

Helping you to have your say:

We are now consulting local people on a new pattern of wards for Harrogate. The Commission has an open mind about its final recommendations and will consider every piece of evidence it receives from local groups and people. Every representation will be considered, regardless of whom it is from or whether it relates to the whole borough or just a part of it.

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

The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for Harrogate which delivers:

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

June 2016



Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Harrogate Borough Council

Summary report

Read the full report, view detailed maps and have your say at: www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk

Find out more at: www.lgbce.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter at: @LGBCE

A good pattern of wards should:

- Provide good electoral equality, with each councillor representing, as closely as possible, the same number of voters.
- 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.

Electoral equality:

- Does your proposal mean that councillors would represent roughly the same number of voters as elsewhere in the council area?

Community identity:

- **Transport links:** are there good links across your proposed ward? Is there any form of public transport?
- **Community groups:** is there a parish council, residents association or another group that represents the area?
- **Facilities:** does your pattern of wards reflect where local people go for shops, medical services, leisure facilities etc?
- **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?

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?

Useful tips:

- Our website has a special consultation area where you can explore the maps and draw your own proposed boundaries. You can find it at www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk.
- We publish all submissions we receive on our website so you can follow what other people and organisations have told us. Go to: www.lgbce.org.uk

Have your say by writing to:

Review Officer (Harrogate)
LGBCE
14th floor, Millbank Tower
London
SW1P 4QP

Through our consultation area:
www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk
or by email to: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

The full report and interactive maps are available to view at www.lgbce.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter: @LGBCE

Who we are

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament. 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.

Electoral review

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

- The total number of councillors representing the council's voters ('council size').
- The names, number and boundaries of wards or electoral divisions.
- The number of councillors representing each ward or division.

Why Harrogate?

We are conducting an electoral review of Harrogate Borough Council to deliver improved levels of electoral equality for local voters.

Harrogate currently has high levels of electoral inequality where some councillors represent many more - or many fewer - voters than others. This means that the value of your vote - in borough council elections - varies depending on where you live in Harrogate.

Our proposals

Harrogate Borough Council currently has 54 councillors. We propose that the council should have 40 councillors in future. The Commission believes that a council size of 40 members will ensure the council can discharge its roles and responsibilities effectively and provides for a warding pattern that meets our statutory criteria.

Electoral arrangements

Our draft recommendations propose that Harrogate's 40 councillors should represent 40 single-member wards across the borough.

You have until 22 August 2016 to have your say on the recommendations

Stage of review	Description
28 Jan - 4 Apr 2016	Public consultation on new ward boundaries
28 Jun - 22 Aug 2016	Public consultation on draft recommendations for new electoral arrangements
8 Nov 2016	Publication of final recommendations by the Commission
May 2018	Subject to parliamentary approval - implementation of new arrangements at local elections

Overview of draft recommendations for Harrogate Borough Council

View this map online and draw your own boundaries: www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk

Follow the review on Twitter: @LGBCE

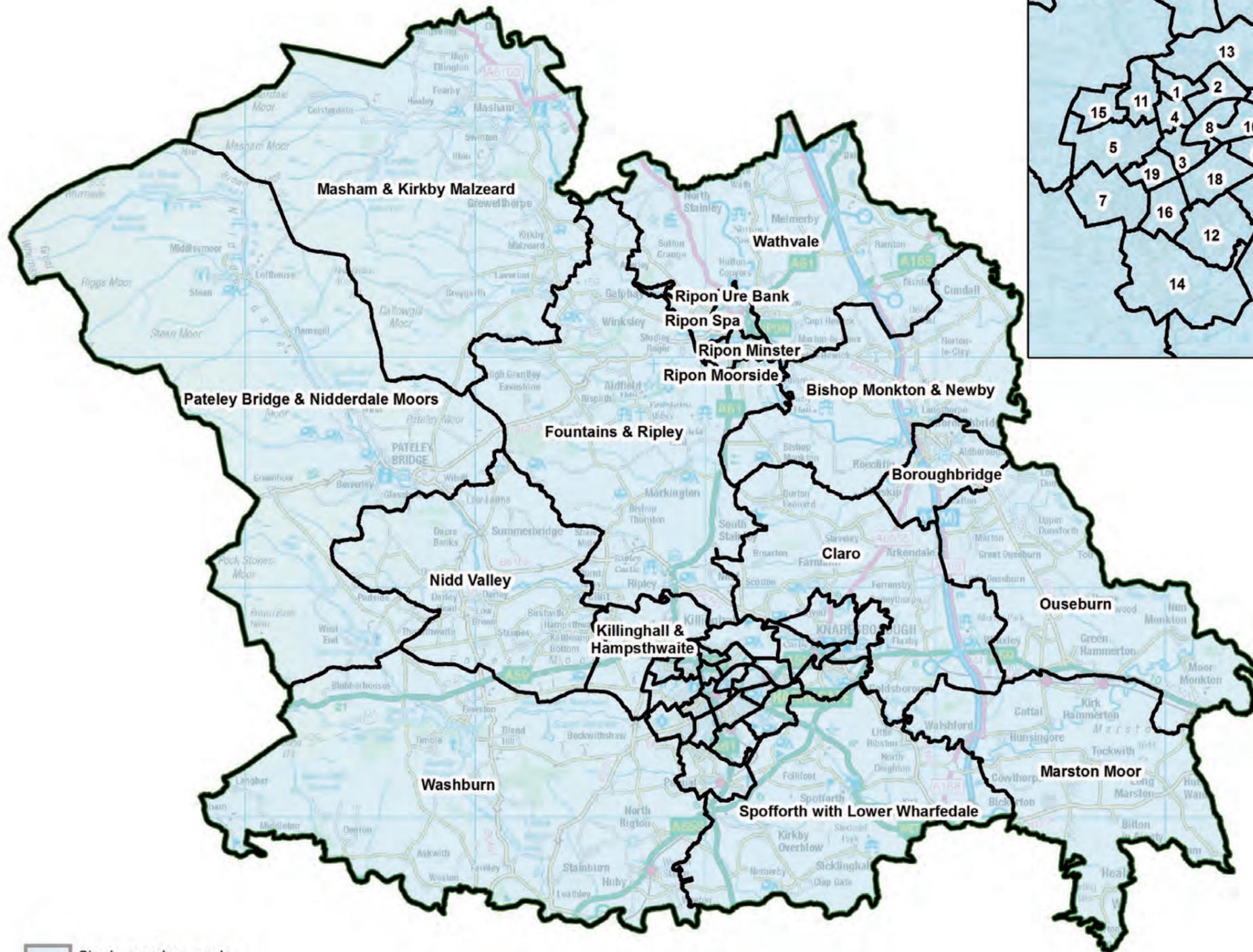
If you are viewing this page online, click on the map to go straight to our interactive consultation area

Summary of our recommendations

We have considered all the submissions we received during the previous phase of consultation on warding arrangements.

Our draft recommendations propose that Harrogate Borough Council's 40 councillors should represent 40 single-member wards across the borough. An outline of the proposals is shown in the map to the right of this box. A detailed report on the recommendations and interactive mapping is available on our website at: www.lgbce.org.uk.

The Commission welcomes comments on these draft recommendations whether you support the proposals or if wish to put forward alternative arrangements. In particular, the Commission welcomes proposals for alternative boundaries or ward names which meet the criteria we must follow as part of electoral reviews and which are described in more detail over the page.



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Map key:

- 1 - Harrogate Bilton Grange
- 2 - Harrogate Bilton Woodfield
- 3 - Harrogate Central
- 4 - Harrogate Coppice Valley
- 5 - Harrogate Duchy
- 6 - Harrogate Fairfax
- 7 - Harrogate Harlow
- 8 - Harrogate High Harrogate
- 9 - Harrogate Hookstone
- 10 - Harrogate Kingsley
- 11 - Harrogate New Park
- 12 - Harrogate Oatlands
- 13 - Harrogate Old Bilton
- 14 - Harrogate Pannal
- 15 - Harrogate Saltergate
- 16 - Harrogate St Georges
- 17 - Harrogate Starbeck
- 18 - Harrogate Stray
- 19 - Harrogate Valley Gardens
- 20 - Knaresborough Aspin & Calcutt
- 21 - Knaresborough Tentergate
- 22 - Knaresborough Eastfield
- 22 - Knaresborough Scriven

Single-member wards

Have your say at www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk

- view the map of our recommendations down to street level.
- draw your own boundaries online.
- zoom into the areas that interest you most.
- find more guidance on how to have your say.
- read the full report of our recommendations.
- send us your views directly.