single division.

83 While the Council's original proposals have slightly better electoral equality, we note that only one of the seven wards in the area would be coterminous with the division boundaries. This compares to the draft recommendations where six of the seven wards are conterminous, and electoral equality is within the levels we consider good. Although the Labour Group have also not provided particularly strong community evidence, when taken into consideration with the concerns about dividing the Kirk Hallam area and significantly better coterminosity, we consider the draft recommendations provide the strongest division pattern. We are therefore confirming the draft recommendations as final.

Breadsall & West Hallam and Breaston

84 In response to the draft recommendations we received general support for these divisions from the Council and Labour Group, with both providing qualified commentary on how they relate to their original proposals. The Conservative Group expressed support for the Council's proposals. Draycott & Church Wilne Parish Council expressed general support for the draft recommendations. Dale Abbey Parish Council expressed support for the existing divisions.

85 In light of no other significant comments, we are confirming our draft recommendations for these divisions as final.

Long Eaton North, Long Eaton South, Sandiacre and Sawley

86 In response to the draft recommendations we received general support for these divisions from the Council and Labour Group, with both providing qualified commentary on how they relate to their original proposals. The Conservative Group expressed support for the Council's proposals. The Labour Group supported the inclusion of the Pennyfields Estate in Petersham division, arguing it is a discrete community and doing so helps secure electoral equality across the Long Eaton area.

87 Councillor Corbett (Erewash Borough Council), Councillor Hall-Evans (Erewash Borough Council), Councillor Everett (Erewash Borough Council), Councillor Howard (Erewash Borough Council), Councillor Maginnis (Erewash Borough Councillor) and a number of members of the public objected to the inclusion of the Pennyfields Estate (also known as Wilsthorpe Meadows) in Petersham division, arguing that it is

part of the Wilsthorpe community and should be in Sawley division, along with the rest of Wilsthorpe ward. They argued that residents in Pennyfields use a wide range of facilities in Sawley, with links to the Dales Estate to the south, including Dovedale Primary School. They argued that while there are road connections, there is also a footpath linking these areas, reflecting the good connections between the areas. They argued that residents do not look to the Petersham Estate as this is further away and means crossing a main road. Some respondents also argued that keeping this area in Sawley would improve coterminosity by keeping the whole of Wilsthorpe ward in a single division.

88 Councillor Howard also argued that the transfer of the Pennyfields Estate could be offset by transferring the Springfield Avenue area to the Petersham division, making it coterminous with the Derby Road West ward boundary.

89 A member of the public expressed support for the inclusion of the Pennyfields Estate in Petersham division from an electoral equality perspective, but had concerns that it does not reflect communities.

90 Councillor Howard and Councillor Everett also objected to the Petersham and Long Eaton division names, arguing that Petersham is only a small area of the proposed division, which actually covers part of Long Eaton. They therefore proposed renaming the divisions as Long Eaton North and Long Eaton South, respectively.

91 Councillor Bryan (Derbyshire County Council) expressed general support for the draft recommendations for these divisions, but put forward similar arguments against the Petersham name. He proposed renaming Petersham and Long Eaton division as Long Eaton West and Long Eaton East, respectively. This was supported by a member of the public. Another member of the public supported renaming Petersham as Long Eaton West.

92 We have given careful consideration the evidence received, noting the support and objections to our draft recommendations, particularly around the inclusion of the Pennyfields Estate in a Petersham division. While there was general support for the draft recommendations we note the strong objections to the inclusion of the Pennyfields Estate in Petersham, with respondents providing good community identity evidence for retaining the area in Sawley division. Our visit to the area confirmed that while the area is self-contained (as the Labour Group argue) with road access north into Petersham, it also has good road access south to Sawley. In addition, we acknowledge the footpath link into the Dales Estate. We note the argument that including the Pennyfields Estate in Sawley also improves coterminosity.

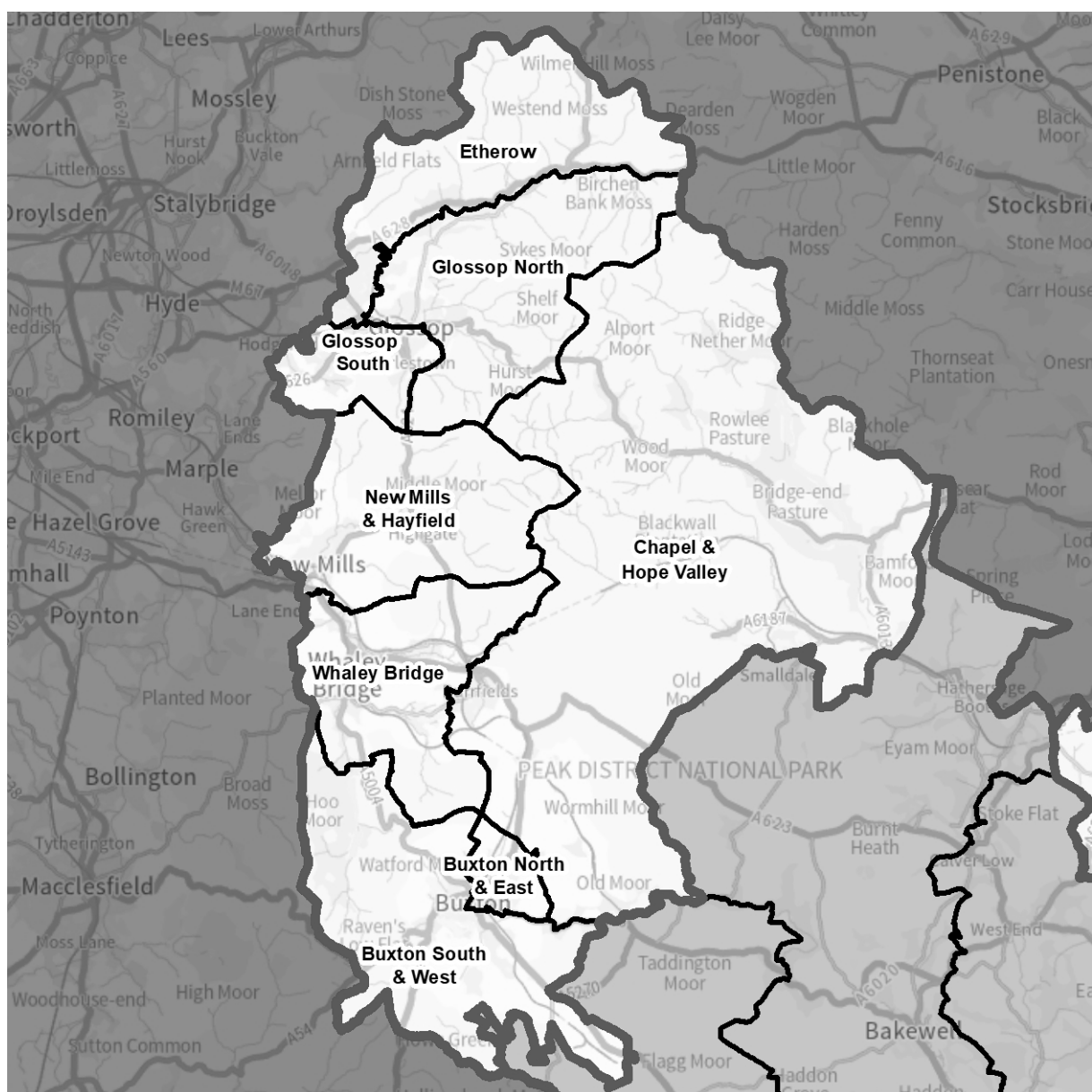
93 This good community evidence and improved coterminosity is compelling. However, it must be balanced against the fact that transferring this area would worsen electoral equality in the Petersham division to 13% fewer electors than the county average by 2029. We note that Councillor Howard argued that the Springfield Estate could be transferred to the Petersham division. This would improve coterminosity, but move away from the parish boundary of Sandiacre parish, while also worsening electoral equality in Sandiacre division to 13% fewer than the average.

94 Our visit to the area suggested that the Springfield Avenue area could sit well in either the Sandiacre or Petersham division, with a division boundary following either the parish boundary or ward boundary. On balance, although transferring this area to Petersham worsens electoral equality in Sandiacre, it improves it in Petersham division, offsetting the transfer of the Pennyfields Estate to Sawley division. When taken into consideration with the improved coterminosity we are persuaded to transfer the Pennyfields Estate to Sawley division and the Springfield Avenue area to Petersham.

95 We also note the objections to the Petersham division name, and acknowledge this only reflects a small part of the division. We note that while respondents agree that Petersham and Long Eaton division should be named Long Eaton, there was no agreement on whether they should be east/west or north/south. On balance, we are using the Long Eaton North and Long Eaton South names.

96 Our final recommendations are for single-councillor Long Eaton North, Long Eaton South, Sandiacre and Sawley divisions. These divisions would have 8% fewer, 10% fewer, 13% fewer and 7% more electors than the county average, respectively, by 2029.

High Peak



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Buxton North & East	1	-9%
Buxton South & West	1	-10%
Chapel & Hope Valley	1	4%
Etherow	1	-7%
Glossop North	1	-19%
Glossop South	1	-9%
New Mills & Hayfield	1	-2%
Whaley Bridge	1	-12%

97 Under a Council size of 64, High Peak is allocated eight councillors, with each division entitled to an average of 8% fewer electors than the county average by 2029. As stated in the draft recommendations, it should be noted that this high average variance makes it somewhat harder to secure a division pattern that secures good electoral equality, as small changes to the average in one division can have a knock-on effect in the remaining divisions.

Buxton North & East and Buxton South & West

98 We received a mixture of support and objection to the draft recommendations for this area. The Council, Conservative Group, Robert Largan MP (High Peak) and Councillor Grooby (Derbyshire County Council), while supporting elements of the Buxton North & East and Buxton South & West divisions, objected to the boundary between the divisions. They argued that the Lismore Road area is separated from the Buxton North & East division by Pavilion Gardens and has stronger links to the Buxton South & West division. They also argued that the Corbar Road and Sheraton Way area has stronger links to the Buxton North & East division.

99 The Labour Group expressed support for the draft recommendations for these divisions and rejected the Council's amendment. They argued that the draft recommendations keep the whole of the town centre in a single division which keeps the heart of a major tourist destination together, which would help with possible future regeneration.

100 Wormhill & Green Fairfield Parish Council requested that it remain in a Buxton division.

101 We have considered the evidence received and while there is an argument for keeping Pavilion Gardens and the Opera House with the rest of the town centre, we acknowledge that Lismore Road is cut off from its neighbours, directly affecting the electors there. In addition, the inclusion of this area disrupts the north/south links within Buxton South & West division. The evidence for the inclusion of the Corbar Road and Sheraton Way area is less compelling, although we note the area links on to Lightwood Road. However, on balance, given the concerns around Lismore Road we are moving away from our draft recommendations in this area and adopting the amendment put forward by the Council and others.

102 Finally, we note the request from Wormhill & Green Fairfield Parish Council. However, it did not provide any evidence to support this. In addition, we note that this is not possible, while securing good levels of electoral equality for the area as a whole. Therefore, we are not moving away from our draft recommendations.

103 Our final recommendations are for single-councillor Buxton North & East and Buxton South & West divisions with 9% fewer and 10% fewer electors than the district average, respectively, by 2029.

New Mills & Hayfield and Whaley Bridge

104 In response to our draft recommendations we received support for these divisions, particularly not to include an area of New Mills parish in a Whaley Bridge division. The Council, Conservative Group, Labour Group, Robert Largan MP and New Mills Town Council expressed support for the draft recommendations. There was also support for the New Mills & Hayfield division name.

105 Chinley, Buxworth & Brownside Parish Council expressed support for the Whaley Bridge division, including the division name. Councillor George (Derbyshire County Council) and Whaley Bridge Town Council expressed support for the draft recommendations, retaining the existing Whaley Bridge ward. They also supported retaining Combs village in the division. They did, however, argue that the division should be renamed Whaley Bridge & Blackbrook, to include the names of both wards in the division. A number of local residents expressed concern that Combs village could be included in a Buxton division, rejecting any links there.

106 Finally, a member of the public argued that there are a number of roads in Whaley Bridge division that would be better served in Chapel & Hope Valley division as they are part of Chapel-en-le-Firth.

107 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting the general support for the draft recommendations. We note the comments about Combs village, and confirm that we rejected any proposal to put this in a Buxton division and it will remain in the Whaley Bridge division. We also note the comments about the boundary between Whaley Bridge and Chapel & Hope Valley divisions. However, this follows the boundary between Blackbrook and Chapel West wards, and moving away from it would reduce coterminosity and require the creation of a small parish ward. We do not consider there to be sufficient evidence to do this, so are not making this amendment.

108 Finally, we note the support for the New Mills & Hayfield name, but differing views on the Whaley Bridge division. We note that some respondents argued for the inclusion of 'Blackbrook' in the name. However, while this reflects the ward of that name, it does not reflect the constituent parishes, so we are not persuaded it makes a clearer name, unlike the New Mills & Hayfield name that reflects both parishes in the ward. Therefore, we are retaining the Whaley Bridge name.

109 We are confirming our draft recommendations for these divisions as final.

Chapel & Hope Valley, Etherow, Glossop North and Glossop South

110 In response to our draft recommendations we received a mixture of support, but also some significant objections to these divisions, particularly Chapel & Hope Valley and Glossop North & Bamford.

111 The Council was broadly supportive, but noted the draft recommendations for Chapel & Hope Valley and Glossop North & Bamford division separated Thornhill parish from Bamford parish. They pointed out that this is a joint parish council and in order to provide for effective and convenient local government the parishes should be in the same division, and that Thornhill parish should be added to the Glossop North & Bamford division. The Conservative Group expressed support for the Council's response. Robert Largan MP was also broadly supportive of the draft recommendations, while noting that the inclusion of Bamford parish in the Glossop North & Bamford division was a 'regrettable necessity' to secure electoral equality. However, he also argued for the inclusion of Thornhill parish in the Glossop North & Bamford division, noting its status as part of a joint parish council with Bamford parish. Mr Largan MP also proposed a number of division name changes to provide clearer names. He proposed renaming Etherow division as Gamesley, Hadfield & Tintwistle and Glossop South division to Glossop South & Charlesworth.

112 The Labour Group were also broadly supportive of the draft recommendations, noting that while its preference would be to keep the centre of Glossop in a single division, it accepts this isn't possible while reflecting the statutory criteria. It stated that it had 'no strong view' on the Council's amendment to move Thornhill parish. It also observed that as well as close links with Bamford parish, Thornhill parish has links to neighbouring Ashton parish. It noted that if Thornhill parish is included in Glossop North & Bamford division it would leave Brough & Shatton parish with no direct access into the Chapel & Hope Valley division as its access is via the A6187, which runs through Thornhill parish. It rejected any argument to also include Brough & Shatton parish in Glossop North & Bamford.

113 Councillor Grooby stated that Thornhill parish should be in Glossop North & Bamford division along with Bamford parish.

114 There were significant objections to the inclusion of Bamford parish in a Glossop North & Bamford division, along with objections to the inclusion of Derwent and Hope Woodlands parishes in the same division. Bamford with Thornhill Parish Council and Parish Councillor Kleine (Bamford with Thornhill Parish Council) objected to the draft recommendation to place Bamford and Thornhill parishes in different divisions, noting that they are one community in the same parish council. Their principal argument was not to divide the parishes, but they also argued that they did joint working on various issues with the Hope Valley parishes, but have no such links with Glossop, which is a 'de facto Manchester suburb'.

115 Councillor Farrell (High Peak Borough Council), Councillor Collins (Edale Parish Council), Castleton Parish Council and over 80 members of the public also objected to the draft recommendations, providing a range of arguments, against splitting Bamford and Thornhill parishes and/or stressing their links to Hope Valley and not Glossop. Arguments included that Bamford should remain in Hope Valley

rather than being grouped with Glossop due to its geographical remoteness from Glossop and the rugged geography driving over A57 (Snake Pass), which is sometimes closed in bad weather, and lacks a direct bus service. They argued that Bamford residents have community links and use facilities, including schools, in Hope Valley and share common tourism-related concerns. They noted that Bamford is with the National Park, unlike suburban Glossop, which looks towards Manchester. They argued that including Bamford in a Glossop division would diminish its voice due to its smaller size and different community needs. Keeping Bamford in Hope Valley ensures better representation and maintains its strong local ties and rural character. A number of respondents also cited links out of the district, to Hathersage in neighbouring Derbyshire Dales.

116 Councillor Gourlay (Derbyshire County Council) argued against splitting Bamford and Thornhill parishes, but stated that he had no preference as to which division they should be in, noting that whichever it was, they would be a long distance from the population centres of the division.

117 Derwent & Hope Woodlands Parish Council and a number of members of the public objected to the inclusion of Derwent and Hope Woodlands parishes in Glossop North & Bamford division. They put forward similar arguments to those opposing the inclusion of Bamford parish in Glossop North & Bamford division, emphasising the similar shared interests to Bamford and the Hope Valley and a lack of physical or community links to Glossop.

118 A member of the public objected to the division of Chapel-en-le-Firth parish between divisions, arguing it should be represented by a single councillor. We note this comment, but it is not possible to secure a division pattern for the wider area without dividing Chapel-en-le-Firth, which is reflected in the existing divisions and the proposals we received during this review. Therefore, we are not moving away from the draft recommendations. Another member of the public stated that Glossop should be represented by a single councillor. However, this would result in a division with 132% more electors than the county average by 2029, so we are not adopting this proposal.

119 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting the mixture of support and objections to our draft recommendations. We note the arguments that Bamford and Thornhill parishes should not be separated and concur with this. However, we also note the opposing arguments about the best way to resolve the issue. We note the argument for uniting Bamford and Thornhill in the Glossop North & Bamford division. This will retain good levels of electoral equality, with Chapel & Hope Valley and Glossop North & Bamford divisions with 8% fewer and 7% fewer electors than the county average by 2029, respectively.

120 However, this does not reflect the significant evidence arguing for the inclusion of Bamford parish in Chapel & Hope Valley on community identity grounds. This argument is very compelling and it is clear that Bamford does not have good links to Glossop. Our visit to the area confirmed this. We also noted that Derwent and Hope Valley parishes share similarly poor access to Glossop, with all three parishes having stronger connections into the Hope Valley. This evidence must be balanced against the fact that the inclusion of Bamford parish in Chapel & Hope Valley division would leave the remainder of the Glossop North & Bamford division with 18% fewer electors than the county average by 2029, while Chapel & Hope Valley would have 4% more electors than the average.

121 We been persuaded by the strong community evidence to include Bamford and Thornhill parishes in a Chapel & Hope Valley division. This would result in a Glossop North & Bamford division with 18% fewer electors than the county average by 2029. Having agreed to do this we considered the remaining rural parishes of Derwent and Hope Woodlands, currently in our Glossop North & Bamford division also have very similar links and concerns as Bamford parish. We note that these parishes have very small populations. Moving them has a small impact on electoral equality, worsening electoral equality in Glossop North & Bamford by a further 1% to 19% fewer. On balance, however, we are persuaded that having reflected the evidence around Bamford and Thornhill we should also transfer Derwent and Hope Woodlands parishes to Chapel & Hope Valley division.

122 With the additional inclusion of Derwent and Hope Valley parishes in Chapel & Hope Valley division, the remainder of the Glossop North & Bamford division will have 19% fewer electors than the county average by 2029, while Chapel & Hope Valley would have 4% more.

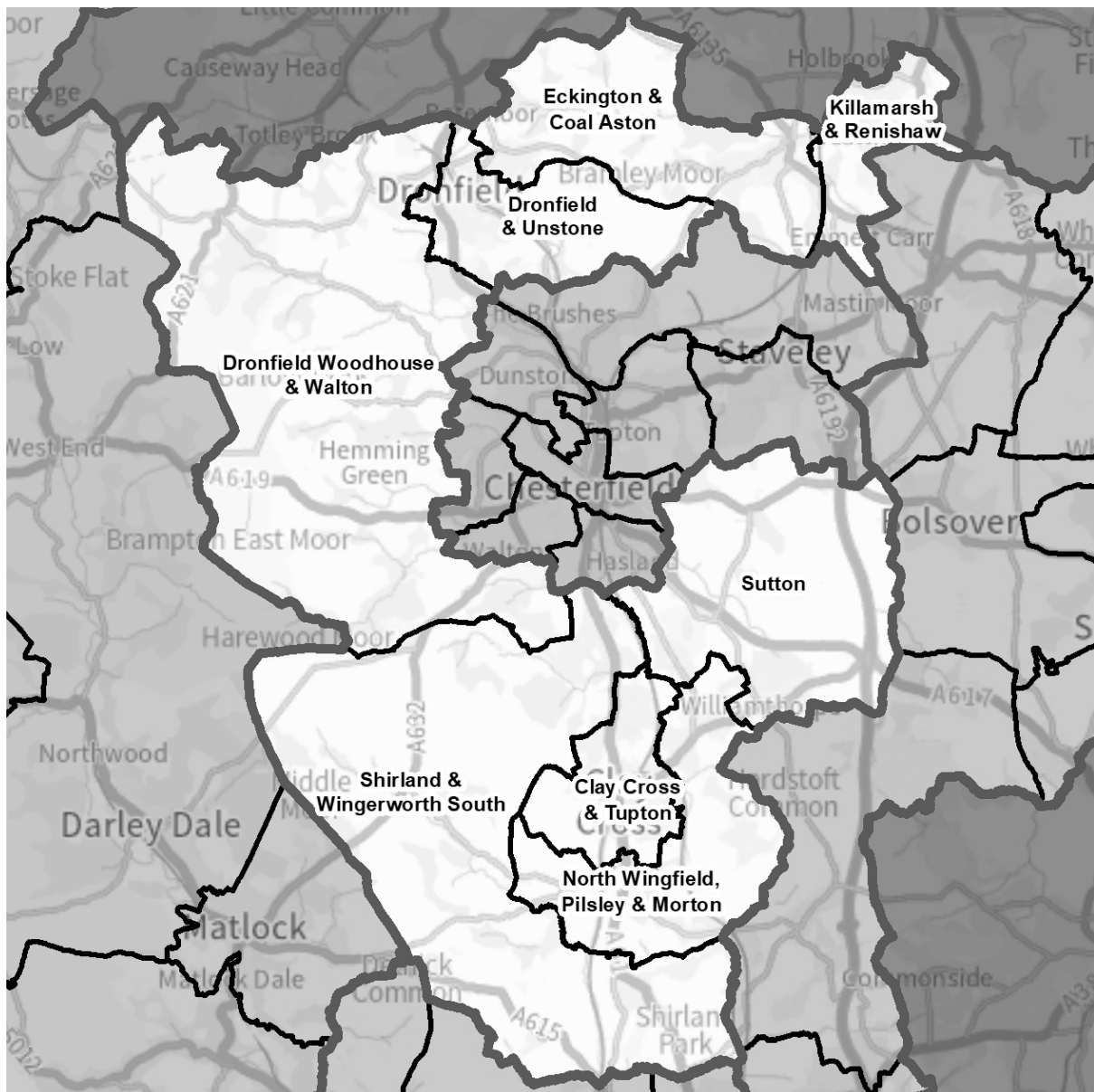
123 We recognise that this is a relatively poor level of electoral equality, but this must be balanced against the strong evidence of community links and also the very specific geography that leaves Bamford, Derwent and Hope Woodlands very isolated from draft recommendations for a Glossop North & Bamford division. On balance, we consider that our final recommendations should reflect this community identity evidence, noting that it also improves effective and convenient local government by creating a coterminous boundary with Hope Valley ward, uniting Bamford and Thornhill parishes, and that it has much better internal links making it easier to represent.

124 We are therefore modifying Chapel & Hope Valley division to include Bamford, Derwent and Hope Woodlands parishes. As a result, we would rename Glossop North & Bamford division as Glossop North. We have considered whether to modify the boundary between Glossop North and Glossop South, to improve the variance of 19% fewer electors that results from this change to Glossop North division. However, this would move away from the clear boundary we have drawn through the centre of

Glossop. Therefore, we have decided to retain the boundary set out in our draft recommendations between the two Glossop divisions.

125 We note the proposed name changes from Robert Langan MP and while there may be some merit in his argument, we have had no other evidence to support these name changes, so cannot be sure of their local support. We are therefore retaining the Etherow and Glossop South division names. As a result of our changes to the Glossop North & Bamford division, we are renaming this Glossop North.

North East Derbyshire



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Clay Cross & Tupton	1	10%
Dronfield & Unstone	1	9%
Dronfield Woodhouse & Walton	1	1%
Eckington & Coal Aston	1	1%
Killamarsh & Renishaw	1	-10%
North Wingfield, Pilsley & Morton	1	-2%
Shirland & Wingerworth South	1	9%
Sutton	1	5%

126 Under a Council size of 64, North East Derbyshire is allocated eight councillors, with each division entitled to an average of 3% more electors than the county average by 2029.

Dronfield & Unstone, Dronfield Woodhouse & Walton, Eckington & Coal Aston and Killamarsh & Renishaw

127 In response to the draft recommendations we received general support for these divisions from the Council and Labour Group, with both providing qualified commentary on how they relate to their original proposals. The North Derbyshire Conservative Federation and Councillor Lacey (North East Derbyshire District Council) also expressed general support for the draft recommendations. The Conservative Group expressed support for the Council's response.

128 Dronfield Town Council expressed support for the draft recommendations' division boundaries, but requested changes to the parish wards, to simplify them (parish wards are discussed in the Parish Electoral Arrangements section below). Wingerworth Parish Council and a number of members of the public objected to the draft recommendations which divided the parish along Longedge Lane, placing the north area in a Dronfield Woodhouse & Walton division, while the south area is in Shirland & Wingerworth South division. They argued that this divides 'well connected' parts of the village, with them being represented by different councillors, including some residents being in a division with Dronfield, while others are in division with residents in Shirland & Higham. It expressed support for retaining the existing divisions.

129 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting the general support for the draft recommendations for these divisions. We also note the objections from Wingerworth Parish Council to be divided between two divisions. However, the spread of the electorate in this area and the geography of wrapping around Chesterfield and Derbyshire Dales to the west limit the options in this area for also securing electoral equality. To secure electoral equality across the district we have found it necessary to transfer the north of Wingerworth to a northern division, and that retaining the existing divisions is not possible.

130 We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations for these divisions as final.

Clay Cross & Tupton, North Wingfield, Pilsley & Morton, Shirland & Wingerworth South and Sutton

131 In response to the draft recommendations we received a mixture of support and objections for these divisions. The Council put forward a revised version of their original proposals for this area (with the exception of Sutton division), providing evidence to support it. North Derbyshire Conservative Federation expressed support

for the Council's revised proposals, putting forward similar evidence. The Conservative Group expressed support for the Council's response. The Labour Group expressed support for the draft recommendations and also argued against the Council's revised proposals. Councillor Lacey (North East Derbyshire District Council) expressed general support for the draft recommendations.

132 The Council and North Derbyshire Conservative Federation expressed concern that the draft recommendations have poor electoral equality, with Clay Cross & Tupton division having 10% more electors than the county average by 2029, while neighbouring North Wingfield, Pilsley & Morton division would have 2% fewer. They argued that their proposals have better electoral equality, with a Clay Cross North & Tupton and Clay Cross South & North Wingfield with variances of 2% more and 7% more, respectively.

133 While they accepted that part of Wingerworth has to be transferred to Dronfield Woodhouse & Walton division, they were concerned that our Shirland & Wingerworth South division has poor coterminosity since it divides Clay Cross North, Tupton and Shirland wards. They also noted that our Shirland & Wingerworth South division contains parts of five wards.

134 They rejected arguments for not dividing parishes at the expense of dividing wards. For example, they rejected the argument for not dividing Wingerworth parish between more than two divisions, noting that it is divided between three district wards as part of our draft recommendations, which they argued reflects established splits in the parish while also securing better coterminosity and electoral equality.

135 They argued that the Adlington and The Avenue areas of Wingerworth parish do not identify 'as strongly' with the rest of the parish and look to Tupton and Clay Cross for secondary schools, leisure and retail facilities. They added that while there is a desire for the new housing in Clay Cross around the Biwaters Estate to be linked to the rest of Clay Cross, there is also an argument for linking it to the development in Wingerworth around The Avenue, noting school links.

136 They noted that while the Mill Lane area is part of Wingerworth parish, it is in Clay Cross North ward, reflecting residents' stronger links to Clay Cross than to Tupton and Wingerworth. They argued that our Clay Cross & Tupton division does not reflect this, separating the area from Clay Cross and putting it in Shirland & Wingerworth South division, which also worsens coterminosity.

137 They also argued that while the rationale for keeping the whole of Clay Cross parish in a single division is understandable, this does not enable a pattern for the wider area that secures good electoral equality or coterminosity. They noted that the current split of Clay Cross parish between divisions (and wards) is long standing and also enables it to be represented by two councillors. They also noted that other

towns are split between divisions, including Ashbourne, Ilkeston, Swadlincote, Glossop and Buxton.

138 They argued that our North Wingfield, Pilsley & Morton division separates Mickley from its parish of Shirland & Higham and also divides Shirland ward, thus reducing coterminosity. They acknowledged that their proposal separates Morton parish from Pilsley & Morton ward, reducing coterminosity there, but argued that it is a separate parish, which is preferable to our proposal which divides Shirland & Higham parish between divisions. They also argued that their revised proposals enables the Mill Lane area of Wingfield parish to be in a ward with part of Clay Cross. They argued that their revised proposals addressed the concerns they set out.

139 The North East Derbyshire Liberal Democrats also objected to the draft recommendations and argued for a division comprising Tupton and Wingerworth parishes, providing evidence of community identity links. They stated that Tupton is 'not a suburb of Clay Cross'. They also argued that Clay Cross and Shirland & Higham parishes should be in a division together.

140 Councillor Cupit (Derbyshire County Council and North East Derbyshire District Council) expressed support for the Council's revised proposals. Her arguments built on many of those put forward by the Council. She expressed concern about the proposal to separate Mickley from Shirland & Higham parish, noting that it has strong community links with the rest of the parish and that separating it would require a parish ward. She also argued for the retention of the Mill Lane area in a Clay Cross division, while also arguing that Clay Cross itself should continue to be served by two councillors reflecting that the town is made up of different communities. She added that Danesmoor has links to Pilsley, while Old Tupton and Holmgate link to Tupton and Wingerworth.

141 A number of members of the public also argued that the Mill Lane area should be in a Clay Cross division.

142 The Labour Group expressed support for the draft recommendations and put forward objections to the Council's revised proposals. It supported our proposal to remove the existing split of Clay Cross parish between divisions, arguing this will give the whole town a single voice. It also acknowledged that North Wingfield parish needs to be divided to secure electoral equality, but that the proposed divide is much more sensible than the existing division which splits the village centre. It also expressed support for the division of Wingerworth parish between two divisions, rather than three under the Council's proposals, noting that a single-councillor pattern is 'almost impossible' without splitting Wingerworth parish.

143 The Labour Group also provided specific objections to the Council's revised proposal. It noted that the geography and spread of the electorate in this area leads one to choose between using parishes or wards as the building blocks for divisions. It acknowledged the Council's argument that residents in the Mill Lane area look to Clay Cross for services, but said this should be balanced against the fact residents in the south of Clay Cross also look to Clay Cross for services, with the main services being in the north of the parish. As such, it argued that there is a stronger case for keeping the whole of Clay Cross in a division, than for dividing it so that the Mill Lane areas can be included, thus keeping the parish together, but at the expense of coterminosity.

144 It rejected the Council's concerns about electoral equality, arguing the variances of the draft recommendations are within acceptable levels. It acknowledged that while the draft recommendations divide Mickley from Shirland & Higham parish and Shirland ward, the Council's proposals separate Morton parish from Pilsley & Morton ward. They also argued that the Council had not given evidence for links between the south of Clay Cross parish and other areas in its Clay Cross South & North Wingfield division, while arguing that the other areas actually look to the north of Clay Cross where the facilities and services are located. They also argued that the Council's proposals to split Wingerworth parish between three divisions would require three county councillors to attend its meetings, while the draft recommendations would only require two to attend.

145 It accepted the argument that residents from Wingerworth and Tupton use facilities in Clay Cross, but as said above, argued that so do residents from all surrounding communities. It argued that the areas to the north of Clay Cross will also look to Chesterfield for services, which lies just to the north. Finally, it added that while the parts of Wingerworth parish are split between Tupton and Wingerworth wards, with the A61 running through the area, being in a single division means better representation on traffic and transport issues.

146 Councillor Gillott (Derbyshire County Council) put forward detailed evidence to support the draft recommendations for including Clay Cross parish in a single division. His arguments built on many of those put forward by the Labour Group, including that Clay Cross is a growing community and a hub for retail, leisure and essential services. As such, the issues that it faces would be better served by a single councillor. He acknowledged that the Mill Lane area looks to Clay Cross, but that it is in the interests of those residents that Clay Cross has the best representation it can, which is being served by a single councillor, and that they sit within Wingerworth parish. He also acknowledged that Clay Cross parish does not have sufficient electors to be a division in its own right and therefore linking it with Tupton is an acceptable solution, while reflecting Tupton is a separate parish, as its residents look to Clay Cross for services.

147 Councillor Gillott also supported the inclusion of North Wingfield and Pilsley in a division, noting they share similar concerns around road and public transport connections, while Pilsley and Morton are rural villages that share concerns around the provision of services and therefore reliable transport links to access services. He stated that if North Wingfield must be split, then the draft recommendations use a sensible boundary. Finally, he acknowledged that Stretton parish has limited links to North Wingfield, but does have some links with Morton around road and transport links, as well as both looking to Clay Cross for services – the north area where the services are, not the south area.

148 North Wingfield Parish Council expressed support for the draft recommendations stating that while its preference would be for the parish to remain in a single division, it accepts to secure electoral equality this is not possible. It argues that the new split in the village is more logical than the existing one, noting that it keeps the village centre and its facilities together in a single division. It also accepted the inclusion of an area to the east of the parish in Sutton division, noting it shares links with Holmewood. It stated that while residents use facilities in Clay Cross, these links are to the north where the facilities are, not the south area of Clay Cross (Danesmoor or Clay Lane) – this is reflected in the public transport links. Finally, it cited its links to Pilsley, including the local primary school.

149 As outlined in the Dronfield & Unstone, Dronfield Woodhouse & Walton, Eckington & Coal Aston and Killamarsh & Renishaw section, Wingerworth Parish Council and a number of members of the public objected to the draft recommendation which divided the parish along Longedge Lane, placing the north area in a Dronfield Woodhouse & Walton division, while the south area is in Shirland & Wingerworth South division.

150 Councillor Adlington-Stringer (North East Derbyshire District Council) expressed concern that the draft recommendations would create confusion stating that 'There [...] are several layers of representation in Wingerworth, none of which overlap in any meaningful or coherent way'.

151 Clay Cross Parish Council and Councillor Cooper (Tupton Parish Council) expressed support for the draft recommendations, putting forward elements of the Labour Group and Councillor Gillott argument.

152 St Bartholomew's and St Barnabas churches, Clay Cross argued that Stretton and Handley are traditionally linked to Clay Cross not North Wingfield. They also argued that the draft recommendations omit a number of properties around Coney Green Road from their natural community in Clay Cross.

153 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting the conflicting evidence, bought about in part by the difficulty in securing a pattern of

divisions for this area. This is made more complicated by the spread of the electorate, the complicated geography and finding a balance between reflecting the wards and parish boundaries.

154 The comments from Councillor Adlington-Stringer reflect these issues and we acknowledge that the parish and ward boundaries in this area may create confusion when new division boundaries are also being proposed. In the case of Wingerworth, while some respondents have argued that it is important to keep coterminosity with the district wards, we also note that this leads to some of the confusion as Wingerworth parish is already divided between three wards. We consider that our draft recommendations minimise this by only dividing the parish between two divisions. We acknowledge that the transfer of an area to Dronfield Woodhouse & Walton division is not ideal – however, this is unavoidable in seeking a pattern that also secures reasonable levels of electoral equality. While the Council’s revised proposal is coterminous with the ward boundaries in Wingerworth area, it divides Wingerworth parish between three divisions, which we think adds to the confusion creating less clear effective and convenient local government. This is one argument in favour of our draft recommendations.

155 We also note the arguments around the division of Clay Cross, which is in part linked to which neighbouring areas should be linked to Clay Cross. We note the argument that the Mill Lane area has links to Clay Cross and that these are reflected in the ward boundaries. However, linking this area to Clay Cross, as the Council and others suggest, in part leads to the need to divide Clay Cross parish between wards. We consider there to be good evidence not to do this, with good arguments for representing the whole of Clay Cross parish with one councillor. Indeed, our visit to the area suggested that the south area abuts the centre of town and residents share clear links in the use of facilities and services there. We note the argument that other towns are divided to secure a division pattern. However, in most of the cases quoted, the towns are too large to be in a single division, while in others, towns are divided where we have been unable to identify an alternative pattern. In the case of Clay Cross, we consider there to be a sensible option that doesn’t divide the town.

156 We also note the argument from North Wingfield Parish Council that its residents look to the north of Clay Cross for service and facilities and not to the south (which has no services or facilities), which the Council scheme includes them with. Our visit to the area confirmed that the links are to the north area. Finally, in Clay Cross, we note the conflicting argument about the links between Tupton to Clay Cross and/or to Aldington and The Avenue part of Wingerworth parish. Our visit to the area suggests these areas may link to both, but it is clear that residents in Tupton will look to Clay Cross for many services and facilities. While the Aldington and The Avenue area may look to Tupton and on to Clay Cross for the same services and facilities, it also has reasonable links into the rest of Wingerworth

parish. On balance, we consider the draft recommendations provide a reasonable reflection of this.

157 While it is correct that the draft recommendations divide Mickley from Shirland & Higham parish and Shirland ward, the Council's proposals separate Morton parish from Pilsley & Morton ward, so neither proposal secures coterminosity in this area. We note the argument that Mickley should be kept with the rest of Shirland & Higham parish. However, if it was retained in our Shirland & Wingerworth South division this would worsen electoral equality there to 16% more electors than the county average by 2029. We are not persuaded that this level of electoral equality can be justified in this area, when there are options to link it with neighbouring rural villages, including Morton and Stretton, albeit in different parishes. Therefore, we are not adopting this amendment.

158 We note the comments and proposals from the Liberal Democrats and while they provide some evidence for an alternative pattern, their proposal for a division comprising Clay Cross and Shirland & Higham parishes would have 23% more electors than the county average by 2029. Notwithstanding this poor level of electoral equality, this also does not take into account the knock-on effect on the rest of the area. Therefore, we are not persuaded to adopt this amendment.

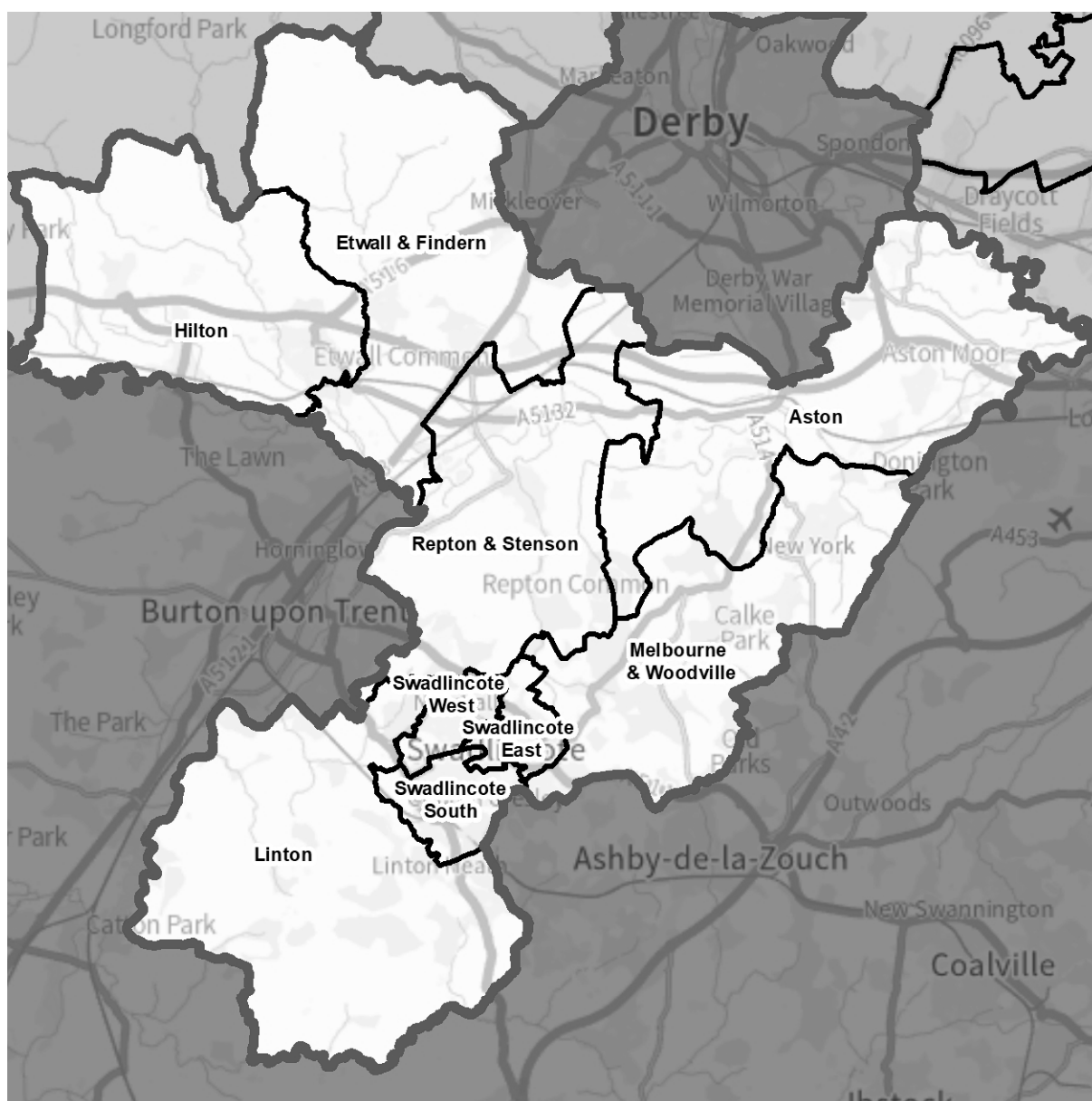
159 We also note the comments about Coney Green Road, but this reflects the parish and ward boundaries. To transfer these areas would require amending these boundaries which we cannot do as part of this review.

160 We note the comments about the levels of electoral equality and while the Council's proposals provide slightly better levels of electoral equality, those of our draft recommendations are still within acceptable levels. We have also considered concerns about the levels of coterminosity with district wards, noting that the Council's proposals would divide three of the eight wards in this area and the draft recommendations would divide five of those wards.

161 As stated above, the spread of the electorate, the complicated geography and finding a balance between reflecting the wards and parish boundaries makes it difficult to draw division boundaries in this area. While the situation is finely balanced, the draft recommendations reflect many of the comments received about community links, avoid dividing the Clay Cross parish and only divides Wingerworth parish between two divisions. We consider that this balance of factors outweighs concerns about differences in coterminosity and electoral equality. Given the transfer of part of Wingerworth parish to Dronfield Woodhouse & Walton division, we consider that avoiding dividing the rest of the parish between divisions will serve it better. We acknowledge the draft recommendations do not reflect all community links, particularly those around the Mill Lane area and Mickley, but again we consider that the draft recommendations provide the best balance of the statutory criteria,

securing electoral equality, avoiding the division of some parishes and reflecting other community evidence. We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations for these divisions as final.

South Derbyshire



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Aston	1	1%
Etwall & Findern	1	1%
Hilton	1	5%
Linton	1	4%
Melbourne & Woodville	1	11%
Repton & Stenson	1	13%
Swadlincote East	1	-2%
Swadlincote South	1	5%
Swadlincote West	1	6%

162 Under a Council size of 64, South Derbyshire is allocated nine councillors, one more than it currently has, with each division entitled to an average of 5% more electors than the county average by 2029.

Aston, Etwall & Findern, Hilton, Melbourne & Woodville and Repton & Stenson

163 The Council expressed general support for the draft recommendations in this area. The Conservative Group expressed support for the Council's response. The Labour Group expressed support for the draft recommendations for Aston, Etwall & Findern, Hilton and Linton divisions. However, along with District Councillor Pearson and a member of the public it proposed improving the 13% variance of the Repton & Stenson division by transferring Bretby parish to Swadlincote West division, with related amendments to the Swadlincote divisions to secure electoral equality. They argued that residents in Bretby look to Swadlincote for services, while connections to the areas north of the River Trent in the Repton & Stenson division are not as strong. The Labour Group also proposed changes to the boundary between Melbourne & Woodville and Swadlincote East divisions in two areas. It considered that these changes would provide for clearer boundaries and mean that Woodville parish is only divided into two parish wards, while also better reflecting community identities and interests.

164 South Derbyshire District Council proposed that the whole of Woodville parish should be included in Melbourne & Woodville division, arguing this provides a better reflection of community identity and avoided the division of the parish and its facilities between divisions. Woodville Parish Council also argued for the inclusion of the whole parish in Melbourne & Woodville division, arguing this would better reflect communities and avoid dividing the parish. A member of the public also expressed concerns about linking Woodville with Melbourne.

165 South Derbyshire District Council expressed concern that the draft recommendations divide Stenson Fields parish and argued that this does not reflect community identity. It argued that the area of Stenson Fields parish included in Aston division should be retained in the Repton & Stenson division. Repton Parish Council objected to the inclusion of part of Stenson Fields parish in the Repton & Stenson division, stating that it should be excluded from the division. It also proposed including Foremark and Ingleby parishes in Repton & Stenson division arguing they are close to Repton parish and share a vicar. They also argued that the division should be named Repton or Repton & Willington.

166 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting some support for the draft recommendations. We also note the objections around the division of Stenson Fields and Woodville parishes and also the proposal to include Bretby parish in a Swadlincote West division. However, including the whole of Stenson Fields parish in Aston division would result in this division having 46% more electors than the county average by 2029, while Repton & Stenson would have 32% fewer. This is a poor level of electoral equality, which is why it was considered as part of the draft recommendations, but not adopted. We do not consider there to be

sufficient new evidence to justify this, and we are not persuaded to adopt this proposal. We also note the argument for including the small area of Stenson Fields parish in Repton & Stenson division. However, including this area, which will be subject to development, would worsen electoral equality in Repton & Stenson division to 21% more electors than the county average by 2029. As with the option of including Stenson Fields in Aston division, we do not consider there to be sufficient new evidence to justify this level of electoral equality, so we are not adopting it.

167 We have also considered the suggestion for the inclusion of Foremark and Ingleby parishes in Repton & Stenson division, but note this would further worsen the 13% variance of this division. Therefore, given the worsening of electoral equality and no other support for the change, we are not persuaded to make this change. Finally, we note the suggestion of a name change, but note that there is not strong evidence supporting a revised name and no other respondents suggest this. We are therefore retaining the Repton & Stenson name.

168 We have considered the proposal for including Bretby parish in Swadlincote and while we recognise the argument that residents in Bretby use facilities and services in Swadlincote, our visit to the area suggested that the rural Bretby parish has good links to the neighbouring rural parishes in our Repton & Stenson division. On balance, we consider these links to be stronger than the argument for including a rural parish in an urban division. Therefore, we are not adopting this amendment.

169 Finally in this area, we note the general support for the draft recommendations, but also note the arguments and alternative proposals around Woodville parish. We acknowledge that the division of the parish is not ideal, however, as part of the draft recommendations, in order to secure a division pattern that has good electoral equality we found it necessary to divide the parish. We note that South Derbyshire District Council and Woodville Parish Council argue that the draft recommendations divide a number of community facilities from others in Woodville parish. However, retaining the whole of Woodville parish in the Melbourne & Woodville division results in a Melbourne & Woodville division with 20% more electors than the county average by 2029. We do not consider there to be sufficient evidence to justify this level of electoral equality.

170 We have considered the Labour Group proposal to include a different area of Woodville parish in the Melbourne & Woodville division. We note the argument that this would mean Woodville parish is divided into two parish wards, rather than three under the draft recommendations and that it would create a stronger boundary. We also note that this would enable some of the facilities that South Derbyshire District Council and Woodville Parish Council identify to remain in the same division, however it would separate others – we are unable to identify a division pattern that keeps all these facilities in a single division while securing good electoral equality. We note that the Labour Group proposal worsens electoral equality in Melbourne & Woodville division to 10% more electors than the county average by 2029. In addition, we note that by proposing using the polling district boundaries around

Hartshorne Road it would leave the Falcon Way area with no direct access into the Melbourne & Woodville division. Therefore, to ensure access the boundary would have to be moved to Hartshorne Road – as a result Melbourne & Woodville division would have 11% more electors than the county average.

171 On balance, although the modified version of the Labour Group proposal worsens electoral equality to 11%, it improves effective and convenient local government by using a stronger boundary along Hartshorne Road, while also only dividing Woodville parish into two parish wards. Since we acknowledge that division of the parish is not ideal, we consider this a good balance between securing reasonable electoral equality and reducing the effect of dividing Woodville parish. We are therefore adopting this amendment as part of our final recommendations.

172 Our final recommendations are for single-councillor Aston, Etwall & Findern, Hilton, Melbourne & Woodville and Repton & Stenson divisions, with 1% more, 1% more, 5% more, 11% more and 13% more electors than the county average by 2029.

Linton, Swadlincote East, Swadlincote South and Swadlincote West

173 The Council expressed general support for the draft recommendations in this area. The Conservative Group expressed support for the Council's response. The Labour Group proposed a number of changes to the boundaries between Swadlincote East, Swadlincote South and Swadlincote West divisions. It proposed reverting the existing boundary between Swadlincote East and Swadlincote West divisions, arguing this avoids splitting a polling district, while also improving electoral equality following its proposal to transfer Bretby parish to Swadlincote West division. It proposed a further amendment to transfer the Cheviot Close area from Swadlincote East to Swadlincote South arguing it reflects school catchment areas and avoids splitting a polling district. Finally, as discussed in the section above, they proposed including an area of Woodville parish to the west of Hartshorne Road to Swadlincote East division, while transferring an area of the same parish to the south of Swadlincote Road to Melbourne & Woodville division. They argued that this creates a clearer boundary and means that Woodville parish is only divided into two parish wards, while also reflecting community identities and interests.

174 South Derbyshire District Council also proposed amendments in the boundaries of the Swadlincote divisions to avoid the division of polling districts.

175 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting the amendments put forward by the Labour Group and South Derbyshire District Council. As discussed in the section above, we are adopting a modified version of the Labour Group proposals for the boundary between Melbourne & Woodville and Swadlincote East divisions as we consider this provides a clearer boundary, while reducing the impact on Woodville parish. We note the amendments proposed by the Labour Group and District Council to tie the division boundaries to polling districts boundaries in Swadlincote, but do not consider that arguments relating to impact on

polling districts meet the effective and convenient local government criteria and would expect the District Council to carry out a polling district review following the completion of this review. These amendments do not improve electoral equality, and given the general support for the draft recommendation in this area, we are confirming our draft recommendations for these divisions as final.

Conclusions

176 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality in Derbyshire, referencing the 2022 and 2029 electorate figures against the proposed number of councillors and divisions. 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	
	2022	2029
Number of councillors	64	64
Number of electoral divisions	64	64
Average number of electors per councillor	9,709	10,617
Number of divisions with a variance more than 10% from the average	10	6
Number of divisions with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

Final recommendations

Derbyshire County Council should be made up of 64 councillors representing 64 single-councillor divisions. 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 divisions for the Derbyshire County Council. You can also view our final recommendations for Derbyshire on our interactive maps at www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/derbyshire

Parish electoral arrangements

177 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 divisions it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single division. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

178 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 division arrangements. However, the relevant district and borough councils have powers under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct community governance reviews to effect changes to parish electoral arrangements.

179 As a result of our proposed division 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 Belper, Charlesworth, Dronfield, Heanor & Loscoe, Langwith, North Wingfield, Old Bolsover, Ripley, Shirland & Higham, Somercotes, Wingerworth and Woodville parishes.

180 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Belper parish.

Final recommendations

Belper Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing five wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Belper Central	1
Belper East	3
Belper North	4
Belper North East	4
Belper South	4

181 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Charlesworth parish.

Final recommendations

Charlesworth Parish Council should comprise nine councillors, as at present, representing three wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Simmondley	3
St John's East	1
St John's West	5

182 In response to the draft recommendations, Dronfield Town Council requested we incorporate the draft recommendations for Bowshaw parish ward into Dronfield Woodhouse parish ward and Dyche and Summerfield parish wards into Coal Aston parish ward. We concur with the Parish Council's argument that these amendments provide better effective and convenient local government. We are therefore adopting them. We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Dronfield parish.

Final recommendations

Dronfield Town Council should comprise 19 councillors, as at present, representing six wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Coal Aston	4
Dronfield North	3
Dronfield South	5
Dronfield Woodhouse	2
Gosforth Valley East	2
Gosforth Valley West	3

183 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Heanor & Loscoe parish.

Final recommendations

Heanor & Loscoe Town Council should comprise 21 councillors, as at present, representing five wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Heanor Central	1
Heanor East	7
Heanor West	6
Loscoe East	2
Loscoe West	5

184 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Langwith parish.

Final recommendations

Langwith Parish Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing three wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Bassett	4
Bathurst	4
Poulter	4

185 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for North Wingfield parish.

Final recommendations

North Wingfield Parish Council should comprise 10 councillors, as at present, representing four wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Central	4
Central East	1
East	1
West	4

186 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Old Bolsover parish.

Final recommendations

Old Bolsover Town Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing five wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Old Bolsover East	5
Old Bolsover North	2
Old Bolsover South	3
Old Bolsover with Shuttlewood	1
Old Bolsover with Stanfree	1

187 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Ripley parish.

Final recommendations

Ripley Town Council should comprise 21 councillors, as at present, representing 10 wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Ambergate	2
Butterley	2
Heage	3
Peasehill	1
Ripley Central	3
Ripley East	4
Ripley Elms	1
Ripley Marehay	1
Ripley North	2
Waingroves	2

188 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Shirland & Higham parish.

Final recommendations

Shirland & Higham Parish Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
North	2
South	10

189 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Somercotes parish.

Final recommendations

Somercotes Parish Council should comprise 13 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
North	10
South	3

190 We note Wingerworth Parish Council's objections to the increase in parish wards from five to six. However, the division of the existing Wingerworth parish ward was necessary to reflect the new division arrangements for Derbyshire. We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Wingerworth parish. If the Parish Council wants to make further changes to the parish wards, it may wish to request a Community Governance Review, which is the responsibility of North East Derbyshire District Council.

Final recommendations

Wingerworth Parish Council should comprise 14 councillors, as at present, representing six wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Adlington	3
Hardwick Woodland	1
Longedge	1
Wingerworth North	3
Wingerworth South	5
Woodthorpe	1

191 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Woodville parish.

Final recommendations

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

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
North	2
South	9

What happens next?

192 We have now completed our review of Derbyshire County Council. The recommendations must now be approved by Parliament. A draft Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in Parliament. Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements will come into force at the local elections in 2025.

Equalities

193 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 Derbyshire County Council

Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2022)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2029)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	
AMBER VALLEY								
1	Alfreton & Somercotes	1	10,211	10,211	5%	10,967	10,967	3%
2	Alport & Duffield	1	9,358	9,358	-4%	11,461	11,461	8%
3	Codnor, Aldercar, Langley Mill & Loscoe	1	10,273	10,273	6%	11,046	11,046	4%
4	Heanor	1	10,530	10,530	8%	11,220	11,220	6%
5	Horsley	1	10,055	10,055	4%	11,157	11,157	5%
6	North Belper	1	9,356	9,356	-4%	10,221	10,221	-4%
7	Ripley East	1	10,056	10,056	4%	11,379	11,379	7%
8	Ripley West & Crich	1	10,543	10,543	9%	11,352	11,352	7%
9	South Belper & Holbrook	1	9,356	9,356	-4%	10,219	10,219	-4%
10	Swanwick & Riddings	1	10,013	10,013	3%	10,963	10,963	3%

Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2022)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2029)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	
BOLSOVER								
11	Barlborough & Clowne	1	10,412	10,412	7%	11,170	11,170	5%
12	Bolsover	1	9,242	9,242	-5%	10,939	10,939	3%
13	Elmton with Creswell & Whitwell	1	9,541	9,541	-2%	10,431	10,431	-2%
14	Hardwick	1	10,579	10,579	9%	11,430	11,430	8%
15	Shirebrook & Pleasley	1	10,569	10,569	9%	11,799	11,799	11%
16	South Normanton & Pinxton	1	10,198	10,198	5%	10,969	10,969	3%
CHESTERFIELD								
17	Brimington	1	9,226	9,226	-5%	9,627	9,627	-9%
18	Dunston	1	9,066	9,066	-7%	10,145	10,145	-4%
19	Hasland & Rother	1	10,696	10,696	10%	10,991	10,991	4%
20	Linacre & Loundsley Green	1	9,917	9,917	2%	10,472	10,472	-1%
21	Spire	1	9,335	9,335	-4%	10,192	10,192	-4%
22	Staveley	1	9,560	9,560	-2%	10,411	10,411	-2%

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2022)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2029)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
23	Staveley North & Whittington	1	10,179	10,179	5%	10,902	10,902	3%
24	Walton, Brampton & Boythorpe	1	10,074	10,074	4%	10,498	10,498	-1%
DERBYSHIRE DALES								
25	Ashbourne South	1	9,065	9,065	-7%	9,674	9,674	-9%
26	Bakewell	1	11,208	11,208	15%	11,621	11,621	9%
27	Derwent Valley	1	9,164	9,164	-6%	9,685	9,685	-9%
28	Dovedale & Ashbourne North	1	9,455	9,455	-3%	9,848	9,848	-7%
29	Matlock	1	9,132	9,132	-6%	10,085	10,085	-5%
30	Wirksworth	1	9,600	9,600	-1%	9,991	9,991	-6%
EREWASH								
31	Breadsall & West Hallam	1	8,582	8,582	-12%	10,515	10,515	-1%
32	Breaston	1	10,266	10,266	6%	10,661	10,661	0%
33	Ilkeston Central	1	10,543	10,543	9%	10,957	10,957	3%
34	Ilkeston North	1	10,302	10,302	6%	11,168	11,168	5%

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2022)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2029)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
35	Ilkeston South & Kirk Hallam	1	8,674	8,674	-11%	9,701	9,701	-9%
36	Long Eaton North	1	9,393	9,393	-3%	9,778	9,778	-8%
37	Long Eaton South	1	9,260	9,260	-5%	9,586	9,586	-10%
38	Sandiacre	1	8,672	8,672	-11%	9,270	9,270	-13%
39	Sawley	1	10,968	10,968	13%	11,409	11,409	7%
HIGH PEAK								
40	Buxton North & East	1	8,823	8,823	-9%	9,643	9,643	-9%
41	Buxton South & West	1	8,443	8,443	-13%	9,607	9,607	-10%
42	Chapel & Hope Valley	1	10,401	10,401	7%	10,995	10,995	4%
43	Etherow	1	9,108	9,108	-6%	9,833	9,833	-7%
44	Glossop North	1	8,027	8,027	-17%	8,578	8,578	-19%
45	Glossop South	1	8,944	8,944	-8%	9,653	9,653	-9%
46	New Mills & Hayfield	1	9,787	9,787	1%	10,401	10,401	-2%
47	Whaley Bridge	1	8,807	8,807	-9%	9,392	9,392	-12%

Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2022)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2029)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	
NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE								
48	Clay Cross & Tupton	1	10,638	10,638	10%	11,631	11,631	10%
49	Dronfield & Unstone	1	11,216	11,216	16%	11,521	11,521	9%
50	Dronfield Woodhouse & Walton	1	10,509	10,509	8%	10,762	10,762	1%
51	Eckington & Coal Aston	1	10,445	10,445	8%	10,729	10,729	1%
52	Killamarsh & Renishaw	1	9,288	9,288	-4%	9,550	9,550	-10%
53	North Wingfield, Pilsley & Morton	1	9,600	9,600	-1%	10,443	10,443	-2%
54	Shirland & Wingerworth South	1	10,651	10,651	10%	11,575	11,575	9%
55	Sutton	1	9,978	9,978	3%	11,116	11,116	5%
SOUTH DERBYSHIRE								
57	Aston	1	7,854	7,854	-19%	10,773	10,773	1%
57	Etwall & Findern	1	8,714	8,714	-10%	10,738	10,738	1%
58	Hilton	1	9,804	9,804	1%	11,115	11,115	5%
59	Linton	1	8,344	8,344	-14%	10,992	10,992	4%

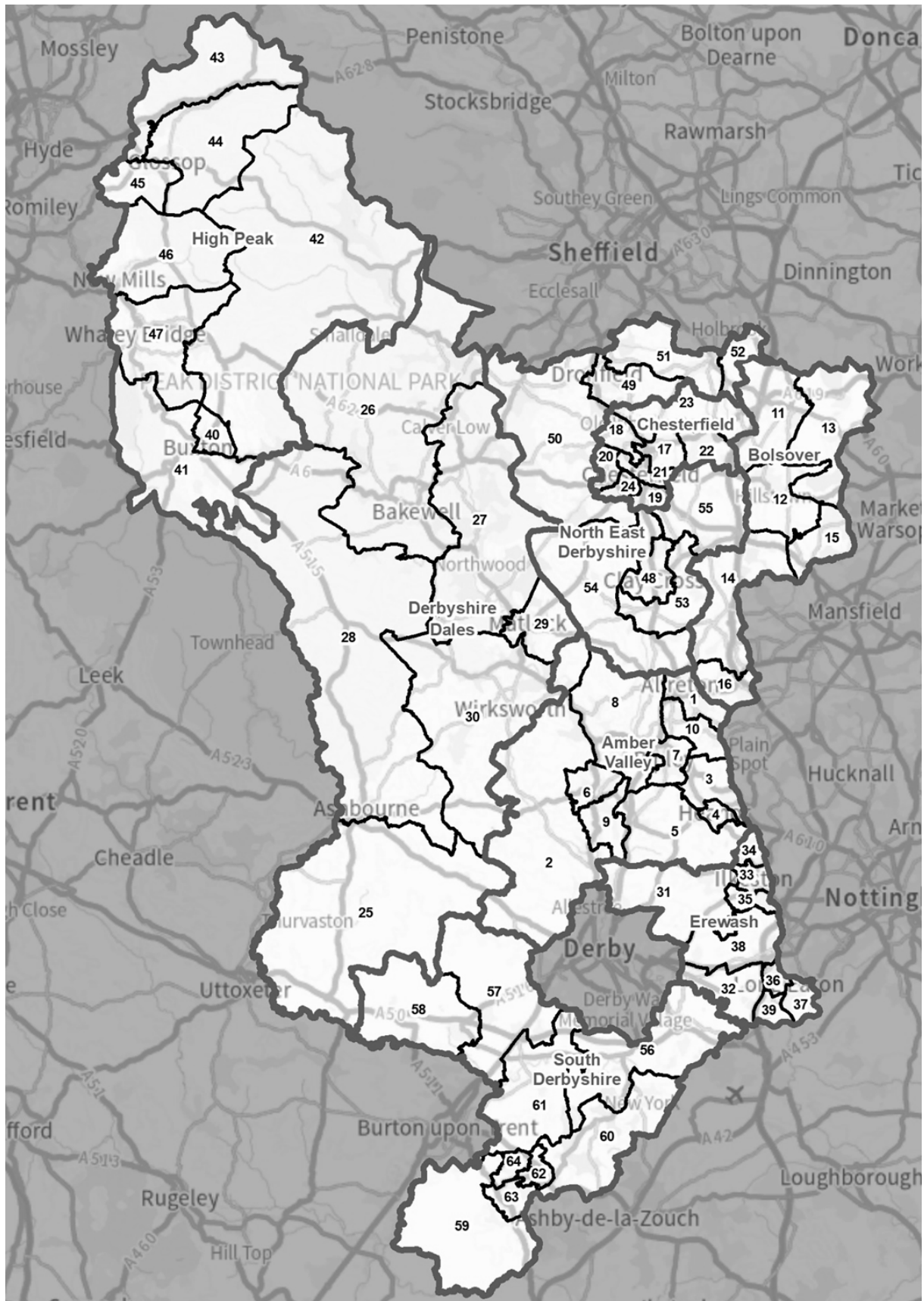
Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2022)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2029)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
60 Melbourne & Woodville	1	10,042	10,042	3%	11,779	11,779	11%
61 Repton & Stenson	1	10,441	10,441	8%	11,972	11,972	13%
62 Swadlincote East	1	9,219	9,219	-5%	10,454	10,454	-2%
63 Swadlincote South	1	9,811	9,811	1%	11,139	11,139	5%
64 Swadlincote West	1	9,826	9,826	1%	11,209	11,209	6%
Totals	64	621,349	–	–	679,510	–	–
Averages	–	–	9,709	–	–	10,617	–

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

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

Appendix B

Outline map



No	Division name	No	Division name
AMBER VALLEY		32	Breaston
1	Alfreton & Somercotes	33	Ilkeston Central
2	Alport & Duffield	34	Ilkeston North
3	Codnor, Aldercar, Langley Mill & Loscoe	35	Ilkeston South & Kirk Hallam
4	Heanor	36	Long Eaton North
5	Horsley	37	Long Eaton South
6	North Belper	38	Sandiacre
7	Ripley East	39	Sawley
8	Ripley West & Crich	HIGH PEAK	
9	South Belper & Holbrook	40	Buxton North & East
10	Swanwick & Riddings	41	Buxton South & West
BOLSOVER		42	Chapel & Hope Valley
11	Barlborough & Clowne	43	Etherow
12	Bolsover	44	Glossop North
13	Elmton with Creswell & Whitwell	45	Glossop South
14	Hardwick	46	New Mills & Hayfield
15	Shirebrook & Pleasley	47	Whaley Bridge
16	South Normanton & Pinxton	NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE	
CHESTERFIELD		48	Clay Cross & Tupton
17	Brimington	49	Dronfield & Unstone
18	Dunston	50	Dronfield Woodhouse & Walton
19	Hasland & Rother	51	Eckington & Coal Aston
20	Linacre & Loundsley Green	52	Killamarsh & Renishaw
21	Spire	53	North Wingfield, Pilsley & Morton
22	Staveley	54	Shirland & Wingerworth South
23	Staveley North & Whittington	55	Sutton
24	Walton, Brampton & Boythorpe	SOUTH DERBYSHIRE	
DERBYSHIRE DALES		56	Aston
25	Ashbourne South	57	Etwall & Findern
26	Bakewell	58	Hilton
27	Derwent Valley	59	Linton
28	Dovedale & Ashbourne North	60	Melbourne & Woodville
29	Matlock	61	Repton & Stenson
30	Wirksworth	62	Swadlincote East
EREWASH		63	Swadlincote South
31	Breadsall & West Hallam	64	Swadlincote 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/derbyshire

Appendix C

Submissions received

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/derbyshire

Local authority

- Derbyshire County Council
- South Derbyshire District Council

Political groups

- Derbyshire County Council Conservative Group
- Derbyshire County Council Labour Group
- Ilkeston Branch of Erewash Conservatives
- North Derbyshire Conservative Federation
- North East Derbyshire Liberal Democrats

MPs

- Robert Largan MP (High Peak)⁸

Councillors

- Councillor F. Aldington-Stringer (North East Derbyshire District Council)
- Councillor J. Barron (Derbyshire County Council)
- Councillor B. Bingham (Derbyshire County Council)
- Councillor J. Bryan (Derbyshire County Council)
- Councillor S. Burfoot (Derbyshire County Council)
- Councillor B. Butcher (Derbyshire Dales District Council)
- Councillor J. Collins (Edale Parish Council)
- Councillor J. Cooper (Tupton Parish Council)
- Councillor C. Corbett (Erewash Borough Council)
- Councillor C. Cupit (Derbyshire County Council and North East Derbyshire District Council)
- Councillor J. Dawson (Erewash Borough Council)
- Councillor R. Everett (Erewash Borough Council)
- Councillor C. Farrell (High Peak Borough Council)
- Councillor R. George (Derbyshire County Council)
- Councillor K. Gillott (Derbyshire County Council)
- Councillor N. Gourlay (Derbyshire County Council)
- Councillor L. Grooby (Derbyshire County Council)
- Councillor B. Hall-Evans (Erewash Borough Council)
- Councillor J. Higham (South Darley Parish Council)

⁸ Robert Largan was the Member of Parliament up until May 2024 when the 4 July 2024 elections were announced.

- Councillor S. Hobson (Derbyshire County Council)
- Councillor C. Howard (Erewash Borough Council)
- Councillor D. Kleine (Bamford with Thornhill Parish Council)
- Councillor T. Lacey (North East Derbyshire District Council)
- Councillor P. Maginnis (Erewash Borough Council)
- Councillor S. McCormick (Belper Town Council)
- Councillor R. Mihaly (Derbyshire County Council)
- Councillor M. Murray (Holbrook Parish Council)
- Councillor D. Murphy (Derbyshire County Council)
- Councillor R. Pearson (South Derbyshire District Council)
- Councillor C. Wood (Bolsover District Council)

Parish and Town Councils

- Alfreton Town Council
- Bamford With Thornhill Parish Council
- Castleton Town Council
- Chinley, Buxworth & Brownside Parish Council
- Clay Cross Parish Council
- Dale Abbey Parish Council
- Derwent & Hope Woodlands Parish Council
- Draycott & Church Wilne Parish Council
- Dronfield Town Council
- Heanor & Loscoe Town Council
- New Mills Town Council (x2)
- North Wingfield Parish Council
- Repton Parish Council
- Ripley Town Council
- Whaley Bridge Town Council
- Wingerworth Parish Council
- Woodville Parish Council
- Wormhill & Green Fairfield Parish Council

Local organisations

- St Bartholomew's and St Barnabas churches, Clay Cross

Members of the public

- 178 Members of the public

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 (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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