

Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
For England  
Report No.177

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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To the Rt Hon Merlyn Rees, MP  
Secretary of State for the Home Department

PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE  
BOROUGH OF MELTON IN THE COUNTY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

1. We, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, having carried out our initial review of the electoral arrangements for the Borough of Melton 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 borough.
2. In accordance with the procedure laid down in section 60(1) and (2) of the 1972 Act, notice was given on 31 December 1974 that we were to undertake this review. This was incorporated in a consultation letter addressed to Melton Borough Council, copies of which were circulated to the Leicestershire County Council, Parish Councils in the borough, the Member of Parliament for the constituency concerned and the headquarters of the main political parties. Copies were also sent to the editors of local newspapers circulating in the area and of 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. Melton Borough Council were invited to prepare a draft scheme of representation for our consideration. When doing so, they were asked to observe the rules laid down in Schedule 11 to the Local Government Act 1972, and the guidelines 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 also asked to take into account any view expressed to them following their consultation with local interests. We therefore asked that they should publish details of their provisional proposals before they submitted their draft scheme to us, thus allowing an opportunity for local comment.

4. On 18 June 1975 the Melton Borough Council presented their draft scheme of representation. They proposed to divide the area of the borough into 17 wards each returning 1, 2 or 3 councillors to form a council of 26, an increase of two on the existing arrangements.

5. The Council have not exercised an option under section 7(4) of the Local Government Act 1972. Section 7(b) of the Act, which provides for a system of whole council elections, will therefore apply.

6. We considered the draft scheme submitted by the Council together with two comments pointing to the wide variation in elector/councillor ratios. We considered that, in terms of equality of representation, the Council's proposals could be improved. We divided the proposed Stathern ward comprising the parishes of Stathern and Redmile, adding the parish of Redmile to the Bottesford ward returning 2 members and the parish of Stathern to the Croxton Kerrial ward returning a single member. Our proposals reduced the representation of this area from four councillors to three councillors with a corresponding reduction in the Council size to 25. We transferred the Great Dalby ward of the parish of Burton and Dalby from the Somerby ward to the Gaddesby ward to produce an improved balance of representation between the 2 wards.

7. On 30 April 1976 we issued our draft proposals and these were sent to all who had received our consultation letter or who had commented on the Council's draft scheme. The Council were asked to make these draft proposals and the accompanying maps which illustrated 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 members of the public and interested bodies. We asked that any comments should reach us not later than 23 July 1976.

8. Comments received in response to our draft proposals urged us to reconsider our modifications to the Council's draft proposals on the grounds that strong local ties would be disrupted by our proposals and that we had linked areas which were geographically separate.

9. We reviewed our draft proposals in the light of the comments we had received. We noted that there were strong local ties between the parishes of Redmile and Stathern and that there were geographical barriers between some of the parishes we had grouped together in this area. We concluded that, in spite of the uneven standard of representation, we should replace the two wards of Bottesford, and Croxton and Kerrial in our draft proposals by the three wards originally proposed by the Borough Council, Bottesford returning 2 councillors, Stathern returning 1 councillor and Croxton Kerrial returning 1 councillor.

10. While the arguments based on local ties for the Council's proposed Somerby and Gaddesby wards were less strong than in the wards in the north of the district, described in paragraph 9 above, we decided that they had sufficient substance to justify us in reverting to the arrangement which placed the whole of the parish of Burton and Dalby in the Somerby ward.

11. We modified our draft proposals and formulated our final proposals accordingly.

12. 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 returned by each. The boundaries of the proposed wards are defined on the maps.

**PUBLICATION**

13. 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 the Melton Borough Council and will be available for inspection at the Council's 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

N DIGNEY (Secretary)

4 November 1976

SCHEDULE 1

BOROUGH OF MELTON: NAMES OF PROPOSED WARDS AND NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS

ASFORDBY	2
BOTTESFORD	2
CRAVEN	2
CROXTON KERRIAL	1
EGERTON	2
FRISBY-ON-THE-WREAKE	1
GADDESBY	1
LONG CLAWSON	1
MOWBRAY	2
NEWPORT	3
OLD DALBY	1
SOMERBY	1
STATHERN	1
SYSONBY	2
WALTHAM-ON-THE-WOLDS	1
WARWICK	2
WYMONDHAM	1

BOROUGH OF MELTON

## DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WARD BOUNDARIES

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.

## NEWPORT WARD

Commencing at a point where Saxby Road (B676) meets the western boundary of Freeby Parish, thence westwards and northwestwards along said road to and westwards and northwestwards along Thorpe End, Sherrard Street, the northern carriageway of Market Place, South Parade and Nottingham Street to Scalford Road, thence generally northwards along said road to the western boundary of Scalford Parish, thence southeastwards along said boundary and generally northwestwards along the southern boundary of said parish to the western boundary of Waltham Parish, thence southwards along said boundary and southeastwards along the southern boundary of said parish to the western boundary of Freeby Parish, thence southwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

## CRAVEN WARD

Commencing at a point where the southern boundary of Newport Ward meets the western boundary of Freeby Parish, thence generally southwards following said western boundary to and generally westwards and southwards following the northern boundary of Burton and Dalby Parish to Burton Road (A606), thence northwestwards along said road, Burton Street and the eastern carriageway of Market Place to the southern boundary of Newport Ward, thence generally eastwards following said southern boundary to the point of commencement.

## WARWICK WARD

Commencing at a point where the western boundary of Craven Ward meets the northern boundary of Burton and Dalby Parish, thence generally southwestwards following said northern boundary to Dalby Road (B6047), thence generally northwards along said road to Leicester Road, thence northeastwards along said road to and continuing northeastwards and eastwards along High Street to the southern boundary of Newport Ward, thence southeastwards and eastwards following said southern boundary to and generally southeastwards following the western boundary of Craven Ward to the point of commencement.

## MOWBRAY WARD

Commencing at a point where the western boundary of Warwick Ward meets the northern boundary of Burton and Dalby Parish thence generally westwards following said northern boundary to and northwestwards and northwards following the eastern boundary of Frisby Parish to the River Eye thence generally eastwards following said river to the western boundary of Warwick Ward at the Leicester Road Bridge thence generally southwards following said western boundary to the point of commencement.

## EGERTON WARD

Commencing at a point where the western boundary of Warwick Ward meets the northern boundary of Mowbray Ward thence westwards following said northern boundary to and continuing along the northern boundary of Frisby Parish to and generally northwards following the eastern boundary of Asfordby Parish to a point due west of the junction of Welby Road with Welby Lane thence due eastwards to and southeastwards along Welby Lane to Nottingham Road (A606) thence southwards along said road to and southeastwards along Park Road to the western boundary of Newport Ward thence southwards following said western boundary to and westwards and southwestwards following the northern and western boundary of Warwick Ward to the point of commencement.

## SYSONBY WARD

Commencing at a point where the northern boundary of Egerton Ward meets the eastern boundary of Asfordby Parish thence northwards following said eastern boundary to and eastwards following the southern boundary of Ab Kettleby Parish and western boundary of Scalford Parish to the western boundary of Newport Ward thence southwards following said western boundary to the northern boundary of Egerton Ward thence generally northwestwards following said northern boundary to the point of commencement.

## SOMERBY WARD

Comprises the Parishes of:

BURTON & DALBY

KNOSSINGTON

SOMERBY

## STATHERN WARD

Comprises the Parishes of

REDMILE

STATHERN

## WALTHAM-ON-THE-WOLDS WARD

Comprises the Parishes of:

FREEBY

SCALFORD

WALTHAM

## WYMONDHAM WARD

Comprises the Parishes of:

BUCKMINSTER

GARTHORPE

SPROXTON

WYMONDHAM

## ASFORDBY

Comprises the Parish of:

ASFORDBY

## BOTTESFORD WARD

Comprises the Parish of:

BOTTESFORD

## CROXTON KERRIAL WARD

Comprises the Parishes of:

BELVOIR

CROXTON KERRIAL

EATON

## FRISBY-ON-THE-WREAKE WARD

Comprises the Parishes of:

FRISBY

GRIMSTON

HOBY WITH ROTHERBY

## GADDESBY WARD

Comprises the Parishes of:

GADDESBY

TWYFORD AND THORPE

## LONG CLAWSON WARD

Comprises the Parish of:

CLAWSON, HOSE AND HARBY

## OLD DALBY WARD

Comprises the Parishes of:

AB KETTLEBY

BROUGHTON AND OLD DALBY