

Final recommendations for the new electoral arrangements for Devon County Council

Electoral review

January 2016

Translations and other formats

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Summary

Who we are

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) 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 decide:

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

Why Devon?

We are conducting an electoral review of Devon County Council as the Council 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 each vote in county council elections varies depending on where you live in Devon. Overall, 39% of divisions currently have a variance of greater than 10%.

Our proposals for Devon

Devon County Council currently has 62 councillors. Based on the evidence we received during previous phases of the review, we consider that a decrease in council size by two to 60 members will ensure the Council can discharge its roles and responsibilities effectively.

Electoral arrangements

Our final recommendations propose that Devon County Council's 60 councillors should represent 56 single-member divisions and two two-member divisions. One of our proposed divisions would have an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for Devon by 2021.

We have finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for Devon.

1 Introduction

1 This electoral review has been conducted following our decision to review Devon County Council's ('the Council's') electoral arrangements to ensure that the number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the county.

What is an electoral review?

2 Our three main considerations in conducting an electoral review are set out in legislation¹ and are to:

- Improve electoral equality by equalising the number of electors each councillor represents
- Reflect community identity
- Provide for effective and convenient local government

3 Our task is to strike the best balance between them when making our recommendations. Our powers, as well as the guidance we have provided for electoral reviews and further information on the review process, can be found on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Consultation

4 We wrote to the Council as well as other interested parties, inviting the submission of proposals on council size. We then held two periods of consultation: firstly on division patterns for the Council and secondly on our draft recommendations. The submissions received during our consultations have informed our final recommendations.

This review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
21 October 2014	Provisional decision on council size
28 October 2014	Division pattern consultation
12 May 2015	Draft recommendations consultation
7 July 2015	Analysis of submissions received and formulation of final recommendations
29 September 2015	Further limited consultation on North Devon District
26 January 2016	Publication of final recommendations

How will the recommendations affect you?

5 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which division you vote in, which other communities are in that division and, in some instances, which parish council wards you vote in.

¹ Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Your division name may also change, as may the names of parish or town council wards in the area. The names or boundaries of parishes will not change as a result of our recommendations.

What is the Local Government Boundary Commission for England?

6 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Members of the Commission are:

Professor Colin Mellors (Chair)
Alison Lowton
Sir Tony Redmond
Professor Paul Wiles CB

Chief Executive: Jolyon Jackson CBE

2 Analysis and final recommendations

7 Legislation states that our recommendations are not intended to be based solely on the existing number of electors² in an area, but also on estimated changes in the number and distribution of electors likely to take place over a five-year period from the date of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for the divisions we put forward at the end of the review.

8 In reality, the achievement of absolute electoral fairness is unlikely to be attainable and there must be a degree of flexibility. However, our approach is to keep variances in the number of electors each councillor represents to a minimum.

9 In seeking to achieve electoral fairness, we work out the average number of electors per councillor by dividing the electorate by the number of councillors as shown on the table below.

	2014	2021
Electorate of Devon County	598,645	625,039
Number of councillors	60	60
Average number of electors per councillor	9,977	10,417

10 Under our final recommendations, one of our proposed divisions will have an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for the county by 2021. We are therefore satisfied that we have achieved good levels of electoral fairness for Devon.

11 Additionally, in circumstances where we propose to divide a parish between district wards or county divisions, we are required to divide it into parish wards so that each parish ward is wholly contained within a single district ward or county division. We cannot make amendments to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

12 These recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of Devon County Council or result in changes to postcodes. Nor is there any evidence that the recommendations will have an adverse effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums. The proposals do not take account of parliamentary constituency boundaries, and we are not, therefore, able to take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

Submissions received

13 See Appendix B for details of submissions received. All submissions may be inspected at our offices (by appointment). All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

² Electors refer to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

Electorate figures

14 As prescribed in the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, the Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2021, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2015. Given that we have undertaken a period of further limited consultation in the North Devon area, the publication of these final recommendations was been postponed until 2016. In light of this, the forecast needs to be for 2021 rather than 2020. We are content that the original figures can reasonably be regarded as an accurate reflection of forecast growth to 2021 and have referred to them as such in this report.

15 These forecasts were broken down to polling district levels and projected an increase in the electorate of approximately 4.4% to 2021. The highest proportion of this growth across the county is expected in the district of East Devon due to the new development of Cranbrook.

16 During our consultation on division arrangements we received several queries from members of the public regarding the electorate forecasts. In each instance we raised these queries with Devon County Council and, accordingly, made some changes to the projections for Exeter City and South Hams District.

17 Having considered the information provided by the Council, we are satisfied that the projected figures are the best available at the present time and these figures form the basis of our final recommendations.

Council size

18 Devon County Council currently has a council size of 62 members. The County Council submitted a proposal to decrease the council size from 62 to 60. We carefully considered the representation received. We consider that the Council's submission proposing a council of 60 is supported by persuasive evidence and we are content that the Council has sufficiently demonstrated that the authority can operate efficiently and effectively under this council size and ensure effective representation of local residents. We therefore invited proposals for division arrangements based on a council size of 60.

19 We received two submissions concerning council size in response to consultation on division patterns, both of which supported a reduction in council size to 60. We received no other comments. We therefore based our draft recommendations on a council size of 60 elected members.

20 During the consultation on our draft recommendations we received seven submissions concerning council size which opposed a reduction in council size to 60. Those respondents did not, in our view, adequately justify their preferred number in the context of the size and geographical nature of Devon, as well as considerations of effective governance and decision-making for the authority. We therefore confirm a council size of 60 members as final.

21 A council size of 60 provides the following allocation between the districts and boroughs in the county:

- East Devon District – 11 councillors
- Exeter City – nine councillors
- Mid Devon District – six councillors
- North Devon District – eight councillors
- South Hams District – seven councillors
- Teignbridge District – 10 councillors
- Torridge District – five councillors
- West Devon Borough – four councillors

Division patterns

22 During consultation on division patterns, we received 35 submissions. We did not receive a detailed submission from the County Council; however, we did receive one county-wide proposal from a member of the public and one city-wide scheme for Exeter from Exeter Labour Party. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for division arrangements in particular districts.

23 Having carefully considered the proposals received, we were of the view that the proposed patterns of divisions in the county-wide scheme resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the county and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries. We therefore based our draft recommendations broadly on that scheme, modifying it as we considered appropriate, having regard to our statutory considerations.

24 Our draft recommendations were for 56 single-member divisions and two two-member divisions. We considered that our draft recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we have received such evidence during consultation.

Draft recommendations

25 We received 199 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations. These are detailed in Appendix B. The majority of submissions received were in relation to our proposed Broadclyst and Exmouth divisions in East Devon district; our proposed Totnes & Dartington division in South Hams district; our proposed The Teigntons division in Teignbridge district; and our proposed divisions of Combe Martin Rural, Ilfracombe, Landkey & Chittlehampton and South Molton in North Devon district.

Broadclyst

26 We received 16 submissions regarding our proposed Broadclyst division. During the consultation it was brought to our attention that a new parish of Cranbrook has been constituted this year. We received a number of submissions in opposition to this division on the basis that it is represented by two councillors. However, we did not receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals for this area. The submissions on this division were largely opposed to the principle of a two-member division, rather than arguing why single-member divisions would better reflect the statutory criteria. Whilst we have made a minor amendment to the eastern boundary of this division to reflect the new parish boundary, we are content that our proposed two-member division provides the best balance between our statutory criteria.

Exmouth

27 We received 25 submissions regarding our proposed two-member Exmouth division. The submissions on this division were largely opposed to the principle of a two-member division, rather than arguing why single-member divisions would better reflect the statutory criteria, and no viable, well-evidenced alternative proposals were received. We are therefore content that our proposed two-member division provides the best balance between our statutory criteria.

Totnes & Dartington

28 We received 23 submissions that commented on our proposed Totnes & Dartington division. The majority of respondents opposed the proposal to include the parishes of Dartington and Staverton in the same division as Totnes. However, we did not receive any well-evidenced or viable alternative proposals for this area. We have explored whether we could identify any alternative arrangements for this area based on the evidence received and taking into account our statutory criteria. Making amendments to this division would have significant knock-on effects on our arrangements for the whole of South Hams district for which we received some support. We are therefore content that our draft recommendations provide a good balance between our statutory criteria and we confirm our proposed Totnes & Dartington division as final.

The Teigntons

29 We received 24 submissions that commented on our proposed The Teigntons division. The majority of respondents opposed the proposal to include the parish of Bishopsteignton in the same division as Kingsteignton. Most respondents stated that they would prefer to see Bishopsteignton placed in the same division as Teignmouth; however, we did not receive any well-evidenced or viable alternative proposals. Furthermore, under our draft recommendations our proposed Teignmouth division would result in the councillor for that division representing 10% more electors than the average for the county by 2021. Whilst we consider this to be an acceptable level of electoral equality, our proposed Teignmouth division could not accommodate any more electors.

30 We are therefore content that, in the absence of any viable alternatives, our draft recommendations provide a good balance between our statutory criteria and we confirm the boundaries of this division as final. We also received a number of submissions that commented on the name of our proposed division. Based on the evidence received we have decided to re-name the division Kingsteignton & Teign Estuary as part of our final recommendations.

North Devon District

31 We received 18 submissions that commented on our proposed division arrangements for Combe Martin Rural, Ilfracombe, Landkey & Chittlehampton and South Molton for North Devon. Of these, 14 were from parishes in North Devon that opposed the division arrangements and a number of these made alternative proposals for this area. We therefore explored alternative warding arrangements based on the evidence received.

32 We identified an alternative pattern of divisions that we considered would provide a better balance between the statutory criteria than the divisions we proposed in our draft recommendations. Given that this pattern of divisions had not been consulted upon previously, we decided to consult locally in North Devon on

whether this new pattern of divisions should be adopted as part of our final recommendations.

33 We received 22 submissions during this further consultation period, 21 of which supported the alternative proposals we had identified. We are therefore amending our draft recommendations in North Devon. We consider that the alternative proposal provides for reasonable electoral equality, and reflects community identities and interests in North Devon.

Final recommendations

34 The tables on pages 9–31 detail our final recommendations for each area of Devon. Where we have moved away from our draft recommendations, we have outlined how the proposed division arrangements reflect the three statutory criteria of:

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

East Devon District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Axminster	1	-6%	This division comprises the parishes of All Saints, Axminster, Axmouth, Combyne Rousdon, Hawkchurch, Musbury and Uplyme.	During consultation on our draft recommendations we received 19 submissions that commented on our proposed Axminster division including some support for our draft recommendations. Based on the evidence received we have decided to include the parish of All Saints in Axminster division as part of our final recommendations. We consider that this provides a better reflection of community identity in this area. Subject to this minor amendment we confirm our draft recommendations for Axminster as final.
Broadclyst	2	-3%	This division contains the parishes of Brampford Speke, Broadclyst, Clyst Honiton, Clyst Hydon, Clyst St George, Clyst St Lawrence, Clyst St Mary, Cranbrook, Farringdon, Huxham, Nether Exe, Poltimore, Rewe, Rockbeare, Sowton, Stoke Canon and Upton Pyne.	<p>We received 16 submissions regarding our proposed Broadclyst division. During the consultation it was brought to our attention that a new parish of Cranbrook has been constituted this year. We received a number of submissions in opposition to this division on the basis that it is represented by two councillors; however, we did not receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals for this area. We also received one submission in support of our draft recommendations.</p> <p>The submissions received opposed the Broadclyst division on the principle of being not in favour of multi-member divisions rather than arguing in the context of the statutory criteria. We did investigate whether the two-member Broadclyst division could be divided into single-member divisions. These investigations indicated that a single-member division pattern would require dividing the new development of Cranbrook in order to provide for a pattern of divisions with reasonable levels of electoral equality. We did not consider that dividing Cranbrook would result in splitting communities between divisions. We have therefore decided not to move away from a two-member Broadclyst division.</p>

				<p>We are proposing a minor amendment to the eastern boundary, between the parishes of Cranbrook and Whimple, to reflect the new parish boundary in this area. Subject to this minor amendment we are content that our proposed Broadclyst division provides the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm it as final.</p>
Exmouth	2	5%	<p>This division consists of the northern part of Exmouth and the parishes of Lympstone and Woodbury.</p>	<p>During consultation on our draft recommendations we received 25 submissions regarding our proposed Exmouth division. The majority of these submissions opposed this division on the basis that it is represented by two councillors; however, we did not receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals for this area.</p> <p>The submissions received opposed the Exmouth division on the principle of being not in favour of multi-member divisions rather than arguing in the context of the statutory criteria. We have therefore decided not to move away from a two-member Exmouth division and confirm our draft recommendations as final.</p>
Exmouth & Budleigh Salterton Coastal	1	-1%	<p>This division comprises the southern part of Exmouth and the parishes of Bickton, Budleigh Salterton and East Budleigh.</p>	<p>During consultation on our draft recommendations we received 28 submissions regarding our proposed Budleigh Salterton Coastal division. Based on the evidence received during consultation we have decided to include the parishes of Bickton and East Budleigh in this division as part of our final recommendations. We consider that this reflects the links between these parishes and Budleigh Salterton and also provides improved electoral equality for this division.</p> <p>We also received several comments on the name of the proposed division. We have therefore decided to re-name this division Exmouth & Budleigh Salterton Coastal.</p>
Feniton & Honiton	1	-4%	<p>This division includes the parishes of Buckerell, Feniton, Gittisham and Honiton.</p>	<p>We received 20 submissions regarding our proposed Feniton & Honiton division during the consultation on our draft recommendations. Whilst we note that there was some opposition locally to our proposed division, we did not</p>

				receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals for this area. We have therefore decided to confirm our Feniton & Honiton division as final.
Otter Valley	1	-9%	This division comprises the parishes of Aylesbeare, Colaton Raleigh, Newton Poppleford & Harford, Otterton and Ottery St Mary.	During the consultation on our draft recommendations we received 28 submissions regarding our proposed Otter Valley division, a number of which supported our proposal. Based on the evidence that we received, we have decided to remove the parishes of Bicton and East Budleigh from this division, instead including them in our Exmouth & Budleigh Salterton Coastal division as part of our final recommendations. Subject to this amendment, we confirm our draft recommendations for Otter Valley as final.
Seaton & Colyton	1	2%	This division includes the parishes of Beer, Branscombe, Colyton, Farway, Northleigh, Offwell, Seaton, Southleigh and Widworthy.	We received 14 submissions regarding our proposed Seaton & Colyton division during the consultation on our draft recommendations, including some support for our proposal. We did not receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals. We are therefore content that our proposed Seaton & Colyton division provides the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our draft recommendations as final.
Sidmouth	1	1%	This division is coterminous with the Sidmouth parish boundary.	During the consultation on our draft recommendations we received 17 submissions regarding our proposed Sidmouth division, including two submissions in support of our proposal. We received some support for our proposed division and we did not receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals for this area. We are therefore confirming our Sidmouth division, coterminous with the Sidmouth parish boundary, as final.
Whimble & Blackdown	1	-9%	Whimble & Blackdown division comprises the parishes of Awliscombe, Broadhembury, Chardstock, Combe Raleigh, Cotleigh, Dalwood, Dunkeswell, Kilmington, Luppitt, Membury, Monkton,	We received 20 submissions regarding our proposed Whimble & Newbridges division during the consultation on our draft recommendations. Based on the evidence received we have proposed two minor amendments to boundaries of this division. In the west of the division we have made a minor change to the boundary between this division and the neighbouring Broadclyst division to reflect the changes to the

			<p>Payhembury, Plymtree, Sheldon, Shute, Stockland, Talaton Upottery, Whimble and Yarcombe.</p>	<p>Whimble parish boundary and the boundary of the new parish of Cranbrook. In the east of the division we have removed the parish of All Saints from this division and included it in the division of Axminster as part of our final recommendations.</p> <p>We also received five submissions that proposed that the name of this division should be changed. Based on the evidence received we have decided to adopt the name Whimble & Blackdown for this division as part of our final recommendations. This reflects that the ward encompasses the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) of the Blackdown Hills.</p> <p>Whilst we note that there was some opposition to the size of our proposed division, we did not receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals. The councillor for Whimble & Blackdown will represent 9% fewer electors than the average for the county by 2021 and we are therefore content that our proposed Whimble & Blackdown division provides a good level of electoral equality.</p> <p>Subject to the minor boundary amendments outlined above and the change of name, we confirm our draft recommendations for this area as final.</p>
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Exeter City

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Alphington & Cowick	1	6%	This division lies in the south-west of the city.	<p>During the consultation on our draft recommendations we received three submissions regarding our proposed Alphington & St Thomas division. Based on the evidence received we have decided to re-name this division Alphington & Cowick as part of our final recommendations.</p> <p>We have made one minor change to the boundary between this division and the division to the north. Under our draft recommendations the electors living on Nadder Park Road and Wheatley Close were included in our Redhills & Exwick division. Based on the evidence received we have decided to move these roads into Alphington & Cowick division as part of our final recommendations. We have also made a minor change to the eastern boundary of this division so that it follows the railway line as far as Salmonpool Bridge, presenting a clearer and more identifiable boundary.</p>
Duryard & Pennsylvania	1	-1%	This division comprises the communities of Duryard and Pennsylvania and lies to the north of the city centre.	We received nine submissions regarding our proposed Duryard & Pennsylvania division during the consultation on our draft recommendations. Based on the evidence received we are content that our proposed Duryard & Pennsylvania division provides the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our draft recommendations for this division as final.
Exwick & St Thomas	1	-6%	This division lies in the north-west of the city and includes the community of Exwick.	<p>During the consultation on our draft recommendations we received three submissions regarding our proposed Redhills & Exwick division. Based on the evidence received we have decided to re-name this division Exwick & St Thomas as part of our final recommendations.</p> <p>We have also made one minor change to the boundary between this division and our Alphington & Cowick division</p>

				to the north. Under our draft recommendations the electors living on Nadder Park Road and Wheatley Close were included in our Redhills & Exwick division. Based on the evidence received we have decided to include these roads into Alphington & Cowick division as part of our final recommendations. Subject to this boundary amendment and the change of name, we confirm our draft recommendations for this area as final.
Heavitree & Whipton Barton	1	0%	This division lies in the east of Exeter and comprises the communities of Heavitree and Whipton Barton.	During the consultation on our draft recommendations we received two submissions regarding our proposed Heavitree & Whipton Barton division. We did not receive any persuasive evidence to amend our proposals for this area and we therefore confirm our draft recommendations for Heavitree & Whipton Barton as final.
Pinhoe & Mincinglake	1	1%	Pinhoe & Mincinglake division includes the community of Pinhoe, the Beacon Heath Estate and Mincinglake Valley Park.	We received two submissions that commented on our proposals for this area during the consultation on our draft recommendations. We did not receive any persuasive evidence and we are therefore content to confirm our draft recommendations for Pinhoe & Mincinglake as final.
St David's & Haven Banks	1	-7%	This division incorporates much of the city centre, including Exeter Cathedral and Exeter St David's railway station, as well as Haven Banks on the western side of the River Exe.	During the consultation on our draft recommendations we received six submissions regarding our proposed St David's & Haven Banks division. We are proposing one minor amendment to this division. In the south of the division we have extended the boundary further to the south, following the railway line as far as Salmonpool Bridge. We consider that this provides a clearer and more identifiable boundary. We are content that our proposed St David's & Haven Banks division provides a good balance between our statutory criteria and, subject to this minor amendment, we confirm our draft recommendations as final.
St Sidwells & St James	1	-3%	This division contains the St Sidwells and Newtown areas of the city.	We received 10 submissions that commented on our proposals for this area during the consultation on our draft recommendations. We did not receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals for the boundaries of this division; however, six of these submissions did make alternative

				proposals for the name of the division. Based on the evidence received we have therefore decided to re-name this division St Sidwells & St James as part of our final recommendations.
Wearside & Topsham	1	-7%	This division includes the community of Topsham and the A3015 (Topsham Road) provides a central 'spine' that runs through the division.	During the consultation on our draft recommendations we received two submissions regarding our proposed Wearside & Topsham division. We did not receive any persuasive alternative proposals for this area and we therefore confirm our draft recommendations for Wearside & Topsham as final.
Wonford & St Loyes	1	-5%	This division includes the communities of Wonford and St Loyes and lies in the east of the city.	We received two submissions that commented on our proposals for this area during the consultation on our draft recommendations. We did not receive any persuasive evidence regarding this area and we are therefore content to confirm our draft recommendations for Wonford & St Loyes as final.

Mid Devon District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Crediton	1	4%	This division comprises the parishes of Bow, Cheriton Bishop, Clannaborough, Colebrooke, Copplestone, Crediton, Crediton Hamlets and Hittisleigh.	During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received one submission that commented on our Crediton division. We did not receive any persuasive evidence supporting an alternative proposal for Crediton and are therefore confirming our proposed Crediton division as final.
Creedy, Taw & Mid Exe	1	4%	This division comprises the parishes of Bickleigh, Brushford, Cadbury, Cadeleigh, Chawleigh, Cheriton Fitzpaine, Coldridge, Cruwys Morchard, Down St Mary, Eggesford, Kennerleigh, Lapford, Morchard Bishop, Newton St Cyres, Nymet Rowland, Poughill, Puddington, Sandford, Shobrooke, Silverton, Stockleigh English, Stockleigh Pomeroy, Thelbridge, Thorverton, Upton Hellions, Washford Pyne, Wembworthy, Woolfardisworthy and Zeal Monachorum.	We received five submissions that commented on our proposals for this area. All of these submissions were in regard to the name of our proposed ward. Under our draft recommendations we proposed the name Silverton & Taw. Based on the evidence received we have decided to amend the name of the division to Creedy, Taw & Mid Exe. Subject to this name change we confirm our draft recommendations for this area as final.
Cullompton & Bradninch	1	4%	This division contains the parishes of Bradninch, Butterleigh, Cullompton and Kentisbeare.	During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received one submission that commented on our proposed Cullompton & Bradninch division. We did not receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals for Cullompton &

				Bradninch division and are therefore confirming our proposed Cullompton & Bradninch division as final.
Tiverton East	1	7%	This division comprises the eastern part of Tiverton parish and the parishes of Halberton and Uplowman.	We received two submissions that commented on our proposals for the Tiverton area. Based on the evidence received we are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our Tiverton East division as final.
Tiverton West	1	-1%	Tiverton West division comprises the western part of Tiverton parish and the parishes of Bampton, Loxbeare, Morebath, Oakford, Stoodleigh, Templeton and Washfield.	During consultation on our draft recommendations we received two submissions that commented on our proposals for Tiverton. Based on the evidence received we are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our Tiverton West division as final.
Willand & Uffculme	1	0%	This division comprises the parishes of Burlescombe, Clayhanger, Clayhidon, Culmstock, Hemyock, Hockworthy, Holcombe Rogus, Huntsham, Sampford Peverell, Uffculme and Willand.	During consultation on our draft recommendations we did not receive any submissions that commented specifically on our proposals for Willand & Uffculme. We are therefore content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we confirm our Willand & Uffculme division as final.

North Devon District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Barnstaple North	1	7%	This division consists of the northern part of Barnstaple parish.	During consultation on our draft recommendations we did not receive any submissions that commented specifically on our proposals for Barnstaple. We are therefore content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we confirm our Barnstaple North division as final.
Barnstaple South	1	4%	This division comprises the southern part of Barnstaple parish as well as parts of Fremington and Tawstock parishes to the north and south of Bickington Road.	During consultation on our draft recommendations we did not receive any submissions that commented specifically on our proposals for Barnstaple. We are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our Barnstaple South division as final.
Braunton Rural	1	-8%	Braunton Rural division comprises the parishes of Ashford, Braunton, Georgeham and Heanton Punchardon.	We did not receive any submissions that commented on this area during consultation on our draft recommendations. We are therefore content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we confirm our Braunton Rural division as final.
Chulmleigh & Landkey	1	10%	This division contains the parishes of Atherington, Bishop's Tawton, Burrington, Chittlehamholt, Chittlehampton, Chulmleigh, King's Nympton, Landkey, Satterleigh & Warkleigh, Swimbridge and Tawstock.	During the consultation on our draft recommendations we received 14 submissions in opposition to our proposals for this area. Based on the evidence we received, we explored and identified an alternative division arrangement for rural North Devon. Given that the pattern of divisions we identified had not been consulted upon previously, we decided to consult locally in North Devon on whether this new pattern of divisions should be adopted as part of our final recommendations. In response to this further consultation we received 22 submissions, 21 of which supported our amended proposals. We did receive two comments on the

				name of this division and we have decided to name this division Chulmleigh & Landkey as part of our final recommendations.
Combe Martin Rural	1	-3%	This division contains the parishes of Arlington, Berrynarbor, Bittadon, Bratton Fleming, Brendon & Countisbury, Challacombe, Combe Martin, East Down, Goodleigh, Kentisbury, Loxhore, Lynton & Lynmouth, Martinhoe, Marwood, Mortehoe, Parracombe, Pilton West, Shirwell, Stoke Rivers, Trentishoe and West Down.	During the consultation on our draft recommendations we received 14 submissions in opposition to our proposals for this area. Based on the evidence we received, we explored and identified an alternative division arrangement for rural North Devon. Given that the pattern of divisions we identified had not been consulted upon previously, we decided to consult locally in North Devon on whether this new pattern of divisions should be adopted as part of our final recommendations. In response to this further consultation we received 22 submissions, 21 of which supported our amended proposals. We consider that our revised Combe Martin Rural division provides a much improved reflection of community identity in this area.
Fremington Rural	1	-9%	Fremington Rural division comprises the parishes of Instow, Westleigh, Horwood, Lovacott & Newton Tracey as well as the majority of Fremington parish.	During consultation on our draft recommendations we did not receive any submissions that commented specifically on our proposals for this area. We are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our Fremington Rural division as final.
Ilfracombe	1	-11%	This division contains the parish of Ilfracombe.	During the consultation on our draft recommendations we received 14 submissions in opposition to our proposals for this area. Based on the evidence we received, we explored and identified an alternative division arrangement for rural North Devon. Given that the pattern of divisions we identified had not been consulted upon previously, we decided to consult locally in North Devon on whether this new pattern of divisions should be adopted as part of our final recommendations. In response to this further consultation we received 22 submissions, 21 of which supported our

				amended proposals. We consider that our revised Ilfracombe division uses clear and identifiable boundaries and provides a good reflection of community identity.
South Molton	1	-5%	South Molton division comprises the parishes of Bishop's Nympton, Brayford, East & West Buckland, East Anstey, East Worlinton, Filleigh, George Nympton, Knowstone, Mariansleigh, Meshaw, Molland, North Molton, Queen's Nympton, Rackenford, Romansleigh, Rose Ash, South Molton, Twitchen, West Anstey and Witheridge.	During the consultation on our draft recommendations we received 14 submissions in opposition to our proposals for this area. Based on the evidence we received, we explored and identified an alternative division arrangement for rural North Devon. Given that the pattern of divisions we identified had not been consulted upon previously, we decided to consult locally in North Devon on whether this new pattern of divisions should be adopted as part of our final recommendations. In response to this further consultation we received 22 submissions, 21 of which supported our amended proposals. We consider that our revised South Molton division provides an improved reflection of community identity in this area and uses clear and identifiable boundaries.

South Hams District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Bickleigh & Wembury	1	-9%	This division consists of the parishes of Bickleigh, Brixton, Cornwood, Harford, Shaugh Prior, Sparkwell and Wembury.	We received one submission that commented on our proposed Bickleigh & Wembury division. We are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and accordingly we confirm our Bickleigh & Wembury division as final.
Dartmouth & Marldon	1	-1%	This division comprises the parishes of Ashprington, Cornworthy, Dartmouth, Dittisham, Kingswear, Littlehempston, Marldon, Stoke Gabriel and the rural part of Berry Pomeroy parish.	During consultation on our draft recommendations we received three submissions that commented on our proposed Dartmouth & Marldon division. Having considered the evidence received we are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our Dartmouth & Marldon division as final.
Ivybridge	1	-8%	Ivybridge division contains the parish of Ivybridge and the Filham area of Ugborough parish.	During consultation on our draft recommendations we received two submissions that commented on our proposed Ivybridge division, both of which supported our proposal. We are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our draft recommendations for Ivybridge as final.
Kingsbridge	1	9%	This division comprises the parishes of Blackawton, Charleton, Chivelstone, East Allington, East Portlemouth, Frogmore & Sherford, Kingsbridge, Slapton, South Pool, Stoke Fleming, Stokenham and Strete.	We received five submissions that commented on our proposed Kingsbridge division, including some support for our proposal. Having considered the evidence received we are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our Kingsbridge division as final.
Salcombe	1	-7%	This division comprises the parishes of Aveton Gifford,	We received two submissions that commented on our proposed Salcombe division. Having considered the

			Bigbury, Buckland-Tout-Saints, Churchstow, Kingston, Loddiswell, Malborough, Modbury, Halwell & Moreleigh, Ringmore, Salcombe, South Huish, South Milton, Thurlestone, West Alvington and Woodleigh.	evidence received we are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our draft recommendations for Salcombe as final.
South Brent & Yealmpton	1	4%	This division comprises the parishes of Dean Prior, Diptford, Ermington, Holbeton, Holne, Newton & Noss, North Huish, Rattery, South Brent, West Buckfastleigh, Yealmpton and the majority of Ugborough parish.	<p>During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received 13 submissions that commented on our proposed Yealmpton division. Many of these submissions were in opposition to our proposed Yealmpton division. However, we did not receive any persuasive evidence supporting alternative proposals for this area. We have explored whether we could identify any alternative arrangements for this area based on the evidence received and taking into account our statutory criteria; however, making amendments to this division would have significant knock-on effects on our arrangements for the whole of South Hams district.</p> <p>Having considered the evidence received and in the absence of any viable alternative proposals for this area we have decided to confirm our draft recommendations for the boundaries of this division as final.</p> <p>A number of respondents did propose that South Brent should be incorporated into the name of this division. We have therefore decided to include the name South Brent & Yealmpton as part of our final recommendations.</p>

<p>Totnes & Dartington</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>3%</p>	<p>This division comprises the parishes of Dartington, Harberton, Staverton, Totnes and part of Berry Pomeroy parish.</p>	<p>We received 23 submissions that commented on our proposed Totnes & Dartington division. The majority of respondents opposed the proposal to include the parishes of Dartington and Staverton in the same division as Totnes. However, we did not receive any well-evidenced or viable alternative proposals for this area. We have explored whether we could identify any alternative arrangements for this area based on the evidence received and taking into account our statutory criteria; however, making amendments to this division would have significant knock-on effects on our arrangements for the whole of South Hams district.</p> <p>Whilst we note the assertion put forward by many respondents that Dartington, Staverton and Totnes are distinct communities, our <i>Technical guidance</i> for electoral reviews is quite clear in stating <i>'In some areas, a ward or division will be greater in physical extent than an identifiable community: sometimes we have to combine two or more distinct and separate communities within a single ward or division.... However, there are likely to be instances where we recommend a ward or division that encompass communities that have no community linkages.'</i></p> <p>We are therefore content that our draft recommendations provide a good balance between our statutory criteria and we confirm our proposed Totnes & Dartington division as final.</p>
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Teignbridge District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Ashburton & Buckfastleigh	1	-4%	This division comprises the parishes of Ashburton, Bickington, Broadhempston, Buckfastleigh, Denbury & Torbryan, Ogwell and Woodland.	We received three submissions that commented on our proposed Ashburton & Buckfastleigh division. Based on the evidence received we propose one minor change to this division. Under our final recommendations we have included Bickington as part of this division based on the evidence received during consultation. Elsewhere, we are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and, subject to this minor amendment, we confirm our Ashburton & Buckfastleigh division as final.
Bovey Rural	1	-7%	This division comprises the parishes of Bovey Tracey, Buckland-in-the-Moor, Ilsington, Lustleigh, Manaton, North Bovey, Teigngrace and Widecombe-in-the-Moor.	During consultation on our draft recommendations we received five submissions that commented on our proposed Bovey Rural division, including some in support of our proposals. Having considered the evidence received we have made a minor amendment to this division so that Bickington parish is included in the neighbouring Ashburton & Buckfastleigh division as part of our final recommendations. Subject to this amendment we are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our Bovey Rural division as final.
Chudleigh & Teign Valley	1	-3%	This division consists of the parishes of Ashton, Bridford, Christow, Chudleigh, Doddiscombsleigh, Dunsford, Hennock, Moretonhampstead, Tedburn St Mary and Trusham.	We received three submissions that commented on our proposed Chudleigh & Teign Valley division, including some support for our proposal. Having considered the evidence received we are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our Chudleigh & Teign Valley division as final.

Dawlish	1	7%	This division consists of the parish of Dawlish and part of eastern Teignmouth.	During consultation on our draft recommendations we received four submissions that commented on our proposed Dawlish division. We are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our draft recommendations for Dawlish as final.
Exminster & Haldon	1	-5%	This division consists of the parishes of Ashcombe, Dunchideock, Exminster, Holcombe Burnell, Ide, Kenn, Kenton, Mamhead, Powderham, Shillingford St George, Starcross and Whitestone.	We received three submissions that commented on our proposed Exminster & Haldon division, including some support for our proposal. We did not receive any persuasive evidence putting forward alternative proposals for this area and we are therefore content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria. Accordingly we confirm our Exminster & Haldon division as final.
Ipplepen & The Kerswells	1	-3%	This division contains the parishes of Abbotskerswell, Coffinswell, Ipplepen, Kingskerswell, Shaldon, Stokeinteignhead and the rural part of Haccombe with Combe parish.	During the consultation on our draft recommendations we received three submissions regarding our proposed Teignhead & Kerwell division. Based on the evidence received we have decided to re-name this division Ipplepen & The Kerswells as part of our final recommendations. Subject to this name change we confirm our draft recommendations for this area as final.
Kingsteignton & Teign Estuary	1	4%	This division comprises the parishes of Bishopsteignton, Ideford and Kingsteignton.	We received 24 submissions that commented on our proposed The Teigntons division, including some support for our proposal. The majority of respondents opposed the proposal to include the parish of Bishopsteignton in the same division as Kingsteignton. Most respondents stated that they would prefer to see Bishopsteignton included in the same division as Teignmouth; however, we did not receive any persuasive evidence to support this modification or viable alternative proposals. Under our draft recommendations our proposed Teignmouth division would result in the councillor for that division

				<p>representing 10% more electors than the average for the county by 2021. Whilst we consider this to be an acceptable level of electoral equality, our proposed Teignmouth division could not accommodate any more electors.</p> <p>Whilst we note the comments put forward by many respondents that Kingsteignton and Bishopsteignton are distinct communities, our Technical guidance for electoral reviews is quite clear in stating <i>'In some areas, a ward or division will be greater in physical extent than an identifiable community: sometimes we have to combine two or more distinct and separate communities within a single ward or division.... However, there are likely to be instances where we recommend a ward or division that encompass communities that have no community linkages.'</i></p> <p>We are therefore content that, in the absence of any viable alternatives, our draft recommendations provide a good balance between our statutory criteria and we confirm the boundaries of this division as final.</p> <p>We also received a number of submissions that commented on the name of our proposed division. Based on the evidence received we have decided to re-name the division Kingsteignton & Teign Estuary as part of our final recommendations.</p>
Newton Abbot North	1	6%	This division comprises the northern part of Newton Abbot parish, bounded by the River Lemon and East Street and Torquay Road to the south.	<p>During consultation on our draft recommendations we received two submissions that commented on our proposals for Newton Abbot. Having considered the evidence received we are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our Newton Abbot North division as final.</p>

Newton Abbot South	1	0%	This division comprises the southern part of Newton Abbot parish, bounded by the River Lemon and East Street and Torquay Road to the north, and that part of Haccombe with Combe parish to the south of Haccombe Path.	During consultation on our draft recommendations we received two submissions that commented on our proposals for Newton Abbot. Having considered the evidence received we are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our Newton Abbot South division as final.
Teignmouth	1	10%	This division contains most of Teignmouth parish apart from the area that lies between Dawlish Road and Sprey Point.	During consultation on our draft recommendations we received 18 submissions that commented on our proposals for Teignmouth. We did not receive any persuasive evidence for alternative proposals for this area. Having considered the evidence received, we are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our Teignmouth division as final.

Torridge District

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Bideford East	1	5%	Bideford East division comprises the parishes of Alverdiscott, Huntshaw, Landcross, Littleham, Monkleigh, Weare Giffard and the eastern part of Bideford.	During consultation on our draft recommendations we received three submissions that commented on our proposals for Bideford East. Having considered the evidence received we are content that our draft recommendations provide the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm our Bideford East division as final.
Bideford West & Hartland	1	-2%	This division comprises parishes of Abbotsham, Alwington, Clovelly, Hartland, Parkham, Welcombe, Woolfardisworthy and the western part of Bideford.	We received seven submissions regarding our proposed Bideford West & Hartland division during the consultation on our draft recommendations. Based on the evidence received we have proposed one minor amendment to boundaries of this division. As part of our final recommendations we propose to not include the parish of Bradworthy in this division. Under our final recommendations Bradworthy is included in our Holsworthy Rural division. Subject to this minor amendment, we confirm our draft recommendations for Bideford West & Hartland as final.
Holsworthy Rural	1	10%	This division contains the parishes of Abbots Bickington, Ashwater, Black Torrington, Bradford, Bradworthy, Bridgerule, Broadwoodwidge, Buckland Brewer, Bulkworthy, Clawton, Cookbury, East Putford, Halwill, Hollacombe, Holsworthy, Holsworthy Hamlets, Luffincott, Milton Damerel, Newton St Petrock, Northcott, Pancrasweek,	During consultation on our draft recommendations we received 10 submissions regarding our proposed Holsworthy Rural division, including two submissions in support of our proposal. Based on the evidence received we have proposed one minor amendment to boundaries of this division. As part of our final recommendations we propose to include the parish of Bradworthy in this division. Subject to this minor amendment to include Bradworthy parish, we confirm our draft recommendations for Holsworthy Rural as final.

			Pyworthy, Shebbear, Sheepwash, St Giles on the Heath, Sutcombe, Tetcott, Thornbury, West Putford and Virginstow.	
Northam	1	0%	This division contains the parish of Northam.	We did not receive any submissions specifically relating to our proposed Northam division during the consultation on our draft recommendations. We are therefore content that our proposed Northam division provides a good balance between our statutory criteria and we confirm our draft recommendations as final.
Torrington Rural	1	1%	This division comprises the parishes of Ashreigney, Beaford, Buckland Filleigh, Dolton, Dowland, Frithelstock, Great Torrington, High Bickington, Huish, Langtree, Little Torrington, Merton, Peters Marland, Petrockstowe, Roborough, St Giles in the Wood, Winkleigh and Yarnscombe.	During the consultation on our draft recommendations we did not receive any submissions specifically relating to our proposed Torrington Rural division. We are therefore content that our proposed Torrington Rural division provides a good balance between our statutory criteria and we confirm our draft recommendations as final.

West Devon Borough

Division name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
Hatherleigh & Chagford	1	7%	This division comprises the parishes of Beaworthy, Belstone, Bondleigh, Broadwoodkelly, Chagford,	We received two submissions specifically relating to this division, one of which supported our proposal. We did not receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals

			Drewsteignton, Exbourne, Gidleigh, Hatherleigh, Highampton, Iddesleigh, Inwardleigh, Jacobstowe, Meeth, Monkokehampton, North Tawton, Northlew, Sampford Courtenay, South Tawton, Spreyton, Sticklepath and Throwleigh.	forHatherleigh & Chagford and we therefore propose to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Okehampton Rural	1	9%	This division contains the parishes of Bradstone, Bratton Clovelly, Bridestowe, Coryton, Dunterton, Germansweek, Kelly, Lamerton, Lifton, Lewtrenchard, Marystow, Milton Abbot, Okehampton, Okehampton Hamlets, Sourton, Stowford, Sydenham Damerel and Thrushelton.	We received a single submission specifically relating to our proposed Okehampton Rural division. The submission did not make an alternative proposal and having considered the evidence received during consultation, we are content that our proposed Okehampton Rural division provides the best balance between our statutory criteria. We therefore confirm our Okehampton Rural division as final.
Tavistock	1	6%	This division consists of the parishes of Gulworthy and Tavistock.	We received two submissions specifically relating to our proposed Tavistock division. We did not receive any persuasive evidence for an alternative proposal for Tavistock and we therefore propose to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.
Yelverton Rural	1	7%	This division comprises the parishes of Bere Ferrers, Brentor, Buckland Monachorum, Dartmoor Forest, Horrabridge, Lydford, Mary Tavy, Meavy, Peter Tavy, Sampford Spiney,	During consultation on our draft recommendations we received one submission specifically relating to our proposed Yelverton Rural division. We did not receive any persuasive evidence for an alternative proposal for Yelverton Rural and we therefore propose to confirm this division as part of our final recommendations.

			Sheepstor, Walkhampton and Whitchurch.	
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Conclusions

35 Table 1 shows the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2014 and 2021 electorate figures.

Table 1: Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2014	2021
Number of councillors	60	60
Number of electoral divisions	58	58
Average number of electors per councillor	9,977	10,417
Number of divisions with a variance more than 10% from the average	17	1
Number of divisions with a variance more than 20% from the average	2	0

Final recommendations

Devon County Council should comprise 60 councillors serving 58 divisions representing 56 single-member divisions and two two-member divisions. The details and names are shown in Table A1 and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

Mapping

Sheet 1, Map 1 illustrates in outline form the proposed wards for Devon. You can also view our final recommendations for Devon on our interactive maps at <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>

Parish electoral arrangements

36 As part of an electoral review, we are required to have regard to the statutory criteria set out in Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (the 2009 Act). The Schedule provides that if a parish is to be divided between different divisions it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single division. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

37 Under the 2009 Act we only have the power to make changes to parish electoral arrangements where these are as a direct consequence of our recommendations for principal authority warding arrangements. However, the city, district and borough councils in Devon have powers under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct community governance reviews to effect changes to

parish electoral arrangements.

38 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Exmouth, Teignmouth and Tiverton.

39 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Exmouth parish.

Final recommendation

Exmouth Town Council should comprise 25 councillors, as at present, representing six wards: Brixington (returning five members), Halsdon (returning five members), Littleham (returning six members), Richmond Road (returning one member), Town (returning four members) and Withycombe (returning four members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

40 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Teignmouth parish.

Final recommendation

Teignmouth Town Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing four wards: Central (returning four members), East (returning three members), Rowdens (returning one member) and West (returning four members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

41 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Tiverton parish.

Final recommendation

Tiverton Town Council should comprise 24 councillors, as at present, representing five wards: Castle (returning four members), Central (returning one member), Cranmore (returning five members), Lowman (returning nine members) and Westexe (returning five members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

3 What happens next?

42 We have now completed our review of Devon County Council. The recommendations must now be approved by Parliament. A draft Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in Parliament. Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements will come into force at the local elections in 2017.

Equalities

43 This report has been screened for impact on equalities; with due regard being given to the general equalities duties as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. As no potential negative impacts were identified, a full equality impact analysis is not required.

Appendix A

Table A1: Final recommendations for Devon County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2014)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
East Devon District								
1	Axminster	1	8,389	8,389	-16%	9,775	9,775	-6%
2	Broadclyst	2	7,633	7,633	-62%	20,107	10,054	-3%
3	Exmouth	2	23,895	11,948	20%	21,976	10,988	5%
4	Exmouth & Budleigh Salterton Coastal	1	10,897	10,897	9%	10,285	10,285	-1%
5	Feniton & Honiton	1	10,663	10,663	7%	10,046	10,046	-4%
6	Otter Valley	1	9,893	9,893	-1%	9,474	9,474	-9%
7	Seaton & Colyton	1	11,138	11,138	12%	10,600	10,600	2%
8	Sidmouth	1	11,659	11,659	17%	10,546	10,546	1%
9	Whimple & Blackdown	1	10,322	10,322	3%	9,487	9,487	-9%

Table A1: Final recommendations for Devon County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2014)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
Exeter City								
10	Alphington & Cowick	1	11,363	11,363	14%	11,024	11,024	6%
11	Duryard & Pennsylvania	1	10,952	10,952	10%	10,319	10,319	-1%
12	Exwick & St Thomas	1	10,324	10,324	3%	9,755	9,755	-6%
13	Heavitree & Whipton Barton	1	10,236	10,236	3%	10,429	10,429	0%
14	Pinhoe & Mincinglake	1	9,290	9,290	-7%	10,520	10,520	1%
15	St David's & Haven Banks	1	10,016	10,016	0%	9,733	9,733	-7%
16	St Sidwells & St James	1	10,501	10,501	5%	10,083	10,083	-3%
17	Wearside & Topsham	1	8,301	8,301	-17%	9,668	9,668	-7%
18	Wonford & St Loyes	1	9,498	9,498	-5%	9,939	9,939	-5%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Devon County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2014)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
Mid Devon District								
19	Crediton	1	10,010	10,010	0%	10,886	10,886	4%
20	Creedy, Taw & Mid Exe	1	10,895	10,895	9%	10,872	10,872	4%
21	Cullompton & Bradninch	1	9,100	9,100	-9%	10,804	10,804	4%
22	Tiverton East	1	9,742	9,742	-2%	11,164	11,164	7%
23	Tiverton West	1	10,384	10,384	4%	10,341	10,341	-1%
24	Willand & Uffculme	1	10,403	10,403	4%	10,381	10,381	0%
North Devon District								
25	Barnstaple North	1	10,912	10,912	9%	11,152	11,152	7%
26	Barnstaple South	1	10,343	10,343	4%	10,870	10,870	4%
27	Braunton Rural	1	9,578	9,578	-4%	9,577	9,577	-8%
28	Chulmleigh & Landkey	1	7,493	7,493	-25%	11,475	11,475	10%
29	Combe Martin Rural	1	10,003	10,003	0%	10,055	10,055	-3%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Devon County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2014)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
30	Fremington Rural	1	8,629	8,629	-14%	9,518	9,518	-9%
31	Ilfracombe	1	9,323	9,323	-7%	9,322	9,322	-11%
32	South Molton	1	9,935	9,935	0%	9,934	9,934	-5%
South Hams District								
33	Bickleigh & Wembury	1	9,439	9,439	-5%	9,462	9,462	-9%
34	Dartmouth & Marldon	1	9,992	9,992	0%	10,349	10,349	-1%
35	Ivybridge	1	9,486	9,486	-5%	9,546	9,546	-8%
36	Kingsbridge	1	10,555	10,555	6%	11,347	11,347	9%
37	Salcombe	1	9,288	9,288	-7%	9,706	9,706	-7%
38	South Brent & Yealmpton	1	10,159	10,159	2%	10,800	10,800	4%
39	Totnes & Dartington	1	9,886	9,886	-1%	10,728	10,728	3%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Devon County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2014)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
Teignbridge District								
40	Ashburton & Buckfastleigh	1	9,967	9,967	0%	9,978	9,978	-4%
41	Bovey Rural	1	9,903	9,903	-1%	9,739	9,739	-7%
42	Chudleigh & Teign Valley	1	10,160	10,160	2%	10,117	10,117	-3%
43	Dawlish	1	11,408	11,408	14%	11,170	11,170	7%
44	Exminster & Haldon	1	8,551	8,551	-14%	9,852	9,852	-5%
45	Ipplepen & The Kerswells	1	10,300	10,300	3%	10,129	10,129	-3%
46	Kingsteignton & Teign Estuary	1	11,212	11,212	12%	10,784	10,784	4%
47	Newton Abbot North	1	9,585	9,585	-4%	11,062	11,062	6%
48	Newton Abbot South	1	9,986	9,986	0%	10,450	10,450	0%
49	Teignmouth	1	11,856	11,856	19%	11,448	11,448	10%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Devon County Council

	Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2014)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
Torrige District								
50	Bideford East	1	9,986	9,986	0%	10,979	10,979	5%
51	Bideford West & Hartland	1	8,588	8,588	-14%	10,201	10,201	-2%
52	Holsworthy Rural	1	11,871	11,871	19%	11,450	11,450	10%
53	Northam	1	10,073	10,073	1%	10,433	10,433	0%
54	Torrington Rural	1	10,990	10,990	10%	10,524	10,524	1%
West Devon Borough								
55	Hatherleigh & Chagford	1	10,432	10,432	5%	11,179	11,179	7%
56	Okehampton Rural	1	11,250	11,250	13%	11,323	11,323	9%
57	Tavistock	1	10,345	10,345	4%	10,994	10,994	6%
58	Yelverton Rural	1	11,657	11,657	17%	11,171	11,171	7%
Totals		60	598,645	-	-	625,039	-	-
Averages		-	-	9,977	-	-	10,417	-

- Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Devon County Council.
- Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the number of electors per councillor in each electoral ward varies from the average for the district. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Appendix B

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at

<http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/south-west/devon/devon-county-council>

Local authorities

- Devon County Council
- East Devon District Council
- Mr J. Street, Electoral Registration & Returning Officer (Exeter City Council)

Political groups

- Devon County Council Liberal Democrat Group
- East Devon Conservative Association
- East Devon Liberal Democrats
- Exeter Labour Party

County councillors

- Councillor C. Channon (Devon County Council)
- Councillor A. Dewhirst (Devon County Council)
- Councillor R. Hannaford (Devon County Council)
- Councillor R. Hosking (Devon County Council)
- Councillor A. Moulding (Devon County Council)
- Councillor J. Owen (Devon County Council)
- Councillor M. Squires (Devon County Council)
- Councillor E. Wragg (Devon County Council)

District councillors

- Councillor P. Bull (Exeter City Council)
- Councillor M. Coppell (East Devon District Council)
- Councillor J. Hodgson (South Hams District Council)

Parish councillor

- Parish Councillor J. Gardner (Stokenham Parish Council)
- Parish Councillor S. Gaskin (South Brent Parish Council)
- Parish Councillor C. Gibbins (Feniton Parish Council)
- Parish Councillor G. Long (Upottery Parish Council)

Parish and town councils

- All Saints Parish Council
- Axminster Town Council
- Axmouth Parish Council

- Aylesbeare Parish Council
- Berryarbor Parish Council
- Bickington Parish Council
- Bishopsteignton Parish Council
- Bradworthy Parish Council
- Branscombe Parish Council
- Brayford Parish Council
- Broadclyst Parish Council
- Buckerell Parish Council
- Buckfastleigh Town Council
- Buckland Brewer Parish Council
- Budleigh Salterton Town Council
- Chagford Parish Council
- Chardstock Parish Council (two submissions)
- Chulmleigh Parish Council
- Clyst Honiton Parish Council
- Clyst St George Parish Council
- Combe Martin Parish Council (two submissions)
- Compyne & Rousdon Parish Council
- Cotleigh Parish Council
- Dalwood Parish Council
- Dartington Parish Council
- Diptford Parish Council
- East Allington Parish Council
- East & West Buckland Parish Council
- East Budleigh with Bicton Parish Council
- Exmouth Town Council
- Hawkchurch Parish Council
- Heanton Punchardon Parish Council
- Holcombe Burnell Parish Council
- Holsworthy Town Council
- Honiton Town Council
- Ilfracombe Town Council
- Ivybridge Town Council
- Kentisbury & Trentishoe Parish Council
- Kilminster Parish Council
- Kingsbridge Town Council
- Kingsteignton Town Council
- Loxhore Parish Council
- Luppitt Parish Council
- Marldon Parish Council and Berry Pomeroy Parish Council (joint submission)
- Marwood Parish Council
- Membury Parish Council

- Milton Damerel Parish Council
- Morchard Bishop Parish Council
- Moretonhampstead Parish Council
- Morteheo Parish Council
- Musbury Parish Council
- Newton & Noss Parish Council
- Newton Poppleford & Harpford Parish Council
- Newton St Cyres Parish Council
- North Molton Parish Council
- North Tawton Town Council
- Otterton Parish Council
- Ottery St Mary Town Council
- Pilton West Parish Council
- Plasterdown Grouped Parish Council
- Rattery Parish Council
- Shirwell Parish Council
- Shobrooke Parish Council
- Sidmouth Town Council
- South Brent Parish Council
- Staverton Parish Council
- Stoke Gabriel Parish Council
- Tawstock Parish Council
- Teignmouth Town Council
- Tiverton Town Council
- Totnes Town Council
- Upottery Parish Council
- Wembury Parish Council
- West Down Parish Council
- Whimble Parish Council
- Whitestone Parish Council
- Woodbury Parish Council

Local organisations

- Axminster DALC Committee
- Bishopsteignton Residents' Association
- Blackdown Hills AONB Partnership
- Broadhempston Residents' Association
- Exeter St James Community Trust Ltd
- Exeter St James Forum
- Otter Valley Association
- St Leonards Neighbourhood Association

Members of public

- 91 members of public

Further consultation: submissions received

Local authorities

- Devon County Council

Parish and town councils

- Ashford Parish Council
- Berrynarbor Parish Council
- Brayford Parish Council
- Brendon & Countisbury Parish Council
- Chittlehampton Parish Council
- Chulmleigh Parish Council
- Combe Martin Parish Council
- East & West Buckland Parish Council (two submissions)
- East Down Parish Council
- Horwood, Lovacott & Newton Tracey Parish Council
- Kentisbury & Trentishoe Parish Council
- Mortehoe Parish Council
- North Molton Parish Council
- Parracombe Parish Council
- Shirwell Parish Council
- Swimbridge Parish Council
- Tawstock Parish Council
- West Down Parish Council
- Witheridge Parish Council

Members of public

- One member of public

Appendix C

Glossary and abbreviations

Council size	The number of councillors elected to serve on a council
Electoral Change Order (or Order)	A legal document which implements changes to the electoral arrangements of a local authority
Division	A specific area of a county, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever division they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the county council
Electoral fairness	When one elector's vote is worth the same as another's
Electoral inequality	Where there is a difference between the number of electors represented by a councillor and the average for the local authority
Electorate	People in the authority who are registered to vote in elections. For the purposes of this report, we refer specifically to the electorate for local government elections
Number of electors per councillor	The total number of electors in a local authority divided by the number of councillors
Over-represented	Where there are fewer electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average

Parish	A specific and defined area of land within a single local authority enclosed within a parish boundary. There are over 10,000 parishes in England, which provide the first tier of representation to their local residents
Parish council	A body elected by electors in the parish which serves and represents the area defined by the parish boundaries. See also 'Town council'
Parish (or Town) council electoral arrangements	The total number of councillors on any one parish or town council; the number, names and boundaries of parish wards; and the number of councillors for each ward
Parish ward	A particular area of a parish, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors vote in whichever parish ward they live for candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the parish council
Town council	A parish council which has been given ceremonial 'town' status. More information on achieving such status can be found at www.nalc.gov.uk
Under-represented	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Variance (or electoral variance)	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward or division varies in percentage terms from the average
Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council