

Electoral data

Using this sheet:

Fill in the cells for each polling district. Please make sure that the names of each parish, parish ward, district ward and county division are correct and consistent. Check your data in the cells to the right.

Scroll right to see the second table

What is the polling district code?	Is there any other description you use for this area?	Is this polling district contained in a parish? If not, leave this cell blank.	Is this polling district contained in a parish ward? If not, leave this cell blank.	Is this polling district contained in a group of parishes with a joint parish council? If not, leave this cell blank.	Which district ward is this polling district in? This column is not essential, but may help you.	Which county division is this polling district in? This column is not essential, but may help you.	What is the current electorate?	What is the forecast electorate?
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Polling district	Description of area	Parish	Parish ward	Grouped parish council	Existing district ward	Existing county division	Electorate December 2008	Electorate December 2013
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EX1	Example 1	Little Example		Little and Even Littler	Example Rural	Example	480	502
EX2	Example 2	Even Littler Example		Little and Even Littler	Example Rural	Example	67	68
EX3	Example 3	Medium Example			Example Rural	Example	893	897
EX4	Example 4	Big Example	Big Example East		Example Town	Example	759	780
EX5	Example 5	Big Example	Big Example West		Example Town	Example	803	824

NAA -		<None>	<None>		Abington	Abington	1464	1467
NAB -		<None>	<None>		Abington	Abington	1589	1589
NAD -		<None>	<None>		Abington	Abington	1071	1078
NBA -		<None>	<None>		Boughton Green	Boughton Green	194	223
NBB -		<None>	<None>		Boughton Green	Boughton Green	3544	3546
NBC -		<None>	<None>		Boughton Green	St.David	2019	2115
NBD -		<None>	<None>		Boughton Green	Boughton Green	2569	2569
NCA -		<None>	<None>		Eastfield	Eastfield	943	943
NCB -		<None>	<None>		Eastfield	Eastfield	1075	1075
NCC -		<None>	<None>		Eastfield	Eastfield	1968	2179
NCD -		<None>	<None>		Eastfield	Eastfield	1490	1490
NCE -		<None>	<None>		Eastfield	Eastfield	1184	1184
NDA -		<None>	<None>		Ecton Brook	Ecton Brook	1098	1098
NDB -		<None>	<None>		Ecton Brook	Ecton Brook	2213	2502
NEA -		<None>	<None>		Headlands	Headlands	1664	1896
NEB -		<None>	<None>		Headlands	Headlands	2680	2770
NEC -		<None>	<None>		Headlands	Headlands	1665	1665
NED -		<None>	<None>		Headlands	Headlands	377	377
NFA -		<None>	<None>		Kingsley	Kingsley	1835	1838
NFB -		<None>	<None>		Kingsley	Kingsley	1132	1133
NFC -		<None>	<None>		Kingsley	Kingsley	1951	1964
NFD -		<None>	<None>		Kingsley	Kingsley	2172	2182
NGA -		<None>	<None>		Kingsthorpe	Kingsthorpe	1639	1639
NGB -		<None>	<None>		Kingsthorpe	Kingsthorpe	1901	1907
NGC -		<None>	<None>		Kingsthorpe	Kingsthorpe	443	462
NGD -		<None>	<None>		Kingsthorpe	Kingsthorpe	1698	1758
NHA -		<None>	<None>		Lumbertubs	Lumbertubs	1204	1253
NHB -		<None>	<None>		Lumbertubs	Lumbertubs	1209	1209
NHC -		<None>	<None>		Lumbertubs	Lumbertubs	1562	1562
NHD -		<None>	<None>		Lumbertubs	Lumbertubs	683	929
NHE -		<None>	<None>		Lumbertubs	Lumbertubs	1096	1096
NJA -		<None>	<None>		Parklands	Parklands	875	875
NJB -		<None>	<None>		Parklands	Parklands	1074	1074
NJC -		<None>	<None>		Parklands	Parklands	2184	2184
NJD -		<None>	<None>		Parklands	Parklands	2206	2264
NKA -		<None>	<None>		St.David	St.David	1745	1745
NKB -		<None>	<None>		St.David	St.David	1342	1342
NKC -		<None>	<None>		St.David	St.David	1404	1631
NKD -		<None>	<None>		St.David	Kingsthorpe	936	936
NKE -		<None>	<None>		St.David	Kingsthorpe	75	77
NLA -		<None>	<None>		Spencer	Spencer	1299	1343
NLB -		<None>	<None>		Spencer	Spencer	1255	1255
NLC -		<None>	<None>		Spencer	Spencer	2717	3098
NLD -		<None>	<None>		Spencer	Spencer	847	850
NMA -		<None>	<None>		Thorplands	Thorplands	2029	2029
NMB -		<None>	<None>		Thorplands	Thorplands	1847	1879
NMC -		<None>	<None>		Thorplands	Thorplands	906	969
NMD -		<None>	<None>		Thorplands	Thorplands	440	440
NME -		<None>	<None>		Thorplands	Thorplands	313	313
NTA -		<None>	<None>		Old Duston	Old Duston	560	560
NVA -		<None>	<None>		St.James	St.James	1190	1197
NXA -		<None>	<None>		Weston	Weston	44	44
SAC -		<None>	<None>		Abington	Abington	798	799
SAE -		<None>	<None>		Abington	Abington	1214	1226
SDC -		Billing	Ecton Brook		Ecton Brook	Ecton Brook	2211	2270
SNA -		<None>	<None>		Billing	Billing	2235	2235
SNB -		Billing	Great Billing		Billing	Billing	1599	2019
SNC -		Billing	Little Billing		Billing	Billing	1499	1513
SND -		Billing	Middle		Billing	Billing	1000	1000

Check my data	2008	2013
Number of councillors:	47	47
Overall electorate:	151,504	162,061
Average electorate per cllr:	3,223	3,448

Scroll left to see the first table

Fill in the name of each ward one. You can also use the drop down list to select the ward.	Fill in the number of councillors per ward	Do not type in these cells. These cells will show you the electorate and variance. They change depending what you enter in the table to the left.
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Name of ward	Number of cllrs per ward	Electorate December 2008	Variance 2008	Electorate December 2013	Variance 2013
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Abington	2	6,136	-5%	6,159	-11%
Billing	2	6,333	-2%	6,767	-2%
Boughton Green	3	8,326	-14%	8,453	-18%
Castle	2	7,311	13%	7,648	11%
Delapre	2	7,207	12%	7,990	16%
East Hunsbury	2	6,591	2%	6,593	-4%
Eastfield	2	6,660	3%	6,871	0%
Ecton Brook	2	5,522	-14%	5,870	-15%
Headlands	2	6,386	-1%	6,708	-3%
Kingsley	2	7,090	10%	7,117	3%
Kingsthorpe	2	5,681	-12%	5,766	-16%
Lumbertubs	2	5,754	-11%	6,049	-12%
Nene Valley	2	8,634	34%	8,904	29%
New Duston	2	6,451	0%	6,491	-6%
Old Duston	2	6,283	-3%	7,118	3%
Parklands	2	6,339	-2%	6,397	-7%
St.Crispin	2	6,642	3%	7,762	13%
St.David	2	5,527	-14%	5,731	-17%
St.James	2	6,832	6%	6,870	0%
Spencer	2	6,118	-5%	6,546	-5%
Thorplands	2	5,535	-14%	5,630	-18%
West Hunsbury	2	7,537	17%	11,676	65%
Weston	2	6,844	6%	6,945	1%

SOA -	<None>	<None>	Castle	Castle	1318	1326
SOB -	<None>	<None>	Castle	Castle	1319	1405
SOC -	<None>	<None>	Castle	Castle	1548	1597
SOD -	<None>	<None>	Castle	Castle	1246	1246
SOE -	<None>	<None>	Castle	Castle	1595	1643
SOF -	<None>	<None>	Castle	Castle	285	431
SPA -	<None>	<None>	Delapre	Delapre	1330	1520
SPB -	<None>	<None>	Delapre	Delapre	2412	3005
SPC -	<None>	<None>	Delapre	Delapre	1095	1095
SPD -	<None>	<None>	Delapre	Delapre	1189	1189
SPE -	<None>	<None>	Delapre	Delapre	1181	1181
SQA -	Wootton and East Hunsbury	East Hunsbury	East Hunsbury	East Hunsbury	3499	3499
SQB -	Wootton and East Hunsbury	East Hunsbury	East Hunsbury	East Hunsbury	1769	1771
SQC -	Wootton and East Hunsbury	East Hunsbury	East Hunsbury	East Hunsbury	1323	1323
SRA -	<None>	<None>	Nene Valley	Nene Valley	6	6
SRB -	Hardingstone	<None>	Nene Valley	Nene Valley	1634	1784
SRC -	Great Houghton	<None>	Nene Valley	Nene Valley	529	557
SRD -	Collingtree	<None>	Nene Valley	Nene Valley	500	531
SRE -	Wootton and East Hunsbury	Wootton	Nene Valley	Nene Valley	3082	3083
SRF -	Wootton and East Hunsbury	Wootton	Nene Valley	Nene Valley	2500	2560
SRG -	Collingtree	<None>	Nene Valley	Nene Valley	383	383
SSA -	Duston	New Duston	New Duston	New Duston	2102	2102
SSB -	Duston	New Duston	New Duston	New Duston	2176	2176
SSC -	Duston	New Duston	New Duston	New Duston	2173	2213
STB -	Duston	Old Duston	Old Duston	Old Duston	1458	1461
STC -	Duston	Old Duston	Old Duston	Old Duston	2082	2914
STD -	Duston	Old Duston	Old Duston	Old Duston	2183	2183
SUA -	<None>	<None>	St.Crispin	St.Crispin	640	880
SUB -	<None>	<None>	St.Crispin	St.Crispin	1571	1602
SUC -	<None>	<None>	St.Crispin	St.Crispin	1144	1276
SUD -	<None>	<None>	St.Crispin	St.Crispin	1838	1869
SUE -	<None>	<None>	St.Crispin	St.Crispin	703	1313
SUF -	<None>	<None>	St.Crispin	St.Crispin	625	822
SVB -	<None>	<None>	St.James	St.James	1845	1946
SVC -	<None>	<None>	St.James	St.James	994	1013
SVD -	<None>	<None>	St.James	St.James	2714	2714
SWA -	Upton	<None>	West Hunsbury	West Hunsbury	2058	6061
SWB -	<None>	<None>	West Hunsbury	West Hunsbury	589	589
SWC -	<None>	<None>	West Hunsbury	West Hunsbury	444	444
SWD -	<None>	<None>	West Hunsbury	West Hunsbury	1596	1596
SWE -	Wootton and East Hunsbury	Grange	West Hunsbury	West Hunsbury	819	826
SWF -	<None>	<None>	West Hunsbury	West Hunsbury	1405	1534
SWG -	<None>	<None>	West Hunsbury	West Hunsbury	626	626
SXB -	<None>	<None>	Weston	Weston	1050	1111
SXC -	<None>	<None>	Weston	Weston	2173	2173
SXD -	<None>	<None>	Weston	Weston	1625	1644
SXE -	<None>	<None>	Weston	Weston	1083	1104
SXF -	<None>	<None>	Weston	Weston	869	869



NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Current and Forecast Electorate Report

Contents

1. Background to forecasting the electorate
2. Rationale
3. Conclusion

Glossary of terms

SHLAA	Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (April 2008 base)
Attainers	17 year olds that will become eligible to vote (turn 18) in the year of the election
RSS	Regional Spatial Strategy

Background to forecasting the electorate

- 1.1 In order to take account of the likely increase, decrease or movement in the local government electorate over a five-year period from the start of the review, the Boundary Committee has requested the Council to provide two sets of electorate figures both broken down by ward, parish and parish ward where appropriate, and polling district. The first set will be the electorate from the first electoral register published the previous December (2008); the second a forecast of the electorate five years from that point¹.
- 1.2 It is recognised by the Boundary Committee that “forecasting electorates is difficult and inexact.” However, their guidance states that “We firmly believe that the local authority is best placed to give us this forecast. We will, however, scrutinise the figures when we receive them. We expect, where appropriate, that officers compiling the figures consider regional spatial strategies, planning permissions, local development frameworks, expected migration into, out of and within the authority and expected occupancy rates in individual areas rather than generally across the authority. We also stress that our experience has found that an increase in development in one area does not necessarily result in an increase in electorate across the whole authority. Once we are content that they are an accurate reflection of the electorate in five years’ time, we will publish the figures on our website so that everyone can use the same starting point when making proposals to us” (page 15, figure 5.33).

Rationale

- 2.1 The electoral figures for December 2008 have been provided from the Borough Council Register of Electors (appendix 1).
- 2.2 In developing the electorate forecast for December 2013, officers have considered the following issues. Where assumptions have been drawn from the data, the rationale for this decision is outlined below:
- 2.3 **Planning Forecasts**
The RSS expects a substantial house building programme in the Northampton Implementation Area during the period 2009-2014, and this is reflected in both the 5 Year Housing Land Supply Assessment and the housing trajectory update submitted to the East Midlands as a part of the Annual Monitoring requirement for the RSS. It should, however, be noted that the Northampton Implementation Area includes parts of the neighbouring districts of Daventry and South Northamptonshire, and in the longer term much of the growth of Northampton will be accommodated outside the Borough.

¹ Electoral Review: Technical Guidance

2.3.1 The first stage of the process has been to remove from the existing studies all sites which are outside the Borough. This has identified the maximum number of houses required to be provided within the Borough if the plan led population increase were to be achieved. However, it is considered that this building rate is over-optimistic in the current economic climate, as it requires more homes to be built in any given year than has consistently been achieved in the recent past. The sites have therefore been individually re-assessed and a more realistic trajectory has been prepared.

2.3.2 The two relevant current housing studies are the SHLAA, which deals with all potential housing sites with 10 or more dwellings, and has a base survey date of April 2008; and the Borough's 5 Year Housing Land Supply Assessment which is for all housing sites with planning permission or at an advanced stage in the planning process. This latter study includes all housing developments, and has a base date of April 2009. There is, by definition, a large degree of overlap between the SHLAA and the 5 Year Housing Land Supply Assessment, and all duplicated sites have been removed.

2.3.3 Both the SHLAA and the 5 Year Housing Land Supply Assessment have made assessments of the number of houses which are required to be built (largely by the private sector) in order to achieve the plan targets (RSS). A re-assessment based on the current market conditions, and development progress during 2009 has produced the Revised Assessment (based on market conditions) estimate shown in the fourth column of the table below.

2.3.4 Planned Housing trajectory

Data Set	Regional Annual Monitoring Return	5 Year Housing Land Supply Assessment	Revised Assessment based on Market Conditions
Projected Completions	Northampton Implementation Area	(Northampton only)	
2009/10	876	879	400
2010/11	1059	930	600
2011/12	2704	2441	1160
2012/13	2865	2316	1316
2013/14	1944	1495	1350
Total	9448	8061	4828

Note 1. The Northampton Implementation Area is not currently defined, but for the purposes of this exercise includes all of Northampton Borough and existing land allocations at Grange Park and Wootton Fields (South Northamptonshire) and Whitehills (Daventry District).

Note 2. The Northampton 5 Year Housing Land Supply Assessment includes all sites within the Borough that have planning permission, together with sites allocated in statutory planning documents.

Note 3. The Revised Assessment based on market conditions includes a realistic assessment of the likely take up of the Northampton 5 Year Housing Land Supply Assessment sites, plus 12 sites producing 772 properties which have been identified through the SHLAA process.

Note 4. The proposed completion rates in 2012/13 and 2013/14 are within the range of house completions that have been achieved in the past. It is considered that this will be achievable if market conditions improve. It is likely that the downturn will create a pent-up demand which builders will seek to meet.

2.3.5 The revised trajectory with a total expected site specific completions of 4828 has been used for the purposes of these forecasts. The completion figures show a significant up-turn from 2011/12, and this reflects the number of sites currently with planning permission or known to be in the pipeline where developers are believed to be ready to start once market conditions improve. The assumption made is that the market will start to improve in the spring of 2011, and will produce high outputs in 2012/13 and 2013/14.

2.3.6 Small sites (less than 10 dwellings) have been included in the assessment where planning permission exists. Other sites may come forward, particularly towards the end of the period. Typically these will amount to 100-120 properties per year and will be spread throughout the Borough. As there is no good way of assessing precisely what will come forward and when, these have been ignored.

2.3.7 The three Polling Districts with the largest increase in total number of new electors are SPB, SWA and STC. A detailed explanation is given below of the reason for this.

Note 5. In Polling District SPB (Delapre Ward) there is a forecast increase of 593 electors. This is due to a significant number of sites within the 5 Year Housing Land Supply Assessment having an anticipated completion date within the 5 year period. The largest of these sites include:

- Site reference 13 on Ransom Road, which is awaiting a Section 106 agreement and is close to being approved. When completed, this site will contain 150 properties, which will be constructed from year 3.
- Site reference 12 at Nunn Mills, which includes 150 houses that are anticipated to be completed by December 2013. The application is currently being processed and there are discussions about the section 106 agreement.
- Site 40 at Southbridge East contains a further 44 properties and construction is expected in years 3 and 4.

Note 6. Polling District SWA in West Hunsbury Ward has a forecast increase in electorate of 4003. This is the Upton Housing Extension. The most significant of the sites that are anticipated to be completed within the 5 year period are:

- Site reference 1, which is under construction and will include 506 properties.
- Site reference 2, which will include 202 properties during the period and construction is expected to start in year 3.
- Site reference 4, construction of which will begin in 2010 and will include 235 properties during the period.
- Site reference 6, which will include 170 properties during the period
- Site reference 8 is already under construction and includes 281 properties.
- Site reference 16 will include 240 houses and will begin to be built in year 3.
- There is also a current void rate of 36.9% which is due to houses being completed and on the register but not yet occupied. A projected occupancy rate of 90% has been applied to these in anticipation that the housing market will pick up over the next 5 years.(N.B. This element is discussed further in Paragraph 2.8 below).

Note 7. Polling District STC is located in Old Duston has a projected increase of 832 electors. The following sites are the most significant that are identified in the 5 Year Housing Land Supply Assessment that are anticipated to be built within this Polling District by December 2013:

- :Site reference 17, British Timken site, construction will start in year 2, and will result in 358 new properties
- Site reference number 30 (former Millway School Site) will commence in year four and will produce 48 properties
- Site reference 51, Duston Garage Site, is currently under construction and will result in 21 properties
- Site reference 74 (Meeting Lane), is currently under construction and will result in 8 properties

Details of the sites referred to above, and the expected phasing, are set out in the table below:

Site Reference	Name	Polling District	Yr1	Yr2	Yr3	Yr4	Yr5	Total
13	Ransom Road	SPB	0	0	25	50	75	150
12	Nunn's Mill	SPB	0	0	50	50	50	150
40	Southbridge East	SPB	0	0	24	20	0	44
1	Upton Phase 1	SWA	16	40	175	175	100	506
2	Upton Park	SWA	0	0	40	60	100	202
4	Upton Lodge	SWA	0	25	60	75	75	235
6	Pineham	SWA	0	0	35	60	75	170
8	St Crispins	SWA	36	20	130	95	0	281
16	Princess Marina Hospital	SWA	0	0	50	90	100	240
17	British Timken	STC	0	58	150	100	50	358
30	Millway School	STC	0	0	0	25	23	48
51	Duston Garage	STC	21	0	0	0	0	21
74	2 Meeting Lane	STC	8	0	0	0	0	8

2.4 Number of electors per new property

The current average elector occupancy rate per property per polling district (December 2008) will be used to calculate the number of electors per new property within each polling district. In order to reach this figure, the number of void properties will be subtracted from the total number of properties within the polling district. It is assumed that the number of electors per non-void dwelling will be the same in 2013.

2.5 Attainers (population aged between 13-17 as of December 2008 who will become eligible to vote by December 2013)

The current attainers are included in the ratio of electors per property which have been used as a factor in the new elector forecast.

A number of possible sources were considered in order to obtain the most accurate projection of population figures relating to the age group 13-17. These include school rolls, child benefit take-up in the town and GP registrations. The information received about GP registrations provided the largest range of data and was felt would capture the most accurate picture of population statistics. This information provides us with a figure for the number of children that will be eligible to vote within 5 years.

When someone studies away from home, they are eligible to vote both in their town of origin and also the town where they reside as a student. If it is assumed that an average period of study at University lasts three years, all current 13-16 year olds will still have the option to be on the electoral register in December 2013, even if they have left Northampton to study. No information is currently available on the number or percentage of Northampton graduates who do not return to Northampton on completion of their studies.

Figures from the University of Northampton show that enrolments have increased from 5392 (2006) to 6843 (2008), with between 16% and 18% coming from Northampton (postcodes NN1 – NN5). There is no information available on where graduates from the University move on completion of their courses.

The likely number of attainers coming through to the register in any given year is broadly similar to the change expected as a result of deaths (see below) and migration. Therefore no allowance has been made for increase in electorate based on attainers.

2.6 Death Rate

The death rate figures for 2003-2007 (source Office of National Statistics) were reviewed. The data is held according to Middle Layer Super Output Areas and shows that the maximum number of deaths in an area is 434 (average 108.5 per annum) and the lowest is 106, with an average of 26.5. The total for the whole Borough was 6762, which is an average of 1690.5 per annum). The view has been taken that this is not of material statistical difference to need to be taken account of in our electorate forecast. In addition to this an assumption has been made that as people die, their properties will be taken over by new electors moving to the area.

2.7 Population Forecast Projections

In 2007, the Demographic Sub-Group of the Northamptonshire Service Planning Group produced 2006-2026 population forecasts for Northamptonshire. The population forecast has been used as a sense check for our electorate forecast. The forecasts are plan based, and show a significantly higher population than the forecasts used for this review. The justification for the use of a lower population is set out in section 2.3 above, which explains why we are reducing the plan lead forecast to reflect current market conditions.

2.8 Void properties

There is a national target of 3% for housing vacancy rates through the normal cycle of buying and selling homes, and this has been used in the RSS. The latest published figure (East Midlands Regional Housing Strategy data for 2006) shows that Northampton had a high number of vacancies, but that this equated to approximately 3% at that time. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the rate has increased during the recession. It is recognised that the void figures refer to empty properties and properties with residents illegible to vote, as well as households where eligible voters choose not to register to vote, be this through choice or lack of knowledge about how to register. It is recognised that in the future there may be a greater uptake from properties that are currently registered as void, however there was no evidence that could be used to estimate what this figure may be.

An exercise was undertaken to review the reasons for any high levels of voids (over 15%) and whether an estimate could be made of how many of these were as a result of low returns rather than actual void properties. In many cases the reason was clearly due to properties being unoccupied. A decision was taken that there was not sufficient evidence available to make a global reasoned judgement as to the proportion of the current population not currently taking the opportunity to register to vote.

As a result of this review 4 polling districts have been allocated additional electors, based on blocks of property which are currently vacant and awaiting letting. In all cases it has been assumed there will be a 10% void level for electoral purposes. The additional electors have been based on the average number of electors in the relevant polling district. The 4 polling districts affected by this are:

Site details	Polling District	No. Voids 2008 affected	2008 Void%	2008 Electors	Additional 2013 Electors
Empty / unreleased new homes	SWA	684	36.9%	2058	1077
Northampton House	SOF	89	43%	285	146
Bloomsbury / Woolmonger Development	SUE	296	51.7%	703	429
Housing Association block soon to be released	NDB	132	15.7%	2213	260

2.9 Migration

The anecdotal evidence to date, including that contained in the Regional Spatial Strategy Review, shows that migration rates are reducing rather than increasing, but that overall the population is still increasing in size through migration. The figures from the RSS show that the most inward migration is occurring within the age bands 15-30 and 75-80, with 40-59 year olds and younger children leaving the Borough. It is therefore judged that this statistical variance is too insignificant to have any impact and supports the assumption that the new houses that are being built will bring residents to the area of electorate age.

The Regional Strategy based population projections are plan based, and likely housing completion rates, set out in 2.3 above, will reduce the projected increase for the period 2009-2014 to an insignificant level.

In addition previous Eastern European immigrants who have been leaving the Borough have typically lived in shared accommodation in areas characterised by single people shared housing. These have always had the right to be registered as electors, and it is expected that any new residents who replace them will be of a similar age range, and have a similar propensity to register.

CONCLUSIONS

- 3.1 The existing electorate (December 2008) is 151504
- 3.2 The expected electorate in December 2013 is 162095
- 3.3 This represents an increase in the electorate of 7.0% over the 5 years.

REFERENCES

1. Electoral Review: Technical Guidance,
http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/48546/Te ch-Guidance-final_28191-20728_E_.pdf