

**From:**  
**Sent:** 18 December 2011 16:51  
**To:** FOI@ (LGBCE)  
**Subject:** Freedom of information: local government enclaves

Dear Sir/Madam,

Having recently been researching the history of local government in the UK, I was intrigued to come across the following passage on p19 of an Ordnance Survey document (<http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/docs/user-guides/boundary-line-user-guide.pdf>) on the subject of 'exception areas' which do not conform to the normal patterns of local government:

***The wards of Windsor Castle***

*The Upper and Middle wards of Windsor Castle do not form part of the district of Windsor and Maidenhead but have been included for the purposes of this dataset*

The document does not go on to explain why the wards of Windsor Castle are not part of Windsor and Maidenhead, which alternative area (if any) they do form part of, or whether any local authority and/or Member of Parliament is responsible for overseeing them. I have been unable to verify this claim anywhere else. It seems to be referring to parts of the grounds of Windsor Castle itself (which is divided into upper, middle and lower wards), and not to the established wards of Windsor and Maidenhead Borough that are named after it (Eton and Castle, Castle Without).

Since LGBCE is presumably the relevant boundary commission for the area in question, I would be fascinated to receive copies of any documents you might hold pertaining to 'the wards of Windsor Castle', including any information on their official status for (a) local government, (b) county/ceremonial and (c) parliamentary election purposes.

I would also be interested to see any information you might hold on any other similar 'enclaves' that may exist outside of the usual English local government framework (aside from the Isles of Scilly and City of London, whose status is better established).

Kind regards,

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**From:** Ojoye, Bolanle  
**Sent:** 21 December 2011 11:52  
**To:**  
**Subject:** FOI response 19/11

Dear ,

**Our ref: 19/11**

Thank you for your email of 18 December 2011, which was received on 19 December 2011, requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You have requested:

- i) Copies of any documents you might hold pertaining to 'the wards of Windsor Castle', including any information**

- on their official status for (a) local government, (b) county/ceremonial and (c) parliamentary election purposes.**
- ii) Any information you might hold on any other similar 'enclaves' that may exist outside of the usual English local government framework (aside from the Isles of Scilly and City of London, whose status is better established).**

The Commission does not hold information relevant to your request.

Windsor Castle lies in its entirety in the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead.

The last electoral review of the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead was completed by the Boundary Committee for England in April 2002. As a consequence of that review, Windsor Castle is entirely contained within the electoral ward of Eton and Castle. A copy of the final recommendations report for Windsor & Maidenhead, and associated maps, can be found at the following link:

<http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/south-east/berkshire/windsor-and-maidenhead-unitary-authority-ua>

The reference to the Upper and Middle wards of Windsor Castle in the Ordnance Survey document you referred to is misleading. I understand that the relevant text may be amended when the document is next revised.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me, quoting the reference number above in any correspondence.

If you wish to request a review of our decision, you should write to:

Bolanle Ojoye  
Freedom of Information Officer  
Local Boundary Commission for England  
Layden House  
76-86 Turnmill Street  
London  
EC1M 5LG

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision; Details of this procedure can be found on the ICO website: <http://www.ico.gov.uk>.

Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Local Boundary Commission for England.

Regards

**Bolanle Ojoye**

**Legal and Implementation Officer**

Local Government Boundary Commission for England

3rd Floor, Layden House

76-86 Turnmill Street

London

EC1M 5LG

Tel: 0207 664 8520

Fax: 0207 296 6768

[www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

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