Helping you to have your say:

We are now consulting local people on a new pattern of wards for Woking. The Commission has an open mind about its final recommendations and will consider every piece of evidence we receive from local groups and people. Every representation will be considered, regardless of whom it is from or whether it relates to the whole borough or just a part of it.

If you agree with our recommendations, please let us know. If you don’t think our recommendations are right for Woking, we want to hear alternative proposals for a different pattern of wards.

The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for Woking which delivers:

- **Electoral equality**: each councillor represents a similar number of voters.
- **Community identity**: reflects the identity and interests of local communities.
- **Effective and convenient local government**: helping your council discharge its responsibilities effectively.

A good pattern of wards should:

- Provide good electoral equality, with each councillor representing, as closely as possible, the same number of voters.
- Reflect community interests and identities and include evidence of community links.
- Be based on strong, easily identifiable boundaries.
- Help the council deliver effective and convenient local government.

**Electoral equality:**

- Does your proposal mean that councillors would represent roughly the same number of voters as elsewhere in the council area?

**Community identity:**

- **Transport links**: are there good links across your proposed ward? Is there any form of public transport?
- **Community groups**: is there a parish council, residents association or another group that represents the area?
- **Facilities**: does your pattern of wards reflect where local people go for shops, medical services, leisure facilities etc?
- **Interests**: what issues bind the community together or separate it from other parts of your area?
- **Identifiable boundaries**: are there natural or constructed features which make strong boundaries for your proposals?

**Effective local government:**

- Are any of the proposed wards too large or small to be represented effectively?
- Are the proposed names of the wards appropriate?

**Useful tips:**

- Our website has a special consultation area where you can explore the maps and draw your own proposed boundaries. You can find it at [www.consultation.org.uk](http://www.consultation.org.uk).
- We publish all submissions we receive on our website, so you can follow what other people and organisations have told us. Go to: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

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**Who we are**

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament. We are not part of government or any political party. We are accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

**Electoral review**

An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority. A local authority’s electoral arrangements are:

- **The total number of councillors representing the council’s voters (‘council size’).**
- **The names, number and boundaries of wards or electoral divisions.**
- **The number of councillors representing each ward or division.**

**Our proposals**

Woking Borough Council currently has 36 councillors. We propose that the council should have 30 councillors in future. The Commission believes that a council size of 30 members will ensure the council can discharge its roles and responsibilities effectively and provides for a warding pattern that meets our statutory criteria.

**Electoral arrangements**

Our draft recommendations propose that Woking’s 30 councillors should represent ten three-member wards across the borough.

You have until 6 October 2014 to have your say on the recommendations.

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**Stage of review** | **Description**
---|---
24 Sep - 11 Nov 2013 | Public consultation on council size
14 Jan - 1 Apr 2014 | Public consultation on new ward boundaries
15 Jul - 6 Oct 2014 | Public consultation on draft recommendations for new electoral arrangements
20 Jan 2015 | Publication of final recommendations by the Commission
May 2016 | Subject to parliamentary approval - implementation of new arrangements at local elections

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**Have your say by writing to:**

Review Officer (Woking)  
LGBCE  
Layden House  
76–86 Turnmill Street  
London EC1M 5LG

Through our consultation area: [www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)  
or by email to: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

The full report and interactive maps are available to view at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

Follow us on Twitter: @LGBCE

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**Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Woking Borough Council**

Summary report

Read the full report, view detailed maps and have your say at: [www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)  
Find out more at: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

Follow us on Twitter at: @LGBCE

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**Woking?**

We are conducting an electoral review of Woking Borough Council to deliver improved levels of electoral equality for local voters.

Woking currently has high levels of electoral inequality where some councillors represent many more - or many fewer - voters than others. This means that the value of your vote - in borough council elections - varies depending on where you live in Woking.
Overview of draft recommendations for Woking Borough Council

Summary of our recommendations
We have considered all of the submissions we received during the previous phase of consultation.

The Commission has developed proposals for 10 three-member wards based on a combination of submissions received during consultation. In general, we have based our draft recommendations on warding patterns proposed by the Council subject to a number of modifications to provide for improved levels of electoral equality and to reflect the evidence received relating to community identities. Our proposals will provide good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and transport links in the borough.

You can read the full report on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk.

Have your say at www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk:
- view the map of our recommendations down to street level.
- draw your own boundaries online.
- zoom into the areas that interest you most.
- find more guidance on how to have your say.
- read the full report of our recommendations.
- send us your views directly.

View this map online and draw your own boundaries: www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk

Follow the review on Twitter: @LGBCE

If you are viewing this page online, click on the map to go straight to our interactive consultation area.

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