

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

REPORT NO. 70

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

CHAIRMAN

Sir Edmund Compton, GCB, KBE.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Mr J M Rankin, QC.

MEMBERS

The Countess Of Albemarle, DBE.

Mr T C Benfield.

Professor Michael Chisholm.

Sir Andrew Wheatley, CBE.

Mr F B Young, CBE.

To the Rt Hon Roy Jenkins, MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department

PROPOSALS FOR REVISED ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DISTRICT OF
TEST VALLEY IN THE COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE

1. We, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, having carried out our initial review of the electoral arrangements for the district of Test Valley in accordance with the requirements of section 63 of, and Schedule 9 to the Local Government Act 1972, present our proposals for the future electoral arrangements for that district.
2. In accordance with the procedure laid down in section 60(1) and (2) of the 1972 Act, notice was given on 3 June 1974 that we were to undertake this review. This was incorporated in a consultation letter addressed to the Test Valley District Council, copies of which were circulated to the Hampshire County Council, Parish Councils and Parish Meetings in the district, the Members of Parliament for the constituencies concerned and the headquarters of the main political parties. Copies were also sent to the editors of the local newspapers circulating in the area and to the local government press. Notices inserted in the local press announced the start of the review and invited comments from members of the public and from any interested bodies.
3. Test Valley District Council were invited to prepare a draft scheme of representation for our consideration. In doing so, they were asked to observe the rules laid down in Schedule 11 to the Local Government Act 1972 and the guide lines which we set out in our Report No 6 about the proposed size of the council and the proposed number of councillors for each ward. They were asked also to take into account any views expressed to them following their consultations with local interests. We therefore asked they they should publish details of their provisional proposals about a month before they submitted their draft scheme to us, thus allowing an opportunity for local comment.

4. In accordance with section 7(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the District Council had exercised an option for a system of whole council elections.

5. On 29 October 1974 the Test Valley District Council presented their draft scheme of representation. The Council proposed to divide the area into 23 wards each returning 1, 2 or 3 members to form a Council of 42, one less than at present.

6. We considered the comments sent to us and to the District Council following their publication of the draft scheme together with those of the proposals received by the District Council at an earlier stage in the preparation of the scheme which they had not felt able to adopt and incorporate in their submission. The comments and proposals included suggestions as to the names of some of the wards, for the modification of the boundaries of the proposed Alamein, Harroway and Bourne Valley wards and in relation to the standard of representation to be accorded to the proposed North Baddesley Tedworth and Bourne Valley wards. On the evidence before us we considered that there were insufficient grounds for acceding to any of these proposals and accordingly we decided to reject them.

7. In submitting their scheme the District Council had drawn attention to the likely growth in the electorate of the proposed Alamein and Harroway wards in Andover and suggested that additional members should be assigned to these wards before the elections in 1979 and 1983. In compliance with the rules in Schedule 11 to the 1972 Act we considered the likely changes in the number and distribution of local government electors in the district by 1979/80 and concluded, in the case of these two proposed wards, that an additional member should be assigned to each.

8. In relation to the names of the proposed wards we were uncertain as to the extent to which the area covered by the proposed "Kings Somborne Hundred" ward coincided with the area of Old Hundred of that name and concluded

it would be better to abbreviate the name to read simply "Kings Somborne".

9. On the advice of the Ordnance Survey we adopted three minor modifications to the ward boundaries proposed by the District Council in Andover.

10. Subject to the changes referred to in the three preceding paragraphs we decided that the District Council's draft scheme provided a reasonable basis for the future electoral arrangements of the district and we formulated our draft proposals accordingly.

11. On 28 January 1975 we issued our draft proposals and these were sent to all who had received our consultation letter or had commented on the Council's draft scheme. The Council were asked to make these draft proposals, and the accompanying maps which defined the proposed ward boundaries, available for inspection at their main offices. Representations on our draft proposals were invited from those to whom they were circulated and, by public notices, from other members of the public and interested bodies. We asked that any comments should reach us by 28 March 1975.

12. Shortly before 28 March 1975 we agreed to requests to extend the period for the receipt of comments so as to allow more time for the submission of representations in relation to the proposed wards in the town of Romsey. These submissions, received from two political parties and an individual, objected to the proposal to establish three wards in the town - Abbey, Tadburn and Cupernham - each returning two district councillors. It was suggested that six wards would be more appropriate with each ward returning one district councillor and 3 town councillors. In view of the parish electoral implications of these proposals we sent copies of the correspondence to the District Council and to the Romsey Town Council and asked for their reactions. In the ensuing local discussions a consensus seems to have emerged in favour of three wards, as proposed by the District Council, but with the boundaries realigned to follow the railway which divides the town.

In due course the District Council informed us that they had made an order under section 50(4) of the 1972 Act to create parish wards accordingly, with each ward returning 5 town councillors. It was suggested that each parish ward should be a district ward returning 2 councillors. The District Council's decision was supported by the Romsey Town Council and enquiries by our staff of those who had objected established either that they supported the three revised wards or at least accepted them on the basis that they were much better than those proposed by the District Council originally. We studied the revised wards and decided to recommend them as district wards each returning two councillors.

13. The other comments which we received in response to our draft proposals referred to the names of three of the proposed wards.

14. The Chilworth Parish Council reiterated their earlier objection to the omission of "Chilworth" from the name of the proposed district ward comprising that parish and the parish of Nursling and Rowhams. These representations were supported by a residents association, a local political party, a district councillor and a resident of Chilworth. It was suggested that the ward should be known as "Chilworth & Nursling". In view of the apparent local feeling on the matter we agreed that we should modify our proposals accordingly.

15. The Monxton Parish Council and the Abbots Ann Parish Council reiterated their earlier objections to the name "Clatford" for the proposed district ward made up of those parishes and the parishes of Upper Clatford and Goodworth Clatford. The alternative suggestions were "Pilbrook", "Pillhill", "Ann" or "Anna". These alternative names were the subject of discussions between our officers and the Chairman and/or Clerks of all the parish councils comprised in the proposed ward from which it emerged that the name "Ann" or "Anna" would find general acceptance. We felt that "Anna" would be appropriate and we decided to modify our proposals accordingly.

16. Finally we received representations from the Michelmersh Parish Council objecting to the proposed name "Kings Somborne" for the proposed district ward comprising the parishes of Michelmersh, Kings Somborne, Little Somborne and Ashley. They pressed for the adoption of the proposal which they had made earlier to the District Council that the ward should be known as "Compton". Our officers consulted informally with the officers of the District Council who in turn consulted the district councillors for the areas concerned and the parish councils. In the ensuing local discussions the name "Kings Somborne and Michelmersh" seems to have found general acceptance and we resolved to name the proposed ward accordingly.

17. Subject to the modifications referred to in paragraphs 11 to 15 above we decided that our draft proposals should be confirmed and that we should formulate our final proposals accordingly.

18. Details of these final proposals are set out in Schedule 1 to this report and on the attached maps. Schedule 1 gives the names of the wards and the number of councillors to be returned by each ward. The boundaries of the new wards are defined on the maps.

PUBLICATION

19. In accordance with Section 60(5)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 a copy of this report and a copy of the maps are being sent to Test Valley District Council and will be made available for public inspection at the Council's main offices. Copies of this report (without maps) are also being sent to those who received the consultation letter and to those who made comments. A detailed

description of the boundaries of the proposed wards as defined on the maps is set out in Schedule 2 to this report.

L.S.

Signed

EDMUND COMPTON (Chairman)

JOHN M RANKIN (Deputy Chairman)

DIANA ALBEMARLE

T C BENFIELD

MICHAEL CHISHOLM

ANDREW WHEATLEY

F B YOUNG

DAVID R SMITH (Secretary)

26 June 1975

SCHEDULE I

TEST VALLEY DISTRICT : NAMES OF PROPOSED WARDS AND NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS

<u>NAME OF WARD</u>	<u>NO OF COUNCILLORS</u>
ABBEY	2
ALAMEIN	3
BLACKWATER	2
BOURNE VALLEY	1
ANNA	2
CUPERNHAM	2
DUN VALLEY	1
FIELD	1
HAREWOOD	2
HARROWAY	3
KINGS SOMBOENE AND MICHELMERSH	1
MILLWAY	3
NETHER WALLOP AND BROUGHTON	1
NORTH BADDESLEY	3
CHILMORTH AND NURSING	2
OVER WALLOP	1
ROMSEY EXTRA	1
ST MARY'S	3
STOCKBRIDGE	1
TADBURN	2
TEDWORTH	2
WEYHILL	2
WINTON	3

TEST VALLEY DISTRICT - DESCRIPTION OF WARDS

NOTE: Where the boundary is described as following a road, railway, river, canal or similar feature, it should be deemed to follow the centre line of the feature unless otherwise stated.

ALAMEIN WARD

Commencing at a point where the Salisbury to Waterloo Railway meets the River Anton, thence northwestwards and following said river to a point being a prolongation southeastwards of a straight line between NG References SU 3558047496 and SU 3600047256; thence northeastwards to and along said prolongation and straight line to Enhams Lane thence southwestwards along said lane to the path on the western side of parcel No 472 on OS County Series Hants XXIII.4 Revision of 1940 thence northeastwards along said path to the northeastern boundary of parcel No 338 on OS County Series Hants XV16 Edition of 1924 thence northwestwards and following said boundary to the track on the northwest side of parcel No 327 on said plan, thence northeastwards along said track to the southern boundary of parcel No 317 on said plan, thence northwestwards and following said boundary to the eastern boundary of Tangley CP, thence northeastwards and following said CP boundary to the western boundary of Smannell CP, thence northwestwards and following the western, northern, eastern, southern and western boundaries of the said CP, to the Salisbury to Waterloo Railway, thence southwestwards along said Railway to the point of commencement.

HARROWAY WARD

Commencing at a point where the southwestern boundary of Alamein Ward meets the Salisbury to Waterloo Railway, thence southwestwards along said Railway to Weyhill Road, thence northwestwards along said road to the A303(T), thence southwestwards and northwestwards along the A303(T) to the eastern boundary of Penton Newsey CP, thence northeastwards along said boundary to the southern boundary of Tangley CP, thence northeastwards along said boundary to the western boundary of Alamein Ward, thence southeastwards and following said boundary to the point of commencement.

ST MARYS WARD

Commencing at a point where Bridge Street meets the western carriageway of Western Avenue, thence northwestwards along said western carriageway to Charlton Road, thence northwestwards and following said road to the disused Andover to Southampton railway, thence northwestwards along said disused railway to the southeastern boundary of Harroway Ward, thence northeastwards and following said boundary and the southern boundary of Alamein Ward to the eastern boundary of the district, thence southwards along said boundary to the northwestern boundary of Longparish CP thence southeastwards and following said boundary to the road known as Picket Twenty, thence northwestwards along said road to a point being the prolongation northeastwards of London Road, thence southwestwards along said prolongation to London Road, thence southwestwards along London Road to London Street, thence westwards and following said street and Bridge Street to the point of commencement.

MILLWAY WARD

Commencing at a point where the eastern boundary of Penton Mewsey CP meets the southern boundary of Harroway Ward, thence southeastwards and following said Ward boundary to the western boundary of St Mary's Ward, thence northeastwards and following said boundary to Western Road, thence westwards along Western Road to the disused Andover to Southampton Railway, thence southwestwards and following said Railway to the northern boundary of Upper Clatford CP thence northwestwards and following said boundary and the northern boundary of Abbots Ann CP to the eastern boundary of Monxton CP, thence northeastwards and following said boundary and the eastern boundary of Penton Mewsey CP to the point of commencement.

WINTON WARD

Commencing at a point where the eastern boundary of Millway Ward meets the northern boundary of Upper Clatford CP, thence northeastwards along said ward boundary to the southern boundary of St Mary's Ward thence northeastwards and following said boundary to the northern boundary of Goodworth Clatford CP, thence northwestwards and following said boundary and the northern boundary of Upper Clatford CP to the point of commencement.

BOURNE VALLEY WARD

The parishes of Vernhams Dean, Linkenholt, Faccombe, Hurstbourne Tarrant and Tangley.

TEDWORTH WARD

The parishes of South Tedworth, Kimpton, Fyfield, Shipton Bellinger and Thruxton.

WEYHILL WARD

The parishes of Appleshaw, Penton Grafton, Penton Mewsey, Amport, Quarley and Grately.

ANNA WARD

The parishes of Monxton, Abbots Ann, Upper Clatford and Goodworth Clatford.

HAREWOOD WARD

The parishes of Longparish, Wherwell, Barton Stacey, Bullington and Chilbolton.

OVER WALLOP WARD

The parish of Over Wallop.

NETHER WALLOP AND BROUGHTON WARD

The parishes of Nether Wallop and Broughton.

STOCKBRIDGE WARD

The parishes of Longstock, Leckford, Stockbridge, Houghton and Bossington.

DUN VALLEY WARD

The parishes of Buckholt, West Tytherley, East Tytherley, Frenchmoor, Mottisfont, East Dean and Lockerley.

KINGS SOMBORNE AND MICHELMERSH WARD

The parishes of Little Somborne, Kings Somborne, Ashley and Michelmersh.

BLACKWATER WARD

The parishes of Sherfield English, Melchet Park and Plaitford and Wellow.

ROMSEY EXTRA WARD

The parish of Romsey Extra.

FIELD WARD

The parishes of Braishfield and Ampfield.

NORTH BADDLESLEY WARD

The parish of North Baddesley.

CHILWORTH AND NURSING WARD

The parishes of Nursing and Rownhams and Chilworth.

ABBEY WARD

In the parish of Romsey, as proposed by the Test Valley District Council.

CUPERNHAM WARD

In the parish of Romsey, as proposed by the Test Valley District Council.

TADBURN WARD

In the parish of Romsey, as proposed by the Test Valley District Council.