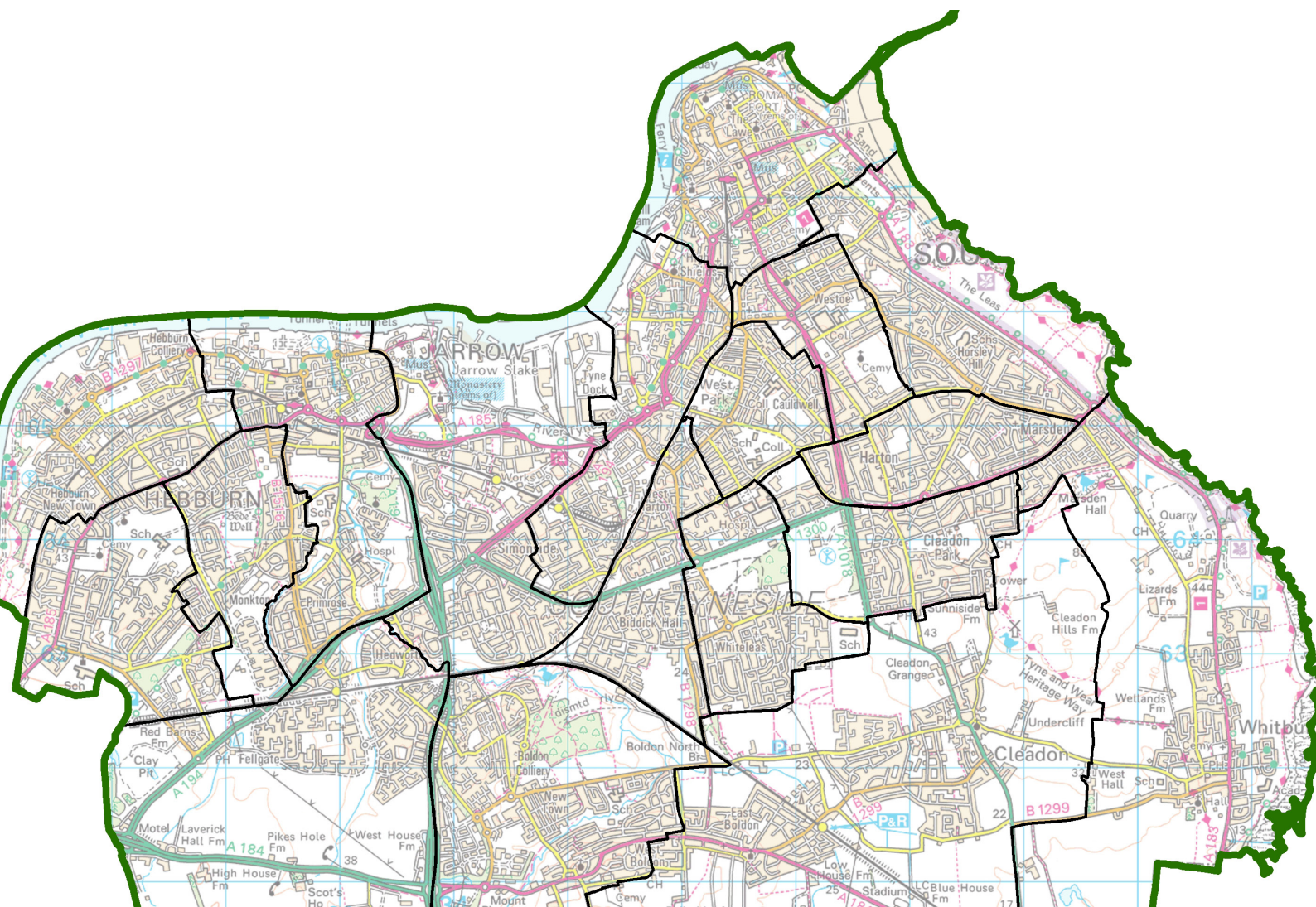


The
Local Government
Boundary Commission
for England



New electoral arrangements for South Tyneside Council Final Recommendations

December 2024

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Final recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for South Tyneside

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 South Tyneside?

7 We are conducting a review of South Tyneside 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 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 South Tyneside 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 South Tyneside

9 South Tyneside should be represented by 54 councillors, the same number as there are now.

10 South Tyneside should have 18 wards, the same number as there are now.

11 The boundaries of 12 wards should change; six will stay the same.

12 We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for South Tyneside.

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 and which other communities are in that ward. 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 consider any representations which are based on these issues.

Review timetable

15 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for South Tyneside. We then held three periods of consultation with the

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

public on warding patterns for the district. The submissions received during consultation have informed our final recommendations.

16 During the consultation on the draft recommendations, a number of respondents observed that the electorate figures in the ‘South Tyneside electoral forecasting proforma’ file published on our website showed the incorrect electorate totals and variances for some of the existing wards. Some respondents queried whether, had the correct figures been shown, changes to some existing wards would have been necessary. In addition to this error, the same file also was missing 264 electors that are forecast in the Cleadon & East Boldon ward for 2029. These electors are expected following the development of the Cleadon Lane Industrial Estate.

17 While the additional electors were missing from the forecast figures published on our website, our draft recommendations were developed using the correct figures, and the information in our draft recommendations report published in October 2023 was accurate.

18 However, we were aware that, with the incorrect figures on our website from the start of our initial consultation, respondents may have responded differently to our consultation had the correct figures and variances been available to them. In light of this, we published a set of new draft recommendations for consultation. These new draft recommendations were developed taking into account everything that we heard in the submissions received to that point – from both the initial warding patterns consultation and the consultation on the original draft recommendations.

19 The review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
18 April 2023	Number of councillors decided
9 May 2023	Start of first consultation seeking views on new wards
17 July 2023	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
3 October 2023	Publication of original draft recommendations; start of second consultation
11 December 2023	End of second consultation
7 May 2024	Publication of new draft recommendations; start of third consultation
9 September 2024	End of third consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
3 December 2024	Publication of final recommendations

Analysis and final recommendations

20 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.

21 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.

22 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 South Tyneside	114,770	120,463
Number of councillors	54	54
Average number of electors per councillor	2,125	2,231

23 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'. Two wards are forecast to have an electoral variance outside of $\pm 10\%$ of the average for the Council by 2029. Cleadon & East Boldon and Cleadon Park wards are forecast to have variances of 15% and -11% by 2029, respectively.

Submissions received

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

Electorate figures

25 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 5% by 2029.

26 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.

27 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

28 South Tyneside Council currently has 54 councillors. We have looked at evidence provided by the Council and have concluded that keeping this number the same will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

29 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 54 councillors.

30 As South Tyneside Council elects by thirds (meaning it has elections in three out of every four years) there is a presumption in legislation⁵ that the Council will 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.

31 A number of respondents argued that the number of councillors per ward could be reduced to two or one. However, they did not provide strong evidence to show how this would work in practice. Others expressed general support for the current council size. In light of no significant new evidence we have based our new draft recommendations on a 54-councillor council.

32 In response to our new draft recommendations we did not receive any significant comments on the number of councillors. In light of no significant new evidence we have based our final recommendations on a 54-councillor council.

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

Ward boundaries consultation

33 We received 32 submissions in response to our first consultation on ward boundaries. These included a borough-wide proposal from the South Tyneside Council Labour Group and partial schemes from South Shields Constituency Labour Party (CLP) and a member of the public.

34 The borough-wide and partial borough-wide schemes provided uniform patterns of three-councillor wards for South Tyneside. However, we noted that there was limited agreement on the boundaries between these schemes.

35 We visited the area in order to look at the various different proposals on the ground. This tour of South Tyneside helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed. We based the draft recommendations on the Labour Group proposals, but subject to a number of amendments to provide stronger boundaries or improve electoral equality.

Draft recommendations consultation

36 We received 293 submissions in response to our consultation on draft recommendations. These included a borough-wide proposal from the South Tyneside Alliance Group ('the Alliance Group'). South Shields CLP expressed general support for the draft recommendations, but proposed changes to Simonside ward and Cleadon Park and The Boldons wards.

37 Around three-quarters of the submissions received put forward objections to our proposals for the Cleadon Village area, with respondents putting forward a range of alternative options which they considered would better reflect community identity in the area and allow Cleadon Village to remain wholly in one ward. There was some limited support for the proposals in this area, but mainly relating to the treatment of East Boldon.

38 There were a number of objections to our draft recommendations, including, but not exclusively, in relation to Monkton Village, Brockley Whins, Marsden and Beacon & Bents wards. Having considered all the evidence received during the previous consultations, we proposed revised electoral arrangements across the borough. Our new draft recommendations included a Cleadon & East Boldon ward with 15% more electors than the borough average by 2029. We acknowledged that this is a relatively high variance, but proposed this to reflect the specific local geography in the Cleadon Village area and the strength of community identity evidence we heard during the consultation on our draft recommendations.

New draft recommendations consultation

39 We received 76 submissions in response to our consultation on the new draft recommendations. The majority of submissions provided localised comments on the new draft recommendations in particular areas of the borough, with a mixture of support and objections, as well as requests for ward name changes.

Final recommendations

40 Our final recommendations are for 18 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.

41 Our final recommendations are based on the new draft recommendations with a modification to the boundary between West Park and Westoe wards and a number of ward name changes.

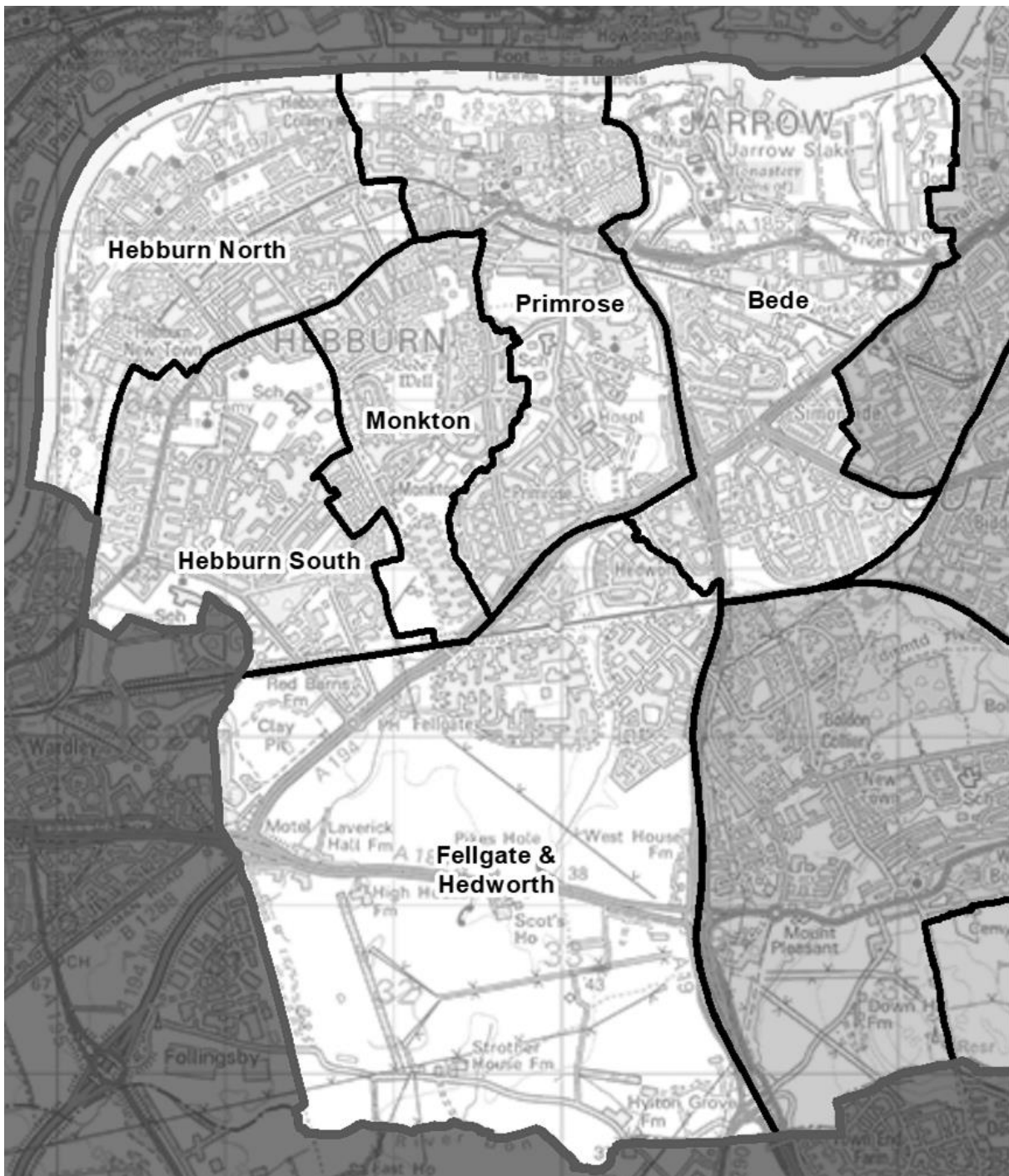
42 The tables and maps on pages 9–18 detail our final recommendations for each area of South Tyneside. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory⁶ criteria of:

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

43 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 24 and on the large map accompanying this report.

⁶ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

West



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Bede	3	-8%
Fellgate & Hedworth	3	-10%
Hebburn North	3	10%
Hebburn South	3	6%
Monkton	3	3%
Primrose	3	5%

Bede, Fellgate & Hedworth, Hebburn North, Hebburn South, Monkton and Primrose

44 In response to the new draft recommendations there was general support for much of our proposals for this area and some limited objections. South Shields CLP and South Shields CLP – Simonside & Rekendyke Branch expressed general support for the new draft recommendations but argued that the boundary between Bede and Simonside & Rekendyke wards, that runs along the rear of the properties on Drummond Crescent, is not clear, noting it divides a few houses on Bainbridge Avenue. They proposed running the boundary along Henderson Road, arguing this would be a stronger boundary.

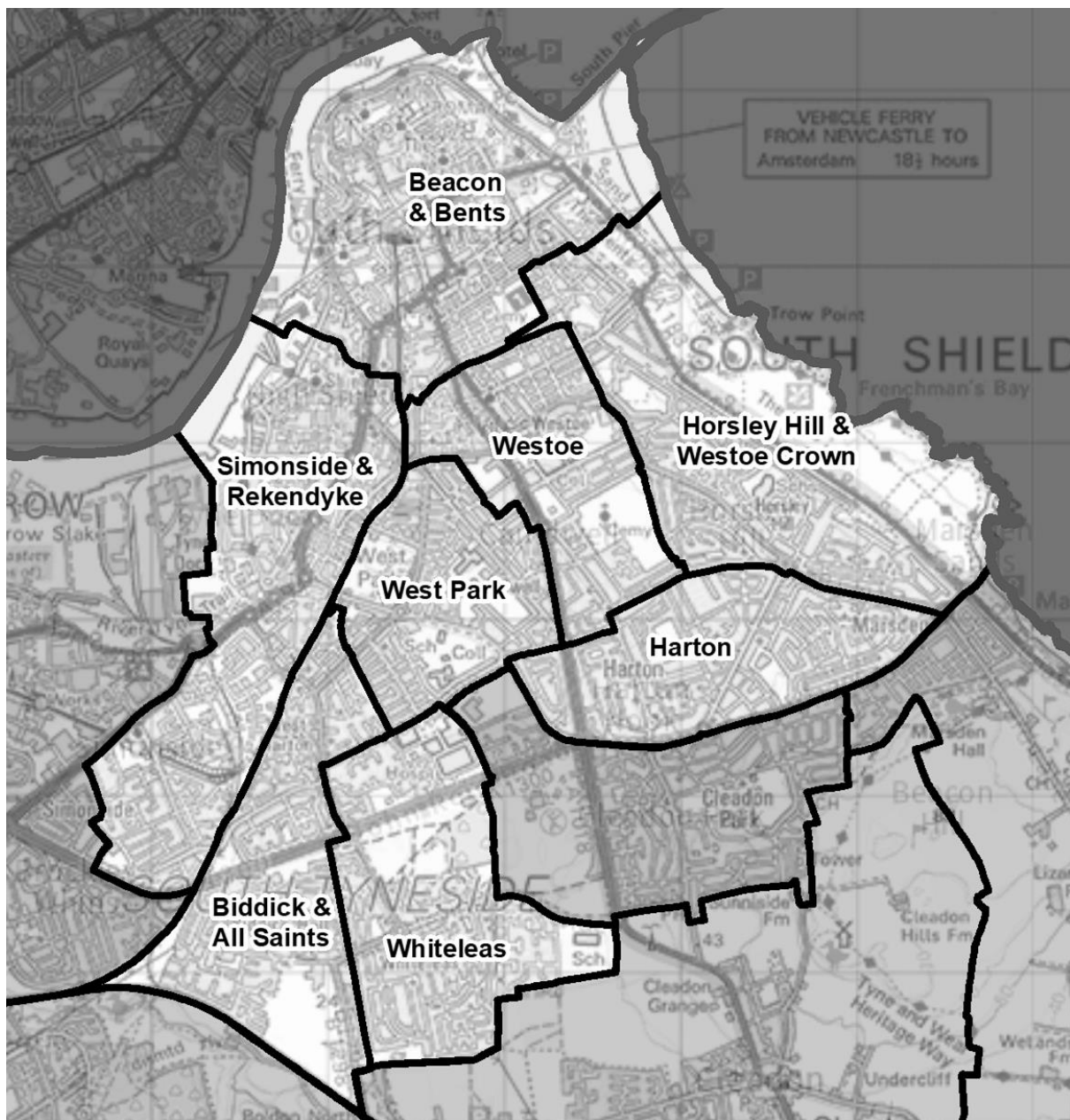
45 Councillor Leask argued that Henderson Road creates a clearer boundary between Bede and Simonside & Rekendyke wards. A number of members of the public argued that the boundary between these wards should run along John Reid Road, but failing that it should run along Henderson Road.

46 A number of members of the public expressed support for the proposed ward names particularly where the new draft recommendations returned to names based on the existing ward names. Another member of the public put forward a number of objections to elements of our proposals in this area, but did not provide any evidence to support these objections. We received a few objections to the proposals for Monkton from members of the public, but these did not propose alternatives or provide supporting evidence.

47 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting a mixture of general support and also some objections. However, the only proposal with any evidence to support it is the suggestion for changing the boundary between Bede and Simonside & Rekendyke ward. We note the argument that our new draft recommendations separate two properties on Bainbridge Avenue from the rest, but consider while Henderson Road would provide a clear boundary, it would divide the community in that area. In addition, it would worsen electoral equality in both Bede and Simonside & Rekendyke wards from 8% fewer and 4% more electors than the borough average by 2029 to 10% fewer and 6% more, respectively. On balance, given the weaker boundary and worse electoral equality, we are not persuaded to adopt this amendment. It should be noted that the arguments for using John Reid Road, while proposing a clear boundary, result in very poor electoral equality with Bede and Simonside & Rekendyke wards having 17% fewer and 14% more electors than the average by 2029. There is not sufficient evidence to justify this poor level of electoral equality.

48 We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations for this area as final. Our final recommendations are for three-councillor Bede, Fellgate & Hedworth, Hebburn North, Hebburn South, Monkton and Primrose wards. These would have 8% fewer, 10% fewer, 10% more, 6% more, 3% more and 5% more electors than the borough average by 2029, respectively.

North East



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Beacon & Bents	3	5%
Biddick & All Saints	3	-1%
Harton	3	-1%
Horsley Hill & Westoe Crown	3	7%
Simonside & Rekendyke	3	4%
West Park	3	-10%
Westoe	3	-8%
Whiteleas	3	-3%

Biddick & All Saints, Simonside & Rekendyke and Whiteleas

49 In response to the new draft recommendations there was some general support for our proposals for these wards. However, as discussed in the 'West' section above, while South Shields CLP and South Shields CLP – Simonside & Rekendyke Branch expressed general support for the new draft recommendations, they argued that boundary between Bede and Simonside & Rekendyke wards, that runs along the rear of the properties on Drummond Crescent, is not clear, noting it divides Bainbridge Avenue. They proposed running the boundary along Henderson Road, arguing this would be a stronger boundary. Councillor Leask argued that Henderson Road creates a clearer boundary between Bede and Simonside & Rekendyke wards. A number of members of the public argued that the boundary between these wards should run along John Reid Road, but failing that it should run along Henderson Road.

50 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received. As discussed in the West section, we note the argument for changing the boundary between Bede and Simonside & Rekendyke ward. We note the argument that our new draft recommendations separates two properties on Bainbridge Avenue from the rest, but consider while Henderson Road would provide a clear boundary, it would divide the community in that area. In addition, it would worsen electoral equality in both Bede and Simonside & Rekendyke wards from 8% fewer and 4% more electors than the borough average by 2029 to 10% fewer and 6% more, respectively. Therefore, we are not persuaded to adopt this amendment. It should be noted that the arguments for using John Reid Road, while proposing a clear boundary, result in very poor electoral equality with Bede and Simonside & Rekendyke wards having 17% fewer and 14% more electors than the average by 2029. There is not sufficient evidence to justify this poor level of electoral equality.

51 We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations for this area as final. Our final recommendations are for three-member Biddick & All Saints, Simonside & Rekendyke and Whiteleas wards. These would have 1% fewer, 4% more and 3% fewer electors than the borough average by 2029, respectively.

Beacon & Bents, Harton, Horsley Hill & Westoe Crown, West Park and Westoe

52 In response to the new draft recommendations we received a mixture of support and objections for this area.

53 South Shields CLP and South Shields CLP – Simonside & Rekendyke Branch and a number of members of the public proposed renaming Horsley Hill ward as Horsley Hill & Westoe Crown, reflecting the inclusion of the Westoe Crown area in the ward. Another member of the public expressed support for the Horsley Hill name.

54 A number of members of the public argued that Highfield Drive should be included in Westoe ward, rather than Horsley Hill ward, arguing residents look there rather than Horsley Hill.

55 Councillor Leask and a number of members of the public expressed support for the inclusion of Highfield Drive in Horsley Hill ward, pointing out that it makes sense to have both sides of the road in a single ward. Councillor Leask and a few members of the public also supported the inclusion of Hutton Row in Horsley Hill ward, although Councillor Leask pointed out that it creates an 'odd boundary on the map', so it could be in Westoe ward. A few other members of the public stated that Hutton Row should be in Beacon & Bents ward.

56 A few respondents objected to the inclusion of Westoe Crown in Horsley Hill ward. They argued it would be better situated in Beacon & Bents ward as put forward in the original draft recommendations. They argued that the area looks to the coast or to elsewhere for facilities, but not south to Horsley Hill. Some suggested that otherwise it would be better suited in Westoe ward.

57 Councillor Maxwell expressed support for the draft recommendations for Harton ward, particularly the inclusion of the area around St Peter's Church in Westoe ward, and stated that Marsden Road provides a clearer boundary. They and a member of the public also expressed support for the new draft recommendation for not dividing the Marsden Estate.

58 We received a number of comments about the Hepscott Terrace area – this area was included in Westoe ward under the original draft recommendations, but transferred to West Park under the new draft recommendations to provide a stronger boundary and reflect the pedestrian-only links. A few members of the public argued that this area looks to Westoe, not West Park, rejecting the argument that these roads only have pedestrian access to Sunderland Road. They argued that residents do look across Sunderland Road into Westoe ward for services. They expressed support for the existing boundary as used in the original draft recommendations, or a modified version of this.

59 A member of the public argued that while the new draft recommendations included South Shields & Westoe Sports Club in a Westoe ward, it excluded a small area of the Westoe Conservation Area, around Alansway Gardens, and suggested that this area should be included in Westoe ward. Another member of the public supported the new draft recommendations for moving away from a boundary on Morpeth Avenue, stating this provides a clearer boundary.

60 Councillor Yare expressed support for the new draft recommendation for West Park ward.

61 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received, noting a mixture of support and objections.

62 While there were arguments in favour of retaining Highfield Drive in Westoe ward, rather than transferring it to Horsley Hill ward as proposed in the new draft

recommendations, we remain unconvinced that the existing boundary – splitting the road between the two wards – provides a clear boundary. Arguments for placing the entire road in Westoe ward have also not been persuasive and we note the road links to Cheviot Road and Horsley Vale in Horsley Hill ward. Furthermore, some respondents supported the new draft recommendations, arguing that it results in a clearer boundary. On balance, we are not persuaded to move away from the new draft recommendations and are confirming that Highfield Drive will remain in Horsley Hill ward.

63 With regards to Westoe Crown and Hutton Row, while there was some limited argument for including this area in Beacon & Bents ward, this is not possible while securing a warding pattern with good electoral equality. Adding this area would result in Beacon & Bents having around 22% more electors than the borough average by 2029. In addition, we note that there was support for our proposals to include this area in Horsley Hill ward. On balance, given the poor electoral equality that would result from changes, and the support for the new draft recommendations, we are confirming them as final.

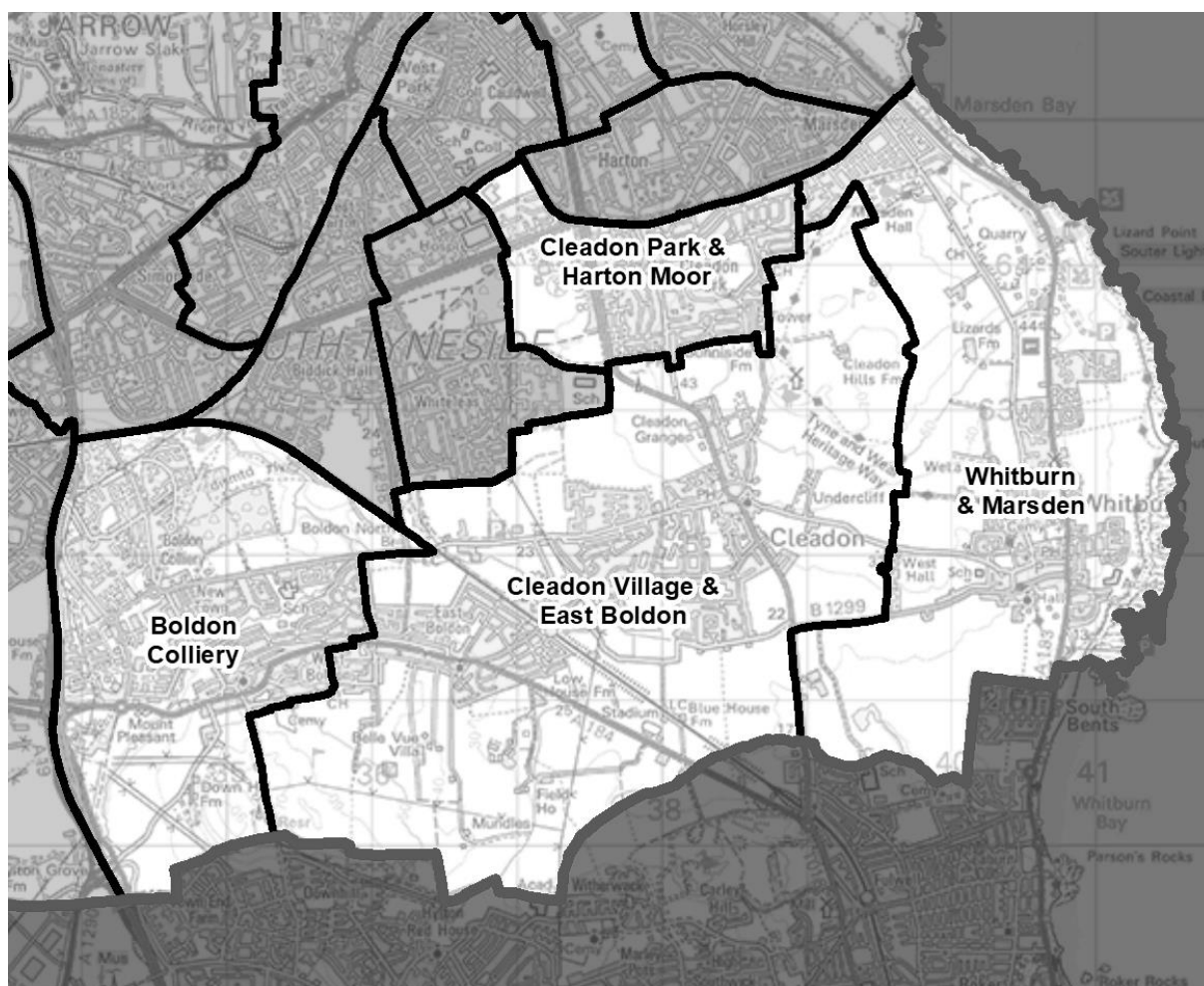
64 Finally, in relation to Horsley Hill ward, we note the support for including Westoe Crown in the ward name. Since Westoe Crown is a constituent part of the ward, we think this should be reflected, so are naming it Horsley Hill & Westoe Crown ward.

65 We have considered the mix of support and objections for our proposals for West Park and Westoe wards. However, we are not persuaded by the suggestion to revert the boundary along Warwick Road between the wards, as proposed in our original draft recommendations. While we acknowledge that some residents may access services in Westoe ward, we believe our proposed boundary along the rear of Sunderland Road is clearer. In addition, returning this area to Westoe ward would result in West Park ward having 17% fewer electors than the borough average by 2029. We are not persuaded to adopt a ward with this poor level of electoral equality in this area.

66 We have also considered a suggestion from a member of the public to include the Alansway Gardens area in Westoe ward to reflect the Westoe Conservation Area. We note that this area accesses on to Wood Terrace and overlooks the sports club. This area contains relatively few electors and transferring it would only slightly worsen electoral equality in West Park ward to 10% fewer electors than the borough average by 2029, while Westoe ward would improve to 8% below the average. On balance, we are persuaded to include this change in our final recommendations.

67 Our final recommendations are for three-councillor Beacon & Bents, Harton, Horsley Hill & Westoe Crown, West Park and Westoe and wards. These would have 5% more, 1% fewer, 7% more, 10% fewer and 8% fewer electors than the borough average by 2029, respectively.

South East



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Boldon Colliery	3	8%
Cleadon Park & Harton Moor	3	-11%
Cleadon Village & East Boldon	3	15%
Whitburn & Marsden	3	-9%

Boldon Colliery and Cleadon Village & East Boldon

68 In response to the new draft recommendations there was general support for our proposals for this area, particularly Cleadon & East Boldon ward. Cleadon & East Boldon Branch Labour Party, Councillor Curtis, Councillor Herbert and 15 members of the public expressed support for the new draft recommendations for this ward. Cleadon Action Group and four members of the public also supported the proposals, but argued that Cleadon & East Boldon should be renamed Cleadon Village & East Boldon. A respondent reiterated objections to the original draft recommendation to link part of Cleadon Village with Cleadon Park.

69 A member of the public objected to a ward linking Cleadon with East Boldon. Another member of the public suggested a small amendment between Boldon

Colliery and Cleadon & East Boldon moving the golf club and cemetery. Finally, a member of the public proposed renaming Boldon Colliery, giving a number of suggestions, but stating that 'West Boldon' should be in the name.

70 We have given careful consideration the evidence received. We note the support for our proposals, particularly the Cleadon & East Boldon ward. We note that there are some objections and a suggestion of a minor modification to the boundary with Boldon Colliery. However, given there was no evidence to support these objections and given the support for the new draft recommendations, we are confirming our proposals for Boldon Colliery and Cleadon & East Boldon ward as final.

71 We note the suggestions of name changes. Given support from a number of respondents, we are persuaded to rename Cleadon & East Boldon as Cleadon Village & East Boldon, noting this helps further differentiate it from Cleadon Park ward. We have considered the suggestion that the Boldon Colliery name be amended, but we note that the respondent proposed various options, without giving strong evidence for which should be adopted. When taken into consideration that we received no other evidence to change this name, we are retaining 'Boldon Colliery' as the ward name.

72 Our final recommendations are for three-councillor Boldon Colliery and Cleadon Village & East Boldon wards. These would have 8% more and 15% more electors than the borough average by 2029.

Cleadon Park & Harton Moor and Whitburn & Marsden

73 In response to the new draft recommendations two members of the public objected to the inclusion of Harton Moor in Cleadon Park ward, arguing that the area is cut off and that you have to cross two major roads (John Reid Road and King George Road). They also argued that the residents here look elsewhere for services. Another member of the public expressed support for the Cleadon Park ward. A member of the public objected to the inclusion of the north area in our Whitburn & Marsden ward, stating it has no relationship with Whitburn. South Shields CLP suggested renaming Cleadon Park as Cleadon Park & Harton Moor, reflecting that Harton Moor is a distinct and well-established community.

74 We have given careful consideration to the evidence received. We note the objections to the proposals for Harton Moor. While this area is somewhat separate from the rest of the ward and we recognise the point made about the ward spanning two main roads, Harton Moor does have road links to the rest of the ward via Temple Park Road across the roundabout with John Reid Road and King George Road. In addition, removing this area would leave Cleadon Park ward with 21% fewer electors than the average. We also note the objection about the north area of Whitburn & Marsden ward, but removing this would leave that ward with 33% fewer electors than the borough average by 2029.

75 Given the poor electoral equality that would result from addressing these objections, the only way to address it would be to redraw the boundaries in neighbouring wards. We do not consider there to be sufficient evidence or support to justify this. Therefore, we are confirming our new draft recommendations for these wards as final.

76 We do, however, propose including the name 'Harton Moor' in the Cleadon Park ward. As discussed above, we are unable to transfer Harton Moor out of the Cleadon Park ward as this would result in poor electoral equality. However, we are happy to reflect its inclusion in Cleadon Park ward by incorporating it in the ward name.

77 Our final recommendations are for three-councillor Cleadon Park & Harton Moor and Whitburn & Marsden wards. These would have 11% fewer and 9% fewer electors than the borough average by 2029, respectively.

Conclusions

78 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality in South Tyneside, 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 in Appendix A to the back of this report. An outline map of the wards is provided in Appendix B.

Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2023	2029
Number of councillors	54	54
Number of electoral wards	18	18
Average number of electors per councillor	2,125	2,231
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	3	2
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

Final recommendations

South Tyneside Council should be made up of 54 councillors serving 18 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 South Tyneside. You can also view our final recommendations for South Tyneside on our interactive maps at www.lgbce.org.uk

What happens next?

79 We have now completed our review of South Tyneside 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 2026.

Equalities

80 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 South Tyneside

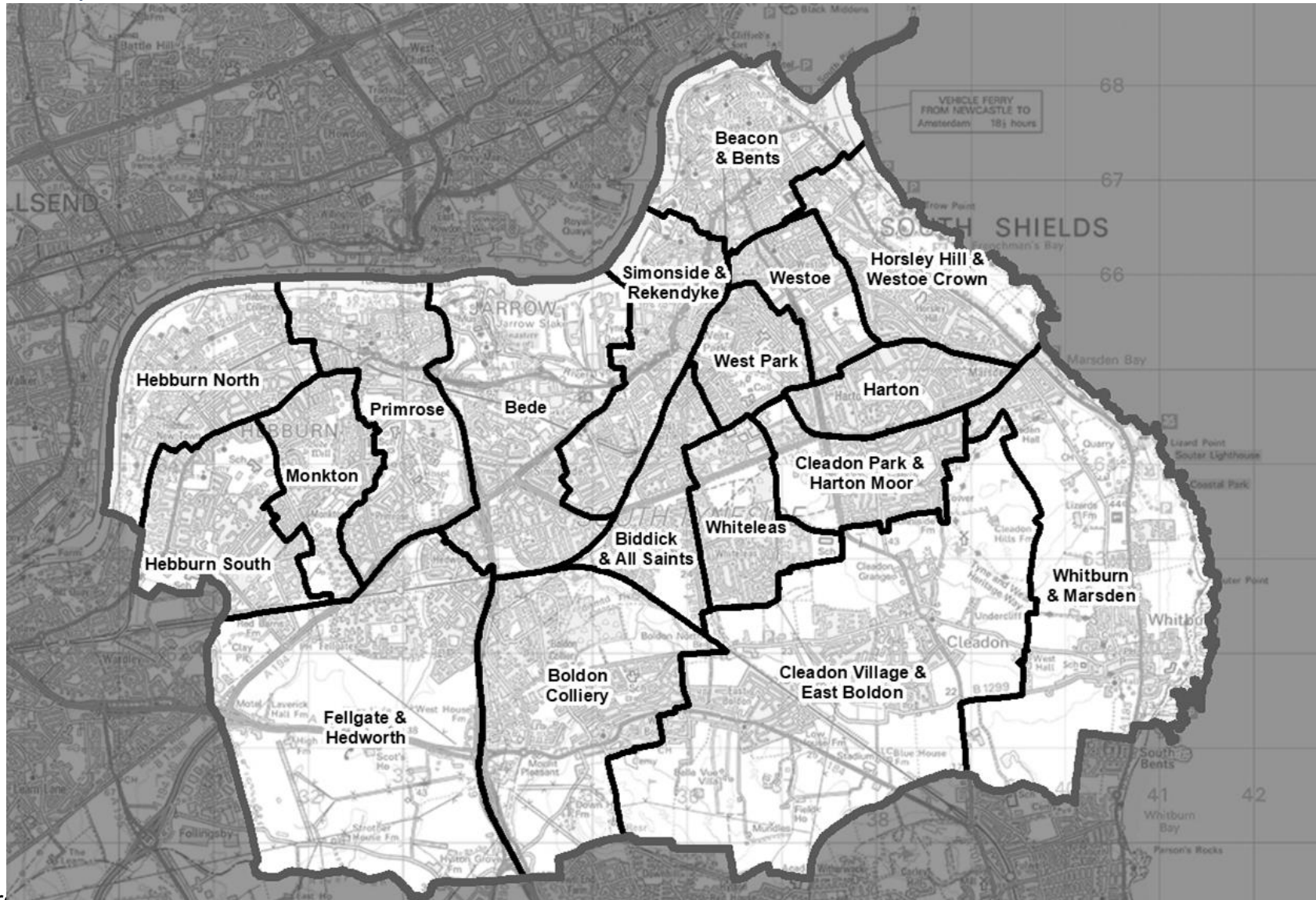
	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2029)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Beacon & Bents	3	6,576	2,192	3%	7,010	2,337	5%
2	Bede	3	5,906	1,969	-7%	6,171	2,057	-8%
3	Biddick & All Saints	3	6,289	2,096	-1%	6,600	2,200	-1%
4	Boldon Colliery	3	6,952	2,317	9%	7,202	2,401	8%
5	Cleadon Park & Harton Moor	3	5,731	1,910	-10%	5,961	1,987	-11%
6	Cleadon Village & East Boldon	3	7,195	2,398	13%	7,676	2,559	15%
7	Fellgate & Hedworth	3	5,688	1,896	-11%	6,049	2,016	-10%
8	Harton	3	6,438	2,146	1%	6,641	2,146	-1%
9	Hebburn North	3	6,929	2,310	9%	7,347	2,449	10%
10	Hebburn South	3	6,844	2,281	7%	7,105	2,368	6%
11	Horsley Hill & Westoe Crown	3	6,890	2,297	8%	7,154	2,385	7%
12	Monkton	3	6,353	2,118	0%	6,871	2,290	3%

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 Primrose	3	6,760	2,253	6%	6,997	2,332	5%
14 Simonside & Rekendyke	3	6,568	2,189	3%	6,955	2,318	4%
15 West Park	3	5,796	1,932	-9%	6,014	2,005	-10%
16 Westoe	3	5,706	1,902	-11%	6,168	2,056	-8%
17 Whitburn & Marsden	3	5,904	1,968	-7%	6,071	2,024	-9%
18 Whiteleas	3	6,245	2,082	-2%	6,470	2,157	-3%
Totals	54	114,770	–	–	120,463	–	–
Averages	–	–	2,125	–	–	2,231	–

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by South Tyneside 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



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/south-tyneside

Appendix C

Submissions received

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

www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/south-tyneside

Political Groups

- Cleadon & East Boldon Branch Labour Party
- South Shields Constituency Labour Party
- South Shields Constituency Labour Party – Simonside & Rekendyke Branch

Councillors

- Councillor R. Curtis (South Tyneside Council)
- Councillor D. Herbert (South Tyneside Council)
- Councillor E. Leask (South Tyneside Council)
- Councillor N. Maxwell (South Tyneside Council)
- Councillor J. Yare (South Tyneside Council)

Local Organisations

- Cleadon Action Group

Local Residents

- 67 local residents

Appendix D

Glossary and abbreviations

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

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

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (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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