

Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
For England  
Report No. 339

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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To the ~~Secretary of State for the Home Department~~  
Secretary of State for the Home Department

PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE  
CITY OF EXETER IN THE COUNTY OF DEVON

1. We, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, having carried out our initial review of the electoral arrangements for the City of Exeter 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 City.
2. In accordance with the procedure laid down in Section 60(1) and (2) of the 1972 Act, notice was given on 23 April 1975 that we were to undertake this review. This was incorporated in a consultation letter addressed to Exeter City Council, copies of which were circulated to Devon County Council, the Member of Parliament for the constituency concerned 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. Exeter 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 also asked to take into account 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 opportunity for local comment.
4. The City Council have passed a resolution under Section 7(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, requesting a system of elections by thirds.
5. On 27 October 1975 Exeter City Council submitted their draft scheme of representation. The Council proposed to divide the area of the district into eleven wards each returning three members to form a council of thirty-three members.
6. The only comment we received was from a local political association which preferred to retain the present arrangements of 17 wards each returning 2 members.

7. We decided to use the City Council's draft scheme as the basis of our draft proposals. We made a number of modifications to the proposed wards in order to secure improvements in the standard of representation.

8. Subject to these modifications and to some minor adjustments to ward boundaries suggested to us by Ordnance Survey we decided to adopt the draft scheme as our draft proposals.

9. On 21 May 1976 we issued our draft proposals and these were sent to all who had received our consultation letter. The City Council were asked to make these draft proposals, and the accompanying map 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 the public and interested bodies. We asked for comments to reach us by 17 August 1977.

10. Exeter City Council informed us that, arising from a change in the political control of the Council, the draft proposals were not acceptable to them and they would be submitting a revised draft scheme. Devon County Council drew attention to the difficulties which might arise from incompatibility with the expected pattern of county electoral divisions. A local political party expressed support for the draft proposals.

11. On 28 October 1976 the City Council submitted their revised draft scheme of representation to provide for the division of the area into 18 wards each returning 2 members making a council of 36 members, two more than at present, and three more than proposed in the original draft scheme.

12. We considered the revised draft scheme and the comments which had been made upon it. A local political party reiterated their support for the previous 11 ward scheme. The comments otherwise related to specific areas but no detailed proposal for alternative boundaries had been made.

13. We noted that the City Council's revised draft scheme met the requirements of Schedule 11 to the Local Government Act 1972 and our guidelines. We noted also that the proposed district wards would be compatible with the future nine county electoral divisions provisionally allocated to Exeter, on the basis of two district wards per electoral division.

14. It was clear to us however that there was political controversy and in the absence of detailed criticism of the revised scheme we found it difficult to form any clear conclusion. A local meeting seemed inevitable and we thought this was the best place for the relative merits of the two schemes to be argued and clarified. With this in mind we thought it appropriate to adopt the revised draft scheme as the basis for revised draft proposals and so provide a basis for discussion at the meeting.

15. Our revised draft proposals were issued on 22 June 1977, but in announcing them we stated that in the exceptional circumstances we wished it to be known that as soon as our new draft proposals had been duly advertised, we intended to arrange for the appointment of an Assistant Commissioner to hold a local meeting in order to assess the merits of all the proposals and the comments that had been made. We asked that comments should reach us by 17 August 1977.

16. Exeter City Council made no comment. Devon County Council wrote that they had no objection to the revised draft proposals, and a local political party expressed support for them.

17. Representations against our revised draft proposals, including petitions, were received from a local political party, a local political association, individual councillors and members of the public.

18. In view of these comments and as envisaged when we issued our revised draft proposals, 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 L H Baines, OBE., was appointed an Assistant Commissioner. He was asked to hold a local meeting and to report to us.

19. The Assistant Commissioner held the meeting at Exeter on 19 January 1978. A copy of his report to us of the meeting is attached at Schedule 1 to this report.

20. In the light of the discussion at the meeting and of his inspection of the area, the Assistant Commissioner recommended that the revised draft proposals be replaced by our original draft proposals, published in May 1976 and providing for a Council of 33 members from 11 wards of three members each, one member from each ward retiring annually.

21. This recommendation resulted from the Assistant Commissioner's comparative assessment of our original draft proposals of May 1976 (based on the scheme submitted by the City Council in October 1975), and our revised draft proposals of June 1977 (based on the scheme submitted by the City Council in October 1976). The earlier

scheme would provide for a Council of 33 members in 11 x 3 member wards and the later scheme would provide for a Council of 36 members in 18 x 2 member wards.

22. The Assistant Commissioner felt obliged to choose between the two schemes. In terms of electoral equality he found the revised draft proposals preferable; but he considered that any such numerical superiority was outweighed by the advantages of the original proposals.

23. We have reviewed both sets of draft proposals in the light of the comments we had received and of the Assistant Commissioner's report. We noted from his assessment of the merits of the alternative schemes that in spite of certain paper advantages in the revised draft proposals he believed that in terms of the effective and convenient local government of the City of Exeter, and the provision of a lasting structure, the original draft proposals should prevail.

24. We found the arguments even more finely balanced than the Assistant Commissioner saw them in his conclusions. We were disposed to add greater weight to the significantly greater equality of representation provided by the revised proposals and less to the arguments advanced in favour of the original proposals. We came to the conclusion that the former factor in particular tipped the scales in favour of our revised draft proposals and we decided to confirm these as our final proposals.

25. Details of these final proposals are set out in Schedules 2, 3 and 4 to this report and on the attached map. Schedule 2 gives the names of the wards and the number of councillors to be returned by each. Schedule 3 gives the order of retirement of councillors. A detailed description of the boundaries of the proposed wards, as defined on the map, is set out in Schedule 4.

PUBLICATION

26. 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 Exeter City Council and will be available for inspection at the Council's main offices. Copies of this report (without the map) are also being sent to those who received the consultation letter and to those who made comments.

L.S.

Signed:

NICHOLAS MORRISON (Chairman)

JOHN M RANKIN (Deputy Chairman)

PHYLLIS BOWDEN

TYRBELL BROCKBANK

G E CHERRY

D P HARRISON

R R THORNTON

LESLIE GRIMSHAW (Secretary)

26 April 1979

Review of Electoral Arrangements - District of ExeterReport of Assistant Commissioner

1. A local meeting was held on Thursday 19 January 1978 at the Council Offices, Civic Centre, Exeter, at which the persons whose names and addresses appear in Annex 'A' were present, to hear representations relating to the draft proposals of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England for the District of Exeter.
2. The circumstances here were somewhat unusual. The Exeter City Council had submitted, in October 1975, a draft scheme which provided for a council of 33 members, three members to be returned for each of 11 proposed wards, one third of the council retiring annually. This scheme, with minor modifications, provided the basis for draft proposals by the Commission in May 1976. However, by this time local government elections had changed the political complexion of the Council, whose observations on the draft proposals took the form of a revised draft scheme under which the council would consist of 36 members, two members to be returned for each of 18 proposed wards, one third of the council retiring annually. The original draft scheme was designed to be compatible with county electoral arrangements as then envisaged. A subsequent provisional allocation of 9 county council members for Exeter made the revised draft scheme more compatible than the original, and the revised draft also secured greater compliance with the provisions of paragraph 3(2) of Schedule II of the Local Government Act, 1972.
3. The Commission accordingly decided to adopt the revised draft scheme as the basis for revised draft proposals which they issued in June 1977, but in announcing them they stated that, because of the exceptional circumstances, an Assistant Commissioner would be appointed to hold a local meeting in order to assess the merits of all the proposals and the comments made upon them.
4. There is, as will appear later in this report, a clear division on party lines, both within and outside the Council, of support for the original and the revised draft proposals. It is right, however, at this stage to record that both the original and the revised draft schemes (on which the draft proposals were based) were prepared by the officers of the council in a manner acknowledged by all parties to be totally impartial, and that so far from there being any suggestion of gerrymandering, the leader of the Labour group on the Council said "If we had to divide the City into 18 wards it is doubtful there would be any difference to the proposed eighteen. If we wanted a City Council of 54 we would have no objection to the scheme."
5. The objections to the revised draft proposals were largely based on the desirability of enabling the whole of the electorate to vote annually, which would have been achieved under the original draft but is impossible under the revised draft. Various community advantages were also claimed for the original draft, and particularly strong and emphatic representations were made against the revised draft by many associated with the Heavitree area of the city.

6. At the meeting Councillor Patrick Spoerer, the leader of the Labour group, emphasised that the decision to have elections by thirds was a unanimous one taken in December 1973, a decision which was conveyed to the Commission when the original draft scheme was submitted in October 1975 when it was stated that "the Exeter City Council have opted to have elections by thirds; each ward returning three Members, one Member retiring each year." This, he claimed, was the single item upon which the Council was unanimous; it was a system which was more democratic, led to a greater interest and participation in local affairs by the community, and provided, by the election results, a feedback of approval or otherwise at regular intervals. He claimed that a system under which close neighbours either side of a ward boundary could find that in a particular year one was entitled to a vote and the other was not, was confusing to the electorate and not likely to be understood by the average voter. Moreover, a particularly local issue might well arise in a year in which no election was held in the ward, to the frustration and dismay of the inhabitants. He regarded the ward of 5-6000 represented by three members as better than the smaller ward with only two. It provided greater flexibility against the effect of population changes, a better team to represent the interests of a ward, and was more likely to embrace the needs of a natural community within the city. Compatibility with County electoral arrangements was convenient but not essential, and he claimed that by the time of the original draft proposals in May 1976 the Commission would have been well aware of the position of those proposals in terms of compatibility. The original draft proposals, which he urged should be accepted in place of the revised draft, were clearly a form of electoral arrangement acceptable to the Commission, and which he commended, for the reasons given, as a preferable arrangement.

7. Mr. Lopez, Secretary of the Exeter Labour Party supported these views. On the question of compatibility, he pointed out that population changes in Exeter or elsewhere in Devon might have the effect of changing the numbers of County councillors representing Exeter. The paramount task should be to find the most practical and equitable structure for the divisions of the new wards in the City of Exeter and an acceptable scheme should not be altered for the purpose of providing compatibility, which could be beneficial but was not essential. He claimed that though the revised draft proposals were capable of accommodating election by thirds, it would be clumsy and confusing compared with the advantages of the original draft. On a comparison of the eleven and eighteen ward schemes the former followed natural boundaries and enabled all local communities to stay together in their own identifiable areas, and he gave various instances to justify this; it also enabled all electors not only to voice their judgement on issues each year, as they arise, but to vote at the same polling station.

8. Mrs. Spence declared that the issue was the health of local democracy in Exeter. There were strong feelings among the electorate, who essentially identified themselves with Exeter, that, the Council having decided on "thirding", the voters should not be deprived of voting in any year. This should over-rule other considerations.

9. Councillor Howard Marsh, speaking both for Heavitree, which he represents, and for the Exeter Liberal Association, though not entirely happy about wards with up to 7000 electors under the original draft proposals, found the "thirthing" arrangements under the revised draft "very unbappy", even more so because the division into eighteen wards resulted in the "dissipation" of Heavitree. He did not consider whole Council elections a suitable alternative and was therefore in favour of the original draft proposals.

10. County Councillor David Morrish, a former City Councillor and now representing Heavitree and Winford on the County Council, came down strongly in support of the original draft. His views, he claimed, mirrored the views of the electorate he represented and with whom he had been closely in touch over this matter. In particular he dealt with the Heavitree area, which he said was one of some half dozen recognised community areas in the City, with a lively Youth Club and a Community Association with an extensive membership, a Social Centre and a football ground. A sense of community, broadly co-terminous with the voting area of a ward, has clearly influenced the percentage of voting, has articulated local opinion, and made easier the identification of and co-operation with local voluntary services by local government.

11. Various residents endorsed in strong and sometimes forceful terms their identification with the Heavitree area and their opposition to the revised draft proposals as they affected Heavitree.

12. Councillor W. G. Daw, Deputy leader of the Council, for the Exeter Conservative Association, claimed that the draft proposals produced a better ratio of councillors to electors, and better boundaries for wards. He said that Exeter had never had large wards, that with smaller wards there was a better community interest generally and that people like to know their Councillors. He thought it sufficient that two-thirds of the electorate would be voting each year and that all electors would be able to vote twice in every four years. He thought that too much emphasis on community and local ties was not a good thing; all councillors were being elected to Exeter City Council and Exeter should be the community they served.

13. County Councillor D. J. Rogers stressed the great importance of compatibility, where the revised draft was an improvement on the original. He thought Heavitree would retain a large part of its identity and that its spirit would not go away. He claimed that under the original draft the identities of Rougemont, Cowick and Countess Wear would be utterly destroyed.

14. County Councillor Mrs. Sandra Golant preferred the original draft as inducing a habit of voting, which helps to provide continuity and development. The "absurd swings and roundabouts" of whole council elections are avoided.

15. In general discussion a number of other points emerged. Both the County Council and the City Council have urged the formation of community associations, and the making of geographical links for some functional purposes has been found very desirable. Anything which encourages public participation in local affairs must be regarded as preferable to that which discourages it. The view was expressed that if Exeter were a County Borough, or had many of the former County Borough powers a council of 54 members would enable the eighteen ward scheme to be adopted with three members for each ward instead of two, enabling one member in each ward to retire each year. The fears and loyalties of objectors from Heavitree were perhaps best summed

up by one resident who said: "A change of boundary does make a difference. I want to vote for a councillor to represent the area I think I belong to."

16. For the City Council, Mr. D. G. Sainsbury, the City Secretary and Solicitor, provided a factual historical background from which to consider the various schemes, proposals and comments. In dealing with Heavitree he pointed out that since 1912 when Heavitree first came within the City boundaries there have been no less than six different boundaries for the Heavitree ward, some of the changes being admittedly minor in character. He also pointed out that many of the objections of Heavitree residents, such as altering postal addresses, affecting the rate bill, reducing property values, etc., were irrelevant. He admitted that the fact that Heavitree Social Centre and Wingfield Park would be in St. Loyes Ward, and that the Heavitree Community Association and Hope Hall would be in Wonford Ward could be relevant. He discussed possible adjustments to the proposed ward boundaries of Heavitree to meet objections, but all of these would have an adverse effect on the equality of representation and I have not thought it necessary to pursue them further.

17. Apart from the question of compatibility, the original draft scheme, he said, satisfied four important criteria, namely (a) the natural grouping of communities (b) equality of representation (c) an appropriate Council size (d) it enabled retirement by thirds. The revised draft scheme was prepared to achieve compatibility and smaller wards. He urged that though either scheme was workable by the administration they should have what the Council and the electors wanted. The only detailed objections were from the Heavitree area; the Barton ward might perhaps be re-named East Heavitree but alterations to boundaries would throw figures out of balance. An eighteen ward scheme would provide more 'local' wards and would be more easily compatible with 9 county council wards. He would not admit there would be any confusion with the electorate and in any case boundaries must be adjusted from those now existing. He thought the Council might consider whole Council elections. As far as local opinion went, the Council held public meetings locally to test the mood of the electorate and to test opinion.

18. It seemed to me quite clear that there were no relatively minor adjustments to boundaries that would meet the objections of the Heavitree interests. Anything more than a purely minor alteration would inevitably throw out of balance the figures relevant to equality of representation. I do not think that the suggestion of naming the proposed Barton ward East Heavitree would be a sufficient answer, bearing in mind the extent of the area popularly regarded as Heavitree.

19. In more general terms there appear to be only two practical ways of producing a scheme to meet fully the desire for compatibility on the one hand and the three-member ward, giving annual elections, on the other: first, to reduce the size of the Council to 27 and re-draw boundaries to give only nine wards, and secondly, to increase the size of the Council to 54, retaining the eighteen wards of the revised draft proposals. The first would produce even larger wards and would reduce the size of the Council to an unacceptable level, the second would result in a Council larger than required for its present functions and do nothing to allay the fears of the Heavitree residents. It is no part of my task to speculate whether a Council of 54 might be justified as a result of legislation not yet enacted which might result in some powers and functions being transferred from County Councils to the larger Districts

such as Exeter; I therefore conclude that any recommendation I might make is in practice limited to a choice between the merits of the original and the revised draft proposals.

20. However, before considering the respective merits of the two drafts it is necessary to take carefully into account the decision in *Enfield London Borough Council, v. Local Government Boundary Commission for England and Another* (The Times, July 28, 1978). In the Court of Appeal decision, reversing the earlier judgement of Briston, J., Lord Denning said that paragraph 3(2)(a) (referred to above) did not seem to him to be the overriding consideration. Overriding the whole matter were the words in Section 47(1) "...the interests of effective and convenient local government."

21. Had the original judgement stood, the need to consider the respective merits of the two drafts would not have arisen, since the revised draft provides a mathematically superior standard of representation, and between two practicable schemes this would have been conclusive. However, the original draft is within tolerable limits and the largest variations from the norm are in the proposed Exwick ward, where, it was claimed at the meeting and not challenged, the greatest future development was expected. Although, therefore, the revised draft is preferable on this score, other considerations should be taken into account before a judgement is reached on the balance between the two drafts.

22. Compatibility with County arrangements is obviously desirable and as between two schemes of equal merit the one providing compatibility should clearly be chosen; but the paramount consideration must always be the effectiveness and convenience of the local administration of the City of Exeter, and compatibility is merely one factor to be taken into account.

23. I have also had regard to the question of the weight to be given to the desires of the democratically elected District Council as expressed in the revised draft scheme. The electoral arrangements for an area are intended to have a degree of permanence which transcends representational or party changes in a local council. Indeed, the opportunity of considering two schemes representing differing but widely held views both within the council and without is a welcome one. There is no suggestion that the proposed electoral changes formed an election issue when control of the council changed, and though the Council's decision must be given due weight it should not be regarded as conclusive.

24. I therefore come to an assessment of the merits of the two drafts as they apply "on the spot" as it were. Apart from compatibility, which is discussed above, the intention of the revised draft was to provide smaller wards, in which members could be better known to the electorate they represented. The boundaries of the proposed eighteen wards appear to be almost entirely new boundaries, and though they were described at the meeting by one speaker as "the best we have had", it was not claimed for them that they enabled the various local communities to stay together in their own identifiable areas as was claimed for the boundaries of the original draft.

25. There can be no question but that electoral arrangements can quite properly provide for retirement by thirds when the arrangements include two - or single-member wards; in rural areas, indeed, such arrangements may be essential. In a city area, however, between two workable schemes, one of which provides three-member wards with one retiring annually, and the other which provides smaller wards but a mixed pattern of retirement, I would regard the balance of advantage as lying with the three-member ward, and strongly so if the wards are so drawn as to contain natural or established local communities.

26. In the case of Exeter the only significant comment on this latter point, apart from what is said above, came from the Heavitree area. How far the lack of comment elsewhere was due to satisfaction, apathy, indifference, or sheer bewilderment I cannot judge. Certainly in the Heavitree area, where it was brought very much to their attention, there was a widespread response in the form of petition, individual letters and attendance at the meeting. Many of the reasons given for protest and the fears expressed can, as Mr. Sainsbury argued, be discounted, but what emerged was the sense of identity with a name and an area. The fact that boundaries drawn on maps have changed and that one would be hard put to define current limits to "Heavitree" does not alter the fact that the sense of community is strong and feels threatened by the revised draft proposals. It is clear that a two-member ward could not contain an area which would cover the whole of the local community of Heavitree, which in one form or another has found or retained its own identity probably since the days of the old Heavitree Urban District before 1912.

27. When local government re-organisation took place the statute had, perhaps of necessity, to ignore the existence of real expressions of local community outside the parish councils. Almost the only place in which such communities can be preserved, to the great benefit of public interest in local affairs, and hence to the encouragement of genuine local democracy, is the wards of District Councils. I regard the maintenance of such community interest as of considerable importance.

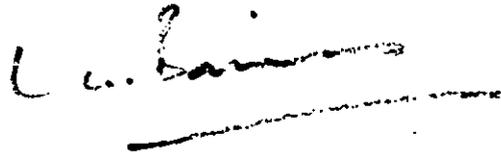
28. In favour, therefore, of the revised draft proposals are the compatibility with intended County arrangements, a better balance of electoral representation, the current desires of the majority of the City Council and the possible advantage of smaller wards. For the original draft proposals the advantages lie in the containment of local communities within the proposed ward boundaries, the ability to maintain local interest by the habit of voting annually, and by a simple, rather than complicated, system of retirement, and the need for a council of 33 rather than 36 members, 33 being regarded as sufficient to meet committee and other needs. In particular, the Heavitree community would be almost wholly contained within one ward.

29. In spite, therefore, of certain paper advantages in the revised draft, I believe that in terms of the effective and convenient local government of the City of Exeter and the provision of a lasting structure, the original draft proposals should prevail. Beside these considerations compatibility should not be regarded as essential, and in the light of the judgements in the Enfield case the deviations from equality of representation should be regarded as tolerable. In any case I regard the larger wards as more capable of assimilating future population changes than the smaller wards.

30. Before coming to my conclusions I visited the whole area of the city, noting the proposed boundaries for both sets of proposals, and with particular attention to the Heavitree area.

I recommend

that the revised draft proposals be replaced by the original draft proposals published by the Commission in May 1976 and providing for a Council of 33 members from 11 wards of three members each, one member from each ward retiring annually.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'C. A. Bain', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Assistant Commissioner

January 1979.

ANNEX A

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Mrs. R. Hills	131 Fore Street, Heavitree, Exeter	
Mrs. M.E. Soper	30 Victor Street, Heavitree, Exeter	
Mrs. E. Blackford	8 Avondale Road, Heavitree, Exeter	
Mrs. G.E. Moore	7 Avondale Road, Heavitree, Exeter	
Mrs. E.M. Clayton	7 Hope Place, Hope Road, Heavitree, Exeter	
Mr. J. Clayton	7 Hope Place, Hope Road, Heavitree, Exeter	
Mr. M. A. Hayman	1 Hope Place, Hope Road, Heavitree, Exeter	
Mr. D. Morrish	38 Birchy Barton Hill, Heavitree, Exeter	County Councillor
Mr. H.I. Marsh	4 Feltrim Avenue, Exeter	City Councillor, Heavitree.
Mr. D. Rogers	12 Lyndhurst Road, Exeter	
Mrs. Saxon Spence	5 Regents Park, Exeter	Exeter Labour Party
Mr. A. E. Lopez	24 Whipton Village Road, Exeter	Exeter Labour Party
Mr. P. Spoerer	72 Beacon Lane, Exeter	City Councillor Leader of Labour Group
Mr. J. W. Munton,	36 Heavitree Road, Exeter (Exeter Conservative Association Agent)	
Mr. W. G. Daw	84 Magdalen Road, Exeter (Deputy Leader, Exeter Council)	for Exeter Conservative Association.
Mr. G.J. Greenslade	34 Marlborough Road, Exeter (Exeter Conservative Association)	
Mr. A. J. Petrie	64 Velwell Road, Exeter	Exeter Labour Party
Mr. J. Levers	35 Gloucester Road, Exeter	
Mrs. Sandra Golant	38 Lower North Street, Exeter	
Mr. R.J. van Oppen	5 Jubilee Square, Topsham, Exeter	
Mr. D.G. Sainsbury LL.B	Civic Centre, Exeter.	City Secretary and Solicitor.
Mr. I. F. Stone	Civic Centre, Exeter.	Principal executive in Secretary's Department.

## CITY OF EXETER: NAMES OF PROPOSED WARDS AND NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS

<u>NAME OF WARD</u>	<u>NO. OF COUNCILLORS</u>
Alphington	2
Barton	2
Countess Wear	2
Cowick	2
Exwick	2
Heavitree	2
Pennsylvania	2
Pinhoe	2
Polsloe	2
Rougemont	2
St David's	2
St Leonard's	2
St Loyes	2
St Thomas	2
Stoke Hill	2
Topsham	2
Whipton	2
Wonford	2

EXETER CITY COUNCIL

ELECTION BY THIRDS

ORDER OF RETIREMENT

ORDER OF RETIREMENT

NAME OF WARD	NO. OF COUNCILLORS REPRESENTING WARD	1ST YEAR	2ND YEAR	3RD YEAR
Alphington	2	1		1
Barton	2	1		1
Countess Wear	2	1		1
Cowick	2	1		1
Exwick	2	1		1
Heavitree	2	1		1
Pennsylvania	2	1	1	
Pinhoe	2	1	1	
Polsloe	2	1	1	
Rougemont	2	1	1	
St David's	2	1	1	
St Leonard's	2	1	1	
St Loyes	2		1	1
St Thomas	2		1	1
Stoke Hill	2		1	1
Topsham	2		1	1
Whipton	2		1	1
Wonford	2		1	1
	36	12	12	12

## CITY OF EXETER - 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 unless otherwise stated.

## EXWICK WARD

Commencing at the point where the southern boundary of Parcel No 7745 as shown on Ordnance Survey 1:2500 Plan SX 88-8992 Edition of 1966 meets the western boundary of the City, thence generally northwards along said boundary and eastwards along the northern boundary of the City to the River Creedy, thence southeastwards along said river to the River Exe, thence generally southeastwards along said river to

Blackaller Weir thence due westwards to the Exeter to Dawlish

railway, thence southeastwards along said railway to a point being the prolongation southeastwards of the rear boundaries of Nos 17 to 10 Lynwood Avenue, thence northwestwards along said prolongation and said boundaries to the western boundary of No 17 Lynwood Avenue, thence southwestwards along said boundary, the western end of Lynwood Avenue, the western boundary of No 9 Lynwood Avenue, and the rear boundaries of

Nos 60-66 Okehampton Road to the southwest corner of last mentioned property thence westwards in a straight line to the southeastern corner of the Allotment Gardens, thence westwards along the southern boundary of the said Allotment Gardens to the eastern boundary of South Felixwell Cottage, thence northwards, westwards and southwards along the eastern, northern and western boundaries of said cottage and in prolongation thereof to Oakehampton Road, thence northwestwards along said road to Buddle Lane, thence southwards along said lane to Isleworth Road, thence southwestwards along said road to the road known as High Meadows, thence westwards and southwards along said road to Bowhay Lane, thence northwestwards along said lane to Barley Lane, thence southwestwards in a straight line across said lane to the southern boundary of Parcel No

7745 as shown on Ordnance Survey 1:2500 Plan SX 88-8992 Edition of 1966, thence generally westwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

#### ST DAVID'S WARD

Commencing at the point where the eastern boundary of Exwick Ward meets the northern boundary of the City, thence generally northwards and northeastwards along said City boundary to the track that leads from Woodrow Barton to Stoke Road, thence southeastwards and southwestwards along said track to Stoke Road, thence southwestwards along said road to a point opposite the southwestern boundary of Stoke Woods, thence southeastwards to and generally southeastwards along said boundary to Pennsylvania Road, thence generally southwards along said road to the Honiton to Exeter St David's railway, thence southwestwards and northwestwards along said railway to Bonhay Road, thence southwards along said road to a point opposite the northern boundary of the Warehouse, thence northwestwards and southwestwards to and along said boundary and in prolongation thereof to the River Exe, being the eastern boundary of Exwick Ward, thence generally northwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

#### PENNSYLVANIA WARD

Commencing at the point where the eastern boundary of St David's Ward meets the northern boundary of the City, thence northeastwards and generally southeastwards along said City boundary to the road known as Stoke Hill, thence generally southwestwards along said road to Mount Pleasant Road, thence southeastwards along said road to a point opposite the northern boundary of No 64 Mount Pleasant Road, thence eastwards to and along said boundary and the northern boundary of No 1 Tresillian Gardens to the rear boundary of said property, thence southwards along said boundary and the rear boundaries of Nos 2 - 4 Tresillian Gardens and in

prolongation thereof to the Honiton to Exeter railway, thence southwestwards along said railway to Mount Pleasant Road, thence southeastwards along said road to the prolongation of the rear boundaries of Nos 1 - 30 Iddeleigh Road, thence southwestwards along said prolongation and rear boundaries and continuing southwestwards along the southern boundary of the Play Area to Old Tiverton Road, thence northeastwards along said road to the Honiton to Exeter railway, thence southwestwards along said railway to the eastern boundary of St David's Ward, thence generally northwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

#### STOKE HILL WARD

Commencing at the point where the eastern boundary of Pennsylvania Ward meets the northern boundary of the City, thence southeastwards along said City boundary to Cheynegate Lane, thence southwards along said lane to a point opposite the northern boundary of Parcel No 0821 as shown on Ordnance Survey 1:2500 Plan SX 94-9595 Edition of 1967, thence southwestwards to and along said boundary to the northern boundary of Parcel No 0006, thence westwards and southwards along said boundary to Pinwood Lane, thence generally southwestwards along said lane to Summer Lane, thence southeastwards along said lane to the Honiton to Exeter railway, thence southwestwards along said railway to the eastern boundary of Pennsylvania Ward, thence generally northeastwards along said ward boundary to the point of commencement.

#### PINHOE WARD

Commencing at the point where the eastern boundary of Stoke Hill Ward meets the northern boundary of the City thence southeastwards along said City boundary and generally southwards along the eastern boundary of the City to and continuing westwards along the Honiton to Exeter railway to Pinhoe Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Hill Lane, thence northwards along said lane and Summer Lane to the eastern boundary of Stoke Hill Ward, thence northwards and generally northeastwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

## WHIPTON WARD

Commencing at the point where the southern boundary of Pinhoe Ward meets the eastern boundary of the City, thence generally southwestwards along said City boundary to the Exmouth to Exeter railway, thence northwestwards along said railway to the southern boundary of Stoke Hill Ward, thence northeastwards along said boundary to the western boundary of Pinhoe Ward, thence southwards along said boundary and northeastwards and eastwards along the southern boundary of said ward to the point of commencement.

## BARTON WARD

Commencing at the point where the southwestern boundary of Whipton Ward meets the eastern boundary of the City, thence southeastwards along said City boundary to Honiton Road, thence southwestwards along said road to the road known as East Wonford Hill, thence northwestwards along said road and Fore Street to Whipton Lane, thence northwards and northeastwards along said lane to Sweetbrier Lane, thence northwestwards along said lane to Hamlin Lane, thence generally northwards along said lane to Pinhoe Road, thence northeastwards along said road to the southwestern boundary of Whipton Ward, thence southeastwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

## POLSLOE WARD

Commencing at the point where the southwestern boundary of Whipton Ward meets the western boundary of Barton Ward, thence southwards along said western boundary to a point opposite the northern boundary of Exeter Cemetery, thence westwards to and westwards, northwards and westwards along said boundary and in prolongation thereof to St Marks Avenue, thence southeastwards and southwestwards along said avenue to Ladysmith Road, thence southwards along said road to a point opposite the rear boundary of No 118 Park Road, thence southwestwards to and along said boundary and the rear boundaries of Nos 116 to 2 Park Road and in prolongation

thereof to Polsloe Road, thence northwestwards along said road to Blackboy Road, thence southwestwards along said road to the roundabout, thence northwestwards around said roundabout to Old Tiverton Road, thence northeastwards along said road to the southern boundary of Pennsylvania Ward, thence generally eastwards along said boundary and the southern boundary of Stoke Hill Ward to the southwestern boundary of Whipton Ward, thence southeastwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

#### HEAVITREE WARD

Commencing at the point where the southern boundary of Polsloe Ward meet the western boundary of Barton Ward, thence southwards, southeastwards and southwestwards along said western boundary to the southern boundary of said ward, thence eastwards along said boundary to Butts Road, thence southwestwards along said road and Carlile Road to Bovemoor's Lane, thence northwestwards along said lane to Church Lane, thence northwestwards along said lane to Haldon View Terrace, thence westwards along said terrace to Barrack Road, thence northwards along said road and Polsloe Road to the southern boundary of Polsloe Ward, thence generally eastwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

#### ROUGEMONT WARD

Commencing at the point where the southern boundary of Pennsylvania Ward meets the western boundary of Polsloe Ward, thence southwestwards, eastwards and southwards along said western boundary to the western boundary of Heavitree Ward, thence southwards along said boundary to Heavitree Road, thence northwestwards along said road to the roundabout, thence westwards around said roundabout to the road known as Western Way, thence southwards along said road to Magdalen Street, thence southwestwards along said street to the road known as Western Way, thence southwestwards along said road and Exe Bridge South to the River Exe, thence

northwestwards along said river to the eastern boundary of Exwick Ward, thence northwards along said boundary to the southern boundary of St David's Ward, thence generally northeastwards along said boundary and the southern boundary of Pennsylvania Ward to the point of commencement.

#### ST THOMAS WARD

Commencing at the point where the southern boundary of Exwick Ward meets the western boundary of Rougemont Ward, thence southeastwards along said western boundary to Exe Bridge South, thence southwestwards along said bridge to Alphington Street, thence southwards along said street and ~~Alphington Road to Queen's Road, thence northwestwards along said road to~~ a point opposite the southwestern boundary of No 8 Alphington Road, thence southeastwards to and along said boundary to the rear boundary of No 10 Alphington Road, thence southwestwards along said boundary and the rear boundaries of Nos 12 to 20 Alphington Road, crossing Sydney Road and continuing southwestwards along the rear boundaries of Nos 22 to 36 Alphington Road, crossing Prince's Street East to the western boundary of No 1 said street, thence southwestwards along said boundary and continuing southwestwards along the rear boundaries of Nos 38 to 46 Alphington Road, the rear boundary of the garage, the rear boundaries of the properties known as Pines Cottages, the rear boundary of No 62 Alphington Road, the rear boundary of the Engineering Works and the western boundary of Crawford Gardens to the access road at the rear of Nos 2 to 14 Waterloo Road, thence eastwards along said access road to a point opposite the eastern boundary of No 2 Waterloo Road, thence southwards to and along said boundary to Waterloo Road, thence westwards along said road to the eastern boundary of Pines Pleasure Ground, thence southwestwards and northwestwards along the eastern and southern boundaries of said pleasure ground to NG Reference SX 9117291280, thence northwestwards in a straight line to the southeastern corner of No 103a Barton Road, thence westwards along the southern boundary of said property, the southern end of Barton Road, the southern boundary

of No 104 Barton Road and the rear boundaries of Nos 1 to 27 Church Path Road to Larch Road, thence northwards along said road to Church Path Road, thence westwards along said road to Cowick Lane, thence northwards along said lane and Buddle Lane to the southern boundary of Exwick Ward, thence generally northeastwards and southeastwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

#### COWICK WARD

Commencing at the point where the western boundary of the City meets the southern boundary of Exwick Ward, thence generally eastwards along said ward boundary to the western boundary of St Thomas Ward, thence southwards along said boundary and continuing southwestwards along Cowick Lane to Franklyn Drive, thence northwestwards along said drive to a point opposite the eastern boundary of No 2 Franklyn Drive, thence northeastwards to and along said boundary to the rear boundary of said property, thence northwestwards along said boundary and the rear boundaries of Nos 4 to 10 Franklyn Drive, thence southwards along the western boundary of the last mentioned property and southwestwards along the western end of Franklyn Drive to the northern boundary of No 13 Franklyn Drive, thence westwards and southwards along the northern and western boundaries of said property to the rear boundary of said property, thence southeastwards along said boundary and the rear boundaries of Nos 11 to 1 Franklyn Drive to the rear boundary of No 98 Cowick Lane, thence southwestwards and southeastwards along the rear boundaries of Nos 98 to 138 Cowick Lane and in prolongation thereof to Cowick Lane, thence southwards along said lane to a point opposite the path adjacent to No 1 Broadway, thence southwestwards to and along said path, crossing Hambeer Lane and continuing northwestwards along said path to a point opposite the western boundary of Parcel No 5186 as shown on Ordnance Survey 1:2500 Plan SX 90-9190 Edition of 1968, thence southwards to and along said boundary and in prolongation thereof to the western boundary of the

City, thence northwestwards and generally northwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

#### ALPHINGTON WARD

Commencing at the point where the western boundary of the City meets the southeastern boundary of Cowick Ward, thence generally northeastwards along said ward boundary to the southern boundary of St Thomas Ward, thence southeastwards and generally northwards along the southern and eastern boundaries of said ward to the River Exe, thence generally southeastwards along said river to Bridge Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Alphin Brook, thence eastwards along said brook to the southwestern boundary of the City, thence generally westwards along said boundary and generally northwestwards along the western boundary of the City to the point of commencement.

#### ST LEONARD'S WARD

Commencing at the point where the northeastern boundary of Alphington Ward meets the southern boundary of Rougemont Ward, thence generally northeastwards and southeastwards along said southern boundary to the western boundary of Heavitree Ward, thence southwards along said boundary and continuing southwards along Barrack Road to Topsham Road, thence northwestwards along said road to Bungalow Lane, thence southwestwards along said lane to Wierfield Path, thence northwestwards along said path to the path that leads to Exeter City Suspension Bridge, thence southwestwards along said path and said bridge to the River Exe, being the northeastern boundary of Alphington Ward, thence generally northwestwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

## WONFORD WARD

Commencing at the point where the eastern boundary of St Leonards Ward meets the southern boundary of Heavitree Ward, thence southeastwards and northeastwards along said southern boundary to Hoker Road, thence southeastwards along said road to Salter's Road, thence southwestwards along said road to a point opposite the rear boundary of No 62 Peryam Crescent, thence southeastwards to and along said boundary and the rear boundaries of Nos 16 to 27 Tuckfield Close, thence southwestwards along the southeastern boundary of No 27 Tuckfield Close to Tuckfield Close, thence southeastwards along said close to Rifford Road, thence northeastwards along said road to Woodwater Lane, thence southeastwards along said lane to the stream known as Northbrook, thence generally southwestwards along said stream to Topsham Road, thence northwestwards along said road to the eastern boundary of St Leonards Ward, thence northwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

## ST LOYE'S WARD

Commencing at the point where the southern boundary of Barton Ward meets the eastern boundary of the City, thence southwards, generally westwards and southwards along said City boundary to a point opposite Middlemoor Roundabout, thence westwards to and southwestwards around said roundabout to Rydon Lane (Ring Road), thence southwestwards along said lane to Ludwell Lane, thence generally westwards along said lane to NG Reference SX 9432491235, thence due west to Northbrook, being the eastern boundary of Wonford Ward, thence generally northeastwards and generally northwestwards along said ward boundary to the southeastern boundary of Heavitree Ward, thence northeastwards along said boundary to the southern boundary of Barton Ward, thence southeastwards and northeastwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

## COUNTESS WEAR WARD

Commencing at the point where the southwestern boundary of the City meets the northeastern boundary of Alphington Ward, thence generally northwestwards along said ward boundary to the southern boundary of St Leonards Ward, thence generally northeastwards and southeastwards along said boundary to the southern boundary of Wonford Ward, thence southeastwards and generally northeastwards along said boundary to the southern boundary of St Loyes Ward, thence generally eastwards along said boundary to Rydon Lane (Ring Road), thence southwestwards along said lane to the roundabout, thence southwards around said roundabout to Topsham Road, thence southeastwards along said road to a point opposite

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the southern boundary of No 55<sup>4</sup> Topsham Road, thence southwestwards to and along said boundary and the rear boundary of Nos 2 to 38 Newport Road, thence northwestwards along the rear boundary of Nos 38 to 48 Newport Road to the southern boundary of the parcel of land west of Nos 48-68 Newport Road, thence northwestwards and southwestwards along said boundary to the southernmost point, thence due southwest to the River Exe, thence generally southeastwards along said river to a point due north of NG Reference SX 9517388720, being a point on the southwestern boundary of the City, thence due southwards to said point, thence generally northwestwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

## TOPSHAM WARD

Commencing at the point where the southwestern boundary of the City meets the eastern boundary of Countess Wear Ward, thence generally northwards along said ward boundary and the eastern boundary of St Loyes Ward to the eastern boundary of the City, thence generally southwards along said boundary and generally northwestwards along the southwestern boundary of the City to the point of commencement.