

**Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No.156**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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To the Rt Hon Roy Jenkins, MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department

PROPOSALS FOR REVISED ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH WIGHT IN THE COUNTY OF ISLE OF WIGHT

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

2. In accordance with the procedure laid down in section 60(1) and (2) of the 1972 Act, notice was given on 21 April 1975 that we were to undertake this review. This was incorporated in a consultation letter addressed to the South Wight Borough Council, copies of which were circulated to the Isle of Wight County Council, the Member of Parliament for the constituency concerned, Parish Councils in the borough 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. South Wight Borough 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 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)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council have exercised an option for a system of whole council elections.
5. On 21 October 1975, South Wight Borough Council presented their draft scheme of representation. The Council proposed to divide the area into 16 wards each returning 1, 2 or 3 councillors to form a council of 24 members.
6. We considered the draft scheme, together with the comments which we had received and those which had been transmitted to us by the Borough Council.
7. The Isle of Wight County Council informed us that they had no comments to make on the Borough Council's proposals. They told us that when we commenced our review of the county electoral arrangements they had it in mind to propose a county council of 42 members and that in their view it would not be possible, given the particular circumstances of the Isle of Wight, to propose county electoral divisions without dividing the wards now proposed by the two borough councils on the Island. We are of the view that it is desirable wherever possible to try and harmonise the district and county electoral arrangements so that county electoral divisions can be formed from whole wards of the districts. On consideration of the comments submitted by the County Council, however, we concluded that it would not be possible to arrive at such harmony in the electoral arrangements for the Island and at the same time achieve electoral arrangements for the individual boroughs and/or the county which would be satisfactory. We noted that the county council proposed to have discussions with the borough councils with a view to a common system of polling districts.

8. There were objections, from a local residents association and from a local elector, to the Borough Council's proposal that the Wroxall ward of the parish of Ventnor should be grouped with the Lowtherville ward of that parish to form the proposed Ventnor Downside ward. Instead it was suggested that the Wroxall ward should be established as a single member ward in its own right leaving the Lowtherville ward to be grouped with the other wards of Ventnor to form a 3 member ward. We considered that this would be more appropriate than the Borough Council's proposal and we resolved to modify their draft scheme accordingly. We decided to name the revised wards "Wroxall" and "Ventnor" respectively.

9. The remaining comments referred to the possible adjustment of the administrative boundary between the parishes of Yarmouth and Freshwater: a matter that lies outside the scope of the present review.

10. After consulting the Ordnance Survey we made some minor adjustments to some of the proposed ward boundaries in Sandown and Shanklin in order to secure boundary lines which were more readily identifiable on the ground.

11. Subject to the changes referred to in paragraphs 8 and 10 above we decided that the Borough Council's draft scheme provided a reasonable basis for the future electoral arrangements of the borough in compliance with the rules in Schedule 11 to the 1972 Act and our guidelines and we formulated our draft proposals accordingly.

12. On 24 February 1976 we issued our draft proposals and these were sent to all who had received our consultation letter or had commented on the Council's draft scheme. 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 any comments should reach us by 28 April 1976.

13. The South Wight Borough Council informed us that they had no comments to offer on the draft proposals and from the residents' association which had written to us previously we received a letter in support of our proposal to establish the proposed Wroxall ward. The remaining comments all dealt with the boundary between the parishes of Yarmouth and Freshwater. This is a question which, having regard to our present programme of work on district and county electoral reviews, will have to be left until it is possible to conduct a review of parish boundaries.

14. Since there were no objections relevant to the present review of the electoral arrangements for the borough we concluded that our draft proposals should be confirmed and we formulated our final proposals accordingly.

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

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 maps are being sent to the South Wight Borough 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 and to those who made comments. A detailed description of the boundaries of the proposed wards as defined on the maps, is set out in Schedule 2 to this report.

Signed

L.S.

EDMUND COMPTON (CHAIRMAN)

JOHN M RANKIN (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN)

DIANA ALBEMARLE

T C BENFIELD

MICHAEL CHISHOLM

ANDREW WHEATLEY

N DIGNEY (Secretary)

10 June 1976

BOROUGH OF SOUTH WIGHT : NAMES OF PROPOSED WARDS AND NUMBERS OF COUNCILLORS

<u>NAME OF WARD</u>	<u>NO. OF COUNCILLORS</u>
ARRETON AND NEWCHURCH	1
BEMBRIDGE	2
BRADING	1
BRIGHTSTONE AND SHORWELL	1
CALBOURNE AND SHALFLEET	1
CHALE AND NITON	1
FRESHWATER	2
GATCOMBE AND GODSHILL	1
LAKE	2
SANDOWN	2
SHANKLIN NORTH	2
SHANKLIN SOUTH	2
TOTLAND	1
VENTNOR	3
WROXALL	1
YARMOUTH	1

BOROUGH OF SOUTH WIGHT : DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WARD BOUNDARIES

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

SANDOWN WARD

Commencing at the point where the southern boundary of Bembridge CP meets the eastern boundary of the District, being on Mean Low Water, thence southwestwards along said district boundary to a point due southeast of the junction of Cliff Road and Talbot Road, thence northwestwards to said junction and Talbot Road, thence northwestwards, northeastwards and northwestwards along said road to the road known as Lake Hill, thence southwestwards along said road to the footpath which leads from Lake Hill to the northern boundary of No 1 The Mall, southwestwards along the northern boundaries of Nos 1 to 11 The Mall, to the western boundary of No 11 The Mall, thence southwards along said western boundary of said property to the rear northern boundaries of No 15 to 19 The Mall, thence generally westwards along said rear boundaries and in prolongation thereof to the Sandown to Shanklin railway, thence northeastwards along said railway to a point due southeast of the footpath leading from the Golf Links Road to the railway, thence northwestwards to and along said footpath and continuing along Golf Links Road to the unnamed road leading from the dismantled railway to Golf Links Road, thence generally northwards along said unnamed road to the dismantled railway, thence northwestwards along said dismantled railway to the eastern boundary of Brading CP, thence northeastwards along said eastern boundary to the southern boundary of Bembridge CP, thence generally southeastwards along said southern boundary to the point of commencement.

LAKE WARD

Commencing at a point where the eastern boundary of Newchurch CP meets the southwestern boundary of Sandown Ward, thence southeastwards along said ward boundary to the District being on Mean Low Water, thence southwestwards along said district boundary to a point due east of the Sandown Road bridge crossing the Sandown to Shanklin Railway line, thence due west to said bridge, thence

southwestwards along said railway line to a point opposite the northeastern boundary of the County Ground (recreation ground), thence northwestwards to and along said northeastern boundary and continuing along the southern boundary of the property known as Rosswyld to Green Lane, thence southwestwards along said lane to Fir Tree Close, thence northwestwards and following said close to Whitecross Path, which runs at the rear of the properties in Fir Tree Close and Whitecross Avenue, thence northwestwards along said path to Whitecross Lane, thence northwestwards, southwestwards and southeastwards along Whitecross Lane to a point opposite the northern boundary of Parcel No 275 on 1:2500 County Series Hants plan 99/1 Edition of 1908, thence westwards to and along said northern boundary and the northern boundary of Parcel No 276 to the unnamed stream flowing to Scotchells Brook, thence northwestwards along said unnamed stream to Scotchells Brook, thence southwestwards and following said brook to the eastern boundary of Newchurch CP, thence generally northeastwards and following said CP boundary to the point of commencement.

SHANKLIN NORTH WARD

Commencing at a point where the eastern boundary of Newchurch CP meets the southern boundary of Lake Ward, thence generally eastwards along said ward boundary to the District boundary being on Mean Low Water, thence southwestwards along said district boundary to a point being in prolongation of the southern boundary of the Putting Green, thence northwestwards along said prolongation and continuing along the southern boundary of the putting green and continuing in prolongation to Eastcliff Promenade, thence southwestwards along said promenade to Clarendon Road, thence westwards along said road and Falcon Cross Road to Languard Road, thence northwestwards along said road to the disused Shanklin to Ventnor railway line, thence southwestwards along said railway to the railway bridge on the unnamed road leading from Hyde Road to the property known as Copse Cottage, thence northwestwards and following said unnamed road and continuing along the path to the western boundary of said property to the track leading from Copse Cottage to Upper Hyde Farm, thence

southwestwards along said track to the track to the east of Upper Hyde Farm, thence generally northwards along said track to the southern boundary of Parcel No 908 on Ordnance Survey 1:2500 County series Hants 99/5 Edition of 1908, thence generally westwards along said southern boundary and continuing along the southern boundary of Parcel No 907 to the southwestern boundary of said parcel, thence northwestwards along said southwestern boundary to the eastern boundary of Newchurch CP, thence northeastwards along said CP boundary to the point of commencement.

SHANKLIN SOUTH WARD

Commencing at a point where the eastern boundary of Newchurch CP meets the southern boundary of Shanklin North Ward, thence generally southeastwards along said ward boundary to the District being on Mean Low Water, thence southwestwards and following said district boundary to the northeastern boundary of Ventnor CP at Bordwood Ledge, thence westwards and generally northwestwards and following said CP boundary to the eastern boundary of Newchurch CP thence northeastwards along said CP boundary to the point of commencement.

ARRETON AND NEWCHURCH WARD

The parishes of Arreton
Newchurch

BEMBRIDGE WARD

The parish of Bembridge

BRADING WARD

The parish of Brading

BRIGHTSTONE AND SHORWELL WARD

The parishes of Brightstone
Shorwell

CALBOURNE AND SHALFLEET WARD

The parishes of Calbourne
Shalfleet

CHALE AND NITON WARD

The parishes of Chale
Niton

FRESHWATER WARD

The parish of Freshwater

GATCOMBE AND GODSHILL WARD

The parishes of Gatcombe
Godshill

TOTLAND WARD

The parish of Totland

YARMOUTH WARD

The parish of Yarmouth

VENTNOR WARD

The Bonchurch Ward
Lowtherville Ward
St Lawrence Ward
Ventnor Ward
of the parish of Ventnor

WROXALL WARD

The Wroxall Ward of the parish of Ventnor