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Summary

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body which conducts electoral reviews of local authority areas. The broad purpose of an electoral review is to decide on the appropriate electoral arrangements – the number of councillors, and the names, number and boundaries of wards or divisions – for a specific local authority. We are conducting an electoral review of Corby Borough Council to provide improved levels of electoral equality across Corby.

The review aims to ensure that the number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same. The Commission commenced the review in August 2012. This review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
26 March 2013	Consultation on council size
16 July 2013	Invitation to submit proposals for warding arrangements to LGBCE
24 September 2013	LGBCE's analysis and formulation of draft recommendations
21 January 2014	Publication of draft recommendations and consultation on them
15 April 2014	Analysis of submissions received and formulation of final recommendations

Submissions received

We received nine submissions during the consultation on council size, from Corby Borough Council and eight local residents. Subsequently, we received two submissions on warding patterns including a borough-wide scheme from the Council and a submission from Councillor Lilley (Conservative – Stanion & Corby Village ward). All submissions can be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Analysis and draft recommendations

Electorate figures

Corby Borough Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2019, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2014. This is prescribed in the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 ('the 2009 Act'). These forecasts projected an increase in the electorate of approximately 11% over this period.

We noted that the electorate figures supplied by the Council for the Weldon area showed a significant increase in electorate by 2019. We asked the Council to confirm whether this projection was accurate as the Weldon Park development had not received planning approval. The Council subsequently submitted revised electorate figures and confirmed that the Weldon Park development is not included in its new forecast for 2019.

Council size

During the preliminary stage of the review, we met with the Council's Group Leaders. We subsequently received a submission from Corby Borough Council proposing to retain the current size of 29 members. Based on the representations received during the preliminary stage, we undertook a public consultation on a council size of 29 members. During the public consultation on council size, nine submissions were received. These were from Corby Borough Council and eight local residents. We considered that the submissions supporting the current council size of 29 demonstrated consideration for effective governance and the representational responsibilities that the Council must undertake. We therefore invited representations on warding arrangements based on a 29- member council.

General analysis

Throughout the review process, the primary consideration has been to achieve good electoral equality, while seeking to reflect community identities and securing effective and convenient local government. Having considered the submissions received during the consultation on warding arrangements, we have sought to reflect community identities and improve the levels of electoral fairness. Our draft recommendations for Corby are that the Council should have 29 members comprising a pattern of one single-member, five two-member and six-three member wards. All wards would have electoral variances of less than 10% by 2019.

What happens next?

There will now be a consultation period, during which we encourage comment on the draft recommendations on the proposed electoral arrangements for Corby Borough Council contained in the report. **We take this consultation very seriously and it is therefore important that all those interested in the review should let us have their views and evidence, whether or not they agree with these draft proposals.** We will take into account all submissions received by **14 April 2014**. Any received **after** this date may not be taken into account.

We would particularly welcome local views backed up by demonstrable evidence. We will consider all the evidence submitted to us during the consultation period before preparing our final recommendations. Express your views by writing directly to us at:

**Review Officer
Corby Review
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Layden House
76–86 Turnmill Street
London EC1M 5LG
reviews@lgbce.org.uk**

The full report is available to download at www.lgbce.org.uk

You can also view our draft recommendations for Corby Borough Council on our interactive maps at <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>

1 Introduction

1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body which conducts electoral reviews of local authority areas. This electoral review is being conducted following our decision to review Corby Borough Council's electoral arrangements to ensure that the number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the authority.

2 We wrote to Corby Borough Council as well as other interested parties inviting the submission of proposals first on council size and then on warding arrangements for the Council. The submissions received during these stages of the review have informed our draft recommendations.

3 We are now conducting a full public consultation on the draft recommendations. Following this period of consultation, we will consider the evidence received and will publish our final recommendations for the new electoral arrangements for Corby Borough Council in mid-2014.

What is an electoral review?

4 The main aim of an electoral review is to try to ensure 'electoral equality', which means that all councillors in a single authority represent approximately the same number of electors. Our objective is to make recommendations that will improve electoral equality, while also trying to reflect communities in the area and provide for effective and convenient local government.

5 Our three main considerations – equalising the number of electors each councillor represents; reflecting community identity; and providing for effective and convenient local government – are set out in legislation¹ and 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

Why are we conducting a review in Corby?

6 We decided to conduct this review because 40% of wards in Corby have a variance of more than 10% from the average for the borough. Stanion & Corby Village ward currently has 32% fewer electors than the borough average.

How will the recommendations affect you?

7 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the council. They will also decide which ward you vote in, which other communities are in that ward and, in some instances, which parish council wards you vote in. Your ward name may also change, as may the names of parish or town council wards in the area. The names or boundaries of parishes will not change as a result of our recommendations.

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

8 It is therefore important that you let us have your comments and views on the draft recommendations. We encourage comments from everyone in the community, regardless of whether you agree with the draft recommendations or not. The draft recommendations are evidence based and we would therefore like to stress the importance of providing evidence in any comments on our recommendations, rather than relying on assertion. We will be accepting comments and views until 14 April 2014. After this point, we will be formulating our final recommendations which we are due to publish in mid-2014. Details on how to submit proposals can be found on page 14 and more information can be found on our website, www.lgbce.org.uk

What is the Local Government Boundary Commission for England?

9 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
Sir Tony Redmond
Dr Colin Sinclair CBE
Professor Paul Wiles CB

Chief Executive: Alan Cogbill
Director of Reviews: Archie Gall

2 Analysis and draft recommendations

10 Before finalising our recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Corby Borough Council, we invite views on these draft recommendations. We welcome comments relating to the proposed ward boundaries and ward names. We will consider all the evidence submitted to us during the consultation period before preparing our final recommendations.

11 As described earlier, our prime aim when recommending new electoral arrangements for Corby is to achieve a level of electoral fairness – that is, each elector’s vote being worth the same as another’s. In doing so we must have regard to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009,² with the need to:

- secure effective and convenient local government
- provide for equality of representation
- reflect the identities and interests of local communities, in particular
 - the desirability of arriving at boundaries that are easily identifiable
 - the desirability of fixing boundaries so as not to break any local ties

12 Legislation also states that our recommendations are not intended to be based solely on the existing number of electors 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.

13 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. We therefore recommend strongly that in formulating proposals for us to consider, local authorities and other interested parties should also try to keep variances to a minimum, making adjustments to reflect relevant factors such as community identity and interests. As mentioned above, we aim to recommend a scheme which provides improved electoral fairness over a five-year period.

14 These recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of Corby Borough 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.

15 As part of an electoral review, we are required to have regard to the statutory criteria set out in Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (‘the 2009 Act’). The Schedule provides that if a parish is to be divided between different divisions or wards it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single division or ward. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

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

Submissions received

16 Prior to, and during, the initial stage of the review, we visited Corby Borough Council ('the Council') and met with members and officers. We are grateful to all concerned for their co-operation and assistance.

17 We received nine submissions during our consultation on council size. These were from Corby Borough Council and eight local residents. Of the submissions received, seven local residents proposed a reduction in council size, one local resident proposed an increase in council size and the Council proposed to retain the existing council size of 29 members. Subsequently, we received two submissions on warding patterns including a borough-wide scheme from the Council and a submission from Councillor Lilley (Conservative – Stanion & Corby Village ward). All submissions can be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Electorate figures

18 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2019, a period approximately five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations. This is prescribed in the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 ('the 2009 Act'). These forecasts projected an increase in the electorate of approximately 11% over this period.

19 We noted that the electorate figures supplied by the Council for the Weldon area showed a significant increase in electorate by 2019. We asked the Council to confirm whether this projection was accurate as the Weldon Park development had not received planning approval. The Council subsequently submitted revised electorate figures and confirmed that the Weldon Park development is not included in its new forecast for 2019.

20 We are satisfied the Council's revised forecasts provide a more realistic projection of growth in Corby and have used these as the basis of our draft recommendations.

Council size

21 We received nine submissions during our consultation on council size. These were from eight local residents and the Council.

22 The Council presented evidence in its submission that, having considered the future decision-making and representational arrangements for Corby, 29 members would provide 'efficient and effective representation to the public'.

23 Two local residents proposed a large reduction in council size for Corby. A reduction to between 10 – 15 councillors was put forward by one of the residents. The submission suggested 29 councillors were too many and not efficient. The other local resident suggested an even larger reduction to seven councillors. The respondent argued that this figure would reduce the length of meetings, would be less confusing for the electorate and provide for greater accountability.

24 Another local resident proposed a more modest reduction to 21 councillors. The respondent stated that the ward boundaries should be reorganised so that one

councillor can be 'the dedicated representative for each area'.

25 Of the five remaining submissions from local residents, three supported a reduction in council size but made no specific comments as to the number they would prefer. One of the submissions supported a slight increase or that Corby should remain with its existing council size. However, the respondent did not make further specific comments as to a preferred number. Another local resident stated that the Oakley Vale area should have its own councillor rather than be included in a ward with Danesholme because the issues that affect Oakley Vale are different. The submission made no specific comments on council size.

26 We agreed that the Council's proposal to retain the existing council size would ensure both effective and convenient local government and the effective representation of local residents. We considered that a more substantial reduction could affect the Council's ability to discharge its statutory functions effectively. We therefore consulted on warding arrangements based on a council size of 29 members.

Electoral fairness

27 Electoral fairness, in the sense of each elector in a local authority having a vote of equal weight when it comes to the election of councillors, is a fundamental democratic principle. It is expected that our recommendations should provide for electoral fairness whilst ensuring that we reflect communities in the area, and provide for effective and convenient local government.

28 In seeking to achieve electoral fairness, we calculate the average number of electors per councillor. The district average is calculated by dividing the total electorate of the district (47,341 in 2012 and 52,717 by 2019) by the total number of councillors representing them on the council – 29 under our draft recommendations. Therefore, the average number of electors per councillor under our draft recommendations is 1,632 in 2012 and 1,818 by 2019.

29 Under the draft recommendations, none of our proposed 12 wards will have an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for the borough by 2019.

General analysis

30 We received two submissions during the initial consultation stage on warding patterns for Corby. We received a borough-wide proposal from the Council and a submission from Councillor Lilley (Conservative – Stanion & Corby Village ward) referring to the Stanion area.

31 The Council's borough-wide proposals provided for good electoral equality in all but one of its wards (Rural West ward) with a mixed pattern of single- and multi-member wards using existing parish boundaries. We have largely based our draft recommendations on the proposals of the Council with modifications to its proposals in the rural west of Corby and Rowlett areas, and minor boundary changes in Central Corby.

32 Our draft recommendations would result in 29 councillors representing one single-member ward, five two-member wards and six three-member wards. A

summary of our proposed electoral arrangements is set out in Table A1 (on pages 17– 18) and the map accompanying this report.

33 We welcome all comments on these draft recommendations, particularly in relation to proposals in the rural west of Corby.

Electoral arrangements

34 This section of the report details the submissions received, our consideration of them, and our draft recommendations for each area of Corby. The following areas are considered in turn:

- Rural West (pages 8– 9)
- Weldon and Gretton (pages 9–10)
- Stanion and Corby Village (page 10)
- Corby North (pages 10–11)
- Corby South (pages 11–12)

35 Details of the draft recommendations are set out in Table A1 on pages 17– 18 and illustrated on the large map accompanying this report.

Rural West

36 The rural area to the west of Corby town is bounded by the local authority boundary to the west and Uppingham Road (A6003) to the east. Uppingham Road forms a strong boundary in this area. Cottingham, Middleton and Rockingham are the main settlements in this area. The only submission received for this area was from the Council.

37 The Council proposed to retain the existing single-member Rural West ward. Its proposed ward would have an electoral variance of 15% fewer electors per councillor than the average for Corby by 2019.

38 The Council justified this high electoral variance by stating that there is a ‘strong community argument’ not to include part of the urban area with the rural west of Corby. It also stated that its proposed Rural West ward would be supported by parish councils in the area. The council did not expand on what a ‘strong community argument’ for a ward with such a high electoral variance might be. We therefore considered two alternative options for this area to minimise the electoral variance projected for Rural West ward.

39 Our first option was to largely retain the Council’s proposed Rural West ward subject to the inclusion of electors in Hooke Close, Watson Close and White Post Court in the unparished area of Corby. We would also include the entirety of the Earlstrees Industrial Estate using Weldon parish as the northern boundary of the proposed ward.

40 In developing this option, we noted that electors in the unparished area were a considerable distance from the main settlements in the rural west. We therefore considered a second option which would require transferring electors in part of the unparished area in the south of Corby, with closer access to the proposed Rural West ward. Our second option largely retained the Council’s proposed Rural West

ward. However, it would require the transfer of electors in the Beanfield area who share the closest road links to the rural west of Corby.

41 As a consequence, electors on Taunton Avenue, Wimborne Walk, Warminster Close, Weymouth Close and Winterbourne Court would be included in the proposed Rural West ward. We identified that access to the rest of the proposed ward would be via Beanfield Road and west along Cottingham Road to the roundabout. Corby Road would provide continual access to main settlements in the rural west area.

42 We considered both of these options for the rural west of Corby and have decided that we should adopt the first option to include electors mentioned in paragraph 39 into Rural West ward. We considered that splitting the Beanfield estate between wards would impact negatively on community identity as the estate looks towards the town. We are satisfied that, given the need to minimise electoral variances in this area, our first option would provide the best balance between the statutory criteria.

43 We note it is uncertain what impact our proposals would have on community identities and would particularly welcome comments on our recommendations for this area during consultation. In order to justify a high electoral variance for Rural West ward, we would require significantly stronger evidence than that so far provided.

44 Overall, our draft recommendations for the rural west are for a single-member Rural West ward which would have 1% fewer electors per councillor than the average for Corby by 2019.

Weldon and Gretton

45 This area comprises the parishes of Weldon and Gretton. It also includes the unparished part of Corby where the Willowbrook East and Weldon North Industrial Estates are situated. The area contains a large housing development (Priors Hall) which is scheduled to deliver over a thousand homes when completed. The area is therefore projected to see significant electorate growth within the next five years.

46 The Council proposed a three-member Weldon & Gretton ward which includes the parishes of Weldon and Gretton and industrial estates in the unparished area of Corby. The industrial estate is important as it links the parishes of Weldon and Gretton which do not share a boundary. The Council stated that electoral equality would be achieved with the Priors Hall development contributing to growth in the proposed ward by 2019.

47 The Council proposed that the area around Courier Road and a former Post Office be included in its proposed ward of Stanion & Corby Village. Although this does not impact on electorate figures, the Council stated that, from a 'community viewpoint', it would be preferable to include Courier Road in Stanion & Corby Village ward.

48 We have decided to adopt the Council's proposed Weldon & Gretton ward as part of our draft recommendations. We are satisfied that the Priors Hall development will be completed within five years of the completion of this review. The warding arrangements also provide for good electoral equality. The A6086 and A6116 which make up Phoenix Parkway provide access between communities in the proposed

ward, through the industrial estate.

49 Under our draft recommendations, a three-member Weldon & Gretton ward would have 5% fewer electors per councillor than the average for Corby by 2019.

Stanion and Corby Village

50 This area comprises the parish of Stanion and the unparished urban area of Corby around Corby Railway Station. The Corby branch of the Midland Mainline bounds the area to the west. To the south lies a predominantly rural area with housing development to be completed within the next five years. This area, like Weldon and Gretton, is projected to see notable growth by 2019. In addition to the proposals of the Council, we received a single submission from Councillor Lilley (Conservative – Stanion & Corby Village ward).

51 The Council proposed a two-member Stanion & Corby Village ward, which is similar to the existing ward of the same name. The Council proposed a minor boundary change between Stanion & Corby Village ward and Weldon & Gretton ward, as mentioned above.

52 Councillor Lilley proposed two boundary changes for Stanion & Corby Village ward. He argued that instead of following the Weldon parish boundary, the ward boundary should run along Geddington Road up to The Grove. We found that such a change would create an unviable parish ward containing no electors in the Stanion Lane Plantation area to the south of Geddington Road.

53 Councillor Lilley also proposed a boundary change in the northern part of the ward, suggesting that the proposed boundary be moved from Lloyds Road and part of Rockingham Road and follow Cockerell Road to the railway line. We found this proposal would not provide for a clear and identifiable ward boundary as it would not follow any specific ground detail to join the railway line.

54 We have therefore adopted the Council's proposals as part of our draft recommendations. We are satisfied that the developments on the land west of the village of Stanion will ensure that the ward secures good electoral equality as a two-member ward by 2019. The ward also has good road links such as the A43 and A427, the latter of which runs into the centre of Corby.

55 Under our draft recommendations, a two-member Stanion & Corby Village ward would have 8% fewer electors per councillor than the average for Corby by 2019.

Corby North

56 The north of the town includes the town centre and urban estates such as Lodge Park which are bounded by Uppingham Road to the west, Rockingham Road to the north and the railway line to the east. Hazel and Thoroughsale woods form an area of ancient woodland and open ground near to the town centre.

57 The Council proposed a mixed pattern of multi-member wards, all of which would have electoral variances of less than 10% from the average for the borough by 2019. Our draft recommendations are based on the proposals of the Council, with changes to Rowlett ward and minor changes between Central and Lloyds wards.

58 We propose to adopt the Council's Rowlett ward without the Earlstrees Industrial Estate and electors transferred into our proposed Rural West ward (see Rural West section). Under our draft recommendations, Rowlett ward would have 3% more electors per councillor than the average for Corby by 2019.

59 Lodge Park ward would consist of the majority of the existing Shire Lodge ward and the entire existing Lodge Park ward (which includes the Lodge Park estate). On our tour of the area, we considered whether Lindisfarne Road and Iona Road should be included in Lodge Park ward rather than Rowlett ward, as proposed by the Council. The Council stated that the inclusion of this area in Rowlett ward would reduce a 10% variance in this area under its proposals. We determined the properties on Lindisfarne Road and Iona Road were similar to properties in the Council's proposed Rowlett ward. The properties within Lodge Park are of a newer build and separated from this area by a recreation ground. We have therefore decided to adopt the Council's proposals for Lodge Park ward as part of our draft recommendations. Under our draft recommendations, Lodge Park would have 2% more electors per councillor than the average for Corby by 2019.

60 We propose to adopt the Council's proposals for Central and Lloyds wards subject to a minor amendment between the two wards. Central ward would comprise the existing Exeter ward to the south and Thoroughsale wood to the north. The ward would also include Charnwood Road, Forest Gate Road and Streather Drive. Our minor amendment to the Council's proposals would include of all West Glebe Park in Central ward. The park is accessed from Central ward (along Cottingham Road) and our amendment provides for a clear and identifiable ward boundary. Our proposed Central ward would have 2% fewer electors per councillor than the average for Corby by 2019. Lloyds ward would largely comprise of the existing East ward as well as Studfall Avenue and area around Carey Drive. Under our draft recommendations, Lloyds ward would have 3% more electors per councillor than the average for Corby by 2019.

61 Our draft recommendations for Corby North are for the two-member wards of Central and Rowlett and the three-member wards of Lloyds and Lodge Park. None of our proposed wards would have an electoral variance of greater than 10% by 2019.

Corby South

62 The south of the town comprises a number of housing estates such as Beanfield, Danesholme, Hazel Leys and Oakley Vale. The majority of the growth is situated in the Oakley Vale area where a large housing development is taking place. This is among one of the largest developments taking place in Corby after Priors Hall and Stanion.

63 The Council proposed a mixed pattern of multi-member wards, all of which would have electoral variances of less than 10% from the average for the borough by 2019. Our draft recommendations are based on the proposals of the Council.

64 We have decided to adopt the Council's proposals for Beanfield, Danesholme and Kingswood & Hazel Leys as part of our draft recommendations. Beanfield ward would include the Beanfield estate and the northern part of the existing Tower Hill ward. Danesholme ward would include The Kingswood Secondary Academy, Althorp

Place, Coldermeadow Avenue, Hinton Avenue and Norway Close, and the Danesholme estate south of Danesholme Road. Kingswood & Hazel Leys ward remains unchanged from the existing arrangements and will secure good electoral equality by 2019. Under our draft recommendations, the wards of Beanfield, Danesholme and Kingswood & Hazel Leys would have 5% more, 7% fewer and 2% fewer electors per councillor than the average for Corby by 2019, respectively.

65 We also propose to adopt the Council’s proposals for the Oakley Vale estate. As the estate area is projected to have significant growth, it is necessary to divide the estate between two wards. Oakley North ward would consist of the northern part of the estate and a majority of the new development which is currently underway on the eastern edge of the ward. Oakley South would comprise of Great Oakley and the remainder of the Oakley estate, and new developments in the east of the proposed ward. The boundary between the two wards would follow Lyveden Way and Butland Road. Under our draft recommendations, the wards of Oakley North and Oakley South would have equal to and 7% more electors per councillor than the average for Corby by 2019, respectively.

66 Our draft recommendations for Corby South are for the two-member wards of Danesholme and Oakley North and three-member wards of Beanfield, Kingswood & Hazel Leys and Oakley South. None of our proposed wards would have an electoral variance of greater than 10% by 2019.

Conclusions

67 Table 1 shows the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2012 and 2019 electorate figures.

Table 1: Summary of electoral arrangements

	Draft recommendations	
	2012	2019
Number of councillors	29	29
Number of wards	12	12
Average number of electors per councillor	1,632	1,818
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	7	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	2	0

Draft recommendation
 Corby Borough Council should comprise 29 councillors serving 12 wards, as detailed and named in Table A1 and illustrated on the large map accompanying this report.

Parish electoral arrangements

68 As part of an electoral review, we are required to have regard to the statutory criteria set out in Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 ('the 2009 Act'). The Schedule provides that if a parish is to be divided between divisions or wards it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single division or ward. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

69 Under the 2009 Act we only have the power to make such changes as a direct consequence of our recommendations for principal authority ward arrangements. However, the respective principal authority (Corby Borough Council) has powers under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct community governance reviews to effect changes to parish electoral arrangements.

70 Our draft recommendations do not result in any parish being divided between wards. Therefore, consequential parish electoral arrangements are not required in any part of Corby.

3 What happens next?

71 There will now be a consultation period of 12 weeks, during which everyone is invited to comment on the draft recommendations on future electoral arrangements for Corby Borough Council contained in this report. We will take into account fully all submissions received by 14 April 2014. Any received after this date may not be taken into account.

72 We have not finalised our conclusions on the electoral arrangements for Corby and welcome comments from interested parties relating to the proposed ward boundaries, number of councillors, ward names and parish electoral arrangements. We would welcome alternative proposals backed up by demonstrable evidence during consultation on the draft recommendations. We will consider all the evidence submitted to us during the consultation period before preparing our final recommendations.

73 Express your views by writing directly to:

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

reviews@lgbce.org.uk

<http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>

Submissions can also be made by using the consultation section of our website, www.lgbce.org.uk or by emailing reviews@lgbce.org.uk

74 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 locally at the offices of Corby Borough Council and at our offices in Layden House (London) and on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk A list of respondents will be available from us on request after the end of the consultation period.

75 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.

76 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.

77 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 next elections for Corby Borough Council in 2015.

4 Mapping

Draft recommendations for Corby

78 The following maps illustrate our proposed ward boundaries for Corby Borough Council:

- **Sheet 1, Map 1** illustrates in outline form the proposed wards for Corby Borough Council.

You can also view our draft recommendations for Corby Borough Council on our interactive maps at <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>

Appendix A

Table A1: Draft recommendations for Corby Borough Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2012)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2019)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Beanfield	3	5,534	1,845	13%	5,701	1,900	5%
2	Central	2	3,487	1,744	7%	3,552	1,776	-2%
3	Danesholme	2	3,312	1,656	1%	3,398	1,699	-7%
4	Kingswood & Hazel Leys	3	5,157	1,719	5%	5,355	1,785	-2%
5	Lloyds	3	5,276	1,759	8%	5,617	1,872	3%
6	Lodge Park	3	5,450	1,817	11%	5,569	1,856	2%
7	Oakley North	2	2,806	1,403	-14%	3,632	1,816	0%
8	Oakley South	3	5,664	1,888	16%	5,842	1,947	7%
9	Rowlett	2	3,760	1,880	15%	3,760	1,880	3%
10	Rural West	1	1,714	1,714	5%	1,801	1,801	-1%
11	Stanion & Corby Village	2	2,334	1,167	-28%	3,334	1,667	-8%

Table A1 (cont.): Draft recommendations for Corby Borough Council

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2012)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2019)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
12 Weldon & Gretton	3	2,847	949	-42%	5,156	1,719	-5%
Totals	29	47,341	–	–	52,717	–	–
Averages	–	–	1,632	–	–	1,818	–

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Corby Borough Council.

Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the number of electors per councillor in each electoral 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

Glossary and abbreviations

AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty)	A landscape whose distinctive character and natural beauty are so outstanding that it is in the nation's interest to safeguard it
Constituent areas	The geographical areas that make up any one ward, expressed in parishes or existing wards, or parts of either
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 imbalance	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

Local Government Boundary Commission for England or LGBCE	The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is responsible for undertaking electoral reviews. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England assumed the functions of the Boundary Committee for England in April 2010
Multi-member ward or division	A ward or division represented by more than one councillor and usually not more than three councillors
National Park	The 13 National Parks in England and Wales were designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act of 1949 and can be found at www.nationalparks.gov.uk
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
PER (or periodic electoral review)	A review of the electoral arrangements of all local authorities in England, undertaken periodically. The last programme of PERs was undertaken between 1996 and 2004 by the Boundary Commission for England and its predecessor, the now-defunct Local Government Commission for England
Political management arrangements	The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 enabled local authorities in England to modernise their decision making process. Councils could choose from two broad categories; a directly elected mayor and cabinet or a cabinet with a leader
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

