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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.

# Contents

Introduction	1
Who we are and what we do	1
What is an electoral review?	1
Why North Yorkshire?	2
Our proposals for North Yorkshire	2
How will the recommendations affect you?	2
Have your say	3
Review timetable	3
Analysis and draft recommendations	5
Submissions received	5
Electorate figures	5
Number of councillors	6
Division boundaries consultation	8
Draft recommendations	9
Selby	10
Harrogate and Knaresborough	16
Skipton	22
Yorkshire Dales	25
Ripon	29
Richmond	32
Stokesley	34
Thirsk and Northallerton	36
Easingwold	40
Malton, Norton and Pickering	42
North York Moors	46
Whitby	49
Scarborough and Filey	51
Conclusions	57
Summary of electoral arrangements	57
Parish electoral arrangements	57
Have your say	63
Equalities	67
Appendices	69

Appendix A	69
Draft recommendations for North Yorkshire Council	69
Appendix B	75
Outline map	75
Appendix C	80
Submissions received	80
Appendix D	82
Glossary and abbreviations	82



# Introduction

## Who we are and what we do

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

2 The members of the Commission are:

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

## What is an electoral review?

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

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

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

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

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

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

6 More details 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](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

## Why North Yorkshire?

7 In 2021, the then Secretary of State agreed to create a new unitary local government structure for the North Yorkshire county area. The existing North Yorkshire County Council and the districts of Craven, Hambleton, Harrogate, Richmondshire, Ryedale, Scarborough and Selby were abolished, and the new single-tier unitary authority of North Yorkshire Council was created.

8 A shadow authority was established towards the end of 2021 with interim electoral arrangements. The new authority held its first elections in May 2022, with the expectation that the Commission would conduct a full electoral review before the subsequent election in 2027.

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

- The divisions in North Yorkshire 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 North Yorkshire.

## Our proposals for North Yorkshire

10 North Yorkshire should be represented by 89 councillors, one fewer than there are now.

11 North Yorkshire should have 87 divisions, two fewer than there are now.

12 The boundaries of most divisions should change.

## How will the recommendations affect you?

13 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.

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

## Have your say

15 We will consult on the draft recommendations for a 10-week period, from 1 April 2025 to 9 June 2025. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to comment on these proposed divisions as the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be in making our final recommendations.

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

17 You have until 9 June 2025 to have your say on the draft recommendations. See page 63 for how to send us your response.

## Review timetable

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

19 The review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
18 September 2024	Number of councillors decided
1 October 2024	Start of consultation seeking views on new divisions
9 December 2024	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
1 April 2025	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
9 June 2025	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
2 September 2025	Publication of final recommendations





## Analysis and draft recommendations

20 Legislation<sup>2</sup> states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors<sup>3</sup> there are now, but also on how many there are likely to be in the five years after the publication of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for our divisions.

21 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.

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.

	2024	2030
Electorate of North Yorkshire	483,562	517,784
Number of councillors	89	89
Average number of electors per councillor	5,433	5,818

23 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 'electoral equality'. All but one of our proposed divisions for North Yorkshire are forecast to have electoral equality by 2030.

## 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](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

## Electorate figures

25 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2030, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2025. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 7%.

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 draft recommendations.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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 division. There can be 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 minor and do not significantly impact on our recommendations.

## Number of councillors

28 North Yorkshire Council currently has 90 councillors. Before the start of the review, we received five submissions on councillor numbers, advocating for numbers ranging from 89 to 108. The Council proposed that the authority should have 89 members, arguing that this number would provide for effective decision-making, a good level of scrutiny and strong community leadership, given the unique geographical and population challenges of North Yorkshire.

29 The North Yorkshire Council Labour Group, supported by the Green Party Group, proposed increasing the number of councillors to 108. While the Labour Group agreed with the Council on the challenges posed by the area's geography, it contended that 108 councillors was necessary to adequately represent the distinct urban, rural and coastal areas. The group argued that increasing the number of councillors would improve community engagement and local representation, and enable councillors to address issues more effectively. It also argued that more councillors would facilitate more robust scrutiny.

30 The North Yorkshire Liberal Democrats and Liberal Group suggested an increase to 97 councillors, citing the heavy workload faced by current members who are managing responsibilities previously handled by over 300 councillors. It argued that such an increase was necessary to ensure effective representation in the face of North Yorkshire's geographic size. Additionally, the group claimed that increasing the number of councillors would help enhance diversity and inclusivity by enabling individuals with caregiving or work responsibilities to serve as members. It also drew attention to North Yorkshire's high elector-to-councillor ratio compared to other large rural authorities.

31 Whitby Town Council submitted a proposal suggesting that approximately 90 councillors would provide an ideal division pattern for the town's area.

32 We carefully considered all the points raised in the submissions received. While recognising the variety of views regarding the appropriate number of councillors for North Yorkshire, we have concluded that the submission from the Council presents the most compelling arguments in support of its proposed council size. We determined that the Council's case for reducing the number of councillors to 89 is

well-made, backed by evidence suggesting that this number would be sufficient for effective decision-making, scrutiny and community leadership. Although the Labour Group's proposal for an increased number of councillors had merit, we determined that the evidence provided did not sufficiently justify a substantial increase, particularly to over 100 councillors.

33 We found the submission from the North Yorkshire Liberal Democrats and Liberal Group to lack sufficient supporting data. In particular, we considered it less convincing in demonstrating that an increase to 97 councillors would improve representation or reduce workload pressures when compared to the Council's proposal.

34 We concluded that a council size of 89 members would enable councillors to deliver strong strategic leadership, robust scrutiny and effective community engagement. As a result, we decided to invite proposals for new division patterns based on a council size of 89 members.

35 At a Full Council meeting on 24 July 2024, the Council resolved to request that the Commission carry out this review on the basis of recommending a uniform pattern of single-member divisions. There is a presumption in legislation<sup>4</sup> that the Commission should agree to such requests and seek to provide a uniform pattern of single-member divisions across the authority. 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.

36 We received 18 submissions which explicitly commented on the number of councillors for North Yorkshire, in response to our consultation on division patterns. A number of Labour Party affiliated political groups, a number of parish councils and several local residents opposed our decision that North Yorkshire Council be represented by 89 councillors, arguing for an increase. Richmond Town Council requested we retain 90 councillors. However, having carefully considered the evidence received, we remain unpersuaded by the arguments put forward that changing the total number of councillors from 89 would result in the authority being able to carry out its statutory functions in a more effective manner. We remain satisfied that a council size of 89 will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively, both now and in the future, so we have therefore based our draft recommendations on an 89-member council.

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<sup>4</sup> Section 57 of Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

## Division boundaries consultation

37 We received 124 submissions in response to our consultation on division boundaries. These included two authority-wide proposals, from the Council and the North Yorkshire Liberal Democrats ('the Liberal Democrats'). The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for division arrangements in particular areas of North Yorkshire.

38 The Council's proposal provided for a uniform pattern of single-councillor divisions for North Yorkshire. The Liberal Democrats proposed a near uniform pattern of single-councillor divisions but proposed a two-councillor division for the Malton and Norton area. The Liberal Democrats agreed with the Council's proposals in the Scarborough, Whitby and Selby areas but generally proposed different boundaries elsewhere. We carefully considered the proposals received and were of the view that the proposed patterns of divisions resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the authority and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries.

39 We also received a partial scheme from the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party, which focused on the area covered by the Thirsk & Malton parliamentary constituency. This proposal was largely based on avoiding the creation of divisions that crossed parliamentary constituencies. This principle was further supported by the North Yorkshire Labour Party Local Government Committee and the Wetherby & Easingwold Constituency Labour Party. The latter requested that we consider a configuration that would keep the parishes currently within the Hillside & Raskelf, Helmsley & Ampleforth, Amotherby & Hovingham and Wathvale & Bishop Monkton divisions entirely within the Wetherby & Easingwold Parliamentary constituency. However, our recommendations are developed independently of parliamentary constituency boundaries, and we are not required to take them into account when creating our proposals. Nonetheless, we have carefully considered the merits of the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party's proposals within the context of our statutory criteria.

40 In the Scarborough, Whitby and Selby areas, our draft recommendations are based on the proposals made by the Council, which the Liberal Democrats were agreed upon. For the rest of North Yorkshire, our recommendations are broadly based upon the Liberal Democrats' proposals. This is because we consider their proposals to better reflect community identities and interests, based upon the evidence we received during consultation.

41 Our draft recommendations also take into account other 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, so we identified alternative boundaries.

42 We conducted a virtual tour of North Yorkshire in order to look at the various proposals on the ground. This tour helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed. We plan to visit North Yorkshire in person once the consultation on our draft recommendations has ended, to allow us to focus on the areas where we receive strong evidence and feedback.

## Draft recommendations

43 Our draft recommendations are for two two-councillor divisions and 85 single-councillor divisions. We consider that our draft recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

44 The tables and maps on pages 10–55 detail our draft recommendations for each area of North Yorkshire. They detail how the proposed division arrangements reflect the three statutory criteria<sup>5</sup> of:

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

45 A summary of our proposed new divisions is set out in the table starting on page 69 and on the large map accompanying this report.

46 We welcome all comments on these draft recommendations, particularly on the location of the division boundaries and the names of our proposed divisions.

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<sup>5</sup> Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.





Cliffe & Escrick	1	-7%
Osgoldcross	1	10%
Selby East	1	-1%
Selby West	1	3%
Sherburn in Elmet & South Milford	2	7%
Tadcaster	1	3%
Thorpe Willoughby & Hambleton	1	-1%

#### *Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton*

47 The existing Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton division is projected to be over-represented by 2030. To address this, the Council proposed modifications to the division, incorporating the southern section of Stutton with Hazlewood parish (south of the A64) and part of Sherburn in Elmet parish in the division. These changes were supported by the Liberal Democrats.

48 Sherburn in Elmet Town Council proposed four alternative options, which all centred on not placing any part of Sherburn in Elmet parish into Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton division. Therefore, to achieve electoral equality for Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton division, it suggested including the entirety of Stutton with Hazlewood parish within the division.

49 Our proposed Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton division includes the southern section of Stutton with Hazlewood parish, which contains the village of Stutton. However, we propose that the area north of the A64 be placed in Tadcaster division, as proposed by the Council, as we consider this area to be part of the Tadcaster community. Additionally, we regard the A64 as a clear and identifiable boundary.

50 We were persuaded by the well-evidenced argument made by Sherburn in Elmet Town Council that no part of their parish should be included in the Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton division. However, this decision, combined with placing the northern section of Stutton with Hazlewood parish in Tadcaster division, results in our proposed Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton division being slightly undersized. To address this, we have decided to incorporate Bilbrough and Catterton parishes in the division. As a result, our Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton division is expected to have an electoral variance of -7% by 2030.

51 We are satisfied that our proposed Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton division provides an effective balance of the statutory criteria. It will have good forecast electoral equality and will form a cohesive division comprising similar rural parishes located between Sherburn in Elmet and Tadcaster.



### *Barlby & Osgodby, Selby East and Selby West*

52 The Liberal Democrats supported the Council's proposals for the three single-councillor divisions of Barlby & Osgodby, Selby East and Selby West. With Selby parish too large to be covered by two single-councillor divisions and secure good electoral equality, the Council proposed that the new housing estate accessed via Cedar Road and Hawthorn Road in Selby parish be included in a division with Barlby with Osgodby parish. Sherburn in Elmet Town Council proposed that the entirety of Selby and Barlby with Osgodby parishes form a three-councillor division named Selby & Barlby.

53 We have decided to base our draft recommendations on the Council's proposals for Selby and Barlby. All three divisions are projected to achieve good electoral equality by 2030, and based on the evidence provided, we are satisfied that these divisions will also effectively balance our other statutory criteria. We were not persuaded to adopt Sherburn in Elmet Town Council's proposal for a three-councillor division as we did not consider that enough evidence had been provided to move away from the presumption that we provide for a single-councillor division pattern in this area.

### *Brayton & Barlow*

54 The Council, the Liberal Democrats and option three of Sherburn in Elmet Town Council's proposals (which are discussed further in the Sherburn in Elmet & South Milford section) all recommended a single-councillor Brayton & Barlow division. This division would comprise the parishes of Barlow, Brayton and Burn and is projected to have an electoral variance of -2% by 2030.

55 We propose to adopt this division in our draft recommendations, as we are satisfied that it balances our three statutory criteria. In particular, we note that Burn parish has stronger road links to Brayton and Barlow than to the parishes in Thorpe Willoughby & Hambleton division, in which it is currently located.

### *Camblesforth & Carlton and Osgoldcross*

56 The Council, with the support of the Liberal Democrats, proposed expanding the existing Camblesforth & Carlton division westward to include the parishes of Beal and Birkin while retaining the current Osgoldcross division. However, Sherburn in Elmet Town Council's option three proposal would result in a reconfigured Osgoldcross division incorporating the parishes of Byram cum Sutton, Beal and Birkin, while transferring Balne, Heck and Whitley parishes to a South Selby division, which was based on the existing Camblesforth & Carlton division.

57 We have based our draft recommendations on the option three proposals from Sherburn in Elmet Town Council. This is because this approach provides for two divisions at the southernmost edge of the authority that achieve good electoral

equality while also ensuring a division pattern that effectively balances the statutory criteria for Selby area more generally, particularly in the context of our proposals for Sherburn in Elmet.

58 However, we were not persuaded to adopt Sherburn in Elmet Town Council's proposed division name of South Selby. We consider Camblesforth & Carlton to be a more appropriate name, as it reflects the two largest and most recognisable communities within the division. We nevertheless welcome feedback on this name, as well as on our broader proposals for Camblesforth & Carlton and Osgoldcross divisions, as part of the current consultation.

#### *Cawood & Riccall*

59 The Council, the Liberal Democrats and option three of Sherburn in Elmet Town Council's proposals all suggested we adopt a single-councillor Cawood & Riccall division, which is projected to have an electoral variance of -7% by 2030.

60 We have broadly adopted this division as part of our draft recommendations. We consider it to link similarly sized parishes to the north of Selby which share good community connections.

#### *Cliffe & Escrick*

61 The Council, the Liberal Democrats and Sherburn in Elmet Town Council all proposed a single-councillor division comprising the parishes of Cliffe, Escrick, Hemingbrough, North Duffield, Skipwith and Thorganby. This division is projected to have an electoral variance of -7% by 2030. While the Council and the Liberal Democrats proposed naming the division Cliffe & Escrick, Sherburn in Elmet Town Council suggested the name Derwent. In our draft recommendations, we propose adopting this division with the name Cliffe & Escrick, as we consider this name to better reflect the identities of its constituent communities. However, we welcome feedback on this name during the current consultation period.

#### *Sherburn in Elmet & South Milford*

62 The parish of Sherburn in Elmet is too large to form a single-councillor division with good electoral equality. A division which is coterminous with the parish boundary would have a forecast electoral variance of 23% by 2030.

63 To address this issue, the Council proposed transferring part of Sherburn in Elmet parish into an Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton division, but acknowledging that such a proposal was unlikely to receive local support. Indeed, we received representations from Sherburn in Elmet Town Council, Councillor Packham and several local residents opposing this approach.

64 Sherburn in Elmet Town Council and Councillor Packham submitted well-evidenced representations outlining alternative options for our consideration. The

first option was to recommend a division which would be coterminous with the parish of Sherburn in Elmet. As outlined above, such a division would have a significant level of electoral inequality and we are therefore not persuaded to adopt this proposal.

65 The second option involved a pattern of divisions for the Selby area which included the creation of a two-member division comprising the existing division of Sherburn in Elmet, as well as Huddleston with Newthorpe, South Milford, Monk Fryston, Hillam, Fairburn and Burton Salmon parishes. However, while this division would possess good electoral equality, we considered that the evidence received to justify multi-member divisions in adjoining areas was not strong enough for this area given the presumption that we provide a single-councillor division pattern in North Yorkshire.

66 The third option also involved creating a two-member division comprising the existing division of Sherburn in Elmet, but including Brotherton parish as well as the above-mentioned parishes. We considered that this option was preferable to the second option as the adjacent divisions proposed by Sherburn in Elmet Town Council were nearly all single-councillor divisions.

67 The final option was for a two-member division comprising both Sherburn in Elmet and South Milford parishes in their entirety, and the parish of Huddleston with Newthorpe. We were not persuaded to adopt this division as it is anticipated to have an electoral variance of -20%, which we consider too high to accept based on the evidence received.

68 We carefully considered the submissions we received in relation to Sherburn in Elmet and the surrounding parishes. On balance, we consider that the statutory criteria would be most effectively reflected by recommending a two-councillor Sherburn in Elmet & South Milford division, in line with Sherburn in Elmet Town Council's third option. While this moves away from the presumption that we provide for a uniform pattern of single-councillor divisions across North Yorkshire, we were persuaded by the strength of evidence provided during consultation that splitting Sherburn in Elmet across divisions would not provide for effective and convenient local government, nor reflect community identities. On this basis, we are persuaded that a two-councillor division is justified in this area.

#### *Tadcaster*

69 The Council, with the support of the Liberal Democrats, proposed a Tadcaster division comprising the parishes of Tadcaster and Newton Kyme cum Toulston, along with the northern part of Sutton with Hazlewood parish. We have broadly based our draft recommendations on this proposal, as we consider Tadcaster parish to have strong community and road links with Newton Kyme cum Toulston. Additionally, we consider the part of Sutton with Hazlewood parish to the north of the

A64 to be more closely aligned with the urban Tadcaster area and that its community identity is best served in a Tadcaster division, rather than the more rural Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton division.

70 We acknowledge the well-evidenced submission from Tadcaster Town Council, which proposed that the entirety of Sutton with Hazlewood parish be included in Tadcaster division. However, in order to achieve good electoral equality in our Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton division, we must include at least the southern part of Sutton with Hazlewood in that division. As a result, we are unable to accommodate Tadcaster Town Council's proposal. In any case, we consider the A64 to provide a clear and identifiable southern boundary for our Tadcaster division.

71 We have, however, accepted Tadcaster Town Council's proposal to include Healaugh parish in Tadcaster division. We were persuaded by the evidence provided, which indicated that residents of Healaugh primarily use Tadcaster as their main service town. Furthermore, the inclusion of Healaugh parish in Tadcaster division will ensure that electors on Wighill Lane – which straddles the boundary between Tadcaster and Healaugh parishes – are contained within a single division, thereby promoting effective and convenient local government.

72 We also propose the inclusion of Wighill parish in Tadcaster division. We consider that Wighill has stronger connections to Tadcaster to the south, particularly given the absence of direct access routes northward from Wighill village. We welcome feedback on this decision and on the Tadcaster division as a whole during the current consultation.

#### *Thorpe Willoughby & Hambleton*

73 The Council, backed by the Liberal Democrats, proposed reducing the size of the current Thorpe Willoughby & Hambleton division by transferring Burn parish into a Brayton & Barlow division. We agree with this modification for the reasons outlined in the Brayton & Barlow section of this report and have adopted it as part of our draft recommendations.

74 Additionally, we propose to include Chapel Haddlesey and West Haddlesey parishes in the division, in line with the third option presented by Sherburn in Elmet Town Council. This adjustment ensures good electoral equality in adjacent divisions. We are content that incorporating these parishes into the division will not have a negative impact on their community identities or interests.

## Harrogate and Knaresborough



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Bilton & Nidd Gorge	1	6%
Bilton Grange	1	-4%
Birstwith & Pannal	1	-9%
Duchy & Valley Gardens	1	9%
Granby	1	2%
Harlow	1	3%
Harrogate Central	1	10%
Jennyfield	1	8%
Knarsborough East	1	8%

Knaresborough West	1	9%
Lower Nidderdale	1	-3%
Oatlands & Rossett	1	0%
Starbeck	1	-5%
Stray & Woodlands	1	5%

### *Bilton & Nidd Gorge*

75 The Council and the Liberal Democrats both proposed identical Bilton & Nidd Gorge divisions, which included transferring the Old Barber estate into the neighbouring Bilton Grange division. However, in our draft recommendations, we propose retaining the existing division. This is because the current division is forecast to have good electoral equality, and we consider Knox Lane to provide a clearer and more identifiable boundary than the one proposed by the Council and the Liberal Democrats.

### *Bilton Grange*

76 The Council and the Liberal Democrats each proposed a division based on the Bilton Grange area, with slight differences in their suggested boundaries. Our draft recommendations align more closely with the Liberal Democrats' proposal, as we consider the use of Skipton Road and Ripon Road to provide clearer and more identifiable boundaries than those put forward by the Council. Additionally, we have adopted the Liberal Democrats' proposed name of Bilton Grange. However, we welcome feedback on whether the Council's suggestion to include 'Knox' in the division name would be more appropriate.

### *Birstwith & Pannal*

77 For the parishes that lie west of Harrogate, we propose to adopt the Liberal Democrats' proposed Birstwith & Pannal division. This proposal helps achieve a division pattern that reflects the topography and community interests of the surrounding areas of Harrogate, Wharfedale and Nidderdale. Furthermore, it links the larger villages of Pannal and Birstwith in a division with other smaller villages west of Harrogate. We consider these areas are likely to share similar concerns and interests, and therefore should be contained in the same division.

### *Duchy & Valley Gardens and Harrogate Central*

78 The Council and the Liberal Democrats proposed variations of the existing Coppice Valley & Duchy and Valley Gardens & Central Harrogate divisions, both of which would straddle the A61. However, based on our virtual tour of Harrogate, we consider the A61 to be a clear and logical boundary. We also determined that there was merit in creating a Harrogate Central division that primarily reflects the identities and interests of electors within the town's commercial centre. We are therefore recommending a Harrogate Central division defined by distinct and identifiable boundaries, following the A61, A59 and A6040 roads.



79 In light of our decision to establish a Harrogate Central division, we propose combining the Duchy and Valley Gardens areas into a single division. We consider that this approach provides an appropriate balance between our statutory criteria, grouping communities west of the town centre in a division centred around the Valley Gardens open space.

80 We also consider that the name 'Duchy & Valley Gardens' most accurately represents the communities the division encompasses, based on evidence provided by a local resident. However, we would welcome feedback on these two divisions during the current consultation period.

### *Granby*

81 Our proposed Granby division is based on the Council's division, which also closely aligns with the Liberal Democrats' proposal. Both proposals link communities either side of the A59 in a single division. We are satisfied that this division achieves a good balance of the statutory criteria, based on the community evidence provided by the Council. This evidence highlights that the division falls within the area historically recognised as Granby and includes key local landmarks such as Harrogate High School (formerly Harrogate Granby) and the Granby Care Home (previously the Granby Hotel). Additionally, we note the Council's evidence that the proposed boundaries broadly reflect those of the former Granby ward, which existed in the former Harrogate Borough Council prior to its final electoral review in 2018.

### *Harlow*

82 The Liberal Democrats supported the Council's proposed Harlow division, which is largely based on the existing Harlow & St George's division. The Council's modifications included the exclusion of electors around Swinton Court and Harlow Oval to establish a clearer boundary along Otley Road, and the transfer of the Rossett School area into its proposed Oatlands & Rossett division. We consider these adjustments to create a well-defined division centred on the Harlow Hill area, with good projected electoral equality. As a result, we consider this division aligns well with the statutory criteria and propose adopting it as part of our draft recommendations.

83 A local resident stated that a housing estate which straddles the boundary between Beckwithshaw and Harrogate parishes should be located entirely in a Harlow division. They argued that splitting it between urban and rural divisions would not reflect the differing needs of residents. We agree that the current boundary is not particularly clear, and we have allocated the estate to our proposed Harlow division.

### *Jennyfield*

84 We received differing proposals from the Council and the Liberal Democrats regarding the north-western part of Harrogate. The Council suggested dividing the

Jennyfield and King Edwin Park areas between divisions to align its Oakdale and Lower Nidderdale divisions with the Harrogate and Killinghall parish boundary. In contrast, the Liberal Democrats proposed placing the entirety of the Jennyfield and King Edwin Park areas in a single-councillor Jennyfield division.

85 After reviewing the area through a virtual tour, we have based our draft recommendations on the Liberal Democrats' proposal. We found that the Harrogate and Killinghall parish boundary is not clearly defined, and using it as a division boundary would divide the Jennyfield and King Edwin Park communities between divisions. We concluded that this approach would not effectively reflect community identities or interests, and that the Liberal Democrats' proposal provided for a more coherent division. In particular, it keeps the Jennyfield and King Edwin Park areas together in the same division, ensuring clear community representation and reflecting local community links.

#### *Knareborough East and Knareborough West*

86 The proposals for Knareborough varied significantly between the Council and the Liberal Democrats. The Council proposed dividing the Knareborough parish area across three divisions: Knareborough Castle, Knareborough East and Knareborough Scriven. Under these proposals, Knareborough East and Knareborough Scriven would combine parts of urban Knareborough with surrounding rural parishes. In contrast, the Liberal Democrats proposed a two-division pattern, dividing Knareborough on an east-west basis, and keeping the divisions predominantly urban and separate from rural parishes.

87 Having considered the evidence received, we have decided to base our draft recommendations on the Liberal Democrats' proposal for two divisions in Knareborough. We consider that this approach provides the best balance of the statutory criteria by ensuring that the Knareborough divisions remain primarily urban and focused on the town itself. In comparison, we determined that the Council's proposal to link urban Knareborough with rural parishes would not provide as strong a reflection of community identities and interests.

88 However, we propose to include the areas of Calcutt, Forest Moor and Thistle Hill, which are within Knareborough parish, in our proposed Knareborough East division. The Liberal Democrats had included these areas in their proposed Stray & Woodlands division. We consider that aligning our Knareborough East division with the Harrogate and Knareborough parish boundary will better reflect community identities and support effective and convenient local government.

#### *Lower Nidderdale*

89 We received differing proposals from the Council and the Liberal Democrats regarding the composition of Lower Nidderdale division. The Council's proposed division included the parishes of Hampsthwaite, Killinghall, Nidd, Ripley and South



Stainley with Cayton. In contrast, the Liberal Democrats suggested a geographically larger division that incorporated these parishes but extended further west. They also proposed dividing Killinghall parish, with its urban section allocated to Jennyfield division and its rural area included in the more rural Lower Nidderdale division.

90 After careful consideration, we have based our draft recommendations on the Liberal Democrats' proposal for Lower Nidderdale division. We were persuaded by their argument that the Jennyfield community's identity and interests would be best represented in a division that bears its name. Additionally, we believe that the rural parishes of Brearton, Farnham, Ferrensby, Scriven and Scotton align more closely in terms of community interests with the rural Lower Nidderdale division, rather than the more urban Knaresborough Scriven division as proposed by the Council.

91 Our recommended Lower Nidderdale division also includes electors in the Nidd Gorge area, as proposed by the Liberal Democrats. While this area falls within the Knaresborough parish boundary, we agree that it is distinct from the more urban parts of Knaresborough and is therefore better suited to the more rural-based Lower Nidderdale division. This arrangement also helps to ensure that our proposed Knaresborough West division achieves good electoral equality by 2030.

#### *Oatlands & Rossett*

92 The Liberal Democrats supported the Council's proposed Oatlands & Rossett division. This division primarily consists of the northern part of the current Oatlands & Pannal division, incorporating the Rossett School and Tewit Well Road areas while excluding Pannal village.

93 We find that this division provides an effective balance of our statutory criteria with good forecast electoral equality by 2030. Therefore, we propose adopting it as part of our draft recommendations.

#### *Starbeck*

94 Our proposed Starbeck division is largely based upon the Council's proposal, which is very similar to the former Starbeck division of the now abolished North Yorkshire County Council. We also note the Council's observation that, by moving the current boundary from the railway line to Kingsley Road and Wedderburn Road, it brings it in line with the 'Starbeck' road signs. This adjustment ensures that the division boundary better reflects the established community identity and interests of the Starbeck area. We are content that the proposed division will have a good electoral equality by 2030, while reflecting the identities and interests of local communities.

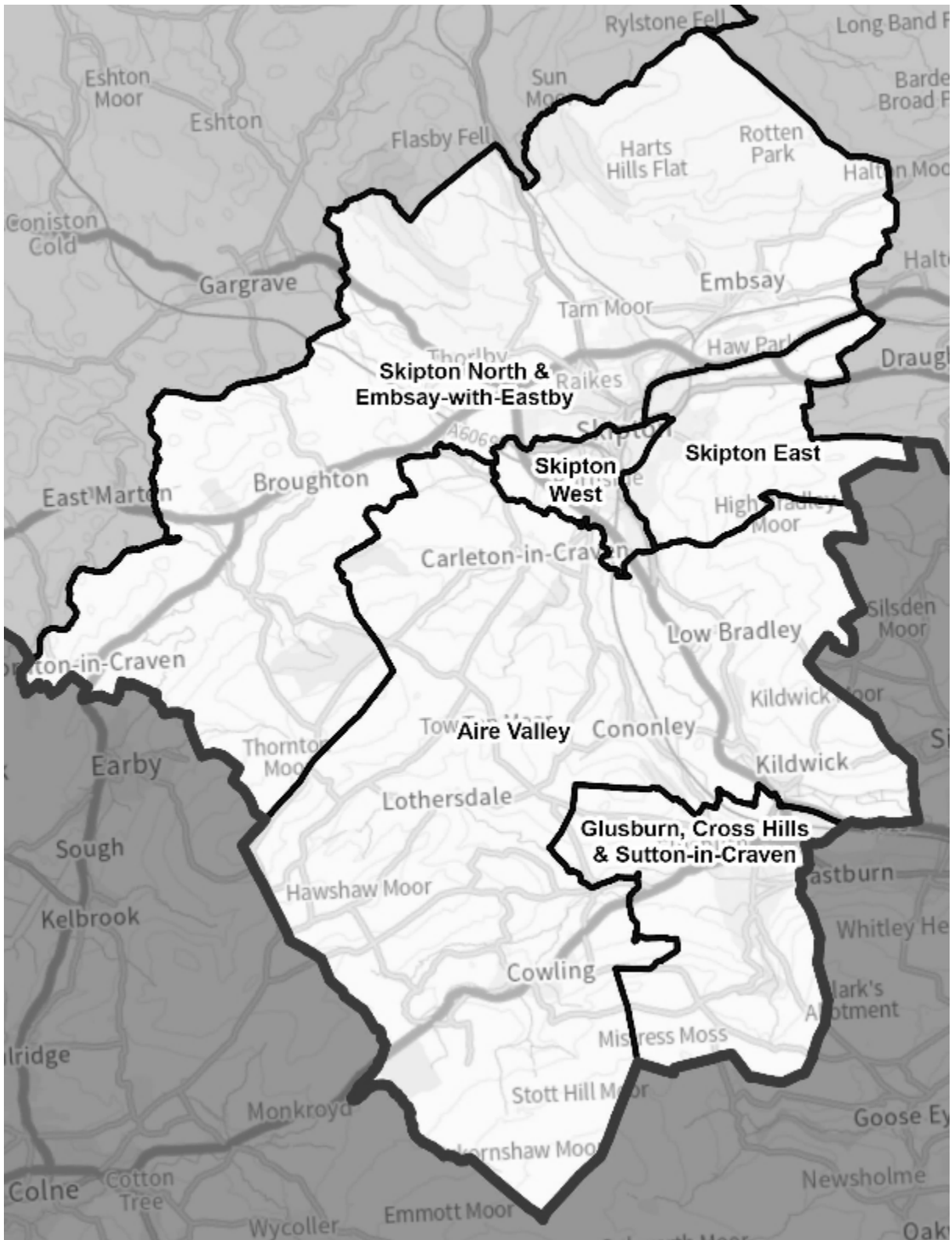
#### *Stray & Woodlands*

95 We have broadly based our draft recommendations on the Council's proposed Stray & Woodlands division. The proposed division largely retains the existing

boundaries of the current Stray, Woodlands & Hookstone division, with the exception of transferring the Tewit Well Road area into an Oatlands & Rossett division. The Council argued that this adjustment would improve electoral equality and better reflect the community interests of residents in the Tewit Well Road area by aligning them with the Oatlands community. The proposed division would also follow a stronger boundary by running along the railway line rather than Leeds Road.

96 However, we propose a small modification to the Council's proposals and have incorporated the Hornbeam Business Park in this division to ensure the railway line serves as the boundary up to the Harrogate parish boundary, and to reflect road access routes from the business park.

# Skipton



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Aire Valley	1	5%
Glusburn, Cross Hills & Sutton-in-Craven	1	10%
Skipton East	1	-10%
Skipton North & Embsay-with-Eastby	1	-9%
Skipton West	1	-8%

#### *Aire Valley and Glusburn, Cross Hills & Sutton-in-Craven*

97 We received differing proposals from the Council and the Liberal Democrats regarding the two divisions south of Skipton. The Council suggested creating a South Craven division that would link Sutton parish with Cross Hills, but placed Glusburn within an Aire Valley division. This would divide Glusburn & Cross Hills parish across divisions. In contrast, the Liberal Democrats proposed including Sutton parish in an Aire Valley division, thereby grouping the Glusburn and Cross Hills communities in the same division.

98 After careful consideration, we have decided to retain the existing Glusburn, Cross Hills & Sutton-in-Craven division, which aligns more closely with the Council's proposals. This is because we consider Cross Hills and Sutton-in-Craven to share strong community ties and that they should thus remain within the same division. Additionally, we propose keeping Glusburn in a division with these areas, thereby preventing the separation of Glusburn & Cross Hills parish across divisions.

99 We were also persuaded to base our draft recommendations on the Council's proposals for an Aire Valley division. We believe this division effectively balances our statutory criteria, linking similar rural parishes to the south of Skipton in the same division.

#### *Skipton East, Skipton North & Embsay-with-Eastby and Skipton West*

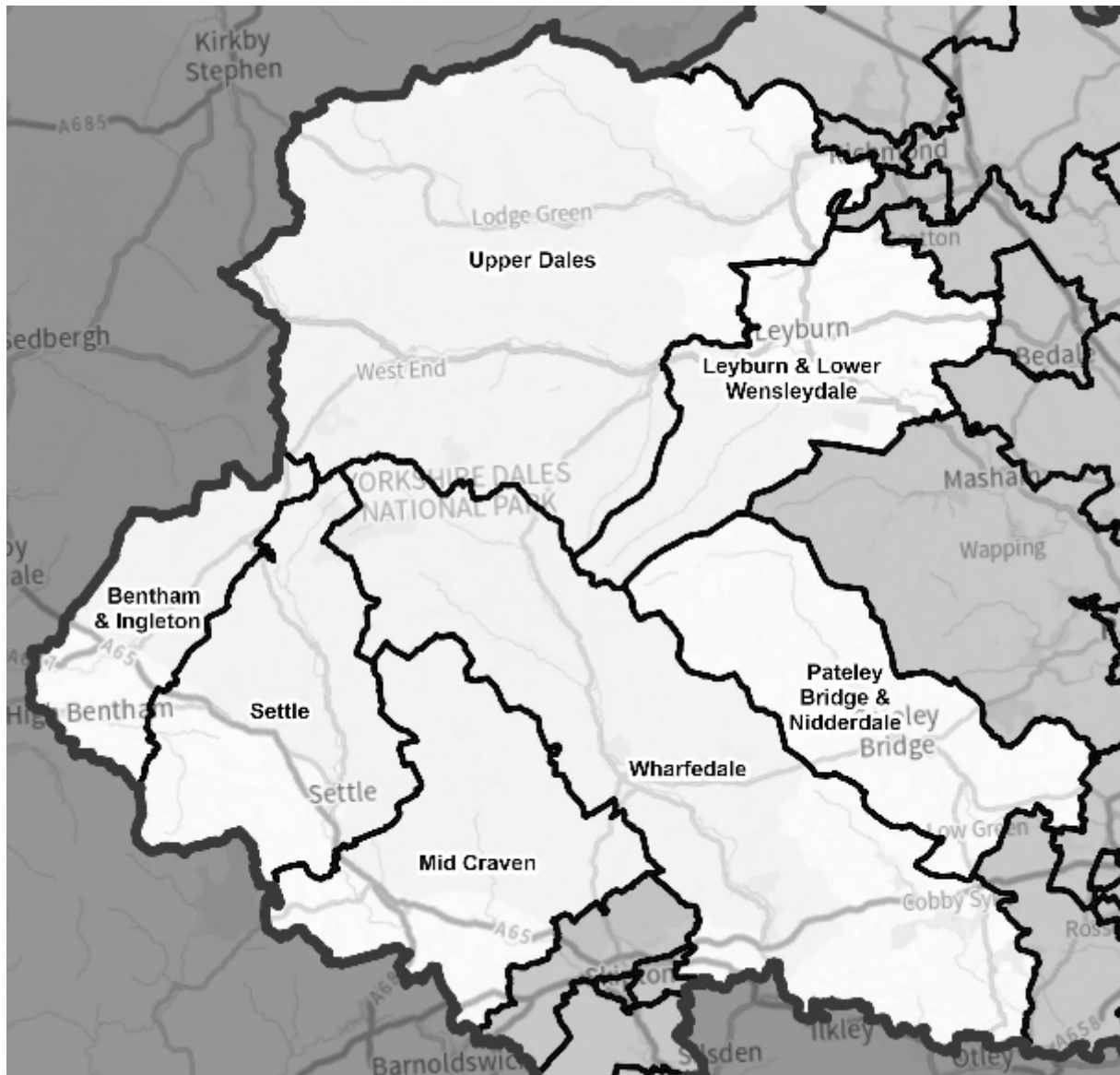
100 The Council and the Liberal Democrats proposed significantly different division arrangements for the Skipton area. We were not persuaded to adopt the Liberal Democrats' proposed Skipton East, Skipton North & West and Skipton South & Rural divisions, as we were concerned that their Skipton South & Rural division did not effectively balance our statutory criteria. Specifically, it combined parishes north of Skipton, such as Embsay-with-Eastby, in a division with those to the south, including Bradleys Both. We considered this to be an unsuitable arrangement as it would link disparate communities together in the same division.

101 Our draft recommendations for Skipton therefore more closely align with the Council's proposals, with several key modifications. We recommend that Draughton parish be excluded from Skipton East division, as we consider it a more rural

community better suited to our proposed Wharfedale division. Similarly, we propose that Carleton parish be included in our Aire Valley division rather than the Council's proposed Skipton West division, also to reflect its more rural character and interests.

102 Additionally, we propose including the parishes of Broughton, Elslack, Stirton with Thorlby and Thornton in Craven in our Skipton North & Embsay-with-Eastby division, rather than the Council's proposed Mid Craven division. This adjustment ensures that Skipton North & Embsay-with-Eastby division will have good electoral equality by 2030. We also consider that these parishes have strong road connections (via the A56, A59 and A65) and reasonable community links with the north of Skipton and Embsay-with-Eastby parish. We are therefore satisfied that this division provides an effective balance of our three statutory criteria.

## Yorkshire Dales



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Bentham & Ingleton	1	-4%
Leyburn & Lower Wensleydale	1	7%
Mid Craven	1	-6%
Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale	1	6%
Settle	1	2%
Upper Dales	1	-7%
Wharfedale	1	-2%

### *Bentham & Ingleton*

103 Both the Council and the Liberal Democrats proposed similar divisions for the westernmost part of North Yorkshire. The Council suggested a North Craven division

that largely followed the existing Bentham & Ingleton division boundaries but transferred the parishes of Lawkland and Austwick to a Settle division. The Liberal Democrats proposed the same changes, with the additional transfer of Clapham cum Newby parish into their Settle & Penyghent division.

104 In our draft recommendations, we propose a Bentham & Ingleton division based on the boundaries suggested by the Liberal Democrats. Their proposal secures slightly better electoral equality for both this division and the adjacent Settle division. However, we welcome feedback on where the community identities and interests of Clapham cum Newby lie, given that reasonable electoral equality can be achieved whether it is included in Bentham & Ingleton division or Settle division.

105 Furthermore, we have decided not to adopt the division names North Craven or Bentham, as proposed by the Council and the Liberal Democrats, respectively. We consider the current name, Bentham & Ingleton, to be the most representative of the division's composition, as it reflects its largest constituent communities.

#### *Leyburn & Lower Wensleydale*

106 A near identical division was proposed by the Council and the Liberal Democrats for Leyburn and the surrounding parishes. In both proposals, the existing Leyburn & Middleham division was extended eastward to incorporate the Lower Wensleydale area from the current Scotton & Lower Wensleydale division. The only difference between the proposals was the placement of Hunton and Patrick Brompton parishes: the Liberal Democrats included both in their Leyburn division, while the Council assigned them to a Catterick Village & Crakehall division.

107 We have decided to base our draft recommendations on the Liberal Democrats' proposed Leyburn division, as it helps provide for electoral equality in both this division and the adjacent Swale division. However, we propose to adopt the name Leyburn & Lower Wensleydale, as suggested by the Council, as we consider it more reflective of its constituent communities.

108 Constable Burton & Finghall Parish Council expressed support for the current Scotton & Lower Wensleydale boundary. However, we consider that our proposed division effectively reflects the community interests and identities of the Lower Wensleydale community, and we are therefore content it provides a good balance between our three statutory criteria.

#### *Mid Craven*

109 Both the Council and the Liberal Democrats proposed a Mid Craven division, although their configurations differed. The Council's proposal extended the existing division southwards to include the parishes of Broughton, Elslack, Martons Both and Thornton in Craven. We decided not to adopt the Council's division, as we have placed the parishes of Broughton, Elslack and Thornton in Craven in our Skipton



North & Embsay-with-Eastby division. The reasoning for this is explained in the Skipton section of this report.

110 We have therefore decided to base our draft recommendations on the Liberal Democrats' proposed Mid Craven division, which includes the parishes of Halton West and Wigglesworth from the current Settle division, along with Cracoe, Hetton-cum-Bordley and Rylstone parishes from the existing Wharfedale division. This division is forecast to have an electoral variance of -6% by 2030. We are satisfied that it reflects community identities, noting that some of the smaller parishes share reasonable road and community links with the more populous settlements along the A65, such as Gargrave, Hellifield and Long Preston.

#### *Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale and Wharfedale*

111 During consultation we received several submissions opposing the Council's proposed divisions for the Nidderdale and Wharfedale areas. Respondents expressed concerns that its proposal to divide Pateley Bridge across two divisions would not adequately reflect community interests, nor support effective and convenient local government. Further concerns were raised regarding the inclusion of the Upper Nidderdale Grouped Parish Council in a Wharfedale division.

112 Buckden Parish Council stated that the most logical way to achieve electoral equality for Upper Wharfedale was for it to be in the same division as Upper Nidderdale. However, well-evidenced submissions from Bewerley Parish Council, Dacre Parish Council, Darley & Menwith Parish Council, Pateley Bridge Town Council, the Nidderdale National Landscape Joint Advisory Committee and several local residents argued that this arrangement would undermine existing community ties. It was argued that, under such a division arrangement, the Upper Nidderdale area would be geographically isolated from the majority of the Upper Wharfedale area by extensive moorland.

113 In response, the Liberal Democrats proposed a Wharfedale division that extended the existing division further south. They also suggested that the current Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale division incorporate the parishes of Bishop Thornton, Shaw Mills & Warsill, Hartwith cum Winsley and Clint cum Hamlets. Their proposals also mirrored a submission made by a local resident, who also suggested the existing Wharfedale division be enlarged.

114 We therefore propose to base our Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale and Wharfedale divisions on the Liberal Democrats' proposals as part of our draft recommendations. We consider that their proposals better reflect the topography, community identities and local interests of this area, based on the evidence received from a relatively wide range of respondents in this area.



### *Settle*

115 Our proposed Settle division is based on the Liberal Democrats' proposed Settle & Penyghent division. Their configuration was similar to the existing Settle division, but included Clapham cum Newby parish and excluded Halton West and Wigglesworth parishes. Conversely, the Council proposed that Clapham cum Newby parish be included in a division with Bentham and Ingleton, while Halton West and Wigglesworth parishes would remain within a Settle division.

116 However, we consider that Halton West and Wigglesworth parishes are geographically closer to Hellifield and Long Preston and are likely to share stronger community links with these villages. Therefore, in line with the Liberal Democrats' proposal, we have placed these parishes within our Mid Craven division. Additionally, we consider that including Clapham cum Newby parish in our Settle division achieves a better balance of our statutory criteria, as outlined in the Bentham & Ingleton section of this report.

117 While we have adopted the Liberal Democrats' boundary proposals, we have decided to use the Council's proposed division name of Settle, rather than Settle & Penyghent, as suggested by the Liberal Democrats. We nonetheless welcome views during the current consultation on whether the mountain should be included in the division name.

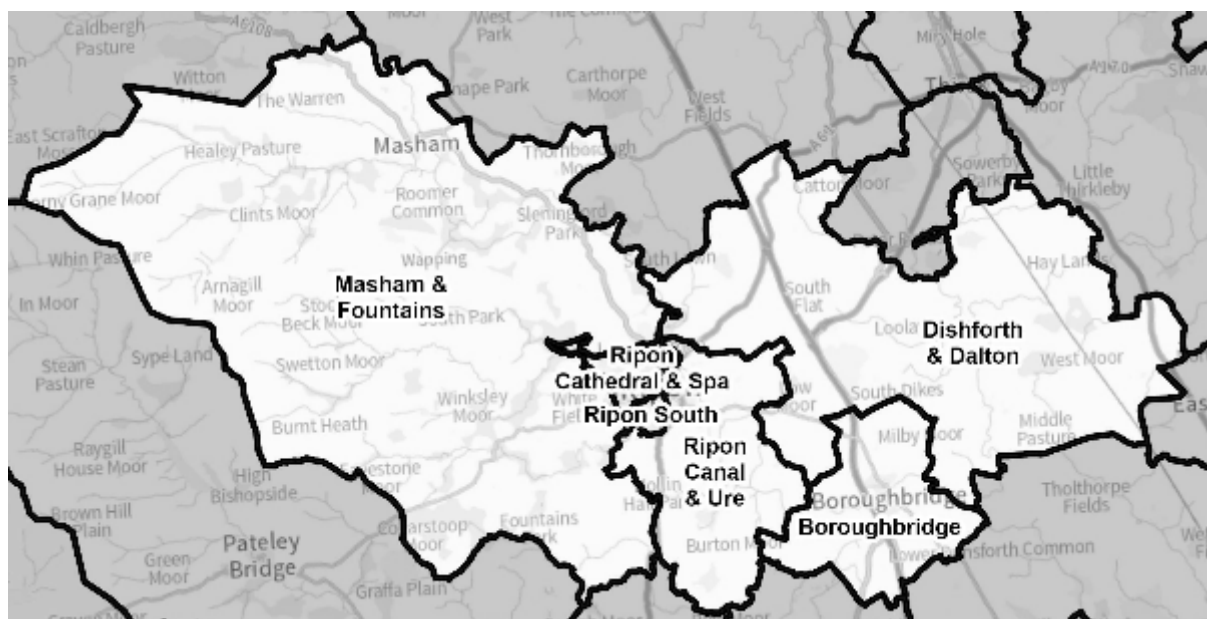
118 Our proposed Settle division unites the parishes of Settle and Giggleswick in the same division, aligning with a local residents' submission that describes them as 'basically the same place'. This supports our assessment that our Settle division will reflect community identities and interests in this area.

### *Upper Dales*

119 The Council proposed expanding the current Upper Dales division to include the parishes of Carperby-cum-Thoresby, Castle Bolton with East & West Bolton, Redmire and Preston-under-Scar. These parishes would move from the existing Leyburn & Middleham division, in order to achieve electoral equality for Upper Dales division. The Council also argued that these parishes share strong community ties with the rural communities in the northern part of the Yorkshire Dales. This proposal was supported by the Liberal Democrats and by a local resident, with the latter expressing a preference for the parish to be included in the Upper Dales division.

120 We have decided to adopt the Council's Upper Dales division as part of our draft recommendations. The inclusion of the above-named parishes will provide for an Upper Dales division with good electoral equality which will also reflect the identities and interests of its communities, based on the evidence received.

## Ripon



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Boroughbridge	1	-3%
Dishforth & Dalton	1	-8%
Masham & Fountains	1	1%
Ripon Canal & Ure	1	-2%
Ripon Cathedral & Spa	1	-5%
Ripon South	1	-10%

### *Boroughbridge and Dishforth & Dalton*

121 The Liberal Democrats proposed a Boroughbridge division that linked Boroughbridge parish with the surrounding parishes of Kirby Hill, Milby, Langthorpe and Roecliffe. Councillor Merson, of Kirby Hill Parish Council, also requested that these parishes, which they stated form part of the broader Boroughbridge community, should be in the same division. We agree that these communities share strong connections with Boroughbridge and should therefore be included in a Boroughbridge division.

122 The Council also proposed incorporating these parishes in a Boroughbridge division but extended it further north to include Cundall with Leckby, Ellenthorpe, Humberton, Norton-le-Clay and Thornton Bridge parishes. However, we were not persuaded to adopt this approach, as we consider these parishes to be more appropriately placed in the more rural-based division of Dishforth & Dalton, as proposed by the Liberal Democrats.

123 We consider that the Liberal Democrats' Dishforth & Dalton division provides the best balance of the statutory criteria for the area north of Boroughbridge. We were persuaded by evidence presented by Liberal Democrats that indicated this division will reflect community interests, as it will predominantly consist of similar rural villages situated between the A1(M) and A19.

124 Sessay Parish Council and a local resident requested that Sessay parish not be included in the Council's proposed Hillside & Raskelf division, preferring to remain linked with Topcliffe and Sowerby. While we understand these concerns, we recommend placing Sessay parish in Dishforth & Dalton division. We consider that this approach reflects the parish's rural identity by placing it within a largely rural division, while also ensuring electoral equality for Dishforth & Dalton division. Furthermore, this recommendation aligns with evidence from another local resident who argued that Sessay parish should be part of a more rural division rather than be linked with the more urban Sowerby area.

#### *Masham & Fountains*

125 Both the Council and the Liberal Democrats proposed a Masham & Fountains division, though their boundaries differed slightly.

126 Our draft recommendations for Masham & Fountains division reflects a combination of these proposals, which both involved transferring several parishes in the south of the existing division. We were particularly persuaded by the Liberal Democrats' proposal to include the parishes of North Stainley with Sleningford and West Tanfield. We note that both parishes share strong connections with Masham via the A6108.

127 Additionally, we have decided to include Markenfield Hall and Markington with Wallerthwaite parishes in this division, as proposed by the Council. We consider that these areas will share greater identities and interests with communities in a predominantly rural division rather than being included in a more built-up division with the south of Ripon, as suggested by the Liberal Democrats.

128 Azerley Parish Council and a local resident expressed concerns that any proposed boundary changes would not adequately reflect local communities and identities. They were concerned that the resulting divisions would encompass large areas, potentially having a negative impact on effective local representation. While we acknowledge these concerns, we are satisfied that our proposed Masham & Fountains division strikes an appropriate balance between our three statutory criteria. This division links comparable rural communities along the eastern edge of the Yorkshire Dales, which we consider are likely to share common community interests, challenges and opportunities.

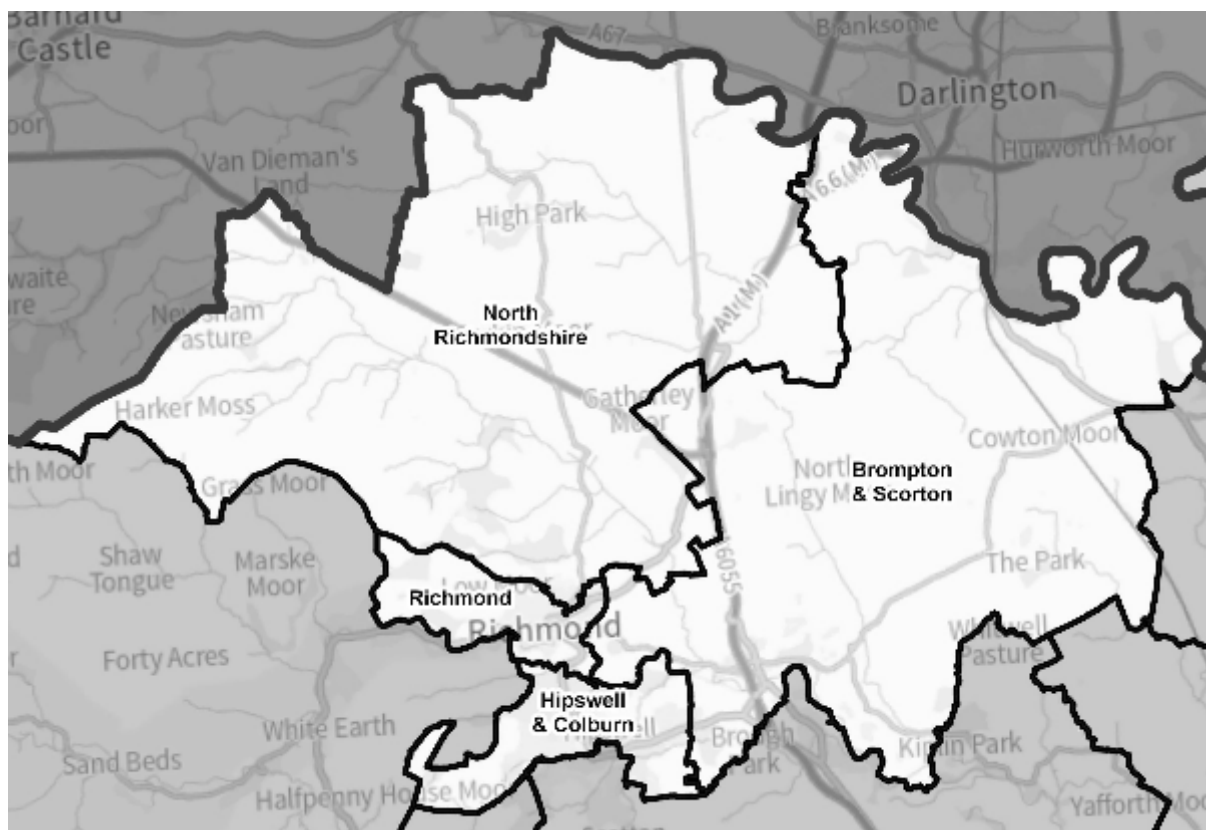
*Ripon Canal & Ure, Ripon Cathedral & Spa and Ripon South*

129 As acknowledged by both the Council and the Liberal Democrats, the city of Ripon is too large to be represented solely by two single-councillor divisions. Consequently, part of the city must be included in a division with surrounding areas to ensure good electoral equality across this area.

130 Our draft recommendations are based on the Liberal Democrats' proposals. We consider their approach to creating a division focused on the eastern part of Ripon and the adjacent rural parishes to be logical given their proximity to the Ripon Canal and River Ure. In contrast, we found on our virtual tour of Ripon that the Council's proposal to place the Clothholme area in a large, rural Masham & Fountains division may not reflect the community identities of electors residing in the Clothholme area. Additionally, we determined that the boundary suggested in that area was not clearly defined.

131 We also decided not to adopt the Council's proposal of adding to this division an area of Littlethorpe parish adjacent to West Lane. This area would incorporate new residential development into a Ripon South division and we were concerned that would require the creation of a parish ward that might have only very few electors by the time of the first parish election in 2027. We determined that this would not provide for effective and convenient local government, but would welcome further evidence from the Council, Ripon Town Council and Littlethorpe Parish Council as to whether we should adopt this proposal in our final recommendations.

## Richmond



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Brompton & Scorton	1	7%
Hipswell & Colburn	1	8%
North Richmondshire	1	7%
Richmond	1	-10%

### *Brompton & Scorton, North Richmondshire and Richmond*

132 The town of Richmond is too large, in terms of electorate, to be represented by a single-councillor division. Therefore, part of the town must be included in an adjacent division alongside some rural parishes. The Council proposed that most of Richmond be combined with the parishes of Aske and Gilling with Hartforth & Sedbury to form a Richmond & Gilling West division. Meanwhile, the eastern part of the town would be grouped with several adjoining parishes in a Richmond East & Scotch Corner division. The Council's proposed North Richmondshire division largely mirrored the existing boundaries but excluded the parishes of Aske, Gilling with Hartforth & Sedbury, Middleton Tyas, Moulton and Skeeby.

133 The Liberal Democrats, with the support of the Richmond & Northallerton Liberal Democrats, proposed an alternative arrangement. They provided evidence suggesting that the Council's proposal did not adequately reflect community identities, local interests, or the area's geography. Instead, they proposed a

reconfigured North Richmondshire division, a revised Richmond division, and the creation of a new Brompton & Scorton division.

134 After careful consideration, we have largely based our draft recommendations on the Liberal Democrats' proposals for Richmond and the surrounding area, as we determined from our virtual tour of the area that they better align with our statutory criteria. The community-based evidence they provided persuaded us that their proposed boundaries would create well-connected divisions with shared amenities. Additionally, we agree that their Brompton & Scorton division is defined by key transport routes and natural features, effectively linking communities with common challenges and opportunities.

135 The Richmond & Northallerton Liberal Democrats suggested that Brompton & Scorton division be named Swale & Tees. However, we recommend the name Brompton & Scorton, as we consider it more accurately reflects the primary communities within this division.

#### *Hipswell & Colburn*

136 Both the Council and the Liberal Democrats proposed largely maintaining the existing Hipswell & Colburn division. Both proposed we transfer St Martin's parish to a Richmond-focused division. We agree with this approach and have included St Martin's parish in Richmond division as part of our draft recommendations.

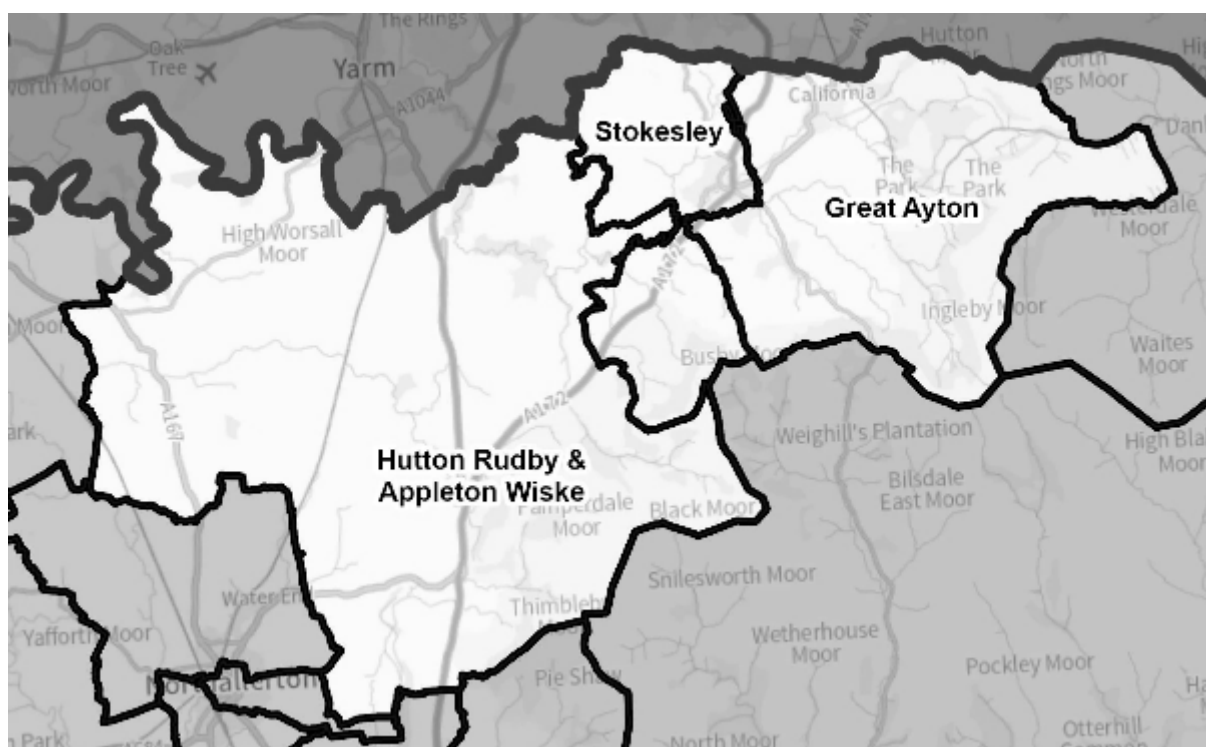
137 The primary difference between the two proposals related to the treatment of Colburn parish. The Council proposed retaining the split of Colburn parish across divisions, while the Liberal Democrats suggested placing the entire parish within their proposed Colburn division.

138 After careful consideration, we have concluded that including the whole of Colburn parish within our proposed Hipswell & Colburn division would better reflect community identities and interests, as well as ensuring effective and convenient local government. We have therefore adopted the Liberal Democrats' proposal in this respect.

139 We have decided to retain the name 'Hipswell & Colburn', as suggested by the Council. While the Liberal Democrats proposed shortening the name to 'Colburn', we consider the current name to be more appropriate, reflecting the constituent communities of the proposed division.



## Stokesley



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Great Ayton	1	-4%
Hutton Rudby & Appleton Wiske	1	4%
Stokesley	1	-3%

### *Great Ayton*

140 We received identical proposals from the Council and the Liberal Democrats for Great Ayton division. Both suggested we expand the current division westward to include the parishes of Great & Little Boughton and Kirkby. This adjustment was to address the anticipated over-representation within the existing Great Ayton division. While two local residents opposed Great & Little Boughton being linked with Great Ayton rather than Stokesley, we agree with the Council that their approach to achieving good electoral equality for the broader Stokesley and Great Ayton area is the most logical. We have therefore decided to adopt this arrangement as part of our draft recommendations.

141 However, our proposed Great Ayton division differs from the one submitted by the Council and the Liberal Democrats because we have decided to transfer Bilsdale Midcable parish to our Helmsley & Ampleforth division. This change is intended not only to minimise the electoral variance of the division, but also to reflect the area's topography. We noted on our virtual tour that Bilsdale Midcable parish is somewhat isolated from the communities within our Great Ayton division due to significant

elevation changes. We therefore consider it is more appropriately placed within a division comprising other rural parishes in the North York Moors National Park.

#### *Hutton Rudby & Appleton Wiske*

142 A nearly identical Hutton Rudby & Appleton Wiske division was proposed by the Council and the Liberal Democrats. The only difference between the two was in respect of which division to place the parish of Danby Wiske with Lazenby. The Council included it in its Swale division, while the Liberal Democrats placed it in a Hutton Rudby & Appleton Wiske division.

143 However, we have decided to include Danby Wiske with Lazenby parish in our Northallerton North & Brompton division. This is because it ensures a better level of electoral equality in our proposed Hutton Rudby & Appleton Wiske and Northallerton North & Brompton divisions. We also consider the parish shares good links with Northallerton and Brompton.

144 Rudby Parish Council objected to the Council's and Liberal Democrats' proposals as both divided their grouped parish council – comprising Hutton Rudby, Rudby, Middleton-on-Leven and Skutterskelfe parishes – across two divisions. Under both proposals, Hutton Rudby and Rudby parishes were placed in Hutton Rudby & Appleton Wiske division, while Middleton-on-Leven and Skutterskelfe were included in a Stokesley division. Rudby Parish Council therefore requested that the grouped parish council be placed entirely in one division. This was supported by the Richmond & Northallerton Green Party.

145 We were persuaded by Rudby Parish Council's well-evidenced argument that this arrangement would negatively impact on community identities and interests, as well as its ability to provide for effective local governance. As a result, we propose including Middleton-on-Leven and Skutterskelfe parishes in our Hutton Rudby & Appleton Wiske division, ensuring the grouped parish council remains within a single division.

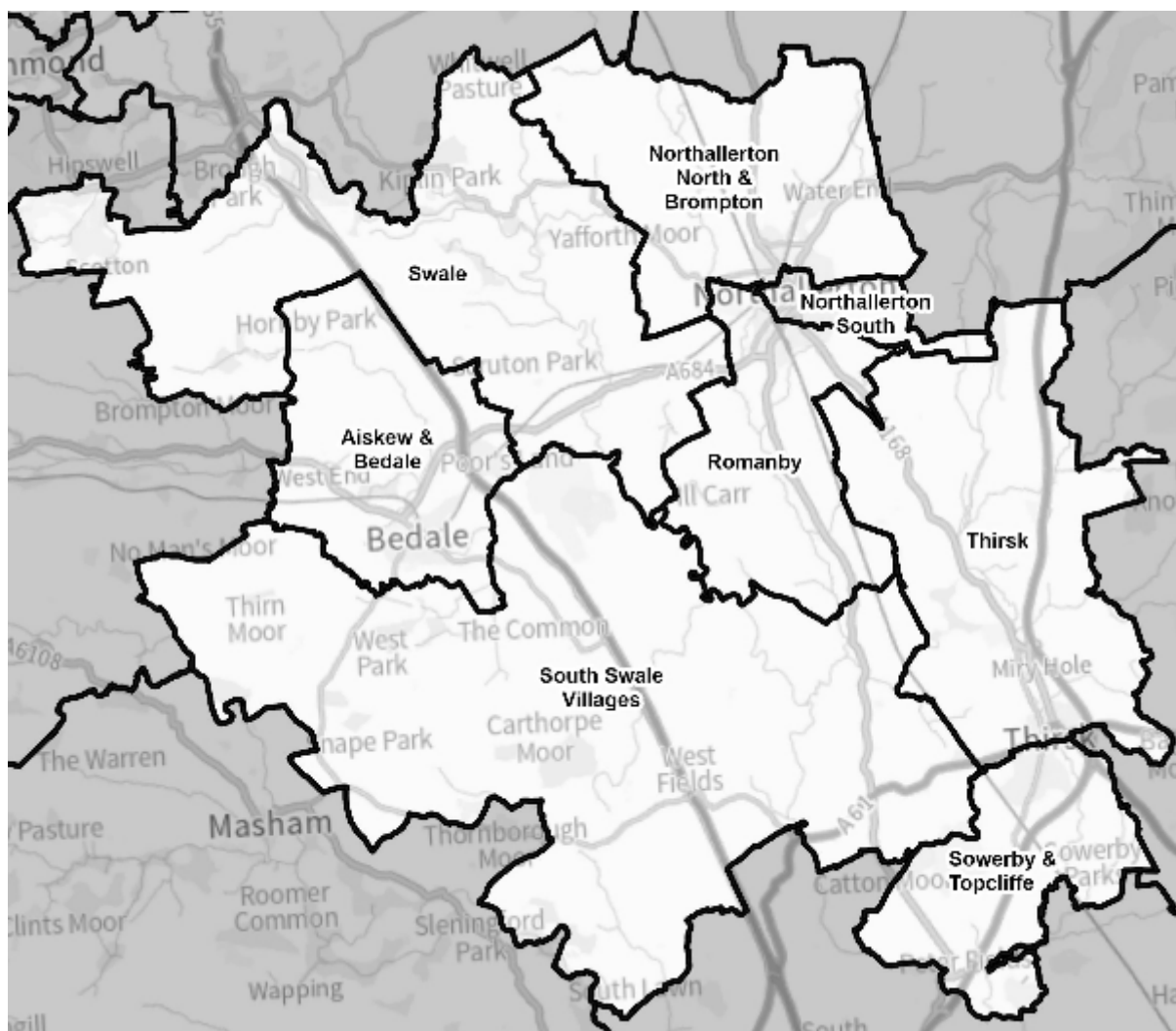
#### *Stokesley*

146 The Council, with the support of the Liberal Democrats, suggested the current Stokesley division incorporate parishes to the west of Stokesley parish, while transferring the parishes of Great & Little Boughton and Kirkby into a Great Ayton division. The Council stated that these changes were necessary to ensure good electoral equality in the wider area.

147 We have broadly based our draft recommendations on these proposals as we are satisfied that the parishes included in the Stokesley division have good community links with Stokesley parish. However, our proposed Stokesley division does not include Middleton-on-Leven and Skutterskelfe parishes, for the reasons outlined above.



## Thirsk and Northallerton



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Aiskew & Bedale	1	7%
Northallerton North & Brompton	1	-2%
Northallerton South	1	6%
Romanby	1	-2%
South Swale Villages	1	-8%
Sowerby & Topcliffe	1	-6%
Swale	1	9%
Thirsk	1	1%

### *Aiskew & Bedale and Swale*

148 We received contrasting division proposals for the Aiskew, Bedale and Catterick areas from the Council and the Liberal Democrats. Additionally, the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party submitted proposals relating to Aiskew and Bedale.

149 The Council proposed three divisions: Bedale & Aiskew, Catterick Village & Crakehall and Swale. However, we had concerns about this arrangement as it divided Aiskew & Leeming Bar parish across two divisions. We concluded that this approach would neither facilitate effective and convenient local government nor sufficiently reflect the identities and interests of the Aiskew & Leeming Bar community.

150 Consequently, we have based our draft recommendations on the Liberal Democrats' proposed divisions for this area. The proposal ensures that Aiskew & Leeming Bar parish remains within a single division, which we consider preferable to the Council's plan. The Thirsk & Malton Labour Party also supported linking Aiskew, Bedale and Leeming Bar in a division. Furthermore, we found that Crakehall parish has strong connections with Aiskew and Bedale, warranting its inclusion within the same division. In contrast, the Council's proposal had placed Crakehall in a division with Catterick.

151 Additionally, we determined that the Liberal Democrats' proposed Swale division provides for a more appropriate balance of the statutory criteria than the Council's Swale division. This is because, by bringing together parishes along the River Swale – from Catterick to Morton-on-Swale – into a single division, the Liberal Democrats' proposal more effectively reflects local community identities and interests.

#### *Northallerton North & Brompton, Northallerton South and Romanby*

152 The Council and the Liberal Democrats proposed nearly identical Northallerton North & Brompton, Northallerton South and Romanby divisions, with the only difference being the placement of the boundary between Northallerton North & Brompton and Northallerton South divisions. Our recommendations align more closely with the Liberal Democrats' proposals, as we find their boundary, which runs east of Friarage Hospital and along the southern perimeter of Northallerton School and Sixth Form, to be clearer and more easily identifiable.

153 However, we recommend incorporating the parishes of Danby Wiske with Lazenby and Yafforth into Northallerton North & Brompton division. This adjustment enhances the level of electoral equality for this division and the adjacent Hutton Rudby & Appleton Wiske division. Additionally, we consider that these parishes have strong connections to Northallerton and Brompton, both in terms of community ties and transport links.

154 Brompton Town Council supported the retention of a Northallerton North & Brompton division, stating that the current arrangement works well. Our draft recommendations maintain the link between Brompton and the northern part of Northallerton, reflecting Brompton Town Council's preferences. We are therefore

satisfied that our Northallerton North & Brompton division effectively balances the statutory criteria.

155 A local resident suggested incorporating the recently developed Castlegate housing estate into a Romanby division to improve electoral equality across divisions. However, we have decided not to adopt this proposal, as we consider that the estate has stronger road connections with communities in our Northallerton North & Brompton division.

### *South Swale Villages*

156 For the parishes located between Aiskew, Bedale and Thirsk, we propose basing our draft recommendations on the Liberal Democrats' proposed boundaries, which we consider effectively connect similar rural parishes. Additionally, we note that the proposed boundaries closely resemble those of the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party's suggested South Swale Villages division. We propose adopting the name proposed by the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party, as we consider it more appropriate than the Liberal Democrats' choice of 'Leeming Lane'. However, we welcome feedback on this decision as part of this consultation process.

157 The Council's proposal for this area involved dividing it into three divisions: Bedale & Aiskew, Swale and Thirsk. However, we were not persuaded to adopt this arrangement, as we were concerned that the Council's proposed Swale division would split Aiskew & Leeming Bar parish between two divisions. We determined that this could disrupt community ties and create an unnecessary division of the parish. We also determined that the Liberal Democrats' proposed Swale division provided a better balance in terms of community identity and geographic cohesion.

158 A local resident from Skipton-on-Swale parish, currently within the existing Thirsk division, expressed a preference to remain in a Thirsk-based division. They highlighted their reliance on both Northallerton and Thirsk for essential services and noted personal connections to both towns. Additionally, they emphasised that the River Swale serves as a natural boundary and opposed being placed in a division with communities to the west.

159 While we acknowledge this evidence, removing Skipton-on-Swale parish and the adjacent Carlton Miniott parish from our proposed South Swale Villages division would result in a significant electoral imbalance. Therefore, we have not included these parishes in a division with the Thirsk area. However, we note that the boundary between our proposed Dishforth & Dalton and South Swale Villages divisions follows the River Swale, which we agree serves as a clear and identifiable boundary in this area.

### *Sowerby & Topcliffe*

160 The Council proposed reducing the size of the current Sowerby & Topcliffe division by removing the parishes of Eldmire with Crakehill, Hutton-Sessay and Sessay. The Liberal Democrats suggested a further reduction by also transferring Dalton parish into a newly created Dishforth & Dalton division. In contrast, the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party proposed a new Sowerby & Sessay division, linking Sowerby with Dalton, Eldmire with Crakehill, Hutton Sessay and Sessay, while excluding Topcliffe parish.

161 In our draft recommendations, we have largely adopted the Liberal Democrats' proposed Sowerby & Topcliffe division. We did not adopt the proposals from either the Council or the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party, as we consider the predominantly rural parishes of Eldmire with Crakehill, Hutton Sessay and Sessay share greater community identities and interests with the more rural-based Dishforth & Dalton division. This arrangement allows Dalton parish to serve as one of that division's primary communities, which is reflected in the division's name.

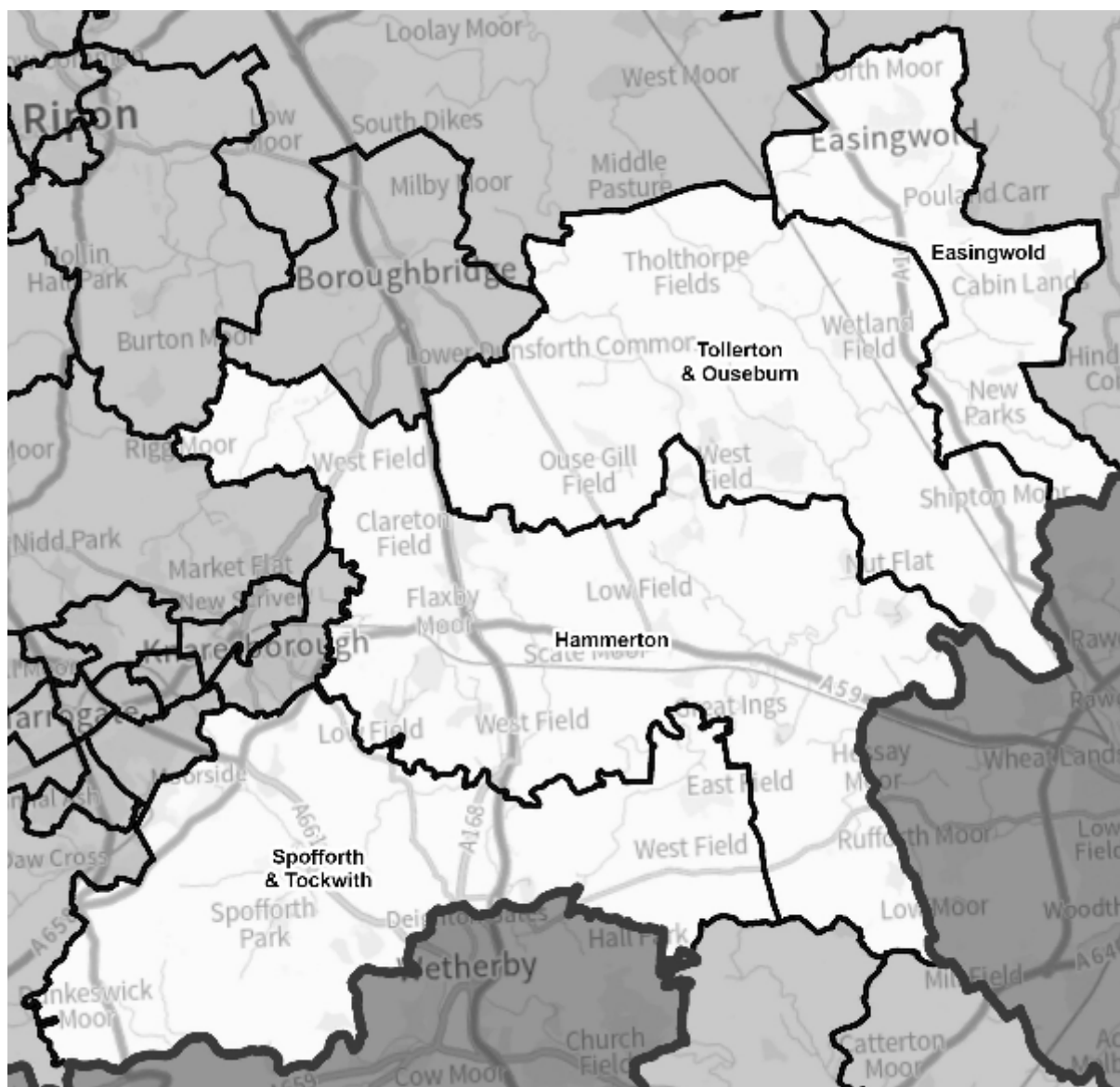
### *Thirsk*

162 We received varying proposals for Thirsk from the Council, the Liberal Democrats and the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party. The Council proposed retaining the existing division, while the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party suggested removing Catton, Skipton-on-Swale and Kirby Wiske parishes from the current division, while including either Bagby or South Kilvington parish. In contrast, the Liberal Democrats put forward a significantly different proposal, linking Thirsk with villages to the north.

163 After careful consideration, we have decided to base our Thirsk division on the Liberal Democrats' proposal. We agree that the villages north of Thirsk have strong connections to the town via the A19 and A168. This arrangement also enables the creation of divisions to both the east and west of Thirsk that will have good electoral equality.

164 However, we have chosen not to adopt the Liberal Democrats' proposal to use the A61 as the southern boundary. Instead, we consider that following the parish boundary will better support effective and convenient local government by avoiding unnecessary parish warding arrangements that would otherwise be needed if we were to follow the A61. Additionally, we have decided to exclude the parishes of Cowesby, Kepwick, Nether Silton and Over Silton from this division, placing them instead in our Hillside division, as outlined in the Hillside section of this report.

## Easingwold



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Easingwold	1	1%
Hammerton	1	-9%
Spofforth & Tockwith	1	-9%
Tollerton & Ouseburn	1	-8%

### *Easingwold*

165 The Council proposed retaining the current Easingwold division, with the exception of moving Crayke parish. In contrast, the Liberal Democrats suggested a restructured Easingwold division, consisting of the parishes of Easingwold and Huby.

166 We have decided to adopt the Liberal Democrats' proposal for Easingwold division in our draft recommendations. This decision is based on our assessment

that the parishes of Aldwark, Alne, Flawith and Youlton, which are currently in Easingwold division, are more closely connected by road and community ties to the Tollerton and Ouseburn areas. As such, we consider it appropriate that these parishes be included in our proposed Tollerton & Ouseburn division.

#### *Hammerton and Tollerton & Ouseburn*

167 After thorough consideration, we were not convinced that either the Council's proposed Ouseburn and Huby & Tollerton divisions or the Liberal Democrats' proposed Ouseburn & Hammerton and Tollerton & Linton divisions achieved an appropriate balance of the statutory criteria. As outlined in the Easingwold section of this report, we consider that the parishes of Aldwark, Alne, Flawith and Youlton have stronger connections to the Tollerton and Ouseburn areas. Therefore, we consider that a division linking communities around Tollerton and Ouseburn would better reflect our three statutory criteria.

168 Additionally, using the River Ouse as part of the southern boundary would enable the creation of a division centred on Green Hammerton and Kirk Hammerton. This division would incorporate surrounding communities along the A59, which would serve as a spine to the division facilitating clear road access between the constituent parishes. We consider these two divisions will both reflect community identities and follow clear and identifiable boundaries. However, we welcome feedback on both divisions as part of this consultation process.

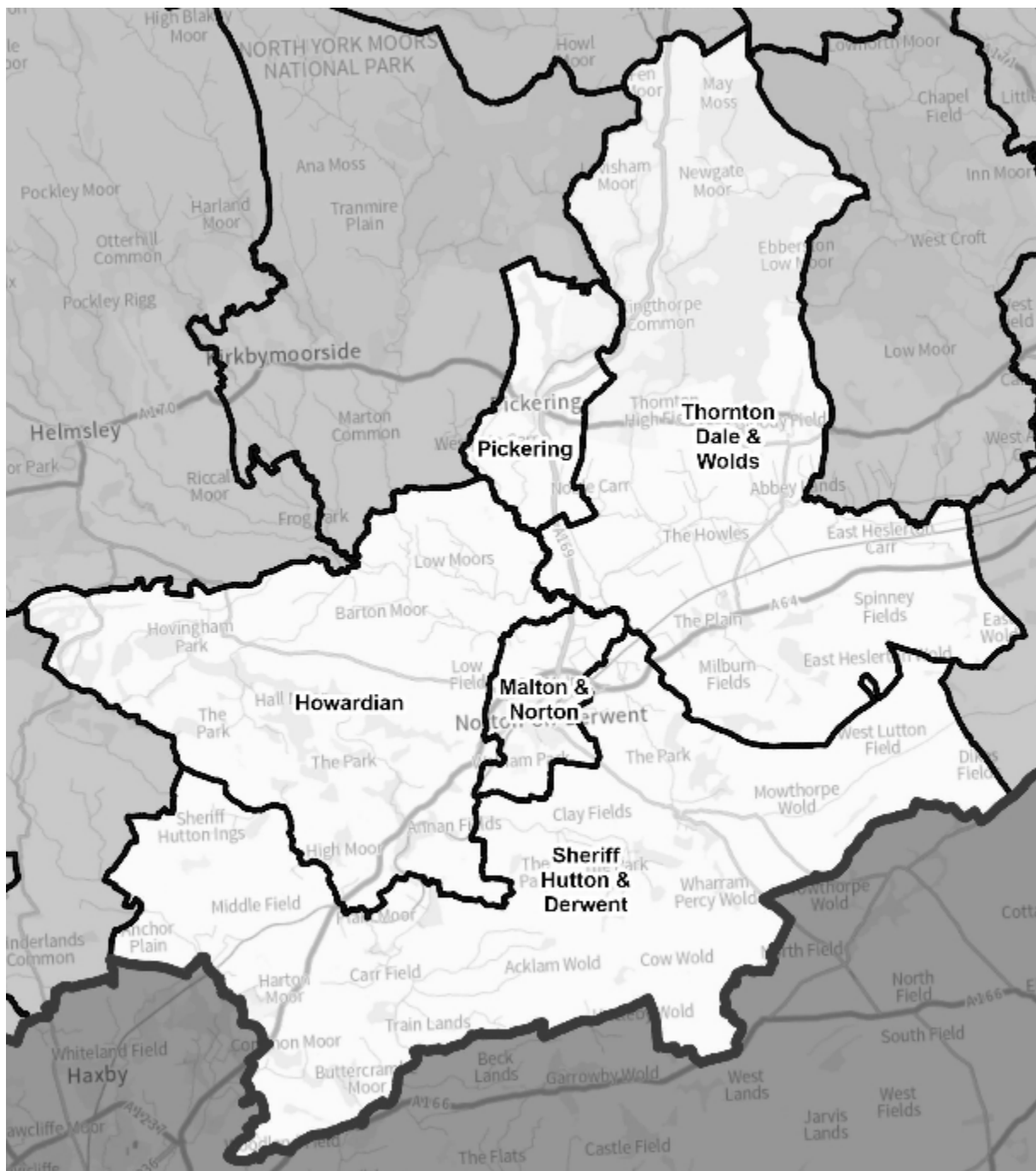
#### *Spofforth & Tockwith*

169 The Council proposed to retain the existing boundaries of Spofforth with Lower Wharfedale & Tockwith division but suggested shortening the name to Spofforth & Tockwith. The Liberal Democrats also suggested this name and largely retained the division's existing boundaries, with one exception – they proposed transferring the parish of Great Ribston with Walshford to their proposed Ouseburn & Hammerton division.

170 We support the proposed name change to Spofforth & Tockwith and have adopted it as part of our draft recommendations. Our proposed division aligns more closely with that suggested by the Liberal Democrats, which excludes Great Ribston with Walshford. This adjustment ensures electoral equality for our adjacent Hammerton division.



## Malton, Norton and Pickering



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Howardian	1	-9%
Malton & Norton	2	4%
Pickering	1	12%
Sheriff Hutton & Derwent	1	-9%
Thornton Dale & Wolds	1	-4%

### *Howardian*

171 The Council, the Liberal Democrats and the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party each proposed a division linking communities along the B1257, which were based on the existing Amotherby & Ampleforth division. The Council's proposal for an Amotherby & Hovingham division excluded Ampleforth and incorporated some parishes to the north and west. The Thirsk & Malton Labour Party proposed a West Vale of Pickering division which also excluded Ampleforth but included a greater number of parishes from divisions to the north than the Council's proposal.

172 The Liberal Democrats put forward a Howardian division that similarly excluded Ampleforth but instead incorporated parishes to the south from the existing Sheriff Hutton & Derwent division.

173 After careful consideration, we have decided to adopt the Liberal Democrats' proposal for a Howardian division. This is because we consider their division to best reflect the identities and interests of the communities within the Howardian Hills National Landscape. We also consider 'Howardian' to be the most appropriate division name on this basis, though we welcome comments on whether 'Amotherby & Hovingham', 'West Vale of Pickering', or another alternative name may be more suitable.

### *Malton & Norton*

174 The existing Malton division, which aligns with the Malton parish boundary, is projected to have an electoral variance of -11% by 2030. In contrast, the neighbouring Norton division, which is coterminous with the Norton-on-Derwent parish boundary, is expected to exceed the average electorate size by 18% within the same period making it relatively large, in terms of number of electors.

175 To address these variances, the Council proposed the creation of two single-councillor divisions that both crossed the River Derwent – Malton Norton East and Malton Norton West – aligning with its request for a uniform pattern of single-councillor divisions across the county. A local resident also provided supporting evidence for this approach.

176 However, this proposal faced strong opposition in a well-substantiated joint submission from Councillor Duncan, Malton Town Council, Norton-on-Derwent Town Council, and Kevin Hollinrake MP (Thirsk & Malton), which supported a two-councillor division for this area. The Liberal Democrats, the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party and the North Yorkshire Labour Party Local Government Committee also provided support for such an arrangement. These submissions contended that the Council's proposal would impose arbitrary boundaries that would not reflect local communities and could potentially cause confusion locally.



177 After careful consideration of the submissions received, and while mindful of the general presumption in favour of single-councillor divisions, we have concluded that a two-councillor Malton & Norton division will provide the best balance of our statutory criteria. We were persuaded by the evidence demonstrating that, despite their distinct identities, Malton and Norton share key infrastructure, services and facilities. These include schools, healthcare provision, retail centres and transport links. Given their close interdependence, we determined that dividing them into separate single-councillor divisions would create arbitrary boundaries that would not adequately reflect the pattern of local communities. We also consider that keeping both parishes wholly in the same division will help support effective and convenient local government.

### *Pickering*

178 The current Pickering division, which aligns with the Pickering parish boundary, is projected to have an electoral variance of 12% by 2030, which means it will be slightly oversized in terms of number of electors when compared to the authority's average. To address this, the Council proposed transferring several hundred electors from the southeastern part of the town into its Amotherby & Hovingham division. However, we have not adopted this proposal, as we determined that the suggested boundary was not sufficiently identifiable. Additionally, we were not persuaded that the transferred electors would share sufficiently strong community links with the predominantly rural communities that would form the Council's division.

179 The Liberal Democrats put forward an alternative approach, proposing the transfer of electors from the parish's more rural areas – both north and south – into adjacent divisions. They argued that these electors would be better represented in a division with a stronger rural focus. However, we have decided not to adopt this proposal, as it would necessitate creating parish wards for Pickering Town Council containing only a small number of electors. We concluded that this approach would not facilitate effective and convenient local governance, especially given the overall size of Pickering Town Council's electorate.

180 In light of these considerations, we have decided to retain the existing Pickering division in our draft recommendations, despite its forecast electoral variance being relatively high. We consider this approach is justified as it ensures a Pickering division that, in our view, adequately reflects community ties and ensures effective and convenient local government by avoiding an arbitrary division of the parish. We also note that this approach has received support from the North Yorkshire Labour Party Local Government Committee and the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party.

### *Sheriff Hutton & Derwent*

181 Both the Council and the Liberal Democrats proposed a Sheriff Hutton & Derwent division, but they differed in their boundaries. In our draft recommendations, we have adopted the Liberal Democrats' proposed division. We consider that the

parishes of Bulmer, Coneysthorpe, Henderskelfe, Huttons Ambo, Welburn, Westow and Whitwell-on-the-Hill – which the Council proposed to retain in Sheriff Hutton & Derwent division – are better aligned with other communities the Howardian division, given their location within the Howardian Hills National Landscape. Additionally, we consider the proposal to include the parishes of Luttons, Kirby Grindalythe, Thixendale and Wharram in the Sheriff Hutton & Derwent division to be a logical approach, for the reasons outlined in the Thornton Dale & Wolds section of this report.

#### *Thornton Dale & Wolds*

182 The Council proposed to retain the existing boundaries of Thornton Dale & Wolds division, suggesting only a minor name adjustment to include ‘The’ before ‘Wolds’. They stated that the division’s electorate size is appropriate and that it encompasses a well-established and recognised area.

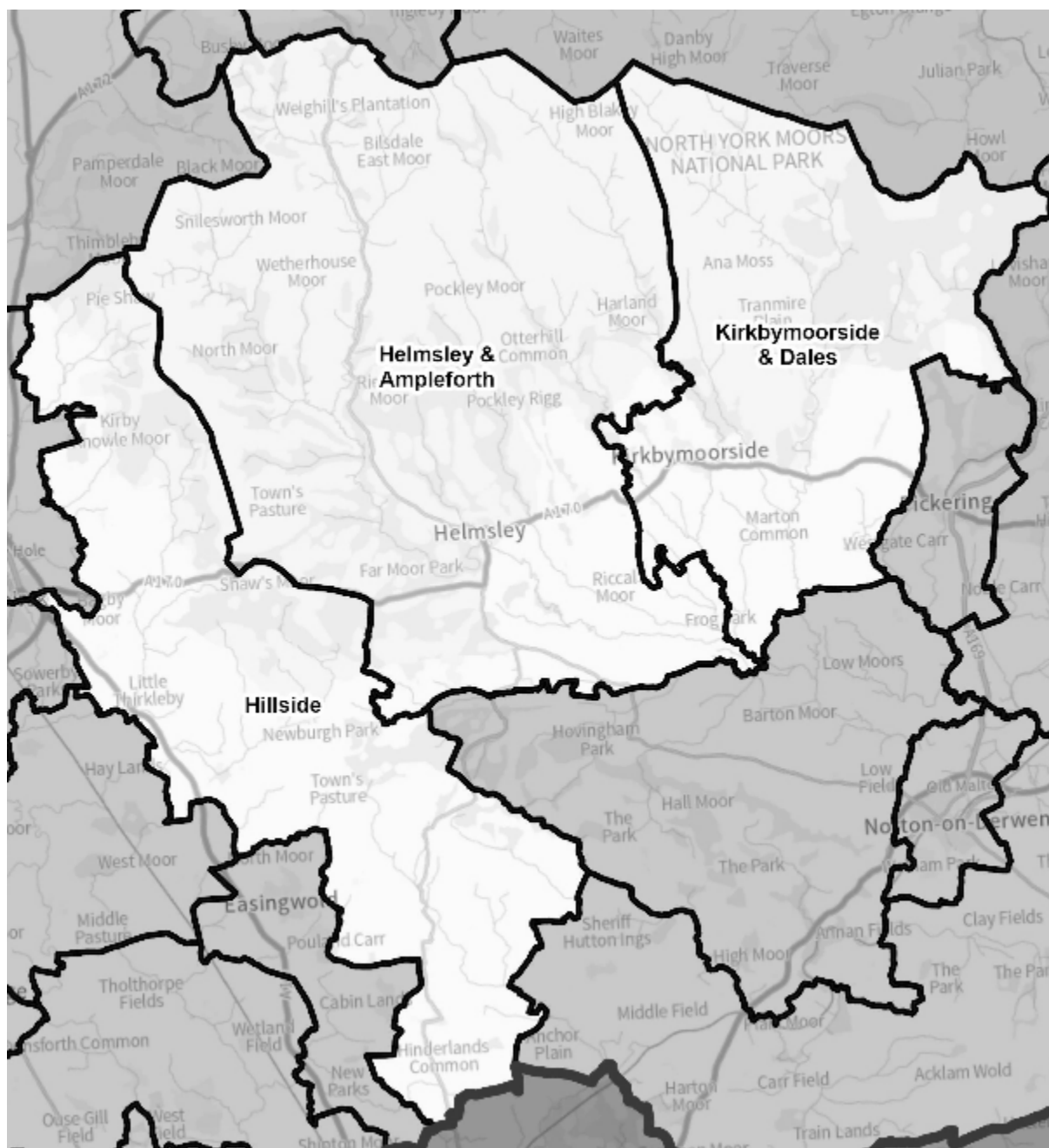
183 The Liberal Democrats proposed transferring the southernmost parishes of the current division – Luttons, Kirby Grindalythe, Thixendale and Wharram – to the adjacent Sheriff Hutton & Derwent division. Their proposal also included the entirety of Heselton and Sherburn parishes.

184 We have decided to largely base our draft recommendations on the Liberal Democrats’ proposed boundary changes. We agree that the parishes of Luttons, Kirby Grindalythe, Thixendale and Wharram share stronger connections with communities in the Sheriff Hutton & Derwent division rather than with those in the Council’s Thornton Dale & The Wolds division. Furthermore, we consider the full inclusion of Heselton parish in the division will provide for effective and convenient local government.

185 We have, however, adopted the Council’s proposal to retain Levisham and Lockton parishes within this division. While the Liberal Democrats included both parishes in their Kirkbymoorside division, we consider that they share stronger ties with Thornton-le-Dale parish and the neighbouring parishes to the south, rather than with the parishes to the west that look towards Kirkbymoorside parish.

186 We propose retaining the current division name. The Council’s submission did not provide sufficient justification for adding ‘The’ to the division name. Likewise, we were not persuaded that the Liberal Democrats’ suggested name of ‘Forest & Wolds’ was more appropriate than the existing division name.

## North York Moors



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Helmsley & Ampleforth	1	-7%
Hillside	1	-8%
Kirkbymoorside & Dales	1	-7%

### *Helmsley & Ampleforth*

187 Both the Council and the Liberal Democrats proposed a Helmsley & Ampleforth division, though their boundary suggestions differed. While we agree that a division

centred around the communities of Helmsley and Ampleforth is logical, our draft recommendations incorporate elements of both proposals.

188 Our proposed Helmsley & Ampleforth division includes the parishes of Bransdale, Fadmoor, Farndale East, Farndale West and Gillamoor, in line with the Liberal Democrats' proposal. Additionally, we recommend including the parishes of Cold Kirby, Hawnby, Old Byland & Scawton and Rievaulx in this division, as proposed by the Council, to ensure that the division's western boundary aligns with the topography of the Yorkshire Moors. This approach places communities that are separated by significant elevation changes into separate divisions. We consider that the parishes west of this boundary are better suited to the Hillside division, which consists of parishes located along the edge of the North York Moors.

189 Consequently, we did not adopt the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party's proposed Helmsley & Hillside division, as we determined that it would group together disparate communities separated by significant topographical features. We concluded that this would not provide an effective balance of our statutory criteria.

190 We have also transferred Bilsdale Midcable parish from the existing Great Ayton division into our recommended Helmsley & Ampleforth division for the reasons outlined in the Great Ayton section of this report.

### *Hillside*

191 The Council and the Liberal Democrats both proposed a division linking several rural communities along the western edge of the North York Moors, though with slight variations in boundaries. The Council's proposed Hillside & Raskelf division was largely based on the existing division but removed the parishes of Coxwold, Kilburn High & Low, Newburgh, Oulston and Wildon Grange to the east. Instead, it included the parishes of Eldmire with Crakehill, Hutton Sessay and Sessay to the west.

192 In contrast, the Liberal Democrats proposed a Hillside division that extended further south towards the county boundary, incorporating several parishes from the existing Huby & Tollerton division.

193 Our recommended Hillside division more closely follows the Liberal Democrats' proposals. As outlined in the Boroughbridge and Dishforth & Dalton section, we consider that the communities of Eldmire with Crakehill, Hutton Sessay and Sessay are better placed in our Dishforth & Dalton division. As a result, we have not adopted the Council's proposal. However, our Hillside division differs from the Liberal Democrats' proposal in two key ways – it includes the parishes of Cowesby, Kewick, Nether Silton and Over Silton, which they placed in their Thirsk division – and excludes the parishes of Cold Kirby, Hawnby, Old Byland & Scawton and Rievaulx, which we have allocated to Helmsley & Ampleforth division.

194 These adjustments ensure that our Hillside and Helmsley & Ampleforth divisions better reflect the area's topography and road networks, thereby achieving a more effective balance of the statutory criteria. While we note that our Hillside division is geographically large, we are satisfied that it will encompass rural communities with similar characteristics and interests. As noted by the Liberal Democrats, this area is bounded by the edge of the North York Moors, the Vale of York and the Howardian Hills.

#### *Kirkbymoorside & Dales*

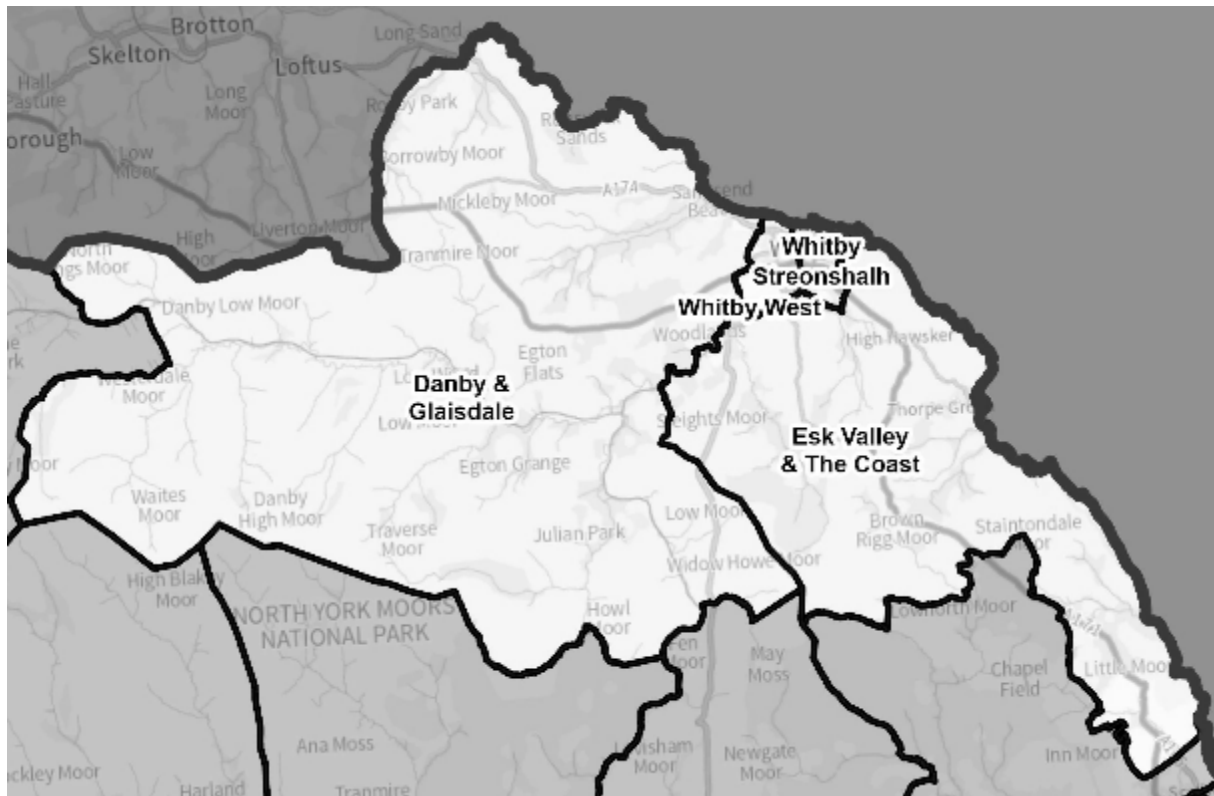
195 We received three proposals for the Kirkbymoorside & Dales division from the Council, the Liberal Democrats and the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party.

196 After careful consideration, we have adopted the proposal from the Council and the Liberal Democrats to include Edstone and Sinnington parishes in this division. This decision is based on their geographical proximity to Kirkbymoorside parish and the good road links between these areas. Additionally, we have included Salton parish, as proposed by the Liberal Democrats, for the same reasons. Consequently, we have not adopted the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party's proposal, which placed these parishes in a West Vale of Pickering division.

197 However, as outlined in the Helmsley & Ampleforth section, we propose to exclude the parishes of Bransdale, Fadmoor, Farndale East, Farndale West and Gillamoore. This adjustment ensures better electoral equality for our Helmsley & Ampleforth division by 2030. Conversely, we have decided to exclude Levisham and Lockton from Kirkbymoorside division, aligning with the Council's proposal and the existing division structure. We consider that the community identities and interests of these parishes will be better reflected in Thornton Dale & Wolds division, whereas the Liberal Democrats had suggested their inclusion in a Kirkbymoorside division.

198 With regard to the division name, the Council proposed adding 'the' before Dales, while the Thirsk & Malton Labour Party proposed retaining the name of Kirkbymoorside & Dales. The Liberal Democrats suggested shortening the division name to Kirkbymoorside. We propose to retain the existing name, but would welcome comments and evidence on what name is most suitable during the current consultation.

## Whitby



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Danby & Glaisdale	1	2%
Esk Valley & The Coast	1	4%
Whitby Streonshalh	1	1%
Whitby West	1	-5%

### *Danby & Glaisdale*

199 The Council, supported by the Liberal Democrats and Councillor Harston, proposed the creation of a Danby & Glaisdale division, by expanding the existing Danby & Mulgrave division to include the eastern half of the current Esk Valley & The Coast division. However, a local resident stated that Danby and Mulgrave are distinct areas with different needs and identities and should not be merged.

200 While we note the local resident's concerns, we have decided to recommend a Danby & Glaisdale division as part of our draft recommendations. This is because we consider it to strike a good balance between our statutory criteria, uniting the rural hinterlands west of Whitby into a cohesive division with good projected electoral equality by 2030.



### *Esk Valley & The Coast*

201 Our draft recommendations for Esk Valley & The Coast division are largely based on the Council's proposals, which were also suggested by Councillor Harston. As noted in the Council's submission, this division connects coastal areas between Scarborough and Whitby, which share similar topography and are linked by the A171. On this basis, we were persuaded that this division would effectively reflect local community identities and interests. However, unlike the Council's proposal, we recommend including Hawsker-cum-Stainsacre parish in this division and excluding the Ruswarp area of Whitby Town Council. The rationale for this decision is outlined in the following section.

### *Whitby Streonshalh and Whitby West*

202 The Council proposed expanding the existing Whitby Streonshalh division to include Hawsker-cum-Stainsacre parish. It also proposed that the current Whitby West division be reduced in size, by transferring the Ruswarp area to an Esk Valley & The Coast division. This proposal received support from the Liberal Democrats.

203 However, Whitby Town Council, the Scarborough & Whitby Constituency Labour Party and Councillor Harston (Whitby Town Council) suggested an alternative arrangement. They suggested shifting the boundary between the two existing Whitby divisions westward to achieve better electoral equality and establish a clearer boundary. Under this proposal, both Whitby divisions would fall entirely within the Whitby parish boundary. The proposal to retain both Whitby divisions within the Whitby Town Council area was also supported by the North Yorkshire Labour Party Local Government Committee and a local resident.

204 Another local resident requested that the River Esk be used as the boundary between the two Whitby divisions. However, this proposal would not provide for good electoral equality, so we have not adopted it in our draft recommendations.

205 Therefore, after careful consideration, we have decided to adopt the proposals of Whitby Town Council, the Scarborough & Whitby Constituency Labour Party and Councillor Harston. We agree that aligning both Whitby divisions with the Whitby parish boundary will promote effective and convenient local government. Additionally, we agree with the Scarborough & Whitby Constituency Labour Party that, as a more rural area, Hawsker-cum-Stainsacre parish would be better included in the predominantly rural Esk Valley & The Coast division.

## Scarborough and Filey



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Castle	1	8%
Cayton	1	-6%
Eastfield	1	-1%
Falsgrave & Stepney	1	3%
Filey	1	1%
Hunmanby	1	-6%
Newby	1	9%



Northstead	1	3%
Scalby & Derwent	1	-9%
Seamer & East Ayton	1	-3%
Weaponness & Ramshill	1	10%
Woodlands	1	9%

### *Castle*

206 The Council proposed to largely retain the existing Castle division, subject to a minor amendment to the boundary it shares with Weaponness & Ramshill division. Its proposed Castle division received support from the Liberal Democrats. We have decided to adopt this division in our draft recommendations, as we agree with the Council that it encompasses a distinct and well-recognised area, effectively reflecting local community identities and interests.

207 A local resident expressed concern that the boundary between Castle and Northstead divisions, particularly around the Clarence Gardens area, was unclear, leading to confusion about which councillor to contact for local issues. However, no alternative boundary was put forward to us for consideration. As a result, we are proposing to retain the existing boundary between Castle and Northstead divisions in our draft recommendations.

### *Cayton and Eastfield*

208 By 2030, the current Cayton division is projected to be undersized in terms of electors, while the existing Eastfield division is expected to be slightly oversized. To address this imbalance, the Council, supported by the Liberal Democrats, proposed moving electors living southeast of Eastway from the current Eastfield division into Cayton division. We agree that this adjustment is the most practical solution to achieve electoral equality in this part of the authority and propose adopting the Council's suggested boundaries for Cayton and Eastfield divisions as part of our draft recommendations.

### *Falsgrave & Stepney and Woodlands*

209 The existing Falsgrave & Stepney division is projected to have an electoral variance of 15% by 2030. To address this under-representation, the Council suggested transferring several hundred electors north of Stepney Road and Whin Bank into its proposed Woodlands division. The Liberal Democrats also agreed with this proposal.

210 We have adopted the Council's proposed Falsgrave & Stepney and Woodlands divisions as part of our draft recommendations, as this arrangement ensures good electoral equality for Falsgrave & Stepney division and establishes a clearer boundary along Stepney Road.

211 A local resident suggested that the areas of Westwood, Westwood Road and Westwood Close are more closely linked to the Falsgrave community than to those in the Castle division, and therefore should be transferred to Falsgrave & Stepney division. We have decided not to adopt this proposal, as we determined that the community evidence provided was insufficient. However, we invite further feedback on whether such a change would be supported locally during the current consultation.

### *Filey*

212 The Council proposed reducing the size of the current Filey division by transferring the area covered by the Primrose Valley parish ward into its proposed Hunmanby & Sherburn division. This adjustment was suggested in order to improve electoral equality in the latter division. The Liberal Democrats supported this modification, suggesting the inclusion of Primrose Valley in their Wolds & Coast division for the same purpose.

213 We have adopted the Filey division as proposed by both the Council and the Liberal Democrats, as it facilitates a division pattern for the wider area that achieves a good balance of our statutory criteria. While the Primrose Valley area is part of Filey parish, we note that it is somewhat distinct from the densely populated Filey town area, making it a suitable fit for the less densely populated Wolds & Coast division.

### *Hunmanby*

214 The Council proposed to largely retain the existing Hunmanby & Sherburn division, with the only change being the inclusion of the Primrose Valley area of Filey parish.

215 The Liberal Democrats proposed an alternative Wolds & Coast division, which differed from the Council's Hunmanby & Sherburn division by incorporating the parishes of Foxholes and Weaverthorpe, while excluding Sherburn parish and the East Heslerton area of Heslerton parish.

216 As part of our draft recommendations, we have adopted the boundaries of the Liberal Democrats' proposed Wolds & Coast division. We concluded that their approach was preferable as it ensures that Heslerton parish is wholly contained in a single division, rather than being split across two. We consider that, where possible, keeping parishes together in the same division can help support effective and convenient local government. This approach to Heslerton parish was also supported by Councillor Donohue-Moncrieff.

217 However, we propose naming the division Hunmanby rather than Wolds & Coast to reflect the fact that Hunmanby village is the largest settlement in the division and it is a more recognisable name for local electors.

### *Newby and Scalby & Derwent*

218 The Council proposed a Newby division based upon the existing division but expanded into the Scalby area to achieve good electoral equality. Its proposed Scalby & Derwent division connected the Scalby area with a majority of the current Derwent Valley & Moor division. Both proposals were supported by the Liberal Democrats.

219 We have decided to broadly adopt the Council's Newby and Scalby & Derwent divisions as part of our draft recommendations, but with a modification suggested by Councillor Harston. They suggested that the boundary between the two divisions should follow Scalby Beck, which we agree provides a clearer and more distinctive boundary than the one proposed by the Council.

### *Northstead*

220 The Council proposed retaining the current Northstead division, noting that it comprises an established and well-recognised area with a projected level of electoral equality close to the average. The Liberal Democrats supported the retention of the Northstead division. We agree that this division effectively balances the statutory criteria and therefore recommend retaining it as part of our draft recommendations.

221 A local resident suggested that the Broadway area be included in Northstead rather than Woodlands division, citing their use of amenities in the Northstead area. After careful consideration, we decided not to adopt this proposal. Including the Broadway area in Northstead division would result in the division's electoral variance increasing to 11% by 2030. We are not persuaded that sufficient evidence has been received to justify this relatively high variance.

### *Seamer & East Ayton*

222 The current Seamer division is projected to be undersized by 2030 so it must be expanded to secure good electoral equality. The Council, with the support of the Liberal Democrats, proposed an enlarged Seamer & East Ayton division that included the parish of East Ayton. This division is anticipated to have an electoral variance of -3% by 2030. We are satisfied that this division will reflect community ties and support effective and convenient local governance, based on the Council's evidence that Seamer and East Ayton are directly connected by Seamer Road and share similar interests, given both are neighbouring villages to Scarborough.

### *Weaponness & Ramshill*

223 The Council proposed to largely retain the existing Weaponness & Ramshill division, subject to a small amendment to the boundary with Castle division to achieve good electoral equality. This modification was supported by the Liberal Democrats. We have adopted this division as part of our draft recommendations, as it is projected to have good electoral equality. Additionally, we are satisfied that its

boundaries accurately reflect the communities of Weaponness and Ramshill, meaning the division aligns well with our statutory criteria.



## Conclusions

224 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality in North Yorkshire, referencing the 2024 and 2030 electorate figures against the proposed number of councillors and divisions. A full list of divisions, names and their corresponding electoral variances can be found in Appendix A to the back of this report. An outline map of the divisions is provided in Appendix B.

### Summary of electoral arrangements

	Draft recommendations	
	2024	2030
Number of councillors	89	89
Number of electoral divisions	87	87
Average number of electors per councillor	5,433	5,818
Number of divisions with a variance more than 10% from the average	30	1
Number of divisions with a variance more than 20% from the average	3	0

#### Draft recommendations

North Yorkshire Council should be made up of 89 councillors serving 87 divisions: 85 single-councillor divisions and two two-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 North Yorkshire Council. You can also view our draft recommendations for North Yorkshire Council on our interactive maps at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

### Parish electoral arrangements

225 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.

226 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's division arrangements. However, North Yorkshire Council has powers under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct community governance reviews to effect changes to parish electoral arrangements.

227 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 Beckwithshaw, Eastfield, Harrogate, Killinghall, Knaresborough, Newby & Scalby, Northallerton, Ripon, Scarborough, Selby, Skipton, Stutton with Hazlewood and Whitby parishes.

228 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Beckwithshaw parish.

**Draft recommendations**

Haverah Park with Beckwithshaw Parish Council should comprise five councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Beckwithshaw	4
Harlow Hill Grange	1

229 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Eastfield parish.

**Draft recommendations**

Eastfield Town Council should comprise 11 councillors, as at present, representing three wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Eastway North	5
Eastway South	1
Westway	5



230 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Harrogate parish. We note that the newly established Harrogate Town Council is initially set to comprise 19 single-councillor parish wards. However, in our efforts to align these parish wards with our proposed divisions, we found that this approach resulted in impractical parish ward boundaries. To address this, we recommend parish wards that follow our proposed division boundaries. We welcome feedback on whether there is a preference to subdivide them into smaller single-councillor parish wards, along with suggestions on their boundaries.

#### Draft recommendations

Harrogate Town Council should comprise 19 councillors, as at present, representing 10 wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Bilton & Nidd Gorge	2
Bilton Grange	2
Central	2
Duchy & Valley Gardens	2
Granby	2
Harlow	2
Jennyfield	1
Oatlands & Rossett	2
Starbeck	2
Stray & Woodlands	2

231 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Killinghall parish.

#### Draft recommendations

Killinghall Parish Council should comprise 10 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Rural	4
Urban	6

232 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Knaresborough parish.

**Draft recommendations**

Knaresborough Town Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing five wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Aspin & Calcutt	4
Castle	3
Eastfield	3
Nidd Gorge	1
Scriven Park	4

233 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Newby & Scalby parish.

**Draft recommendations**

Newby & Scalby Town Council should comprise 13 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Newby	9
Scalby	4

234 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Northallerton parish.

**Draft recommendations**

Northallerton Town Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing three wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Central	6
North	4
South	2

235 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Ripon parish.

**Draft recommendations**

Ripon City Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing four wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
East	2
North	2
South	5
West	3

236 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Scarborough parish.

**Draft recommendations**

Scarborough Town Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing five wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Castle	3
Falsgrave & Stepney	3
Northstead	3
Weaponness & Ramshill	3
Woodlands	3

237 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Selby parish.

**Draft recommendations**

Selby Town Council should comprise 18 councillors, as at present, representing three wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
East	8
Staynor	2
West	8

238 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Skipton parish.

**Draft recommendations**

Skipton Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing four wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
East	4
North	4
South	2
West	6

239 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Stutton with Hazlewood parish.

**Draft recommendations**

Stutton with Hazlewood Parish Council should comprise five councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
North	3
South	2

240 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Whitby parish.

**Draft recommendations**

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

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Abbey	6
Ruswarp	2
Stakesby	4
Town North	3
Town South	1
West Cliff	3

## Have your say

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

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

243 Our website is the best way to keep up to date with progress on the review and to have your say [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

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

245 Submissions can also be made by emailing [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk) or by writing to:

**Review Officer (North Yorkshire)**  
**LGBCE**  
**7th Floor**  
**3 Bunhill Row**  
**London**  
**EC1Y 8YZ**

246 The Commission aims to propose a pattern of divisions for North Yorkshire which delivers:

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

247 A good pattern of divisions should:

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

248 Electoral equality:

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

249 Community identity:

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

250 Effective local government:

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

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

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

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

254 After the publication of our final recommendations, the changes we have proposed must be approved by Parliament. An Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in draft in Parliament. The draft

Order will provide for new electoral arrangements to be implemented at the all-out elections for North Yorkshire in 2027.





## Equalities

255 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

### Draft recommendations for North Yorkshire Council

	<b>Division name</b>	<b>Number of councillors</b>	<b>Electorate (2024)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>	<b>Electorate (2030)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>
1	Aire Valley	1	5,866	5,866	1%	6,091	6,091	5%
2	Aiskew & Bedale	1	5,676	5,676	-2%	6,237	6,237	7%
3	Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton	1	5,185	5,185	-11%	5,433	5,433	-7%
4	Barlby & Osgodby	1	5,827	5,827	0%	6,289	6,289	8%
5	Bentham & Ingleton	1	5,019	5,019	-14%	5,577	5,577	-4%
6	Bilton & Nidd Gorge	1	5,875	5,875	1%	6,152	6,152	6%
7	Bilton Grange	1	5,352	5,352	-8%	5,565	5,565	-4%
8	Birstwith & Pannal	1	4,775	4,775	-18%	5,302	5,302	-9%
9	Boroughbridge	1	5,393	5,393	-7%	5,647	5,647	-3%
10	Brayton & Barlow	1	5,345	5,345	-8%	5,699	5,699	-2%
11	Brompton & Scorton	1	5,485	5,485	-6%	6,199	6,199	7%
12	Camblesforth & Carlton	1	5,800	5,800	0%	6,228	6,228	7%
13	Castle	1	5,508	5,508	-5%	6,309	6,309	8%

Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
14 Cawood & Riccall	1	5,150	5,150	-11%	5,385	5,385	-7%
15 Cayton	1	4,400	4,400	-24%	5,481	5,481	-6%
16 Cliffe & Escrick	1	5,096	5,096	-12%	5,418	5,418	-7%
17 Danby & Glaisdale	1	5,651	5,651	-3%	5,947	5,947	2%
18 Dishforth & Dalton	1	5,220	5,220	-10%	5,356	5,356	-8%
19 Duchy & Valley Gardens	1	6,105	6,105	5%	6,345	6,345	9%
20 Easingwold	1	5,550	5,550	-5%	5,898	5,898	1%
21 Eastfield	1	4,337	4,337	-25%	5,753	5,753	-1%
22 Esk Valley & The Coast	1	5,561	5,561	-4%	6,028	6,028	4%
23 Falsgrave & Stepney	1	5,594	5,594	-4%	5,970	5,970	3%
24 Filey	1	5,522	5,522	-5%	5,904	5,904	1%
25 Glusburn, Cross Hills & Sutton-in-Craven	1	6,170	6,170	6%	6,426	6,426	10%
26 Granby	1	5,508	5,508	-5%	5,941	5,941	2%
27 Great Ayton	1	5,372	5,372	-8%	5,587	5,587	-4%
28 Hammerton	1	4,797	4,797	-18%	5,309	5,309	-9%
29 Harlow	1	5,728	5,728	-2%	5,974	5,974	3%
30 Harrogate Central	1	6,204	6,204	7%	6,418	6,418	10%

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
31	Helmsley & Ampleforth	1	5,109	5,109	-12%	5,417	5,417	-7%
32	Hillside	1	5,109	5,109	-12%	5,338	5,338	-8%
33	Hipswell & Colburn	1	6,034	6,034	4%	6,295	6,295	8%
34	Howardian	1	4,982	4,982	-14%	5,295	5,295	-9%
35	Hunmanby	1	5,123	5,123	-12%	5,485	5,485	-6%
36	Hutton Rudby & Appleton Wiske	1	5,821	5,821	0%	6,060	6,060	4%
37	Jennyfield	1	5,847	5,847	0%	6,311	6,311	8%
38	Kirkbymoorside & Dales	1	5,201	5,201	-11%	5,434	5,434	-7%
39	Knaresborough East	1	5,793	5,793	0%	6,259	6,259	8%
40	Knaresborough West	1	6,032	6,032	4%	6,349	6,349	9%
41	Leyburn & Lower Wensleydale	1	5,800	5,800	0%	6,224	6,224	7%
42	Lower Nidderdale	1	5,483	5,483	-6%	5,663	5,663	-3%
43	Malton & Norton	2	10,976	5,488	-6%	12,136	6,068	4%
44	Masham & Fountains	1	5,554	5,554	-5%	5,870	5,870	1%
45	Mid Craven	1	5,103	5,103	-12%	5,452	5,452	-6%
46	Newby	1	5,961	5,961	2%	6,345	6,345	9%

	<b>Division name</b>	<b>Number of councillors</b>	<b>Electorate (2024)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>	<b>Electorate (2030)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>
47	North Richmondshire	1	6,005	6,005	3%	6,242	6,242	7%
48	Northallerton North & Brompton	1	5,074	5,074	-13%	5,678	5,678	-2%
49	Northallerton South	1	5,963	5,963	2%	6,178	6,178	6%
50	Northstead	1	5,501	5,501	-5%	5,992	5,992	3%
51	Oatlands & Rossett	1	5,475	5,475	-6%	5,803	5,803	0%
52	Osgoldcross	1	5,458	5,458	-6%	6,390	6,390	10%
53	Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale	1	5,913	5,913	2%	6,149	6,149	6%
54	Pickering	1	6,210	6,210	7%	6,523	6,523	12%
55	Richmond	1	5,080	5,080	-13%	5,258	5,258	-10%
56	Ripon Canal & Ure	1	5,235	5,235	-10%	5,708	5,708	-2%
57	Ripon Cathedral & Spa	1	5,067	5,067	-13%	5,522	5,522	-5%
58	Ripon South	1	5,098	5,098	-12%	5,255	5,255	-10%
59	Romanby	1	5,447	5,447	-6%	5,699	5,699	-2%
60	Scalby & Derwent	1	4,705	4,705	-19%	5,303	5,303	-9%
61	Seamer & East Ayton	1	5,237	5,237	-10%	5,619	5,619	-3%
62	Selby East	1	5,398	5,398	-7%	5,750	5,750	-1%

Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
63 Selby West	1	5,493	5,493	-6%	5,990	5,990	3%
64 Settle	1	5,466	5,466	-6%	5,932	5,932	2%
65 Sherburn in Elmet & South Milford	2	11,777	5,889	1%	12,423	6,212	7%
66 Sheriff Hutton & Derwent	1	5,153	5,153	-11%	5,323	5,323	-9%
67 Skipton East	1	4,482	4,482	-23%	5,223	5,223	-10%
68 Skipton North & Embsay-with-Eastby	1	5,006	5,006	-14%	5,314	5,314	-9%
69 Skipton West	1	4,936	4,936	-15%	5,324	5,324	-8%
70 South Swale Villages	1	5,134	5,134	-12%	5,360	5,360	-8%
71 Sowerby & Topcliffe	1	5,308	5,308	-9%	5,495	5,495	-6%
72 Spofforth & Tockwith	1	5,021	5,021	-14%	5,315	5,315	-9%
73 Starbeck	1	5,134	5,134	-12%	5,501	5,501	-5%
74 Stokesley	1	5,176	5,176	-11%	5,618	5,618	-3%
75 Stray & Woodlands	1	5,861	5,861	1%	6,086	6,086	5%
76 Swale	1	6,073	6,073	4%	6,315	6,315	9%
77 Tadcaster	1	5,731	5,731	-1%	5,972	5,972	3%
78 Thirsk	1	5,580	5,580	-4%	5,871	5,871	1%



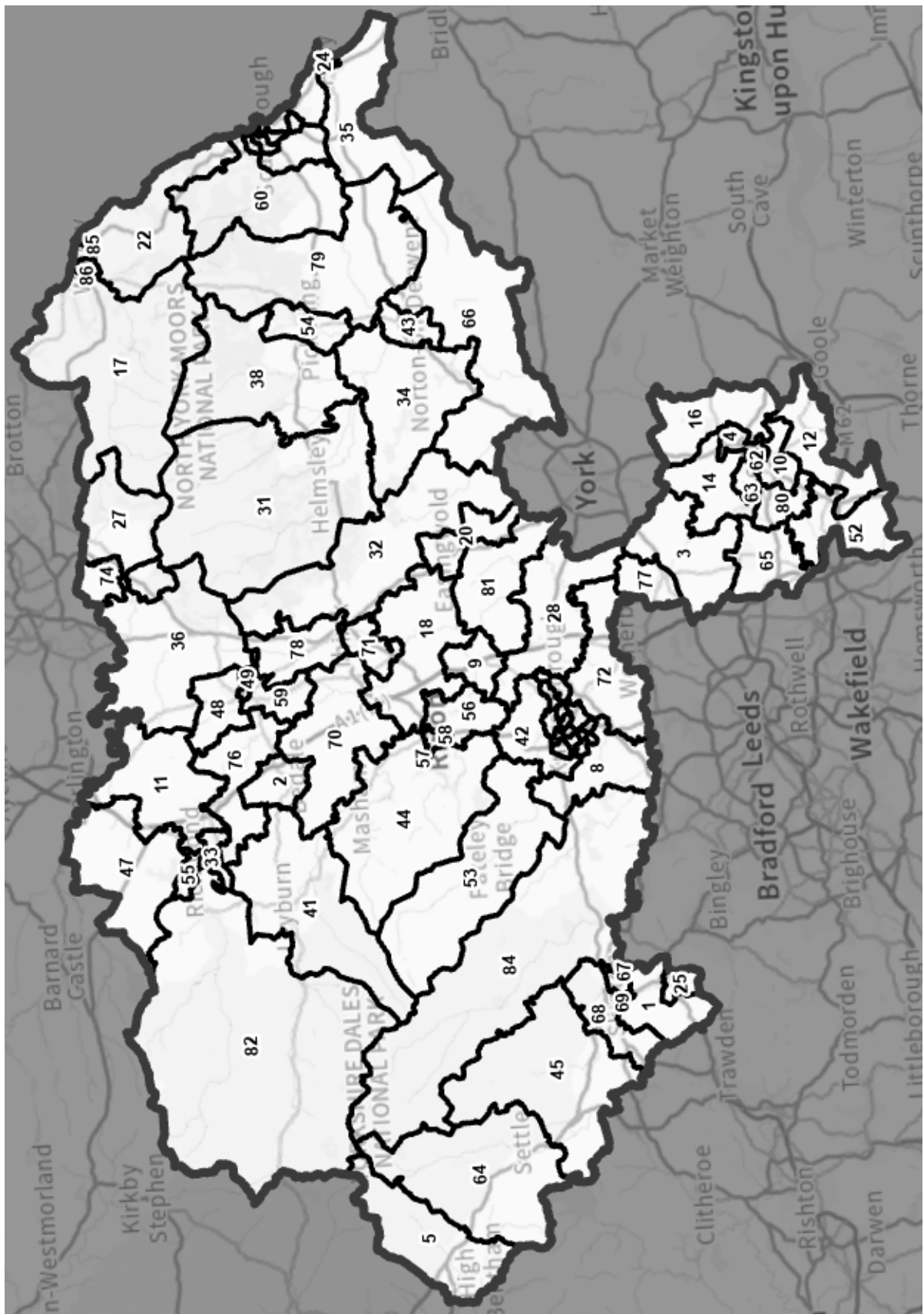
	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
79	Thornton Dale & Wolds	1	5,268	5,268	-9%	5,573	5,573	-4%
80	Thorpe Willoughby & Hambleton	1	5,303	5,303	-9%	5,755	5,755	-1%
81	Tollerton & Ouseburn	1	5,142	5,142	-12%	5,330	5,330	-8%
82	Upper Dales	1	5,209	5,209	-10%	5,385	5,385	-7%
83	Weaponness & Ramshill	1	5,929	5,929	2%	6,391	6,391	10%
84	Wharfedale	1	5,437	5,437	-7%	5,681	5,681	-2%
85	Whitby Streonshalh	1	5,051	5,051	-13%	5,853	5,853	1%
86	Whitby West	1	5,157	5,157	-11%	5,524	5,524	-5%
87	Woodlands	1	5,870	5,870	1%	6,360	6,360	9%
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>483,562</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>517,784</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>Averages</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,433</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,818</b>	<b>-</b>

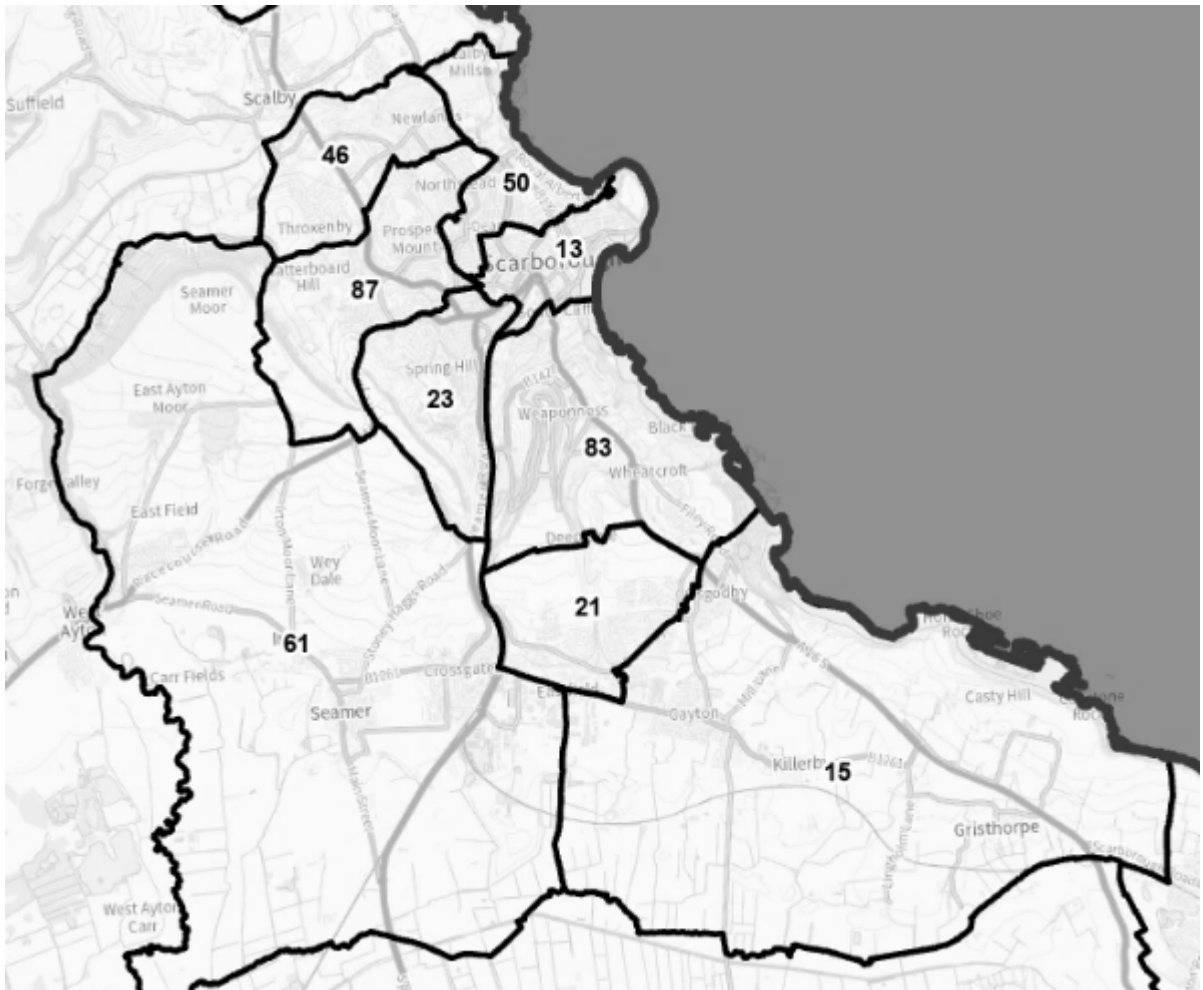
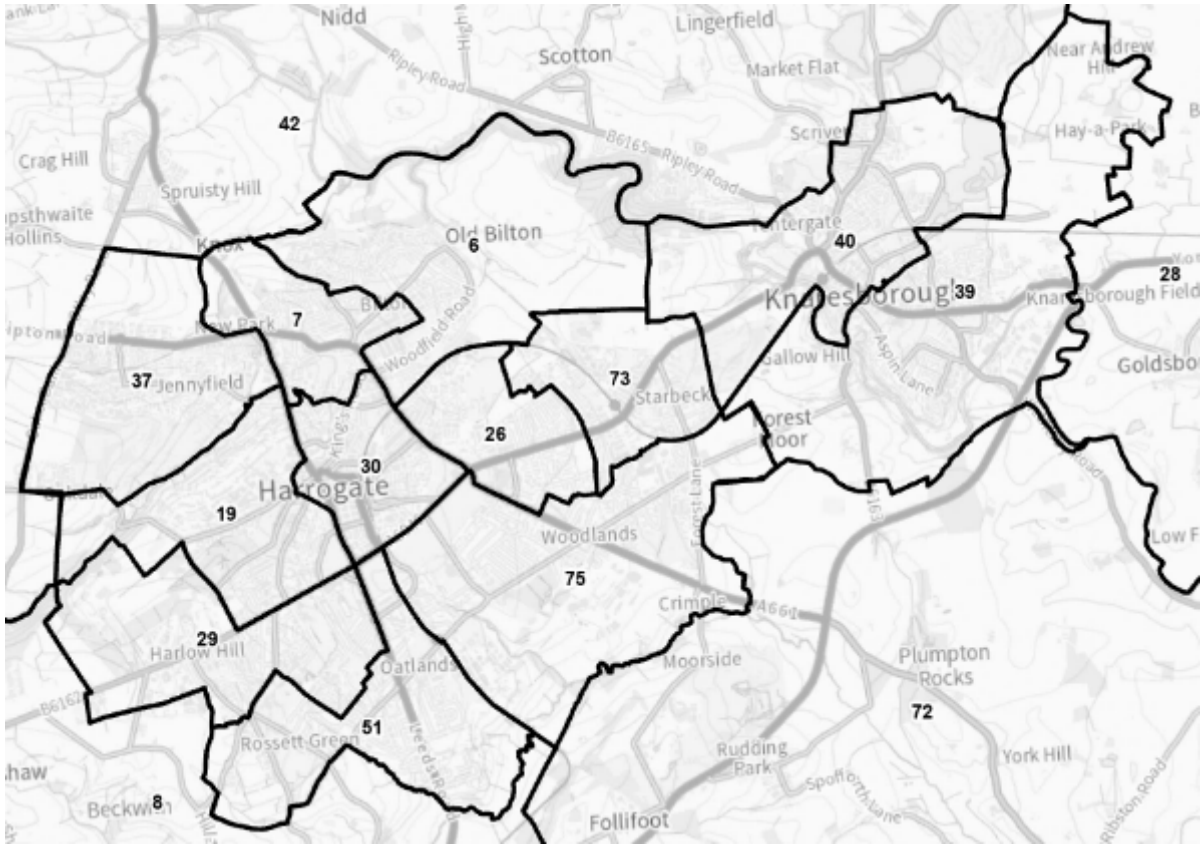
Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by North Yorkshire Council.

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 North Yorkshire. 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	Aire Valley
2	Aiskew & Bedale
3	Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton
4	Barby & Osgodby
5	Bentham & Ingleton
6	Bilton & Nidd Gorge
7	Bilton Grange
8	Birstwith & Pannal
9	Boroughbridge
10	Brayton & Barlow
11	Brompton & Scorton
12	Camblesforth & Carlton
13	Castle
14	Cawood & Riccall
15	Cayton
16	Cliffe & Escrick
17	Danby & Glaisdale
18	Dishforth & Dalton
19	Duchy & Valley Gardens
20	Easingwold
21	Eastfield
22	Esk Valley & The Coast
23	Falsgrave & Stepney
24	Filey
25	Glusburn, Cross Hills & Sutton-in-Craven
26	Granby
27	Great Ayton
28	Hammerton
29	Harlow
30	Harrogate Central
31	Helmsley & Ampleforth
32	Hillside
33	Hipswell & Colburn
34	Howardian
35	Hunmanby
36	Hutton Rudby & Appleton Wiske
37	Jennyfield
38	Kirkbymoorside & Dales
39	Knaresborough East
40	Knaresborough West

41	Leyburn & Lower Wensleydale
42	Lower Nidderdale
43	Malton & Norton
44	Masham & Fountains
45	Mid Craven
46	Newby
47	North Richmondshire
48	Northallerton North & Brompton
49	Northallerton South
50	Northstead
51	Oatlands & Rossett
52	Osgoldcross
53	Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale
54	Pickering
55	Richmond
56	Ripon Canal & Ure
57	Ripon Cathedral & Spa
58	Ripon South
59	Romanby
60	Scalby & Derwent
61	Seamer & East Ayton
62	Selby East
63	Selby West
64	Settle
65	Sherburn in Elmet & South Milford
66	Sheriff Hutton & Derwent
67	Skipton East
68	Skipton North & Embsay-with-Eastby
69	Skipton West
70	South Swale Villages
71	Sowerby & Topcliffe
72	Spofforth & Tockwith
73	Starbeck
74	Stokesley
75	Stray & Woodlands
76	Swale
77	Tadcaster
78	Thirsk
79	Thornton Dale & Wolds
80	Thorpe Willoughby & Hambleton
81	Tollerton & Ouseburn
82	Upper Dales

83	Weaponness & Ramshill
84	Wharfedale
85	Whitby Streonshalh
86	Whitby West
87	Woodlands

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

## Appendix C

### Submissions received

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

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

#### *Local Authority*

- North Yorkshire Council

#### *Political Groups*

- Richmond & Northallerton Green Party
- Richmond & Northallerton Liberal Democrats
- Scarborough & Whitby Constituency Labour Party
- Wetherby & Easingwold Constituency Labour Party
- North Yorkshire Labour Party Local Government Committee
- North Yorkshire Liberal Democrats
- Thirsk & Bedale Branch Labour Party
- Thirsk & Malton Constituency Labour Party

#### *Councillors*

- Councillor M. Collins (Langthorpe Parish Council)
- Councillor M. Donohue-Moncrieff (North Yorkshire Council)
- Councillor K. Duncan (North Yorkshire Council), in conjunction with Kevin Hollinrake MP (Thirsk & Malton), Malton Town Council and Norton-on-Derwent Town Council
- Councillor J. Harston (Whitby Town Council)
- Councillor C. Merson (Kirby Hill Parish Council)
- Councillor R. Packham (North Yorkshire Council)

#### *Local organisations*

- Nidderdale National Landscape Joint Advisory Committee

#### *Parish and Town Councils*

- Azerley Parish Council
- Beal Parish Council
- Beverley Parish Council
- Brompton Town Council
- Buckden Parish Council

- Constable Burton & Finghall Parish Council
- Dacre Parish Council
- Darley & Menwith Parish Council
- Hovingham with Scackleton Parish Council
- Pateley Bridge Town Council
- Richmond Town Council
- Rudby Parish Council
- Scorton Parish Council
- Scotton Parish Council
- Sessay Parish Council
- Sherburn in Elmet Town Council
- St Martin's Parish Council
- Tadcaster Town Council
- Whitby Town Council

*Local residents*

- 89 local residents



## Appendix D

### Glossary and abbreviations

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

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



The  
Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
for England

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.

Local Government Boundary Commission for  
England  
7th Floor, 3 Bunhill Row,  
London,  
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**X:** @LGBCE