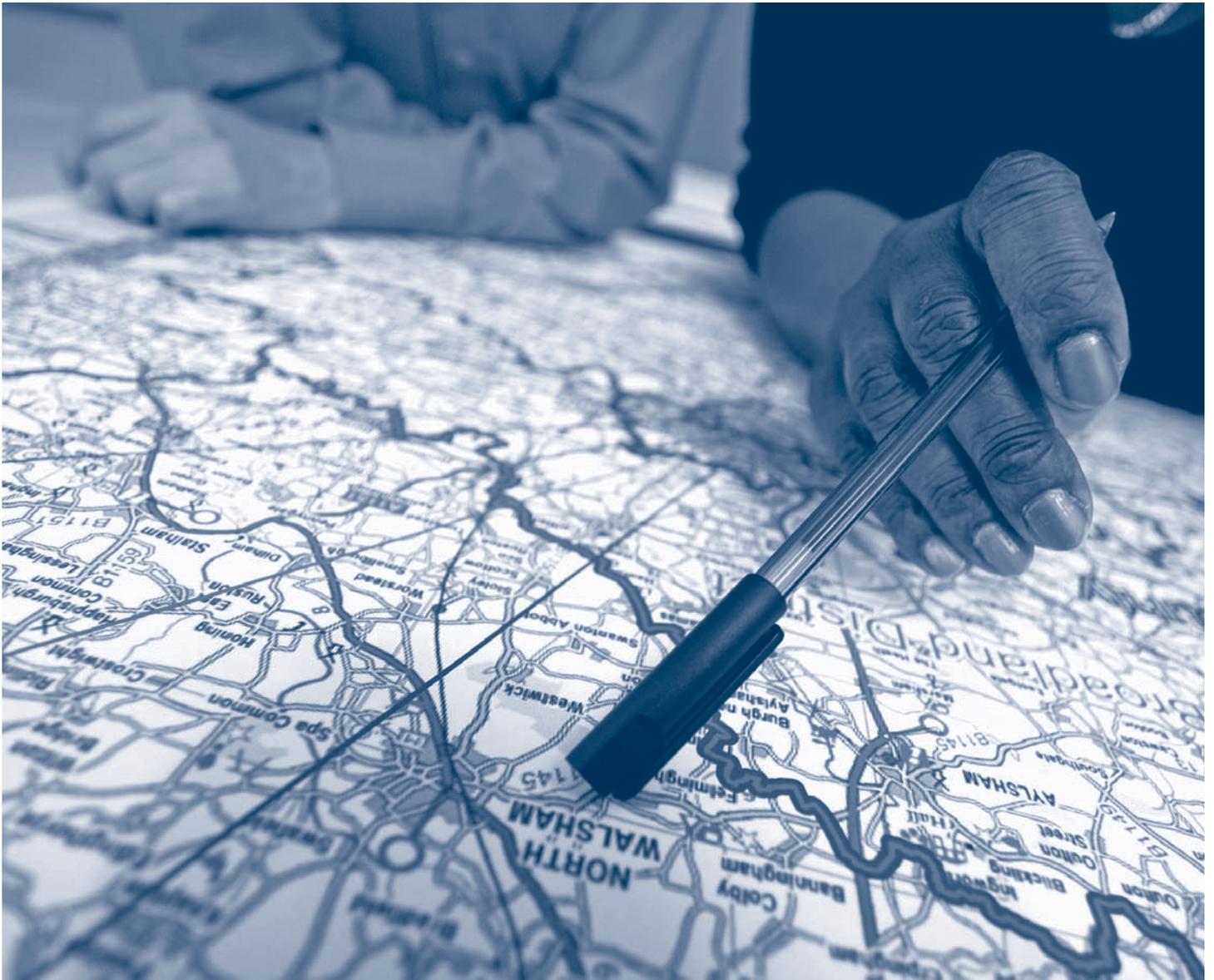


Draft recommendations



New electoral arrangements for Cornwall Council

December 2008

Translations and other formats

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The Electoral Commission GD 03114G 2008

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Summary

The Boundary Committee for England is an independent statutory 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 the new Cornwall Council to ensure that the new unitary authority, which takes on all local government functions for the county in April 2009, has appropriate electoral arrangements at the earliest possible opportunity.

The review aims to ensure that the number of voters represented by each unitary authority councillor is approximately the same. The Electoral Commission, which is the body responsible for implementing our recommendations, directed us to undertake this review.

This review is being conducted in four stages:

Stage	Stage starts	Description
One	26 February 2008	Submission of proposals to us
Two	22 April 2008	Our analysis and deliberation
Three	2 December 2008	Publication of draft recommendations and consultation on them
Four	11 February 2009	Analysis of submissions received and formulation of final recommendations

Our consideration of the initial council size information and the need for further consultation

During Stage One we received 86 submissions, including proposals for council sizes ranging from 80 to 164 members. During our initial consideration of the representations received, we concluded that we had insufficient evidence on which to base our decision. We therefore carried out a further six-week consultation on council size.

We received 102 submissions during the further consultation on council size, including proposals for a 123-member council from the Cornwall Implementation Executive. Following consideration of this and the other submissions we were persuaded that the evidence provided justifies our recommendation of a 123-member council.

Analysis and draft recommendations

Electorate figures

In the period since the last review of Cornwall County Council (2002) the electorate in Cornwall has grown by 5.4%. As part of this review, the County Council is predicting that the electorate in Cornwall will grow by 5.8% from 411,430 in 2007 to 435,093 in 2012. The Committee notes that this is a high level of growth, but also notes that there has been no opposition to the County Council's figures and that during the

previous five years the electorate in Cornwall grew faster than the council predicted. We are therefore satisfied that they are the most accurate electorate figures that can be provided at this time.

General analysis

During the course of an electoral review we try to base our proposals on the submissions received during Stage One. However, in this instance, given the need for further consultation on council size, none of the Stage One proposals put forward schemes on the same council size. Accordingly, it was difficult for us to base our recommendations on those schemes. We have therefore based our draft recommendations on the Cornwall Implementation Executive's 123-member proposal but moved away from it where we consider it has not produced strong boundaries or secured good levels of electoral equality. We did not receive any evidence of community identities accompanying the 123-member proposal.

In all reviews, the views of local people are vital to the process, so that, where possible, we can ensure that electoral arrangements can reflect their views. However, in this instance, given the difficulty in considering the Stage One schemes, we are particularly keen to hear where our proposals do not work, but importantly, also where they do work.

We had particular difficulty in arriving at appropriate electoral arrangements in the Truro, China Clay, Fowey and Wadebridge & Padstow areas, and the Launceston and Saltash areas.

What happens next?

There will now be a consultation period, during which we encourage comment on our draft recommendations on the proposed electoral arrangements for the prospective Cornwall unitary authority 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 **10 February 2009**. 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:

**Review Officer – Cornwall Review
The Boundary Committee for England
Trevelyan House
Great Peter Street
London SW1P 2HW**

Tel: 020 7271 0512

Email: reviews@boundarycommittee.org.uk

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

1 Introduction

1 The Electoral Commission has directed the Boundary Committee to conduct a review of the electoral arrangements for the new Cornwall Council unitary authority. The review commenced on 26 February 2008, a day after the legal document which created the new council was passed by Parliament.¹ We wrote to the principal local authorities in Cornwall (the county and district councils) together with other interested parties, inviting the submission of proposals to us on the electoral arrangements for the new council. The submissions we received during the initial stages of this review have informed the draft recommendations in this report. We are now conducting a full public consultation on those recommendations.

What is an electoral review?

2 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 convenient and effective local government.

3 Our three main considerations – equalising the number of electors each councillor represents; reflecting community identity; and providing for convenient and effective local government – are set out in legislation and our task is to strike the best balance between them when making our recommendations.²

4 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.boundarycommittee.org.uk.

Why are we conducting a review in Cornwall?

5 In December 2007 the Government approved a bid from ‘One Cornwall’ – representing the County Council – for a unitary council to take over the responsibility for all local government services in Cornwall. These services are currently provided by the county and six district councils. A Statutory Instrument was subsequently approved by Parliament on 25 February 2008, establishing a new Cornwall unitary authority from 1 April 2009. The Electoral Commission is obliged, by law, to consider whether an electoral review is needed, following such a change in local government. Its view was that an electoral review of Cornwall was appropriate before the first elections in 2009 and it therefore directed the Boundary Committee for England to conduct this review.

How will our recommendations affect you?

6 As the new Cornwall Council unitary authority may hold its first elections with new electoral arrangements, our recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the new council. They will also decide which electoral division you vote in, which other communities are in that division and, in some

¹ Cornwall (Structural Change) Order 2008, SI no 491.

² Section 13(5) of the Local Government Act 1992, as amended by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, Chapter 2, Section 56.

instances, which parish or town council wards you vote in. Your electoral division name may change, as may the names of parish or town council wards in the area. The names or boundaries of parishes will not change.

7 It is therefore important that you let us have your comments and views on our draft recommendations. We encourage comments from everyone in the community, regardless of whether you agree with our draft recommendations or not. Our 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 10 February 2009. After this point, we will be formulating our final recommendations which we intend to publish in summer 2009. Details on how to submit proposals can be found on page two and more information can be found on our website, www.boundarycommittee.org.uk

What is the Boundary Committee for England?

8 The Boundary Committee for England is a statutory committee of the Electoral Commission, an independent body set up by Parliament under the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000. It is responsible for conducting reviews as directed by the Electoral Commission or the Secretary of State.

Members of the Committee are:

Max Caller CBE (Chair)
Jane Earl
Robin Gray
Professor Ron Johnston
Joan Jones CBE
Dr Peter Knight CBE DL
Professor Colin Mellors

Director:

Archie Gall

2 Analysis and draft recommendations

9 Before finalising our recommendations on the electoral arrangements for the new unitary Cornwall Council we invite views on our initial thoughts, expressed in these draft recommendations. We welcome comments from anyone, relating to the number of councillors, proposed division boundaries, division names, and parish or town council electoral arrangements. We will consider all the evidence submitted to us during the consultation period before preparing our final recommendations.

10 As described earlier, our prime aim when recommending new electoral arrangements for Cornwall is to achieve good levels 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 Government Act 1992, which states that we must seek to:³

- secure effective and convenient local government
- reflect the identities and interests of local communities
- provide for equality of representation

11 The 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 the next five years. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for the divisions we put forward at the end of the review.

12 In reality, the achievement of absolute electoral fairness is unlikely to be attainable. 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 strongly recommend 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.

13 Our recommendations do not affect the external boundaries of the county of Cornwall or the external boundaries or names of parish and town councils, or result in changes to postcodes. Nor is there any evidence that our recommendations will have an adverse effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums. Our proposals do not take account of parliamentary constituency boundaries. We are not, therefore, able to take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

Cornwall review process

14 The review of Cornwall began on 26 February 2008 when we wrote to stakeholders inviting proposals on the electoral arrangements for the new Cornwall Council. This Stage One consultation process ended on 21 April 2008.

³ Section 13(5) of the LGA 1992, as amended by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 Chapter 2 Section 56.

15 Following analysis of the representations received during this stage we did not consider that we had enough evidence on which to take a decision on council size – that is, the appropriate number of members to sit on the new authority – which is our starting point in any review. On 1 May 2008 we wrote to the Implementation Executive and Councillor Whalley (the leader of the County Council) requesting further evidence regarding their council size proposals.⁴ We asked for responses to our request for further information on council size by 14 May 2008.

16 Following analysis of the further evidence, we still did not consider that we had sufficient information that would allow us to be confident in recommending a council size. We therefore decided to conduct a period of further public consultation specifically on council size.

17 On 5 June 2008 we began a six-week consultation on council size, announced with the release of a consultation document. Following an analysis of the evidence received during this consultation stage, and further meetings between members and staff of the Committee and the Implementation Executive and leader of the County Council, the Committee agreed at a meeting on 14 August 2008 to accept the argument for a council size of 123.

18 At each stage of the process we have reiterated to the Implementation Executive and others the very short timescales to which we were working. We rely heavily on information being provided by local authorities in a timely and accurate manner. As a result of the need to conduct further consultation on the issue of the appropriate number of councillors for the new council, the timetable originally envisaged for the review process has been delayed.

19 We have been consistently committed to conducting this review as quickly as possible, and the Electoral Commission remains committed to implementing our recommendations as soon as it reasonably feels it can, in order to allow for elections to the new authority on the new arrangements. However, both we and the Commission would not compromise the process and due diligence that we apply to this review. Our objective has always been, and will continue to be, the development and implementation of electoral arrangements which provide for fair elections, while reflecting the views of the people of Cornwall, and we will continue to progress this review as quickly and effectively as possible to ensure elections on the new arrangements as soon as possible. The timing of any election in 2009 is a matter for the Government, and neither the Committee nor the Commission has any power to change the date of elections in the county.

Electorate figures

20 During the last review of Cornwall County Council in 2002, the County Council predicted that the electorate would grow by 5% from 390,343 (in 2002) to 409,633 by 2007. In fact during this period the electorate grew 5.4%. As part of this review, the County Council is predicting that the electorate in Cornwall will grow by 5.8% from 411,430 in 2007 to 435,093 in 2012.

⁴ The 'Implementation Executive' is the legal body established by the Structural Change Order, which oversees the transition between the current structure of county and district councils and the new unitary council. It has been given certain authority and responsibilities for decision-making prior to the establishment of the new council. It is made up of cross-party district and county councillors.

21 The Committee has considered the County Council's projected growth of 5.8%. It acknowledges that this represents a high level of growth, but notes that there has been no opposition to the County Council's figures and that during the previous five years the electorate in Cornwall grew faster than the council predicted.

22 We recognise that forecasting electorate figures is difficult and, having considered the County Council's figures, accept that they are the best estimates that can reasonably be made at this time. We believe the Council has considered all known planning applications across the county within the five-year timeframe, and are satisfied that, at the start of this review, the electorate figures it has provided reflect the growth anticipated over that period.

Council size

23 The existing Cornwall County Council has 82 members. The six district councils in Cornwall range in council size (the term we use to describe the total number of councillors elected to any authority) from 35 to 47 members.

24 However, as the Cornwall unitary authority will be a new council with new responsibilities from those of the existing county and district councils, it is necessary to consider the number of members required for the new authority to provide convenient and effective local government. Furthermore, it is important to consider this independently of the existing number of county and district councillors in Cornwall, and to consider how the new authority will be managed and how it intends to engage with and empower its local communities.

25 As detailed previously, during Stage One of our review, from 26 February 2008 to 21 April 2008, we received proposals for council size ranging from 80 to 164 councillors. All these submissions are available to be viewed on our website.

26 The Cornwall Implementation Executive originally put forward proposals for a 130-member council. Its proposals did not provide firm executive arrangements – the management and decision-making structure of the new council – as these had not been fully developed. However, it stated that the executive's remit will cover strategic leadership, countywide service delivery, budget control, standard setting and external relationships and lobbying.

27 The Implementation Executive also outlined the new Council's non-executive governance arrangements, acknowledging that the exact nature of its overview and scrutiny function would be dependent on its executive arrangements, but that the strategic scrutiny and community-based scrutiny would have a high profile.

28 The Implementation Executive's proposal placed a strong emphasis on the community governance arrangements, emphasising the role of members in the delivery of the localism agenda. It proposed 20 community network areas (CNAs) based on parish boundaries and distinguished between rural and urban areas. It emphasised that the community networks are designed to enhance the role of parishes, not to replace them.

29 The Implementation Executive provided some good evidence for the roles of members and the structures of the new authority, but did not provide any evidence of the number of councillors required for its executive or non-executive functions. It did, however, provide a detailed breakdown of the number of councillors that would be

servicing on each CNA, ranging from two in Fowey & Lostwithiel to 15 in St Austell. On the basis of this, it concluded that the new council would require 130 members. However, the Implementation Executive's proposal only provided limited evidence for the role which parish and town councils would play within the community networks.

30 A group of 10 individuals, including the leader of the County Council, put forward proposals for a 90-member council. These outlined a cabinet executive model, arguing that councillors would provide executive responsibilities, support to the cabinet in developing policy, overview and scrutiny of corporate decision making and service delivery. They would also interact with CNAs, parish councils and individuals. They also wanted to ensure that councillor workload was not so high as to deter people drawn from all sectors of society from standing for election.

31 These proposals outlined the number of members that would sit in the cabinet and various committees. They also provided a limited discussion of councillors' involvement in the CNAs. Finally, they provided a table of the number of councillors required based on estimates of councillor workload. This concluded that the new council would require 90 members.

32 Caradon District Council put forward proposals for a 135-member council. Penwith District Council put forward proposals for a 164-member council. While both districts put forward some supporting evidence to justify their proposals, neither put forward countywide electoral arrangements, focusing only on their respective district areas. In addition, neither proposal provided any detailed evidence of how their council sizes would work in practice.

33 We also received alternative proposals for a range of other council sizes, but none put forward any detailed evidence of how they would work, or indeed any specific electoral arrangements.

34 Following analysis of all the evidence received regarding council size, we did not feel we could accept the proposals put forward by Caradon and Penwith councils. We considered that while these proposals put forward some evidence to support their proposed council sizes, they were not fully developed and did not contain sufficient detail regarding executive arrangements and community empowerment to justify their respective council sizes. In addition, we had concerns that the authorities had not put forward full electoral arrangement proposals for the whole county. We therefore did not consider them further.

35 We also considered the council size proposals put forward by the other interested parties, but considered that these did not provide sufficient supporting evidence or details of electoral arrangements. We therefore did not consider them further.

36 We considered the Implementation Executive's proposals and, while we saw merit in the proposals, we also had a number of concerns. A council of 130 members would create the largest authority in the country and, while this in itself is not a reason for not adopting it, we considered that such a proposal would require particularly well-evidenced proposals. We noted that CNAs proposed by the Implementation Executive formed one of the key factors behind its decision to propose a council of 130 members. However, we also noted that, in its original bid for unitary status, 'One Cornwall' had put forward 16 CNAs, yet in its proposal to the Committee the Implementation Executive was recommending 20 CNAs. We did not

feel that the Implementation Executive's submission provided sufficient evidence to explain this increase in CNAs, which was clearly one of the major factors in the original unitary bid to the Secretary of State. In addition, the Committee had concerns that the Implementation Executive had not fully justified its allocation of councillors to the CNAs or indeed fully described the functions that would be devolved to them.

37 In addition to concerns about the role of CNAs, as stated above, the Committee had concerns about the size of a 130-member council and did not consider that the Implementation Executive had fully explained how the authority would be managed on a day-to-day basis or how such a large body would take decisions effectively. Finally, the Committee had concerns that the Implementation Executive had yet to actually take decisions on the governance arrangements for the new unitary authority.

38 Therefore, while the Committee considered that the proposal for 130 members had merit, it considered that the concerns raised indicated that the proposals had not been sufficiently developed.

39 The Committee also considered the proposal for a 90-member council. The Committee considered that this submission put forward good evidence to explain the executive arrangements of a 90-member council and outlined what members' role would be.

40 However, while this submission had outlined the general role of councillors on the CNAs, the Committee had concerns that the exact nature of councillors' role on CNAs and indeed their membership had not been fully developed. In addition, there were concerns that the proposals did not indicate whether there was any public support for the proposed council size.

41 The Committee considered that both the Implementation Executive's 130-member proposal and the alternative 90-member proposal had some merit and had been more developed than those put forward by the other respondents, although concerns remained about a number of key areas. Consequently, the Committee decided that it did not have sufficient information to fully justify either council size. On 1 May 2008 the Committee wrote to the Implementation Executive and the proponents of the 90-member scheme requesting additional information about their proposals. In addition to this members of the Committee held meetings with proponents of the two council sizes on 12 May 2008.

42 On 15 May 2008 the Committee considered the additional evidence on the 130- and 90-member schemes provided to it following its meetings with the proponents. The Committee remained concerned there was insufficient evidence for it to make a recommendation on council size. It therefore proposed a further short stage of public consultation, focusing specifically on council size.

43 On 5 June 2008 the Committee commenced a six-week consultation, publishing a consultation document. This sought views on how any proposed council size would provide strategic leadership and engage with local communities. It focused specifically on how the council would be managed day-to-day, what decision-making processes would be put in place and how they would be used, how councillors would scrutinise decisions effectively and the roles and responsibilities of members.

44 The further consultation on council size closed on 18 July 2008. During this period the Committee received 102 submissions. The Implementation Executive put forward revised proposals for a 123-member council. This was supported by Caradon, Kerrier, Restormel and Penwith district councils. A further seven respondents expressed support for the Implementation Executive's 123-member proposal. Sixty respondents expressed support for the Implementation Executive's original 130-member proposal, although it should be noted that the majority of these proposals were received before the Implementation Executive had considered and confirmed its 123-member proposal. One respondent put forward proposals for an 87-member council, based on the original proposal for a 90-member council. This was supported by three parish councils. The remaining submissions provided general comments on council size, or proposed alternative council sizes, but with very limited supporting evidence.

45 The Implementation Executive's 123-member proposal provided substantially more supporting evidence than its original 130-member proposal in a number of key areas, including political management structures, executive arrangements and CNAs. In addition, the Implementation Executive had taken formal decisions on its political management structures and the CNAs by this stage, which provided more certainty to its proposals.

46 The Implementation Executive acknowledged that the new authority's strategic governance could be undertaken by a smaller number of councillors. However, one of the key drivers behind this and its earlier proposal remained the concern that there should be sufficient councillors to ensure representation on the CNAs. It proposed a minimum of four unitary authority members on any CNA, citing the proposals for the new Wiltshire unitary authority which also proposed a minimum of four members as a comparator. It did, however, acknowledge that in one particularly small CNA – Camelford – it might be more appropriate to have only three members. It also acknowledged the concerns about the manageability of such a large council, but stated that this would be addressed by some form of 'internal group discipline'.

47 The proponents of the 87-member council put forward arguments against the ability of a 130-member council to be sufficiently streamlined and non-bureaucratic to provide effective strategic leadership. They argued that CNAs would develop at different rates and that the number of councillors should not be the driving factor for their creation. Indeed, it argued that CNAs would be more effective with fewer, stronger voices as power devolved downwards. However, much of the additional information did not provide new evidence beyond that already submitted.

48 When considering the new evidence received, we were of the view that the Implementation Executive had put forward stronger evidence for its proposals. We note that one of the key drivers behind its proposals is ensuring sufficient representation on the CNAs. This approach is contrasted by the 87-member proposal. While the Committee shares concerns about the day-to-day running of a council with 123 members, we consider that the proponents of an 87-member council have underestimated the time demands on members. We note their argument that councillors should not dominate CNAs, but consider that their proposals do not give sufficient consideration to the geographic and communication links in the county. In addition, while they put forward good ideological arguments for a smaller council, we do not consider that their proposals provide sufficiently robust or detailed evidence to argue how the council will function. Their proposals for portfolios held by the cabinet members do not reflect the approach adopted by the Implementation Executive.

Equally, however, we continue to have concerns about certain elements of the Implementation Executive's proposed council size. For example, we have slight concerns over whether six portfolio support members for each of the six portfolio holders is the most appropriate number. This is the number that the Implementation Executive has resolved to implement.

49 Although not an overriding factor, we note that the Implementation Executive's proposals draw a broad cross-section of support from across the county. In addition, most respondents continue to have strong concerns about the level of representation and consider that a 123-member (or 130-member) proposal would provide the best solution. The 87-member proposal drew only very limited support, reflecting the concerns of the majority of respondents about levels of representation.

50 In conclusion, the Committee does not consider that the proponents of the 87-member council have put forward sufficient evidence to support their proposal. While we continue to have concerns about the ability of a large council of 123-members to run itself effectively and provide strategic leadership, we consider that this is offset by the desire to ensure there is sufficient representation for local people and the evident levels of support for this council size. We accept the arguments used by the Implementation Executive in relation to the CNA representation and the number of councillors appropriate to serve on each CNA. We are therefore recommending a 123-member council.

Electoral fairness

51 As discussed in the introduction of this report, the main aim of an electoral review is to achieve electoral fairness within a local authority.

52 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. The Electoral Commission expects the Boundary Committee's recommendations to provide for electoral fairness whilst ensuring that we reflect communities in the area, and provide for convenient and effective local government.

53 In seeking to achieve electoral fairness, we first work out the average number of electors per councillor. The county average is calculated by dividing the total electorate of the county (411,430 in December 2007 and 435,093 by December 2012) by the total number of councillors representing them on the council, 123 under our draft recommendations. Therefore the average number of electors per councillor under our draft recommendations is 3,345 in 2007 and 3,537 by 2012.

54 Under our draft recommendations, the number of electors per councillor in 16 of the 123 divisions will vary by more than 10% from the average across the county by 2012. Those divisions which vary by more than 10% are discussed in further detail below. However, overall we are satisfied that our draft recommendations have achieved good levels of electoral fairness across Cornwall.

General analysis

55 Having proposed a council size of 123, we have developed proposals which are broadly based on those of the Implementation Executive. Unfortunately, given the timescales in this review, the Implementation Executive did not have time to consult

on its electoral arrangements based on a 123-member council, as its previous consultation was on 130 members and therefore based on a different number of electors per councillor. In addition, its proposal was not supported by any evidence of the community identities or geographic links within its proposed divisions. As a result, we have not received any submissions that make specific comments about its proposals. While, during Stage One, we received comments on the Implementation Executive's 130-member council proposal, the fact that these are on a different council size and therefore different set of electoral arrangements means that we have been unable to consider them when formulating our draft electoral arrangements.

56 The starting point for the draft recommendations has therefore been the Implementation Executive's proposals, but we have moved away from them in areas where we do not consider that they secure convenient and effective local government, good electoral equality or, in our view, reflect communities. Obviously, without specific evidence, it has been difficult to be precise about community identity. We are therefore particularly keen to receive evidence of where our draft recommendations do not reflect community identities, but also those areas where they do reflect communities.

Community Network Areas

57 As part of its 123-member proposals, the Implementation Executive also put forward proposals for the Community Network Areas (CNAs). It stated that these proposals had received broad support. All of its proposed divisions lie completely within the boundaries of its CNAs. As we have accepted the evidence provided regarding the CNAs in our deliberation on council size, we have also sought to base our draft recommendations on the Implementation Executive's CNAs and only move away from them where we do not consider that its electoral arrangements secure convenient and effective local government or good electoral equality or reflect communities. We have been able to respect the CNA pattern by not breaching the boundaries of them in all but one area.

58 During our consideration of the Implementation Executive's proposals we noted that four of the six divisions in the China Clay CNA have significantly fewer electors per councillor than the average (meaning the electors there are significantly over-represented), while all four of the divisions in the neighbouring St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel CNA have significantly more electors per councillor than the average (meaning the electors here are significantly under-represented). This issue is discussed in detail later in this report.

59 Therefore, apart from China Clay and St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel CNAs, our divisions respect the Implementation Executive's CNAs. However, it is important to note that as part of the consultation on our draft recommendations, in addition to comments on our electoral divisions, we would also welcome comments on the CNAs. Once the new authority assumes responsibility in Cornwall, we would advise that, in the interests of convenient and effective local government, it reassesses the CNAs to reflect any division boundaries we may recommend which breach the current proposed CNA areas.

Balancing the statutory criteria

60 As stated above, the starting point for the draft recommendations was the Implementation Executive's 123-member proposal. We note that the Implementation Executive put forward a scheme based solely on single-member divisions. We also note that there was general support for the use of single-member divisions, although a number of respondents did mention the possibility of using multi-member divisions. We have been able to put forward a scheme based solely on single-member divisions; however, depending on the evidence received during the next stage of consultation, it may be necessary to move away from this to address issues of community identity and convenient and effective local government. We welcome comments in particular on the importance or otherwise of retaining a pattern of single-member divisions across the county.

61 We acknowledge the efforts made by the Implementation Executive to secure high levels of electoral equality in its proposals and, given the lack of community identity evidence, this is a sensible approach. However, we have moved away from the Implementation Executive's proposals in a number of areas, most notably in some of the urban areas where the Implementation Executive based its proposals on existing polling districts. While its proposals secured good levels of electoral equality, we considered that as a result they provided for weak boundaries and ineffective electoral divisions in some areas. Therefore, across the county in a number of the urban areas we have found it necessary to move away from electoral equality to secure better boundaries and provide for more cohesive electoral divisions.

Electoral arrangements

62 This section of the report details the submissions we received, our consideration of them, and our draft recommendations for each area of Cornwall. The following areas are considered in turn and are based on the Community Network Areas (CNAs) put forward by the Implementation Executive:

- Penzance, St Ives & Hayle, Helston & The Lizard, Falmouth & Penryn and Camborne & Redruth
- China Clay, St Agnes & Perranporth, St Austell, St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel, and Truro
- Newquay, Bodmin, Wadebridge & Padstow, Camelford and Bude
- Launceston, Liskeard, Looe & Torpoint, Callington and Saltash

63 Details of our draft recommendations are set out in Table C1 in Appendix C, and illustrated on a number of large maps we have produced. The outline map which accompanies this report shows our draft recommendations for the whole county. It also shows a number of key boxes for which we have produced more detailed maps. These maps are available to be viewed on our website, and have been distributed to the respective district council offices and libraries, according to area. If you require a copy of any large-scale detailed map from our website, please contact us using the details found in Chapter 3 of this report.

Penzance, St Ives & Hayle, Helston & The Lizard, Falmouth & Penryn and Camborne & Redruth

64 In the Penzance CNA the Implementation Executive proposed nine divisions. Its St Buryan, Ludgvan, Marazion and St Just in Penwith are all rural divisions and would secure electoral variances of 0%, 4%, 3% and 10% by 2012. While we consider that the electoral variance in St Just in Penwith division is quite high, we note that the division comprises a single parish and avoids dividing any parishes. The remaining divisions secure good levels of electoral equality. We have therefore decided to adopt these four divisions without amendment.

65 In the Penzance parish area, the Implementation Executive's Gulval & Heamoor, Penzance Central, Penzance East and Penzance Promenade divisions secure good levels of electoral equality, with no division having a variance greater than 6% by 2012. However, we have concerns about some of the boundaries in these divisions, particularly between Penzance Central and Penzance East. In addition to this, we also note that the Implementation Executive's Newlyn & Mousehole division would have relatively poor variance of 12% by 2012. We therefore propose a number of amendments to improve the electoral equality in Newlyn & Mousehole and improve the boundaries, particularly of the Penzance East division.

66 In Newlyn & Mousehole we are transferring an area to the east of the Newlyn Coombe river from Newlyn & Mousehole division to Penzance Promenade division. We consider that the river provides a stronger boundary and has the advantage of improving electoral equality in Newlyn & Mousehole from 12% to 3%. However, as this change alone would lead to Penzance Promenade having too many electors in it, we are transferring an area to the east of Morrab Street in Penzance Promenade to Penzance Central. This only marginally worsens the electoral variance in Penzance Promenade from 1% to -2%. Additionally, we have particular concern that the electors in Manor Way in the Implementation Executive's proposal do not have direct access into Penzance Central division. We therefore propose transferring this area to Penzance East. In addition, to further improve electoral equality and provide stronger boundaries, we are also transferring The Cliff and Mount Royal areas from Penzance Central to Penzance East. We propose one final amendment to the Implementation Executive's Penzance East division to transfer Parc Mellan to Gulval & Heamoor division to which they have a direct road link, without having to cross the A30.

67 These amendments would improve the electoral variances in Gulval & Heamoor, Penzance Central and Penance East divisions from 4% fewer, 4% fewer and 6% fewer electors than the county average by 2012 respectively, to 2% fewer, 2% fewer and 1% more. The electoral variance in Penzance Promenade would marginally worsen from 1% more electors to 2% fewer. Our proposals for Penzance are outlined on Map 1 and Map 2.

68 The Implementation Executive put forward proposals for six divisions in the St Ives & Hayle CNA. Its St Ives North, St Ives South, Lelant & Carbis Bay, Hayle North, Hayle South and Gwinear-Gwithian & Hayle East divisions would have 3% fewer, 8% fewer, 4% fewer, 6% more, 2% fewer and 5% more electors than the average by 2012, respectively. We consider that these divisions secure reasonable levels of electoral equality and use good boundaries. We are therefore adopting these divisions, subject to renaming Gwinear-Gwithian & Hayle East as Gwinear-Gwithian

& St Erth to better reflect the area covered by the division. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1, Map 3a and Map 3b.

69 In the Helston & The Lizard CNA the Implementation Executive proposed seven divisions. Its Breage, Wendron, Helston Central, Helston North, Porthleven & Helston South, Mullion and St Keverne & Meneage divisions would have 8% more, 7% more, 5% more, 9% more, 10% more, 6% more and 3% more electors than the county average by 2012, respectively. We note that the variances in Helston North and Porthleven & Helston divisions are reasonably high, but that they use good boundaries. We are therefore adopting the Implementation Executive's proposals in this area without amendment. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1, Map 4a and Map 4b.

70 In the Falmouth & Penryn CNA the Implementation Executive proposed nine divisions. Its Constantine, Mabe, Penryn East & Mylor and Penryn West divisions would have 9% more, 10% more, 9% more and 9% more electors than the county average by 2012, respectively. We note that these variances are high, but that in the case of Constantine and Mabe the divisions comprise whole parishes and create sensible divisions. The Implementation Executive's Penryn East & Mylor divides Penryn between two divisions, but this is unavoidable without the creation of a two-member division. We consider the division of this parish sensible and that the Implementation Executive uses a reasonable boundary and has secured the best levels of electoral equality possible. We are therefore adopting these divisions without amendment.

71 In the Falmouth town area we note that the Implementation Executive's proposals secure good electoral equality, with no division having a variance of over 2%. However, we had significant concerns about the boundaries used in some of the divisions, particularly the Falmouth Arwenack division which includes areas around Bassett Street and Beacon Road in a division with Melvill Road and the area around the Falmouth School of Art. We do not consider that inclusion of these areas creates a sufficiently compact division that uses good boundaries. As a result of this and more minor concerns over the boundaries of the other divisions, we propose changes to a number of the boundaries of the Falmouth divisions. We are, however, adopting the Falmouth Trescobeas division without amendment. This division secures good electoral equality, with 8% more electors than the county average by 2012 and provides for good boundaries.

72 We are transferring an area of the Implementation Executive's Falmouth Gyllngvase to the west of Swanpool Road to Falmouth Boslowick given concerns about the limited links this area has to the rest of Falmouth Gyllngvase. This would mean that Falmouth Boslowick division would have 2% fewer electors than the county average, rather than 2% more by 2012 under the Implementation Executive's proposal. We are also transferring an area around Melvill Road and Falmouth School of Art from Falmouth Arwenack to Falmouth Gyllngvase. This also secures a better boundary, using Pennance Road. As this would result in Falmouth Gyllngvase having too many electors, we are transferring an area around Florence Place and Woodehouse Terrace from Falmouth Gyllngvase to Falmouth Arwenack. As a result of these amendments, the electoral variance in Falmouth Gyllngvase would marginally worsen from 1% fewer electors to 3% fewer electors by 2012.

73 We are also transferring an area of the Implementation Executive's Falmouth Arwenack to the north of Webber Street to Falmouth Penwerris, and an area south of

Kimberley Park Road from Falmouth Penwerris to Falmouth Arwenack. We consider that these amendments create more compact divisions that use stronger boundaries. As a result of these changes, electoral equality in Falmouth Arwenack would marginally worsen from 1% fewer electors than the average to 2% fewer. However, electoral quality in Falmouth Penwerris would improve from 2% fewer electors than the average to 1% fewer by 2012.

74 We acknowledge that our proposals make significant amendments to those put forward by the Implementation Executive, but we consider that they produce stronger electoral arrangements and provide for more identifiable boundaries. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1 and Map 10.

75 In the Camborne & Redruth CNA the Implementation Executive put forward proposals for 13 divisions. We note that its Stithians division has a relatively high variance, with 12% more electors than the county average, while neighbouring St Day & Lanner division has 1% fewer electors. We note that these proposals are based on whole parishes that have reasonable transport links. We are therefore adopting these divisions without amendment.

76 In the Camborne area we are adopting the Implementation Executive's Camborne West division without amendment. Although this division does combine the rural area to the west in a predominantly urban division, we note that these areas are within the same parish and that, in order to secure good levels of electoral equality, it is necessary to link part of the urban area of Camborne with a rural area. In addition this area has reasonable links into Camborne and the division secures good electoral equality, with 5% more electors than the county average by 2012.

77 However, in the remainder of Camborne we have a number of concerns about the Implementation Executive's proposed divisions. Our main concern is its Camborne North division. While it secures good electoral equality, with 2% fewer electors than the county average by 2012, we note that direct road links between the east and west of the area are limited to Wesley Street, and consider that these access links could be improved. We have therefore sought to address this, while also making a number of other alterations to address issues of access in the other divisions.

78 We are transferring an area of Camborne Central, separated from the remainder of the division by the railway line, to Camborne North. We consider that this area has better links into Camborne North. However, this would lead to a significant imbalance in electoral equality in Camborne North. To offset this we are transferring an area to the south of Moor Street from Camborne North to Camborne Central. We are also transferring an area to the south of Roskear Road from Camborne North to Camborne Central. This area has better links into the rest of Camborne Central division. We are also transferring an area in the Rosemellin estate from Camborne North to Camborne East. We consider this provides a stronger boundary as these properties access east on to Cliff View Road. Finally, we propose a minor boundary amendment between the Implementation Executive's Troon & Beacon and Camborne North divisions, transferring a small area to the north of the railway line to Camborne North division. We consider that the railway line provides a stronger boundary in this area.

79 As a result of these amendments the electoral variances in Camborne Central and Camborne East divisions would marginally improve from 4% more and 4% fewer

electors than the county average by 2012, respectively, to 3% fewer and 1% fewer. Electoral equality in Camborne North division would marginally worsen, from 2% fewer electors than the county average by 2012 to 3% more electors. As a result of the small number of electors transferred to Camborne North division, Troon & Beacon division would continue to have 8% more electors than the county average by 2012. In addition to these boundary amendments we propose renaming these divisions to better reflect their configuration across the area. We are renaming Camborne Central division as Camborne South; Camborne North as Camborne Central; and Camborne East as Camborne North.

80 We propose adopting the Implementation Executive's Illogan and Redruth South divisions without amendment. These divisions secure 5% fewer and 6% more electors than the county average by 2012 and use reasonable boundaries. We propose a minor revision to the Implementation Executive's Carn Brea North and Carn Brea South divisions, transferring East Pool Park to Carn Brea North. This improves electoral equality in Carn Brea North from 10% fewer electors than the county average by 2012 to 5% fewer. Electoral equality in Redruth South division marginally worsens from 2% fewer electors from the average to 6% fewer.

81 In the remainder of Redruth we propose more significant revisions to the Implementation Executive's proposals. We had particular concerns about its Redruth Central divisions which included areas in the south around Victoria Park and areas as far north as Close Hill and across to the North Country. In addition, its Redruth Central division divides these areas. We therefore sought to create more convenient divisions in this area. We are transferring an area of Redruth around Gweal-an-Top from Redruth North division to Redruth Central division. To offset this, we are transferring the area around Cardrew industrial estate from Redruth Central division to Redruth North division. These amendments worsen electoral equality in Redruth Central and Redruth North divisions from 2% fewer and 1% fewer electors than the county average in 2012 to 4% more and 7% fewer. However, we consider that these amendments provide more compact divisions and avoid joining areas in the centre and south of Redruth with the north and rural areas to the north. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1, Map 5 and Map 6.

82 In this area as a whole, we are recommending a mixture of our own proposals and those put forward by the Implementation Executive. However, as we have formulated our draft recommendations without the benefit of community identity evidence, we are particularly keen to hear from local people about these electoral arrangements, and whether they could better reflect local identities while still achieving good levels of electoral equality.

China Clay, St Agnes & Perranporth, St Austell, St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel and Truro

83 In this area we noted that in the Implementation Executive's China Clay CNA four of its six divisions had significantly fewer electors than the county average. Under its proposals, by 2012 Roche and Bugle divisions would both have 10% fewer electors, while St Dennis and Treverbyn South would have 11% fewer and 14% fewer, respectively.

84 We have also noted that in the neighbouring St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel CNA three of the Implementation Executive's proposed divisions had significantly

more electors than the county average. Under its proposals, by 2012 Lostwithiel division would have 10% more electors, while Tywardreath and St Blaise would have 12% more and 14% more electors than the average. The fact that the China Clay CNA has too few electors and the St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel CNA has too many electors means that the allocation of councillors between these CNAs is imbalanced.

85 In addition, we noted that the Implementation Executive's Treverbyn South division in the China Clay CNA included the village of Whitemoor from St Dennis parish, but that there are no direct road links between here and the remainder of the division as the area in between is a china clay pit. This means that Whitemoor is effectively detached from the remainder of the division. We do not consider that detached divisions reflect local communities or provide for convenient and effective local government and we are therefore not persuaded to adopt that division as part of our draft recommendations.

86 We have sought to address both these issues. We have considered transferring a councillor from the China Clay CNA to St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel CNA. However, this would result in the divisions in China Clay CNA having too many electors per division, while St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel would have too few. Therefore we are not recommending this. The most effective option that we have identified is to transfer an area in the north of Luxulyan parish in St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel CNA into China Clay CNA. We acknowledge that dividing a parish between CNAs is not ideal, but the area we propose transferring has stronger road links into China Clay CNA than it does to the remainder of the parish. This amendment also allows us to address the Treverbyn South division by transferring its parishes into other areas, to improve access. We are particularly interested to have comments on this proposal, as it is the only area in which we have departed from the Implementation Executive's CNA pattern. However, we would remind anyone who wishes to comment that the two areas suffer from an imbalance in the number of electors, which we would need to ensure is addressed.

87 In the China Clay CNA, as a result of the transfer of part of Luxulyan parish to the area and the issue of the detached Whitemoor village (discussed above), we have had to consider alternative electoral arrangements in much of area. However, we propose adopting the Implementation Executive's St Enoder and St Stephen divisions without amendment. These divisions would both have 3% more electors than the county average by 2012.

88 We are modifying the Implementation Executive's St Dennis division, transferring part of its Roche division to the St Dennis division. This area lies immediately to the north of St Dennis and has direct road links into it. We are transferring the Whitemoor area of the Implementation Executive's Treverbyn division to Roche division as the area has direct links to the rest of the division. We are also transferring part of its Roche division to Bugle division. Again, this area has road links into Bugle. Our recommendations would marginally worsen electoral equality in Roche division from 10% fewer electors to 12% fewer, but improve it in St Dennis division from 11% fewer to 6% fewer. We acknowledge the electoral variance in Roche division is marginally worse than we would usually seek to recommend, but given the size and layout of the villages in this area it is difficult to improve on this configuration.

89 As stated above, we are transferring part of Luxulyan parish into the China Clay CNA. We are transferring the northern area of this parish into a revised Bugle

division as it has good road links along the A391 into the remainder of the division. Indeed, we note that these road links are better than into the rest of Luxulyan parish. The rest of the revised Bugle ward will comprise the Implementation Executive's Treverbyn South division, less the Whitemoor area and less urban overspill from St Austell, but additionally including the Bugle area of its proposed Bugle division. Our revised Bugle division marginally improves electoral equality from 10% fewer electors to 9% fewer electors than the county average by 2012. In addition, we consider that it joins a number of villages connected by the A391 and further south by the B3274. The Treverbyn South division comprises the remainder of the Implementation Executive's Bugle ward and the area of St Austell urban overspill from its Treverbyn South division. We consider that this option creates a more compact division, with links into Penwithick and St Austell, and secures a significant improvement in electoral equality from 14% fewer electors than the county average by 2012 to 7% fewer. We also propose renaming this division Penwithick. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1, Map 12, Map 14 and Map 15.

90 In the neighbouring St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel CNA we propose adopting the Implementation Executive's Lostwithiel division without amendment. This division secures reasonable electoral equality and comprises whole parishes. In the remainder of the area we propose a number of amendments to provide stronger boundaries and more compact divisions. We are adopting the Implementation Executive's Fowey division, less the area of Luxulyan parish transferred to the China Clay CNA and including an area of its Tywardreath division to the north of the railway line. Although transferring this area to Fowey division marginally worsens electoral equality from 3% more electors than the county average to 6% more, this is necessary to ensure good electoral equality in the remainder of the divisions in the CNA. In addition, we note that this area has good road links into the remainder of the Fowey division via the A390. Our Fowey division would have 6% more electors than the county average by 2012.

91 We are also making amendments to the remainder of the Implementation Executive's Tywardreath division and to its St Blaise division. We have a particular concern that its Tywardreath division includes a 'spur' extending through the centre of its St Blaise division. We consider that this 'spur' effectively divides its St Blaise division into two parts and does not provide a strong boundary. As a result, we are transferring this area into St Blaise division and transferring an area of its St Blaise division to the east of Lamelly Road to Tywardreath division. These amendments provide stronger boundaries and improve electoral equality in St Blaise division from 14% more electors than the county average by 2012 to 10%, and also improve electoral equality in Tywardreath division from 12% more to 4% more. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1, Map 13b and Map 15.

92 The Implementation Executive's proposals in the St Agnes & Perranporth area secure good levels of electoral equality, with no division having a variance of over 8%. Although a number of parishes are divided between divisions, this is necessary given the size of their electorate, and the Implementation Executive has used good boundaries. We propose adopting these divisions without amendment.

93 In the Implementation Executive's St Austell CNA we note that its St Mewan division has a higher electoral variance than we would usually recommend. However, we also note that this division comprises whole parishes and we are therefore adopting it without amendment. Its Mevagissey division secures good electoral equality, with 2% more electors than the county average by 2012. We are therefore

adopting this without amendment. Finally, in the St Austell town area, the Implementation Executive's proposals secure good electoral equality, with no division having a variance greater than 9% by 2012. However, we do propose a minor amendment to the boundary between St Austell Glover and St Austell Poltair divisions to tie the boundary to the railway line. This would marginally worsen electoral equality in St Austell Glover from 1% more electors than the county average in 2012 to 4% more. However, it would improve electoral equality in St Austell Poltair from 6% more electors than the county average to 3% more. In the remainder of St Austell we are adopting the Implementation Executive's proposals without amendment. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1, Map 13a and Map 14.

94 In the Truro CNA, the Implementation Executive's proposals for the Truro urban area secure reasonable electoral equality. In the surrounding rural area the Implementation Executive's proposals also secure good electoral equality, although its Feock division would have 14% fewer electors than the county average by 2012. However, its Chacewater & St Clement division includes St Clement parish (to the north and east of Truro city), but that parish has no road links into the remainder of the division to the south of Truro and is separated from it by the estuary of the River Truro. In addition, we have concerns about the Implementation Executive's proposal to split the town of Threemilestone and include part of it in a division with the surrounding rural area. We therefore have sought to solve these issues.

95 For this area we are recommending alternative proposals that place St Clements parish in a division that it has links with, and that avoid the division of Threemilestone. Because we are recommending that the whole of Threemilestone is retained in a relatively urban division, electoral equality in both the rural area and the Truro urban area worsens in comparison to the Implementation Executive's proposals. However, we consider that the improvement in access within the division in which St Clements is situated, and the fact that Threemilestone is not divided between urban and rural divisions, justifies the higher levels of electoral inequality.

96 In the rural area, by transferring part of Threemilestone into an urban division, all the divisions in the rural area must have fewer electors than under the Implementation Executive's proposals to ensure electoral equality. As a result, we are transferring Tregoney parish out of the Implementation Executive's Roseland division to its Probus division and transferring Cuby parish from Probus to Roseland. We are also transferring Laddock parish out of Probus to our Laddock, St Clement & St Erne division. As a result electoral equality in Probus and Roseland divisions worsens from 7% more and 4% more electors than the county average by 2012 to 12% fewer and 11% fewer, respectively.

97 As part of our draft recommendations in this area, we are also transferring the area of Kenwyn parish out of our Laddock, St Clement & St Erne and into a division with Chacewater and the western area of Kea parish. We are transferring the remainder of Kea parish to our Feock & Kea division. If we did not transfer this area, Feock division would have 14% fewer electors than the county average, while a Chacewater division would have 9% more. Although our proposals ward Kea parish, they improve electoral equality, with Feock & Kea division having 8% more electors than the county average, while Chacewater division has 12% fewer. Although we seek to avoid warding parishes, we note that without transferring part of Kea parish to a Feock division the resulting divisions would have high opposing variances (a division with significantly fewer electors than the average next to a division with

significantly more electors). Although our proposals only secure a marginal improvement in electoral equality, given a lack of community identity evidence to support such high variances, we are putting forward this amendment. However, we would welcome evidence from local people about whether the alternative configuration better reflects local communities.

98 In the Truro area, we also propose a number of amendments to address our recommendation to retain the whole of Threemilestone in a single division. We are transferring Newbridge Way polling district from the Implementation Executive's Threemilestone & Gloweth division to its Truro Trehaverne division. We are also transferring part of its Truro Trehaverne division around Dobbs Lane and Bosvean Gardens to Truro Boscawen division and an area around Rosedale Gardens to Truro Tregolls. Although both these areas are separated from their respective divisions, we note that they have reasonable road links across the railway. Finally, we are transferring an area of the Implementation Executive's Truro Tregolls division to the north of St Clements Street to Truro Moresk division.

99 As a result of these amendments, electoral equality in Threemilestone & Gloweth would change from 1% more electors than the county average by 2012 to 1% fewer. Electoral equality in Truro Trehaverne would improve from 9% more electors to 7% more. The variances in Truro Boscawen, Truro Moresk and Truro Tregolls would worsen from 2% more, 0% and 7% more electors to 13% more, 9% more and 12% more, respectively. We acknowledge that in Truro Boscawen and Truro Tregolls our recommendations significantly worsen electoral equality. However, we have sought a balance between securing good boundaries, electoral equality and the need to address the issues of keeping Threemilestone in a single division and that St Clements parish is in a division with which it has direct links. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1, Map 7, Map 8 and Map 9.

100 In this group of CNAs, the size of the electorate in the constituent parishes and towns and specific geographic constraints have forced us to make a number of decisions that we acknowledge local people may not consider fully reflect local communities. We would therefore welcome local views, but would remind anyone who wishes to comment that the suggestions and proposals must consider how to resolve the issues that have been raised. We must have consideration for the whole of Cornwall and seek to achieve a balance between representing communities, electoral equality and creating divisions that provide convenient and effective local government.

Newquay, Bodmin, Wadebridge & Padstow, Camelford and Bude

101 The Implementation Executive proposed seven divisions in the Newquay CNA. We are adopting its rural St Columb and Colan & Mawgan divisions without amendment. These divisions secure reasonable electoral equality, with 3% more and 8% fewer electors than the county average by 2012, respectively. St Columb division comprises whole parishes, while Colan & Mawgan division comprises whole parishes and the more rural areas of Newquay parish.

102 In the urban part of Newquay parish we are adopting the Implementation Executive's Newquay Tretherras and Newquay Treviglas divisions without amendment. These divisions use good boundaries and secure reasonable electoral equality, having 7% fewer and 8% fewer electors than the county average by 2012.

103 In the remainder of the urban Newquay area we propose a number of minor amendments to the Implementation Executive's divisions. We are amending the boundary between Newquay Central and Newquay Pentire divisions so that it runs along the southern edge of Fistrall beach and the golf course. This area does not contain any electors, but our amendment provides a stronger boundary, rather than dividing these areas in two. In addition, we are transferring two areas of Newquay Pentire division – the properties to the east of St George's Road and the properties to the north of Mount Wise – to Newquay Central. We are also transferring an area to the south of Mount Wise from Newquay Central to Newquay Pentire division. Finally, we propose a minor amendment to transfer another area to the south of Mount Wise from Newquay Treloggan to Newquay Central. Our amendment uses stronger boundaries and secures a marginal improvement in electoral equality in Newquay Pentire division, which improves from 6% fewer electors than the county average by 2012 to 4% fewer. Electoral equality in Newquay Central and Newquay Treloggan would only worsen marginally, from 5% fewer and 1% fewer electors than the county average by 2012 to 6% fewer and 2% fewer, respectively. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1 and Map 11.

104 In the Bodmin CNA the Implementation Executive put forward proposals for four divisions. Its Lanivet division comprises whole parishes and secures reasonable electoral equality, with 9% fewer electors than the county average by 2012. We are therefore adopting this as part of our draft recommendations.

105 In Bodmin parish, the Implementation Executive proposed three divisions. We note that its Bodmin Central and Bodmin East divisions would not secure good electoral equality, with 13% more and 11% more electors than the county average by 2012. In addition, we had particular concerns that its Bodmin Central division included a large urban area to the west of The Beacon with an urban area to the east of this. Although there is a road link to the south, we note that The Beacon forms a large divide of open space and as such, without any community identity evidence, are not persuaded that this would reflect local communities.

106 We have therefore proposed amendments to provide stronger division boundaries. In addition, while we note that high electoral variances are unavoidable given the total number of electors in the parish, we consider that in amending the boundary between Bodmin Central and Bodmin West divisions it is also possible to secure some marginal improvements in electoral equality in the area as a whole.

107 We are transferring the area to the west of The Beacon and east of St Mary's road to Bodmin Central. In addition, we are transferring part of the Bodmin West division, around Bodmin town centre, to Bodmin Central division. Electoral equality in Bodmin Central division would improve from 13% more electors than the county average in 2012 to 10% more, while in Bodmin West it would worsen from 8% more to 10% more. We do not propose any amendments to Bodmin East division, which would have 11% more electors than the county average. We consider that these amendments address our concerns about a division divided by The Beacon in the centre and also secure more even electoral equality between the divisions in the CNA. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1 and Map 16a.

108 In its Wadebridge & Padstow CNA the Implementation Executive proposed five divisions. We propose adopting the Implementation Executive's Padstow division. This division comprises whole parishes and secures good electoral equality, with 2%

more electors than the county average by 2012. However, we noted that the Implementation Executive's St Issey division includes St Minver Lowlands parish which has no direct road links to the remainder of the division and is separated from it by the River Camel estuary. We do not consider that this would provide for convenient or effective local government, and have therefore explored alternative arrangements for this area.

109 We considered two options in this area. Under both options, St Minver Low, St Minver High, St Endellion and part of St Kew division would be in a single St Endellion division. Where possible, we seek to avoid dividing parishes between divisions. However, in this area, given the size of the constituent parishes, it is not possible to put St Kew in a single division without significantly worsening electoral equality in the St Endellion division or the remaining divisions. Our St Endellion division would have 12% fewer electors than the county average by 2012. However, if the part of St Kew parish is removed from this division, it would have 16% fewer electors and we do not consider there to be sufficient evidence to justify such a high electoral variance. We therefore considered other options for this area.

110 Under the first option, we considered creating a Wadebridge West division comprising Wadebridge West parish ward of Wadebridge parish. Wadebridge East parish ward would then be placed in a Wadebridge East division with part of St Kew parish and part of Egloshayle parish. The remaining more rural area would create a St Issey division, running east to west along the south of the CNA and comprising, from east to west, St Tudy, St Maby, part of Egloshayle, St Breock, St Issey, St Ervan and St Eval parishes. Under these proposals, Wadebridge East, Wadebridge West and St Issey divisions would have 8% fewer, 6% fewer and 8% fewer electors than the county average by 2012, respectively. These proposals secure reasonable electoral equality and create divisions in Wadebridge with good boundaries. However, we have some concerns about the proposal to create a St Issey division running from east to west across the entire width of the CNA. While there are road links across the area, they are limited.

111 The alternative option we considered would create a division comprising the parishes to the west of Wadebridge and an area in the west of the town of Wadebridge. This division would have 9% fewer electors than the county average by 2009. It would also create a division comprising the parishes to the east of Wadebridge and an area of the east of Wadebridge parish. This division would have 9% fewer electors than the county average. Finally, the remaining areas of Wadebridge would be combined in a single division. This division would have 3% fewer electors than the county average. While this division avoids the creation of a division running the entire width of the CNA, we had concerns about transferring areas to the east and west of Wadebridge parish into rural divisions to the east and west. In addition, we had concerns about creating a Wadebridge division from the remaining areas that sits astride the River Camel. Although these areas are linked by a bridge, we were concerned that this may not best reflect local communities.

112 We have given careful consideration to both options and, although there are concerns about creating a division running across the width of the CNA, we note that this proposal combines rural parishes, which are likely to share similar rural issues. The alternative proposal divides the urban area of Wadebridge between three divisions and combines urban and rural areas. In addition, it creates a division across the River Camel. Therefore, on balance, although there are some concerns about the St Issey division, we feel they are preferable to any proposal to divide Wadebridge

parish between three divisions. We are therefore adopting our first option as part of our draft recommendations. However, in light of the issues and concerns raised, we would particularly welcome local views on our proposals in this area, bearing in mind the issues raised. We have been unable to arrive at any other option that provides for good levels of electoral equality within this area. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1, Map 17a and Map 17b.

113 In its Camelford CNA the Implementation Executive proposed three divisions. We had some concerns about the links within its St Teath division, which are somewhat hindered by the extension of the Camelford division across the area. However, on balance we consider that the links within these divisions are reasonable, particularly given the levels of electoral equality that they achieve. We are therefore adopting them without amendment. Camelford, St Teath and Tintagel divisions would have 7% fewer, 6% fewer and 2% more electors than the county average by 2012.

114 In Bude CNA the Implementation Executive proposed four divisions. Bude South, Bude North & Stratton, Flexbury & Poughill and Poundstock divisions all use good boundaries and secure good electoral equality, with no division having an electoral variance over 7% from the county average by 2012. We are therefore adopting these divisions without amendment. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1 and Map 20a.

Launceston, Liskeard, Looe & Torpoint, Callington and Saltash

115 In the Launceston CNA the Implementation Executive proposed five divisions. We noted that its Stokeclimbsland division had 14% fewer electors than the county average by 2012. Although we consider this to be a worse variance from the average than we would normally hope to recommend, we also note that this division lies at the edge of the county and, as such, the options for improving the electoral variance are somewhat limited. We are therefore adopting this division as part of our draft recommendations.

116 In the remainder of the Launceston CNA we considered that the Implementation Executive's Launceston South division secures good electoral equality and provides for a relatively compact division. However, we had particular concerns about the boundaries of the Implementation Executive's Launceston Central and Launceston North divisions. We noted that its Launceston Central division contained an area of Launceston to the south-west that had limited links to the remainder of the Launceston parish. In addition to this, the Launceston North division involved the transfer of part of the Launceston town area into the surrounding rural area in order to provide the rural area with sufficient electors to secure reasonable electoral equality.

117 We considered a number of alternative options, but noted that, unlike the Truro area, it is not possible to create rural divisions with reasonable electoral equality without transferring part of Launceston town into the surrounding area. While retaining the whole of Launceston parish in two urban divisions would create two divisions with approximately 7% more electors than the county average, this has to be balanced against that fact the rural area would have to be divided into either two divisions with approximately 19% fewer electors than the county average or three divisions with approximately 21% more electors. Therefore, while this would secure

good electoral equality in the Launceston town area, it would result in unacceptable levels of electoral equality in the surrounding areas.

118 We have therefore had to consider which area it is most appropriate to link in a division with the rural area around Launceston. As stated above, we had concerns about transferring the north area of Launceston to Launceston North division. One alternative was to transfer the south-west area around Upper Chapel of the Implementation Executive's Launceston Central division into the surrounding rural area of Altarnun and reuniting the north area of Launceston. This proposal would worsen the electoral equality in Launceston North from 7% fewer electors than the county average by 2012 to 13% fewer, but would reunite the north area of Launceston in a single division. However, it would improve electoral equality in Launceston Central and Altarnun divisions from 11% fewer and 8% electors fewer, respectively, to 8% fewer and 6% fewer.

119 Since either option would both improve and worsen electoral equality in different areas, the deciding factor was the issue of access for the area transferred out of Launceston. While concerns remain about transferring the north area into a Launceston North division, we note that there are road links out towards the rural area and the property in this area may be considered slightly more rural in nature. While transferring out the south-west area creates a slightly more compact division, we had concerns about the road links to the rest of Altarnun division. While road links exist, we noted that these are via a roundabout across the A30.

120 On balance, we consider transferring the area to the north of Launceston as the best option and are therefore adopting the Implementation Executive's proposals without amendment. However, given the issues raised, we would welcome the views of local residents on our alternative proposals or any others they might consider. Under our draft recommendations Altarnun, Launceston Central and Launceston North divisions would have 7% fewer, 11% fewer and 7% fewer electors than the county average by 2012. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1 and Map 20b.

121 In the Liskeard CNA the Implementation Executive proposed five divisions. Menheniot, Liskeard Central, Liskeard North, Liskeard South & Dobwalls and St Cleer divisions would have variances of 10% fewer, 8% fewer, 7% fewer, 9% fewer and 4% more electors than the county average by 2012, respectively. We consider that these divisions secure reasonable electoral equality and, although we have minor concerns about the links in the Menheniot division, we note that it is not possible to address them given the size and configuration of the parishes in this area. We are therefore adopting them as part of our draft recommendations. These divisions secure good levels of electoral equality and avoid unnecessary parish warding. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1 and Map 16b.

122 In the Looe & Torpoint CNA the Implementation Executive proposed six divisions. In the east of this area, its Rame, Torpoint East and Torpoint West divisions would have 10% more, 11% fewer and 11% fewer electors than the county average by 2012. Although these divisions have relatively high variances, we note that they secure good boundaries, using whole parishes or existing parish wards. We are therefore adopting them as part of our draft recommendations.

123 In the east of Looe & Torpoint CNA we note that the Implementation Executive's proposed Looe East division contains Seaton village from Deviock parish. This

enables Looe East and Pelynt divisions to secure good electoral equality, with 5% fewer and 1% more electors than the county average by 2012. However, we have concerns about the creation of such a small parish ward in Deviock. We acknowledge that retaining Seaton village in Pelynt division would worsen electoral equality in Looe East and Pelynt divisions to 11% fewer and 7% more electors than the county average. However, on balance, we consider that opting not to divide Seaton from the remainder of Deviock parish would provide more convenient and effective local government. We are therefore modifying the Implementation Executive's proposals and retaining Seaton village in Pelynt division.

124 Finally, we are also adopting the Implementation Executive's Looe West & Lansallos division. This division would have 10% fewer electors than the county average and comprise the area of Looe parish to the west of the River Looe. We consider that this proposal secures reasonable electoral equality and good boundaries. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1, Map 16c and Map 18.

125 In the Callington CNA the Implementation Executive proposed four divisions. We note that the divisions in this area secure reasonable electoral equality, with no division having an electoral variance of over 8%. We did have some concerns about the proposal to put Kelly Bray in a separate division from the remainder of Callington parish. However, given the size of the constituent areas, we note that it is not possible to retain both these areas in a single division. We also note that Kelly Bray has a road link into the remainder of the proposed Kelly Bray division. We are therefore adopting the Implementation Executive's proposals for Kelly Bray, Gunnislake, Callington and St Ive divisions as part of our draft recommendations. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1 and Map 19.

126 The Implementation Executive put forward proposals for five divisions in its proposed Saltash CNA. We noted that its proposed divisions secured reasonable electoral equality, with no division having more than 9% fewer electors than the county average by 2009. However, we had significant concerns over the boundaries of its Saltash St Stephen division. We had particular concerns that the Implementation Executive had included the properties around Old Ferry Road in the same division as parts of Burraton, yet they are separated by the new Saltash Pill development. We note that there is a link along the edge of the division boundary via the A38 Saltash Bypass, but do not consider that the proposals connect areas that share any community links.

127 We have therefore sought to address this but, given the large number of electors in the area around Old Ferry Road, it is not possible to do this without significant changes to the Implementation Executive's proposals. We are transferring the area around Old Ferry Road into a division with an area of the Implementation Executive's Saltash Pill division to the south of New Road. Additionally, we are transferring an area of its Saltash Essa division to the north of the Trelawney Road and Coombe Road. We consider that this creates a more compact division, focused on the town centre and the north area of the River Tamar estuary. The resulting Saltash Pill division would have 5% fewer electors than the county average by 2012.

128 We propose transferring the remaining area of the Implementation Executive's Saltash Pill division to the remainder of its Saltash St Stephens division. We are also transferring an area to the south of Liskeard Road around Yellowtor Road out of Saltash St Stephens division to our Saltash Burraton division. We consider that this creates a division with stronger boundaries that has better links out to the west of

Saltash and the villages of Carkeel and Trematon. In addition to this, the Yellowtor Road area has strong links to the remainder of the properties on Yellowtor Road and enables us to secure good electoral equality. Our Saltash St Stephens division would have 6% more electors than the county average by 2012.

129 Our Saltash Burraton division includes the electors around Yellowtor Road from Saltash St Stephens but loses two areas of electors to the east of Mayfield Drive and Rashleigh Avenue and Killigrew Avenue, which are transferred to Saltash Essa division. It was necessary to transfer these areas to secure good electoral equality following the transfer of additional electors from the Yellowtor Road area and the transfer of electors from Saltash Essa to Saltash Pill division. The resulting Saltash Burraton and Saltash Essa divisions would have 4% fewer and 5% fewer electors than the county average by 2012, respectively. Finally, we are adopting the Implementation Executive's St Germans division without amendment. This division has good boundaries and secures good electoral equality, with 3% fewer electors than the county average by 2012. Our proposals for this area are outlined on Map 1 and Map 18.

130 We acknowledge that we have made substantial amendments to the Implementation Executive's proposals for Saltash, but we consider this necessary to improve the boundaries, particularly of its Saltash St Stephens division. As a result of the amendments to Saltash St Stephens we consider that we have produced stronger boundaries in the remainder of the area. We particularly welcome comments on the reflection of communities in this area during the consultation period.

Conclusions

131 Table 1 shows the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality, comparing them under the 2007 electorate and that expected in 2012.

Table 1: Summary of electoral arrangements

	Draft recommendations	
	2007	2012
Number of councillors	123	123
Number of electoral divisions	123	123
Average number of electors per councillor	3,344	3,537
Number of electoral divisions with a variance of more than 10% from the average	39	16
Number of electoral divisions with a variance of more than 20% from the average	0	0

Draft recommendation

Cornwall Council should comprise 123 councillors serving 123 divisions, as detailed and named in Table C1 and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

Parish electoral arrangements

132 As part of an electoral review, we can make recommendations for new electoral arrangements for parish and town councils – that is, the number of councillors on the parish or town council and the number, names and boundaries of any wards. Where there is no impact on the electoral arrangements for the council under review – in this case the new Cornwall Council – we will generally be content to put forward for consideration proposals from parish or town councils for changes to their electoral arrangements in our electoral reviews. However, we will wish to see some rationale for the proposal from the parish or town council concerned. Proposals should be supported by evidence, illustrating why changes to parish or town electoral arrangements are required. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

133 When reviewing electoral arrangements, we are also required to comply as far as possible with the rules set out in Schedule 11 to the 1972 Local Government Act. The Schedule provides that if a parish is to be divided between different divisions it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single division.

134 Accordingly, we propose consequential parish warding arrangements for the parishes of Bodmin, Bude Stratton, Crowan, Callington, Camborne, Carn Brea, Dobwalls & Trewidland, Egloshayle, Falmouth, Hayle, Helston, Kea, Kenwyn, Launceston, Liskeard, Looe, Luxulyan, Newquay, Penryn, Penzance, Perranzabuloe, Redruth, Roche, Saltash, St Agnes, St Blaise, St Dennis, St Ives, St Kew, St Stephen-in-Brannel, Truro, Tywardreath & Par, and Wadebridge, and would particularly welcome comments on these proposals from the councils concerned and local residents during this consultation stage.

135 On 13 May 2008, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government made The Restormel (Parishes) Order 2008 (SI No 1313). This order made provision for the establishment of four parishes in the St Austell area, the parishes of Carlyon, Pentewan, St Austell and St Austell Bay, in the borough of Restormel, with effect from 1 April 2009.

136 Article 6 of that Order directed Restormel Borough Council to establish parish councils for each of the four new parishes, including the number of councillors and any parish wards. The Borough Council has subsequently carried out consultation on the proposed electoral arrangements for the new parishes. However, an Order establishing these electoral arrangements is yet to be made. To comply with the direction in the Secretary of State's Order, we would expect Restormel Borough Council to establish electoral arrangements for these parishes by 1 April 2009.

137 For the reasons set out at the start of this chapter, where our recommendations divide a parish between electoral divisions, they must also divide the parish into wards. On the assumption that Restormel Borough Council makes the Order to establish parish councils for these new parishes, the mapping that accompanies this report shows indicative parish wards for the four proposed parishes, in order that they comply with our electoral division recommendations. Although, at present, there are no legally-established parish councils for these parishes and we are therefore not making a draft recommendation for them, we have had in mind the prospect of parish councils being established for these areas. We also suggest that Restormel Borough

Council considers the electoral division pattern for these areas that we have put forward as part of our draft recommendations when it is making the Order for parish electoral arrangements.

138 The parish of Bodmin is currently divided into two parish wards: Bodmin St Petroc (returning eight members) and Bodmin St Mary's (returning eight members). We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our proposed electoral division boundaries and having regard to the rules set out in Schedule 11 to the 1972 Act, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Bodmin parish.

Draft recommendations

Bodmin Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing three wards, one more than present: Bodmin Petroc (returning six members), Bodmin St Mary's (returning five members) and Bodmin Beacon (returning five members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 16a.

139 The parish of Bude Stratton is currently divided into two parish wards: Bude (returning nine members) and Poughill & Stratton (returning nine members). We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Bude Stratton parish.

Draft recommendations

Bude Stratton Town Council should comprise 18 councillors, as at present, representing three wards, one more than at present: Bude (returning eight members), Poughill (returning two members) and Stratton (returning eight members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 20a.

140 The parish of Crowan is currently divided into two parish wards: Leedstown (returning six members) and Praze (returning seven members). We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Crowan parish.

Draft recommendations

Crowan Parish Council should comprise 13 councillors, as at present, representing three wards, one more than at present: Leedstown (returning seven members), Nancegollan (returning two members) and Praze (returning four members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 4b.

141 The parish of Callington is currently unwarded, returning 12 members. We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Callington parish.

Draft recommendations

Callington Parish Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing two wards, one more than at present: Callington (returning 10 members) and Kelly Bray (returning two members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 20b.

142 The parish of Camborne is currently divided into three parish wards: North (returning six members), South (returning six members) and West (returning six members). We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Camborne parish.

Draft recommendations

Camborne Town Council should comprise 18 councillors, as at present, representing five wards, two more than at present: North East (returning three members), North West (returning four members), Central (returning four members), South East (returning four members) and South West (returning three members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 5.

143 The parish of Carn Brea is currently divided into four wards, Barncoose (returning five members), East Hill (returning one member), Four Lanes (returning five members) and Pool (returning five members). We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Carn Brea parish.

Draft recommendations

Carn Brea Parish Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing four wards, as at present: Barncoose (returning six members), East Hill (returning one member), Four Lanes (returning five members) and Pool (returning four members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 6.

144 Deviock Parish Council is currently divided into three wards, Dowlerry (returning five members), Hessenford (returning three members) and Seaton (returning three members). We note that Deviock Parish Council requested the abolition of the existing parish wards and that the parish be unwarded, but retain the existing number of parish councillors. It stated that 'improvements in communication and transport links have removed the need to have separate parish wards'. Our draft recommendations for the new Cornwall authority do not require the warding of Deviock parish. We consider that the parish council has put forward sufficient argument for the abolition of the existing parish wards. Therefore as part of our draft recommendations, we are recommending that the parish be unwarded.

Draft recommendations

Deviock Parish Council should comprise 11 members, as at present, but be unwarded.

145 The parish of Dobwalls & Trewidland is currently unwarded, returning 11 members. We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Dobwalls & Trewidland parish.

Draft recommendations

Dobwalls & Trewidland Parish Council should comprise 11 councillors, as at present, representing two wards, as at present: Dobwalls (returning eight members) and Trewidland (returning three members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 16b.

146 The parish of Egloshayle is currently unwarded, and served by 10 members. We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Egloshayle parish.

Draft recommendations

Egloshayle Parish Council should comprise 10 councillors, as at present, representing two wards, one more than at present: Egloshayle North (returning five members) and Egloshayle South (returning five members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 17b.

147 The parish of Falmouth is currently divided into four wards, Arwenack (returning five members), Boslowick (returning four members), Penwerris (returning four members) and Trescobeas (returning three members). We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Falmouth parish.

Draft recommendations

Falmouth Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing five wards, one more than at present: Arwenack (returning three members), Boslowick (returning four members), Gyllyngvase, (returning three members), Penwerris (returning three members) and Trescobeas (returning three members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 10.

148 The parish of Hayle is currently divided into three wards, North (returning seven members), East (returning two members) and South (returning six members). We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Hayle parish.

Draft recommendations

Hayle Town Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing two wards, one fewer than at present: North (returning eight members) and South (returning seven members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 3b.

149 The parish of Helston is currently divided into three wards, East (returning four members), North (returning six members) and West (returning two members). We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Helston parish.

Draft recommendations

Helston Town Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing three wards, as at present: East (returning five members), North (returning five members) and West (returning two members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 4a.

150 The parish of Kea is currently divided into two wards, Baldhu (returning four members) and Playing Place (returning eight members). We note that Kea Parish Council requested that the existing parish wards be abolished, to create an unwarded parish. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Kea parish.

Draft recommendations

Kea Parish Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing two wards, as at present: Baldhu (returning five members) and Playing Place (returning seven members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 9.

151 The parish of Kenwyn is currently divided into three wards, Gloweth (returning three members), Shortlanesend (returning three members) and Threemilestone (returning eight members). We note the Kenwyn Parish Council requested the retention of the existing electoral arrangements in Kenwyn parish. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Kenwyn parish.

Draft recommendations

Kenwyn Parish Council should comprise 14 councillors, as at present, representing four wards, one more than at present: Gloweth (returning four members), Greenbottom (returning one members), Shortlanesend (returning three members) and Threemilestone (returning six members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 9.

152 The parish of Launceston is currently divided into two wards, North (returning eight members) and South (returning eight members). Launceston Town Council requested that the town should no longer be warded on the grounds that parish wards are divisive. We note the Town Council's comments; however, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Launceston parish. As a result of our proposed division, Launceston should be divided into three parish wards.

Draft recommendations

Launceston Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing three wards, one more than at present: Launceston Central (returning seven members), Launceston North (returning two members) and Launceston South (returning seven members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 20b.

153 The parish of Liskeard is currently divided into two wards, North (returning eight members) and South (returning eight members). Liskeard Town Council requested that if the town was divided into three parish wards then each parish ward should have five members. As a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Liskeard parish. Liskeard Town Council should be divided into three wards, however, we also propose reducing the number of councillors from 16 to 15, in line with the Council's request.

Draft recommendations

Liskeard Town Council should comprise 15 councillors, one fewer than at present, representing three wards, one more than at present: East (returning five members), North (returning five members) and West (returning five members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 16b.

154 The parish of Looe is currently unwarded and returns 15 members. We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Looe parish.

Draft recommendations

Looe Parish Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing two wards, one more than at present: East, (returning nine members) and West (returning six members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 16C.

155 The parish of Luxulyan is currently unwarded and has 10 members. We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Luxulyan parish.

Draft recommendations

Luxulyan Parish Council should comprise 10 councillors, as at present, representing two wards, one more than at present: Lockengate (returning three members) and Luxulyan (returning seven members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 15.

156 The parish of Newquay is currently divided into six wards and has 20 members, East (returning two members), Edgcumbe South (returning four member), Edgcumbe West (returning two members), Gannel (returning six members), Rialton (returning

four members) and Rialton South (returning two members). We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Newquay parish.

Draft recommendations

Newquay Town Council should comprise 20 councillors, as at present, representing seven wards, one more than at present: Edgcumbe North (returning three members), Edgcumbe South (returning four members), Gannel (returning three members), Pentire (returning four members), Rialton (returning four members), Rialton South (returning one member) and Whipsiderry (returning one member). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 11.

157 The parish of Penryn is currently unwarded and has 16 members. We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Penryn parish.

Draft recommendations

Penryn Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing two wards, one more than at present: East (returning five members) and West (returning 11 members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 10.

158 The parish of Penzance is currently divided into six wards, Central (returning three members), East (returning five members), Gulval, (returning one member), Heamoor (returning three members), Promenade (returning three members) and South (returning five members). We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Penzance parish.

Draft recommendations

Penzance Town Council should comprise 20 councillors, as at present, representing six wards, as at present: Central (returning four members), East (returning four members), Gulval (returning three members), Heamoor (returning one member), Newlyn & Mousehole (returning four members) and Promenade (returning four members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 2.

159 The parish of Perranzabuloe is currently divided into three wards, Goonhavern (returning four members), Penhallow (returning three members) and Perranporth (returning eight members). We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Perranzabuloe parish.

Draft recommendations

Perranzabuloe Parish Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing four wards, one more than at present: Goonhavern (returning three members), Penhallow (returning two members), Perranporth (returning nine members) and Rose (returning one members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 8.

160 The parish of Redruth is currently divided into two wards, North (returning seven members) and South (returning seven members). We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Redruth parish.

Draft recommendations

Redruth Town Council should comprise 14 councillors, as at present, representing four wards, two more than at present: East (returning four members), North (returning four members), South (returning five members) and West (returning one member). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 6.

161 The parish of Roche is currently unwarded, and represented by 11 members. We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Roche parish.

Draft recommendations

Roche Parish Council should comprise 11 councillors, as at present, representing two wards, one more than at present: Roche (returning 10 members) and Rosemellyn (returning one member). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 15.

162 The parish of Saltash is currently divided into four wards, Burraton, Essa, Pill and St Stephens, all returning four members. We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for Saltash parish.

Draft recommendations

Saltash Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing four wards, as at present: Burraton (returning four members), Essa (returning four members), Pill (returning four members) and St Stephens (returning four members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Maps 1 and 18.

163 The parish of St Agnes is currently divided into five wards, Blackwater (returning two members), Mithian (returning two members), Mount Hawke (returning three members), Porthtowan (returning two members) and St Agnes (returning seven members). We received no proposals for new parish electoral arrangements in this area. However, as a result of our revised electoral division boundaries and the need to comply with the rules referred to above, we are proposing revised parish electoral arrangements for St Agnes parish.

