

Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No.171

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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Professor Michael Chisholm.

Sir Andrew Wheatley, CBE.

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

PROPOSALS FOR REVISED ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE
CITY OF WORCESTER IN THE COUNTY OF HEREFORD AND WORCESTER

1. We, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, having carried out our initial review of the electoral arrangements for the City of Worcester, 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 the City.

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 Worcester City Council, copies of which were circulated to Hereford and Worcester County Council, the Members of Parliament for the constituencies concerned and the headquarters of the main political parties. Copies were also sent to the editors of 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. Worcester City 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 also to take into account any views expressed to them following their consultations 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)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, the City Council have exercised an option for elections by thirds.
5. On 22 May 1975 Worcester City Council presented their draft scheme of representation. The Council proposed to divide the area into 12 wards each returning 3 councillors to form a council of 36 members.
6. We noted that there appeared to be local agreement to the Council's draft scheme since neither we, nor the City Council during the course of their consultations, had received any objections to it.
7. The County Council told us that it was their intention, when we reviewed the county electoral arrangements, to propose the representation of the City of Worcester by 12 county councillors which, on the face of it, would appear to be compatible with the proposals of the City Council for 12 wards. In considering these comments we noted that, pending the county review, there remained major uncertainties about the future shape of the county electoral arrangements. As a matter of policy we regard it as important, wherever there is a local desire for it, to try to achieve compatibility between district and county electoral arrangements. In view of these uncertainties, however, we concluded that we had little option in this case but to proceed with our consideration of the City Council's proposals solely on the basis of their suitability in district electoral terms.
9. We noted that the draft scheme proposed the division of the parish of Warndon, which is not warded for parish electoral purposes, between the proposed Nunnery and St Martin district wards and that this did not comply with the rule in Schedule 11 to the 1972 Act which states that a parish which is not divided into parish wards shall lie wholly within a single ward of the district. We therefore decided to place the whole of the parish in the proposed St Martin ward.

10. We examined the draft scheme to see whether there were any modifications which we could propose to improve the standard of equality of representation. In view, however, of geographical factors, notably the River Severn which flows through the City, and of the apparent desire of the City Council to have a pattern of three member wards, we concluded that the proposals which they had submitted were acceptable.

11. After consulting the Ordnance Survey we made some minor adjustments to the alignment of some of the boundaries in order to secure boundary lines which were more readily identifiable on the ground.

12. Subject to the modifications referred to in paragraphs 9 and 11 above, we decided that the City Council's draft scheme provided a reasonable basis for the future electoral arrangements for the City in compliance with the rules in Schedule 11 to the 1972 Act and our guidelines, and we formulated our draft proposals accordingly.

13. On 14 June 1976 we issued our draft proposals and these were sent to all who had received our consultation letter. The Council were asked to make these draft proposals, and the accompanying map 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 other members of the public and interested bodies. We asked that any comments should reach us by 16 August 1976.

14. The City Council informed us that they had no observations to make on our draft proposals. We received no other comments and having reviewed the draft proposals we decided to confirm them as our final proposals without modification.

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

PUBLICATION

16. In accordance with Section 60(5)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, a copy of this report and a copy of the map are being sent to Worcester City Council and will be available for public inspection at the Council's main offices. Copies of this report are also being sent to those who received the consultation letter. A detailed description of the boundaries of the proposed wards, as defined on the map, 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)

30 September 1976

CITY OF WORCESTER : NAMES OF PROPOSED WARDS AND NUMBERS OF COUNCILLORS

<u>NAME OF WARD</u>	<u>NO. OF COUNCILLORS</u>
ALL SAINTS	3
BEDWARDINE	3
CLAINES	3
HOLY TRINITY	3
NUNNERY	3
ST BARNABAS	3
ST CLEMENT	3
ST JOHN	3
ST MARTIN	3
ST NICHOLAS	3
ST PETER	3
ST STEPHEN	3

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.

ST PETER WARD

The parish of St Peter the Great County and that area bounded by a line commencing at a point where the northern boundary of said parish meets the River Severn, thence northwards along said river to Duck Brook, thence northeastwards along said brook to St Mark's Close, thence northwestwards along said close to Orchard Street, thence northeastwards along said street to a point opposite the southern boundary of St Mark's Church (C of E), thence eastwards to and along said boundary to Bath Road, thence northwestwards and northeastwards along said road to London Road, thence southeastwards along said road to Whittington Road, thence southeastwards along said road to a point opposite the southeastern boundary of the property known as The Gables being the southeastern boundary of the District, thence southwestwards to and along said district boundary and the northern boundary of St Peter the Great County CP to the point of commencement.

ALL SAINTS WARD

Commencing at a point where the River Severn meets the railway viaduct south of Pitchcroft Recreation Ground, thence northeastwards along said viaduct and railway to Rainbow Hill Junction, thence southeastwards along the railway through Shrub Hill Station to Perry Wood Walk, thence northeastwards and southeastwards along said walk to the path that leads from the road known as Lark Hill to Silverdale Avenue, thence northeastwards to and along said path to a point opposite the rear boundaries of the properties on the east side of Lark Hill, thence southeastwards to and along said boundaries and southwestwards along the southern boundary of said properties to Lark Hill, thence southeastwards along said Lark Hill, along the rear boundaries of Nos 14-36 Silverdale Avenue and con-

tinuing southeastwards along the fence and in prolongation thereof to the northern boundary of St Peter Ward, thence northwestwards along said ward boundary and southwestwards and following the western boundary of St Peter Ward to the River Severn, thence northwestwards and northwards along said river to the point of commencement.

BEDWARDINE WARD

Commencing at a point where New Road meets the western boundary of All Saints Ward at Worcester Bridge, thence southeastwards and following said ward boundary and the western boundary of St Peter Ward to the western boundary of the District, thence generally northwestwards along said district boundary to Bransford Road, thence northeastwards along said road, the road known as St John's, the road known as Bull Ring, and New Road to the point of commencement.

ST JOHN WARD

Commencing at a point where the western boundary of All Saints Ward meets the northern boundary of Bedwardine Ward, thence southwestwards along said northern boundary to the western boundary of the District thence southwestwards, northwards and eastwards along said District boundary to Laugharne Brook, thence southeastwards and following said brook to the footbridge, on the path which leads from Greenacres Road to the former Boughton Railway Halt, thence southeastwards and southwestwards along said path and in continuation thereof to the railway, thence northeastwards along said railway to the western boundary of All Saints Ward, thence southeastwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

ST CLEMENT WARD

Commencing at a point where the River Severn meets the northern boundary of St John Ward, thence southwestwards and northwards along said ward boundary to the western boundary of the District, thence northwards and eastwards along said district boundary to the River Severn, thence southwestwards and southeastwards along said river to the point of commencement.

ST NICHOLAS WARD

Commencing at a point where the northern boundary of All Saints Ward meets the eastern boundary of St Clement Ward, thence northwestwards and northeastwards along said eastern boundary to a point opposite the southern boundary of No 5 Park View Terrace, thence eastwards to and along said southern boundary to Park View Terrace, thence generally southeastwards along said terrace and Tower Road to Waterworks Walk, thence southwards along said walk to Barbourne Brook, thence southeastwards along said brook, through the pond in Gheluvelt Park and continuing along Barbourne Brook, to Barbourne Road, thence southeastwards along said road to Shrubbery Avenue, thence northeastwards along said avenue to Shrubbery Road, thence northwestwards along said road to St George's Lane North, thence northeastwards along said lane to Merriman's Hill Road, thence northeastwards along said road to Gillan Street, thence southeastwards along said street to Laslett Street, thence southwestwards along said street and Lansdowne Walk to Lansdowne Crescent, thence southeastwards along said crescent to the road known as Rainbow Hill, thence southwestwards along said hill to the northern boundary of All Saints Ward, thence southwestwards along said ward boundary to the point of commencement.

CLAINES WARD

Commencing at a point where the northern boundary of St Nicholas Ward meets the eastern boundary of St Clement Ward, thence northwards along said ward boundary and northwestwards along the western boundary of the District to the northern boundary of the District, thence generally eastwards along said district boundary to Droitwich Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Checketts Lane, thence northwestwards along said lane to Ombersley Road, thence southwards along said road and Barbourne Road to the northern boundary of St Nicholas Ward, thence generally northwestwards along said ward boundary to the point of commencement.

ST STEPHEN WARD

Commencing at a point where the northern boundary of the District meets the Worcester-Birmingham railway, thence southwestwards along said railway to Brickfields Road, thence northwestwards along said road to Astwood Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Green Lane, thence westwards along said lane to the northern boundary of St Nicholas Ward, thence southwestwards and northwestwards along said ward boundary and northeastwards along the eastern boundary of Claines Ward to the northern boundary of the District, thence northeastwards and following said district boundary to the point of commencement.

ST BARNABAS WARD

Commencing at a point where the northern boundary of All Saints Ward meets the eastern boundary of St Nicholas Ward, thence generally northeastwards and northwestwards along said eastern boundary to the southern boundary of St Stephen Ward, thence eastwards along said southern boundary

and northeastwards along the eastern boundary of St Stephen Ward to Field Road, thence southeastwards along said road to Blackpole Road, thence northeastwards along said road to a point opposite the northern boundary of the Midlands Electricity Board Depot, thence southeastwards to and along said boundary, southwestwards along the eastern boundary of said depot and southeastwards and southwards along the northern and eastern boundaries of the Post Office Depot to the northern boundary of No 29 Walnut Avenue, thence southeastwards along said northern boundary, the northern end of Walnut Avenue and the northern boundary of No 34 Walnut Avenue, to the rear boundary of No 34 Walnut Avenue, thence southwestwards along said rear boundary, the rear boundaries of Nos 32-2 Walnut Avenue and the eastern boundary of No 65 Brickfields Road to Brickfields Road, thence southeastwards along said road and Langdale Drive to Ambleside Drive, thence southwards and southeastwards along said drive to Troutbeck Drive, thence southwestwards and westwards along said drive and southwestwards along the road known as Tunnel Hill to Holly Mount Road, thence southeastwards along said road to Tolladine Road, thence southwestwards along said road to the eastern boundary of All Saints Ward, thence northwestwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

HOLY TRINITY WARD

Commencing at a point where Newtown Road meets the eastern boundary of All Saints Ward, thence northwestwards along said boundary to the southern boundary of St Barnabas Ward, thence northeastwards along said ward boundary, and northwestwards and northeastwards along the eastern boundary of St Barnabas Ward to Langdale Drive, thence northeastwards along said drive to Windermere Drive, thence southeastwards along said drive to Tolladine Road, thence northeastwards along said road to a point opposite the path leading from Tolladine Road to Tolladine Wood,

running to the south of No 1 Tolladine Terrace, thence southeastwards to and along said path to the western boundary of Warndon CP, thence southwestwards along said CP boundary and continuing along the path to Newtown Road, running to the east of Ronkswood Hill Farm thence westwards along said road to Hillside Close thence southwestwards along said close to a point opposite the northern boundary of Nos 1 and 3 Hillside Close, thence southeastwards to and along said northern boundary to the western boundary of Ronkswood Primary School, thence southwestwards along said western boundary and the western boundary of the playfields to a point due east of the southeastern corner of No 75 Humber Road, thence due west to said point and westwards along the southern boundary of No 75 Humber Road to Humber Road, thence northwestwards along said road to Newtown Road, thence southwestwards along said road to the point of commencement.

ST MARTIN WARD

The parish of Warndon and that area bounded by a line commencing at a point where the western boundary of Warndon CP meets the northern boundary of Holy Trinity Ward, thence northwestwards and following said ward boundary, westwards and following the northern boundary of St Barnabas Ward and northeastwards along the eastern boundary of St Stephen Ward to the northern boundary of the District, thence northeastwards and southeastwards along said district boundary to the western boundary of Warndon CP, thence generally southwards along said CP boundary to the point of commencement.

NUNNERY WARD

Commencing at a point where the western boundary of Warndon CP meets the eastern boundary of the District, thence generally southwestwards along said district boundary to the northern boundary of St Peter Ward, thence northwestwards along said northern boundary and the northeastern boundary of All Saints Ward to the southern boundary of Holy Trinity Ward, thence northeastwards and following said southern boundary and northeastwards along the eastern boundary of Holy Trinity Ward to the western boundary of Warndon CP, thence southeastwards and following said CP boundary to the point of commencement.

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