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# Summary

## Who we are

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament. We are not part of government or any political party. We are accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

## Electoral review

An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority. A local authority's electoral arrangements decide:

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

## Why Elmbridge?

We are conducting an electoral review of Elmbridge Borough Council following a request by the Council in order to consider a reduction in council size.

## Our proposals for Elmbridge

Elmbridge Borough Council currently has 60 councillors. Based on the evidence we received during previous phases of the review, we consider that a reduction in council size by 12 to 48 members will ensure the Council can perform its roles and responsibilities effectively.

## Electoral arrangements

As Elmbridge Borough Council elects by thirds, the Commission will aim to produce a pattern of three-member wards. Our final recommendations propose that Elmbridge Borough Council's 48 councillors should represent 16 three-member wards in order to better reflect community identities. Two of our proposed wards (Claygate and Long Ditton) would have an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for Elmbridge by 2021.

**We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements in Elmbridge.**



# 1 Introduction

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

## What is an electoral review?

2 Our three main considerations in conducting an electoral review are set out in legislation<sup>1</sup> and are to:

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

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

## Consultation

4 We wrote to the Council inviting a submission of proposals on council size. We then held two periods of consultation, first on warding patterns for the borough and finally on our draft recommendations. The submissions received during our consultations have informed our final recommendations.

This review was conducted as follows:

<b>Stage starts</b>	<b>Description</b>
27 January 2015	Decision on council size
3 February 2015	Warding pattern consultation
30 June 2015	Draft recommendations consultation
25 August 2015	Analysis of submissions received and formulation of final recommendations
5 January 2016	Publication of final recommendations

## How will the recommendations affect you?

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

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<sup>1</sup> Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

## What is the Local Government Boundary Commission for England?

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

Members of the Commission are:

Professor Colin Mellors (Chair)  
Alison Lowton  
Sir Tony Redmond  
Professor Paul Wiles CB

Chief Executive: Jolyon Jackson CBE

## 2 Analysis and final recommendations

7 Legislation<sup>2</sup> states that our recommendations are not intended to be based solely on the existing number of electors<sup>3</sup> in an area, but also on estimated changes in the number and distribution of electors likely to take place over a five-year period from the date of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for the wards we put forward at the end of the review.

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

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

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2021</b>
Electorate of Elmbridge Borough	98,110	100,896
Number of councillors	48	48
Average number of electors per councillor	2,044	2,102

10 Under our final recommendations, two of our proposed wards will have an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for the borough by 2021. In other areas of the borough, we are satisfied that we have achieved good levels of electoral fairness for Elmbridge.

11 These recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of Elmbridge Borough Council or result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. There is no evidence that the recommendations will have an adverse effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums and we are not, therefore, able to take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

### Submissions received

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

### Electorate figures

13 As prescribed in the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, the Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2021, a period five years on from the initial scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2016. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and projected an increase in the electorate of approximately 3% over this period. These figures formed

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

<sup>3</sup> Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

the basis of the Council's original forecast for 2020. We regard these figures as a robust reflection of the forecast for 2021 as well and they form the basis of our final recommendations.

## Council size

14 Prior to consultation, Elmbridge Borough Council submitted a proposal to reduce council size from 60 to 48 members. We also received a submission from Elmbridge Residents' Group proposing to retain the existing council size of 60. We received a further submission from Councillor Sadler which supported the Elmbridge Residents' Group proposals to retain 60 councillors.

15 We considered that the Council's submission provided stronger evidence to justify a reduction. We were also satisfied that the Council had sufficiently demonstrated that the authority could operate efficiently and effectively under a council size of 48 and ensure effective representation of local residents.

16 During consultation on warding patterns, we received submissions which objected to the reduction in council size and proposed that we retain the existing council size of 60. However, we consider that the evidence submitted to be insufficient to justify retaining the existing council size. We based our draft recommendations on a council size of 48 members.

17 We did receive further objections to the proposed council size in response to the draft recommendations. However, as stated above we consider the evidence submitted is insufficient to justify retaining 60 members. We have therefore based our final recommendations on a council size of 48 members.

## Warding patterns

18 During consultation on warding patterns, we received 215 submissions, including four borough-wide proposals. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for warding arrangements in Claygate, Hinchley Wood, Long Ditton, Molesey, Thames Ditton, Walton-on-Thames and Weybridge.

19 Three borough-wide schemes provided for a uniform pattern of three-member wards for the borough. The remaining borough-wide scheme provided for a mixed pattern of three two-member wards and 13 three-member wards. Having carefully considered the proposals received, we were of the view that the proposed patterns of wards resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the borough and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries. However, as Elmbridge elects by thirds, the presumption in legislation<sup>4</sup> is that all of the wards in the borough should be represented by three councillors. We are not persuaded that sufficient evidence has been received to move away from a uniform pattern of three-member wards.

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<sup>4</sup> Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.



## Draft recommendations

20 We received 655 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations including submissions from Elmbridge Borough Council, eight Political Groups,<sup>5</sup> six local organisations, 13 councillors,<sup>6</sup> three local petitions, Claygate Parish Council and 618 local residents. The vast majority of submissions received were in relation to the Hersham, Long Ditton and Thames Ditton areas. Our draft recommendations proposed 16 three-member wards. One ward resulted in an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for Elmbridge (Claygate ward).

## Final recommendations

### **Claygate, Esher and Hersham**

21 We received support from Claygate Parish Council for Claygate ward. Therefore, we propose to confirm this ward as final. We received 21 submissions relating to Esher. While some respondents supported our draft recommendations, we received a mixture of support and objection to our proposals to include Lower Green in Esher ward. We also received objections from local residents in Hersham to the inclusion of the local library and part of East Hersham in Esher ward.

22 Our final recommendations include Hersham Library in Hersham Village ward. However, in respect of Lower Green and East Hersham we do not consider that a viable alternative warding pattern has been provided which would justify amending our recommendations here. Therefore, we confirm Esher and Hersham Village wards as part of our final recommendations.

### **Cobham Village and Oxshott & Stoke D'Abernon**

23 We did not receive any submissions specifically relating to Cobham & Downside and Oxshott & Stoke D'Abernon wards. We therefore confirm both wards as part of our final recommendations.

### **Hinchley Wood & Weston Green, Long Ditton and Thames Ditton**

24 We received 202 submissions in total relating to Long Ditton and Thames Ditton areas. All of the submissions objected to our draft proposals which included an area between Portsmouth Road and Thorkhill Road in Long Ditton ward. The evidence received clearly demonstrated that our draft recommendations for Thames Ditton would not reflect community identities. We are persuaded by the compelling evidence received and have transferred this area to Thames Ditton ward. This change would result in a variance of 16% fewer electors for Long Ditton ward. However, we consider this variance to be justified given the very strong evidence received to justify the transfer of this area to Thames Ditton ward.

25 We received 109 submissions in total relating to Hinchley Wood. Our proposals were mostly supported in Hinchley Wood. However, we did receive objections to our proposals to include the Lynwood Road area in Long Ditton ward. Due to the changes made between Thames Ditton and Long Ditton wards as stated above, we are unable to include the Lynwood Road area in Hinchley Wood & Weston Green ward. It would result in a variance above 20% which greatly exceeds what we would

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<sup>5</sup> Thames Ditton & Weston Green Residents' Association sent in a further two separate submissions.

<sup>6</sup> Two councillors sent in an extra submission each.

consider to be an acceptable variance. Furthermore, our draft recommendations better reflect transport links in this area. Subject to the changes to Long Ditton ward, we confirm our proposed wards in these areas as final.

### **Molesey and Walton-on-Thames**

26 Our draft recommendations were generally supported in Molesey and Walton-on-Thames by the local residents' associations and local residents. The Council proposed minor boundary amendments between Walton North and Walton South wards. We also received submissions which proposed that the Field Common Lane area be included in Walton South ward. We have therefore modified our draft recommendations in these areas to provide for clearer boundaries and wards that better reflect local communities.

### **Burwood Park, Oatlands Park and Weybridge**

27 We received 37 submissions in total relating to the Burwood Park and Oatlands Park areas. The Council proposed a minor amendment to the boundary between Oatlands Park & Burwood Park and Weybridge Riverside wards. It also proposed that Oatlands Park & Burwood Park ward be renamed Oatlands & Burwood Park.

28 Local residents in Burwood Park objected to our proposed ward which included the area with Oatlands Park. We received similar objections from local residents in Oatlands Park.

29 In Weybridge, we received support for our draft recommendations for Weybridge St George's Hill. However, 39 respondents in Weybridge objected to an area between Hanger Hill and Queens Road being included in Weybridge St George's Hill ward.

30 Our final recommendations include the boundary and ward name change proposed by the Council. However, we do not consider that a viable alternative ward pattern has been provided that would justify further amending our recommendations for Burwood Park, Oatlands Park and Weybridge areas. Subject to the changes proposed by the Council we confirm these three wards as part of our final recommendations.

## **Detailed wards**

31 The tables on pages 9–19 detail our final recommendations for each area of Elmbridge. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory<sup>7</sup> criteria of:

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

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<sup>7</sup> Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

## Claygate, Esher and Hersham

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
<b>Claygate</b>	3	-12%	This ward comprises the village of Claygate and is coterminous with Claygate parish.	We received support for Claygate ward from Claygate Parish Council. We do not propose any changes to this ward and confirm Claygate ward as part of our final recommendations.
<b>Esher</b>	3	6%	This ward comprises the town of Esher and areas north of the railway line and A3 road.	<p>We received 21 submissions specifically relating to Esher. While some respondents supported our draft recommendations for Esher, we received a mixture of support and objection to our proposal to include Lower Green in Esher ward. We also received objections from local residents in East Hersham to our proposal to include the area in Esher ward.</p> <p>We have carefully considered the submissions received for Esher. In respect of Lower Green, we do not consider that sufficient evidence has been received to transfer Lower Green from Esher to Hinchley Wood &amp; Weston Green ward. Furthermore, in East Hersham, to transfer electors west of the River Mole to Hersham Village ward would result in an electoral variance of 20% for Esher ward. Other than a minor amendment to include Hersham Library in Hersham Village ward (see below) we propose no other changes and confirm our draft recommendations for Esher ward as final.</p>
<b>Hersham Village</b>	3	7%	This ward comprises the majority of the village of Hersham.	We received 217 submissions specifically relating to Hersham. Of the submissions received 149 were in relation to Hersham Library. All of the respondents argued that Hersham Library should be kept in Hersham Village ward and not be located in Esher ward. We are persuaded by the evidence received and have moved the boundary to run behind the library and Homefield so that it is included in Hersham Village ward.

				<p>The remaining submissions received objected to various parts of our draft recommendations for Hersham. Local residents in Burwood Park were against being located in a ward with Oatlands Park. Local residents in Whiteley Village also objected to being included in Weybridge St George's Hill ward. However, we did receive support for including the village in a Weybridge ward. We also received objections from local residents to the inclusion of part of East Hersham in Esher ward.</p> <p>We have carefully considered the submissions received for Hersham. We are unable to include either Burwood Park or Whiteley Village in Hersham Village ward. Both areas have a large number of electors and their inclusion in Hersham Village ward would result in a high electoral variance. In East Hersham, to transfer electors west of the River Mole to Hersham Village ward would result in an electoral variance of over 20%. Therefore, other than the changes made in respect of Hersham Library we propose no other changes and confirm our draft recommendations for Hersham Village ward as final.</p>
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## Cobham Village and Oxshott & Stoke D'Abernon

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
<b>Cobham &amp; Downside</b>	3	6%	This ward comprises the village of Cobham and rural areas north of the A3 road and around the M25.	We did not receive any submissions specifically relating to this proposed ward. Therefore, we have decided to confirm as final our recommendations for Cobham & Downside ward.
<b>Oxshott &amp; Stoke D'Abernon</b>	3	6%	This ward comprises the village of Oxshott and the Fairmile and Stoke D'Abernon areas. The ward is located in the south-east of the borough.	We did not receive any submissions specifically relating to this proposed ward. Therefore, we have decided to confirm as final our recommendations for Oxshott & Stoke D'Abernon ward.

## Hinchley Wood & Weston Green and Long Ditton

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
<b>Hinchley Wood &amp; Weston Green</b>	3	-2%	This ward comprises the suburban villages of Hinchley Wood and Weston Green. Both of the villages are linked by the Kingston by-pass and Hampton Court Way.	<p>We received 109 submissions specifically relating to Hinchley Wood &amp; Weston Green ward. The respondents from Hinchley Wood mostly supported our draft recommendations which avoided dividing the village between two wards. However, some respondents argued that the Lynwood Road area should be included in a ward with Hinchley Wood. They argued that residents in the Lynwood Road area share close community links with the remainder of Hinchley Wood. The area is also connected to Hinchley Wood via a footpath over the railway line.</p> <p>We are unable to accommodate the changes proposed by respondents in this area. While transferring the Lynwood Road area to Hinchley Wood &amp; Weston Green ward would result in an acceptable electoral variance, Long Ditton ward would have a variance in excess of 20% fewer electors. This greatly exceeds what we would consider to be an acceptable variance. Furthermore, our draft recommendations better reflect transport links in this area. Therefore, we are confirming our draft recommendations relating to the Lynwood Road area as final.</p> <p>We also received submissions from respondents in Lower Green and Weston Green. Some local residents objected to Weston Green being included with Hinchley Wood in the same ward. A number of respondents including the local primary school argued that part of Lower Green to the north of the railway line be included in Hinchley Wood &amp; Weston Green ward. However, a number of respondents also objected to this arrangement, preferring to remain in Esher</p>

				<p>ward. Having considered the evidence received, we have decided that Lower Green should remain in Esher ward. We do not consider that sufficient evidence has been received to justify that part of Lower Green being included in Hinchley Wood &amp; Weston Green ward. Furthermore, we are unable to accommodate both Lower Green and the Lynwood Road area in the same ward as this would result in poor electoral equality. Therefore, we are confirming our draft recommendations in this area of Weston Green as final.</p>
<b>Long Ditton</b>	3	-16%	<p>This ward comprises the residential suburb of Long Ditton and is bordered to east by the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames.</p>	<p>We received 202 submissions specifically relating to Long Ditton ward. All of the respondents objected to our draft proposals to include an area between Portsmouth Road and Thorkhill Road in this ward. The respondents argued that Portsmouth Road is not a barrier between communities and that Giggs Hill Green is a focal point for communities on either side. The area also has close community links and shares community facilities with the rest of Thames Ditton. In particular, it was argued that this community uses shops, a GP surgery and leisure facilities on the other side of Portsmouth Road. Furthermore, there is a local cricket club used and followed by residents to the north-west of Giggs Hill Green. It also has a strong and active residents' association which covers the established Thames Ditton area. All of the respondents therefore proposed that this area be transferred to Thames Ditton ward.</p> <p>After carefully considering the evidence received, we are persuaded that our draft recommendations should be modified in this area. We propose the area between Portsmouth Road and Thorkhill Road is transferred to Thames Ditton ward. This change would result in a variance of 16% fewer electors for Long Ditton ward. However, we consider the evidence received from respondents in the</p>

				<p>Thames Ditton area makes a very persuasive case to justify this. The above changes better reflect the Long Ditton and Thames Ditton communities and take into account well-established boundaries as well as county division boundaries in this area. Therefore, we propose this modified Long Ditton ward as part of our final recommendations.</p>
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## Molesey, Thames Ditton and Walton-on-Thames

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
<b>Molesey East</b>	3	9%	This ward comprises East Molesey Village and Hurst Park. The ward borders Greater London and the River Thames to the north. In the south of the ward lies the Island Barn Reservoir.	Our draft recommendations were generally supported by the local residents' association for Molesey. However, we received a petition from local residents objecting to an area north of the River Mole being included in Thames Ditton ward. Local residents and the residents' association proposed this area be transferred to Molesey East ward. We are unable to accommodate this proposal as the number of electors to transfer would result in a high electoral variance for Molesey East ward. There is also insufficient evidence to make this change. In the absence of a viable alternative for this ward, we have made no changes and confirm Molesey East ward as part of our final recommendations.
<b>Molesey West</b>	3	7%	This ward comprises West Molesey Village. The ward borders Greater London and the River Thames to the north.	Our draft recommendations were generally supported by the local residents' association for Molesey. The residents' association proposed including parts of Beauchamp Road, Molesey Park Road, Seymour Road, Spencer Road, Molesey Park Close, Seymour Close and The Wilderness in this ward. However, we consider our draft proposals better reflect communities in this part of Molesey and achieve good electoral equality. Therefore, we have made no changes and confirm Molesey West ward as part of our final recommendations.
<b>Thames Ditton</b>	3	6%	This ward comprises the residential suburb of Thames Ditton. The ward borders Greater London and the River Thames to the north-east.	The local residents' association for Molesey objected to including an area north of the River Mole in this ward. As explained in the Molesey East section of this report, we are unable to include this area in Molesey East ward as it would result in a high electoral variance and we have not received sufficient evidence to justify it. We therefore propose no

				changes in the northern part of Thames Ditton ward. Furthermore, the local residents' association for Thames Ditton objected to our draft proposals which included the area between Portsmouth Road and Thorkhill Road in Long Ditton ward. As explained in the Long Ditton section of this report, the evidence received from respondents was very persuasive and justified a modification to our draft recommendations. We have included the area mentioned above in this ward. This change better reflects community identities in Thames Ditton and results in good electoral equality for this ward. It forms part of our final recommendations.
<b>Walton Central</b>	3	-7%	This ward comprises the centre of Walton-on-Thames. Church Street and Terrace Road run through the centre of the ward.	We received support for Walton Central ward from the local residents' association for Walton-on-Thames. Some respondents objected to being included in this ward from Oatlands Park. However, we do not consider that sufficient evidence has been received to make changes to this ward. Therefore, we propose no changes to Walton Central ward and confirm it as part of our final recommendations.
<b>Walton North</b>	3	-6%	This ward comprises the north of Walton-on-Thames. The remainder of the ward is made up of the Bessborough, Knight and Queen Elizabeth II reservoirs and industrial land.	We received support for Walton North ward from the local residents' association for Walton-on-Thames. The Council proposed a minor amendment to transfer part of Sidney Road and Newhall Gardens to this ward. We consider this provides for a clearer boundary and have made this amendment. We received further submissions that the Field Common area should be transferred to Walton South ward. It was suggested that the area has a closer road connection with Walton South ward. We are persuaded by this evidence received and propose to modify our draft recommendations. The change also results in good electoral equality. We confirm these changes as part of our final recommendations.

<b>Walton South</b>	3	7%	The south of Walton-on-Thames comprises the residential area of Rydens, Field Common and Ashley Park. It is bordered to the south by the railway line.	We received support for Walton South ward from the local residents' association for Walton-on-Thames and local residents. As explained above in the Walton North section of the report, we have included the Field Common area in this ward and accepted a minor boundary amendment proposed by the Council. We propose no other changes to this ward.
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## Burwood Park, Oatlands Park and Weybridge

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	Description	Detail
<b>Oatlands &amp; Burwood Park</b>	3	-7%	This ward comprises the residential areas of Oatlands Park and Burwood Park.	<p>We received 37 submissions specifically relating to this ward. The Council proposed a minor boundary amendment which transferred Marlborough Drive to Weybridge Riverside ward and proposed renaming the ward Oatlands &amp; Burwood Park. The majority of respondents from Burwood Park objected to being included with Oatlands Park. Burwood Park respondents preferred that the area be included in Hersham Village ward. Local residents from Oatlands Park also objected to our proposals to include the area with Burwood Park.</p> <p>After considering the submissions received, we accept the proposals of the Council to amend the ward boundary and change the ward name. We consider that the proposals provide for a clearer ward boundary and better reflect communities. While we note the local views on the differences between Oatlands Park and Burwood Park, we are not persuaded to amend our draft recommendations. We consider it preferable to unite different communities in the same ward rather than divide a community between wards. If we placed these areas in different wards we would be required to divide communities in order to fit in with the wider warding pattern for the authority and minimise electoral variances. There are also good road links over the railway line via Ashley Road and Queens Road. We consider this ward best reflects the statutory criteria. Therefore, other than the changes proposed by the Council we propose no other changes to Oatlands &amp; Burwood Park ward and confirm it as part of our final recommendations.</p>

<b>Weybridge Riverside</b>	3	-7%	This ward comprises Weybridge town to north of the railway line. The ward shares a boundary with the River Wey navigation to the west.	The Council proposed a minor amendment to include Marlborough Drive in this ward. Although one respondent commented that the ward name was not appropriate, our draft proposals were largely supported. We accept the amendment of the Council as we consider it provides for a clearer ward boundary. We confirm Weybridge Riverside ward as part of our final recommendations.
<b>Weybridge St George's Hill</b>	3	2%	This ward mostly comprises the St George's Hill area of Weybridge. It also takes in part of Weybridge to the north of the railway line.	We received 40 submissions specifically relating to this part of Weybridge. One of the respondents supported the ward name and the proposed ward. The remaining respondents objected to an area of Weybridge between Hanger Hill and Queens Road being included in this ward. They argued that this area should be included in Weybridge Riverside ward. Having considered the submissions received, we are unable to accommodate the changes proposed by local residents. We do not consider that strong evidence has been received to justify such a change. We propose no changes to Weybridge St George's Hill ward and confirm it as part of our final recommendations.

# Conclusions

32 Table 1 shows the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2014 and 2021 electorate figures.

**Table 1: Summary of electoral arrangements**

	Final recommendations	
	2014	2021
Number of councillors	48	48
Number of electoral wards	16	16
Average number of electors per councillor	2,044	2,102
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	2	2
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

**Final recommendation**  
 Elmbridge Borough Council should comprise 48 councillors serving 16 three-member wards. The details and names are shown in Table A1 and illustrated on the large map accompanying this report.

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

### 3 What happens next?

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

#### Equalities

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

## Appendix A

**Table A1: Final recommendations for Elmbridge Borough Council**

	<b>Ward name</b>	<b>Number of councillors</b>	<b>Electorate (2014)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>	<b>Electorate (2021)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>
1	Claygate	3	5,451	1,817	-11%	5,571	1,857	-12%
2	Cobham & Downside	3	6,382	2,127	4%	6,690	2,230	6%
3	Esher	3	6,410	2,137	5%	6,667	2,222	6%
4	Hersham Village	3	6,024	2,008	-2%	6,726	2,242	7%
5	Hinchley Wood & Weston Green	3	6,372	2,124	4%	6,188	2,063	-2%
6	Long Ditton	3	5,214	1,738	-15%	5,268	1,756	-16%
7	Molesey East	3	6,619	2,206	8%	6,851	2,284	9%
8	Molesey West	3	6,701	2,234	9%	6,753	2,251	7%
9	Oatlands & Burwood Park	3	5,759	1,920	-6%	5,888	1,963	-7%
10	Oxshott & Stoke D'Abernon	3	6,406	2,135	4%	6,713	2,238	6%
11	Thames Ditton	3	6,269	2,090	2%	6,706	2,235	6%
12	Walton Central	3	5,854	1,951	-5%	5,858	1,953	-7%
13	Walton North	3	5,974	1,991	-3%	5,906	1,969	-6%



**Table A1 (cont.): Final recommendations for Elmbridge Borough Council**

	<b>Ward name</b>	<b>Number of councillors</b>	<b>Electorate (2014)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>	<b>Electorate (2021)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>
14	Walton South	3	6,767	2,256	10%	6,775	2,258	7%
15	Weybridge Riverside	3	5,791	1,930	-6%	5,885	1,962	-7%
16	Weybridge St George's Hill	3	6,117	2,039	0%	6,451	2,150	2%
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>98,110</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100,896</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>Averages</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,044</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,102</b>	<b>-</b>

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

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

# Appendix B

## Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/south-east/surrey/elmbridge>

### Local authority

- Elmbridge Borough Council

### Political parties and organisations

- Elmbridge Liberal Democrats
- Esher Residents' Association
- Hersham Residents' Association
- Hinchley Wood Residents' Association
- Molesey Residents' Association
- St George's Hill Independents
- Thames Ditton & Weston Green Residents' Association (x3)
- The Walton Society

### Members of Parliament

- Dominic Raab MP (Esher & Walton)

### Local organisations

- All Saints Weston Green Parish Church
- Cranmere Primary School
- Lynwood Road Residents' Association
- Parochial Church of Esher
- Whiteley Village Homes Trust
- Women's Wednesday Fellowship

### Councillors

- Councillor S. Bax (Elmbridge Borough Council)
- Councillor R. Bruce (Elmbridge Borough Council) (x2)
- Councillor B. Cheyne (Elmbridge Borough Council)
- Councillor C. Cross (Elmbridge Borough Council)
- Councillor C. Elmer (Elmbridge Borough Council)
- Councillor N. Haig-Brown (Elmbridge Borough Council)
- Councillor P. Hickman (Surrey County Council) (x2)
- Councillor A. Kelly (Elmbridge Borough Council)
- Councillor R. Lake (Elmbridge Borough Council)
- Councillor S. Selleck (Elmbridge Borough Council)
- Councillor T. Shipley (Elmbridge Borough Council)

- Councillor P. Szanto (Elmbridge Borough Council)
- Councillor J. Turner (Elmbridge Borough Council)

### **Petitions**

- Keep Hersham Library in Hersham Campaign
- Queens Reach Residents/Hampton Court Parade/Waterside and other concerned residents petition
- Whiteley Village Boundary petition

### **Parish councils**

- Claygate Parish Council

### **Local Residents**

- 618 local residents

# Appendix C

## Glossary and abbreviations

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

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

