

New electoral arrangements for Malvern Hills District Council Final Recommendations

September 2022

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Introduction

Who we are and what we do

1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament.¹ 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.

2 The members of the Commission are:

- Professor Colin Mellors OBE (Chair)
- Andrew Scallan CBE (Deputy Chair)
- Susan Johnson OBE
- Peter Maddison QPM
- Amanda Nobbs OBE
- Steve Robinson
- Jolyon Jackson CBE (Chief Executive)

What is an electoral review?

3 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 there should be, where their boundaries are and what they should be called.
- How many councillors should represent each ward or division.

4 When carrying out an electoral review the Commission has three main considerations:

- Improving electoral equality by equalising the number of electors that each councillor represents.
- Ensuring that the recommendations reflect community identity.
- Providing arrangements that support effective and convenient local government.

5 Our task is to strike the best balance between these three considerations when making our recommendations.

¹ Under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

6 More detail regarding the powers that we have, as well as the further guidance and information about electoral reviews and review process in general, can be found on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Why Malvern Hills?

7 We are conducting a review of Malvern Hills District Council ('the Council') following a request from the Council. In addition, its last review was completed in 2002, and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.²

8 This electoral review is being carried out to ensure that:

- The wards in Malvern Hills are in the best possible places to help the Council carry out its responsibilities effectively.
- The number of electors represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the district.

Our proposals for Malvern Hills

9 Malvern Hills should be represented by 31 councillors, seven fewer than there are now.

10 Malvern Hills should have 18 wards, four fewer than there are now.

11 The boundaries of all but one ward should change; Kempsey will stay the same.

12 We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for Malvern Hills.

How will the recommendations affect you?

13 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 cases, which parish council ward you vote in. Your ward name may also change.

14 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the district or result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. The recommendations will not have an effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums and we are not able to consider any representations which are based on these issues.

² Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 56(1).

Review timetable

15 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Malvern Hills. We then held three periods of consultation with the public on warding patterns for the district. The submissions received during consultation have informed our final recommendations.

16 The review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
19 January 2021	Number of councillors decided
13 July 2021	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
20 September 2021	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
11 January 2022	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
21 March 2022	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
28 June 2022	Publication of further draft recommendations and start of consultation
8 August 2022	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
16 September 2022	Publication of final recommendations

Analysis and final recommendations

17 Legislation³ states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors⁴ there are now, but also on how many there are likely to be in the five years after the publication of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for our wards.

18 In reality, we are unlikely to be able to create wards with exactly the same number of electors in each; we have to be flexible. However, we try to keep the number of electors represented by each councillor as close to the average for the council as possible.

19 We work out the average number of electors per councillor for each individual local authority by dividing the electorate by the number of councillors, as shown on the table below.

	2021	2027
Electorate of Malvern Hills	62,286	69,940
Number of councillors	31	31
Average number of electors per councillor	2,009	2,256

20 When the number of electors per councillor in a ward is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the ward as having 'good electoral equality'. All but one of our proposed wards for Malvern Hills will have good electoral equality by 2027.

Submissions received

21 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Electorate figures

22 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2027, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2022. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 12% by 2027.

23 We considered the information provided by the Council and are satisfied that the projected figures are the best available at the present time. We have used these figures to produce our final recommendations.

³ Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

⁴ Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

Number of councillors

24 Malvern Hills Council currently has 38 councillors. We have looked at evidence provided by the Council and have concluded that decreasing this number by seven will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

25 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 31 councillors, for example, 31 one-councillor wards, or a mix of one-, two- and three-councillor wards.

26 We received eight submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on ward patterns. The majority either supported the reduction in councillors or argued that the number should be reduced further. However, neither these, nor the submissions objecting to a reduced council size, provided sufficient evidence to persuade us to change our recommendation for a reduction of seven councillors for Malvern Hills. We therefore based our further draft recommendations on a 31-councillor council.

27 We received two submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on our further draft recommendations. These submissions argued against reducing council size, particularly for rural areas. However, these submissions did not outline how these alternative proposals would deliver on our statutory criteria. We have therefore maintained 31 councillors for our final recommendations.

Ward boundaries consultation

28 We received 55 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included two district-wide proposals from West Worcestershire Conservative Association & the Malvern Hills District Council Conservative Group ('the Conservatives') and Malvern Hills District Council Independent & Green Councillors ('the Independents & Greens'). We also received a full scheme for Malvern from Malvern Town Council, and partial schemes from councillors Davies, Satterthwaite and Morton. West Worcestershire Constituency Labour Party expressed its support for 31 single-councillor wards across the district but did not provide specific proposals. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for wards in particular areas of the district.

29 The two district-wide schemes provided mixed patterns of wards. We carefully considered the proposals received and were of the view that the proposed patterns of wards resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the authority and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries.

30 Our draft recommendations also took into account local evidence that we received, which provided further evidence of community links and locally recognised boundaries. In some areas we considered that the proposals did not provide for the best balance between our statutory criteria and so we identified alternative boundaries.

Draft recommendations consultation

31 We received 97 submissions to our consultation on our initial set of draft recommendations. These included several partial schemes from parish councils.

32 Many of the proposed changes we were persuaded to adopt. Given the scale of the proposed changes, which had not been consulted on previously, we decided to publish further draft recommendations for the whole authority and undertake a further round of consultation.

Further draft recommendations consultation

33 We received 125 submissions in response to our further draft recommendations. These included comments across the district, but were particularly focused on the south-west and north-east of Malvern Hills. We did not receive any further schemes but received comments from the Council, two political groups, as well as multiple councillors and parish/town councils.

Final recommendations

34 Our final recommendations are for two three-councillor wards, nine two-councillor wards and seven one-councillor wards. We consider that our final recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

35 As a result of the circumstances related to the outbreak of Covid-19, we did not conduct a visit to the area to look at the various different proposals on the ground. However, we were able to conduct a detailed, virtual tour of Malvern Hills. This helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

36 The Malvern Hills Trust, a body responsible for care and management of the Malvern Hills and Commons, expressed concern that our recommendations would disrupt the connection between those electors who pay a levy towards the trust and those who have voting rights in trust elections. In particular, it pointed out that our proposals would see some electors lose their rights to vote in trust elections while still paying the related levy and some who could vote but would not pay the levy. The trust argued we should not amend the external boundaries of Malvern town wards so they were no longer aligned with the relevant parishes.

37 We recognise that our recommendations might have an adverse effect on the administrative and voting arrangements of the trust. We have considered the evidence provided but are not bound to recognise the trust's boundaries in our warding arrangements. If the trust wanted to resolve this situation it might wish to approach the relevant government department with a view to seeking amendments to its legislation.

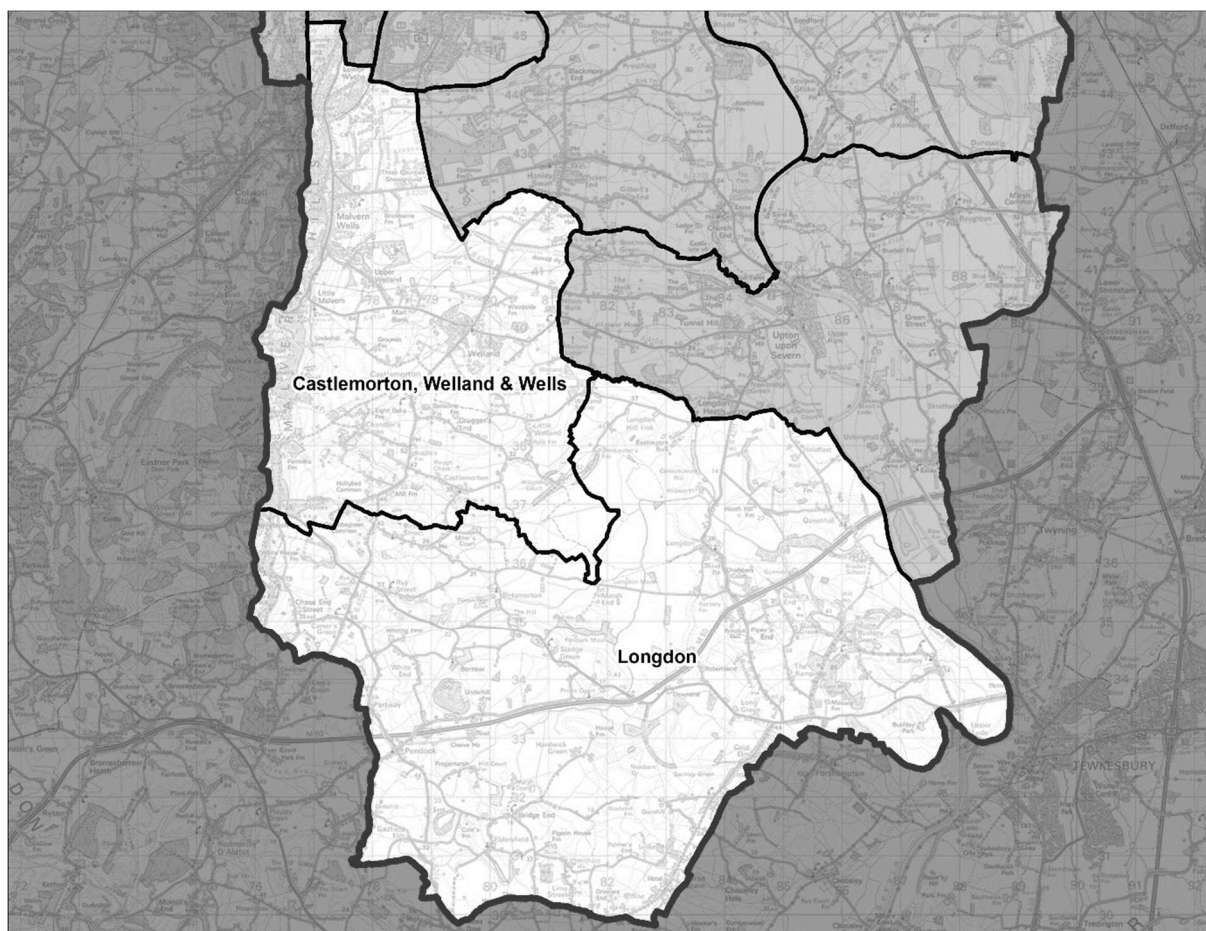
38 The tables and maps on pages 9–21 detail our final recommendations for each area of Malvern Hills. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory⁵ criteria of:

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

39 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 29 and on the large map accompanying this report.

⁵ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

South-west Malvern Hills



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Castlemorton, Welland & Wells	2	0%
Longdon	1	-7%

Castlemorton, Welland & Wells and Longdon

40 Our further draft recommendations for this area were for a two-councillor Longdon & Welland ward, covering the existing Longdon and Morton wards, as well as Little Malvern parish and the Upper Welland area of Malvern Wells parish.

41 There was support for some elements of this proposal, including transferring Queenhill, Holdfast and Bushley parishes into a ward facing west rather than across the River Severn. However, the size of our proposed two-councillor Longdon & Welland ward was criticised, given both its geographical scope and the number of parishes it would encompass. This view was put forward by some residents and Councillor Behan.

42 Several submissions, from the Council, the Independents & Greens and a resident, argued that this two-councillor ward should be separated into two single-

councillor wards, with the boundary being drawn at the southern and eastern edges of Castlemorton.

43 While we assessed that this would be an improvement on our previous proposals in light of the evidence received, we also received a large number of comments concerning the northern boundary of Longdon & Welland and its links to Malvern Wells.

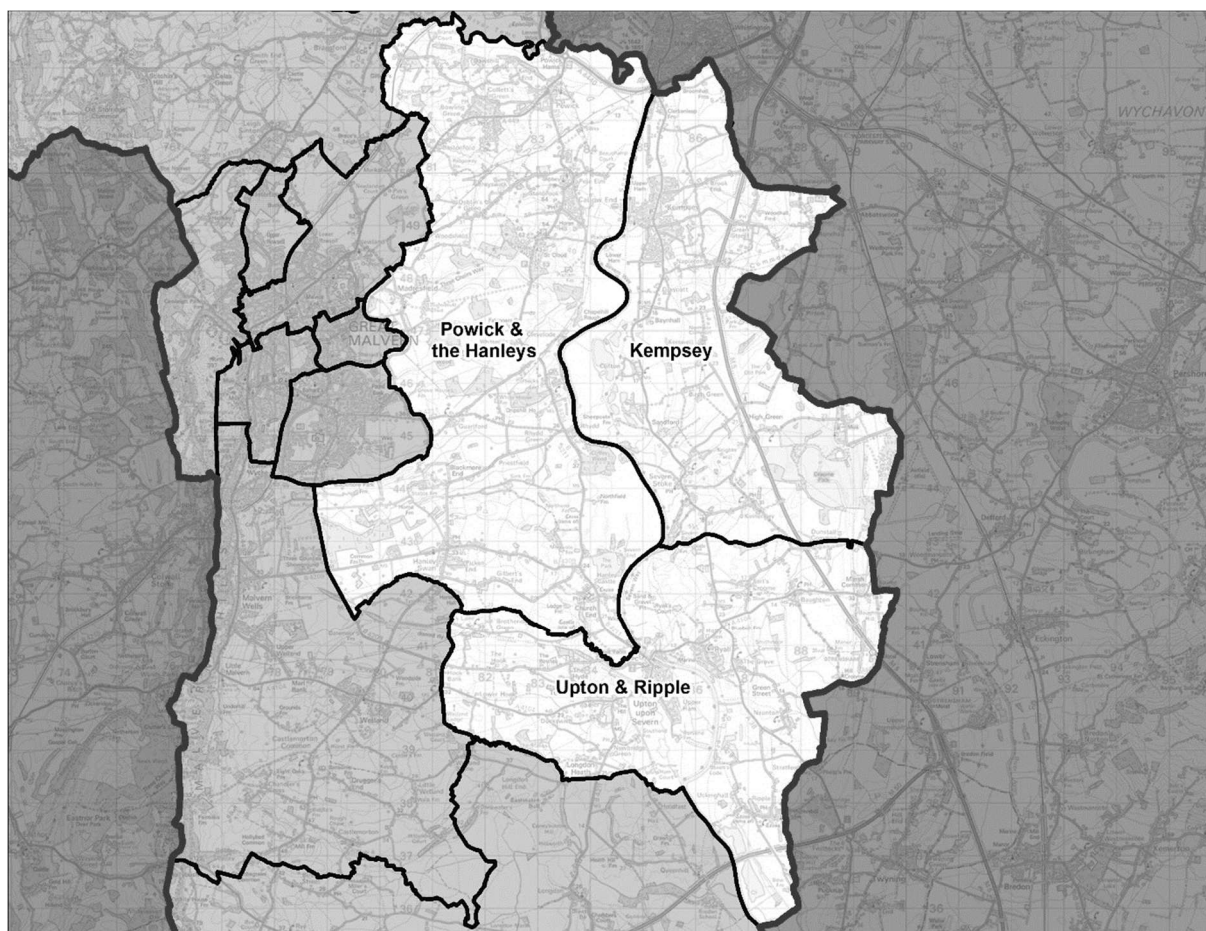
44 Broadly, these comments argued that separating the Upper Welland area of Malvern Wells parish and placing it in a ward with Welland would not reflect local communities. Malvern Wells Parish Council and multiple residents were of this view.

45 The size of Malvern Wells parish means that it is not possible to create a single-councillor ward for just this parish, and we do not consider that merging it with part of Malvern itself would reflect community identities given we received no proposals that suggested such a ward. Therefore, the best balance of our criteria, which allows for the unification of Malvern Wells parish in one ward, is to create a two-councillor ward covering Malvern Wells, Welland, Little Malvern and Castlemorton parishes.

46 We acknowledge that this does not reflect either the preferences of Castlemorton Parish Council and Little Malvern & Welland Parish Council to be in a single-councillor ward or Councillor Davies' proposal of the same nature. However, we consider that, given this will be a fairly compact two-councillor ward of four whole parishes, it is preferable to our previous proposal for a significantly larger Longdon & Welland ward.

47 Furthermore, we note that this does not reflect the comments from the Malvern Hills Trust, which requested no change from the current ward boundaries separating Malvern Wells parish from those parishes to the south. We consider that, in spite of this, this situation is an improvement on our previous sets of proposals as it no longer separates Malvern Wells parish between different wards. While other parishes are now included in said ward, as outlined in paragraph 45, it is not possible to maintain the existing pattern without unacceptable electoral inequality.

East Malvern Hills



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Kempsey	2	5%
Powick & the Hanleys	2	5%
Upton & Ripple	2	-5%

Upton & Ripple

48 In our draft recommendations we proposed a single-councillor Upton ward and a single-councillor Ripple ward. We received many responses opposing our recommendations and stating that our Ripple ward crossed the River Severn without a road crossing within the ward. They also rejected our proposals on the basis that they would separate the grouped parish council of Longdon, Queenhill & Holdfast.

49 We addressed these points in our further draft recommendations for Longdon & Welland ward, which restored the Severn as a ward boundary. The changes in our final recommendations to a single-councillor Longdon ward retain this part of the arrangement.

50 Our proposed Upton & Ripple ward in our further draft recommendations was supported by Councillor Allen, Upton upon Severn Town Council and a resident. Ripple Parish Council maintained its opposition to being in a ward with Upton on the grounds of being a more rural area which could not be represented effectively by the same councillors. Earls Croome Parish Council and a resident offered a similar view. However, their alternative proposal was to be in a ward with those parishes mentioned in paragraph 48, and we considered that on the balance of the evidence we received, we were not minded to propose a ward which crossed the Severn.

51 We therefore confirm our further draft recommendations for a two-councillor Upton & Ripple ward as final.

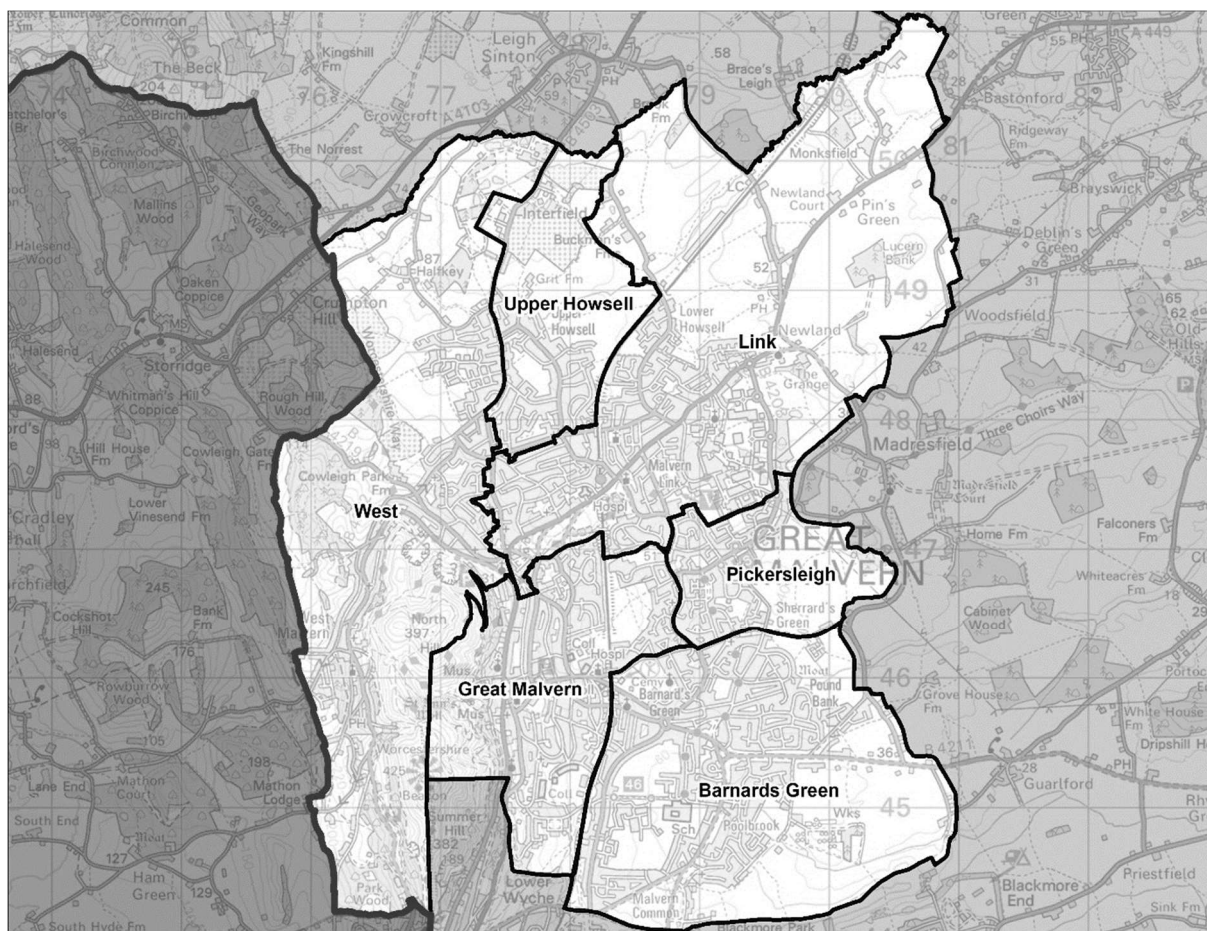
Kempsey and Powick & the Hanleys

52 We did not make any changes in our further draft recommendations from our original proposals for these two wards.

53 The responses we received at this stage were limited. The Council proposing renaming Powick ward to Powick & the Hanleys to better reflect the multiple parishes included. Severn Stoke & Croome d'Abitot Parish Council and a resident expressed their support for these wards. One resident argued that Hanley Castle parish should be in a ward with Upton, and that Powick ward stretched too far south. However, as outlined in the initial draft recommendations, to reduce the size of this ward required splitting Powick parish between more than one ward. We did not assess that to do this would either reflect community identities and interests or provide for effective and convenient local government.

54 We therefore confirm our further draft recommendations for the two-councillor wards for Kempsey and Powick as final, with the only change that Powick ward be renamed Powick & the Hanleys.

Malvern



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Barnards Green	3	8%
Great Malvern	2	-8%
Link	3	-3%
Pickersleigh	1	-4%
Upper Howsell	1	2%
West	2	0%

Barnards Green and Link

55 We did not make any amendments to our draft proposals for these two wards in our further draft proposals. We did not receive any specific comments on these areas in the most recent consultation. Councillor Walton and the Independents & Greens both expressed their opposition to three-councillor wards in general, but did not outline an alternative pattern in this area. We therefore confirm these wards as final.

Great Malvern and Pickersleigh

56 Our draft recommendations were for a single-councillor Pickersleigh ward and a two-councillor Priory ward, broadly based on Malvern Town Council's proposals. In our further draft recommendations, on the basis of responses received, we combined these into a three-councillor Great Malvern & Pickersleigh ward. This addressed the issue identified in our draft recommendations, that a part of Pickersleigh to the east of the railway line was separated from the remainder of that area. We considered that combining these two areas into a three-councillor ward provided the best balance of our criteria.

57 However, in response to this proposal, numerous respondents argued that the areas of Pickersleigh and Great Malvern/Priory were totally distinct, and that the previous pattern of two separate wards should be reverted to. They acknowledged the issue of separating parts of Pickersleigh but considered that this was still the best arrangement. Several residents, Councillor Bennett, the Independents & Greens and the Liberal Democrats all put this view forward.

58 We are therefore reverting to our original draft recommendations for a single-councillor Pickersleigh ward and a two-councillor Priory ward, though we propose to retain the ward name of Great Malvern in place of Priory as in our further draft recommendations.

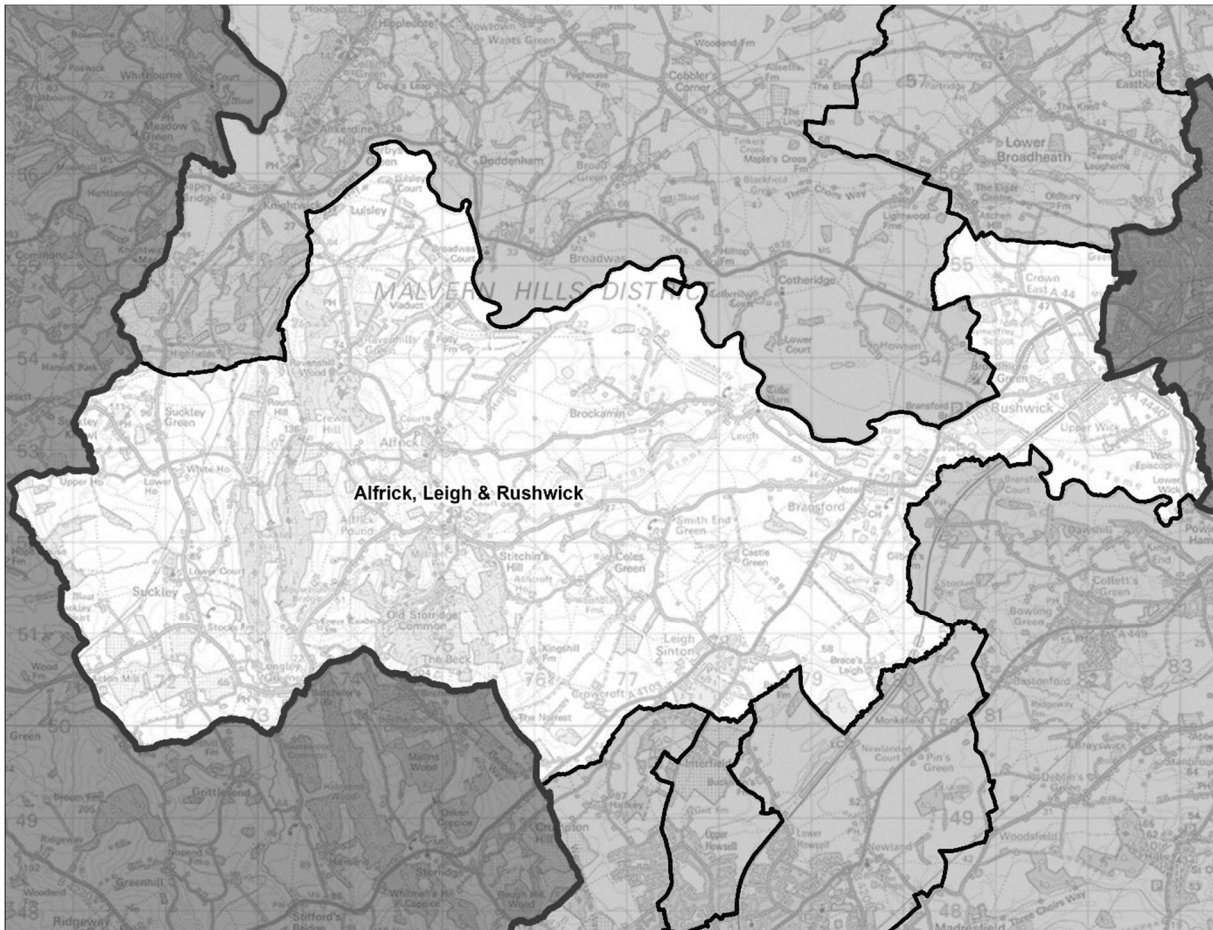
Upper Howsell and West

59 Similarly to Priory and Pickersleigh, we had proposed a three-councillor Dyson Perrins & West Malvern ward in our further draft recommendations. This combined the Upper Howsell and West wards we proposed in our original draft proposals, and was amended because of comments received that the Upper Howsell area was not distinct and lacked amenities of its own.

60 In response to this further draft proposal, however, numerous respondents argued against this combination. Several mentioned that links between the far ends of this proposed ward would be extremely limited, stretching from the southern edge of the Malvern Hills themselves to flat rural land to the north of the town. Some comments argued that there were more connections between the Upper Howsell area and Link, and so if it was not possible to put them in the same ward then it should be a single-councillor ward in its own right.

61 We carefully weighed all the responses received, including those in the most recent consultation which argued in favour of the three-councillor option on the basis that it was almost coterminous with the Worcestershire County Council division of Malvern Trinity. However, on the balance of the evidence, we considered that it was preferable to create one single- and one two-councillor ward, because it would allow for better representation of specific communities and was consistent with our decisions elsewhere in Malvern.

Alfrick, Leigh & Rushwick



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Alfrick, Leigh & Rushwick	2	6%

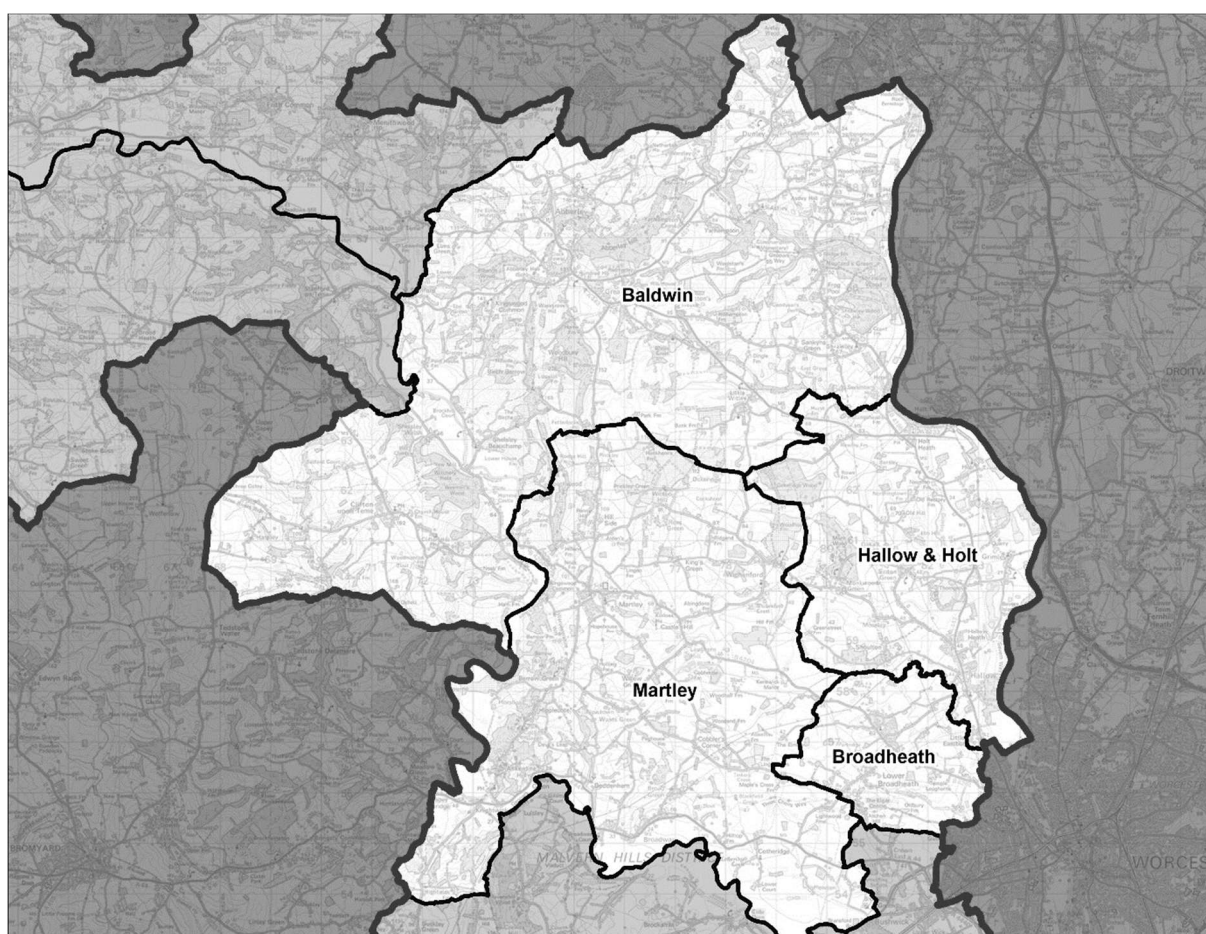
Alfrick, Leigh & Rushwick

62 Our further draft proposals were for a two-councillor ward covering six parishes in this area. This proposal was in place of the two single-councillor wards we had proposed in our initial draft recommendations. We were persuaded to make this change because of the strong evidence provided about the detrimental effect on effective and convenient local government that would result from separating Leigh and Bransford and Alfrick and Lulsley parishes, respectively.

63 We received mixed responses to this proposal. It was supported by Councillor Chambers, the Independents & Greens, Alfrick & Lulsley and Suckley parish councils and several residents. However, Councillor Walton, the Liberal Democrats and several residents expressed their opposition, on the basis that it would reduce representation for rural areas and that Rushwick needed its own dedicated councillor.

64 On balance, our assessment was that this two-councillor arrangement was preferable, as it avoided the separation of grouped parishes, and therefore provided for more effective and convenient local government. We were not able to find an alternative single-member pattern which provided for good electoral equality and avoided either separating grouped parishes or splitting individual parishes between district wards. We therefore confirm our further draft recommendations for this ward as final.

North-east Malvern Hills



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Baldwin	2	-5%
Broadheath	1	-6%
Hallow & Holt	1	4%
Martley	1	12%

Baldwin, Broadheath, Hallow & Holt and Martley

65 Our draft proposals were for single-councillor Baldwin, Broadheath and Hallow & Holt wards, and a two-councillor Martley & Teme Valley ward.

66 The comments we received broadly supported the single-councillor wards in the eastern side of this part of the district, but strongly opposed the Martley & Teme Valley ward. They argued it combined disparate areas and was too geographically large, comprising too many parishes for councillors to effectively represent.

67 Our further draft proposals were significantly influenced by the submission from Abberley Parish Council, which had opposed being in a separate ward from its neighbouring parishes. Based on this, we amended our proposals for a two-

councillor Baldwin ward, a two-councillor Broadheath ward and a single-councillor Martley ward.

68 In response, we received support for our proposals for Baldwin ward but significant opposition to our proposal for a two-councillor Broadheath ward. The latter included responses from councillors Clarke and Walton, Grimley and Hallow parish councils, the Liberal Democrats and numerous residents. They variously outlined their views of the benefits of single-councillor wards in rural areas, that Hallow and Broadheath parishes were extremely different and so needed specific representation, and that Hallow and Holt were better connected, along with Grimley.

69 We received comments in support of our further draft proposals for Baldwin and Martley wards from Abberley, Knightwick & Doddenham and Little Witley parish councils, councillors Jones-Williams, Pamela Cumming, Paul Cumming, Richardson Brown, Eberlin, Cumella, Chambers, and the Independents & Greens. Specific to certain areas, they argued that the combinations of parishes in the further draft proposals better reflected community identities than did our original draft proposals.

70 However, it was not possible to revert to our draft proposals for Hallow & Holt and Broadheath wards, and simultaneously retain our further draft proposals for the rest of the area, given that there were several areas of overlap. We therefore propose to revert to the original draft proposals for Hallow & Holt and Broadheath wards, and retain the bulk of the further draft proposals for the other areas. Consequently, we are recommending some further changes based on evidence received and to ensure good electoral equality in this area.

71 The further draft Baldwin ward is retained, with the exception of Holt parish forming part of Hallow & Holt ward on the balance of evidence received, and the transfer of Clifton upon Teme and Lower Sapey parishes into the new Martley ward. While we acknowledge that this is contrary to the comment from Councillor Cumella, who commented on the links between Clifton upon Teme and Martley, we consider that this allows for the best balance of our statutory criteria for this part of the district.

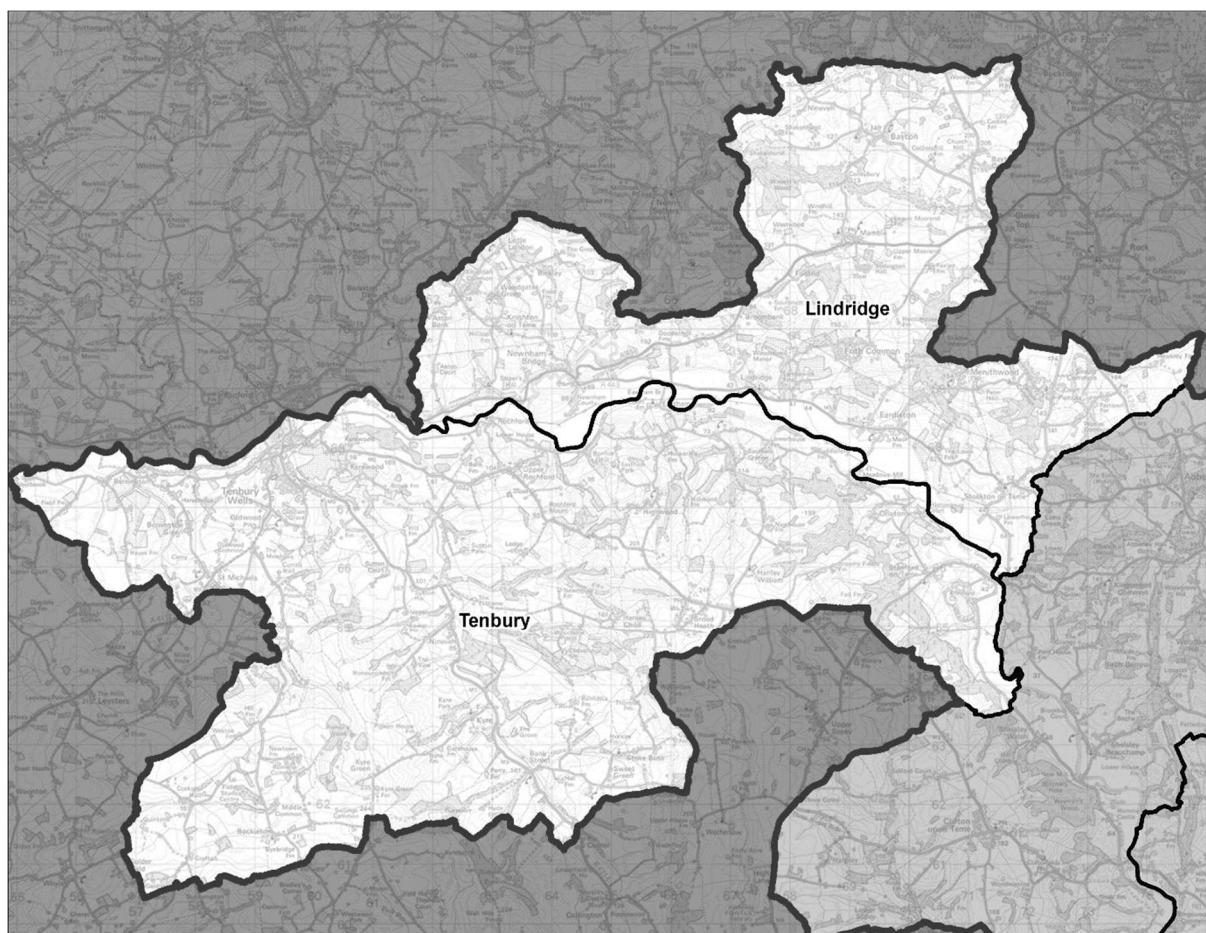
72 The parishes of Broadwas, Cotheridge, Kenswick and Wichenford will also form part of the single-councillor Martley ward. Kenswick & Wichenford Parish Council and a resident expressed their support for being in the same ward as Martley, whereas Broadwas & Cotheridge Parish Council was unhappy with being in a multi-member ward – this arrangement would see them form part of a single-councillor ward.

73 Broadwas & Cotheridge Parish Council also argued that the review should be postponed to allow for more consultation. However, we are not minded to do so given that we have already consulted on three occasions across the area and had a

wide variety of local submissions and views to consider as we developed our final recommendations.

74 Our assessment is that this warding pattern best reflects the evidence received over three rounds of consultation about community identity and effective and convenient local government. It also ensures that wards will have reasonable electoral equality. We acknowledge that there are some changes being made at this stage which are not being consulted upon, but we assess that this outcome provides the best balance of our statutory criteria and takes account of the submissions received over three periods of consultation. In combining elements of our previous recommendations as well as the two specific changes identified above, we consider that our final recommendations for this area provide the best reflection of the local community evidence we have received throughout the review.

North-west Malvern Hills



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Lindridge	1	0%
Tenbury	2	-7%

Lindridge and Tenbury

75 We did not make any changes to our draft proposals for a single-councillor Lindridge ward and a two-councillor Tenbury ward in our further draft recommendations.

76 One resident opposed our proposed Tenbury ward on the grounds it was too geographically large but, as outlined in our further draft recommendations, we considered this arrangement was preferable to splitting this area into two single-councillor wards, which would require Tenbury parish being separated between wards.

77 Councillor Godwin, Pensax Parish Council and the Council supported our proposed Lindridge ward. One comment argued that Pensax looked to the east and should be included in a ward with the Witleys, but we were not persuaded by the

evidence provided to make this change. We therefore confirm our further draft proposals for the north-west of the district as final.

Conclusions

78 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality in Malvern Hills, referencing the 2021 and 2027 electorate figures against the proposed number of councillors and wards. A full list of wards, names and their corresponding electoral variances can be found at Appendix A to the back of this report. An outline map of the wards is provided at Appendix B.

Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2021	2027
Number of councillors	31	31
Number of electoral wards	18	18
Average number of electors per councillor	2,009	2,256
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	2	1
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	1	0

Final recommendations

Malvern Hills District Council should be made up of 31 councillors serving 18 wards representing seven single-councillor wards, nine two-councillor wards and two three-councillor wards. The details and names are shown in Appendix A and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

Mapping

Sheet 1, Map 1 shows the proposed wards for Malvern Hills.

You can also view our final recommendations for Malvern Hills on our interactive maps at www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk

Parish electoral arrangements

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

80 Under the 2009 Act we only have the power to make changes to parish electoral arrangements where these are as a direct consequence of our recommendations for principal authority warding arrangements. However, Malvern Hills District Council has powers under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct community governance reviews to effect changes to parish electoral arrangements.

81 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Malvern Town Council.

82 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Malvern parish.

Final recommendations

Malvern Town Council should comprise 20 councillors, as at present, representing nine wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Chase	4
Great Malvern	3
Link	4
Lygon	1
Pickersleigh	2
Pound Bank	1
St Joseph's	1
Upper Howsell	2
West	2

What happens next?

83 We have now completed our review of Malvern Hills. 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 2023.

Equalities

84 The Commission has looked at how it carries out reviews under the guidelines set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. It has made best endeavours to ensure that people with protected characteristics can participate in the review process and is sufficiently satisfied that no adverse equality impacts will arise as a result of the outcome of the review.

Appendices

Appendix A

Final recommendations for Malvern Hills District Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2027)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Alfrick, Leigh & Rushwick	2	3,801	1,901	-5%	4,780	2,390	6%
2	Baldwin	2	3,837	1,919	-5%	4,295	2,148	-5%
3	Barnards Green	3	6,454	2,151	7%	7,299	2,433	8%
4	Broadheath	1	1,502	1,502	-25%	2,123	2,123	-6%
5	Castlemorton, Welland & Wells	2	4,273	2,137	6%	4,520	2,260	0%
6	Great Malvern	2	3,888	1,944	-3%	4,167	2,084	-8%
7	Hallow & Holt	1	2,203	2,203	10%	2,349	2,349	4%
8	Kempsey	2	3,829	1,915	-5%	4,751	2,376	5%
9	Lindridge	1	2,124	2,124	6%	2,259	2,259	0%
10	Link	3	5,720	1,907	-5%	6,580	2,193	-3%
11	Longdon	1	1,969	1,969	-2%	2,096	2,096	-7%
12	Martley	1	2,387	2,387	19%	2,522	2,522	12%
13	Pickersleigh	1	2,019	2,019	0%	2,165	2,165	-4%
14	Powick & the Hanleys	2	4,308	2,154	7%	4,719	2,360	5%
15	Tenbury	2	3,619	1,810	-10%	4,182	2,091	-7%

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2027)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
16 Upper Howsell	1	2,188	2,188	9%	2,304	2,304	2%
17 Upton & Ripple	2	3,966	1,983	-1%	4,306	2,153	-5%
18 West	2	4,199	2,100	4%	4,523	2,262	0%
Totals	31	62,286	-	-	69,940	-	-
Averages	-	-	2,009	-	-	2,256	-

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Malvern Hills District 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 district. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Appendix B

Outline map



A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/west-midlands/worcestershire/malvern-hills

Appendix C

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at:

www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/west-midlands/worcestershire/malvern-hills

Local Authority

- Malvern Hills District Council

Political Groups

- Malvern Hills Independent & Green Group of councillors
- West Worcestershire Liberal Democrats

Councillors

- Councillor Martin Allen (Malvern Hills District Council and Worcestershire County Council)
- Councillor Kaleem Aksar (Malvern Hills District Council and Malvern Town Council)
- Councillor Bronwen Behan (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor Paul Bennett (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor David Chambers (Malvern Hills District Council and Worcestershire County Council)
- Councillor Dean Clarke (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor Stuart Cumella (Martley Parish Council)
- Councillor Pamela Cumming (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor Paul Cumming (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor Michael Davies (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor Cathie Eberlin (Abberley Parish Council)
- Councillor Douglas R. Godwin (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor Barbara Jones-Williams (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor John Raine (Malvern Hills District Council)
- Councillor Scott Richardson Brown (Worcestershire County Council)
- Councillor Daniel Walton (Malvern Hills District Council)

Local Organisations

- Malvern Hills Trust

Parish and Town Councils

- Abberley Parish Council
- Alfrick & Lulsley Parish Council
- Broadwas & Cotheridge Parish Council
- Castlemorton Parish Council
- Earls Croome Parish Council
- Grimley Parish Council
- Hallow Parish Council
- Kenswick & Wichenford Parish Council
- Knightwick & Doddenham Parish Council
- Little Malvern & Welland Parish Council
- Little Witley Parish Council
- Malvern Wells Parish Council
- Pensax Parish Council
- Ripple Parish Council
- Severn Stoke & Croome d'Abitot Parish Council
- Suckley Parish Council
- Upton Town Council

Local Residents

- 88 local residents

Appendix D

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 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. We only take account of electors registered specifically for local elections during our reviews.
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 can 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 www.nalc.gov.uk
Under-represented	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Variance (or electoral variance)	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward or division varies in percentage terms from the average
Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council

Translations and other formats:

To get this report in another language or in a large-print or Braille version, please contact the Local Government Boundary Commission for England at:

Tel: 0330 500 1525

Email: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

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A note on our mapping:

The maps shown in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Whilst best efforts have been made by our staff to ensure that the maps included in this report are representative of the boundaries described by the text, there may be slight variations between these maps and the large PDF map that accompanies this report, or the digital mapping supplied on our consultation portal. This is due to the way in which the final mapped products are produced. The reader should therefore refer to either the large PDF supplied with this report or the digital mapping for the true likeness of the boundaries intended. The boundaries as shown on either the large PDF map or the digital mapping should always appear identical.

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) was set up by Parliament, independent of Government and political parties. It is directly accountable to Parliament through a committee chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons. It is responsible for conducting boundary, electoral and structural reviews of local government.

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