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Summary

Who we are

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) 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 decide:

- How many councillors are needed
- How many wards or electoral divisions should there be, where are their boundaries and what should they be called
- How many councillors should represent each ward or division

Why Bristol?

We are conducting an electoral review of Bristol City Council following a request by the Mayor of Bristol in order to improve electoral equality prior to the Council's first whole council elections in 2016 and to consider council size. Bristol council 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 each vote in city council elections varies depending on where you live in Bristol. Overall, 29% of wards currently have a variance of more than 10% from the average for the city and one ward, Cabot, has a variance of 30%.

Our proposals for Bristol

Bristol City Council currently has 70 councillors. Based on the evidence we received during previous phases of the review, we consider that a council size of 70 members will ensure the Council can discharge its roles and responsibilities effectively.

Electoral arrangements

Our final recommendations propose that Bristol City Council's 70 councillors should represent three single-member wards, 26 two-member wards and five three-member wards. None of our proposed wards would have an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for Bristol by 2020.

We have finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for Bristol.

1 Introduction

1 This electoral review is being conducted following our decision to review Bristol City Council's electoral arrangements to ensure that the number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the city.

What is an electoral review?

2 Our three main considerations in conducting an electoral review are set out in legislation¹ and are to:

- Improve electoral equality by equalising the number of electors each councillor represents
- Reflect community identity
- Provide for effective and convenient local government

3 Our task is to strike the best balance between them when making our recommendations. Our powers, as well as the guidance we have provided for electoral reviews and further information on the review process, can be found on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Consultation

4 We wrote to the Council as well as other interested parties, inviting the submission of proposals on council size. We then held two periods of consultation: first on warding patterns for the Council and secondly on our draft recommendations. The submissions received during our consultations have informed our final recommendations.

This review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
22 July 2014	Warding pattern consultation
9 December 2014	Draft recommendations consultation
16 February 2015	Analysis of submissions received and formulation of final recommendations
12 May 2015	Publication of final recommendations

How will the recommendations affect you?

5 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which ward you vote in and which other communities are in that ward. Your ward name may also change.

¹ Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

What is the Local Government Boundary Commission for England?

6 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Members of the Commission are:

Max Caller CBE (Chair)
Professor Colin Mellors (Deputy Chair)
Dr Peter Knight CBE DL
Alison Lowton
Sir Tony Redmond
Professor Paul Wiles CB

Chief Executive: Jolyon Jackson CBE

2 Analysis and final recommendations

7 Legislation states that our recommendations are not intended to be based solely on the existing number of electors² in an area, but also on estimated changes in the number and distribution of electors likely to take place over a five-year period from the date of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for the wards we put forward at the end of the review.

8 In reality, the achievement of absolute electoral fairness is unlikely to be attainable and there must be a degree of flexibility. However, our approach is to keep variances and the number of electors each councillor represents to a minimum.

9 In seeking to achieve electoral fairness, we work out the average number of electors per councillor by dividing the electorate by the number of councillors as shown on the table below.

	2013	2020
Electorate of Bristol City	322,482	341,607
Number of councillors	70	70
Average number of electors per councillor	4,607	4,880

10 Under our final recommendations, none of our proposed wards will have electoral variances of greater than 10% from the average for the city by 2020. We are therefore satisfied that we have achieved good levels of electoral fairness for Bristol.

11 These recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of Bristol City Council or result in changes to postcodes. Nor is there any evidence that the recommendations will have an adverse effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums. The proposals do not take account of parliamentary constituency boundaries, and we are not, therefore, able to take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

Submissions received

12 See Appendix B for details of submissions received. All submissions may be inspected at our offices (by appointment). All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Electorate figures

13 As prescribed in the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, the Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2020, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2015. These forecasts were broken down to polling district levels and projected an increase in the electorate of approximately 6% to 2020. Growth is forecast across the authority with the largest projected increases forecast for the city centre. Notable growth is also forecast in the Bishopston and Southville areas.

² Electors refer to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

14 Having considered the information provided by the Council, we are satisfied that the projected figures are the best available at the present time and these figures form the basis of our final recommendations.

Council size

15 Bristol City Council submitted a proposal to retain a council size of 70. We considered that the Council's submission was supported by adequate evidence to justify retaining the same council size. We were content that the Council had sufficiently demonstrated that the authority can operate efficiently and effectively under this council size and ensure effective representation of local residents. We were therefore minded to adopt a council size of 70 as the basis of this electoral review and invited proposals or warding arrangements based on this number of councillors.

16 We received no responses that opposed the council size in response to consultation on warding patterns. We therefore based our draft recommendations on a council size of 70. During consultation on our draft recommendations we did not receive any further evidence in regard to council size. We have therefore based our final recommendations for Bristol City Council on a council size of 70 elected members.

Warding patterns

17 During consultation on warding patterns, we received 92 submissions in total. These included three city-wide proposals from three of the Council's political groups. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for warding arrangements in particular areas of the city.

18 We received city-wide warding proposals from the Conservative Group, the Labour Group and the Liberal Democrat Group. The three city-wide schemes each provided a mixed pattern of wards for the city. We also received a partial warding pattern for west Bristol from the Green Group. Having carefully considered the proposals received, we were of the view that the patterns of wards proposed resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the city and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries.

19 Our draft recommendations were for four single-member wards, 27 two-member wards and four three-member wards. We considered that our draft recommendations would provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

Draft recommendations

20 We received 860 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations. These are detailed in Appendix B. The majority of submissions received were in relation to our proposals for the areas of Hartcliffe and Bishopsworth; Hotwells & Harbourside; and Westbury-on-Trym, Henleaze and Southmead.

21 Having considered the wealth of evidence gathered during the consultation on

our draft recommendations, we decided to visit the city again in order to observe our draft recommendations and some of the alternative proposals on the ground.

Bishopsworth and Hartcliffe

22 We received over 60 submissions that commented on our proposals for the Bishopsworth and Hartcliffe area. Of these, over 20 submissions supported our proposed Bishopsworth ward. We also received over 35 submissions that opposed the boundary between our proposed Bishopsworth and Hartcliffe wards.

Hotwells & Harbourside

23 Over 50 submissions were made in regard to Hotwells & Harbourside. The majority of these submissions opposed our proposals for a single-member Hotwells & Harbourside ward. However, none of the submissions commenting on this area proposed an alternative warding pattern.

Westbury-on-Trym, Henleaze and Southmead

24 In our *Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Bristol City Council* report we stated that we would particularly welcome submissions in regard to this part of the city. During the consultation we received over 480 submissions that commented on our proposals for the areas of Henleaze and Westbury-on-Trym which contained a wealth of evidence of the strong community identity that exists in this area.

25 The vast majority of submissions were made in opposition to our draft recommendations, which proposed dividing this area into two separate wards along Falcondale Road. We also received over 70 submissions in regard to the boundary between our proposed Henleaze and Southmead wards. The majority of these submissions argued that the area that lies to the south-east of Doncaster Road should be included in the Henleaze ward rather than in the Southmead ward.

Final recommendations

26 The tables on pages 8–24 detail our final recommendations for each area of Bristol. Where we have moved away from our draft recommendations, we have outlined how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory criteria of:

- Equality of representation
- Reflecting community interests and identities
- Providing for convenient and effective local government

East Bristol

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Brislington East	2	-2%	This ward comprises the eastern part of Brislington and includes the residential area of St Anne's. It is bounded by the River Avon to the north.	During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received three submissions regarding the Brislington area. Based on the evidence received we have made one minor change to Brislington East ward. We have transferred St Anne's Terrace from Brislington East ward to Brislington West, by moving the boundary between these two wards to the east so that it runs along Brislington Brook. This modification would not impact on the level of electoral equality. Elsewhere we confirm our draft recommendations for Brislington East as final.
Brislington West	2	-7%	This ward comprises the western part of Brislington. It is also bounded by the railway line to the north.	During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received three submissions regarding the Brislington area. Based on the evidence received we have made one minor change to Brislington West ward. We have transferred St Anne's Terrace from Brislington East ward to Brislington West, by moving the boundary between these two wards to the east so that it runs along Brislington Brook. Subject to this minor amendment, we confirm our draft recommendations for Brislington West as final.
Eastville	2	3%	This ward incorporates Eastville and Stapleton and is bounded by the M32 to the west.	We received over 20 submissions specifically relating to our proposed Eastville ward, which showed a mixture of support for, and objection to, the proposed ward. Having considered the evidence received during consultation, we are content that our proposed Eastville ward provides the best balance between our statutory criteria. We therefore confirm our Eastville ward as final.
Frome Vale	2	1%	This ward is bounded by the M32 to the north and	During consultation on our draft recommendations we received over 20 submissions specifically relating to our

			includes the areas of Fishponds and Broomhill. The River Frome runs through the centre of the ward and the ward also contains Oldbury Court Estate.	proposed Frome Vale ward. Our proposed Frome Vale ward received a good level of support, although some local residents objected to their inclusion in this ward. Having considered the representations in regard to Frome Vale we consider that there is not persuasive evidence to justify any changes to our proposals. We are therefore content to confirm our Frome Vale ward as final.
Hillfields	2	-2%	Hillfields ward includes the communities of Hillfields, Chester Park and Mayfield Park.	We received two submissions specifically relating to this ward. We did not receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals for Hillfields and we therefore propose to confirm this ward as part of our final recommendations.
St George Central	2	-3%	This ward contains the majority of the residential area of St George.	During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received over 12 submissions in regard to the St George area of Bristol. Having considered the evidence received we are proposing a minor amendment to the boundary between St George Central and St George Troopers Hill. Rather than running immediately to the south of the properties on Meg Thatchers Green, we have moved the boundary further to the south. The green space to the south of these properties, which is accessed from Meg Thatchers Green, is therefore included in the St George Central ward. Subject to this minor amendment, we confirm our draft recommendations for St George Central as final.
St George Troopers Hill	1	-5%	This ward incorporates the southern part of St George as well as Troopers Hill, for which the ward is named. It is bounded to the south by the River Avon.	We received over 12 submissions in regard to the St George area of Bristol. We received a good level of support for our St George Troopers Hill ward. We are proposing a minor amendment to the boundary between this ward and St George Central as outlined above. Subject to this amendment, we confirm our St George Troopers Hill ward as final.
St George West	1	3%	This ward contains the residential areas	During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received over 12 submissions in regards to the St George

			surrounding St George's Park and is bounded by the River Avon to the south.	area of Bristol. We did not receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals for this area. Accordingly, we confirm our St George West ward as final.
Stockwood	2	-6%	This ward contains the community of Stockwood, bounded by the A37 to the west.	We received five submissions in relation to our proposed Stockwood ward. Having considered the evidence received we are content that our proposed Stockwood ward provides the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm the ward as final.

North Bristol

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Avonmouth & Lawrence Weston	<p>3</p>	<p>9%</p>	<p>This ward includes the areas of Avonmouth, Coombe Dingle, Lawrence Weston and Shirehampton.</p>	<p>During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received over 20 submissions that commented on our proposals for this area in the north of Bristol. The majority of the submissions were in opposition to our proposals and favoured a single-member Lawrence Weston ward. We received one proposal for a single-member Lawrence ward; however, this would result in a variance of 15% by 2020.</p> <p>In formulating our final recommendations we investigated whether we could identify a single-member Lawrence Weston ward that would provide a good level of electoral equality whilst also reflecting community identity and providing for effective and convenient local government. We also visited the area again on our second tour of the city and viewed the boundaries on the ground.</p> <p>Having considered the evidence received during the consultation and having observed the area, we consider that any boundary that divides this area by crossing either Long Cross or Kings Weston Avenue would not be reflective of community identity. Furthermore, we have not received an alternative proposal that would result in an acceptable level of electoral equality.</p> <p>Whilst recognising support for a single-member Lawrence Weston ward we considered that the alternative proposals would result in a poor level of electoral equality or divide communities. Accordingly, we have taken the view that our</p>

				three-member Avonmouth & Lawrence Weston ward provides the best balance between our statutory criteria as it provides for a reasonable level of electoral equality, and albeit it would include different communities in the ward it would not divide communities.
Henbury & Brentry	2	-3%	Incorporates the communities of Henbury and Brentry including the Charlton Mead estate.	We received over 10 submissions in regard to our proposed Henbury & Brentry ward, the majority of which supported our proposal. We consider that our Henbury & Brentry ward provides a good level of electoral equality whilst also reflecting community identity and we adopt the ward as final.
Horfield	2	2%	This ward comprises the residential area of Horfield as well as Southmead Hospital.	During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received three submissions that commented on our Horfield ward. We did not receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals for Horfield and are therefore adopting our proposed Horfield ward as final.
Lockleaze	2	-4%	Includes the Lockleaze community as well as Stoke Park. The ward is bounded by the M32 to the east.	We received five submissions that commented on our proposed Lockleaze ward. Three submissions proposed that Napier Road, which was included in our Lockleaze ward, should be in the neighbouring Easton ward. Having considered the evidence received we are persuaded that Napier Road has clear links to Easton and we have therefore amended the southern boundary of Lockleaze ward to place the road in Easton ward. Subject to this minor modification, we are confirming our draft proposals for Lockleaze as final.
Southmead	2	-5%	Contains the community of Southmead, bounded by Southmead Road to the south.	We received over 70 submissions in regard to our proposed Southmead ward, most of which focused on the boundary between this ward and our neighbouring Henleaze ward. The majority of submissions argued that the area that lies to the south-east of Doncaster Road should be included in the Henleaze ward rather than in Southmead, citing community links with Henleaze and Westbury-on-Trym. In formulating our

				<p>final recommendations we examined whether this boundary could be amended. Removing the area that lies to the south-east of Doncaster Road from Southmead ward would result in a variance of -19% for the ward, a level of electoral inequality that we consider unacceptably high.</p> <p>Whilst formulating our final recommendations we conducted a second tour of the city and, having visited the area, we are content that our proposed Southmead ward would not hinder effective and convenient local government. Whilst we acknowledge the depth of feeling that exists in regard to our proposals, we consider that our proposed Southmead ward provides the best balance between our statutory criteria.</p> <p>We do, however, propose one minor amendment to this ward. Under our draft recommendations some properties on Home Ground road were divided between our Henleaze and Southmead ward. We received a submission suggesting all the properties on Home Ground should be included in Southmead ward. As part of our final recommendations we have amended the boundary in this part of the city.</p> <p>Subject to this minor amendment, we confirm our draft recommendations for Southmead as final.</p>
Stoke Bishop	2	6%	This ward comprises the communities of Stoke Bishop and Sea Mills, bounded by the A4162 to the north.	<p>During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received over 20 submissions in regard to our proposed Stoke Bishop ward. We received a good level of support for our proposed Stoke Bishop ward; however, we also received several submissions that argued that the northern boundary of the ward divides the community of Sea Mills. One submission proposed that the boundary should run further to the north, along Westbury Lane; however, this would result in a variance</p>

				<p>of 15% by 2020, a level of electoral inequality that we consider to be unacceptably high. Having observed the area again we consider that our proposed boundary, following Sylvan Way, is clear and identifiable.</p> <p>Having taken into account the evidence received and visited the area on our second tour of the city, we are content that our proposed Stoke Bishop ward provides the best balance between our statutory criteria. We therefore confirm our Stoke Bishop ward as final.</p>
Westbury-on-Trym & Henleaze	3	3%	This ward comprises communities of Westbury-on-Trym and Henleaze.	<p>In our <i>Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Bristol City Council</i> report we stated that we would particularly welcome submissions in regard to this part of the city. During the consultation we received over 480 submissions that commented on our proposals for the areas of Henleaze and Westbury-on-Trym which contained a wealth of evidence of the strong community identity that exists in this area.</p> <p>The vast majority of submissions were made in opposition to our draft recommendations, which proposed dividing this area into two separate wards along Falcondale Road. We received over 250 submissions that instead supported a three-member ward combining the communities of Henleaze and Westbury-on-Trym. We are content that this would provide a much-improved reflection of community identity and we therefore propose merging our two-member Henleaze ward and our single-member Westbury-on-Trym ward to form a three-member Westbury-on-Trym & Henleaze ward as part of our final recommendations.</p>

				<p>In addition, we received over 70 submissions in regard to the boundary between our proposed Henleaze and Southmead wards. The majority of these submissions argued that the area that lies to the south-east of Doncaster Road should be included in Henleaze ward rather than in Southmead, citing community links with Henleaze and Westbury-on-Trym. In formulating our final recommendations we also examined whether this boundary could be amended. Removing the area that lies to the south-east of Doncaster Road from Southmead ward would result in a variance of -19% for that ward, a level of electoral inequality that we consider unacceptably high.</p> <p>For the reasons outlined in the Southmead ward section we have been unable to modify the ward boundary between Southmead and Henleaze whilst providing for a reasonable level of electoral equality.</p> <p>Therefore, our final recommendations are for a three-member Westbury-on-Trym & Henleaze ward.</p>
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South Bristol

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Bedminster	2	4%	This ward comprises the areas of Ashton Vale and Bedminster. It is bounded by the River Avon to the north and the Bristol to Exeter railway line to the south.	During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received three submissions that commented on our Bedminster ward. We did not receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals for Bedminster and are therefore adopting our proposed Bedminster ward as final.
Bishopsworth	2	-6%	Bedminster ward incorporates Bedminster Down, Bishopsworth and Headley Park. It is bounded by the Bristol to Exeter railway line to the north and the A4174 to the east.	<p>We received over 60 submissions that commented on our proposals for Bishopsworth. Over 20 were made in support of our proposed Bishopsworth ward. We also received over 35 submissions that opposed the boundary between Bishopsworth and the neighbouring Hartcliffe ward.</p> <p>Having considered the evidence received we looked at whether the southern boundary of Bishopsworth ward could be moved further to the south, to run along King George's Road. However, moving the boundary to King George's Road would result in a variance of -16% for Hartcliffe, a level of electoral inequality that we consider unacceptably high. We also investigated alternative warding arrangements but identified that alternatives would not provide for a pattern of wards, across the area, with reasonable levels of electoral equality.</p> <p>Whilst we recognise the depth of feeling regarding the boundary between Bishopsworth and Hartcliffe we consider that our proposed Bishopsworth ward provides the best balance between our statutory criteria and, accordingly, confirm the ward as final.</p>

Filwood	2	0%	This ward comprises Lower Knowle, Filwood Park and Novers Park. It is bounded on two sides by the A4174 and borders Knowle to the east and Windmill Hill to the north.	During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received eight submissions that commented on our Filwood ward. We did not receive any well-evidenced alternative proposals for this area and are therefore adopting our proposed Filwood ward as final.
Hartcliffe & Withywood	3	-8%	Hartcliffe ward comprises the communities of Hartcliffe and Withywood. It is bounded by the city boundary to the west and south.	<p>We received over 40 submissions that commented on our proposals for this area. A significant number of these opposed the northern boundary of our Hartcliffe ward.</p> <p>Having considered the evidence received we looked at whether the northern boundary of this ward could be moved further to the north, to run along King George's Road. However, moving the boundary to King George's Road would result in a variance of -16% for Hartcliffe, a level of electoral inequality that we consider unacceptably high.</p> <p>We therefore consider that our proposed Hartcliffe ward provides the best balance between our statutory criteria. However, we have decided to amend the name of the ward to Hartcliffe & Withywood. Subject to this name change we confirm our draft recommendations for Hartcliffe as final.</p>
Hengrove & Whitchurch Park	3	-4%	This ward includes the communities of Hengrove and Whitchurch Park. It is bounded by the A4174 to the north and the A37 to the east.	We received five submissions specifically relating to this ward. Having considered all of the evidence received we are content that our proposed Hengrove & Whitchurch Park ward provides the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm the ward as final.
Knowle	2	2%	This ward comprises the residential area of Knowle.	During consultation on our draft recommendations we received eight submissions that commented on our Knowle ward. Having taken into account all of the evidence received we consider that our proposed ward provides the best

				balance between our statutory criteria and we are therefore confirming it as final.
Southville	2	3%	Southville ward is bounded by the New Cut to the north and the Bristol to Exeter railway line to the south-east. North Street and Duckmoor Road provide the boundary between Southville and Bedminster wards.	We received one submission that commented on our proposed Southville ward. Having considered all of the evidence received, we are content that our proposed Southville ward provides the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm the ward as final.
Windmill Hill	2	6%	This ward is bounded by the New Cut and the Bristol to Exeter railway line to the north. St John's Lane runs through the centre of the ward.	During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received three submissions that commented on our Windmill Hill ward. Having taken into account all of the evidence received we consider that our proposed ward provides the best balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm the ward as final.

West Bristol

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
Ashley	3	-3%	Ashley ward lies to the north-east of the city centre, bounded by Cheltenham Road to the west.	<p>We received over 20 submissions specifically relating to this ward. Having considered the evidence received, we propose one minor change to the boundary between this ward and the neighbouring Central ward.</p> <p>Under our draft recommendations, the boundary ran along the middle of North Street, dividing the 5102 Apartments building between two wards. We have decided to run the boundary to the east of this building, placing the entirety of this property within Central ward.</p> <p>As part of our draft recommendations we proposed the ward name Ashley & Stokes Croft for this ward. Based on the evidence gathered during the consultation on our draft recommendations we have decided to rename the ward Ashley.</p>
Bishopston & Ashley Down	2	3%	Gloucester Road acts as the central spine of Bishopston & Ashley Down ward, with Kellaway Avenue and Muller Road providing the western and eastern boundaries respectively.	<p>We received over 15 submissions in regard to our proposals for this area. Having considered the evidence received we propose one minor change to the boundary between this ward and the neighbouring Redland ward.</p> <p>Under our draft recommendations the boundary ran along Bishop Road in part placing Cambridge Road, Clevedon Road, part of Monk Road and part of Falmouth Road in Bishopston ward. Based on the evidence received during our consultation we have decided to run the boundary to the north of Clevedon and Cambridge Roads, including this area</p>

				<p>in the neighbouring Redland ward. We believe that this provides a better reflection of community identity.</p> <p>We have also decided to rename the ward Bishopston & Ashley Down as a result of proposals made during consultation. Subject to these amendments we confirm our draft recommendations as final.</p>
Central	2	-6%	<p>This ward runs from the New Cut in the south to Dove Street and West Park in the north, incorporating Bristol city centre, the University of Bristol and Bristol Royal Infirmary.</p>	<p>During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received six submissions in regard to our proposed Central ward. In light of the evidence received we propose three minor amendments to this ward.</p> <p>In the north of the ward we have made a small modification to ensure all properties along Marlborough Hill Place are included in Cotham ward. We have also modified the boundary between our Central and Ashley wards. Under our draft recommendations the boundary ran along the middle of North Street, dividing the 5102 Apartments building between two wards. We have decided to run the boundary to the east of this building, placing the entirety of this property within Central ward.</p> <p>Finally, in the south of the ward we have altered the boundary between Central and Hotwells & Harbourside. Under our draft recommendations our boundary ran north from Cumberland Road dividing a new apartment building that is currently under construction. We have amended the boundary so that it instead runs to the west of this new building along a footpath adjacent to The Quays.</p>

				Subject to these three amendments we are content that our Central ward provides a good balance between our statutory criteria and we therefore confirm the ward as final.
Clifton	2	7%	This ward comprises the western part of Clifton, bounded by the authority boundary to the west, Clifton Down to the north and the A4 to the south.	We received over 10 submissions in regard to our draft recommendations for the Clifton area. Having considered the evidence received we are content that our proposed Clifton West ward provides a good balance between the statutory criteria. However, we have decided to rename our proposed Clifton West ward, Clifton, as part of our final recommendations.
Clifton Down	2	-4%	This ward lies to the north-west of the city centre and comprises the eastern part of Clifton with Clifton Down to the north.	We received over 10 submissions in regard to our draft recommendations for the Clifton area. Having considered the evidence received we are content that our proposed Clifton East ward provided a good balance between the statutory criteria. However, we have decided to rename our proposed Clifton East ward Clifton Down as part of our final recommendations.
Cotham	2	1%	Cotham ward lies to the north of the city centre and includes the Cotham community, with Redland to the north.	During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received eight submissions in regard to our proposed Cotham ward. Having considered all of the evidence received we have made one minor amendment to the boundary between our proposed Cotham and Central wards. We have moved the boundary to the south of Marlborough Hill Place in order to ensure that all properties on this road are included in Cotham ward. Subject to this minor change, we confirm our draft recommendations for Cotham ward as final.
Easton	2	3%	Easton ward lies to the west of St George and is bounded by the railway line to the west.	We received nine submissions in regard to our proposals for this area. Having considered the evidence received we propose two changes to the boundaries of our Easton ward.

				<p>Under our draft recommendations the boundary between Easton and Lawrence Hill wards ran along Ducie Road and Church Street. We received some detailed evidence of community identity in this area that intimated that our proposals divided the community of Barton Hill. As a result of the evidence we received we have decided to move the boundary between these two wards to the east, so that it instead runs along Beam Street and Cobden Street.</p> <p>In the north of our proposed Easton ward we have amended the boundary between Easton and Lockleaze wards. Having considered the evidence received we are content that Napier Road has clear links to Eastville and we have therefore amended the boundary to include Napier Road in Eastville ward.</p> <p>Elsewhere we are content that our proposed Easton ward provides a good balance between our statutory criteria. Therefore, subject to these amendments, we confirm our draft recommendations for Easton ward as final.</p>
Hotwells & Harbourside	1	2%	This ward is bounded by the New Cut to the south and incorporates Bristol docks as well as local landmarks Cabot Tower and Bristol Cathedral.	<p>During consultation on our draft recommendations, we received over 50 submissions in regard to Hotwells & Harbourside. The majority of submissions opposed our proposals for a single-member Hotwells & Harbourside ward; however, no alternative warding patterns were proposed.</p> <p>In the east of the ward we made a minor amendment to the boundary between the Hotwells & Harbourside and our neighbouring Central ward. Under our draft recommendations our boundary ran north from Cumberland Road dividing a new apartment building that is currently under construction. We have amended the boundary so that</p>

				<p>it instead runs to the west of this new building along a footpath adjacent to The Quays.</p> <p>Having visited the area on our initial tour of the city and again during our second tour during the formulation of our draft recommendations, we are content that the boundaries of our proposed Hotwells & Harbourside ward are clear and identifiable and facilitate effective and convenient local government. In the absence of any alternative proposals we are content to confirm our draft recommendations, subject to the minor amendment outlined above, as final.</p>
Lawrence Hill	2	9%	<p>Lawrence Hill ward is located to the east of the city centre and is bounded by the River Avon to the south, the A4044 to the west and the M32 and A4032 to the north.</p>	<p>We received one submission in regard to our proposals for this area. Under our draft recommendations the boundary between Easton and Lawrence Hill wards ran along Ducie Road and Church Street. We received some detailed evidence of community identity in this area that intimated that our proposals divided the community of Barton Hill. As a result of the evidence we received we have decided to move the boundary between these two wards to the east, so that it instead runs along Beam Street and Cobden Street.</p> <p>Elsewhere we consider that our Lawrence Hill ward provides a good balance between our statutory criteria. Subject to this amendment, we confirm our draft recommendations for Lawrence Hill ward as final.</p>
Redland	2	5%	<p>This ward is located to the north of the city centre. The ward is bounded by the A4018 to the west and the A38 to the east and contains the community of Redland.</p>	<p>We received over 15 submissions that commented on the Redland area of Bristol. Based on the evidence received we have decided to amend the boundary between our Bishopston and Redland wards.</p> <p>Under our draft recommendations the boundary ran along Bishop Road in part including Cambridge Road, Clevedon</p>

				<p>Road, part of Monk Road and part of Falmouth Road in Bishopston ward. We have instead decided to run the boundary to the north of Clevedon and Cambridge Roads, including this area in the neighbouring Redland ward. We believe that this provides for a better reflection of community identity.</p> <p>Subject to this amendment, we confirm our draft recommendations for Redland ward as final.</p>
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Conclusions

27 Table 1 shows the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2013 and 2020 electorate figures.

Table 1: Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2013	2020
Number of councillors	70	70
Number of electoral wards	34	34
Average number of electors per councillor	4,607	4,880
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	3	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

Final recommendation
 Bristol City Council should comprise 70 councillors serving three single-member wards, 26 two-member wards and five three-member wards. The details and names are shown in Table A1 and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

Mapping
Sheet 1, Map 1 illustrates in outline form the proposed wards for Bristol. You can also view our final recommendations for Bristol on our interactive maps at <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>

3 What happens next?

28 We have now completed our review of Bristol City Council. The recommendations must now be approved by Parliament. A draft Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in Parliament. Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements will come into force at the local elections in 2016.

Equalities

29 This report has been screened for impact on equalities; with due regard being given to the general equalities duties as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. As no potential negative impacts were identified, a full equality impact analysis is not required.

Appendix A

Table A1: Final recommendations for Bristol City Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2013)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2020)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Ashley	3	12,376	4,125	-10%	14,137	4,712	-3%
2	Avonmouth & Lawrence Weston	3	15,535	5,178	12%	16,031	5,344	9%
3	Bedminster	2	9,506	4,753	3%	10,155	5,078	4%
4	Bishopston & Ashley Down	2	9,038	4,519	-2%	10,017	5,009	3%
5	Bishopsworth	2	8,885	4,443	-4%	9,176	4,588	-6%
6	Brislington East	2	8,893	4,447	-3%	9,563	4,782	-2%
7	Brislington West	2	8,575	4,288	-7%	9,058	4,529	-7%
8	Central	2	7,440	3,720	-19%	9,185	4,593	-6%
9	Clifton Down	2	8,685	4,343	-6%	9,354	4,677	-4%
10	Clifton	2	9,918	4,959	8%	10,442	5,221	7%
11	Cotham	2	8,851	4,426	-4%	9,827	4,914	1%
12	Easton	2	9,387	4,694	2%	10,007	5,004	3%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Bristol City Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2013)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2020)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13	Eastville	2	9,684	4,842	5%	10,076	5,038	3%
14	Filwood	2	9,160	4,580	-1%	9,767	4,884	0%
15	Frome Vale	2	9,254	4,627	0%	9,847	4,924	1%
16	Hartcliffe & Witherwood	3	13,044	4,348	-6%	13,446	4,489	-8%
17	Henbury & Brentry	2	9,171	4,586	0%	9,461	4,731	-3%
18	Hengrove & Whitchurch Park	3	13,808	4,603	0%	14,015	4,672	-4%
19	Hillfields	2	8,883	4,442	-4%	9,560	4,780	-2%
20	Horfield	2	9,346	4,673	1%	9,959	4,980	2%
21	Hotwells & Harbourside	1	4,319	4,319	-6%	4,998	4,998	2%
22	Knowle	2	9,739	4,870	6%	9,930	4,965	2%
23	Lawrence Hill	2	9,298	4,649	1%	10,618	5,309	9%
24	Lockleaze	2	8,640	4,320	-6%	9,393	4,697	-4%

Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Bristol City Council

Ward Name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2013)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2020)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
25 Redland	2	10,018	5,009	9%	10,222	5,111	5%
26 Southmead	2	8,950	4,475	-3%	9,301	4,651	-5%
27 Southville	2	9,021	4,511	-2%	10,053	5,027	3%
28 St George Central	2	9,408	4,704	2%	9,502	4,751	-3%
29 St George Troopers Hill	1	4,565	4,565	-1%	4,647	4,647	-5%
30 St George West	1	4,709	4,709	2%	5,023	5,023	3%
31 Stockwood	2	9,312	4,656	1%	9,163	4,582	-6%
32 Stoke Bishop	2	10,208	5,104	11%	10,300	5,150	6%
33 Westbury-on-Trym & Henleaze	3	15,124	5,041	9%	15,044	5,015	3%
34 Windmill Hill	2	9,732	4,866	6%	10,332	5,166	6%
Totals	70	322,482	-	-	341,607	-	-
Averages	-	-	4,607	-	-	4,880	-

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Bristol City Council.

Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the number of electors per councillor in each ward varies from the average for the city. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Appendix B

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/south-west/bristol/bristol

Local authority

- Ms N. Yates, Returning Officer (Bristol City Council)

Political groups

- Bristol City Council Conservative Group
- Bristol City Council Labour Group
- Bristol City Council Liberal Democrat Group
- Bristol East Labour Party

Councillors

- Councillor P. Abraham (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor L. Alexander (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor M. Bailey (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor C. Champion-Smith (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor C. Davies (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor R. Eddy (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor G. Gollop OBE (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor J. Goulandris (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor W. Harvey (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor G. Hopkins (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor T. Kent (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor G. Kirk (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor T. Leaman (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor G. Morgan (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor K. Quartley (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor D. Radice (Bristol City Council)
- Councillors C. Martin & S. Cook (Bristol City Council)
- Councillors R. Telford & G. Hoyt (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor R. Stone (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor C. Windows (Bristol City Council)
- Councillors M. Wright & A. Woodman (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor A. Woodman (Bristol City Council)

MPs

- Ms C. Leslie MP (Bristol North West Constituency)

MEPs

- Mr A. Fox MEP (South West England Constituency)

Local organisations

- Barton Hill Settlement
- Bedminster Down & Uplands Society
- Bishopston, Cotham & Redland Neighbourhood Partnership
- BS10 Parks & Planning Group
- Canford Bowling Club
- Church Road Action Group
- Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership
- Friends of Badock's Wood
- Friends of Canford Park
- Friends of Marksbury Road Library
- Friends of Troopers Hill
- Hengrove Neighbourhood Partnership
- Henleaze, Stoke Bishop & Westbury-on-Trym Neighbourhood Partnership
- Highbury Residents' Association
- Holy Trinity Church, Westbury-on-Trym
- Hotwells & Cliftonwood Community Association
- Marksbury Area Community Association
- Redland and Cotham Amenities Society Tree Division
- Redmaids' Senior School
- Richmond Area Residents' Association
- Shirehampton Community Action Forum
- Save Sea Mills Garden Suburb
- The Bishopston Society
- The Henleaze Society
- The Westbury-on-Trym Society
- Totterdown Residents' Environmental & Social Action
- Westbury-on-Trym Business Association (two submissions)
- Westbury-on-Trym In Bloom
- Westbury-on-Trym Women's Institute
- Westbury Park Community Association
- Westbury-on-Trym Allotment & Garden Association

Residents

- 799 local residents

Appendix C

Glossary and abbreviations

Council size	The number of councillors elected to serve on a council
Electoral Change Order (or Order)	A legal document which implements changes to the electoral arrangements of a local authority
Division	A specific area of a county, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever division they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the county council
Electoral fairness	When one elector's vote is worth the same as another's
Electoral inequality	Where there is a difference between the number of electors represented by a councillor and the average for the local authority
Electorate	People in the authority who are registered to vote in elections. For the purposes of this report, we refer specifically to the electorate for local government elections
Number of electors per councillor	The total number of electors in a local authority divided by the number of councillors
Over-represented	Where there are fewer electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average

Parish	A specific and defined area of land within a single local authority enclosed within a parish boundary. There are over 10,000 parishes in England, which provide the first tier of representation to their local residents
Parish council	A body elected by electors in the parish which serves and represents the area defined by the parish boundaries. See also 'Town council'
Parish (or Town) council electoral arrangements	The total number of councillors on any one parish or town council; the number, names and boundaries of parish wards; and the number of councillors for each ward
Parish ward	A particular area of a parish, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors vote in whichever parish ward they live for candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the parish council
Town council	A parish council which has been given ceremonial 'town' status. More information on achieving such status can be found at www.nalc.gov.uk
Under-represented	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Variance (or electoral variance)	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward or division varies in percentage terms from the average
Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council

