

# **Bassetlaw District Council**

## **Council**

**25th April 2024**

## **Chief Executive**

### **Local Government Boundary Commission for England Electoral Review of Bassetlaw District Council –Warding Arrangements**

Cabinet Member: Corporate and  
Financial Services  
Contact: Stephen Brown

#### **1. Public Interest Test**

- 1.1 The author of this report Stephen Brown has determined that the report is not confidential.

#### **2. Purpose of the Report**

- 2.1 To seek approval for a warding arrangement submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) as part of the Electoral Review of Bassetlaw.

#### **3. Background and Discussion**

- 3.1 As reported to Council in September 2023, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) has informed the Council of its decision to carry out an Electoral Review of the Council size (number of elected councillors) and the number of wards and ward boundaries for Bassetlaw District Council. The review process has started and final recommendations will be published in February 2025. Any changes that may be made will come into effect for the local government elections expected in May 2027. At the Council meeting held in December 2023 the Council agreed its Council Size and Electorate Forecast submission to the Commission.
- 3.2 On the 20th February 2024 commenced public consultation on the warding arrangements for the district based on a council size of 48 members. This was in line with the Council's proposals.
- 3.3 This stage of the review is to develop warding proposals based on 48 Members and the electorate forecast at 2030. At this time the Commission has published nothing, so the council have a blank canvass on which to make proposals. However, the number of councillors we put forward must add up to 48 and best comply with the three statutory criteria that govern electoral reviews, all of which carry equal weight. These are:
- **To deliver electoral equality for voters**, which means ensuring that each local councillor represents roughly the same number of electors.

- **To provide boundaries that reflect natural communities**, which means establishing electoral arrangements which, as far as possible, maintain local ties and where boundaries are easily identifiable.
- **The need to secure effective and convenient local government**, which means ensuring that the new wards can be represented effectively by their elected representative(s) and that the new electoral arrangements as a whole allow the local authority to conduct its business effectively.

These are known as the statutory criteria. As the LGBCE takes decisions on the most appropriate electoral arrangements, it will seek to achieve a balance between these criteria.

There is also subsidiary criteria, as follows:

- to use whole parishes as building blocks, wherever possible.

### 3.4 Warding and naming proposals

In assessing potential warding arrangements against the first of the criteria, electoral equality, the Council has taken account of the fact that the Commission tries to ensure that, for all wards, the electors per councillor ratio at the end of the Review's forecast period (2030 in this case) is no more than 10% different from the District average. 10.499%, for example, is acceptable, but 10.5% is (generally) seen as too high. The Electorate forecast is that the number of electors will be 97,023 by 2030. Assuming, as indicated above, a total of 48 Members, this gives an average of 2,021.3 electors per seat as of 2030. Therefore, for all proposed wards to have ratios within the +/-10%.

The following table illustrates the figures:

The  
Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
for England

Variance	Electorate per 1 councillor	Electorate per 2 councillors	Electorate per 3 councillors
10%	2,223	4,446	6,669
9%	2,203	4,406	6,609
8%	2,183	4,365	6,548
7%	2,162	4,325	6,487
6%	2,142	4,285	6,427
5%	2,122	4,244	6,366
4%	2,102	4,204	6,306
3%	2,082	4,163	6,245
2%	2,061	4,123	6,184
1%	2,041	4,082	6,124
0%	2,021	4,042	6,063
-1%	2,001	4,002	6,002
-2%	1,981	3,961	5,942
-3%	1,960	3,921	5,881
-4%	1,940	3,880	5,820
-5%	1,920	3,840	5,760
-6%	1,900	3,799	5,699
-7%	1,880	3,759	5,639
-8%	1,859	3,719	5,578
-9%	1,839	3,678	5,517
-10%	1,819	3,638	5,457

- 3.5 The electoral forecasts for 2030 show, that there would 11 out of the existing 25 wards with an electorate ratio of 10.5% or more.

<b>Check your data</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2030</b>
Number of councillors:	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>
Overall electorate:	<b>88,427</b>	<b>89,742</b>	<b>97,023</b>
Average electorate per cllr:	<b>1,842</b>	<b>1,870</b>	<b>2,021</b>

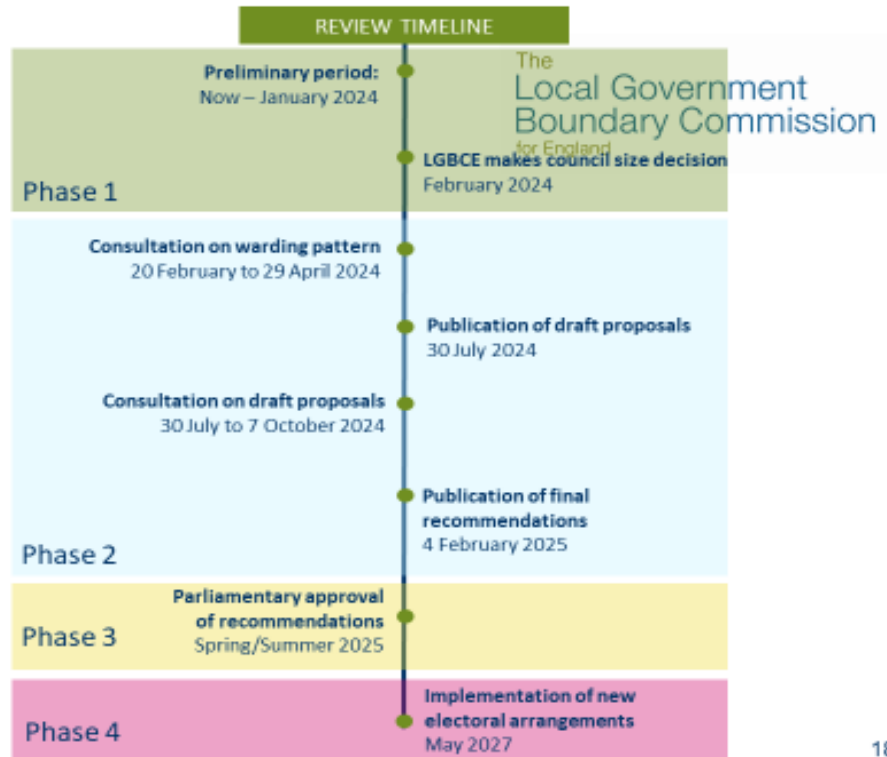
Scroll left to see the first table

Fill in the name of each ward once	Fill in the number of councillors per ward			These cells will show you the electorate and variance. They change depending what you enter in the table to the left.
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Name of ward	Number of cllrs per ward	Electorate 2021	Variance 2021	Electorate 2023	Variance 2030	Electorate 2023	Variance 2030
Beckingham	1	1,937	5%	2,054	10%	2,335	16%
Blyth	1	1,841	0%	1,865	0%	1,882	-7%
Carlton	3	4,489	-19%	4,696	-16%	5,462	-10%
Clayworth	1	1,512	-18%	1,514	-19%	1,546	-24%
East Markham	1	2,020	10%	2,072	11%	2,125	5%
East Retford East	3	5,418	-2%	5,499	-2%	5,990	-1%
East Retford North	3	5,062	-8%	5,140	-8%	5,721	-6%
East Retford South	2	3,794	3%	3,816	2%	4,122	2%
East Retford West	2	3,822	4%	3,777	1%	3,786	-6%
Everton	1	2,022	10%	1,990	6%	2,022	0%
Harworth & Bircotes	3	6,453	17%	6,699	19%	8,184	35%
Langold	1	1,939	5%	1,976	6%	2,531	25%
Misterton	1	2,004	9%	1,965	5%	2,072	3%
Rampton	1	1,686	-8%	1,667	-11%	1,728	-15%
Ranskill	1	1,881	2%	1,955	5%	2,086	3%
Sturton	1	1,854	1%	1,843	-1%	1,872	-7%
Sutton	1	1,667	-10%	1,653	-12%	1,700	-16%
Tuxford and Trent	2	3,469	-6%	3,495	-7%	3,667	-9%
Welbeck	1	1,492	-19%	1,479	-21%	1,667	-18%
Worksop East	3	4,823	-13%	4,753	-15%	4,864	-20%
Worksop North	3	7,209	30%	7,485	33%	7,986	32%
Worksop North East	3	4,934	-11%	5,000	-11%	5,204	-14%
Worksop North West	3	6,027	9%	6,395	14%	6,997	15%
Worksop South	3	5,542	0%	5,463	-3%	5,654	-7%
Worksop South East	3	5,530	0%	5,491	-2%	5,820	-4%

- 3.6 The cross-party Member Working Group has met on four occasions to look at a warding proposal that addresses this projected electorate variance imbalance and meets the statutory review criteria. The Working Group proposals are at Appendix A. Associated outline maps of the new wards are at Appendix B.

## 6. Timetable



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## 4. Implications

- a) For service users

The aim of the review is to devise a Council size and warding pattern that are convenient for local residents. There will be two phases of public consultation to provide an opportunity for local people to express their opinion on these matters.

- b) Strategic & Policy

An electoral review provides an opportunity to shape the Council for the future. The new Corporate Plan details the Council's corporate priorities for the next four years and, amongst other matters, it makes clear that the Council exists to support local people and improve the quality of life for our residents.

- c) Financial - Ref:24 /727

As the proposed number of Councillors is being proposed to remain at 48 by the Commission this will not create any additional costs.

- d) Legal – Ref: 015 /04 /2024

Section 55 – 59 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 gives the Commission the power to review the electoral arrangements of all, or any, principal councils in England.

The legislation states that 'the total number of members of the council' forms part of an authority's electoral arrangements. The Commission refers to this as 'council size'. The legislation does not set out how many Councillors each authority should have. It is the Commission's responsibility to determine the appropriate number of Councillors for each authority. The Commission will recommend a council size that, in its judgement, enables the council to take its decisions effectively, to discharge the business and responsibilities of the council successfully, and to provide for effective community leadership and representation.

Legislation places several obligations on the Commission in conducting the review and it also places a requirement on the Authority to, if requested by the LGBCE, provide any information as they may reasonably require.

e) Human Resources

The Review has required a significant volume of work to be undertaken by officers, partly in Democratic & Elections. It also required support from Communications, GIS and Planning teams. The next stages are led by the Commission so should be less onerous.

It should be noted that once the Review has started, any external events the Council has to contend with would not be considered as a basis for stopping the process and the Council must adhere to the published timetable.

f) Climate change, Environmental

There are none directly arising from the report,

g) Community Safety, Equality and Diversity

The review is conducted by the LGBCE and they are responsible for ensuring any equality, diversity, cohesion and integration issues are identified and addressed as part of the review process. The Council size submission will not impact on the requirement of the Public Sector Equality Duty but an equality impact screening assessment has been undertaken and was previously submitted to the Council in December 2023. The Electoral Review will support the LGBCE who are obligated under law to deliver electoral equality, reflect community interests and identities and promote effective and convenient local government. The Council has ensured that the Commission has been provided with information about local groups and organisations to ensure that their consultation is inclusive.

h) GDPR

There are none directly arising from the report.

i) This is a key decision, number KD 1005

## **5. Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations**

- 5.1 The second phase for an Electoral Review is to decide the appropriate warding proposals for the authority. Whilst the final decision is for the LGBCE, the Commission's preference is for an authority to actively engage with the process. Council warding submissions can be made by a range of stakeholders through a public consultation by the Commission. This includes the Council, elected representatives, political parties, parish councils, and the public. As such, if this Council either do not make a submission, or fail to make a coherent case, the LGBCE will base its recommendation for the future wards of the council on other submissions they receive.
- 5.2 The risk to the Council is that any changes the LGBCE may make to Council ward boundaries may not allow the Council to properly represent its constituents and respond effectively to local needs. However, the review process allows the Council to provide evidence in support of the future wards it feels is necessary to continue to properly represent constituents and to effectively conduct all aspects of Council business. This, and the public consultation periods, should be used to ensure the LGBCE can make a properly-informed decision.

## **6. Recommendations**

- 6.1 That Council approves the proposals for future ward boundaries document, attached as Appendix A, for the submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England recommending 26 wards and 48 Councillors.
- 6.2 The Electoral Review Working Group be retained in order to respond to any consequential matters arising from the Bassetlaw Electoral Review and to make recommendations to Council as appropriate.

### **Background Papers**

**Electoral Review of Bassetlaw District  
Council – A Guide for Councillors  
LGBCE  
Electoral Reviews – Guidance for  
Councillors LGBCE**

### **Location**

**Head of Corporate Services**

# Bassetlaw District Council Draft Proposals for new ward boundaries April 2024

## Introduction

This commentary is designed to accompany the overall and individual ward maps for our draft proposals to submit to the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBCE) as part of their review into the local government ward boundaries of Bassetlaw District Council. In February 2024, the LGBCE agreed with our proposal that Bassetlaw Council should remain with 48 councillors. In co-ordinating with the LGBCE, using their methodology, we have projected that the likely electorate of Bassetlaw Council in 2030 will be 97,023. In line with this the average ward electorate should be 2,021, all the wards we have proposed will have electorates within 10% of this figure in 2030 with the exception of *East Markham and Worksop North*. The rationale for that variance beyond 10% is set out below. This commentary will detail, with justification, our proposed changes to the current ward boundaries by geographical areas. The changes proposed are to ensure that electorates will be rebalanced and will remain so moving forward. We do propose a number of changes or amendments to the current ward names. We have tried to avoid the use of ‘compass point’ descriptions as is currently the case in the two main towns. These do not reflect how people describe areas in the towns. In rural areas we have generally used the convention of naming after the largest community.

## Boundary Proposals

These proposals were approved at the extraordinary meeting of Bassetlaw District Council held on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024. (*Resolution to be inserted if Council approval confirmed.*)

## Bassetlaw Geography

The district of Bassetlaw is the most northerly in Nottinghamshire, bordering Lincolnshire to the east and north-east, South Yorkshire to the north and north-west and Derbyshire to the west. It is predominantly rural in nature, with the A1 bisecting the district roughly north-west to south-west, running between the two main centres of population- Worksop and Retford. The Sheffield to Lincoln railway line connects both towns. The ‘Robin Hood’ line connects Worksop to Nottingham. Retford has a station on the East Coast mainline which runs north- south through the district.

With a population of 117,804 Bassetlaw comprises 14 per cent of Nottinghamshire's total population, although it covers around 30 per cent of the county's area (some 63,738 hectares). The district contains 67 parishes, but the towns of Worksop and Retford are unparished and covered by 'Charter Trustees'. Worksop comprises 39 per cent of the district's total electorate. Of the remainder, Retford comprises 20 per cent and Harworth & Bircotes 7 per cent. The rest of the electorate is dispersed across the more rural areas of the district.

For district warding purposes the recommendations are based on the following

- (a) Rural wards in the west - Carlton, Langold, Blyth, Harworth & Bircotes and Welbeck
- (b) Rural wards in the east - Beckingham, Misterton, Tuxford and Trent, Rampton, Sturton, Clayworth, Rampton, Everton, Ranskill and Sutton.
- (c) East Retford (four wards)
- (d) Worksop (six wards)

(All projected electorate figures are at 2030 as required by the Commission)

**(a) Rural wards in the West**

Ward name:	<b>CARLTON</b>
Current variance:	The current variance is -16% which places it outside the Commission's level of tolerance. The ward shows a projected electorate of 5,462 and has three Councillors (1,821 per Councillor) which is a variance of -10%. This places it on the limit of the accepted variance.
Context:	The ward mirrors the boundaries of Carlton-in-Lindrick Parish Council, one of the largest in Bassetlaw.  The current ward includes the Peaks Hill Farm development site on the edge of Worksop. The Commission has advised that for the purposes of the review, this site must continue to be included in the ward as they do not have the power to change Parish Council boundaries. It would be a matter for the District Council to consider that through a subsequent Community Governance Review.
Proposal:	To retain Carlton ward with 3 Councillors based on the above boundaries.
Projected variance:	-9.9%. An electorate of 5,463
Geographical justification:	To the north, there is the settlement of Langold which itself has a growing population needing more, not less, representation. Historically, there has been a strong perception that the Carlton and Langold communities are distinct, with the Country Park and Langold Lake providing a strong point of differentiation.



	<p>To the east, there is a large rural area spreading to the A1. This has only a very small population, limiting the ability to redraw the eastern ward boundaries.</p> <p>To the south, the ward is characterised by open countryside that forms a natural break with Worksop. For the population here to be used to rebalance numbers, it makes most sense to use the existing parish boundaries rather than creating new ones. The impact of the future Peak Hills Farm development would be considered through a subsequent Community Governance Review and associated consultation.</p> <p>To the west, the existing ward is constrained by the county boundary with Rotherham and cannot be changed.</p>
<p>Community justification:</p>	<p>Carlton in Lindrick has a strong sense of identity and community spirit. It is designated as a local service centre in the draft Bassetlaw Local Plan. There are range of shops and services and social facilities that are used by residents. These include the Civic Centre, two primary schools, Carlton Social Club, Youth Centre, Play areas Library and Post Office.</p> <p>Although there are distinct areas within the ward (e.g. 'Old Carlton', 'Wallingwells'), the area as a whole is seen a distinct community. This is reflected in the Carlton in Lindrick Neighbourhood Plan which reflects the boundaries of the Parish Council which includes the smaller hamlets of Wigthorpe, Costhorpe and Wallingwells.</p> <p>To the northern side of the ward, the area of Costhorpe falls within the settlement, as it has coalesced with the main settlement to the south. The community would not welcome being split from Carlton itself.</p> <p>The development of the former Firbeck Colliery site will provide a greater mix of properties on the north side of the ward, meaning existing connections will be enhanced from the development site into Langold Country Park. The Neighbourhood Plan states that the integrity and character of the gap between Carlton and Langold should be preserved, to keep two distinct places.</p> <p>The catchment area of the two Carlton Primary Schools - Kingston Park Junior and Ramsden School - do not extend into Langold ward.</p>

Ward name:	<b>LANGOLD</b>
Current variance:	<p>The current ward has an electorate of 1,976 and has one Councillor which is a variance of 6%.</p> <p>The variance of the ward is set to significantly increase and be +25% by 2030 as a result of significant development. This places it well outside the Commission's tolerance level.</p>
Context:	The ward reflects the boundary of Hodsock Parish (the Parish consists of two wards - Hodsock and Langold).
Proposal:	The Council proposes that a <b>BLYTH &amp; LANGOLD</b> ward be created with two Councillors. This would comprise of the Parishes of Langold, Styrrup with Oldcotes and Blyth. The Parish of Scrooby would move to the amended Ranskill ward (see later in the report).
Projected variance:	3.2%. An electorate of 4,170
Geographical justification:	<p>The north of the proposed ward is formed by the existing ward boundary of Harworth.</p> <p>The east is rural and sparsely populated. The A1 forms part of the boundary and the River Ryton forms a natural boundary. These factors would negate any expansion in a westerly direction.</p> <p>To its south and only 2 miles away is the larger settlement of Carlton in Lindrick. The Langold Country Park provides a natural barrier between the two. The Hodsock &amp; Langold Neighbourhood Plan states that the integrity and character of this gap should be preserved helping to keep Langold and Carlton in Lindrick two distinct places.</p> <p>To the west, the ward would be constrained by the County boundary with Rotherham and cannot be changed.</p>
Community justification:	<p>The settlement of Langold is classified as a Local Service Centre in BDC's Core Strategy. With a well- established school, a range of recreational facilities and several local shops, the village enjoys a strong sense of community cohesion. With a well- established school, a range of recreational facilities and several local shops, the village enjoys a strong sense of community cohesion. This proposed ward would partly mirror the County Council electoral division which encompasses Langold with Blyth. Around 300 dwellings is being developed to north side of Langold bringing it closer to Oldcotes. The 21 bus route links Langold to Oldcotes and Styrrup The catchment area for Langold Dyscarr Primary School extends into Oldcotes. Hodsock Priory is a site of historical significance and a regional visitor attraction. The 'Hodsock snowdrops' attract large visitor numbers and access is via Blyth.</p>

Ward name:	<b>BLYTH</b>
Current variance:	The current electorate is 1,865 and has one Councillor, a variance of 0%. The current ward shows a projected electorate of 1,882 which is a variance of -7%.
Context:	The ward consists of three Parishes - Blyth, Scrooby and Styrrup-with-Oldcotes
Proposal:	The Council proposes that a <b>BLYTH &amp; LANGOLD</b> ward be created with two Councillors. This would comprise of the Parishes of Hodsock, Styrrup with Oldcotes and Blyth. The Parish of Scrooby would move to the amended Ranskill ward (see later in the report).
Projected variance:	3.2%. An electorate of 4,170
Geographical justification:	<p>The north of the proposed ward is formed by the existing ward boundary of Harworth.</p> <p>The east is rural and sparsely populated. The A1 forms part of the boundary and the River Ryton forms a natural boundary. These factors would negate any expansion in a westerly direction.</p> <p>To its south and only 2 miles away is the larger settlement of Carlton in Lindrick. The Langold Country Park provides a natural barrier between the two. The Hodsock &amp; Langold Neighbourhood Plan states that the integrity and character of this gap should be preserved helping to keep Langold and Carlton in Lindrick two distinct places.</p> <p>To the west, the ward would be constrained by the County boundary with Rotherham and cannot be changed.</p>
<b>Community justification:</b>	<p>Blyth has a Neighbourhood Plan and there are a range of facilities including the Barnby Memorial Hall, shops, post office, medical surgery, several pubs, cricket ground &amp; pavilion, bowling green and a number of play areas. There is significant historical focus and the community is also impacted by its proximity to the A1.</p> <p>This new ward would partly mirror the County Council electoral division which encompasses Langold with Blyth. Around 300 dwellings is being developed to north side of Langold bringing it closer to Oldcotes. The 21 bus route links Langold to Oldcotes and Styrrup The catchment area for Langold Dyscarr Primary School extends into Oldcotes. Hodsock Priory is a site of historical significance and a regional visitor attraction. The 'Hodsock snowdrops' attract large visitor numbers and access is via Blyth.</p>

Ward name:	<b>HARWORTH</b>
Current variance:	The current ward shows a projected electorate of 6,699 and has three Councillors (2,233 per Councillor) which is a variance of 19%. The ward shows a projected electorate of 8,184 (2,728 per Councillor) which is a variance of 35%. This is well beyond the Commission's tolerance and would trigger a review.
Context:	<p>The current Harworth ward is based on the boundary of the Harworth &amp; Bircotes Town Council.</p> <p>Prior to the 2000 Review this area was covered by two wards of two Councillors both of which were under the variance which resulted in amalgamation into one ward.</p>
Proposal:	The Council proposes that the two wards be created within the existing boundary of the current Harworth ward. This would be <b>HARWORTH &amp; BIRCOTES EAST</b> with two Councillors and <b>HARWORTH &amp; BIRCOTES WEST</b> with two Councillors.
Projected variance:	<p>Harworth and Bircotes East would be -6.0%. An electorate of 3,798.</p> <p>Harworth and Bircotes West would be 8.6%. An electorate of 4,388.</p>
Geographical justification:	<p>The northern boundary of the ward is defined by the county boundary with Doncaster along the A631.</p> <p>To the east the River Ryton forms a natural boundary.</p> <p>The southern boundary is formed by what was the old railway line serving the former Harworth colliery.</p> <p>To the west is the A1 and the County boundary with Doncaster.</p> <p>The Harworth area is a growing urban area which has few common characteristics with surrounding rural areas. This, coupled with the constraints of the County boundary limits scope with any amalgamation with other areas.</p>
Community justification:	There has been significant housing growth over a number of years in the community and more around the ongoing regeneration of the former Harworth Colliery. This reflects the aspirations of the Harworth & Bircotes Neighbourhood Plan. The town has benefitted from significant investment and regeneration in recent years. There is a good range of shops and services and the town benefits from easy access to the A1 (M) and South Yorkshire.

Ward name:	<b>WELBECK</b>
Current variance:	The current ward has an electorate of 1,479 and one Councillor which is a variance of -21%. The projected electorate 1,667 which is a variance of -18%. This places it well outside the Commission's tolerance.
Context:	The ward sits in the south west corner of Bassetlaw. It comprises of the Parishes of Carburton, Clumber & Hardwick, Norton, Cuckney, Holbeck & Welbeck, Elkesley and Nether Langwith. Elkesley was added to the ward under the 2000 Review as the level of elector inequality was too low.
Proposal:	To amend the Welbeck ward by aligning the southern boundary of Worksop along the A616, A60 and A57. This will bring rural parts of the associated Worksop wards into Welbeck but retain its rural nature. There will be one Councillor.
Projected variance:	-6.9%. An electorate of 1,882
Geographical justification:	The northern part of the ward is very sparsely populated until it meets the Worksop boundary. An alignment with the main roads would provide a stronger boundary line and provide a clear demarcation between urban and rural.  To the east of the ward is the Clumber Park and then the Parish of Elkesley.  The south of the ward is formed by the district boundary with Mansfield.  To its west it is constrained by the County boundary with Derbyshire.
Community justification:	The Parishes of Norton, Cuckney, Holbeck and Holbeck Woodhouse recently combined, reflecting their small nature.  The villages sit within conservation areas while Welbeck sits within a Grade II listed registered park and garden. Welbeck Abbey is a Grade I listed building at the centre of the Welbeck Estate. The estate also includes a deer park, ancient woodland and forestry, lakes, farmland and grazing covering approximately 23sq miles. The Harley Art Gallery is already a tourist destination. This is complemented by the Welbeck Farm Shop, Bake House, Artisan School, coffee shop and brewery that are award winning and nationally highly regarded. Most areas used as playing fields, parks and open spaces are owned by Welbeck Estates with leases or less formal arrangements in place for their use by local people.

The small play area at Norton and playing field at Holbeck are leased to Bassetlaw District Council. Cuckney has a church, pub, primary school (whose catchment area covers most of the western side of the ward) with sports hall, cricket ground and village hall. Buses run through the area at 2 hourly intervals between Edwinstowe and Worksop 6 days. There are a variety of village clubs, church events and social groups in Welbeck Village, Norton and Cuckney. There are also sports clubs for tennis, bowls and archery, a Gymnastics Club and a Musical Theatre Company. The Cuckney Cricket Clubhouse built in 2002 is well used and maintained and provides rooms of various sizes that can be hired for community activities. The former Welbeck colliery site is on the Bassetlaw/Mansfield district boundary. Immediately to the south of the site is the former mining village of Meden Vale (known as Welbeck Colliery Village until the 1960's). There are plans to develop the site.

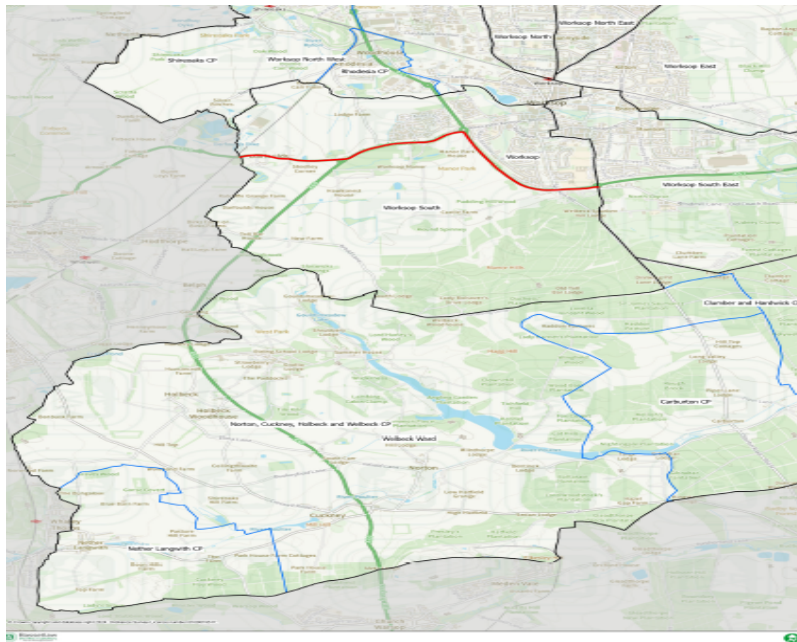
Nether Langwith is on the border with Derbyshire Across the border are the villages of Langwith which has station on the Robin Hood line that links Worksop to Nottingham. Whaley The A632, the main road running east-west across the Neighbourhood Area Plan for the community.

The parishes of Clumber and Hardwick and Carburton sit in the centre of the ward and are sparsely populated but dominated by Clumber Park owned by the National Trust which is the top ten of the most visited outdoor attractions in the country.

Elkesley was added to the ward under the 2000 Review as the level of elector inequality was too low. Elkesley has never felt connected to the rest of ward. There are no natural linkages due to Clumber forming a barrier. The removal of Elkesley would however leave the ward with a variance of - 49%. Potentially electors could be moved in from the southern parts of the Worksop South and Worksop South East wards. There are no natural links between the town areas with the Welbeck area with elongated travel routes via the A60 to the western side and via the A1 to the eastern side. There are concerns that such a proposal would take the focus away from the rural nature of this ward.

The Parish of Elkesley is located at the far east of the ward but is the largest community in the Welbeck ward. The A1 dissects the Parish running diagonally from the north-west to the south-east. Elkesley continues to thrive as a Rural Service Centre. It has a Primary School (whose catchment area is largely based on the Parish) Playing field (with Multi Use Games Area) and

	Village shop. Elkesley was moved into Welbeck ward in the 2000 Review to address elector inequality. Although it is disconnected from the rest of the ward by Clumber Park. This was considered a more preferable to extending into Worksop as there was opposition to that option.
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**Map1: Proposed revised ward boundary for Welbeck with Worksop South**

**b) Rural wards in the East**

Ward name:	<b>BECKINGHAM</b>
Current variance:	The current ward has an electorate of 2,054 and one Councillor which is a variance of 10%. The projected electorate is 2,335 a variance of 16%. This places it outside the Commission’s tolerance.
Context:	The Beckingham ward consists of the Parishes of Beckingham, Saundby and Walkeringham.
Proposal:	That the Beckingham ward be retained but the Newells Terrace area be moved into Misterton. This would require the area to be created as a ward of Walkeringham Parish.
Projected variance:	9.0% with a projected electorate of 2,202.
Geographical justification:	The northern part of the ward is formed by the boundary with the Misterton ward. There would be a minor adjustment to incorporate the Newells Terrace area.  To the east the River Trent is the boundary and this is also the County boundary with Lincolnshire.

	<p>The southern boundary is with the Sturton ward partly formed by the Saundby beck.</p> <p>To its west the boundary is with the Everton ward</p>
<p>Community justification:</p>	<p>Both Walkeringham and Beckingham have Neighbourhood Plans reflecting their distinct and separate nature. Walkeringham offers a small range of services and facilities namely the Village Hall, a pub and a primary school. A post office service was provided from the Village Hall but this has ceased and there is uncertainty over the future use of the Parish church which is currently closed.</p> <p>To address the variance it is proposed to retain the ward but move the Newells Terrace, Bramley Way, Pippin Close, Fox Covert lane of Walkeringham Parish into the Misterton Ward. The area would remain part of Walkeringham Parish Council but the Parish would require to be warded by the Commission. The area is one mile from the centre of Misterton and two to Walkeringham. The residents of this area use facilities of Misterton e.g. shops, play areas. Misterton Fire Station is on Fox Covert Lane.</p> <p>The postal addresses for this area are 'Misterton', the rest of the postal addresses within the Parish are 'Walkeringham'. It is the only part of Walkeringham Parish that falls into the catchment area of Misterton Primary and Nursery School. The Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan clearly illustrates the distinction of this area from the rest of the Parish by the fact it is not specifically included. In contrast, during the consultation process for the Misterton Neighbourhood Plan, the Newells Terrace area, although it is Walkeringham Parish was included in development boundary for Misterton, given its proximity and linkages. The Neighbourhood Plan notes the clear distinction in this area as Idle Lowlands - in common with Misterton.</p>





**Map 2: Revised boundary between Misterton and Beckingham wards**

Ward name:	<b>MISTERTON</b>
Current variance:	The current electorate is 1,965 and there is one Councillor which is a variance of 5%. The projected electorate is 2,072 a variance of 3%.
Context:	The ward consists of the Parishes of Misterton and West Stockwith.
Proposal:	That the Misterton ward be retained but the Newells Terrace area, currently within the Beckingham ward be moved into the Misterton ward. This would require the area to be created as a ward of Walkeringham Parish.
Projected variance:	9.1% an electorate of 2,205.
Geographical justification:	<p>The north of the ward is formed by the County boundary with North Lincolnshire'</p> <p>The ward is defined by the River Trent to the east and the county boundary with Lincolnshire.</p> <p>The south is largely rural and sparsely populated until Walkeringham.</p> <p>The west is also very rural until the communities of the Everton ward with whom there is little connection.</p>
Community justification:	<p>Misterton is a larger village six miles northwest of Gainsborough, on the A161 between Beckingham and Goole. The Doncaster to Lincoln railway line runs north-south to the east of the village. The village is the last along the A161 road (going north), before Lincolnshire - the Isle of Axholme. The B1403 meets the main road here, which is for Gringley-on-the-Hill. The village has a range of facilities and services including Post Office, Shop, Library/ Parish centre, Primary School. Fire station, Churches, pub and sports ground and play facilities. There is a strong community identity reinforced by its isolation from larger communities. There is a Misterton Watch and Community Group, Misterton Facebook.</p> <p>Misterton has its own Neighbourhood Plan. During the consultation process for the Plan, the Newells Terrace area, although it is Walkeringham Parish was included in development boundary for Misterton, given its proximity and linkages.</p> <p>West Stockwith is a village with one main street and a few side roads. It adjoins the River Trent. The Stockwith Road links the area with Misterton at the Newells Terrace area.</p>

Ward name:	<b>EVERTON</b>
Current variance:	The current ward has an electorate of 1,990 and has one Councillors which is a variance of 6%.
Context:	The ward comprises the Parish areas of Everton, Gringley-on-the-Hill, Misson and Scaftworth.
Proposal:	It is proposed to retain Everton as a single Member ward.
Projected variance:	0%. An electorate of 2,022.
Geographical justification:	<p>The north of the ward is formed by the Misson area which forms the county boundary of Nottinghamshire with both Doncaster and North Lincolnshire. The access to Misson from Nottinghamshire requires travel into South Yorkshire and then back into the County.</p> <p>The eastern side of the ward comprises of the boundaries with Misterton and Beckingham.</p> <p>The A631 Gainsborough Road, whist not the actual boundary line forms a distinct barrier between these communities along the east –west ridgeline and communities to the south. The River Idle forms the southern ward boundary and provides a natural boundary that would restrict links to any combination in that direction.</p> <p>Much of the boundary to the west is formed by the County boundary with Doncaster and then the River Idle.</p>
Community justification:	<p>Each area has its own neighbourhood plan reflecting the strong individual nurture of these communities.</p> <p>Everton village is located on the Gainsborough/Bawtry Road (A631), which runs east- west through the village. There are bus services to Retford (8 miles away), Doncaster (12 miles away) and Gainsborough (9 miles). Robin Hood Airport is 7 miles from Everton. Everton Parish is fortunate to have a good range of local recreational and community facilities. These include a village hall, recreation ground including sports field, tennis, bowls and children’s play area (provided by the Metcalfe Trust), a church, and primary school. Everton Cemetery is maintained by the Everton &amp; Scaftworth Joint Burial Committee, whose members are the Everton Parish Councillors. The Metcalfe Charitable Trust and Metcalfe Recreation Committee also cover the Scaftworth Parish area.</p> <p>Misson is classed as a Rural Service Centre in BDC’s Core Strategy. It forms the northern boundary of the ward which forms the county boundary of Nottinghamshire with Doncaster.</p>

	<p>The River Idle makes up the southern and part of the parish boundary and there is no connecting vehicular or foot roots from the southern part of the ward. To access Misson you have to exit Nottinghamshire go into South Yorkshire and back into the county. The nearest Doctor's Surgery and Post Office is in Bawtry 3 miles away. The bus service between Misson and Bawtry runs 5 times a day Monday to Friday and 4 times a day on Saturday and served by Stagecoach Service 27.</p>
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Ward name:	<b>RANSKILL</b>
Current variance:	The current ward has an electorate of 1,955 and has Councillor which is a variance of 5%. The projected electorate is 2,086 a variance of 3%.
Context:	The ward consists of the parishes of Mattersey, Ranskill and Torworth.
Proposal:	That the Ranskill ward to remain a single member ward but to remove Torworth Parish Council and to include Scrooby Parish Council from the current Blyth ward.
Projected variance:	5.8%. An electorate of 2,139.
Geographical justification:	<p>Scrooby Parish which is based in the Blyth ward, lies just to the north of Ranskill. The vehicular routes from Scrooby to the rest of the Ranskill ward are much closer than to Blyth and the other communities in the Blyth ward. It is over 4 miles by either of only two routes.</p> <p>The River Idle forms a natural boundary with the Everton ward and with Clayworth Ward to the east.</p> <p>To the south the boundary is with the Sutton ward.</p>
Community justification:	<p>The villages are distinct and each has its own Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>Mattersey and Mattersey Thorpe are interconnected due to their close proximity and because they share of facilities. Mattersey village is classed as a Rural Service Centre in BDC's Core Strategy due to the existence of a primary school and shop.</p> <p>Ranskill Parish lies between two water courses, the River Ryton a mile to the west and the River Idle two miles to the east. A significant proportion of the land between the River Idle and the railway line is collectively known as the Idle Valley Waterfowl and Nature Reserve and is a large expanse of now flooded gravel pits Ranskill Primary School is a popular local</p>

	<p>school 67% of the pupils come from Ranskill. There is a pub, shop and range of community based activities. The A638 the former great North Road connects Ranskill and Torworth. In the 2023 Community Governance Review both Ranskill and Torworth Parish Councils, whilst having a joint burial committee, presented cases around their distinctive nature and not looking for any closer integration.</p> <p>Scrooby Parish which is based in the Blyth ward, lies just to the north of Ranskill. It is Scrooby's association with the Pilgrim Fathers that represents the village's most significant and enduring historical legacy. Indeed, few English villages can claim such a pivotal role in the colonisation of the United States. Within the Scrooby Neighbourhood area, there are two separate built-up areas including Scrooby Village and a small collection of dwellings at Scrooby Top which runs along part of the A631 to the south of the Parish between Ranskill and Scrooby. The catchment area of Ranskill Primary School includes Scrooby. A strength identified in the Scrooby Neighbourhood Plan is its proximity to nearby larger settlements such as Ranskill.</p>
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Ward name:	<b>SUTTON</b>
Current variance:	The current electorate is 1,653 with one Councillor which is a variance of -12%. The projected variance is -16% which places it outside the Commission's tolerance figure.
Context:	The ward consists of the Parishes of Babworth, Barnby Moor, Lound and Sutton.
Proposal:	To retain Sutton as a single member ward but to include Torworth Parish from the current Ranskill Ward.
Projected variance:	-6.5%. An electorate of 1,890.
Geographical justification:	<p>To the north Barnby Moor links closely to Torworth via the A638.</p> <p>The River Idle makes up the southern and eastern of the ward and forms a natural boundary to the east. The boundary with Retford restricts any potential eastern links.</p> <p>The A1 forms a physical barrier to the west and south.</p>
Community justification:	The A638, the former Great North Road, runs north south through the ward as does the East Coast mainline. The communities link together through the main road.

	<p>The Idle Valley Nature Reserve is a Site of Special Scientific Interest. It covers 319 hectares of the Sutton -cum- Lound, the Parish is 450 hectares in total size. The distinct community is reflected in the Sutton-cum-Lound Neighbourhood Plan. Lound is a linear village with the main artery, the old medieval road, now Town Street, running roughly north south. The village has limited facilities that include a pub and village hall but it has a strong identity as reflected in its Neighbourhood Plan. Linghurst Lakes and Idle Valley Nature Reserve form a strong natural barrier with Clayworth ward to the east. The larger Idle Valley Nature Reserve extends into the Parish. Chainbridge Lane has a tarmac surface as far as the concrete works giving way to hardcore toward the "chain bridge" over the River Idle and beyond to Hayton in the Clayworth ward. This limits the east-west access.</p> <p>Torworth Parish sits just to the north of Barnby Moor with both communities connected by the A638. Torworth also has a direct route to Lound. The former great North Road connects Ranskill and Torworth. In the 2023 Community Governance Review both Ranskill and Torworth Parish Councils, whilst having a joint burial committee, presented cases around their distinctive nature and not looking for any closer integration.</p>
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Ward name:	<b>CLAYWORTH</b>
Current variance:	The current electorate is 1,514 of and there is one Councillor which is a variance of -19%. The projected variance is -24% which is well outside the Commission's tolerance figure.
Context:	The ward consists of the Parishes of Clarborough, Clayworth, Hayton and Wiseton.
Proposal:	To move the Parish of North and South Wheatley from the Sturton ward into the ward that would be renamed <b>Clarborough</b> .
Projected variance:	1.8%. An electorate of 2,058.
Geographical justification:	<p>To the north of the ward the A631 which runs east –west on a ridge results in little linkage with the communities further north.</p> <p>The eastern side is formed by a sparsely populated rural area with the closest communities being North and South Wheatley linked by the A620 and the Clayworth road.</p> <p>The Retford town boundary forms the southern boundary.</p>

	<p>The River Idle and a number of wetland areas form a natural boundary to the west with only Chainbridge Lane formed from hard core, restricting access to the neighbouring Sutton ward.</p>
<p>Community justification:</p>	<p>These are distinct communities with their own Neighbourhood Plans.</p> <p>The B1403 runs north-south through the ward providing a contacting line with the communities. The Chesterfield canal links Clarborough, Hayton and Clayworth. The River Idle and a number of wetland areas form a natural boundary to the west with only Chainbridge Lane formed from hard core, this links access to the neighbouring Sutton ward.</p> <p>Clarborough is classed as a Rural Service Centre in BDC's Core Strategy. Within the Plan area there are two pubs, a village shop, a primary school, a children's play area and playing fields. There is one Village Hall for both Clarborough and Welham. It is used every day. The Clarborough facilities are the primary, local infrastructure support facilities for Hayton village.</p> <p>Hayton Village is a linear village about a mile in length running from The Boat Inn in the north to the adjoining village of Clarborough immediately to the south of Hayton village. The Chesterfield Canal runs alongside the village.</p> <p>North and South Wheatley is currently located in the Sturton ward. The area has separate designation within the Sturton ward Neighbourhood Plan, acknowledging that there are distinct areas. The A620 provides a direct link from the Wheatleys to the southern area of Clayworth ward and the Wheatley Road links to the northern side. The catchment area for the North Wheatley Church of England Primary School is largely confined to the Parish boundary and does not extend further into the Sturton ward. The United Benefice of the Clays demonstrates the link with Wheatley to the Clayworth area - the United churches of Leverton - St Martin's Bole, St Peter &amp; Paul, Sturton-le- Steeple, St John the Baptist - Clarborough &amp; Welham and St Peter's - Hayton.</p>

Ward name:	<b>EAST MARKHAM</b>
Current variance:	The current ward has an electorate of 2,072 and has one Councillor which is a variance of 11%. The projected electorate is 2,125, a variance of 5%
Context:	The ward consists of the Parishes of Askham, Bevercotes, Bothamsall, East Markham, Eaton, Gamston, Haughton, West Drayton and West Markham.
Proposal:	That the East Markham ward be retained a single Member ward but with the inclusion of part of grouped parish of Headon-cum-Upton from the current Rampton ward. This would involve dividing Headon-cum-Upton, Grove and Stokeham grouped parish by individual parishes Headon cum Upton to East Markham ward; Stokeham to the proposed Trent ward; Grove to the proposed Leverton (Sturton) ward.
Projected variance:	13.7% with an electorate of 2,298 The Council is mindful that that would place it outside the Commission's tolerance figure however we believe that it would be difficult to find an alternative given the number of wards in eastern part of the district that require to be adjusted.
Geographical justification:	<p>To the north of the ward it adjoins the town boundaries of Retford.</p> <p>The urban area of Tuxford provides a marked distinction to the east.</p> <p>The district boundary with Newark &amp; Sherwood forms part of the southern boundary together with the boundary with Tuxford.</p> <p>The western side is largely formed with Elkesley parish in the Welbeck ward. Any removal of Elkesley would have a significant impact on the future variance of Welbeck. A small part of the west is also restricted by the District boundary with Mansfield.</p>
Community justification:	<p>A number of these communities have a Neighbourhood Plan reflecting their distinct nature.</p> <p>East Markham Parish is bordered by the East Coast Main Line, the A57 and the A1. The village has an annual Apple Day in October to celebrate the abundant apple harvest. The village school has 84% of pupils coming from within the village and the neighbouring village of Askham. The school plays a key role in sustaining a sense of community cohesion.</p> <p>A Post Office service operates from the village hall for 2 hours twice a week. Rayners Field was created in 2005 following action by the Parish Council. In 2012 it was established as a Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Field which secured its designation</p>



	as a Field in Trust. Rayners Field is a focal point for sporting activities, including football and cricket clubs. In addition, there is a tennis and bowls club which operates from a second site on Quakefield Road (there are 2 tennis courts). Badminton is played in the village hall from September to April. There are bus links to Retford, Tuxford, Newark & Lincoln.
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Ward name:	<b>RAMPTON</b>
Current variance:	The current ward has an electorate of 1,667 and has one Councillor which is a variance of -11 %. The projected variance is -15% placing it outside the Commission's tolerance figure.
Context:	The ward consists of the Parishes of Grove, Headon-cum-Upton, Rampton & Woodbeck, South Leverton, Stokeham Treswell and Cottam.
Proposal:	<p>That the Rampton ward is removed. Parts of the current ward, the parishes of South Leverton and Treswell with Cottam; and the grouped parish of Headon-cum-Upton, Grove and Stokeham as Grove would be incorporated into the proposed Leverton ward.</p> <p>The Parish of Rampton and Woodbeck and the grouped parish of Stokeham would be incorporated into the revised Trent ward.</p> <p>This will require a warding arrangement of the Headon-cum-Upton, Grove and Stokeham Parish.</p>
Projected variance:	Incorporated in the revised wards proposals.
Geographical justification:	<p>To the north the ward boundary is with the current Sturton ward. The community of South Leverton is in close proximity to North Leverton and connected by Station Road.</p> <p>The eastern side of the ward boundary is formed by the River Trent.</p> <p>The south is rural and sparsely populated. Stokeham is closer to East Drayton and Laneham in the neighbouring Tuxford and Trent ward</p> <p>Links to the west are partly restricted by Retford.</p>
Community justification:	<p>The Neighbourhood Plans for these communities reflect their distinct identities but with little local interconnections.</p> <p>Rampton and Woodbeck are considered a 'Rural Service Centre'. The two communities are one and half miles apart. Rampton Hospital is one of only three high secure psychiatric</p>

	<p>hospitals for England and Wales. Sundown Adventure Land Theme Park is major employer and visitor attraction in the parish. Headon, Upton, Grove &amp; Stokeham Plan defines the distinct nature of these communities. Headon Village Hall is a community space that is used by all villages within the area. Treswell with Cottam are two separate villages. The former Cottam Power Station comprises an area of 348 ha which covers a significant part of the Parish to the east. The site is set to see significant development in the next decade.</p>
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Ward name:	<b>STURTON</b>
Current variance:	The current ward shows an electorate of 1,843 and has one Councillor which is a variance of -1%. The projected variance is -7% with an electorate of 1,872.
Context:	The ward consists of the Parishes of Bole, North Leverton with Hablesthorpe, North & South Wheatley, Sturton-le-Steeple and West Burton.
Proposal:	To have a single member ward based on the existing Sturton ward with the exception of North and South Wheatley (placed into the proposed revised Clayworth ward). Parts of the current Rampton ward, the parishes of South Leverton and Treswell with Cottam; and the grouped parish of Grove would be incorporated into the ward. The revised ward would be named <b>Leverton</b>
Projected variance:	7.3% with electorate of 2,169
Geographical justification:	<p>To boundary to the north with the Beckingham ward is sparsely populated.</p> <p>The River Trent forms the eastern boundary and is the County boundary with Lincolnshire.</p> <p>The south of the ward is very rural in nature with the communities of North Leverton and South Leverton in close proximity although currently in neighbouring wards.</p> <p>The western boundary is with the Clayworth ward.</p>
Community justification:	<p>In December 2022 the District Council approved the designation of three new neighbourhood areas to replace the existing Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Area. The new neighbourhood areas are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North and South Wheatley</li> <li>• North Leverton with Hablesthorpe</li> <li>• Sturton le Steeple, Bole, &amp; West Burton</li> </ul>

	<p>The West Burton site, which is home to a coal-fired power station owned by EDF, has been selected as the home of the ambitious STEP fusion energy programme, underpinning an industry expected to be worth billions to the UK economy. Delivering a prototype fusion energy plant at West Burton will bring massive investment to the area and is a game changer for our local economy. The villages most likely to be affected by development traffic are Treswell, Stokeham, East Drayton which are located to the west and south. South Leverton, North Leverton with Habbleshorpe, and Sturton le Steeple to the north. Bus services in the vicinity of the site are very limited. The nearest bus stop is on Town Street in Cottam which is served by the P190 Village Link Phone-a-Bus service between Tuxford and Retford. This is operated by Gem Mini Travel and operates between 1015-1825 hrs Monday to Saturday. There are four buses a day to Retford and three buses a day to Tuxford, Monday to Saturday, with services to/from Cottam needing to be pre-booked.</p> <p>Sturton C of E Primary School does not extended into North and South Wheatley. The catchment area for the North Wheatley Church of England Primary School is largely confined to the Parish boundary and does not extend further into the Sturton Ward. The A620 provides a direct link between the Wheatleys to the southern area of the Clayworth ward and the Wheatley Road links to Clayworth village.</p> <p>South Leverton in the neighbouring Tuxford and Trent ward is in close proximity to North Leverton and is linked by Station Road. The Leverton C of E Academy school is in North Leverton with its catchment area covering South Leverton.</p>
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Ward name:	<b>TUXFORD AND TRENT</b>
Current variance:	The current ward has an electorate of 3,495 and has two Councillors (1,748 per Councillor) which is a variance of - 13.5 %. The projected variance is -9.2% with an electorate of 3,667.
Context:	The ward consists of the Parishes of Darlton, Dunham-on-Trent, East Drayton, Laneham, Marnham, Normanton-on - Trent, Ragnall & Fledborough and Tuxford.
Proposal:	That a new single member ward based on the Tuxford Town Council boundaries be created. This will assists the delivery of its vision with a distinct ward and councillor rather than continuing in a much larger more rural ward. A single member Trent ward would be created with the following Parishes from the current Tuxford and Trent ward - Dunham-on-Trent with Ragnall, Fledborough and Darlton, East Drayton, Laneham,

	<p>and Normanton-on-Trent with Marnham. Parts of the current Rampton ward - Parish of Rampton and Woodbeck and the grouped parish of Stokeham would be included.</p>
<p>Projected variance:</p>	<p>The proposed Tuxford ward would have a variance of 9.1% an electorate of 2,204.</p> <p>The revised Trent ward would have a variance of 9.3% an electorate of 2,209.</p>
<p>Geographical justification:</p>	<p>To the north the community of South Leverton is in close proximity to North Leverton in the neighbouring Sturton ward.</p> <p>The River Trent forms the eastern boundary of the current Tuxford and Trent ward which form the County boundary with Lincolnshire.</p> <p>The southern boundary is formed by the District boundary with Newark &amp; Sherwood.</p> <p>To the west is the East Markham ward. Tuxford town also forms part of the boundary, its urban nature in contrast to the surrounding area.</p>
<p>Community justification:</p>	<p>A number of these communities have Neighbourhood Plans reflecting the distinct nature of these areas. The eastern side of the ward boundary is formed by the River Trent with the only crossing point being at the south east of the district - the Dunham Bridge on the A57. The A57 links the communities of Askham and Dunham that lie directly on the road.</p> <p>Tuxford was designated a Town Council in 2009 partly in recognition of its status as a market town. Its distinct urban nature is in contrast to the surrounding smaller rural communities. Tuxford is classed as a Local Service Centre in the District Council's strategic planning documents. It has a secondary school and rejuvenated town centre. The range of services and facilities offered in Tuxford serve the wider rural hinterland. They include Post Office, Two pubs, Working Men's Club, Fire Station, Primary Academy, Allotments, two full play areas, Playing field, Doctors and Clinic, Retail outlets including co-op and x2 convenience stores and a mobile Library. The Neighbourhood Plan objectives reflect the key issues for the community and the changes the local community wants to see, especially in securing the long term future of community and environmental assets. These are based on the town boundaries to ensure that Tuxford can grow sustainably.</p> <p>The northern part of the ward has closer links to the Sturton ward. South Leverton is in close proximity to North Leverton and is linked by Station Road. The Leverton C of E Academy</p>

	school is in North Leverton with its catchment area covering South Leverton.
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### (c) East Retford (four wards)

Retford is the second town in the District. It has a wide range of services, shops, and employment opportunities with good public transport links including to the East Coast Mainline at Retford Railway Station. Its boundary is based on the historical boundary of the former East Retford Borough. There are four wards, two are three Councillor and the other two are each represented by two Councillors.

People do not relate to the ward 'compass' descriptions e.g. East Retford East, East Retford North. The town has a number of areas which are more distinctly described and have a history. The proposals include the creation of four wards, three with three Councillors and one with one Councillor.

Ward name:	<b>EAST RETFORD EAST</b>
Current variance:	The current ward shows a projected electorate of 5,990 and has three Councillors (1,997 per Councillor) which is a variance of -1%.
Context:	
Proposal:	We propose the creation of a new three-member ward encompassing <b>Thrumpton and the Spital Hill</b> area of Retford.
Projected variance:	The electorate per Councillor would be 1,971 a variance of -2.5%.
Geographical justification:	<p>This ward comprises the majority the current East Retford East ward, except for the Tiln area, and the eastern part of Retford Town Centre. This ward contains other, much smaller local communities, such as Whitehouses, Newtown, and the Brambles new housing estate. Our view is that it would not be possible to include all communities within the name of this ward, and that the two largest communities should be used.</p> <p>The current boundary between East Retford East and East Retford West passes along London Road, and rather than dividing local communities, our view is that this main arterial road unities communities located on either side of the road. The area known as Thrumpton has never been defined, but it can broadly be defined as all streets connected to Thrumpton Lane, including Whinney Moor Lane, where it meets London Road, and Albert Road.</p>

Community justification:	<p>The community identity of Thrumpton is reflected locally by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thrumpton Primary Academy School</li> <li>• Retford (Thrumpton) Railway Station – now abolished, but once serving the area known as Thrumpton</li> <li>• Thrumpton Wildlife Garden</li> <li>• Local business, such as Thrumpton Motor Company and Thrumpton Golden Cod</li> </ul> <p>Spital Hill is much more loosely defined but can be considered to consist of those areas connected to Spital Hill to the north of Chesterfield Canal. This reflects an area that is broadly similar in character defined by post-war social housing, making the shared interests and concerns of residents in this area significant.</p> <p>The A638, consisting of London Road and Arlington Way, provides for vehicular and pedestrian access throughout all parts of this ward, and provides for a clear link between communities on both sides, up to the A620 (Moorgate). In addition, there is separate pedestrian access connecting these communities via the public footpath and footbridge connecting Strawberry Road and Pennington Walk, uniting these areas despite the Sheffield-Lincoln railway line passing through the central portion of the proposed ward.</p>
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Ward name:	<b>EAST RETFORD NORTH</b>
Current variance:	The current ward has an electorate of 5,140 and has three Councillors, a variance of -8%. The ward shows a projected electorate of 5,721 and has three Councillors (1,907 per Councillor) which is a variance of -6%
Context:	The current eastern boundary of East Retford North does not reflect natural community links. It cuts across the River Idle and there is only one crossing right at the edge of the ward.
Proposal:	<p>We propose the creation of a new three-member ward encompassing Hallcroft and the centre of Retford. This ward comprises the majority the current East Retford North, with exception of the area to the east of the River Idle (the Tiln area), along with Retford Town Centre.</p> <p>Whilst we believe that three-member wards would be the most convenient option for Retford, we recognise that the review criteria would mean that ten councillors is appropriate for Retford, and in order to meet the statutory criteria for electoral equality, it is necessary to create a single-member ward.</p>

Projected variance:	<p><b>Retford Hallcroft &amp; Central.</b> The electorate per councillor would be 1,830 a variance would of -9%.</p> <p><b>Retford Tiln.</b> The electorate would be 2,085 a variance of +3.2 %.</p>
Geographical justification:	<p>Hallcroft is a well-known area in the town and largely defined by the Hallcroft estate. The northern boundary is defined by the town boundary, the western side is the same. To the south it uses the Babworth Road and then the canal to Arlington Way and uses much of the River Idle to the east. This more defined than the current arrangement which cuts across the river.</p> <p>The proposed Retford Tiln ward includes Moorgate and Welham Road (A620) to the south and connecting housing estates. We propose that the ward includes housing both sides of Moorgate, in order to provide for a clear and identifiable boundary for residents and local councillors. Moorgate/Welham Road provides for access to Tiln Lane and Longholme Road, and serves to unite the local community. The new ward would use the River Idle as a boundary on its western side and the town boundary to the east.</p>
Community justification:	<p>Our view is that both the River Idle and Chesterfield Canal represent a clear and identifiable boundary between distinct communities. The present boundary between East Retford North ward and East Retford East ward along Tiln Lane artificially divides local communities and fails to accurately reflect local community interactions within this area. The River Idle, and vast swathes of surrounding green area, acts as a geographic divide separating East Retford North ward into two distinct parts, the western part being a coherent local community, Hallcroft. The shared community interests of these two distinct parts are minimal and vehicular access is only possible via the A638 (Amcott Way), essentially requiring travel from the Hallcroft part of the ward to the Tiln area in a 'U' shape.</p> <p>There is strong evidence of community identity in Hallcroft, and various focal points of the community are named after this area, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hallcroft Fishery and Holiday Park</li> <li>• Hallcroft Community Centre</li> <li>• Hallcroft Infant and Nursery School</li> <li>• Hallcroft Scarecrow Festival</li> </ul>

We believe there is a strong case for uniting the entirety of Retford Town Centre into a single ward. The Town Centre area represents a coherent and locally understood community with shared community interests and ties. The council recently designated the area of a Retford Town Centre Neighbourhood Plan which currently contains part of the area of two district wards, namely East Retford West and East Retford East, and our view is that for ease of local government administration, this neighbourhood plan area should be wholly contained within a single ward. There are significant local business interests within this area which are represented by the locally established Community Interest Company 'Retford Business Forum'. The present division of the Town Centre area makes representation of Town Centre interests by local councillors difficult, and in our view, fails to meet the statutory criteria for convenient local government and representation of community identity and interests.

Hallcroft and the Town Centre are connected via the A638 (Great North Road) and Bridgegate, and there is a strong historical association between these parts of Retford as prior to the construction of the A1, the Great North Road passed through the Town Centre, along Bridgegate and then through to Hallcroft. This association is reflected in the urban development of this area which sprawls along Great North Road, effectively making this ward a single urban area. Vehicular access is easily possible throughout all parts of the proposed ward, and the central location of the A638 roundabout within the proposed ward provides for significant transport links between all parts. In addition, there are significant public transport links along the A638 and the Town Centre, which contains Retford Bus Station.

The proposed new single-member ward encompasses the Tiln area of Retford. This small, compact ward focuses on the communities connected to Tiln Lane, which serves as the present boundary between East Retford East and East Retford North wards. Our view is that Tiln Lane unites communities on both sides, by serving as the main thoroughfare through the local community. The local community is served by Carr Hill Primary School, located on Tiln Lane, which represents a focal point for communities in the Tiln area. The present ward boundary divides this community into two sections, and in our view, fails to meet the statutory criteria.



Ward name:	<b>EAST RETFORD SOUTH EAST RETFORD WEST</b>
Current variance:	<p>The current East Retford South ward has an electorate of 3,816, a variance of 2%. The ward shows a projected electorate of 4,122 and has two Councillors (2,061 per Councillor) which is a variance of 2%.</p> <p>The current East Retford West ward has an electorate of 3,777, a variance of 1%. The projected electorate is 3,786 and has two Councillors (1,893 per Councillor) which is a variance of -6%.</p>
Proposal:	We propose the creation of a new three-member ward encompassing Ordsall and the vicinity of Retford Railway Station, to the east of the East Coast Main Line. The proposed name is <b>Retford Ordsall &amp; Station</b> .
Projected variance:	The electorate per Councillor would be 2,042 a variance of 1%.
Geographical justification:	<p>The southern and western boundaries of the new ward are formed by the town boundary. The Babworth Road provides a more distinct northern boundary. The River Idle and East Coast Mainline form the eastern boundary.</p> <p>The proposed ward is bounded by clear natural and identifiable boundaries, including the River Idle and East Coast Main Line to the east, and Babworth Road to the north, the main arterial route connecting Worksop and Retford. We believe the proposed boundaries of this ward encompass a coherent local community with boundaries that will be clearly understood by residents.</p>
Community justification:	<p>Ordsall has a long history. It is currently split between East Retford West and East Retford South. It was a civil parish formed in 1866 and abolished and absorbed into the Municipal Borough of East Retford in 1921. Ordsall is a clearly identifiable local community with a strong community identity and significant shared interests. Ordsall existed as a separate parish until the 1920s when it was merged into the former Borough of East Retford, and whilst it is undeniably an intrinsic part of Retford, interactions with residents make clear that many residents place their affinity to Ordsall above their affinity to Retford as a whole.</p> <p>There is strong evidence of community identity in Ordsall and it is named in various local community organisations:</p>

- 'Friends of Ordsall' and 'Ordsall Community Watch' Facebook groups
- The local primary school 'Ordsall Primary School'
- 'Ordsall Rangers' local football team
- Ordsall Parish Hall, a community centre serving the Ordsall area.
- The Church of England parish of 'Ordsall & Retford St. Michael'
- Ordsall Bridon Cricket Club

The current boundary division between 'East Retford South' and 'East Retford West' wards, which slices through Ordsall along the Sheffield-Lincoln railway line, does not adequately reflect this strong community identity. To truly represent the unified interests and identity of Ordsall, we recommend that the entire community is consolidated into a single electoral ward.

Retford Railway Station and surrounding housing (Queen Street, Albert Road, etc.) shares greater community ties with the northern part of Ordsall than with the Thrumpton area, from which it is separated by the River Idle. It is notable that there is a public footpath and underpass connecting these two communities between Tunnel Road and Station Road. This route is often used by Ordsall residents for pedestrian access to Retford Town Centre. In addition, the local 'Friends of Retford Station' community group operates in this area and has been pivotal in securing improvements to the pedestrian underpass beneath the railway line, which provides a further example of shared community interests between Ordsall, Retford Railway Station, and its surrounding housing developments. Vehicular access is possible between all parts of the ward via Babworth Road, which serves as the northern boundary.

**(d) Worksop (six wards)**

Worksop is situated in the west of the district. It is the principal town in the District and enjoys relative ease of access to a range of higher order health, education, cultural, retail and employment opportunities. Its boundary is based on the historical boundary of the former Borough. Since the last review there has been significant residential development in parts of the town. The town currently comprises six three - member wards. The 2030 forecast shows the impact of the development. Four of these wards will be outside the acceptable variance. Worksop North at 32%, Worksop East - 20%, Worksop North West 15%, Worksop North East -14%

Ward name:	<b>WORKSOP EAST</b>
Current variance:	The current ward has electorate of 4,753 which is a variance of -15%. The projected electorate is 4,864 and there are three Councillors (1,621 per Councillor) which is a variance of -20%. This places it outside the Commission's tolerance.
Context:	Adjustments would be required to this ward as it well outside the tolerance figure. It is constrained by rural areas to its north and east which are parished (Carlton, Barnby Moor and Babworth). Options are limited to links to the west – into the North East or South East wards
Proposal:	To create a two Councillor ward and rename <b>Worksop Kilton</b> . The boundary has been included along Shepherds Avenue and to incorporate a number of properties at the bottom of Blyth Road and near the railway station to create a clearer boundary.
Projected variance:	-2.5% an electorate of 3,940.
Geographical justification:	The rural areas to the north and east which are parished (Carlton, Barnby Moor and Babworth) define the differentiation with the urban area.
Community justification:	The Kilton name has a strong resonance. Although the hospital was renamed in the 1980s, Kilton Hospital well known and many local residents were born there. Kilton Golf Course provides a strong focus for the community. The name is well used – Kilton Hill, Kilton Children's Centre, Kilton Inn, Kilton Food store, Kilton Post Office, Kilton House takeaway. Kilton features in many road names. To the north side of the ward the use of Cricketers and Poets names also provides a sense of cohesion.

Ward name:	<b>WORKSOP NORTH</b>
Current variance:	The current ward electorate is 7,485, a variance of 33%. The projected electorate is 7,986 and there are three Councillors (2,662 per Councillor) which is a variance of 32%. This is well outside the Commission's tolerance figure.
Context:	<p>The ward has seen significant development resulting in the variance being well over the Commission's tolerance figure and results in an Electoral Review trigger.</p> <p>To resolve this situation an additional new ward is being proposed.</p>
Proposal:	<p>It is proposed to split the current ward into two new wards.</p> <p><b>Worksop Valley</b> and <b>Worksop Gateford</b></p>
Projected variance:	<p><b>Worksop Valley</b> would be a two Councillor ward with a projected variance of 13.2%, an electorate of 4,576. The Council is aware that this would place it outside the tolerance level. We would refer to the number of wards in Worksop that are going to be outside the tolerance levels. This requires a major restructure within the confines of the town boundaries which significantly limits options.</p> <p><b>Worksop Gateford</b> would be a three Councillor ward created from Worksop North ward (part) and Worksop North-West ward (part). The variance is -0.2%, an electorate of 6,048.</p>
Geographical justification:	<p>The northern side of the new Valley ward is formed by the proposed Gateford ward and the newer housing in that area. The A60 Carlton Road forms a distinct physical boundary along the whole eastern side. The railway line provides a distinct physical boundary to the south. The western boundary is provided by the Claylands industrial estate and the allotments which form a physical differentiation and only one road connecting in. There is also no connection between the properties in the Dawber Street area into the 'Bird' estate which will form part of the new Gateford ward.</p> <p>The ward is defined by the newer housing that lies either side of the Gateford Road and known as the Gateford estate. The northern boundary of the proposed new Gateford ward is defined by the town boundary with the rural and parished area of the Carlton ward. The County boundary with Rotherham also defines this area. The Shireoaks parish boundary along the old Tollgate forms part. To the south there is also no connection between the properties in the 'Bird' estate with the Dawber Street area which will form part of the new Valley ward.</p>

Community justification:	<p>Valley Academy is a major secondary school and sits in the centre of the proposed ward. Further focus is provided by Valley Young People's Centre, Worksop Valley running track and Valley play area. Valley road runs through the centre of the road north to south with most roads in the proposed ward area accessing it.</p> <p>Gateford originally was a small but distinct community on north west side of Worksop. Part of the area is a Conservation area reflecting the historical and the continued use of the name – Gateford Hall, Gateford Hill. There have been significant housing estate developments on either side of the Gateford Road. The road forms a current ward boundary that does not reflect the local identity. The name continues to be utilised to describe the area such as Gateford Park Primary School. There are road signs denoting 'Gateford'. Bus route 5 connects both sides of the Gateford estate across Gateford Road. The Celtic Point shopping centre and pub provides a facility connecting the communities.</p>
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Ward name:	<b>WORKSOP NORTH EAST</b>
Current variance:	The current ward has electorate of 5,000, a variance of -11%. The projected electorate is 5,204 and there are three Councillors (1,735 electors per Councillor) which is a variance of -14%. This places it outside the Commission's tolerance figure.
Context:	The ward needs to be adjusted in order to ensure it comes into an acceptable variance. The north of the ward is formed by the town boundary The A60 Carlton Road forms a strong boundary to the west which limits expansion in that direction.
Proposal:	To expand the existing boundary into part of the Worksop East ward. The ward would incorporate an area around the hospital by amending the boundary to follow Kilton Hill to Shepherds Avenue and then back to the Blyth Road. This would remain a three Councillor ward and continue to be called Worksop North East.
Projected variance:	-8%. A projected electorate of 5,574.
Geographical justification:	The north of the ward is formed by the town boundary with the parished area of the Carlton ward. The A60 Carlton Road forms a strong boundary to the west which limits expansion in that direction.

Community justification:	The ward comprises of a number of areas – Prospect, Thievesdale, Sunnyside etc. Therefore a generic ward name has not been possible to define that would be recognised by local residents.
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### Workshop North West

Ward name:	<b>WORKSOP NORTH WEST</b>
Current variance:	The current ward has an electorate of 6,395 which is a variance of 14%. The projected electorate of 6,997 and there are three Councillors (2,332 per Councillor) which is a variance of 15%. This places it outside the Commission's tolerance figure.
Context:	The ward contains the parishes of Rhodesia and Shireoaks. Options are limited by its boundaries formed by the County boundary with Rotherham and Derbyshire.
Proposal:	A revised two Councillor ward. The 'Bird Estate' would be removed and placed into a new ward called Worksop Gateford.
Projected variance:	7.8%. An electorate of 4,356.
Geographical justification:	The northern and eastern boundaries are formed by the County boundary with Rotherham and Derbyshire. Closer to the town the boundary aligns to the railway line. To the south the River Ryton forms a natural boundary with Worksop South ward. There is an open area before the St Anne's estate. The Chesterfield Canal that provides the boundary.
Community justification:	Shireoaks is well connected by road and rail. It is the only village in the District with a railway station. This makes the village very attractive for commuters as it provides direct and easy access to Sheffield and Worksop. The Chesterfield Canal, now a wildlife corridor which also provides a non-vehicular route from Worksop centre through the ward.

Ward name:	<b>WORKSOP SOUTH</b>
Current variance:	The current electorate is 5,463, a variance of -3%. The projected electorate is 5,654 and there are three Councillors (1,885 per Councillor) which is a variance of -7%.
Context:	Worksop South is constrained by the County boundaries with Derbyshire and the differing rural geography to its southern side.
Proposal:	To retain the ward with some minor amendments to the southern boundary and incorporating some parts of town centre area from Worksop South East. The ward continues to be called Worksop South with three Councillors.

Projected variance:	1.0% an electorate of 6,126.
Geographical justification:	The River Ryton provides a natural northern boundary with open space before Rhodesia. The playing field of the Outwood Academy forms part of the eastern boundary. It is proposed to use the A616 and A60 as clearer boundaries between the urban town setting and the sparsely populated rural areas to the south in the Welbeck ward.
Community justification:	The Worksop Central Development Plan Document June 2021 includes strategic policies and proposed site allocations for the regeneration of Worksop town centre between 2020-2040, building on design principles and concepts presented in the recently adopted Worksop Town Centre Masterplan.

Ward name:	<b>WORKSOP SOUTH EAST</b>
Current variance:	The current electorate is 5,491 which is a variance of -2%. The ward has a projected electorate of 5,820 and has three Councillors (1,940 per Councillor) which is a variance of -4%.
Context:	Some minor amendments are proposed and renaming the ward to reflect its strong community identity.
Projected variance:	-6.8% with an electorate of 5,652.
Geographical justification:	<p>The northern boundary would be adjusted by aligning to the railway line which provides a stronger alignment and then along the Retford Road to the A1 which forms the eastern boundary.</p> <p>It is proposed to use A57 as clear boundary between the urban town setting and the sparsely populated rural areas to the south in the Welbeck ward</p>
Community justification:	<p>The Manton name has a strong resonance. The description 'Worksop South East' is not one used to describe this area of the town. It is firmly known as Manton. It is a former pit village but the area has grown since the end of mining and with new industries and sectors moving into the area. It is reflected in Manton Sports and Entertainment Club, Manton Primary School, Manton FC, Manton Wood, St Paul's Manton, Manton Chippy and Manton Pharmacy</p> <p>Manton Pit Wood is located just to the south east of Worksop on the restored colliery spoil heaps. The Gateway Sculpture is celebrating Manton's proud mining heritage and the transformation of the spoil heaps</p> <p>The area is well interconnected connected through bus routes 42, 43, 4 and 4a</p>

## SUMMARY (48 Cllrs, 26 Wards)

New Wards	Areas	No of Electors (approx.)	No of Cllrs.	Variance (approx., to 1 d.p.)	Notes
Beckingham	Beckingham ward (part)	2,202	1	+9.0%	Bramley Way, Pippin Close, and Newell's Terrace (134 electors (Dec. 2023)) transferred to Misterton ward Would require warding Walkeringham parish)
Blyth & Langold	Blyth ward (part); Langold ward	4,170	2	+3.2%	
Carlton	<i>Unchanged</i>	5,463	3	-9.9%	(If the Peaks Hill Farm site was to be transferred, at a later date, to Worksop N-E, Carlton then has -13.6% variance)
Clarborough	Clayworth ward; Sturton ward (part – parish of North and South Wheatley).	2,058	1	+1.8%	
East Markham	East Markham ward; Rampton ward (part – grouped parish of Headon-cum-Upton)	2,298	1	+13.7%	Would involve dividing Headon-cum-Upton, Grove and Stokeham grouped parish by individual parishes (H-c-U to East Markham Ward; Stokeham to Trent ward; Grove to Leverton)



New Wards	Areas	No of Electors (approx.)	No of Cllrs.	Variance (approx., to 1 d.p.)	Notes
					(Sturton) Ward)
Everton	<i>Unchanged</i>	2,022	1	+0.0%	
Harworth and Bircotes East	Harworth ward (part)	3,798	2	-6.0%	
Harworth and Bircotes West	Harworth ward (part)	4,388	2	+8.6%	
Leverton (or Sturton)	Sturton ward (part – parishes of Bole, North Leverton with Hablesthorpe, Sturton-le-Steeple, and West Burton); Rampton ward (part – parishes of South Leverton and Treswell with Cottam; grouped parish of Grove)	2,169	1	+7.3%	Would involve dividing Headon-cum-Upton, Grove and Stokeham grouped parish by individual parishes (H-c-U to East Markham ward; Stokeham to Trent ward; Grove to Leverton (Sturton) ward)
Misterton	Misterton ward; Beckingham ward (part)	2,205	1	+9.1%	Bramley Way, Pippin Close, and Newell's Terrace (134 electors (Dec. 2023)) transferred to Misterton ward Would require warding Walkeringham parish)
Ranskill	Ranskill ward (part – parishes of Ranskill and Mattersey); Blyth ward (part – parish of Scrooby)	2,139	1	+5.8%	
Retford – Hallcroft & Central	East Retford East ward (part); East Retford North ward (part); East Retford West ward (part)	5,490	3	-9.5%	

New Wards	Areas	No of Electors (approx.)	No of Cllrs.	Variance (approx., to 1 d.p.)	Notes
Retford - Tiln	East Retford East ward (part); East Retford North ward (part)	2,085	1	+3.2%	
Retford – Thrumpton & Spital Hill	East Retford East ward (part); East Retford West ward (part)	5,913	3	-2.8%	
Retford – Ordsall & Station	East Retford West ward (part); East Retford South ward (part)	6,126	3	+1.0%	
Sutton	Ranskill ward (part – parish of Torworth); Sutton ward	1,890	1	-6.5%	
Trent	Rampton ward (part – parish of Rampton and Woodbeck; grouped parish of Stokeham); Tuxford and Trent Ward (part – parishes of Dunham-on-Trent with Ragnall, Fledborough and Darlton, East Drayton, Laneham, and Normanton-on-Trent with Marnham)	2,209	1	+9.3%	Would involve dividing Headon-cum-Upton, Grove and Stokeham grouped parish by individual parishes (H-c-U to East Markham ward; Stokeham to Trent ward; Grove to Leverton (Sturton) ward)
Tuxford	Tuxford and Trent ward (part – Tuxford)	2,204	1	+9.1%	
Welbeck	Welbeck ward; Worksop South ward (part); Worksop South-East ward (part)	1,922	1	-4.9%	Boundary extended up to the A59 and A60
Worksop Kilton	Worksop East ward (part)	3,940	2	-2.5%	
Worksop Gateford	Worksop North ward (part); Worksop North-West ward (part)	6,048	3	-0.2%	
Worksop Valley	Worksop North ward (part); Worksop North-West ward (part)	4,576	2	+13.2%	
Worksop North-East	Worksop East ward (part); Worksop North-East ward	5,574	3	-8%	Boundary to include Shepherds Avenue and properties on

New Wards	Areas	No of Electors (approx.)	No of Cllrs.	Variance (approx., to 1 d.p.)	Notes
					south side of Blyth Road
Worksop North-West	Worksop North-West ward (part); Worksop South ward (part)	4,356	2	+7.7%	
Worksop South	Worksop South ward (part); Worksop South-East ward (part)	6,126	3	+1.0%	
Worksop Manton	Worksop East ward (part); Worksop South ward (part); Worksop South-East ward (part)	5,652	3	-6.8%	Includes part of Bracebridge
		<b>97,020</b>	<b>48</b>		