

**2007 No. 154**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENGLAND**

**The Wear Valley (Parish Electoral Arrangements) Order 2007**

*Made* - - - - *25th January 2007*

*Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2)*

Wear Valley District Council, under section 12(a) of the Local Government and Rating Act 1997(b) (“the 1997 Act”), have sent to the Electoral Commission(c) proposals dated September 2006 for electoral arrangements in the proposed parishes of Bishop Auckland and Greater Willington(d) in the district of Wear Valley:

The Electoral Commission have decided to give effect to those proposals:

Accordingly, the Electoral Commission, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 14(e) and 23(f) of the 1997 Act, make the following Order:

**Citation and commencement**

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Wear Valley (Parish Electoral Arrangements) Order 2007.

(2) This Order comes into force—

- (a) for the purpose of proceedings preliminary or relating to the elections of parish councillors for the parishes of Bishop Auckland and Greater Willington, to be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2007, on the day after that on which it is made;
- (b) for all other purposes, on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2007.

**Interpretation**

2. In this Order—

“ordinary day of election of councillors” has the meaning given by section 37 of the Representation of the People Act 1983(g); and

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- (a) This section has been amended by the Local Government Commission for England (Transfer of Functions) Order 2001 (S.I. 2001/3962).
  - (b) 1997 c.29.
  - (c) The Electoral Commission was established by the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (c.41). The functions of the Secretary of State, under sections 13, 14 and 17(4) of the 1997 Act (c.29), to the extent that they relate to electoral arrangements within the meaning of that Act, were transferred with modifications to the Electoral Commission on 1st April 2002 (S.I. 2001/3962).
  - (d) The parishes of Bishop Auckland and Greater Willington were created by the Wear Valley (Parishes) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/3279).
  - (e) This section has been amended by S.I. 2001/3962 and also otherwise in ways not relevant to this Order.
  - (f) This section has been amended by S.I. 2001/3962.
  - (g) 1983 c.2, section 37 has been amended by section 18(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1985 (c.50) and section 17 of, and paragraphs 1 and 5 of Schedule 3 to, the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (c.29).

“registration officer” means an officer appointed for the purpose of, and in accordance with, section 8(a) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

### **Parish elections**

3. Elections of all parish councillors for the parishes of Bishop Auckland and Greater Willington shall be held simultaneously on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2007(b).

### **Numbers of parish councillors for the parish of Greater Willington**

4. The number of councillors to be elected for the parish of Greater Willington shall be nine.

### **Wards of the parish of Bishop Auckland**

5.—(1) The parish of Bishop Auckland shall be divided into four wards which shall be named Bishop Auckland Town, Cockton Hill, Henknowle and Woodhouse Close.

(2) Each ward shall comprise the area of the district ward(c) bearing the same name.

(3) The number of councillors to be elected for each of Cockton Hill, Henknowle and Woodhouse Close wards shall be three, and for Bishop Auckland Town ward shall be two.

### **Electoral register**

6. The registration officer for the district of Wear Valley shall make such rearrangement of, or adaptation of, the register of local government electors as may be necessary for the purposes of, and in consequence of, this Order.

Sealed with the seal of the Electoral Commission on the 25th day of January 2007



25th January 2007

*Sam Younger*  
Chairman of the Commission

25th January 2007

*Peter Wardle*  
Chief Executive to the Commission

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(a) Section 8 has been amended by the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 (c.19) and the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 (c.39).

(b) Article 3 provides for parish elections in the new parishes of Bishop Auckland and Greater Willington in 2007. Section 16(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 (c.70) provides for parish elections to take place every four years.

(c) See the District of Wear Valley (Electoral Changes) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/2584).

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order gives effect to proposals sent to the Electoral Commission for electoral arrangements for the new parishes of Bishop Auckland and Greater Willington, created within the district of Wear Valley by the Wear Valley (Parishes) Order 2006.

The new electoral arrangements apply in respect of parish elections to be held on and after the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2007.

Article 3 provides for parish elections in the parishes of Bishop Auckland and Greater Willington in 2007, and then to continue according to the established system of parish elections every four years.

Article 4 specifies the numbers of parish councillors for the new parish of Greater Willington.

Article 5 establishes the names and areas of the wards of the new parish of Bishop Auckland and the numbers of councillors for each ward.

Article 6 obliges the Electoral Registration Officer to make any necessary amendments to the electoral register to reflect the new electoral arrangements.