



# New electoral arrangements for Derby City Council Draft Recommendations

May 2022

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Tel: 0330 500 1525

Email: [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk)

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## **A note on our mapping:**

The maps shown in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Whilst best efforts have been made by our staff to ensure that the maps included in this report are representative of the boundaries described by the text, there may be slight variations between these maps and the large PDF map that accompanies this report, or the digital mapping supplied on our consultation portal. This is due to the way in which the final mapped products are produced. The reader should therefore refer to either the large PDF supplied with this report or the digital mapping for the true likeness of the boundaries intended. The boundaries as shown on either the large PDF map or the digital mapping should always appear identical.

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# Introduction

## Who we are and what we do

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

2 The members of the Commission are:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • Professor Colin Mellors OBE<br>(Chair) | • Amanda Nobbs OBE                        |
| • Andrew Scallan CBE<br>(Deputy Chair)   | • Steve Robinson                          |
| • Susan Johnson OBE                      | • Jolyon Jackson CBE<br>(Chief Executive) |
| • Peter Maddison QPM                     |   |

## What is an electoral review?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Why Derby?

7 We are conducting a review of Derby City Council ('the Council') as its last review was completed in 2001, and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.<sup>2</sup> Additionally, some councillors currently represent many more or fewer electors than others. We describe this as 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where the number of electors per councillor is as even as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.

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

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

## Our proposals for Derby

9 Derby should be represented by 51 councillors, the same number as there are now.

10 Derby should have 19 wards, two more than there are now.

11 The boundaries of all but two wards should change.

## How will the recommendations affect you?

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

13 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the city 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.

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



## Have your say

14 We will consult on the draft recommendations for a 10-week period, from 31 May 2022 to 8 August 2022. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to comment on these proposed wards as the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be in making our final recommendations.

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

16 You have until 8 August 2022 to have your say on the draft recommendations. See page 23 for how to send us your response.

## Review timetable

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

18 The review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
18 October 2021	Number of councillors decided
26 October 2021	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
1 February 2022	Consultation re-launched
29 March 2022	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
31 May 2022	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
8 August 2022	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
4 October 2022	Publication of final recommendations





## Analysis and draft recommendations

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

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

21 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.

	2021	2027
Electorate of Derby	181,972	190,904
Number of councillors	51	51
Average number of electors per councillor	3,568	3,743

22 When the number of electors per councillor in a ward is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the ward as having 'good electoral equality'. All but one of our proposed wards for Derby will have good electoral equality by 2027.

## Submissions received

23 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

24 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2027, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2022. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 5% by 2027.

25 The Council later identified a number of errors in the allocation of housing developments in the forecast, which did not affect the total number of forecast electors, and corrected these accordingly. We were satisfied that this forecast

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

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

represented the most accurate data available and included it in the re-launch of the initial warding consultation on 1 February 2022 (see paragraph 29).

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.

## Number of councillors

27 Derby City Council currently has 51 councillors. At the beginning of the review, the Council made a submission to us proposing that the council size increase by six members to 57 councillors. We carefully looked at the information provided by the Council but were not persuaded that sufficient evidence had been provided to justify such an increase. In particular, while we noted the information provided with regard to councillor workload, we were not persuaded that such an increase was justified in the context of the authority's governance and decision-making structure. We have concluded that keeping this number of members the same will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

28 We received six submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on ward patterns. One resident expressed gratitude for maintaining the council size, while another expressed concern about the financial burden of any increase in the number of councillors and a third questioned why the current council size was necessary. Three suggested the number of councillors ought to be reduced. While we gave careful consideration to these views, we were not of the view that persuasive evidence had been provided. We have therefore based our draft recommendations on a 51-councillor council.

## Ward boundaries consultation

29 We started our consultation on ward boundaries on 26 October 2021. However, on 19 January 2022, the Council voted to change its electoral cycle from a system of election by thirds to a system of whole council elections every four years. This meant that there was no longer any presumption in law for a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards. This decision changed the fundamental basis on which our review was being conducted so we decided to re-launch this consultation on 1 February 2022 and invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 51 councillors: for example, 51 one-councillor wards, 17 three-councillor wards, or a mix of one-, two- and three-councillor wards.

30 We received 89 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included two city-wide proposals from the Council and the Derby Labour Group ('Labour'). The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for wards arrangements in particular areas of the city.

31 The Council scheme provided a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards while the Labour scheme offered a mixed pattern of two- and three-councillor wards for Derby. We carefully considered the proposals received and were of the view that the proposed patterns of wards resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the authority and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries.

32 Our draft recommendations are based on aspects of the city-wide schemes submitted during consultation. However, our recommendations also take into account local evidence that we received, which provided further evidence of community links and locally recognised boundaries. In some areas we considered that the proposals did not provide for the best balance between our statutory criteria and so we identified alternative boundaries.

33 We visited the area in order to look at the various different proposals on the ground. This tour of Derby helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

## Draft recommendations

34 Our draft recommendations are for 14 three-councillor wards, four two-councillor wards and one single-councillor ward. 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.

35 The tables and maps on pages 8–20 detail our draft recommendations for each area of Derby. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory<sup>5</sup> criteria of:

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

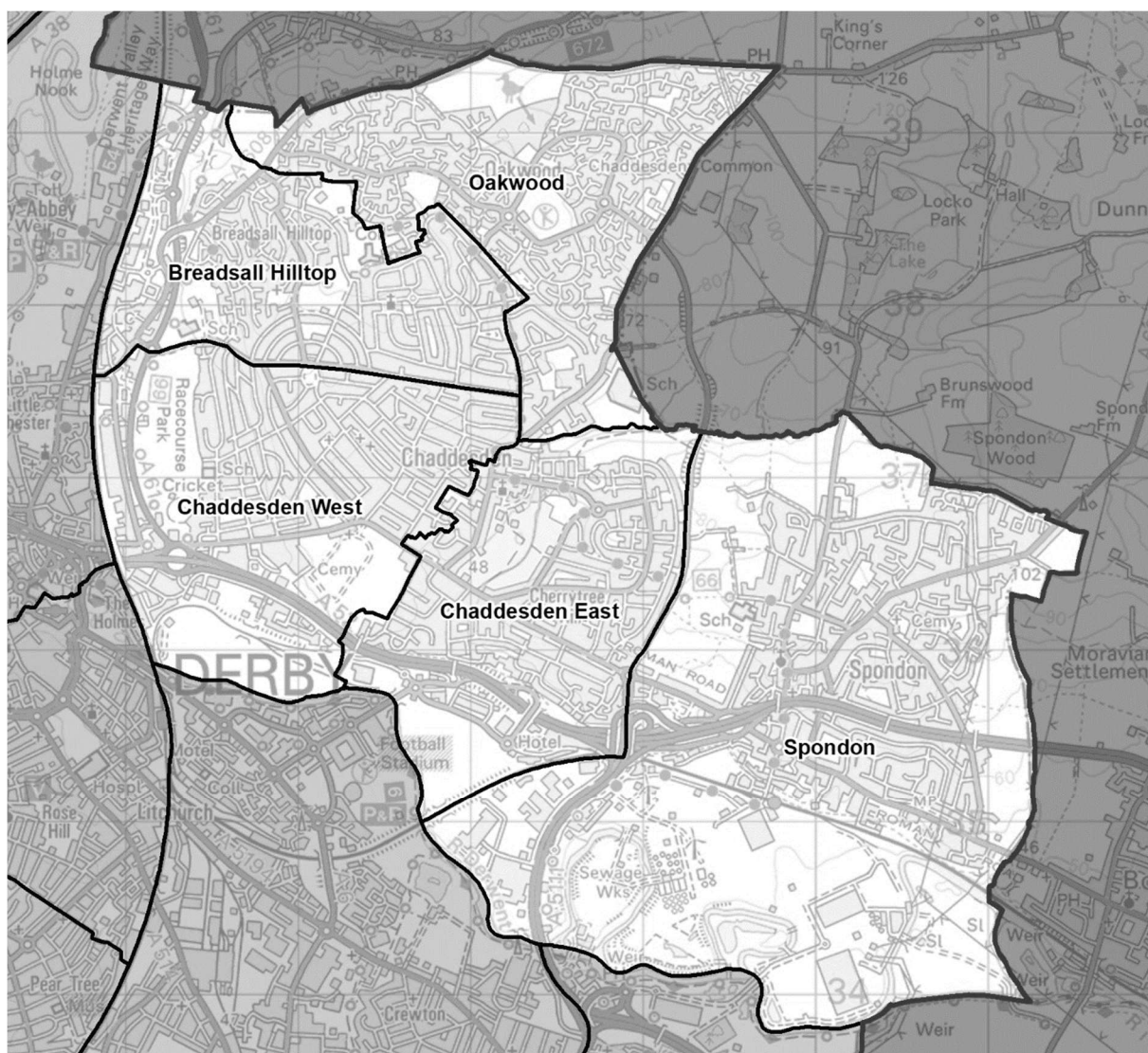
36 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 29 and on the large map accompanying this report.

37 We welcome all comments on these draft recommendations, particularly on the location of the ward boundaries, and the names of our proposed wards.

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

## North-East Derby



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Breadsall Hilltop	2	-7%
Chaddesden East	2	-6%
Chaddesden West	2	-6%
Oakwood	3	-7%
Spondon	3	-10%

### *Breadsall Hilltop, Oakwood and Spondon*

38 The Council scheme maintained the existing warding pattern for the entire North-East Derby area, save for a minor alteration to the boundary between Derwent and Oakwood wards, transferring 1–12 Hill Top, Windmill Place and 18–36 and 27–49 Friday Lane to Derwent ward. This produced wards with electoral variances of 7% fewer electors per councillor than the city average in Chaddesden and Oakwood, 6% fewer in Derwent and 10% fewer in Spondon. However, we received a number of

submissions from members of the public which suggested that the existing warding arrangements do not accurately reflect community identities in the area. We have, therefore, not adopted this warding pattern in our draft recommendations.

39 The Labour scheme in this area adopted a different approach, dividing Derwent ward into a two-councillor Breadsall Hilltop ward in the north and a two-councillor Chaddesden West ward in the south, incorporating parts of the existing Oakwood and Chaddesden wards, respectively. The remainder of the existing Chaddesden and Oakwood wards were then reorganised into two-councillor Chaddesden East and Oakwood wards. This produced wards with 3% more electors per councillor than the city average in Breadsall Hilltop, 6% more in Chaddesden East, 3% more in Chaddesden West and 9% more in Oakwood. Both the Council and Labour accepted that there was no realistic way to expand the existing Spondon ward, which was also reflected in some submissions from residents. The existing ward will have 10% fewer electors per councillor than the city average which, in our judgement, is a relatively high variance. However, we are content that this ward accurately reflects local community identities and follows identifiable boundaries. In light of this, we have decided to accept this proposal as part of our draft recommendations.

40 The Labour scheme hinged on providing better community representation to areas which are currently subsumed within or divided between three-councillor wards by introducing several two-councillor wards. In this area, the Labour submission identified the Chaddesden community as being split between two wards and that the existing Derwent ward – which combines the west half of Chaddesden with Breadsall Hilltop to the north – was a ‘fiction’ with which residents do not identify. This view was echoed in a submission we received from a resident of Chaddesden.

41 However, the Labour scheme – which was made public during the course of the consultation – provoked a reaction from a number of Oakwood residents, who disagreed with the area west of Porters Lane, a footpath, Chandlers Ford and Matlock Road being included in Breadsall Hilltop ward. We received 14 submissions from residents of Oakwood who argued that Oakwood had a strong community identity distinct from, and with little in common with, Breadsall Hilltop. We noted on our tour of Derby that the two areas had been built several decades apart and were clearly divided – with the houses of each facing into their respective communities and there being limited road connections between the two. Furthermore, we noted that both communities had their own shopping parades.

42 Hence, while we were persuaded by Labour’s approach in the area, we have modified the boundaries of their proposed wards to accommodate local community identities. In order to achieve this, we have maintained Oakwood ward’s existing three councillors, and modified the existing ward boundaries. Our proposed Oakwood ward includes the Dale Acre Way development but excludes Wood Road,



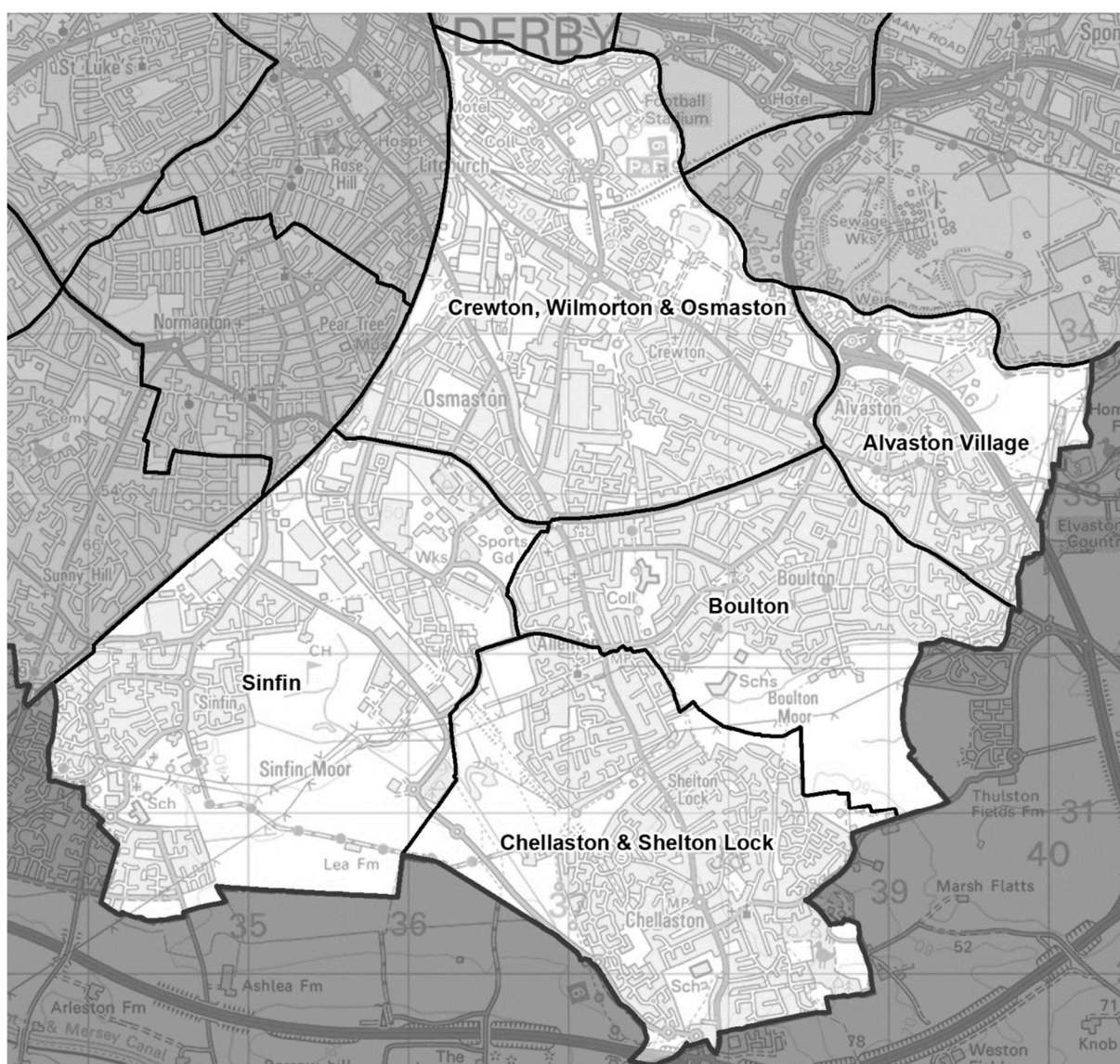
Matlock Road, Taddington Road, Winster Road and their associated streets, which we have moved into Breadsall Hilltop ward. We have also added the Cavendish Close schools area between Lees Brook and Wood Road to this ward. This results in a ward with 7% fewer electors per councillor than the city average by 2027.

43 We were guided in these choices by local submissions. One resident wrote: 'It seems that the current ward boundaries are historical from when Oakwood [was] still under development' and suggested including Dale Acre Way and removing the roads listed above, which he attributed to Chaddesden. We were also assured in our decision to move the Cavendish Close schools area, without which Oakwood would have 16% fewer electors per councillor than the city average, by the vicar of St Mary's Parish Church, Chaddesden. He noted that 'there is a grey area around Cavendish Close Schools where residents may look to either Oakwood or Chaddesden as their hub'. The Labour scheme had included this area, and the streets between Wood Road and Buxton Road, in Chaddesden West ward without any road access between the two, which was blocked by Lees Brook. We have instead placed the streets between Wood Road and Buxton Road in Breadsall Hilltop ward, which has 7% fewer electors per councillor than the city average by 2027.

#### *Chaddesden East and Chaddesden West*

44 The Labour scheme drew the boundary between Breadsall Hilltop and Chaddesden West wards along Hampshire Road–Hereford Road–Max Road and we have adopted this in our draft recommendations. However, although we acknowledge that the boundary between Labour's Chaddesden East and Chaddesden West wards is a strong one – running along Chaddesden Park behind Chaddesden Lane to Maine Drive and then up Chaddesden Brook – we were required to modify this boundary. This was owing to our allocation of the Cavendish Close schools area north of Lees Brook to Oakwood ward. This change was necessary to ensure good electoral equality for wards in this area. Instead, we have drawn the boundary to run behind St Alban's Catholic Voluntary Academy and the cul-de-sacs off Chaddesden Lane, then along Chaddesden Lane to meet Labour's boundary between Morley Road and Lees Brook. Our Chaddesden East and Chaddesden West wards will both have 6% fewer electors per councillor than the city average by 2027.

## South-East Derby



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Alvaston Village	1	2%
Boulton	3	4%
Chellaston & Shelton Lock	3	6%
Crewton, Wilmorton & Osmaston	3	5%
Sinfyn	2	-2%

### *Alvaston Village and Crewton, Wilmorton & Osmaston*

45 The Council scheme maintained the existing boundaries for the South-East Derby area, with the exception of a minor change to the boundary between Boulton and Chellaston (see below). However, we received several submissions which did not support maintaining the existing boundaries for Alvaston ward. One resident suggested that the ward was too geographically large and included too varied an



electorate to be represented properly, adding that Alvaston Village to the east of the A5111 could be its own ward. Another resident pointed that the Wilmorton area was much closer to the city centre 'and disconnected from Alvaston by the canal path' and that Osmaston, although included in Sinfin ward, did not associate with Sinfin at all. GMB Midland & East Coast's submission identified a community of interest in the area, pointing out that many of its members live in Osmaston and Crewton, around the industrial area which includes employers such as Rolls-Royce and Alstom Transport.

46 The Labour scheme, seeking to address some of these concerns, placed Alvaston Village in a three-councillor Alvaston & Boulton ward with 7% more electors per councillor than the city average, and the remainder of the existing Alvaston ward with Osmaston – minus the area south of Campbell Street, Thirsk Place and the allotments – in a three-councillor Crewton, Wilmorton & Osmaston ward. This proposal would result in an electoral variance of 5% by 2027. However, as the wider scheme for the area includes a two-councillor Chellaston ward with 16% more electors per councillor than the city average, we have chosen to adopt elements of the Council and Labour schemes, with modifications informed by the evidence given above and our tour of Derby. We have therefore extended Labour's Crewton, Wilmorton & Osmaston ward so the southern boundary runs entirely along the A5111 Osmaston Park Road/Harvey Road. This results in a ward with 5% more electors per councillor than the city average. We also recommend a single-councillor Alvaston Village ward east of the A5111 Raynesway with 2% more electors per councillor than the city average by 2027.

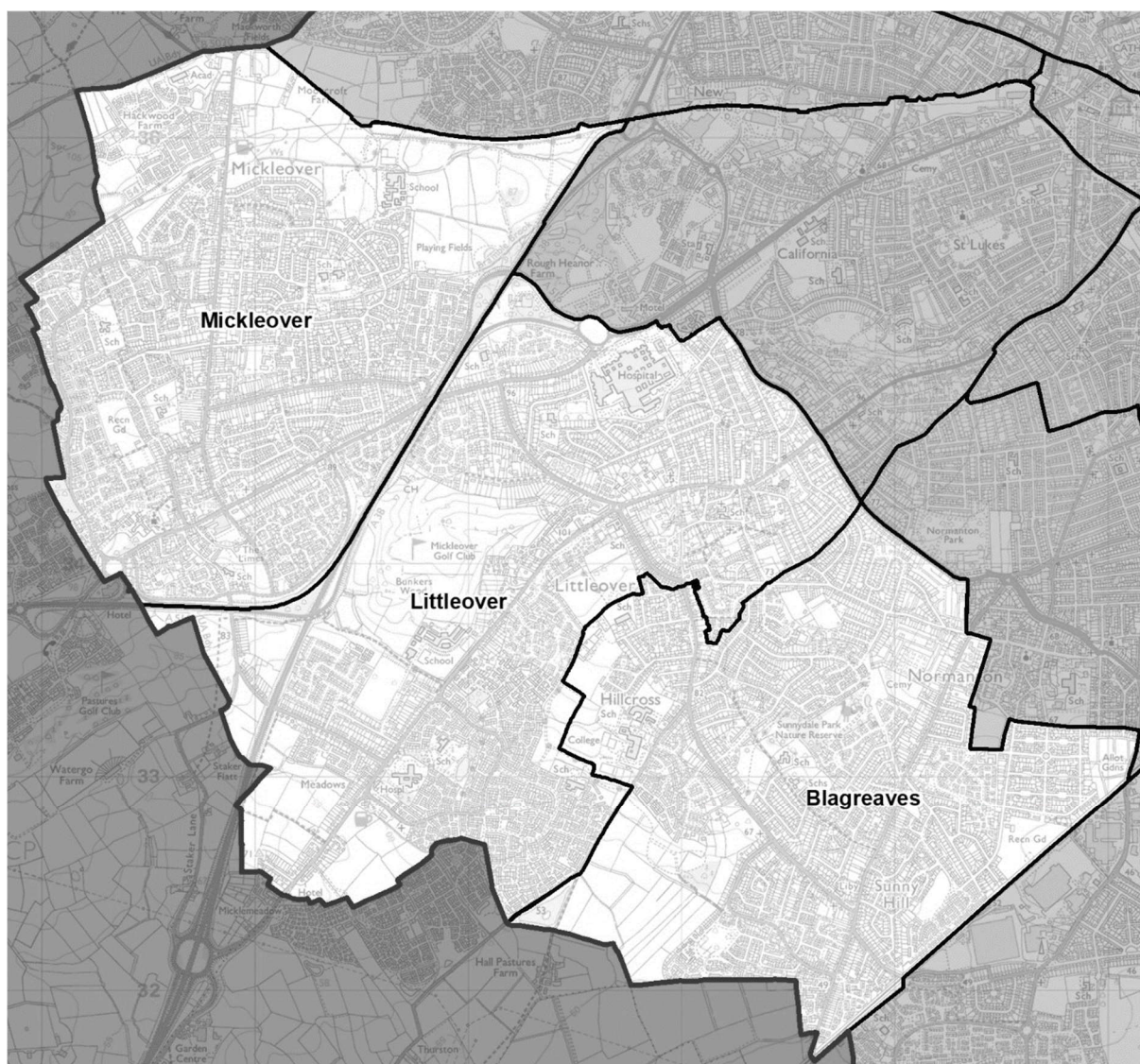
#### *Boulton, Chellaston & Shelton Lock and Sinfin*

47 The Council scheme makes no changes to the existing wards in this area save for transferring Boulton Moor from Chellaston ward to Boulton ward. This is due to the Boulton Moor East housing development adding 1,040 electors to the area by 2027, thus increasing the electoral variance for Chellaston ward to 15%. Removing this area brings the variance down to 6%. The Council scheme also proposes renaming the ward Chellaston & Shelton Lock, and Sinfin ward Sinfin & Osmaston, to reflect the existence of the separate communities in these wards.

48 The Labour scheme makes far greater changes to the warding pattern in this area, adding most of Alvaston Village and Boulton Moor to the existing Boulton ward, resulting in a three-councillor Alvaston & Boulton ward with 7% more electors per councillor than the city average. To the remainder of the existing Boulton ward was added the area of Alvaston ward described in paragraph 46 and Shelton Lock, resulting in a two-councillor Allenton & Shelton Lock ward with 6% more electors per councillor than the city average. This leaves a two-councillor Chellaston ward with 16% more electors per councillor than the city average.

49 Owing to the poor electoral equality in the latter proposed ward, we have instead adopted the Council's proposals in our draft recommendations. This is with the exception of Sinfin ward which, without Osmaston, has 2% fewer electors per councillor than the city average.

## South-West Derby



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Blagreaves	3	5%
Littleover	3	2%
Mickleover	3	11%

### *Blagreaves and Littleover*

50 The Council scheme in this area makes limited changes to the existing wards, though these are greater than in some other areas of the city, owing to the poor electoral equality in existing wards such as Blagreaves (-12%), Littleover (17%), Abbey (-11%) and Arboretum (28%). The area of Littleover ward between Uttoxeter New Road and Kingsway, for example, is transferred to Abbey ward, resulting in the former having 2% more electors per councillor than the city average. Additionally, Hathersage Avenue and the entirety of Stenson Road and Sunnyhill Avenue are transferred from Normanton ward to Blagreaves, which would then have 4% fewer

electors per councillor than the city average.

51 By contrast, the Labour scheme again proposed more radical changes, employing two-councillor wards, with the stated aim of increasing community representation. This included a two-councillor Sunny Hill ward with 6% more electors per councillor than the city average which contains the Sunny Hill side of the existing Blagreaves ward plus the area of Normanton ward between Stenson Road, Sunnyhill Avenue, the railway line, Kitchener Avenue and Grange Avenue. A two-councillor Heatherton ward with 10% fewer electors per councillor than the city average is also carved out of the existing Littleover ward south of Hillsway, Chain Lane/Greenway Drive and Mickleover Golf Club. The remainder of Littleover and Blagreaves wards would then form a three-councillor Littleover & Blagreaves ward with 4% fewer electors per councillor than the city average.

52 We observed a mixed reaction to the Labour scheme for this area in the submissions received. Some wrote in support of greater representation for Heatherton and Sunny Hill, while others wrote against these proposals, arguing that the existing boundaries worked well and that these areas shared a sense of community identity with Littleover and Blagreaves, respectively. For example, one resident said: 'Littleover and Heatherton share lots of services and are very clearly one community. I was raised in Heatherton, but we always said we live in Littleover. We share facilities like the Littleover Shopping Centre, and the Heatherton shopping Centre too. It is really important that this community boundary is respected and maintained. Splitting the ward in half would not make sense.' While another said: 'Heatherton Village has a unique identity compared to the rest of what currently constitutes "Littleover". This can be seen in how people label themselves. For example people in Heatherton consider it to have developed enough of its own identity to have created a Facebook group just for Heatherton [...] Community groups such as the Scouts also often organise themselves around the Heatherton boundaries.'

53 Having considered both schemes carefully, we reached the conclusion that there was not enough evidence to justify creating a Heatherton ward with an electoral variance of 10%, particularly in light of the evidence submitted on shared amenities, and the fact that Littleover Community School would be in the centre of the ward. We have therefore adopted the Council scheme for these wards while adopting the Labour boundary between Blagreaves and Normanton (Hathersage Avenue, Grange Avenue, Kitchener Avenue, Sinfin Lane) to accommodate changes made to Normanton ward in response to community evidence (see paragraph 57). We have, however, placed Akaal Primary School in Normanton ward, as access is via Grange Avenue. This results in a three-councillor Blagreaves ward which has 5% more electors per councillor than the city average by 2027.

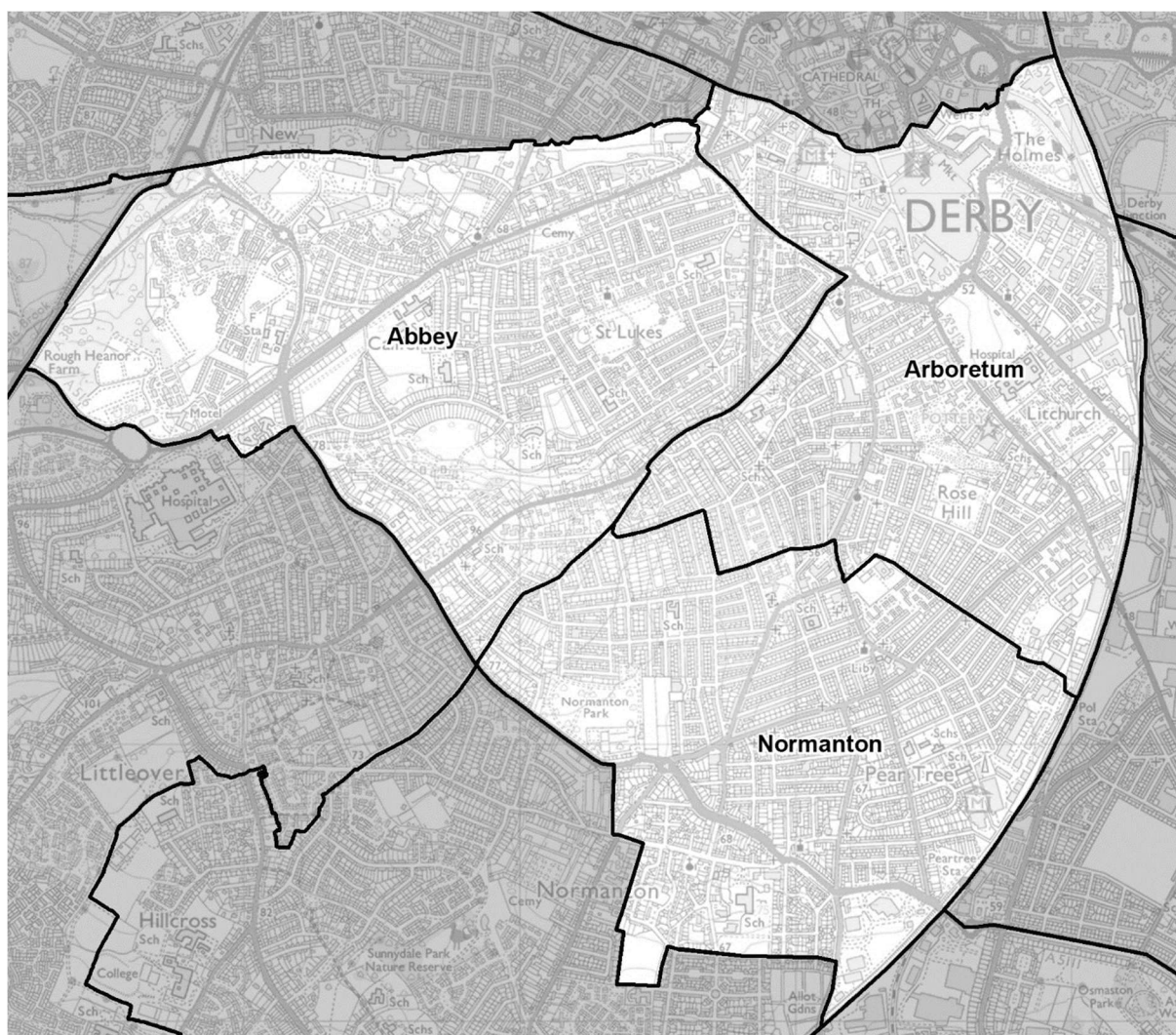
### *Mickleover*

54 The existing Mickleover ward is forecast to have 11% more electors per councillor than the city average by 2027 due to two large housing developments being built to the north of the ward. The Council was content to accept this variance to maintain community cohesion, while the Labour scheme included Starflower Way and Spinneybrook Way, and their associated streets, in a two-councillor Mackworth ward, leaving the three-councillor Mickleover ward with 1% fewer councillors than the city average. We were initially inclined to accept the Labour proposals in this area, particularly given the ramifications for Labour's Mackworth ward were this area not included (see paragraph 64). However, upon our tour of the area, it became clear that Mackworth and Mickleover were markedly different communities which are connected only by Radbourne Lane – the city boundary – and that the distinct nature of the community in Mickleover and its amenities was immediately obvious upon entering Station Road. We are therefore satisfied to accept this relatively high electoral variance in the interests of community cohesion and representation.

55 However, we have chosen to maintain the existing boundary between Mackworth and Mickleover, as opposed to the Council's proposed boundary, which runs along the edge of Mickleover instead. The Council's reasoning was to prevent any potential future development from increasing electoral inequality in Mickleover further. However, this places Moorcroft Farm and Murray Park Community School on the Mackworth side of the boundary, despite both being accessed from the Mickleover side of the boundary. We would be interested to receive alternative suggestions for this boundary during the current consultation.



## Central Derby



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Abbey	3	-7%
Arboretum	3	-1%
Normanton	3	8%

### *Abbey, Arboretum and Normanton*

56 The Council scheme again made few changes to the existing wards in this area, with the exception of the area of Arboretum ward south of Cambridge Street, which is transferred to Normanton ward, improving electoral equality in the former. As it was observed by one resident that Normanton is bounded by Burton Road, Lara Croft Way, Osmaston Road, the railway line and Newdigate Street, this exchange is presumed to have little impact with regards to community identity. The city centre north of Friar Gate, Wardwick, Victoria Street, Albert Street and the river is also transferred to Darley ward. Overall, this results in the electoral variance in

Arboretum improving from 28% to 4% by 2027.

57 The Labour scheme again made more radical changes to the warding pattern in this area. It proposed adding Walbrook Road, Rutland Street, Pear Tree Street and Harrington Street as far as Pear Tree Road/Princes Street to Normanton ward in the east, as well as the area between Overdale Road/Haddon Street and Carlton Road in the west. The latter addition was supported by a number of residents who wished to 'reunite' Normanton ward. This results in a Normanton ward with 9% fewer electors per councillor than the city average by 2027.

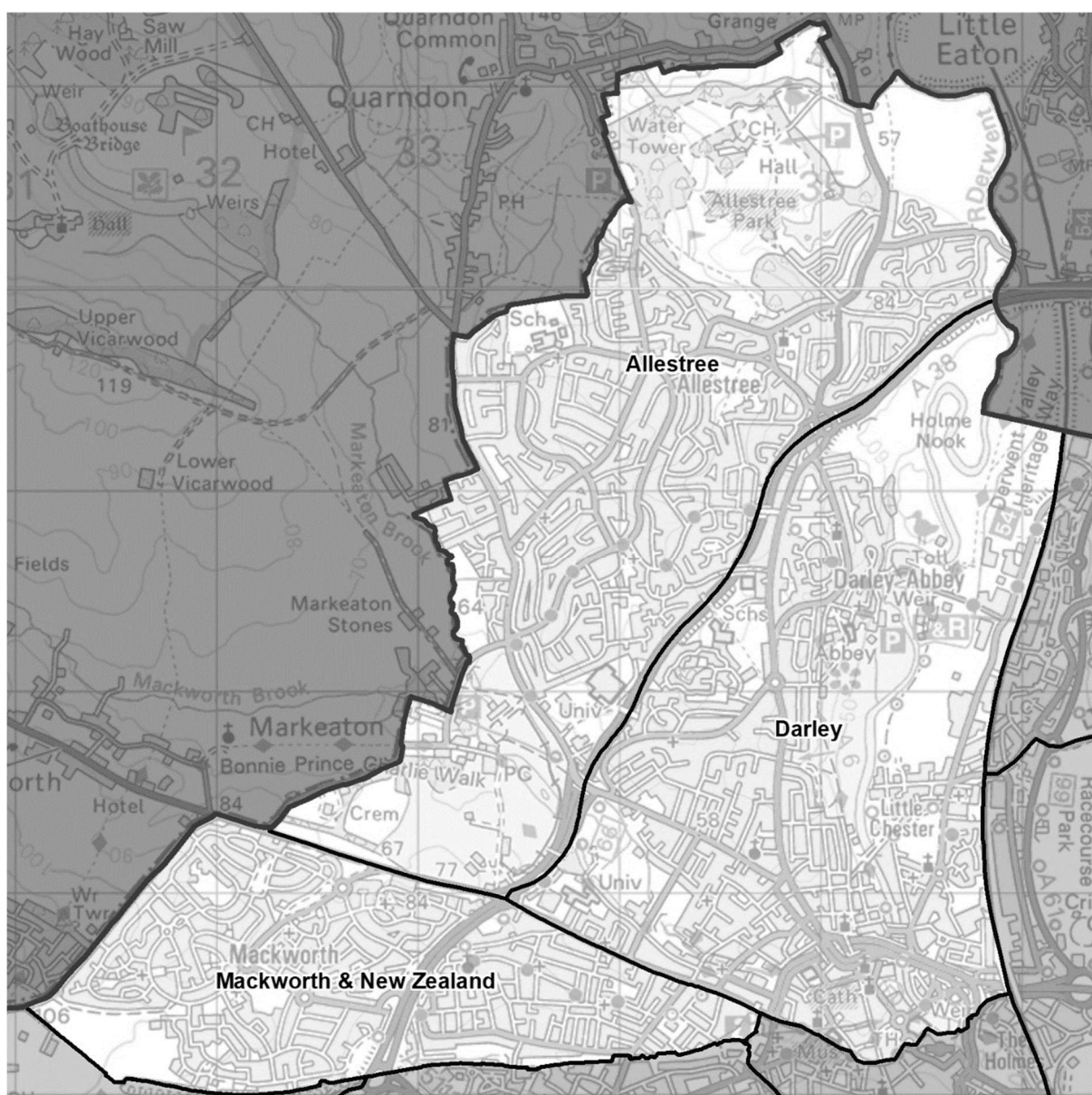
58 As a result of this, and of moving the area north of Uttoxeter New Road into a two-councillor New Zealand ward, the Labour scheme decreases Abbey ward's representation from three councillors to two. It also excludes the small 'triangle' between Abbey Street, Curzon Street and Mercian Way but includes the larger 'triangle' between Abbey Street, Burton Road and Mercian Way. Two submissions from residents supported the latter change, one calling the area 'Little City', but no reasoning was given to support these statements. This proposal results in Abbey ward having 1% fewer electors per councillor than the city average. Labour's Arboretum ward also excludes the northern part of the city centre and the area west of Green Lane and Burton Road. This produces a ward with 3% more electors per councillor than the city average.

59 As in other areas, our draft recommendations incorporate elements of both schemes, in response to the evidence submitted and our own tour of the area. For example, we have largely adopted the Labour proposal for Normanton ward but, in order to improve electoral equality, we have broadly adopted the Council's eastern boundary. We have modified this proposal to exclude the area between Corden Street, Pear Tree Road and Whiston Street, as we observed on our tour that Corden Street and Pear Tree Road would provide a much stronger boundary than Whiston Street and the surrounding property boundaries. This improves electoral equality in Labour's proposed Normanton ward to 8% more than the city average by 2027.

60 Likewise, our Arboretum ward is based on Labour's proposals but follows the Council's proposed boundary along Friar Gate, Wardwick and Victoria Street, though including everything south as far as Mercian Way. In contrast to the Council scheme, we felt it was important to include Lavender Lodge Nursing Home in Arboretum ward rather than Abbey, as it is relatively isolated from the rest of the latter area. Our Abbey ward essentially follows the Labour proposal, but with the addition of the California and Kingsway areas north of Uttoxeter New Road, which Labour have included in their New Zealand ward. Our proposed three-councillor Abbey and Arboretum wards will have good electoral equality by 2027.



## North-West Derby



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Allestree	3	-1%
Darley	3	6%
Mackworth & New Zealand	3	-7%

### *Allestree and Darley*

61 Neither the Council nor the Labour scheme proposed any changes to Allestree ward, which will have 1% fewer electors per councillor than the city average by 2027. We have adopted the existing ward boundaries in our draft recommendations. The Labour scheme made a minor change to Darley ward, moving the area between Agard Street, Bridge Street, Friar Gate and Ford Street into a proposed New Zealand ward, leaving Darley with 4% fewer electors per councillor than the city

average. However, as described above, we adopted the Council's proposed boundary between Arboretum and Darley, adding the northern half of the city centre to Darley ward, leaving the latter with 6% more electors per councillor than the city average by 2027.

### *Mackworth & New Zealand*

62 The Council scheme made very minor changes to the boundaries of Mackworth ward, adding residential properties in Slack Lane and St Judith's Court. Conversely, the Labour scheme sought to separate the New Zealand area from Mackworth due to the two communities being divided by the A38. This produces a two-councillor Mackworth ward with roughly the same number of electors per councillor as the city average, and a two-councillor New Zealand ward with 5% more.

63 We accepted there was merit to Labour's proposal and it was supported by some of the submissions received from local residents. One, for example, wrote: 'Currently the Mackworth ward includes areas on both sides of the A38 trunk road and consequently the two portions have very little connection with each other beyond bus services that pass through both.' Another wrote: 'I do not use any of the facilities in the part of Mackworth Ward which is west of the A38. I use Markeaton and Darley Parks for recreation, and would always look to city centre (via Ashbourne Road and Friargate) for any other facilities, as this is nearer than Mackworth District Centre and has a wide range of facilities.'

64 However, our decision not to include Starflower Way and Spinneybrook Way in Mackworth ward (see paragraph 54) would leave a two-councillor Mackworth ward west of the A38 with an electoral variance of -18%. As this ward is bounded by the city boundary to the west and open land to the north and south, the only direction to expand is east – across the A38. We also noted a number of other submissions which supported maintaining the existing ward boundaries, including from the New Zealand Community Association, which mentioned it had also begun working with residents in Mackworth. A resident wrote: 'I strongly believe that Mackworth, Morley and New Zealand areas should remain as they are. We have a strong community association within our ward and it is part of our area's identity. We have good and positive partnerships between our area and this does not need to be changed.' We have carefully considered the evidence received and have decided to recommend a three-councillor Mackworth & New Zealand ward in our draft recommendations with 7% fewer electors per councillor than the city average. We would particularly welcome comments on our draft recommendations for this area during the current consultation.



## Conclusions

65 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality in Derby, referencing the 2021 and 2027 electorate figures against the proposed number of councillors and wards. A full list of wards, names and their corresponding electoral variances can be found at Appendix A to the back of this report. An outline map of the wards is provided at Appendix B.

### Summary of electoral arrangements

	Draft recommendations	
	2021	2027
Number of councillors	51	51
Number of electoral wards	19	19
Average number of electors per councillor	3,568	3,743
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	4	1
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

#### Draft recommendations

Derby City Council should be made up of 51 councillors serving 19 wards representing one single-councillor ward, four two-councillor wards and 14 three-councillor wards. The details and names are shown in Appendix A and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

#### Mapping

Sheet 1, Map 1 shows the proposed wards for Derby City Council. You can also view our draft recommendations for Derby City Council on our interactive maps at [www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

## Have your say

66 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 city or just a part of it.

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

68 Our website has a special consultation area where you can explore the maps. You can find it at [www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

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

**Review Officer (Derby)**  
**The Local Government Boundary Commission for England**  
**PO Box 133**  
**Blyth**  
**NE24 9FE**

70 The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for Derby City Council 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.

71 A good pattern of wards 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.

72 Electoral equality:

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

73 Community identity:

- Community groups: is there a 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?

74 Effective local government:

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

75 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.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk). A list of respondents will be available from us on request after the end of the consultation period.

76 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.

77 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.

78 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 Derby City Council in 2023.





## Equalities

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



# Appendices

## Appendix A

### Draft recommendations for Derby City Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2027)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Abbey	3	9,324	3,108	-13%	10,433	3,478	-7%
2	Allestree	3	11,020	3,673	3%	11,067	3,689	-1%
3	Alvaston Village	1	3,790	3,790	6%	3,806	3,806	2%
4	Arboretum	3	9,037	3,012	-16%	11,116	3,705	-1%
5	Blagreaves	3	11,769	3,923	10%	11,819	3,940	5%
6	Boulton	3	10,206	3,402	-5%	11,703	3,901	4%
7	Breadsall Hilltop	2	6,946	3,473	-3%	6,964	3,482	-7%
8	Chaddesden East	2	6,594	3,297	-8%	7,054	3,527	-6%
9	Chaddesden West	2	7,041	3,521	-1%	7,071	3,535	-6%
10	Chellaston & Shelton Lock	3	11,891	3,964	11%	11,926	3,975	6%
11	Crewton, Wilmorton & Osmaston	3	11,436	3,812	7%	11,783	3,928	5%

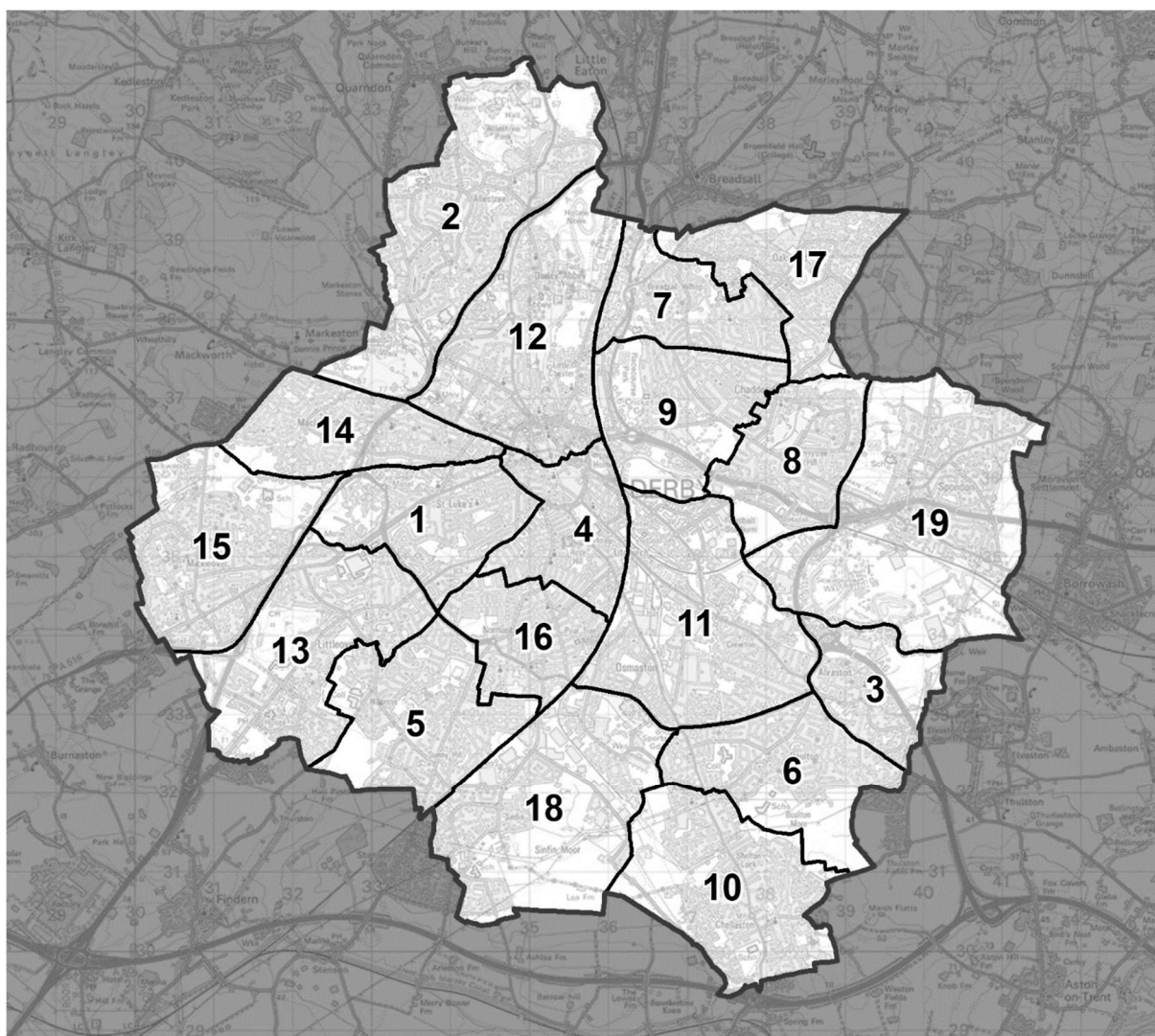
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2027)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
12 Darley	3	11,428	3,809	7%	11,953	3,984	6%
13 Littleover	3	10,584	3,528	-1%	11,439	3,813	2%
14 Mackworth & New Zealand	3	10,362	3,454	-3%	10,406	3,469	-7%
15 Mickleover	3	11,585	3,862	8%	12,416	4,139	11%
16 Normanton	3	12,053	4,018	13%	12,103	4,034	8%
17 Oakwood	3	9,980	3,327	-7%	10,389	3,463	-7%
18 Sinfin	2	6,993	3,497	-2%	7,346	3,673	-2%
19 Spondon	3	9,933	3,311	-7%	10,110	3,370	-10%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>181,972</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>190,904</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Averages</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>3,568</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>3,743</b>	<b>–</b>

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

Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the number of electors per councillor in each electoral ward varies from the average for the city. 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	Abbey
2	Allestree
3	Alvaston Village
4	Arboretum
5	Blagreaves
6	Boulton
7	Breadsall Hilltop
8	Chaddesden East
9	Chaddesden West
10	Chellaston & Shelton Lock
11	Crewton, Wilmorton & Osmaston
12	Darley

13	Littleover
14	Mackworth & New Zealand
15	Mickleover
16	Normanton
17	Oakwood
18	Sinfin
19	Spondon

A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/east-midlands/derbyshire/derby>



## Appendix C

### Submissions received

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

<https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/east-midlands/derbyshire/derby>

#### *Local Authority*

- Derby City Council

#### *Political Groups*

- Derby Labour Group
- Derby Liberal Democrats
- Reform Derby

#### *Councillors*

- Councillor H. Dhindsa (Derby City Council)\*
- Councillor J. Khan (Derby City Council)\*
- Councillor B. Sandhu (Derby City Council)\*

#### *Local Organisations*

- St Mary's Parish Church, Chaddesden
- GMB Midland & East Coast
- New Zealand Community Association

#### *Local Residents*

- 80 local residents

#### *Petitions*

- One petition submitted by Councillor A. Wisdish (Derby City Council)

\*Signatories to a single submission.

## Appendix D

### Glossary and abbreviations

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

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

The  
Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
for England

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Local Government Boundary Commission for  
England  
1st Floor, Windsor House  
50 Victoria Street, London  
SW1H 0TL

**Telephone:** 0330 500 1525

**Email:** [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk)

**Online:** [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)  
[www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

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