

## Have your say:

We are now consulting local people on a new pattern of wards for Babergh District Council. The Commission has an open mind about its final recommendations and will consider every piece of evidence it receives from local groups and people, regardless of whom it is from or whether it relates to the whole council area or a part of it.

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

# Babergh District Council

## New draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements

The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for Babergh District Council 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.

## 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:

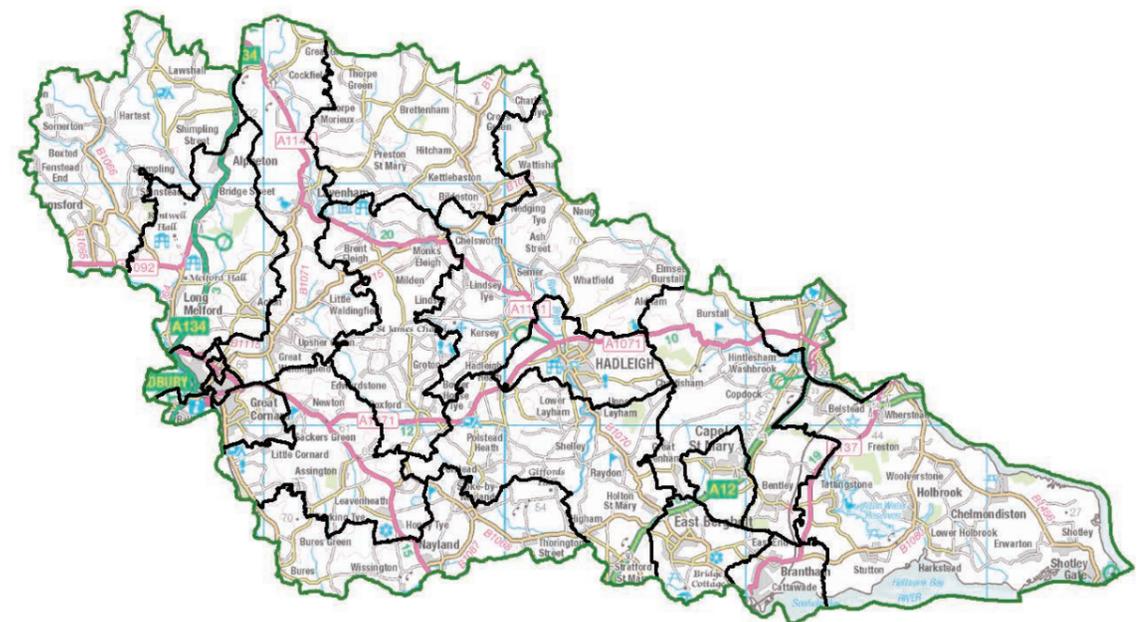
- Are any of the proposed wards too large or small to be represented effectively?
- Are the proposed names of the wards appropriate?

## 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 [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk).
- We publish all submissions we receive on our website. Go to: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

**Write to:**  
Review Officer (Babergh)  
LGBCE  
14th floor, Millbank Tower  
London  
SW1P 4QP

**Our consultation area:**  
[consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk)  
**Email:**  
[reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk)  
**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, including:
- 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 for each ward or division.

## Why Babergh?

- Babergh District Council submitted a formal request to the Commission for an electoral review.

## Our proposals:

- Babergh District Council currently has 43 councillors.
- We propose that the council should have **32 councillors** in future, representing three three-councillor wards, five two-councillor wards and 13 one-councillor wards across the district.
- Babergh should have 21 wards, six fewer than at present. The boundaries of all wards should change; none will stay the same.

**You have until 30 April 2018 to have your say on the recommendations**

## Summary of our recommendations

The Commission originally published draft recommendations for its electoral reviews of Mid Suffolk and Babergh in October 2017 and held a public consultation on them.

During that period of consultation, local organisations alerted the Commission to possible anomalies in its electorate forecasts upon which the wards are built.

Following an analysis of the figures by the Commission and each council, the Commission has decided to change its forecasts in parts of both districts. It has also changed some of its proposed ward boundaries to take account of the revised forecasts.

Given the changes to the figures and proposed boundaries, the Commission has decided to hold a new phase of consultation on its recommendations and invites local people and organisations to comment on them.

Our draft recommendations propose that Babergh District Council should have **32 councillors** in future. This is **11 fewer** than the current number of councillors

Those councillors should represent 13 single-councillor wards, five two-councillor wards and three three-councillor wards, across the district. The boundaries of all wards should change.

An outline of the proposals is shown in the map to the right. A detailed report on the recommendations and interactive mapping is available on our website at: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk).

The Commission welcomes comments on these draft recommendations, whether you support the proposals or 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.

Stage of review	Description
13 June - 14 August 2017	Public consultation on new ward boundaries
3 October - 11 December 2017	Public consultation on draft recommendations
6 March - 30 April 2018	Public consultation on revised draft recommendations
7 August 2018	Publication of final recommendations
May 2019	Subject to parliamentary approval - implementation of new arrangements at local elections

# Overview of new draft recommendations for Babergh District Council

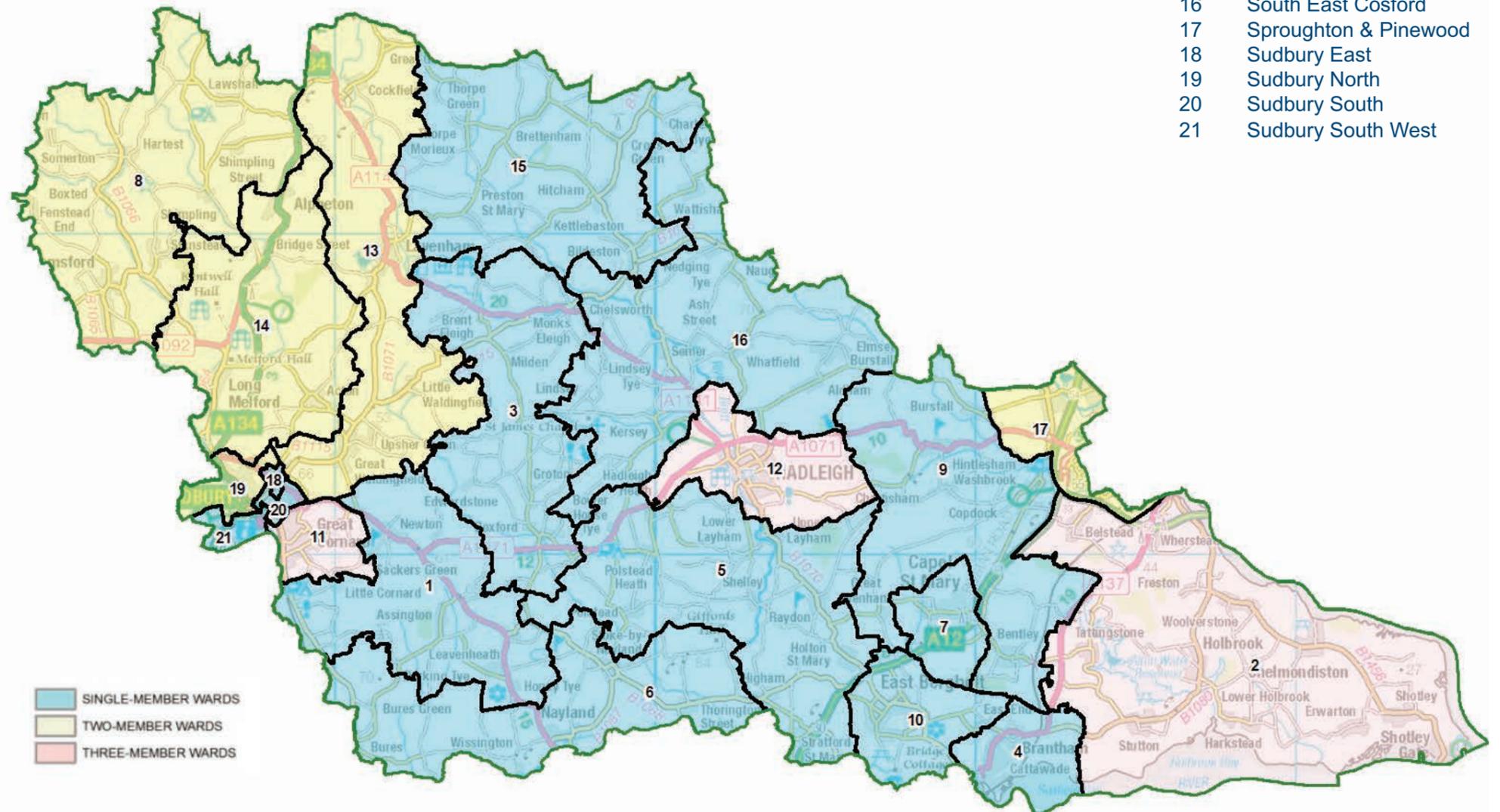
View this map online and draw your own boundaries: [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

Follow the review on Twitter: [@LGBCE](https://twitter.com/LGBCE)

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

Key:

- 1 Assington
- 2 Burers
- 3 Box Vale
- 4 Brantham
- 5 Brett Vale
- 6 Bures St. Mary & Nayland
- 7 Capel St Mary
- 8 Chadacre
- 9 Copdock & Washbrook
- 10 East Bergholt
- 11 Great Cornard
- 12 Hadleigh
- 13 Lavenham
- 14 Long Melford
- 15 North West Cosford
- 16 South East Cosford
- 17 Sproughton & Pinewood
- 18 Sudbury East
- 19 Sudbury North
- 20 Sudbury South
- 21 Sudbury South West



Have your say at [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://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.

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