

**Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No. 470**

**Review of Electoral Arrangements
Borough of Tamworth**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

REPORT NO. 470

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

CHAIRMAN

Mr G J Ellerton CMG MBE

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Mr D P Harrison

Professor G E Cherry

To the Rt. Hon. Leon Brittan QC. MP.
Secretary of State for the Home Department

PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BOROUGH OF
TAMWORTH IN THE COUNTY OF STAFFORDSHIRE

1. The present electoral arrangements for the Borough of Tamworth date from 6 May 1976 when the Tamworth (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1975, giving effect to the proposals contained in our Report No. 13, came into force. Elections are by thirds.
2. Early in 1978, the Borough Council enquired informally about the possibility of a further review of these arrangements with a view to increasing the total size of the council. Shortly afterwards, however, our work was put into abeyance pending the outcome of our appeal in the case of the London Borough of Enfield v the Local Government Boundary Commission and it was only in December 1980 that the Borough Council formally requested us to conduct a further review of the electoral arrangements for the borough under section 50(3) of the Local Government Act 1972.
3. Reference has been made in our Reports Nos. 413 and 443 to our general reluctance, given our current and our foreseeable future work-load, to embark on further reviews of district electoral arrangements unless there have been major changes in the size or distribution of the electorate since the initial review. However, it was clear from the evidence before us that the Borough of Tamworth was such an exceptional case. We therefore agreed to conduct a further review and as a preliminary step invited the Borough Council to submit a draft scheme of representation for the borough, taking into account any views expressed to them by local interests.
4. Copies of the letter to the Borough Council announcing the start of the review were sent for information to the County Council, the Member of Parliament for the constituency concerned, the headquarters of the main political parties, local newspapers and the local government press. The start of the review was also announced

in the local press and by public notice.

5. The Borough Council's draft scheme providing for ten three-member wards was submitted in November 1982. The scheme also suggested a way in which the county electoral division covering the area of the borough might be re-arranged to conform to the new ward pattern envisaged by the Borough Council. Although this re-arrangement had the support of the County Council, the 1972 Act does not permit us to make proposals for changes in electoral arrangements which are consequent upon our proposals following a review of electoral arrangements for a different tier of local government. The two councils were advised accordingly.

6. The draft scheme had been advertised locally prior to its submission to us. The only comment received related to the suggested changes to the county electoral divisions.

7. We considered the draft scheme and on 15 August 1983 we issued draft proposals, details of which were sent to everyone who had received our consultation letter or had been involved in the preparation of the draft scheme. Copies were also sent to local radio stations serving the area. Notices were inserted in the local press announcing that the draft proposals had been issued and could be inspected at the Borough Council's offices.

8. Our draft proposals were based essentially upon the Borough Council's draft scheme. Some minor adjustments of a technical nature were made in order to obtain better defined boundaries, but the only change of substance from the detailed scheme was that we decided to realign the boundary between the suggested Amington and Bolehall wards so as to transfer electors from the latter to the former and produce a more even standard of representation.

9. The one comment which we received on our draft proposals came from the Borough Council. They acknowledged the marginal improvement in standard of representation resulting from the change referred to in the preceding paragraph; however, they expressed some concern that this might, in time, leave the Bolehall ward with a disproportionately small electorate. They therefore suggested an alternative boundary alignment transferring a smaller number of electors between the two wards suggested in their draft scheme.

10. We received one other letter about our draft proposals. This was from the County Council who advised us that they did not wish to make any representations.

11. As required by section 60(2)(d) of the Act, we have considered the Borough Council's representation. We accept that, in the long term, it may well come about that the Bolehall ward in our draft proposals is left with a markedly smaller electorate than the other wards. However, the terms of the Act requires us to have regard to changes in the number or distribution of local government electors over the next five years. On that basis we are satisfied that our draft proposals provide an acceptably even standard of representation for the borough. We have therefore decided to confirm our draft proposals as our final proposals.

12. Details of our final proposals are set out in Schedule 1 to this report. A map illustrating the proposed ward boundaries will be submitted with this report. A detailed description of these boundaries is attached as Schedule 2.

PUBLICATION

13. In accordance with section 60(5)(b) of the 1972 Act, a copy of this report, together with a copy of the map, is being sent to Tamworth Borough Council and will be available for inspection at the Council's main offices. Copies of this

report are also being sent to everyone else who received the consultation letter.

L.S.

Signed: G J ELLERTON (Chairman)

JOAN ACKNER

TYRRELL BROCKBANK

G E CHERRY

D P HARRISON

L B GRIMSHAW

Secretary

19 January 1984

BOROUGH OF TAMWORTH: NAMES OF PROPOSED WARDS AND NUMBERS OF COUNCILLORS

<u>NAME OF WARD</u>	<u>NO. OF COUNCILLORS</u>
Amington	3
Belgrave	3
Bolehall	3
Castle	3
Glascote	3
Mercian	3
Spital	3
Stonydelph	3
Trinity	3
Wilnecote	3

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND-TAMWORTH BOROUGH WARDS.

Note: Where the boundary is described as following a road, river, railway, canal or similar feature, it shall be deemed to follow the centre line of said feature unless otherwise stated.

CASTLE WARD

Commencing at the point where the western boundary of the Borough crosses Lichfield Road, thence northeastwards and southeastwards along said road to the road known as Mariner, thence northeastwards along said road to the road known as Neander, thence northeastwards along said road to the northeastern end of said road, thence northwestwards along said northeastern end to the detail running northeastwards from the northeastern end of the road known as Neander, thence northeastwards along said detail and in prolongation thereof to the Stafford - Rugby railway, thence southeastwards along said railway to the River Anker, thence generally southwards and southwestwards along said river to the Derby - Birmingham railway, thence southwards along said railway to the Coventry Canal, thence southwestwards along said canal to the western boundary of the Borough, thence northwards, southwestwards and northwestwards along said borough boundary to the point of commencement.

MERCIAN WARD

Commencing at the point where the northern boundary of Castle Ward meets the western boundary of the Borough, thence northwards and generally northeastwards along the western and northern boundaries of the Borough to Comberford Road, thence southeastwards along said road to Thackeray Drive, thence southwestwards along said drive to Chesterton Way, thence southwestwards along said way to Masefield Drive, thence southeastwards along said drive to St Austell Close, thence southwestwards along said close to its end, thence southwards in a straight line to the northern curtilage of no 19 St Austell Close, thence southwestwards along said curtilage, southwestwards to and along the northern curtilage of nos 21 and 23 St Austell Close to the western curtilage of the last mentioned

property, thence southwards along said curtilage to the northern boundary of the railway property, thence due southwards to the northern boundary of Castle Ward, thence generally northwestwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

SPITAL WARD

Commencing at the point where the eastern boundary of Mercian Ward meets the northern boundary of the Borough, thence eastwards, southeastwards and northeastwards along said northern boundary and southeastwards and southwestwards along the eastern boundary of the Borough to the River Anker, thence generally westwards along said river to the northern boundary of Castle Ward, thence westwards along said northern boundary to the eastern boundary of Mercian Ward, thence generally northwards along said eastern boundary to the point of commencement.

AMINGTON WARD

Commencing at the point where the southern boundary of Spital Ward meets the eastern boundary of the Borough, thence southwestwards and generally southwards along said eastern boundary to Glascote Road, thence northwestwards along said road to the subway of the Cycle Track and Path which passes to the west of Amington Industrial Estate, thence northwards, eastwards and northwards along said cycle track and path to a point opposite the northern curtilage of no 40b Brookweed, thence northwestwards to and along said curtilage and continuing generally westwards along the northern curtilages of nos 40a to 34 Brookweed to the southern boundary of the woodland north of all the properties numbered into Brookweed, thence generally westwards and southwestwards along said boundary crossing the cycle track and path and continuing generally southwestwards along the southern boundary of the woodland to National Grid Reference 2312503340 as shown on OS 1:1250 microfilm (B) SK 2303 SW, date of publication 1981, thence westwards in a straight line to the northeastern corner of No 6 Brookweed, thence generally

westwards along the northern curtilage of said property and in prolongation thereof to Woodland Road, thence northwards along said road to a point opposite the southern boundary of Woodhouse High School, thence northwestwards to and along said southern boundary and northeastwards along the western boundary of said school to the access way between nos. 100 and 102 Sheepcote Lane, thence westwards along said access way to Sheepcote Lane, thence southwestwards along said lane to St George's Way, thence northwestwards and westwards along said way to Argyle Street, thence northwards along said street to Tamworth Road (Amington), thence westwards along said road to Coventry Canal, thence northeastwards along said canal to a point opposite the rear curtilage of No. 46 June Crescent, thence northwestwards to and along said curtilage and continuing northwestwards along the rear curtilages of nos 44-30 June Crescent to the eastern boundary of the Ankermoor Primary School, thence northeastwards along said eastern boundary and continuing northeastwards along the southeastern boundary of the Sports Ground to the northeastern boundary of said sports ground, thence northwestwards along said northeastern boundary to the northernmost corner of said sports ground, thence northeastwards in a straight line to National Grid Reference 2224604414 as shown on OS 1:1250 microfilm (A) SK 2204 SW date of publication 1975, being the southernmost corner of the parcel of land to the east of Vincent Close Farm, thence generally northeastwards and northwestwards along the eastern and northern boundaries of said parcel to the northernmost corner of said parcel, thence due north to the Derby - Birmingham railway, thence westwards along said railway to the southern boundary of Spital Ward, thence generally northeastwards along said southern boundary to the point of commencement.

BOLEHALL WARD

Commencing at the point where the eastern boundary of Castle Ward meets the southwestern boundary of Amington Ward, thence eastwards, generally

southwards and eastwards along said southwestern boundary and continuing southwards along Sheepcote Lane, crossing the roundabout at the junction of Sheepcote Lane, Glascote Road and Marlborough Way, and continuing southwards along Marlborough Way to Leyland Road, thence northwestwards along said road to a point opposite the eastern curtilage of No. 39 Sunbeam, thence northeastwards to and along said eastern curtilage and continuing along the eastern curtilages of Nos. 38 and 24 Sunbeam to the rear curtilage of No. 24 Sunbeam, thence generally northwestwards along said rear curtilage and the rear curtilages of Nos. 23 to 15 Sunbeam and Nos. 24 to 2 Barcliff Avenue to the rear curtilage of No. 18 Riley, thence southwestwards along said rear curtilage and the rear curtilages of Nos. 17 to 1 Riley to the southern curtilage of No 73 East View, thence westwards along said curtilage and northwestwards along the rear curtilages of Nos 24 to 11 Lotus and the southern curtilage of No. 61 Neville Street to the Path and Cycle Track leading to Jowett, thence southwestwards along said path and cycle track to the northern curtilage of No. 37 Jowett, thence northwestwards along said curtilage to the rear curtilage of said property, thence southwestwards along said rear curtilage, the rear curtilages of Nos. 36 to 26 Jowett and the fence being the continuation southwestwards of said rear curtilages and in prolongation thereof to the Path and Cycle Track through Kettlebrook Park, thence westwards and southwestwards along said path and cycle track to Kettle Brook, thence northwestwards along said brook to the eastern boundary of Castle Ward, thence generally northwards along said eastern boundary to the point of commencement.

BELGRAVE WARD

Commencing at the point where the eastern boundary of Castle Ward meets the southern boundary of Bolehall Ward, thence generally eastwards along said southern boundary to Marlborough Way, thence southwestwards along

said way to the path and cycle track, south of Kettle Brook, thence eastwards in a straight line to the southern end of the Kettle Brook culvert thence southeastwards along said brook to Glascoate Lane, thence southwestwards along said lane to National Grid Reference 2265901420 as shown on OS 1:1250 microfilm (A) SK 2201 SE, date of publication 1974, thence northwestwards in a straight line to National Grid Reference 22541 01460, being a point on the northern boundary of the cemetery thence, northwestwards and southwestwards along said northern boundary and in prolongation thereof to Ninefoot Lane, thence southeastwards along said lane to a point opposite the northern curtilage of No. 8 Church View, thence westwards to and along said northern curtilage and the northern curtilages of Nos. 6 and 7 Church View to the eastern boundary of the Recreation Ground, thence southwestwards along said eastern boundary and in prolongation thereof to Watling Street, thence northwestwards along said street to a point opposite the eastern curtilage of No. 154 Watling Street, thence northwards to and along said eastern curtilage to the southern boundary of the Recreation Ground, thence westwards along said southern boundary and northwards along the western boundary of said recreation ground to the southern curtilage of No. 395 Wilnecote Lane, thence westwards along said southern curtilage and in prolongation thereof to Wilnecote Lane, thence southwards along said lane to its end, thence due south to Watling Street, thence northwestwards along said street to the Derby - Birmingham railway, thence northwards along said railway to a point opposite the northern curtilage of No. 48 Lansdowne Crescent, thence westwards to and along said northern curtilage and continuing westwards along the northern curtilages of Nos. 50 to 58 Lansdowne Crescent to the eastern curtilage of No 7 Highcliffe Road, thence northwards along said eastern curtilage and the eastern curtilage of No. 5 Highcliffe Road to the northern curtilage of said

property, thence westwards along said northern curtilage and continuing westwards along the northern curtilages of Nos. 3, 1 and 2 Highcliffe Road, No. 152 Tamworth Road and the southern curtilage of No. 198 Tamworth Road and in prolongation thereof to Tamworth Road, thence northwards along said road to the proposed A51 Diversion, thence northwestwards along said proposed road to the eastern boundary of Castle Ward, thence northwards and northeastwards along said eastern boundary to the point of commencement.

GLASCOTE WARD

Commencing at the point where the eastern boundary of Bolehall Ward meets the southwestern boundary of Amington Ward, thence generally southeastwards along said southwestern boundary to Pennine Way, thence southwestwards along said way to the southern end of Crowden Road, thence northwestwards along said road to the northern boundary of Stonydelph Junior School, thence westwards along said boundary and southwestwards along the western boundary of said school and in prolongation thereof to the Path and Cycle Track, south of said school, thence southeastwards along said Path and Cycle Track to the access path, northwest of Nos. 24, 22, 21 and 20 Gayle, thence generally southwestwards along said access path to the rear curtilage of No. 52 Goldsborough, thence northwestwards along said curtilage to the southeastern boundary of the Playing Field, thence southwestwards along said boundary and its continuation to the western most corner of the access road to Nos. 34-37 Goldsborough at National Grid Reference SK 2316602009, thence northwestwards in a straight line to and along the southwestern boundary of Moor Burgess Activity Centre, to National Grid Reference 2306802092 as shown on OS 1:1250 microfilm (A) SK 2302 SW date of publication 1977, thence due west to Glascote Lane, thence southwestwards along said lane to the eastern boundary of Belgrave Ward thence northwestwards and northeastwards along said eastern boundary to the

eastern boundary of Bolehall Ward, thence northwards along said eastern boundary to the point of commencement.

STONYDELPH WARD

Commencing at the point where the southeastern boundary of Glascote Ward meets the southwestern boundary of Amington Ward, thence eastwards along said southwestern boundary to the eastern boundary of the borough, thence eastwards and southwards along said eastern boundary to Watling Street, thence northwestwards along said street to Pennine Way, thence northwards along said way to a point due east of the southernmost corner of No. 8 Wessenden, thence due west to said corner, thence northwestwards along the southwestern curtilage of Nos. 8 and 9 Wessenden, the southwestern curtilage of the southernmost property in Tutehill and continuing northwestwards in a straight line to and westwards along the southern curtilage of the westernmost property in Tutehill to the southwestern curtilage of No. 15 Tanhill, thence northwestwards along said southwestern curtilage and the southwestern curtilages of Nos. 16 to 24 Tanhill, Nos. 20-30 Swindale, northwestwards in a straight line to and northwestwards along the southwestern curtilage of Nos. 23 to 35 and 43 to 47 Standedge to the westernmost corner of the last mentioned property, thence due west to Stonydelph Lane, thence northeastwards along said lane to National Grid Reference SK 2334601468, thence westwards to and westwards and northwestwards along an unnamed drain to the unnamed stream flowing southwestwards into Kettle Brook, thence southwestwards along said stream to Kettle Brook, thence northwestwards along said brook to the southeastern boundary of Glascote Ward, thence generally northeastwards along said southeastern boundary to the point of commencement.

WILNECOTE WARD

Commencing at the point where the southwestern boundary of Stonydelph Ward meets the southeastern boundary of the Borough, thence generally

southwestwards along said southeastern boundary to the Derby - Birmingham railway, thence northwards along said railway to the southern boundary of Belgrave Ward, thence generally southeastwards and northeastwards along said southern boundary to the southwestern boundary of Stonydelph Ward, thence generally southeastwards along said southwestern boundary to the point of commencement.

TRINITY WARD

Commencing at the point where the western boundary of the Borough meets the eastern boundary of Castle Ward, thence northeastwards along said eastern boundary to the southwestern boundary of Belgrave Ward, thence generally eastwards and southwards along said southwestern boundary to the western boundary of Wilnecote Ward, thence southwards along said western boundary to the point of commencement.