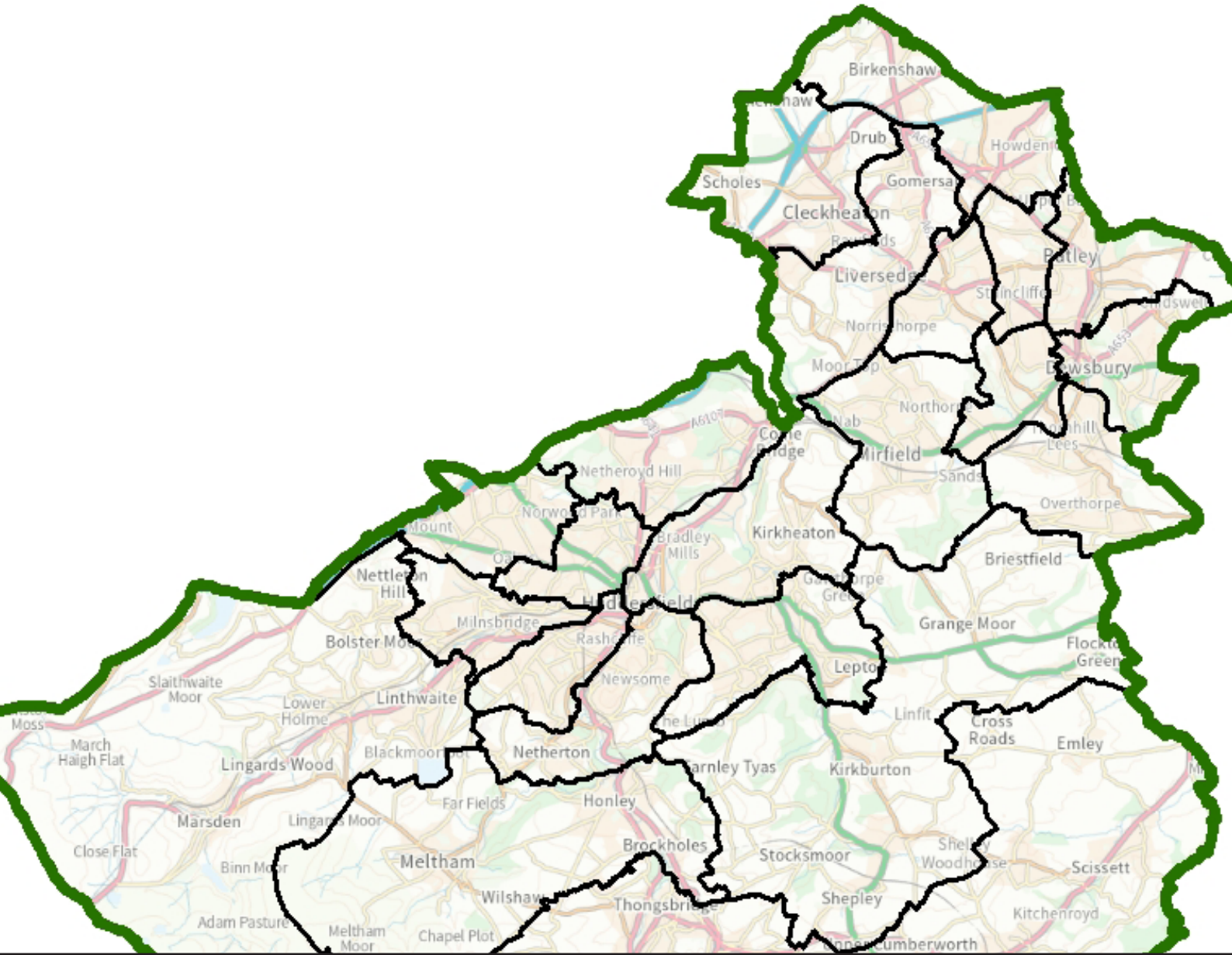


The
Local Government
Boundary Commission
for England



**New electoral arrangements for
Kirklees Council
Final Recommendations
December 2024**

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Final recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Kirklees Council

Electoral review

December 2024

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Introduction

Who we are and what we do

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

2 The members of the Commission are:

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

What is an electoral review?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Why Kirklees?

7 We are conducting a review of Kirklees Council ('the Council') as its last review was completed in 2003, and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.² Additionally, some councillors currently represent many more or fewer electors than others. We describe this as 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where the number of electors per councillor is as even as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.

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

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

Our proposals for Kirklees

9 Kirklees should be represented by 69 councillors, the same number as there are now.

10 Kirklees should have 23 wards, the same number as there are now.

11 The boundaries of most wards will change, eight will stay the same.

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

How will the recommendations affect you?

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

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

Review timetable

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

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

16 The review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
19 September 2023	Number of councillors decided
26 September 2023	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
4 December 2023	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
27 February 2024	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
6 May 2024	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions
30 July 2024	Publication to further draft recommendations; start of the third consultation
10 September 2024	End of the consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
10 December 2024	Publication of final recommendations

Analysis and final recommendations

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

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

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

	2023	2029
Electorate of Kirklees	316,511	348,623
Number of councillors	69	69
Average number of electors per councillor	4,587	5,053

20 When the number of electors per councillor in a ward is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the ward as having 'good electoral equality'. All of our proposed wards for Kirklees are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2029.

Submissions received

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

Electorate figures

22 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2029, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2024. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 10% by 2029.

23 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.

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

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

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

Number of councillors

25 Kirklees Council currently has 69 councillors. We have looked at evidence provided by the Labour Group, Conservative Group, Green Group and Liberal Democrat Group on Kirklees Council and have concluded that keeping this number the same will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

26 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 69 councillors.

27 As Kirklees Council elects by thirds (meaning it has elections in three out of every four years) there is a presumption in legislation⁵ that the Council have a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards. In each review of local authorities that elect by thirds, we will aim to deliver a pattern of three-member wards. However, in all cases this consideration will not take precedence over our other statutory criteria, and we will not recommend uniform patterns in the number of councillors per ward or division if, in our view or as is shown in evidence provided to us, it is not compatible with our other statutory criteria.

28 We received two submissions about the number of councillors in response to the consultation on our draft recommendations. A submission from a local resident proposed reducing the number of councillors to one per ward and moving to all-out elections every four years. We have no power to change the electoral cycle and, under legislation, this process can only be initiated by the local authority itself.

29 Another local resident proposed the number of councillors should be reduced to two per ward. However, we are not persuaded that evidence has been presented to depart from the presumption of three-member wards described above. We have therefore maintained 69 councillors for Kirklees in our final recommendations.

Ward boundaries consultation

30 We received 78 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included borough-wide boundary proposals from Kirklees Conservatives ('the Conservative Group'). We also received a mix of borough-wide

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

and localised comments from Kirklees Liberal Democrats ('the Liberal Democrats'). The Labour Party's Golcar Branch made a submission for one specific area of the borough.

31 The borough-wide schemes provided a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards for Kirklees. We carefully considered the proposals received and were of the view that the proposed patterns of wards resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the authority and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries.

32 Our draft recommendations were predominantly based upon the proposals made by the Conservative Group, which we considered to provide the best balance of our statutory criteria.

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

34 Our draft recommendations were for 23 three-councillor wards. We considered that our draft recommendations would provide for good electoral equality, while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

Draft recommendations consultation

35 We received 155 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations. These included a borough-wide scheme from the Kirklees Labour Group ('the Labour Group') as well as a partial scheme from the Kirklees Liberal Democrats which focused specifically on the Huddersfield and Dewsbury areas of the borough. The Kirklees Green Group ('the Green Group') also submitted ward name proposals for the Huddersfield area. These submissions expressed opposition to our draft recommendations and provided a great deal of evidence describing the extent and nature of local communities to support their proposals.

36 Based on the evidence received, we were persuaded to make significant changes to our draft recommendations, particularly with regard to the Huddersfield and Dewsbury areas. We considered that our revised proposals here represented a better reflection of our statutory criteria. However, given the scale of our proposed changes and the fact that a number of these proposals had not previously been the subject of consultation, we decided to publish further draft recommendations and consult in these areas of the authority only for six weeks.

Further draft recommendations consultation

37 We received 43 submissions during consultation on our further draft recommendations. These included responses from the Conservative Group, the Labour Group, the Golcar branch of the Labour Party, councillors, parish councillors and 36 local residents.

Final recommendations

38 Our final recommendations are for 23 three-councillor wards. We consider that our final recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

39 Our final recommendations are based on the draft and further draft recommendations with modifications to Greenhead ward in the Huddersfield area based on the submissions received during consultation. We also propose a modification to the boundaries of the proposed Mirfield, Dewsbury West and Dewsbury East wards based on convincing community evidence received.

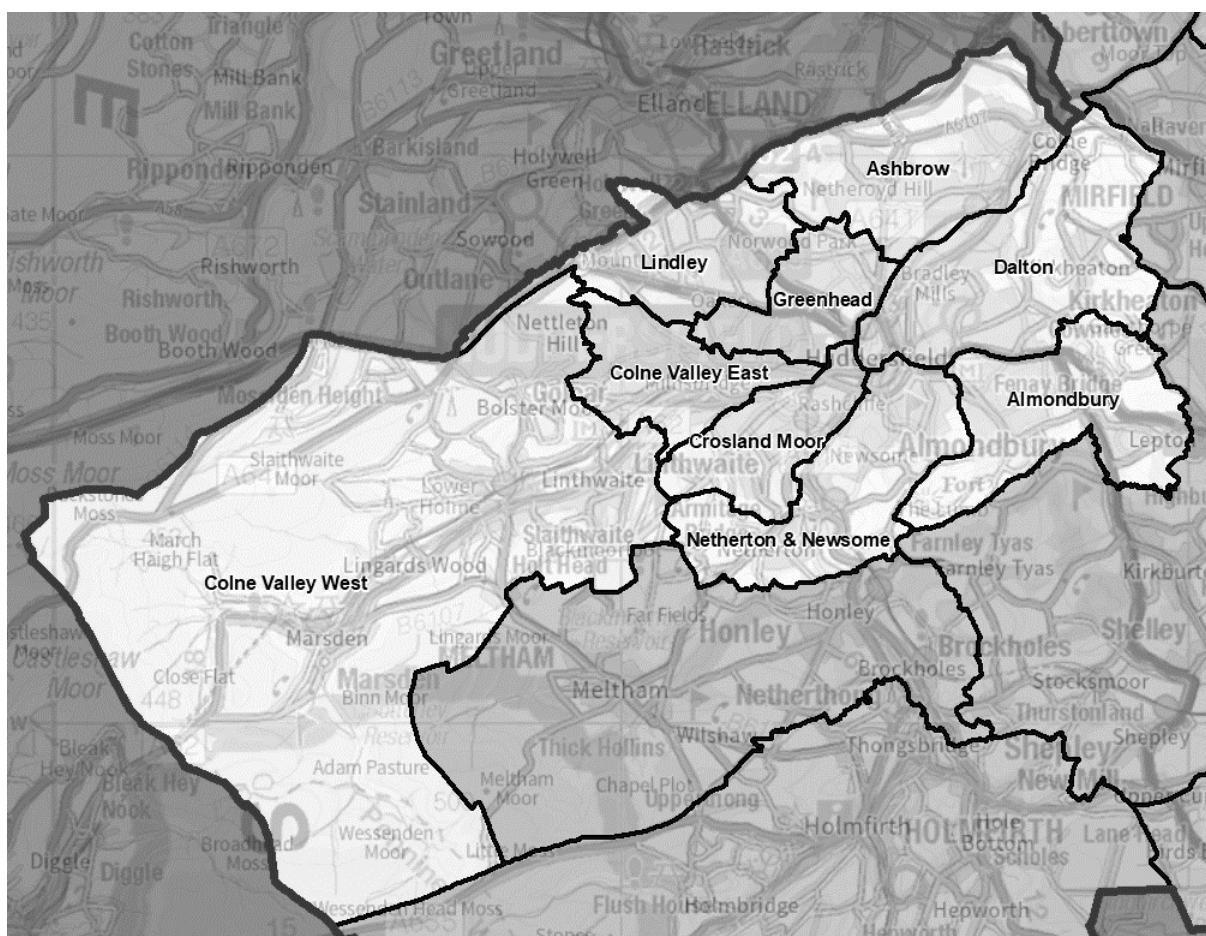
40 The tables and maps on pages 9–19 detail our final recommendations for each area of Kirklees. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory⁶ criteria of:

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

41 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 25 and on the large map accompanying this report.

⁶ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Huddersfield



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Almondbury	3	-5%
Ashbrow	3	9%
Colne Valley East	3	3%
Colne Valley West	3	-5%
Crosland Moor	3	-3%
Dalton	3	-4%
Greenhead	3	10%
Lindley	3	6%
Netherton & Newsome	3	-6%

Ashbrow

42 We received no submissions directly relating to our proposed Ashbrow ward. We therefore confirm our further draft recommendations for this ward as final and consider it to provide a good reflection of our statutory criteria.

Almondbury and Dalton

43 The Conservative Group, Councillor Taylor and two local residents opposed our proposal to incorporate the Kirkheaton area within our proposed Dalton ward. They

broadly argued that Kirkheaton has little affiliation with Dalton ward and that our recommendations did not reflect community identities and interests in this area. Two of the submissions also stated that the Facebook community groups, which were supplied as supporting evidence to demonstrate the community connection between Kirkheaton and Dalton, were only established to follow the existing ward boundaries. Councillor Taylor also stated that the inclusion of Kirkheaton within Almondbury ward would reduce the number of wards that Kirkburton parish would be split between from three to two.

44 We acknowledge the community evidence received and after careful consideration, we have decided to retain the Kirkheaton area in our proposed Dalton ward on grounds of electoral equality. Including Kirkheaton within Almondbury ward would result in a forecast electoral variance of 17% for Almondbury ward and -18% for Dalton ward. We consider these electoral variances to be very high and we are not persuaded that sufficient evidence has been provided to justify such variances. Therefore, while we acknowledge the opposition to this proposal, we have decided to not make changes to this particular boundary as part of our final recommendations.

Crosland Moor and Netherton & Newsome

45 During consultation on our further draft recommendations, we received a submission from a local resident who objected to warding the Netherton and Newsome areas together, stating that Netherton has more connection to Honley than Newsome. However, as noted in the draft recommendations, a three-councillor Holme Valley North ward that includes Netherton would have a forecast electoral variance of 22% by 2029. We consider this electoral variance to be unacceptably high and have therefore not adopted this proposal as part of our final recommendations.

46 Alternatively, a local resident expressed support for our proposal to place the South Crosland and Netherton areas in the same ward, stating that the boundaries make more sense. We therefore propose no changes to Netherton & Newsome ward as part of our final recommendations.

47 We did not receive any submissions directly relating to our proposed Crosland Moor ward. We therefore confirm our further draft recommendations for this ward as final.

Greenhead

48 A local resident expressed support for our proposed Greenhead ward, expressing satisfaction that it contained the entire community of Marsh.

49 Two local residents opposed our proposal to include the community of Paddock within Colne Valley East ward. They argued that Paddock should be transferred to

Greenhead ward as this area is classed as inner-city Huddersfield and has different issues to the communities in Colne Valley East ward.

50 Alternatively, the Labour Group and the Golcar branch of the Labour Party expressed support for our recommendation to include Paddock within Colne Valley East ward. The Labour Group reinforced their argument outlined in their initial submission that Paddock and Colne Valley East ward shared many amenities and also argued that Gledholt Woods acts as a physical barrier between Paddock and Greenhead ward.

51 We decided to not adopt the residents' proposal to move Paddock into Greenhead ward as part of our final recommendations as it would result in a forecast electoral variance of 20% for Greenhead ward. We consider this electoral variance too high for us to accept and also considered the evidence put forward to us by the Labour Group and the Golcar branch of the Labour Party to be more convincing.

52 Furthermore, the Labour Group suggested that we transfer Heaton Gardens and Gledholt Woods into our proposed Greenhead ward. We were persuaded by the evidence received – which highlighted Gledholt Woods and Greenhead Park as areas that host community events in this area – that this proposal will better reflect community identities and interests. However, instead of following the public footpath south of Gledholt Woods as the ward boundary in this area, as proposed by the Labour Group, we have decided to amend the boundary to follow the railway line. We consider this boundary to be clearer and more locally identifiable.

53 As part of our final recommendations, we have also decided to adopt the Labour Group's proposal to transfer the Highfields area from Dalton ward to Greenhead ward and use the Huddersfield Ring Road as the boundary between these two wards. We agree that this boundary is clearer and more locally recognisable. The group stated that Greenhead Family Doctors and a GP surgery that serves the wider Greenhead area lie within Highfields. We therefore consider that this amendment will better reflect communities and aid in the promotion of effective and convenient local government whilst maintaining good electoral equality for both wards.

Lindley

54 The Labour Group and two local residents supported our recommendation to follow the M62 as the boundary between Lindley and Colne Valley West wards and to include the village of Outlane in Lindley ward. They agreed that this proposal was sensible and used a clear, locally recognisable boundary. We also received support from two local residents for our proposal to include the Birchcliffe area within Lindley ward to reflect community identities and interests. We therefore have decided to confirm our further draft recommendations for Lindley ward as final.

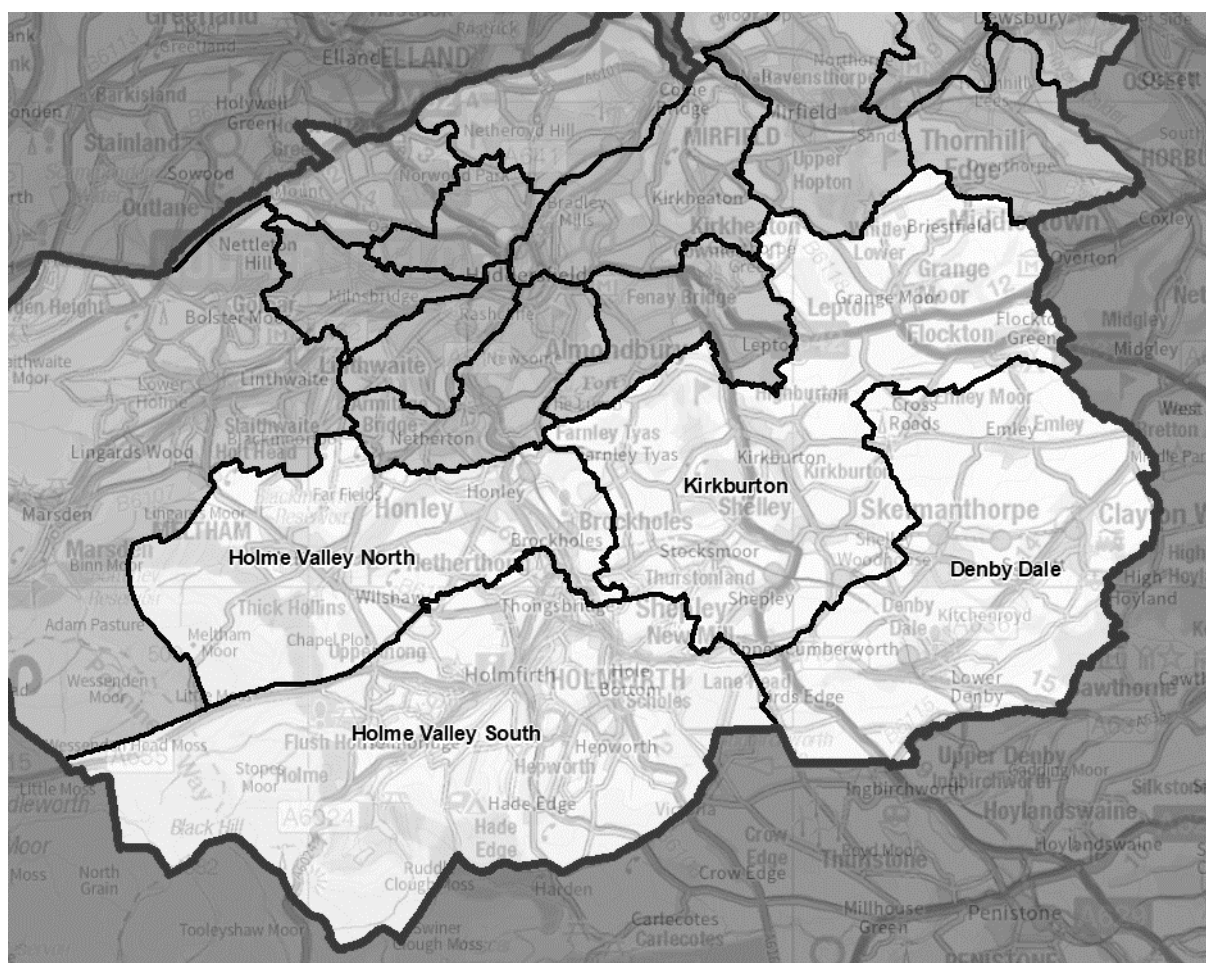
Colne Valley East and Colne Valley West

55 As part of our further draft recommendations, we decided to change the name of Golcar ward to Colne Valley East and Colne Valley ward to Colne Valley West, due to evidence received from the Labour Group. The Golcar branch of the Labour Party and Councillor Turner expressed support for these name changes and agreed that the name of Colne Valley East was more reflective of the communities in the proposed ward. A local resident also stated that they supported our proposed Colne Valley West ward.

56 Two local residents, however, expressed opposition to our proposed Colne Valley East and Colne Valley West wards. They argued that the Golcar name should be retained and also stated that the Bolster Moor, Scapegoat Hill and Wellhouse areas should be included in Golcar ward as they are a part of the former Golcar parish.

57 The Labour Group and the Golcar branch of the Labour Party supported our recommendations for Colne Valley East and Colne Valley West wards and supplied further evidence to support their initial proposal. They argued that Bolster Moor and Scapegoat Hill are rural, farming communities that have closer connections and ties to Colne Valley West ward than to the more urbanised Colne Valley East ward. Councillor Turner's submission also echoed the Labour Group's argument. We found that the community evidence provided by the Labour Group, the Golcar branch of the Labour Party and Councillor Turner to be persuasive and are content that our proposals for this area effectively balance our statutory criteria. We therefore confirm our recommendations for Colne Valley East and Colne Valley West wards as final.

Kirklees South



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Denby Dale	3	-2%
Holme Valley North	3	-4%
Holme Valley South	3	9%
Kirkburton	3	-4%

Denby Dale

58 In response to our draft proposal to retain the existing boundaries of Denby Dale ward, we received support from the Labour Group and a local resident. We therefore confirm this ward as part of our final recommendations.

Holme Valley North and Holme Valley South

59 We received support for our proposal to divide the parish ward of Netherthong between Holme Valley North and Holme Valley South wards from the Labour Group, Councillor Bellamy and Councillor Barnett. However, we also received submissions in opposition to our recommendations from the Holme Valley South Branch of the Labour Party, Councillor Greaves and many local residents who supported the retention of the existing arrangements. It was argued that Netherthong is a close-knit

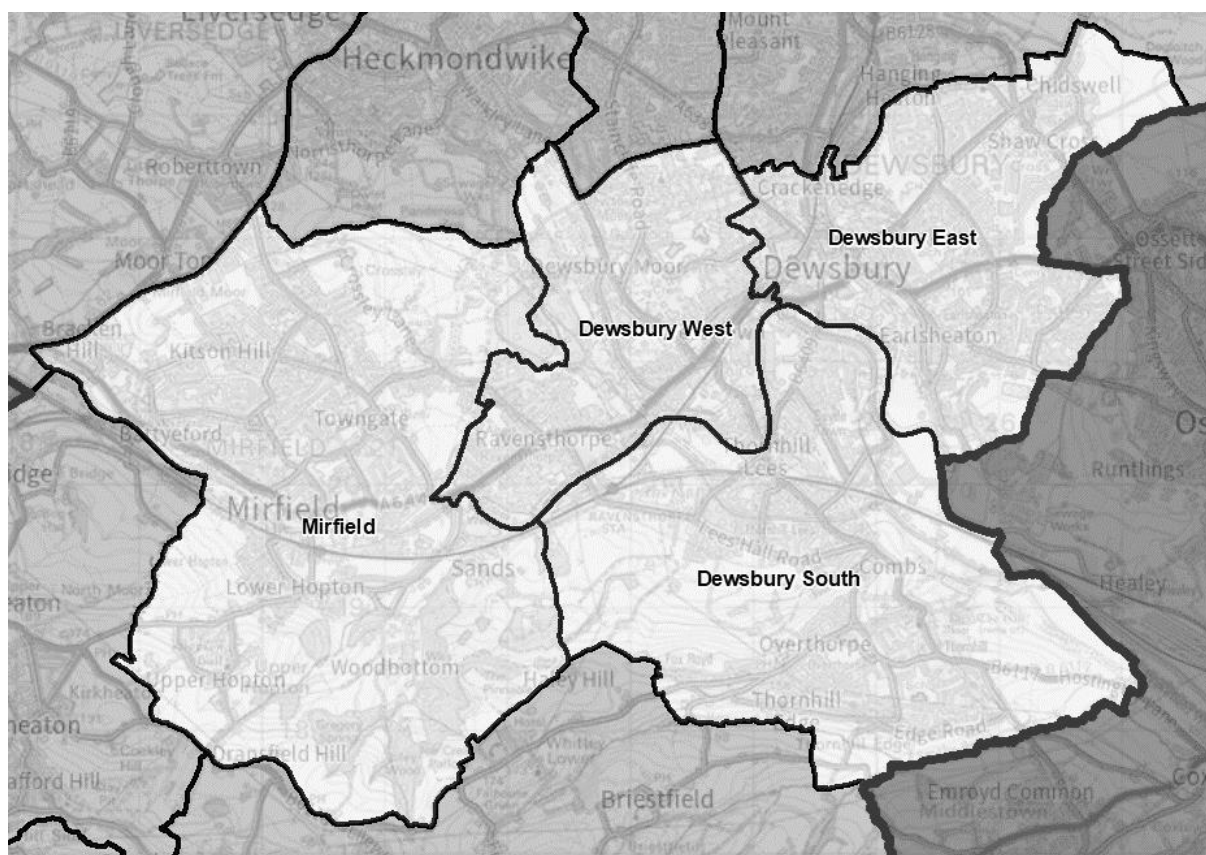
community with connections to Holmfirth, which is located in Holme Valley South ward. We were persuaded by the local evidence received to retain Netherthong parish ward in its entirety within Holme Valley South ward to reflect community identities and interests. We have therefore made this change as part of our final recommendations, which will also ensure good electoral equality for both wards by 2029.

Kirkburton

60 In response to our draft recommendation to include the villages of Whitley Lower and Bristfield in Kirkburton ward, we received support from a local resident, the Labour Group and Councillor Taylor. A local resident, however, opposed this recommendation and suggested that Whitley Lower should be located within Mirfield ward, arguing that residents share 'political views' and use local services in Mirfield town. Furthermore, a local resident expressed concern over how councillors would effectively represent our proposed Kirkburton ward due to its size and opposed being moved into what was deemed as a ward covering the 'Huddersfield area'. However, we do not consider shared 'political views' to be a relevant consideration when we make our recommendations. This is not a feature of our statutory criteria, and we have concluded that insufficient evidence has been supplied to justify amendment to our draft recommendations for this area. We therefore confirm our proposed Kirkburton ward as final.

61 A local resident stated that they 'would like to see Bristfield be included in Kirkburton Parish Council'. However, changing parish boundaries falls outside the scope of this electoral review and would be the responsibility of Kirklees Council, via a Community Governance Review.

Dewsbury



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Dewsbury East	3	4%
Dewsbury South	3	-2%
Dewsbury West	3	-5%
Mirfield	3	10%

Dewsbury East

62 As part of our draft recommendations, we adopted the Conservative Group's proposal which amended the boundary between Dewsbury East and Dewsbury West wards to follow the railway line. However, we received opposition to this proposal from the Labour Group, the Liberal Democrats and Chickenley Community Centre who supported the retention of the existing boundary in this area. The Labour Group argued that retaining the existing boundary would allow for important facilities such as Dewsbury Bus Station, Dewsbury Fire Station and Kirklees College to be in a ward with the rest of the town centre. Based on the evidence received, we were persuaded to retain the existing boundary between Dewsbury East and Dewsbury West wards to reflect community identities and interests.

Dewsbury South

63 One local resident expressed support for our proposal to retain the River Calder as the boundary between Dewsbury South and Dewsbury West wards, agreeing it was a strong and identifiable boundary. We are therefore confirming our further draft

recommendations for Dewsbury South ward as final.

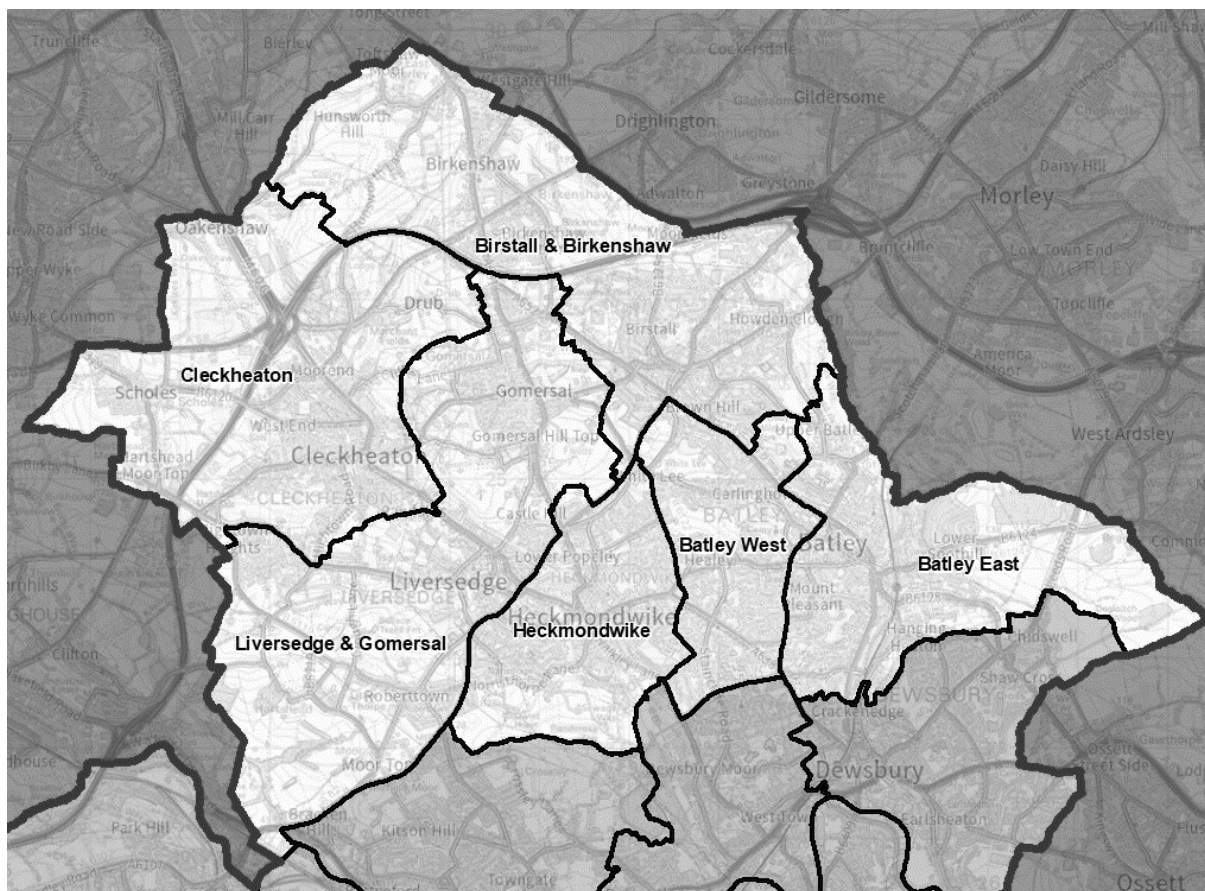
Dewsbury West and Mirfield

64 The Conservative Group opposed our proposal to move electors to the east of Shillbank Lane and Crossley Lane into Dewsbury West ward. The group argued that Dewsbury Country Park has no electors and is not reflective of a community, and therefore dividing the area between wards is 'immaterial'. This argument was also supported by Councillor Naisbett, Councillor Bolt and several residents who argued that dividing Mirfield parish between two wards would create confusion and would not reflect community ties. We were persuaded by the evidence received and have included the entirety of Mirfield parish in Mirfield ward as part of our final recommendations in order to promote effective and convenient local government and reflect community identities and interests.

65 The Conservative Group expressed that they would support a proposal to move Spring Place Gardens Estate entirely into Dewsbury West ward and deemed it to be 'logical'. However, the group did not address how this amendment would more effectively balance our statutory criteria. We determined that insufficient evidence was supplied by the Conservative Group to adopt their proposal as part of our final recommendations.

66 Alternatively, many local residents proposed that the Spring Place Gardens Estate be placed in Mirfield ward arguing that people in this area consider themselves residents of Mirfield and use the town for amenities and services. However, we are of the view, based on the evidence received throughout the three rounds of consultation, that including the entirety of Spring Place Gardens Estate in Mirfield ward would provide the best balance of our statutory criteria. We have therefore adopted this proposal as part of our final recommendations.

Kirklees North



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Batley East	3	1%
Batley West	3	-3%
Birstall & Birkenshaw	3	-2%
Cleckheaton	3	0%
Heckmondwike	3	-9%
Liversedge & Gomersal	3	2%

Batley East and Batley West

67 In response to our draft recommendations, Batley West Labour Party supported our proposal to adopt White Lee Road as the boundary between Batley West ward and Heckmondwike ward. However, they suggested an amendment to the boundary between Batley West and Batley East wards to include the electors north of Wellington Street within Batley West ward to ‘harmonise the current anomaly’. We were not persuaded to adopt this proposal as part of our final recommendations. We considered that insufficient evidence was provided in support of this proposal and it was unclear how this amendment would improve the warding arrangements for this area.

68 The Labour Group and Liberal Democrats proposed diverting the ward boundary from White Lee Road in this area and including electors between Riding

Street and White Lee Croft in Heckmondwike ward. We were not persuaded to adopt their suggestion as part of our final recommendations as we consider White Lee Road to constitute a strong and locally identifiable boundary in this area which will help to promote effective and convenient local government.

69 A local resident expressed opposition to the inclusion of the Dewsbury Moor area within Batley West ward and stated that Westmoor Primary School is 'definitely' in Dewsbury. Under our draft recommendations, Westmoor Primary School remains within Dewsbury West ward and therefore we were not persuaded to amend our proposals for this area. We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations for Batley East and Batley West wards as final.

Birstall & Birkenshaw

70 The Labour Group and Liberal Democrats proposed to retain the existing boundaries of Birstall & Birkenshaw ward; however, they did not provide supporting evidence to justify this proposal. We also received two submissions from local residents supporting our draft recommendations for this ward.

71 A local resident of Upper Batley Lane proposed to amend the boundary between Birstall & Birkenshaw and Batley West wards to follow Intake Lane or Windmill Lane School to reflect community identities. However, under our draft recommendations this area is already included within our proposed Birstall & Birkenshaw ward, and we were therefore not persuaded to make any amendments on this basis.

72 We do not consider that sufficient community evidence has been provided to support the retention of the existing arrangements for Birstall & Birkenshaw ward. Given the support received from local residents, we consider our draft recommendations for this area to provide the best balance of our statutory criteria and confirm them as final.

Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike and Liversedge & Gomersal

73 The Labour Group and Liberal Democrats expressed opposition to our draft recommendation to amend the boundary between Heckmondwike and Liversedge & Gomersal wards as they considered the existing boundary of Leeds Road to be clear and identifiable. A local resident, however, supported this amendment and also suggested to include the electors to the west of Gomersal Road to reflect local community identities. We were convinced by the evidence received from the local resident to include electors west of Gomersal Road as well as in the Stuble Estate in Heckmondwike ward. We consider our final recommendations to reflect community identities and interests in this area while ensuring good electoral equality across wards.

74 A local resident submitted a proposal to amend the boundary between Liversedge & Gomersal and Cleckheaton wards. They proposed that the Hightown area be transferred into Liversedge & Gomersal ward, which they stated is a village of the Liversedge township. However, we do not consider that sufficient evidence

was provided to justify amending our recommendations here and how adopting this proposal would better reflect community identities and interests. We therefore did not adopt this proposal as part of our final recommendations.

75 The Labour Group expressed support for our draft recommendations for Cleckheaton ward which follow the existing arrangements. We therefore confirm our draft recommendations for Cleckheaton ward as final.

Conclusions

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

Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2023	2029
Number of councillors	69	69
Number of electoral wards	23	23
Average number of electors per councillor	4,587	5,053
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	3	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

Final recommendations

Kirklees should be made up of 69 councillors serving 23 three-councillor wards. The details and names are shown in Appendix A and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

Mapping

Sheet 1, Map 1 shows the proposed wards for Kirklees. You can also view our final recommendations for Kirklees on our interactive maps at www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/kirklees

What happens next?

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

Equalities

78 The Commission is satisfied that it complies with its legal obligations under the Equality Act and that no adverse equality impacts will arise as a result of the outcome of the review.

Appendices

Appendix A

Final recommendations for Kirklees Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2029)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Almondbury	3	13,441	4,480	-2%	14,463	4,821	-5%
2	Ashbrow	3	14,194	4,731	3%	16,544	5,515	9%
3	Batley East	3	13,144	4,381	-4%	15,364	5,121	1%
4	Batley West	3	13,357	4,452	-3%	14,711	4,904	-3%
5	Birstall & Birkenshaw	3	13,983	4,661	2%	14,874	4,958	-2%
6	Cleckheaton	3	13,513	4,504	-2%	15,121	5,040	0%
7	Colne Valley East	3	14,410	4,803	5%	15,552	5,184	3%
8	Colne Valley West	3	13,131	4,377	-5%	14,448	4,816	-5%
9	Crosland Moor	3	12,438	4,146	-10%	14,671	4,890	-3%
10	Dalton	3	13,259	4,420	-4%	14,570	4,857	-4%
11	Denby Dale	3	13,371	4,457	-3%	14,808	4,936	-2%
12	Dewsbury East	3	14,159	4,720	3%	15,819	5,273	4%

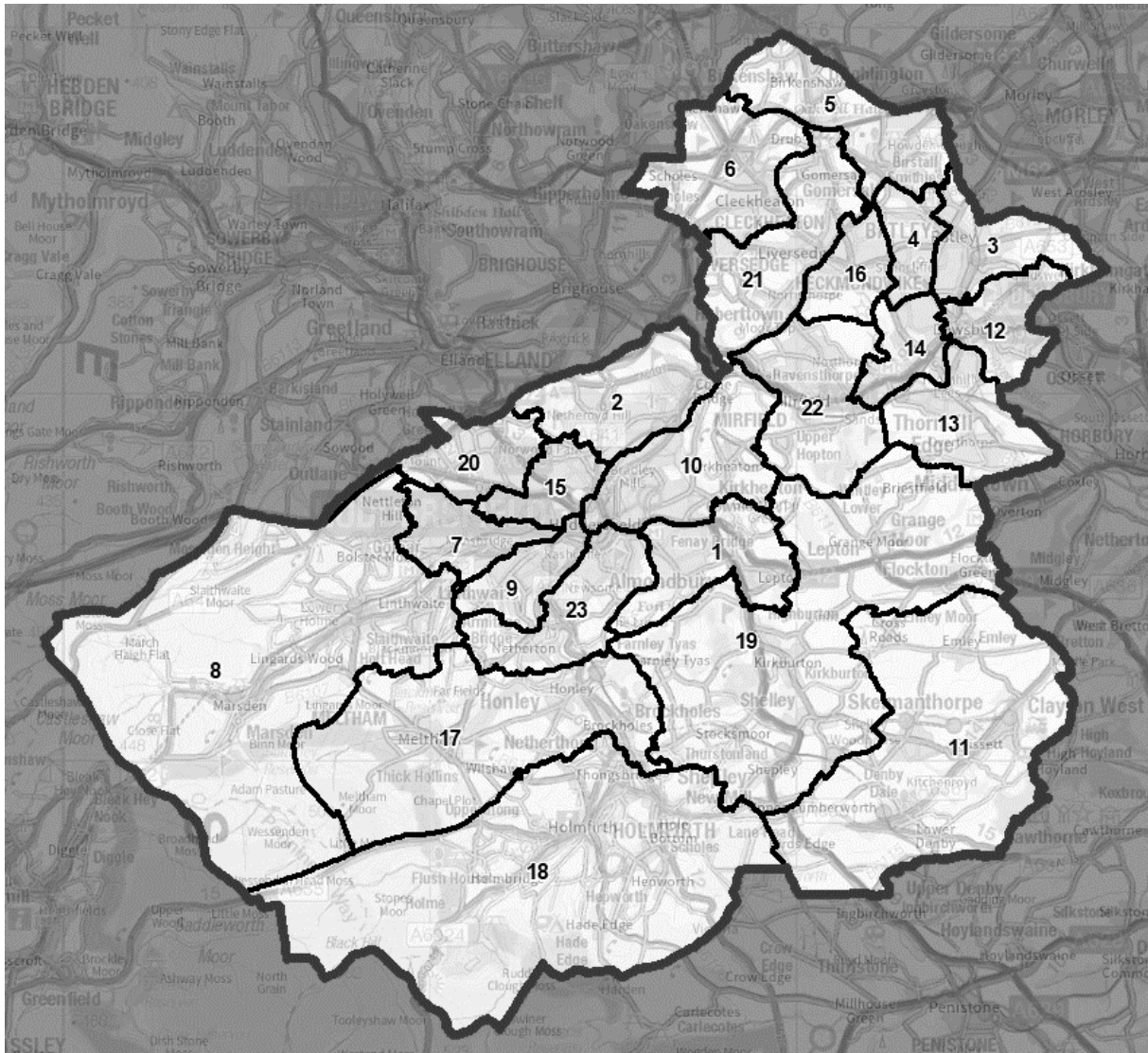
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2029)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13 Dewsbury South	3	12,991	4,330	-6%	14,780	4,927	-2%
14 Dewsbury West	3	12,923	4,308	-6%	14,328	4,776	-5%
15 Greenhead	3	15,308	5,103	11%	16,750	5,583	10%
16 Heckmondwike	3	13,202	4,401	-4%	13,812	4,604	-9%
17 Holme Valley North	3	13,447	4,482	-2%	14,578	4,859	-4%
18 Holme Valley South	3	15,250	5,083	11%	16,554	5,518	9%
19 Kirkburton	3	13,103	4,368	-5%	14,536	4,845	-4%
20 Lindley	3	14,772	4,924	7%	16,052	5,351	6%
21 Liversedge & Gomersal	3	14,309	4,770	4%	15,404	5,135	2%
22 Mirfield	3	15,756	5,252	14%	16,695	5,565	10%
23 Netherton & Newsome	3	13,050	4,350	-5%	14,189	4,730	-6%
Totals	69	316,511	-	-	348,623	-	-
Averages	-	-	4,587	-	-	5,053	-

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

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

Appendix B

Outline map



Number	Ward name
1	Almondbury
2	Ashbrow
3	Batley East
4	Batley West
5	Birstall & Birkenshaw
6	Cleckheaton
7	Colne Valley East
8	Colne Valley West
9	Crosland Moor
10	Dalton
11	Denby Dale
12	Dewsbury East

13	Dewsbury South
14	Dewsbury West
15	Greenhead
16	Heckmondwike
17	Holme Valley North
18	Holme Valley South
19	Kirkburton
20	Lindley
21	Liversedge & Gomersal
22	Mirfield
23	Netherton & Newsome

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/kirklees.

Appendix C

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at:
www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/kirklees.

Draft recommendations consultation

Political Groups

- Ashbrow Branch Labour Party
- Batley West Labour Party
- Golcar Branch Labour Party
- Holme Valley South Branch Labour Party
- Kirklees Green Group
- Kirklees Labour Group
- Kirklees Liberal Democrats

Councillors

- Councillor I. Barnett (Holme Valley Parish Council)
- Councillor D. Bellamy (Kirklees Council)
- Councillor K. Fernandes (Holme Valley Parish Council)
- Councillor C. Greaves (Kirklees Council)
- Councillor J. Lawson (Kirklees Council)
- Councillor C. Scott (Kirklees Council)
- Councillor J. Taylor (Kirklees Council)

Local Organisations

- Chickenley Community Centre
- Our Community Works

Local Residents

- 139 residents

Further draft recommendations consultation

Political Groups

- Golcar Branch Labour Party
- Kirklees Conservative Group
- Kirklees Labour Group

Councillors

- Councillor S. Bolt (Kirklees Council)
- Councillor S. Naisbett (Mirfield Town Council)
- Councillor J. Taylor (Kirklees Council)
- Councillor G. Turner (Kirklees Council)

Local Residents

- 36 residents

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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