

Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
For England  
Report No.309

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

REPORT NO. 309

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

CHAIRMAN

Sir Edmund Compton GCB KBE

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Mr J M Rankin QC

MEMBERS

Lady Bowden

Mr J T Brockbank

Professor Michael Chisholm

Mr R R Thornton CB DL

Mr D P Harrison

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

PROPOSALS FOR REVISED ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE  
DISTRICT OF WAVERLEY IN THE COUNTY OF SURREY

1. We, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, having carried out our initial review of the electoral arrangements for the district of Waverley 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 13 May 1974 that we were to undertake this review. This was incorporated in a consultation letter addressed to the Waverley District Council, copies of which were circulated to the Surrey County Council, the Members of Parliament for the constituencies concerned, Parish Councils in the district 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 interested bodies.
3. Waverley 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 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 asked to take into account any views expressed to them following their consultation with local interests. We therefore asked that 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 Council have exercised an option of a system of whole council elections.
5. On 27 September 1974 Waverley District Council presented two draft schemes of representation which they called Scheme A and Scheme B. Both schemes provided for the division of the district into 30 wards. Scheme A divided the district into 1, 2 or 3 member wards, with the exception of Cranleigh which would return 5 councillors, to form a council of 60 members. Scheme B provided for 1, 2 or 3 member wards, with the exception of Cranleigh which would return 6 members, to produce a total council of 56 members.
6. We considered both draft schemes, together with the comments which we had received and those which had been transmitted to us by the District Council. None of the comments took the form of alternative schemes for the district as a whole but were related to warding arrangements for various parishes within the district.
7. We decided to draw up a ~~compromise~~ scheme for 55 members using 20 wards from Scheme B, with some adjustment to the number of councillors allocated to wards, and 9 wards from Scheme A (those in the area of Godalming and Haslemere). We thought that the parish of Cranleigh should have two wards, one with three members and the other with two, in accordance with our guidelines that no ward should return more than 3 councillors.

The resulting scheme appeared to us to offer a reasonable basis for the future electoral arrangements for the district, which complied with the rules in Schedule 11 to the 1972 Act and with our guidelines. We formulated our draft proposals accordingly.

8. On 3 March 1975 we issued our draft proposals and these were sent to the recipients of our consultation letter and others from whom comments on the District Council's draft schemes had been received. 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 comments should reach us by 9 May 1975.

9. Our draft proposals were opposed by the District Council, by Parish Councils and by members of the public. The District Council further informed us that they no longer supported either Scheme A or Scheme B; and that they wished to retain their existing electoral arrangements which included a number of wards returning 4, 5 and 6 councillors giving a total council of 61 members.

10. In the light of the general opposition to our draft proposals, we met representatives of the District Council which subsequently agreed to submit a revised draft scheme for our consideration.

11. On 12 February 1976, Waverley District Council sent us their revised draft scheme and the final material to complete the scheme was received on 8 April 1976. They proposed to divide the area into 28 wards, each returning 1, 2 or 3 councillors to produce a council of 58 members. The District Council had published details of their revised proposals and invited comments on them.

12. We studied the revised scheme together with the comments which had been received. The comments included an alternative scheme submitted by a local councillor. This scheme provided for the division of the district into 28 wards

each returning 1, 2 or 3 members to form a council of 57 members. We decided to reject this scheme as we found that the standard of equality of representation was generally inferior to that offered by the revised draft scheme.

13. The remaining comments dealt with particular aspects of the Council's revised scheme. These comments included alternative warding arrangements for various parishes together with suggestions for the renaming of some of the proposed wards. We felt unable to accept any of the modifications which had been suggested and we resolved, as the District Council had done, to reject them and we decided therefore to use that scheme as the basis for our revised draft proposals. In the interests of clarity we renamed some of the wards in the revised scheme and adopted minor boundary modifications which the Ordnance Survey had suggested. We then formulated our revised draft proposals accordingly.

14. On 9 August 1976 we issued our revised draft proposals and these were sent to all who had received our consultation letter or had commented on the Council's revised draft scheme. The Council were asked to make these revised draft proposals, and the accompanying maps, which defined the proposed ward boundaries, available for inspection at their main offices. Representations on our revised 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 15 October 1976.

15. Waverley District Council informed us that they had no observations to make on our revised draft proposals and Surrey County Council wrote in similar terms. Five parish councils accepted our revised draft proposals. Elstead Parish Council objected to their proposed grouping with the parish of Thursley but would accept this arrangement if it meant that otherwise they would return only one councillor. Hambledon Parish Council objected to the proposal to link the parish with Chiddingfold to form a 2 member ward. They preferred to be transferred to the proposed ward comprising Busbridge, Hascombe and Dunsfold or else to be grouped with Busbridge and Hascombe alone. Cranleigh Parish Council objected to the proposal that part of the parish should be split and linked with the neighbouring parish of Alford. Similar objections were received from a local political association and a member of the public. Another local political association objected to the proposed warding arrangements for Cranleigh and thought that the parish should be divided into 2 wards.

16. In view of these comments we decided that we needed further information to enable us to reach a conclusion. Therefore, in accordance with section 65(2) of the 1972 Act and, at our request, Mr R E Millard, CBE, was appointed as an Assistant Commissioner to hold a local meeting and to report to us.

17. The Assistant Commissioner held a meeting at the Borough Hall, Godalming on 20 January 1977. A copy (without enclosures) of his report to us of the meeting is attached at Schedule 1 to this report.

18. The Assistant Commissioner recommended that our revised draft proposals should be varied as follows:-

- a. the parish of Cranleigh to be divided into a Cranleigh East ward returning 3 members and a Cranleigh West ward returning 2 members.

b. a single member ward comprising the parishes of Alfold and Dunsfold.

c. a single member ward comprising the parishes of Busbridge, Hambledon and Hascombe.

d. a single member ward comprising the parish of Chiddingfold..

19. We considered again our revised draft proposals in the light of the comments which we had received and of the Assistant Commissioner's report. We concluded that the alterations recommended by the Assistant Commissioner should be adopted and, subject to those amendments, we decided to confirm our revised draft proposals as our final proposals. However, we noted that before we could do so it would be necessary, in view of the provisions of paragraph 3(2)(b) of Schedule 11 to the Local Government Act 1972, to establish parish wards in Cranleigh, Godalming, Haslemere and Witley which would be compatible with the district wards we intended to recommend. In due course the District Council sent us copies of the orders which they had made; we then formulated our final proposals.

20. Details of these final proposals are set out in Schedule 2 to this report and on the attached maps. Schedule 2 gives the names of the wards and the number of councillors to be returned by each. A detailed description of the boundaries of the proposed wards, as defined on the maps, is set out in Schedule 3 to this report. The boundaries of the new wards are defined on the maps.

PUBLICATION

21. 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 Waverley District Council and will be 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.

L.S.

Signed

EDMUND COMPTON (CHAIRMAN)

JOHN M RANKIN (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN)

PHYLLIS BOWDEN

T BROCKBANK

MICHAEL CHISHOLM

D P HARRISON

R R THORNTON

NEIL DIGNEY (Secretary)

19 OCTOBER 1978

REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS IN  
THE WAVERLEY DISTRICT OF SURREY

---

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

---

1. GENERAL

I have to report that on the 20th January, 1977 I held the local meeting to hear representations about the Commission's draft proposals for the future electoral arrangements for the District of Waverley in Surrey. The meeting took place at the Borough Hall, Bridge Street, Godalming.

2. The names and addresses of those who attended the meeting, and particulars of the interests they represented, are set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

3. The review of the electoral arrangements in the Waverley District has had an unusually long and, at times, rather turbulent history. It is unnecessary for me to recount this history in detail, but it is essential to mention the salient features as part of the background to this report.

4. The review was initiated by the Commission in May, 1974, when they invited the District Council to prepare a draft scheme of representation for the district. In September, 1974, the District Council submitted to the Commission two draft schemes of representation, called Scheme A and Scheme B. Neither of these schemes was acceptable to the Commission, partly because they contravened the Commission's guidelines.

5. The Commission accordingly formulated their own draft proposals, which they issued on the 3rd March 1975; these provoked considerable local opposition from parish councils and others and, not least, from the District Council. In the light of this general opposition, talks took place between the Commission and the District Council as a result of which the latter agreed to prepare a revised draft scheme which they sent

to the Commission on the 12th February, 1976.

6. After considering this revised draft scheme and the various comments made on this and the earlier proposals of the District Council and the Commission, the latter withdrew their first draft proposals and, on the 9th August, 1976, issued revised draft proposals based on the District Council's revised draft scheme. The only differences between these two sets of revised proposals were various changes of ward names made by the Commission and a small number of minor boundary modifications recommended by the Ordnance Survey, which are not material to this report.

7. The Commission's revised draft proposals are set out in Appendix 2 to this report and the detailed ward boundaries in Annex A to that Appendix.

8. In contrast to their earlier draft proposals, the Commission's revised draft proposals evoked comparatively few objections. The District Council wrote stating that they did not wish to make any further observations and several other authorities also specifically accepted the proposals. The only real objections came from the Cranleigh Parish Council and others in relation to the proposals affecting Cranleigh, and from the Hambledon and the Elstead Parish Councils about the proposals affecting their parishes. This broad acceptability of the proposals clearly owed much to the extensive consultations which the District Council had had with parish councils when evolving their revised draft scheme.

9. While the three main objections raise separate issues, any regrouping of areas to meet the Cranleigh objection would produce consequential effects bearing on possible solutions to the Hambledon objection. I therefore propose to deal with these two matters together. The Elstead objection can, however, be considered in isolation.

#### 10. CRANLEIGH AND HAMBLEDON

The Commission's revised draft proposals provide that the parish of Cranleigh shall be divided between three wards, namely

Cranleigh North, Cranleigh South and Alfold and Cranleigh West. It is the third of these wards, which comprises the south-western part of the parish of Cranleigh and the whole of the adjoining parish of Alfold, which attracted the most strenuous of opposition from the Cranleigh Parish Council and others.

11. Mr. Peter C.R. Levy, the Chairman of the Cranleigh Parish Council, said that Cranleigh was an exceptionally united parish with a strong community spirit. The Parish Council have entirely accepted that the parish must be divided into wards for electoral purposes (a principle which at earlier stages they had strongly opposed), but asked why these wards could not be formed entirely within the boundaries of the parish as in the Commission's first proposals. Mr. Levy referred to the recurrent fears of the Parish Council, which had been repeatedly voiced in their written representations, that the linking of part of Cranleigh with Alfold could well lead at the parish review, to the creation of a new parish co-terminous with the proposed ward. He added that he could not understand why, if this were not so, the Commission could not give a firm assurance to this effect, as they had declined to do in their letter to him of 29th September, 1976.

12. Mr. Levy went on to say that Cranleigh were on friendly terms with their neighbouring parishes of Alfold and Dunsfold; his Parish Council could not, however, accept that because, surprisingly, these two parishes did not wish to be joined for electoral purposes, Cranleigh should have a part of its area amputated. In his view, it was better that two parishes should be joined together than that one should be dismembered. Mr. Levy concluded by saying that Cranleigh would be happy with five members on the District Council, and with the ward boundaries contained in the Commission's first draft proposals.

13. Mr. A.W. Young, Vice-Chairman of the Cranleigh Parish Council, reiterated the arguments put forward by Mr. Levy and stressed the strong local ties binding the whole parish together. There were no such ties between the proposed severed part of the parish and Alfold. He drew particular attention to the statutory emphasis on regard being had to any local ties which would be broken by the fixing of a particular boundary. Mr. Young also

referred to the Notes on Boundary Making which stress that boundaries should not sever communities except where this is essential to produce electoral equality. His Council were not impressed by assurances from the District Council that the proposed warding arrangements would not prejudice the parish review, and referred to an article in the Spring, 1976, issue of the Local Council Review which warned of this very danger.

14. Mr. R.E. Williams, leader of the Cranleigh Action Group, who had also been a member of the Parish Council until May, 1976, said that he felt strongly that the voice of Cranleigh should be heard against the proposal that part of the parish should be cut off for district electoral purposes. He had accordingly organised a petition, which had been largely signed on door-to-door visits. Mr. Williams handed in this petition which, he said, bore 3116 signatures. The wording of the petition was as follows:

"We, the undersigned, support unequivocally Cranleigh Parish Council in its efforts to stop part of Cranleigh being cut off for district electoral purposes, and demand a public hearing to discuss alternatives. It is otherwise feared that the revision of parish boundaries in 1979 could result in the proposed new district electoral boundary becoming a new parish boundary".

15. Mr. John Wright, a District Councillor for Cranleigh and a member of the Parish Council, Mr. Godfrey Oliphant, a member of the Parish Council, and Mr. J.L. Noakes, a local resident, also spoke in support of the Parish Council. Mr. Oliphant said that the proposed severed area was the main rural part of the parish; he also said that members of all three political parties had signed the petition.

16. Mr. D.J. Stewart, the Agent of the Guildford Conservative Association, said that his Association were entirely in favour of dividing the parish of Cranleigh into wards, but were opposed to splitting off part of the parish and joining it in a separate ward with Alfold. Mr. Stewart had also stated, in his Association's written representation, that the parishes of Alfold and Dunsfold could well be joined in one ward.

17. I then heard the views of Alfold and Dunsfold. Mrs. Ames, the present District Councillor for Alfold, first read a statement by Mr. Derek Uridge, the Chairman of Alfold Parish Council,

who was unable to be present. Mr. Uridge, after stressing that his Council really wished to retain the present arrangement of a district councillor for Alfold alone, said that, if they were to be joined in a ward with an adjoining area, they would prefer to be linked with part of Cranleigh, as in the Commission's revised proposals. The suggestion of joining Alfold and Dunsfold was unacceptable because of a total absence of affinity between the two parishes. Alfold regarded the proposed link with Cranleigh as the lesser of two evils.

18. Mrs. Ames then added on her own account that Alfold looks to Cranleigh rather than to Dunsfold; there is for instance a bus to Cranleigh but not one to Dunsfold. She said that Dunsfold and Alfold were each strong, self-contained communities and it would be difficult for one councillor adequately to represent the two villages. Mrs. Ames agreed that she in fact lives at a point between the two villages.

19. Major W.A.N. Miller, the Chairman of Dunsfold Parish Council, said that Dunsfold had nothing in common at all with Alfold. Residents in either of the two parishes would have difficulty in getting to see their district councillor if he lived in the other, as the villages are some distance apart and there is no bus. They were even in different telephone areas. Major Miller said that it was an irrelevant coincidence that the two parish councils at present share the same clerk.

20. Mr. M. Mitchell-Higgs, the present district councillor for Dunsfold and a member of the Parish Council, said that the people of Dunsfold feel just as strongly as those of Cranleigh. They had no link with Alfold, but strong local ties with Hascombe; there was a bus to Hascombe and Busbridge. He accordingly fully supported the District Council's revised scheme and the Commission's revised proposals.

21. Mr. M.C.V. Alchin, the district councillor for Wonersh and Blackheath, said that he had at one time been chairman of the District Council's working party on electoral proposals, and had thus made a complete study of the problem of district electoral areas. He accepted that parishes which were too small to be separately represented must be grouped for electoral purposes; he

was however opposed to the fragmentation of parishes for this purpose, and in his view, Cranleigh quite rightly objected to their parish being butchered. He thought that one of the objections to grouping arose from a wish to retain the same district councillors.

22. Mr. Alchin went on to support the idea of Alfold and Dunsfold being combined for electoral purposes. He said that far from being an incompatible partnership, their characteristics, problems and interests make them an ideal combination for electoral purposes. Mr. Alchin compared the features of the two parishes in detail; they are of similar size, they have similar proportions of private and local authority housing, their countryside is similar, their social and educational facilities are similar and they are likely to have similar local government problems. Finally he pointed out that the large aircraft factory and aerodrome lying outside their borders draws many workers from each village.

23. I then moved on to consider the Hambledon objection. Mr. M.F. Coleman, Chairman of Hambledon Parish Council, expressed strong opposition to Hambledon being joined with Chiddingfold in a two-member ward: they would be overborne by a much larger urban parish, which, in 1979, would have an electorate of 1898, as against their 736. Hambledon accordingly wished to go back to a marriage with Hascombe and Busbridge, to which they had objected at the stage of the Commission's earlier draft proposals. In particular they now realised that they could not have a member on their own, for which they had fought earlier. Chiddingfold who were not represented at the local meeting, had not objected to the original draft proposals which gave them only one member and this was what they had now. As a second choice, Hambledon would accept combination with Busbridge, Hascombe and Dunsfold.

24. Next came the views of Busbridge and Hascombe. Mr. R.F. Eve, the district councillor for Busbridge and Hascombe, stressed the links between those two parishes and Dunsfold. He said they had a bus joining them, and Dunsfold and Hascombe shared some amenities, such as a school and a British Legion Hall. He stressed that all three parishes supported the revised draft proposals and that it would be a shame for their views to be

pushed aside to suit their neighbours. In answer to questions, however, Mr. Eve admitted that the problem was well nigh insoluble.

25. Mrs. M.M. Marnan, a parish councillor for Hascombe and a former district councillor, emphasised the lack of affinity between Hambledon and Hascombe and Dunsfold, and the difficulties that lack of transport would cause in visits to a single district councillor.

26. Mr. P.R. Grotian, Chairman of Busbridge Parish Council, and Mrs. H. Lloyd-Jones, a member of that Council, said they were unanimously in favour of the revised draft proposals, and said that it would be too much for one district councillor to represent Busbridge, Hambledon and Hascombe.

27. Mr. Stewart, the Conservative Agent, was strongly opposed to the combination of Chiddingfold with Hambledon. He said that Chiddingfold was in another parliamentary constituency, and that although he realised that this was not a consideration which the Commission could entertain, the fact remained that the division of one ward between two constituencies would raise severe practical difficulties for party organisations at elections.

28. Mr. M.F. Chastell, the District Secretary, who had earlier given a clear and useful account of the history of the electoral review in the District and of the considerations which had guided the District Council in framing their revised draft scheme, made some general comments on the discussion. Mr. Chastell emphasised that the review only dealt with wards and not with parish boundaries. He also questioned the reliability of the Cranleigh petition, which seemed to include some Alfold residents; he also doubted whether many signatories realised that it only concerned ward and not parish boundaries. If the Cranleigh objection was to be given effect to, the real problem was what to do with Alfold and the other complications flowed from that.

29. Mr. Williams gave an assurance that apart from those who mentioned Alfold, the signatories of the petition were all Cranleigh residents; their signatures had mostly been obtained on house-to-house visits when the issues had been clearly explained.

30. I inspected the whole of the controversial area. The village of Cranleigh is a substantial and largely compact township separated from other villages by largely open country, and physically supports the contention of a close-knit community. The south-western part of the parish is more rural. The village of Alfold is in two parts but both are some distance from the Cranleigh parish boundary. The villages of Alfold and Dunsfold are some  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles apart with few habitations in between: the large aerodrome and factory straddle the parish boundaries in otherwise largely open country. The road between the two villages is fairly minor. The village of Dunsfold is straggling, and the northern part is fairly near the Hascombe parish boundary.

31. The village of Hascombe is closely-knit and near the Busbridge parish boundary with a good road connecting the two. Busbridge, on the other hand, has no real centre, the old village having, I believe, been swallowed up by an earlier boundary extension of Godalming. The whole area is sprinkled with comparatively large houses. There is a hill between Hascombe and Hambledon with only a minor connecting road over it. Chiddingfold is a large, if rather straggling, village.

### 32. Conclusions and Recommendations

The strength of feeling displayed by all the representatives of Cranleigh was quite unusual on an electoral issue. Even if one to some extent discounts the force of the petition, it remains remarkable that so many could be persuaded to sign a petition on such an issue. Furthermore, the fears expressed that the detachment of part of the parish for electoral purposes might at least have some influence at the subsequent parish review seemed very understandable. It is also noteworthy that the Cranleigh case was supported by the Conservative Association and, perhaps more important, by Mr. Alchin who knows the local issues but is detached from them.

33. While the Commission are only required to have regard to any local ties which would be broken by the fixing of any particular boundary, this consideration is so strong in the case of the proposal to sever part of Cranleigh parish and attach it to Alfold that I am satisfied that the Commission should attach great weight to it. Add to this the depth of local feeling against the severance, and the inevitable and continuing discontent which this would generate, coupled with the not unreasonable fear of its later effect on the parish review and I am quite satisfied that

the Cranleigh objection by itself is fully justified.

34. Unfortunately, however, that is not an end of the matter because the consequences of leaving the parish of Cranleigh with wards entirely comprised within its own boundaries affect a number of the parishes. In the first place, the question arises of what to do with Alfold; with a forecast electorate of 798 in 1979 it is clearly too small to be a ward on its own and there is really no practicable alternative to joining it with Dunsfold, when with a combined 1979 electorate of 1463, the ward would have an entitlement of 1.01 members on the basis of a Council of 57 members, (which, as I indicate later, would result from giving Cranleigh a total of 5 members).

35. This in turn would leave Hascombe and Busbridge, with a combined 1979 electorate of 989, and an entitlement of 0.68, as too small to justify one member. Again the only practicable solution would be to combine them with Hambledon to produce a 1979 electorate of 1725 and an entitlement of 1.19. This would of course meet the Hambledon objection but would leave Chiddingfold with a 1979 figure of 1898 and an entitlement of 1.31.

36. It would also be possible to reject the Cranleigh objection but accede to that of Hambledon: Hambledon with a 1979 electorate of 736 could clearly not stand on its own but could be combined with Busbridge, Dunsfold and Hascombe to produce a generously represented two-member ward with a 1979 electorate of 2390 and an entitlement of 1.68. (Any other combination would not produce wards of the requisite size of electorate).

37. The main question which arises from this situation is whether it would be right to accede to the objections of Cranleigh and Hambledon, or of Hambledon alone (the acceptance of the Cranleigh objection would of necessity lead to meeting the Hambledon objection also) and thus over-ride the views of Alfold, Busbridge, Hascombe and Dunsfold.

38. The arguments of Busbridge, Hascombe and Dunsfold about their affinities, common interests and communications produce a strong case for their being combined in one ward; indeed they clearly convinced the District Council that this was the best combination for them, and this is the provision in the Commission's

revised draft proposals. There is rather less force in Alfold's contention that it would be the lesser of two evils for them to be joined with part of Cranleigh, rather than with Dunsfold.

39. On the other hand, the alternative combinations (Busbridge Hascombe and Hambledon, and Alfold and Dunsfold) did not appear to me to be open to nearly such strong objections as the four parish councils contended. Given that two or three parishes must be combined in a single ward because of the smallness of their electorates, I do not consider that one member would have any serious difficulty in representing them adequately, even if they do not enjoy great affinity or common interests with one another. Furthermore, I do not feel that the problems of geography nor even of communications are such in this area as to make the task impracticable.

40. It is perhaps pertinent to add that first draft proposals issued by the Commission created two wards only for Cranleigh, both within the parish boundary, combined Alfold and Dunsfold, combined Busbridge, Hambledon and Hascombe and left Chiddingfold on its own as a one member ward. Mr. Alchin's alternative scheme proposed the same solution, but with somewhat different ward boundaries within Cranleigh. Even the District Council's original Scheme B combined Alfold and Dunsfold and Busbridge, Hambledon and Hascombe.

41. On balance, I am quite satisfied that the least objectionable solution to this admittedly troublesome problem is to accede to the objections of Cranleigh and Hambledon with the consequences which I have outlined. This solution is not ideal in that it over-rides the wishes of four of the parishes concerned, but it does overcome what I regard as the more weighty objections of Cranleigh and Hambledon.

42. Three other matters call for comment: First, Cranleigh Parish Council said they would be satisfied with 5 members, divided 3 and 2 between the Cranleigh East and Cranleigh West wards embodied in the Commission's first draft proposals and shown in detail on the accompanying Ordnance Survey map. (The first draft proposals had the number of councillors transposed as 2 and 3, but I announced this correction at the local meeting).

This would reduce the size of the Council from 58 to 57 members. The two wards would have reasonable representation, with Cranleigh East having the less generous provision of 3 members for an entitlement of 3.44. The average electorate per member over the District would rise to 1444 on 1979 figures.

43. Secondly, Chiddingfold with an entitlement of 1.31 will be rather meagrely represented by one member, but would clearly not be entitled to two and there seems no practicable rearrangement which would cure this anomaly.

44. Lastly, the District Council gave an assurance at the local meeting that they would carry out any necessary warding of parishes to comply with the Commission's intended final decision.

45. I accordingly RECOMMEND that the Commission's revised draft proposals should be modified by:-

1) Deleting the proposed wards of Cranleigh North, Cranleigh South, Alfold and Cranleigh West, Busbridge, Hascombe and Dunsfold and Chiddingfold and Hambledon.

2) Substituting:

- a) A Cranleigh East ward returning 3 members, and a Cranleigh West ward returning 2, covering between them the whole parish and with the same boundaries as in the Commission's first draft proposals;
- b) A single member ward comprising the parishes of Alfold Dunsfold;
- c) A single member ward comprising the parishes of Busbridge, Hambledon and Hascombe;
- d) A single member ward comprising the parish of Chiddingfold.

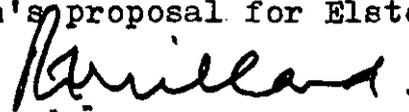
46. ELSTEAD

Mr. A.J. Mashford, Chairman of the Elstead Parish Council and of the Peper Harrow Parish Meeting, said his parishes did not wish to be combined with Thursley but wished to keep their existing two members. If they could only achieve this by being joined with Thursley, they would reluctantly accept this combination.

47. Thursley Parish Council had been represented earlier, but were not able to stay for this discussion. They had previously indicated acceptance of the combination.

48. Conclusion and Recommendation

With only 2024 electors in 1979, Elstead and Peper Harrow clearly would not rate two members. I therefore recommend that there should be no change in the Commission's proposal for Elstead and Peper Harrow.



ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

LIST OF PERSONS ATTENDING LOCAL MEETING ARRANGED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
BOUNDARY COMMISSION INTO THE FUTURE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE  
DISTRICT OF WAVERLEY

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
M F Chastell	Waverley District Council	The Council
C Earnshaw	- ditto -	- ditto -
H J Standen	Bramley	Clerk to the Womersh Parish Council
M C V Allchin	Womersh	Self. and Parish Council
E V Barton-Tales	Cranleigh	Manager of Womersh and Shamley Green School
Peter C R Levy	Cranleigh	Chairman Parish Council
Jean deBerniere-Smart	Hambledon	Hambledon Conservative
K R Edwards	Hambledon	Parish Council
M G Allchin	Womersh	Visitor
W A N Miller	Dunsfold	Dunsfold Parish Council
Paul R Grotrian	Allkins Lane, Godalming	Busbridge
H Lloyd-Jones	Shepherds Close	Busbridge
R F Eve	Lime Kiln Cottage, Loxhill	Hascombe & Busbridge
Mary M Marnan	Deer Park Cottage, Loxhill	Hascombe
F W Moss	Rushwood House, Godalming	Busbridge & Hascombe
D H Heys	Beverley St James Place	Cranleigh
J Barcass	Beverley St James Place	Cranleigh
M Mitchell-Heggs	Maple Tree Cottage, Dunsfold	Dunsfold
Mrs B Ames	Alfold Councillor	Alfold
D J Stewart	9 High Street, Guildford	Guildford Conservative Association
R Gardiner	Bridgham Farmhouse, Shamley Green	County Councillor, Hambledon E.
J Guyatt	Thursley	Thursley Parish Council
Cdr & Mrs Y E Machen	Willwood Cranleigh	Cranleigh
D Gamble	Cranleigh	Cranleigh
R E Williams	3 Fawley Close, Cranleigh	Cranleigh

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
J English	128 Cranleigh Mead	Cranleigh
P D English	128 Cranleigh Mead	Cranleigh Parish Council
J L Noakes	Wakehurst, The Common, Cranleigh	Cranleigh
W H Sharland	Longacres, Godalming	Busbridge
A J Mashford	18 Silver Birches Way, Elstead	Elstead Parish Council and Peper Harow P.M.
G Oliphant	Snoxhall, Cranleigh	Cranleigh Conservative Branch and Residents in Knowle Lane
N Whitehurst	Waterlands Cottage, Knowle Lane Cranleigh	Residents
B Bullen	Mead Road, Cranleigh	Cranleigh Parish Council
D H Chadwick	7 Barfield, Cranleigh	Cranleigh Conservative Association
G L Chadwick	7 Barfield, Cranleigh	- ditto -
T Williams		Surrey County Council
Kay Nicholas	Surrey Daily Advertiser	
G D Clasper	Green Dolphins, Godalming	
M F Coleman	Beech Brow, Hambledon	Chairman, Hambledon P.C.
A W Young	1 Wellwynds Road, Cranleigh	Vice-Chairman Cranleigh Parish Council
John Wright	Rydinghurst Farm, Cranleigh	Cranleigh & District Councillor
J Brooker	Bronwian, Upper Manor Road	District Labour Party
A Sitwell	Little Garson, Alfold Road	Cranleigh

## SCHEDULE 2

## DISTRICT OF WAVERLEY: NAMES OF PROPOSED WARDS AND NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS

<u>NAME OF WARD</u>	<u>NO. OF COUNCILLORS</u>
Alfold and Dunsfold	1
Blackheath and Wonersh	1
Bramley	2
Busbridge, Hambledon and Hascombe	1
Chiddingfold	1
Cranleigh East	3
Cranleigh West	2
Elstead, Peper Harow and Thursley	2
Ewhurst	1
Farnham Bourne	3
Farnham Castle	3
Farnham Hale and Heath End	2
Farnham Rowledge and Wrecclesham	3
Farnham Upper Hale	2
Farnham Waverley	3
Farnham Weybourne and Badshot Lea	2
Frensham, Dockenfield and Tilford	2
Godalming North	2
Godalming North East and South West	3
Godalming North West	2
Godalming South East	3
Haslemere North and Grayswood	2
Haslemere South	2
Hindhead	2
Milford	2
Shanley Green	1
Shottermill	2
Witley	2

## DISTRICT OF WAVERLEY - DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WARD BOUNDARIES

Note: Where a 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.

## FARNHAM CASTLE WARD

Commencing at the point where the Farnham to Alton railway meets the western boundary of the District, thence generally northwestwards and northeastwards along said district boundary to the western boundary of Parcel No3600 as shown on Ordnance Survey 1:2500 Plan SU 8248, Edition of 1973, thence southeastwards along said boundary and generally eastwards along the southern boundary of said parcel and the southern boundaries of Parcel Nos 5900, 6200, 6386 and 7000 to Old Park Lane, thence southeastwards along Old Park Lane to its junction with the road known as Middle Old Park, thence eastwards in a straight line to a point in Folly Hill opposite the access road to Ranger's House, thence generally southwards along said hill and Castle Hill to its junction with Old Park Lane, thence due eastwards to the outer wall of Farnham Castle, thence northeastwards and southeastwards along said wall and continuing southeastwards along the southwestern boundary of Farnham Park to the road known as Park Row, thence southeastwards along said road to Bear Lane, thence southeastwards along said lane, South Street, Station Hill and Tilford Road to Morley Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Firgrove Hill, thence northwestwards along said hill to Searle Road, thence southwestwards along said road to the path that leads to Weydon Hill Road, thence southwestwards along said path to said road, thence northwestwards along said road to Upper Way, thence southwestwards along said way to Green Lane, thence northwestwards along said lane to Weydon Lane, thence southwestwards along said lane to Wrecclisham Road, thence northwards along said road to the Farnham to Alton railway, thence southwestwards along said railway to the point of commencement.

## FARNHAM UPPER HALE WARD

Commencing at the point where the northeastern boundary of Farnham Castle Ward meets the northern boundary of the District, thence generally northeastwards and southeastwards along said district boundary to a point being in prolongation northwestwards of the rear boundaries of Nos 5 to 11 Bricksbury Hill, thence southeastwards to and along said rear boundaries and continuing in a straight line to the rear boundary of No 66 Alma Lane, thence southwestwards and southeastwards along the rear and western boundaries of said property to Alma Lane, thence northeastwards along said lane to Heath Lane, thence southeastwards along said lane to Upper Hale Road, thence southeastwards along said road to Hale Road, thence generally southwards along said road to the path adjacent to No 55 Hale Road that leads to Farnham Park, thence southwestwards along said path to a point opposite the road known as Upper South View, thence southeastwards to and southwestwards along the southeastern boundary of said park to the northeastern boundary of Farnham Castle Ward, thence generally northwestwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

## FARNHAM HALE AND HEATH END WARD

Commencing at the point where the northeastern boundary of Farnham Upper Hale Ward meets the northern boundary of the District, thence generally eastwards along said district boundary to the point where it meets Blackwater River due north of the northernmost corner of the property known as Silver Birches in the road known as Rowhills, thence westwards and southwestwards along said river and southeastwards along the unnamed stream flowing from the rear boundary of the property known as Lindon in said road to the rear boundary of said property, thence northeastwards along said rear boundary and northeastwards and southeastwards along the rear and eastern boundaries of No 15 Rowhills and continuing southeastwards along the northeastern end of Rowhills to the northwestern boundary of the property

known as Silver Birches, thence northeastwards and southeastwards along the northwestern and rear boundaries of said property and continuing generally southeastwards along the rear boundary of the property known as Glenside, thence eastwards and southwards along the northern and eastern boundaries of No 23 Rowhills to and continuing generally southwards along the western boundary of No 58 Copse Avenue to said avenue, thence southwestwards and northwestwards along said avenue to a point opposite the western boundary of No 96 Copse Avenue, thence southwestwards to and along said boundary and the northwestern boundary of No 76 Upper Weybourne Lane to said lane, thence northwestwards along said lane to a point opposite the northwestern boundary of No 103 Upper Weybourne Lane, thence southwestwards to and along said boundary and the rear boundary of No 25 The Fairway to Brookland Close, thence southeastwards along said close and southwestwards along the access way to said close to Farnborough Road, thence southwards along said road to the northeastern boundary of Farnham Upper Hale Ward, thence generally northwestwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

#### FARNHAM WEYBOURNE AND BADSHOT LEA WARD

Commencing at the point where the eastern boundary of Farnham Hale and Heath End Ward meets the northern boundary of the District, thence generally southeastwards along said district boundary to the dismantled Guildford to Farnham railway, thence southwestwards along said dismantled railway to its junction with the Farnham to Aldershot railway, thence northwards along said railway to Badshot Lea Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Monkton Lane, thence northwestwards along said lane to the eastern boundary of Farnham Hale and Heath End Ward, thence generally northwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

## FARNHAM WAVERLEY WARD

Commencing at the point where the southern boundary of Farnham Weybourne and Badshot Lea Ward meets the northern boundary of the District, thence generally southwards along said district boundary to the northwestern boundary of Tilford CP, thence generally southwestwards along said CP boundary to Tilford Road, thence northwestwards along said road to and continuing along the northeastern boundary of Farnham Castle Ward to the southeastern boundary of Farnham Upper Hale Ward, thence northeastwards and northwards along said boundary to the southern boundary of Farnham Weybourne and Badshot Lea Ward, thence generally eastwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

## FARNHAM BOURNE WARD

Commencing at the point where the southwestern boundary of Farnham Waverley Ward meets the northwestern boundary of Tilford CP, thence southwestwards along said CP boundary and the northern boundary of Frensham CP to Moons Hill, thence westwards along said hill to Gardener's Hill Road, thence northwestwards along the said road to Burnt Hill Way, thence northeastwards along said way and continuing along Burnt Hill Way (footpath) to Burnt Hill Road, thence northwestwards along said road to Twyford Lane, thence northeastwards along said lane to Ford Lane, thence northwestwards along said lane to Shortheath Road, thence northeastwards along said road to Green Lane, thence northwestwards along said lane to the southeastern boundary of Farnham Castle Ward, thence northeastwards along said boundary to the southwestern boundary of Farnham Waverley Ward, thence southeastwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

## FARNHAM ROWLEDGE AND WRECCLESHAM WARD

Commencing at the point where the western boundary of the District meets the southeastern boundary of Farnham Castle Ward, thence northeastwards and

southeastwards along said ward boundary to the western boundary of Farnham Bourne Ward, thence generally southeastwards along said boundary to the northern boundary of Frensham CP, thence generally westwards along said CP boundary to the western boundary of the District, thence northwestwards along said district boundary to the point of commencement.

ALFOLD AND DUNSFOLD WARD

The parishes of Alfold

Dunsfold

BLACKHEATH AND WONERSH WARD

The Blackheath

and Wonersh Wards of the parish of Wonersh

BRAMLEY WARD

The parish of Bramley.

BUSBRIDGE, HAMLEDON AND HASCOMBE WARD

The parishes of Busbridge

Hambledon

Hascombe

CHIDDINGFOLD WARD

The parish of Chiddingfold

CRANLEIGH EAST WARD

The Cranleigh East Ward of the parish of Cranleigh.

CRANLEIGH WEST WARD

The Cranleigh West Ward of the parish of Cranleigh.

FRENESHAM, DOCKENFIELD AND TILFORD WARD

The parishes of Dockenfield

Frensham

Tilford

ELSTEAD, PEPPER HAROW AND THURSLEY WARD

The parishes of Elstead

Peper Harow

Thursley

EWHURST WARD

The parish of Ewhurst

GODALMING NORTH WARD

The Godalming North Ward of the parish of Godalming

GODALMING NORTH EAST AND SOUTH WEST WARD

The Godalming North East

and Godalming South West Wards of the parish of Godalming.

GODALMING NORTH WEST WARD

The Godalming North West Ward of the parish of Godalming.

GODALMING SOUTH EAST WARD

The Godalming South East Ward of the parish of Godalming.

HASLEMERE NORTH AND GRAYSWOOD WARD

The Haslemere North and Grayswood Ward of the parish of Haslemere.

HASLEMERE SOUTH WARD

The Haslemere South Ward of the parish of Haslemere

## HINDHEAD WARD

The Hindhead Ward of the parish of Haslemere

## MILFORD WARD

The Milford Ward of the parish of Witley.

## SHAMLEY GREEN WARD

The Shamley Green Ward of the parish of Wonersh

## SHOTTERMILL WARD

The Shottermill Ward of the parish of Haslemere

## WITLEY WARD

The Witley Ward of the parish of Witley.