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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 draft recommendations propose that Bristol City Council's 70 councillors should represent four single-member wards, 27 two-member wards and four three-member wards. None of our proposed wards would have an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for Bristol by 2020.

**You have until 16 February 2015 to have your say on the recommendations. See page 22 for how to have your say.**



# 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 legislation<sup>1</sup> 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](http://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 a period of consultation on a new warding pattern for Bristol. The submissions received during our consultation have informed our draft recommendations.

This review is being conducted as follows:

<b>Stage starts</b>	<b>Description</b>
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.

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<sup>1</sup> 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: Alan Cogbill  
Chief Executive (designate): Jolyon Jackson

## 2 Analysis and draft recommendations

7 Legislation<sup>2</sup> states that our recommendations are not intended to be based solely on the existing number of electors<sup>3</sup> 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 in 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 draft 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. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. There is no evidence that the recommendations will have an adverse effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums 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 and can also be viewed on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://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.

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<sup>2</sup> Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

<sup>3</sup> Electors refers 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 draft recommendations.

## Council size

15 Prior to consultation, Bristol City Council submitted a proposal to retain a council size of 70. We consider that the Council's submission proposing a council of 70 is supported by adequate evidence to justify retaining the same council size. We are content that the Council has 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 have therefore based our draft recommendations 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 are for four single-member wards, 27 two-member wards and four three-member wards. We consider that our draft recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we have received such evidence during consultation.

20 A summary of our proposed electoral arrangements is set out in Table A1 (on pages 24–7) and on the large map accompanying this report.

21 We welcome all comments on these draft recommendations. We also welcome comments on the ward names we have proposed as part of the draft recommendations.

## Detailed wards

22 The tables on pages 8–20 detail our draft recommendations for each area of Bristol. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three

statutory<sup>4</sup> criteria of:

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

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<sup>4</sup> Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

## East Bristol

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
<b>Brislington East</b>	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 the consultation on warding arrangements we received four submissions that commented on the Brislington area, including three detailed proposals for two two-member wards. Of these, two of the proposals were broadly similar and proposed an east/west split, whilst the third proposed a north/south divide. Having considered the evidence received and having toured the area, we are of the view that an east/west split is the most appropriate. Accordingly, our Brislington East ward is based on two of the submissions received, with some modification to the boundary along Wick Road.
<b>Brislington West</b>	2	-7%	This ward comprises the western part of Brislington. It is also bounded by the River Avon to the north.	During the consultation on warding arrangements we received four submissions that commented on the Brislington area, including three detailed proposals for two two-member wards. As stated above, we consider that an east/west divide is most appropriate for Brislington. Accordingly, our Brislington West ward is based on two of the submissions received, with some modification to the boundary along Wick Road.
<b>Eastville</b>	2	3%	This ward incorporates Eastville and Stapleton and is bounded by the M32 to the north.	Five submissions received during the consultation commented on this area. Two of the political groups on the Council put forward broadly similar proposals for a two-member Eastville ward and our proposed ward is broadly based on those proposals subject to some amendments, most notably in the east of the ward. We consider that Eastville ward has clear and identifiable boundaries and provides a good balance between our statutory criteria.
<b>Frome Vale</b>	2	1%	This ward is bounded by the M32 to the north and includes the areas of Fishponds and	Only the three city-wide submissions referred to in paragraph 17 commented on the Frome Vale area. Two of the proposals were broadly similar and we have used those as the basis of

			Broomhill. The River Frome runs through the centre of the ward and the ward also contains Oldbury Court Estate.	our Frome Vale ward. We have used elements of each of these submissions to formulate our ward, which includes Duchess Way and Brinkworthy Road as well as the adjoining roads. In the south-east of the ward we have run the boundary along Forest Road and Staple Hill Road as proposed by two of the political groups.
<b>Hillfields</b>	2	-2%	Hillfields ward includes the communities of Hillfields, Chester Park and Mayfield Park.	The only submissions that commented on the Hillfields area were the three city-wide submissions referred to in paragraph 17. All three proposals were broadly similar although with some marked differences. Our Hillfields ward uses elements of all three proposals to form a ward that strikes a firm balance between our statutory criteria. Our ward includes the full length of Thicket Road as proposed by two of the political groups on the Council. This road links the properties to the north of the Bristol and Bath Railway Path with the rest of Hillfields ward. The ward secures a good level of electoral equality and is bounded by main roads and the railway path, which present identifiable boundaries.
<b>St George Central</b>	2	-3%	This ward contains the majority of the residential part of St George.	We received five submissions that commented on the St George area of Bristol. Our two-member St George Central ward is based on the proposals of one of the Council's political groups, with minor amendments to the western and southern boundaries to provide more identifiable boundaries and a better reflection of community identity. Whilst formulating our draft recommendations we did consider joining this area with St George West ward to create a three-member ward; however, we are of the view that a two-member ward provides a better reflection of our statutory criteria (see below).
<b>St George Troopers Hill</b>	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	We received five submissions that commented on the St George area of Bristol. Our St George Troopers Hill ward is based on the proposals of one of the Council's political groups, with a minor amendment to its northern boundary to provide a more identifiable boundary and avoid dividing the

			River Avon.	properties on either side of Hillside Road.
<b>St George West</b>	1	3%	This ward contains the residential areas surrounding St George's Park and is bounded by the River Avon to the south.	We received five submissions that commented on the St George area of Bristol. Our St George West ward is based on the proposals of one of the Council's political groups, with a minor amendment to its eastern boundary to provide a more identifiable boundary. Whilst formulating our draft recommendations we did consider joining this area with St George Central ward to create a three-member ward. However, we are of the view that a single-member St George West ward provides a better reflection of our statutory criteria (see above).
<b>Stockwood</b>	2	-6%	This ward contains the community of Stockwood, bounded by the A37 to the west.	During consultation we received six submissions in regard to Stockwood. Three political groups on the Council put forward near identical proposals for a two-member ward. We have modified the proposals in the north of the ward to improve the electoral equality; the northern boundary runs along Callington Road (A4174) before cutting across West Town Lane to the north of West Town Park and along the northern edge of Knowle Golf Course. We consider that this boundary provides the best balance between reflecting community identity and securing a good level of electoral equality for both Stockwood ward and Brislington West ward.

## North Bristol

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
<b>Avonmouth &amp; Lawrence Weston</b>	3	9%	This ward includes the areas of Avonmouth, Coombe Dingle, Lawrence Weston and Shirehampton.	We received five submissions regarding this area. We were not convinced that any of the proposals received for this area adequately reflected community links and all of the submissions divided at least one of the communities named in the description. We explored a variety of alternative arrangements to those proposed and, accordingly, we consider that a three-member ward provides the best balance between our statutory criteria; our proposal utilises clear and identifiable boundaries, avoids the division of any communities and provides a good level of electoral equality.
<b>Henbury &amp; Brentry</b>	2	-3%	Incorporates the communities of Henbury and Brentry including the Charlton Mead estate.	This ward is based on a combination of two proposals received during consultation and reflects the community links between the Charlton Mead estate and the rest of Brentry. Although the properties on Strathearn Drive and Royal Victoria Park appear to look to the south, we have included them in our Henbury & Brentry ward. However, we would welcome comments on our proposal for this area.
<b>Henleaze</b>	2	3%	This ward contains the community of Henleaze.	In total we received six submissions that commented on the Henleaze area. We received two proposals for a Henleaze ward that were broadly similar, and it is those proposals on which our ward is based. We have made some modifications to provide a better reflection of our statutory criteria, most notably in the north-west of the ward where we have extended the eastern boundary so that it runs along Falcondale Road (A4018) as far as Greystoke Avenue. In formulating our draft recommendations we also considered joining this ward with Westbury-on-Trym (see below) to form a three-member ward. On balance, we have taken the view that two separate wards provide an accurate reflection of community identity in this area. However, we would

				particularly welcome submissions on the Henleaze and Westbury-on-Trym areas.
<b>Horfield</b>	2	2%	This ward comprises the residential area of Horfield as well as Southmead Hospital.	We received nine submissions that commented on the Horfield area. Our ward is based on a proposal made by one of the political groups that used strong boundaries to the east and west of the ward. We have made a minor amendment to the southern boundary of the ward to provide an improved level of electoral equality.
<b>Lockleaze</b>	2	-4%	Includes the Lockleaze community as well as Stoke Park. The ward is bounded by the M32 to the east.	In total we received seven submissions that commented on the Lockleaze area. Our ward is based on a proposal made by one of the Council's political groups subject to a very minor amendment to the eastern boundary so that it runs along the M32 in its entirety, incorporating Napier Road into the Lockleaze ward. We consider that this ward has very clear boundaries and that it provides the best reflection of our statutory criteria.
<b>Southmead</b>	2	-5%	Contains the community of Southmead, bounded by Southmead Road to the south.	We received 11 submissions in total that commented on warding arrangements for Southmead. This ward is based on a combination of two proposals received during consultation.
<b>Stoke Bishop</b>	2	6%	This ward comprises the communities of Stoke Bishop and Sea Mills, bounded by the A4162 to the north.	We received 12 submissions regarding this area. This ward has clear, easily identifiable boundaries and reflects community links between the communities of Stoke Bishop and Sea Mills.
<b>Westbury-on-Trym</b>	1	2%	Contains the community of Westbury-on-Trym, bounded by the A4018 to the east, Coombe Lane and Parrys Lane to the west and Coombe Hill to the north.	In total we received seven submissions regarding Westbury-on-Trym. The ward is based on a combination of two proposals received during consultation with some modifications in the east of the ward to provide clearer and more identifiable boundaries. In formulating our draft recommendations we also considered joining this ward with Henleaze (see above) to form a three-member ward. On balance, we have taken the view that two separate wards provide an accurate reflection of community identity in this area. However, we would particularly welcome submissions on the Henleaze and Westbury-on-Trym areas.

## South Bristol

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
<b>Bedminster</b>	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.	We received seven submissions that commented on the Bedminster area. We received three broadly similar proposals for a two-member Bedminster ward and our ward is based on a combination of the three proposals, using the Bristol to Exeter railway line as the southern boundary. We consider that our proposed Bedminster ward strikes a firm balance between our statutory criteria.
<b>Bishopsworth</b>	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.	We received 14 submissions that commented on Bishopsworth and Headley Park. We received broadly similar proposals for a two-member Bishopsworth ward from two of the Council's political groups, joining Bishopsworth and Headley Park. This view was also put forward by six local residents and one city councillor. We received an alternative proposal from another of the city's political groups that divided the areas of Bishopsworth and Headley Park. Having considered the evidence received we accept that there are clear community links between Bishopsworth and Headley Park. Accordingly, our ward unites these two areas, and uses clear and identifiable boundaries to the north and east. In the south of the ward we have sought to use main roads as the boundary where possible.
<b>Filwood</b>	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.	We received three similar proposals for this area from three of the Council's political groups. All three proposals suggested using the A4174 as the boundary to the west and south-east of the ward. However, all three proposals differed in the north of the ward. We have adopted Marksbury Road and Wedmore Vale as the northern boundary of Filwood ward. We consider that this ward reflects community interests in the area and avoids dividing residential areas arbitrarily, whilst using clear and identifiable boundaries.

<b>Hartcliffe</b>	3	-8%	Hartcliffe ward comprises the communities of Hartcliffe and Withywood. It is bounded by the city boundary to the west and south.	During consultation we received eight submissions regarding this area. These included one proposal for a single-member Withywood ward and a two-member Hartcliffe ward; one proposal for a two-member Hartcliffe ward; and one proposal for a three-member ward. On balance, we consider that the evidence supports a three-member Hartcliffe ward as proposed by one of the city's political groups. Having toured the area we are of the view that there are clear community links between Hartcliffe and Withywood. We consider that a three-member ward avoids dividing these communities.
<b>Hengrove &amp; Whitchurch Park</b>	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.	Three of the city's political groups put forward proposals for a warding pattern for this area. Each group proposed one single-member ward and one two-member ward; however, the three proposals were all markedly different. We received one additional submission in regard to Hengrove. Having considered the evidence received and having visited the area during our tour of Bristol, we are of the view that none of the three proposals appear to reflect the community identity of these two areas and that the boundaries used to divide Hengrove and Whitchurch Park all appear to be divisive. We have taken the view that a three-member ward provides the best balance between our statutory criteria. Under our proposal the community of Hengrove will not be divided between wards.
<b>Knowle</b>	2	2%	This ward comprises the residential area of Knowle.	We received seven submissions in total that commented on Knowle. We have used a combination of the submissions received to identify a ward that provides a firm balance between our statutory criteria.
<b>Southville</b>	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	Three of the city's political groups put forward proposals for a warding pattern for this area and we received additional representations from a local political party and four local residents. Our proposed Southville ward is based on the evidence received with clear and identifiable boundaries,

			provide the boundary between Southville and Bedminster wards.	whilst also reflecting community identity.
<b>Windmill Hill</b>	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.	In total we received six submissions regarding the Windmill Hill area of Bristol, including proposals from three political groups on the Council. Our proposed ward is based on a combination of the proposals we received with some amendments, most notably in the north of the ward, in order to provide a better reflection of our statutory criteria.

## West Bristol

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2020	Description	Detail
<b>Ashley &amp; Stokes Croft</b>	3	-3%	Ashley & Stokes Croft ward lies to the north-east of the city centre, bounded by Cheltenham Road to the west.	The four political groups' submissions each made different proposals for this area and we received an additional five representations from local residents and a local organisation. In formulating our draft recommendations for this area we considered dividing it into one two-member ward and one single-member ward. However, on balance, we consider that a three-member Ashley & Stokes Croft ward provides the best reflection of our statutory criteria, particularly as we have sought to not divide any of the communities within this ward.
<b>Bishopston</b>	2	6%	Gloucester Road acts as the central spine of Bishopston ward, with Kellaway Avenue and Muller Road providing the western and eastern boundaries respectively.	The four political groups' submissions each made a different proposal for a Bishopston ward and we received an additional five representations from local residents. Our Bishopston ward is based on a proposal made by one of the political groups with two amendments. We have incorporated the properties off Church Road as proposed by a local resident. We consider that this reflects community identity in this area and also results in an improved level of electoral equality.
<b>Central</b>	2	-6%	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.	In total we received 12 submissions that commented on the centre of Bristol including four different proposals submitted by political groups on the Council. Whilst we received community identity evidence from respondents in regard to this area there was little agreement between them in terms of warding arrangements. Having considered all of the evidence received during the consultation we have taken the view that a two-member ward covering the city centre provides the best reflection of our statutory criteria in terms of providing for effective and convenient local government whilst also reflecting community identity. We have also sought to use clear and identifiable boundaries.

<b>Clifton East</b>	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.	The four political groups' submissions each made different proposals for the Clifton area and we received one additional representation from a local resident commenting on this area. We have based our Clifton East ward on a combination of all of the submissions received. We have used Hampton Road as the eastern boundary as proposed by one of the political groups and Pembroke Road as the western boundary as proposed by three of the groups. Upper Belgrave Road and Redland Hill provide the northern boundary, as proposed by all four political groups. We consider that our Clifton East ward provides a good balance between our statutory criteria with a good level of electoral equality and clear and identifiable boundaries.
<b>Clifton West</b>	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.	As stated above, the four political groups' submissions each made different proposals for the Clifton area and we received one additional representation from a local resident. Three of the four political groups made broadly similar proposals for a ward in this area, each using Clifton Down as the northern boundary and Pembroke Road as the eastern boundary. We have based our Clifton West ward on these proposals with some modifications to the eastern and southern boundary to provide more identifiable boundaries and what we consider to be the best reflection of community identity in the area. We have opted to name the ward Clifton West in order to mirror Clifton East and reduce the potential for confusion over ward names.
<b>Cotham</b>	2	1%	Cotham ward lies to the north of the city centre and includes the Cotham community, with Redland to the north.	We received submissions that proposed a Cotham ward and an additional five submissions that commented on the Cotham area. In order to provide a pattern of wards for the centre of Bristol that secures a good level of electoral equality, we have been required to make some significant modifications to the proposals received for Cotham. However, we have endeavoured to take into account the evidence received during the public consultation. Our proposed ward

				spans from Redland Hill in the north-west to Dove Street in the south-east. We consider that our proposed Cotham ward provides a good balance between our statutory criteria and uses clear and identifiable boundaries.
<b>Easton</b>	2	7%	Easton ward lies to the west of St George and is bounded by the railway line to the west.	During consultation we received three different proposals for an Easton ward in submissions from three of the political groups on the Council whilst the fourth group provided a radically different proposal for this part of the city. We received three additional submissions from two local organisations and one local resident. Our proposed Easton ward is based on the representations of one of the political groups with two minor amendments to better reflect our statutory criteria. In the north of the ward we have included Bourne Lane. In the south of the ward we have extended the boundary so that Bright Street, Morley Street and Morton Street are all included in our Easton ward.
<b>Hotwells &amp; Harbourside</b>	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.	In total we received 12 submissions that commented on this part of Bristol, including detailed proposals from four of the political groups on the Council that made submissions. Having considered all of the evidence received during the consultation and having visited the area during our tour of Bristol, we consider that the proposal made by one of the Council's political groups for a single-member Hotwells & Harbourside ward provides the best reflection of the statutory criteria. We are of the view that a compact ward focussed around the docks would provide for more effective and convenient and local government whilst also maintaining community identity. However, the proposal made by the political group would have resulted in a poor level of electoral equality. Accordingly, we have modified the eastern boundary of the ward so that it runs north from Princes Wharf and then along the A4018. This amendment results in a much improved level of electoral equality whilst maintaining the character of the ward.

<b>Lawrence Hill</b>	2	5%	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.	In total we received 12 submissions regarding the Lawrence Hill area including four different submissions from four of the political groups on the Council. Having considered all of the evidence received we have based our Lawrence Hill ward on a proposal made by one of the political groups subject to two minor amendments. We have made a minor amendment to the eastern boundary of the ward so that it runs along Ducie Road and Church Street rather than Cobden Street. We have also amended the western boundary so that it runs along the A4044 to the west of Bristol Temple Meads railway station, incorporating the station and the surrounding area into Lawrence Hill ward. We consider that these modifications provide a better reflection of our statutory criteria.
<b>Redland</b>	2	1%	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.	The four political groups' submissions each made different proposals for a two-member Redland ward and we received an additional nine submissions that commented on the Redland area. We considered that the proposal made by one of the political groups on the Council provided the best balance between our statutory criteria. However, we have made some significant modifications to the eastern boundary of the ward so that it runs along the A38 (Gloucester Road) in its entirety. We consider that this amendment provides a more identifiable boundary and it also results in an improved level of electoral equality.

## Conclusions

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

**Table 1: Summary of electoral arrangements**

	Draft recommendations	
	2013	2020
Number of councillors	70	70
Number of electoral wards	35	35
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 four one-member wards, 27 two-member wards and four 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 Have your say

24 The Commission has an open mind about its final recommendations. Every representation we receive will be considered, regardless of whom it is from or whether it relates to the whole city or just a part of it.

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

26 Our website has a special consultation area where you can explore the maps and draw your own proposed boundaries. You can find it at **[consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk)**

27 Submissions can also be made by emailing **[reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk)** or by writing to:

**Review Officer (Bristol)  
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
Layden House  
76–86 Turnmill Street  
London EC1M 5LG**

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

- Electoral equality: each local 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:

- Community groups: is there a parish council, residents' association or other group that represents the area?
- 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?

- Are there good links across your proposed ward? Is there any form of public transport?

28 Please note that the consultation stages of an electoral review are public consultations. In the interests of openness and transparency, we make available for public inspection full copies of all representations the Commission takes into account as part of a review. Accordingly, copies of all representations will be placed on deposit at our offices in Layden House (London) and on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk). A list of respondents will be available from us on request after the end of the consultation period.

29 If you are a member of the public and not writing on behalf of a council or organisation we will remove any personal identifiers, such as postal or email addresses, signatures or phone numbers from your submission before it is made public. We will remove signatures from all letters, no matter who they are from.

30 In the light of representations received, we will review our draft recommendations and consider whether they should be altered. As indicated earlier, it is therefore important that all interested parties let us have their views and evidence, **whether or not** they agree with the draft recommendations. We will then publish our final recommendations.

31 After the publication of our final recommendations, the changes we have proposed must be approved by Parliament. An Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in draft in Parliament. The draft Order will provide for new electoral arrangements to be implemented at the first whole council elections for Bristol City Council in 2016.

## Equalities

32 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: Draft recommendations for Bristol City Council**

	<b>Ward name</b>	<b>Number of councillors</b>	<b>Electorate (2013)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>	<b>Electorate (2020)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>
1	Ashley & Stokes Croft	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	2	9,388	4,694	2%	10,367	5,184	6%
5	Bishopsworth	2	8,885	4,443	-4%	9,176	4,588	-6%
6	Brislington East	2	8,906	4,453	-3%	9,576	4,788	-2%
7	Brislington West	2	8,562	4,281	-7%	9,045	4,523	-7%
8	Central	2	7,440	3,720	-19%	9,185	4,593	-6%
9	Clifton East	2	8,685	4,343	-6%	9,354	4,677	-4%
10	Clifton West	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	9,778	4,889	6%	10,398	5,199	7%

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

	<b>Ward name</b>	<b>Number of councillors</b>	<b>Electorate (2013)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>	<b>Electorate (2020)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>
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	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	Henleaze	2	10,159	5,080	10%	10,078	5,039	3%
20	Hillfields	2	8,883	4,442	-4%	9,560	4,780	-2%
21	Horfield	2	9,346	4,673	1%	9,959	4,980	2%
22	Hotwells & Harbourside	1	4,319	4,319	-6%	4,998	4,998	2%
23	Knowle	2	9,739	4,870	6%	9,930	4,965	2%
24	Lawrence Hill	2	8,907	4,454	-3%	10,227	5,114	5%
25	Lockleaze	2	8,640	4,320	-6%	9,393	4,697	-4%

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

	<b>Ward Name</b>	<b>Number of councillors</b>	<b>Electorate (2013)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>	<b>Electorate (2020)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>
26	Redland	2	9,668	4,834	5%	9,872	4,936	1%
27	Southmead	2	8,950	4,475	-3%	9,301	4,651	-5%
28	Southville	2	9,021	4,511	-2%	10,053	5,027	3%
29	St George Central	2	9,408	4,704	2%	9,502	4,751	-3%
30	St George Troopers Hill	1	4,565	4,565	-1%	4,647	4,647	-5%
31	St George West	1	4,709	4,709	2%	5,023	5,023	3%
32	Stockwood	2	9,312	4,656	1%	9,163	4,582	-6%
33	Stoke Bishop	2	10,208	5,104	11%	10,300	5,150	6%
34	Westbury-on-Trym	1	4,965	4,965	8%	4,965	4,965	2%
35	Windmill Hill	2	9,732	4,866	6%	10,332	5,166	6%
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>322,482</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>341,607</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>Averages</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,607</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,880</b>	<b>-</b>

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 borough. 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 <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/south-west/bristol/bristol>

### Political parties

- Bristol City Council Conservative Group
- Bristol City Council Green Group
- Bristol City Council Labour Group
- Bristol City Council Liberal Democrat Group
- Bristol South Labour Party

### Councillors

- Councillor R. Eddy (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor J. Goulandris (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor B. Massey (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor K. Quartley (Bristol City Council)
- Councillors G. Hopkins & C. Davies (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor M. Weston (Bristol City Council)
- Councillor C. Windows (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
- Bristol Clinical Commissioning
- Bristol Playbus
- Bristol Women's Voice
- Church Road Action Group
- Easton and Lawrence Hill Neighbourhood Management
- Friends of Marksbury Road Library
- Hengrove Neighbourhood Partnership
- Redcliffe Neighbourhood Development Forum

## **Residents**

- 69 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 <a href="http://www.nalc.gov.uk">www.nalc.gov.uk</a>
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

