

# New electoral arrangements for Kirklees Council Draft Recommendations

February 2024

# Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Kirklees Council

Electoral review

February 2024

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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.

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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.<sup>1</sup> 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)
- Amanda Nobbs OBE
- Steve Robinson
- Wallace Sampson OBE
- Liz Treacy
- Ailsa Irvine (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.

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

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

## Why Kirklees?

7 We are conducting a review of Kirklees Council ('the Council') as its last review was completed in 2003, and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.<sup>2</sup> Additionally, some councillors currently represent many more or fewer electors than others. We describe this as 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where the number of electors per councillor is as even as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.

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

- The wards in Kirklees 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 borough.

## Our proposals for Kirklees

9 Kirklees should be represented by 69 councillors, the same number as there are now.

10 Kirklees should have 23 wards, the same number as there are now.

11 The boundaries of 18 wards should change; five will stay the same.

## How will the recommendations affect you?

12 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.

13 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the borough 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.

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

## Have your say

14 We will consult on the draft recommendations for a 10-week period, from 27 February 2024 to 6 May 2024. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to comment on these proposed wards as the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be in making our final recommendations.

15 We ask everyone wishing to contribute ideas for the new wards to first read this report and look at the accompanying map before responding to us.

16 You have until 6 May 2024 to have your say on the draft recommendations. See page 23 for how to send us your response.

## Review timetable

17 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Kirklees. We then held a period of consultation with the public on warding patterns for the borough. The submissions received during consultation have informed our draft recommendations.

18 The review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
19 September 2023	Number of councillors decided
26 September 2023	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
4 December 2023	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
27 February 2024	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
6 May 2024	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
30 July 2024	Publication of final recommendations





## Analysis and draft recommendations

19 Legislation<sup>3</sup> states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors<sup>4</sup> 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.

20 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.

21 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.

	2023	2029
Electorate of Kirklees	316,517	348,628
Number of councillors	69	69
Average number of electors per councillor	4,587	5,053

22 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 of our proposed wards for Kirklees are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2029.

## Submissions received

23 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

## Electorate figures

24 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2029, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2024. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 10% by 2029.

25 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 draft recommendations.

<sup>3</sup> Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

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

## Number of councillors

26 Kirklees Council currently has 69 councillors. Prior to the start of the review, we invited the Council and its members to make submissions to us on the appropriate number of councillors for the authority. The Labour Group and the Green Group proposed that the existing council size of 69 be retained. The Conservative Group proposed that the number of councillors be reduced by six to 63 members and the Liberal Democrats made some general observations but did not propose a specific number. We carefully looked at evidence provided and concluded that keeping the number of councillors the same would ensure the Council was able to carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

27 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 69 councillors.

28 As Kirklees Council elects by thirds (has elections in three out of every four years), there is a presumption in legislation<sup>5</sup> that the Council have a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards. In each review of local authorities that elect by thirds, we will aim to deliver a pattern of three-member wards. However, in all cases this consideration will not take precedence over our other statutory criteria, and we will not recommend uniform patterns in the number of councillors per ward or division if, in our view or as is shown in evidence provided to us, it is not compatible with our other statutory criteria.

29 A submission from Councillor Greaves at Kirklees Council proposed that the authority move to a cycle of whole council elections once every four years. We have no power to change the electoral cycle and, under legislation, this can be changed by the local authority itself.

30 We received two submissions relating to the number of councillors in response to our consultation on warding patterns. Two local resident submissions proposed a reduction in council size with one suggesting a council size of 63. However, we are not persuaded that the respondents presented sufficient evidence relating to the decision-making and representative role of members to support the reduction.

31 Consequently, our draft recommendations are based on a council represented by 69 members.

## Ward boundaries consultation

32 We received 78 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included borough-wide boundary proposals from Kirklees Conservatives ('the Conservative Group'). We also received a mix of borough-wide

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<sup>5</sup> Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 2(3)(d) and paragraph 2(5)(c).

and localised comments from Kirklees Liberal Democrats ('the Liberal Democrats'). The Labour Party's Golcar Branch made a submission for one specific area of the borough.

33 A number of other submissions made reference to dividing Kirklees Council into new authorities and specific areas joining neighbouring authorities. As discussed in paragraph 13, this review is solely concerned with the internal ward boundaries of Kirklees. We cannot make any changes to the external boundary of the authority or create new local councils as part of this review.

34 We also received a submission from Councillor Greaves proposing to split the existing wards into 46 to 50 single-member wards. We were not able to adopt this proposal as the submission did not outline how all of the wards should be configured.

35 The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for warding arrangements in specific areas of the borough.

36 The one borough-wide scheme provided a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards for Kirklees. We carefully considered this proposal and were of the view that the proposed pattern of wards resulted in good levels of electoral equality across the authority and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries.

37 Our draft recommendations are therefore predominantly based upon the proposals made by the Conservative Group, which we consider to provide the best balance of our statutory criteria. We have also taken 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

38 Our draft recommendations are for 23 three-councillor wards. We consider that our draft recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

39 The tables and maps on pages 9–20 detail our draft recommendations for each area of Kirklees. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory<sup>6</sup> criteria of:

- Equality of representation.

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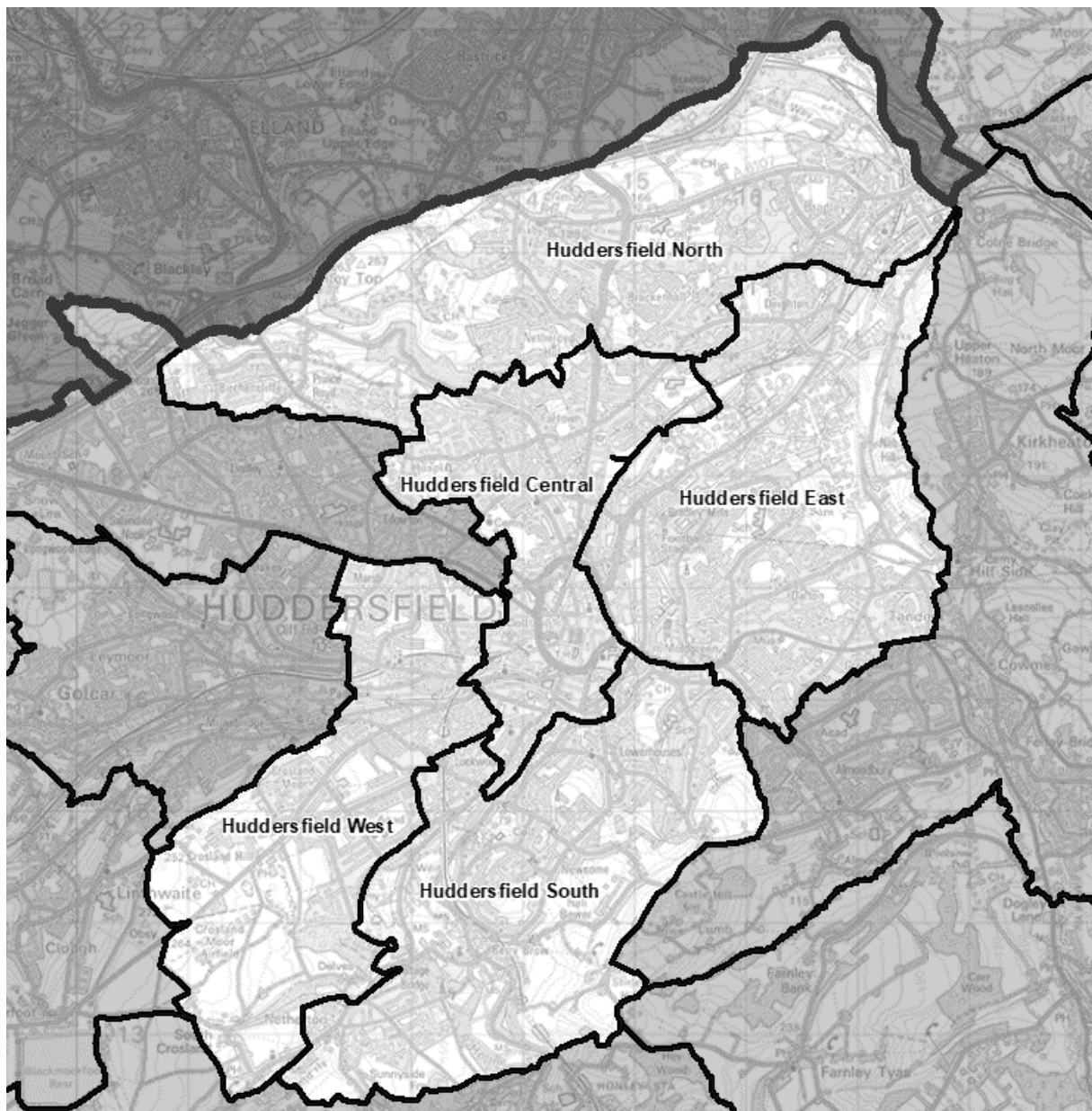
<sup>6</sup> Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

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

40 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 27 and on the large map accompanying this report.

41 We welcome all comments on these draft recommendations, particularly on the location of the ward boundaries, and the names of our proposed wards.

## Huddersfield



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Huddersfield Central	3	5%
Huddersfield East	3	-2%
Huddersfield North	3	-3%
Huddersfield South	3	0%
Huddersfield West	3	3%

### *Huddersfield Central and Huddersfield North*

42 A resident stated that the existing Greenhead ward should encompass Huddersfield Town Centre and that electors in the Newsome area would benefit from being separate from the town centre.

43 The Conservative Group proposed a new warding pattern for Huddersfield which included a Huddersfield Central ward comprising Huddersfield town centre and surrounding areas to the north and south. It states that this arrangement unites communities and reflects transport links. This proposal separates the communities of the town centre from the Newsome area as suggested by the local resident.

44 The proposals also included a new Huddersfield North ward which comprises the area north of Huddersfield town centre. We consider these proposals reflect communities identities and interests, use appropriate boundaries and will ensure good electoral equality by 2029. We are therefore adopting them as part of our draft recommendations.

#### *Huddersfield South and Huddersfield West*

45 The Conservative Group proposed new Huddersfield South and Huddersfield West wards stating that its proposals united communities and reflected local transport links.

46 The Liberal Democrats stated that, under the existing arrangements, the community of Paddock is split between Greenhead and Golcar ward. They suggested that the boundary should be amended to follow either Longwood Road, Lowergate or around the Royds Hall area to bring the rest of Paddock into Greenhead ward. We carefully considered this proposal but concluded that the current boundary of Luck Lane was more appropriate and minimised the possibility of dividing a community in this densely populated residential area.

47 We received many submissions from local residents which stated that the village of Netherton should be in Holme Valley North ward as it has close community connections with the villages of Meltham and Honley. The submissions also expressed that Netherton should not be in a ward with Crosland Moor as this arrangement did not reflect community identities and interests.

48 Under the Conservative Group's proposals, Netherton is part of Huddersfield South ward which also contains parts of Crosland Moor and South Crosland.

49 We carefully considered this proposal alongside the local evidence received and investigated moving Netherton into Holme Valley North ward under the Conservative Group's proposals. However, this amendment would produce a forecast electoral variance of 22% for Holme Valley North and a -17% variance for Huddersfield South ward. We consider these electoral variances are too high to justify adopting as part of our draft recommendations.

50 As a result, we have based our draft recommendations on the Conservative Group's proposal for new Huddersfield South and Huddersfield West wards. However, we have amended the boundary between these wards to follow Meltham Road. This is an identifiable boundary which allows us to move Crosland Moor into

Huddersfield West ward and separate the area from Netherton, based on local evidence received. This arrangement also ensures that both wards are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2029.

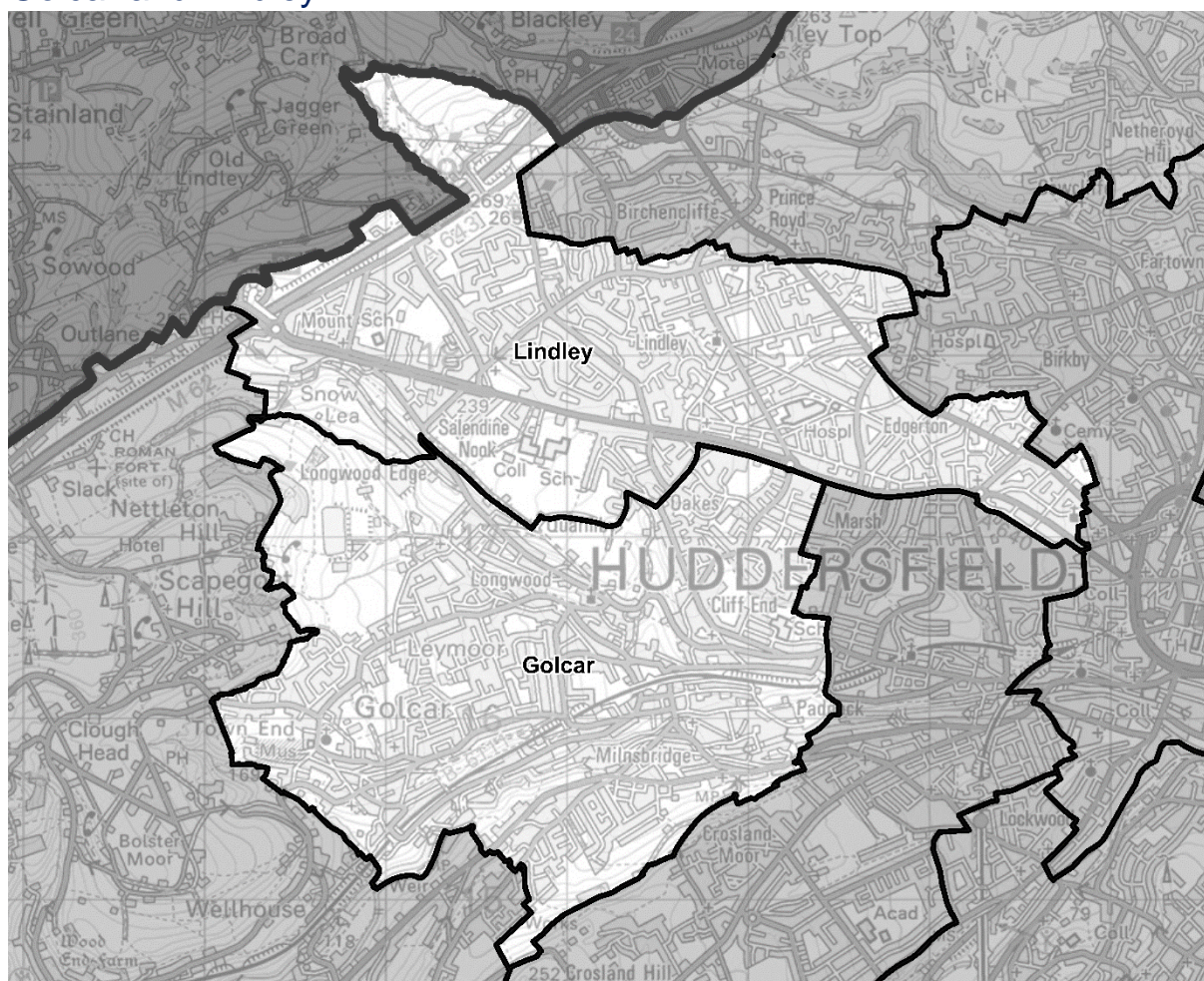
#### *Huddersfield East*

51 The Liberal Democrats suggested that amendments could be made to the existing Ashbrow and Dalton wards including moving the community of Bradley into Dalton to improve the -11% forecast electoral variance. However, they did not present a suggested boundary to achieve this. We were therefore not persuaded to adopt this proposal as part of our draft recommendations.

52 We have therefore decided to base our draft recommendations on the Conservative Group's proposal for a new Huddersfield East ward. We consider this ward to contain similar communities east of Huddersfield and is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2029.



## Golcar and Lindley



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Golcar	3	7%
Lindley	3	-2%

### *Golcar and Lindley*

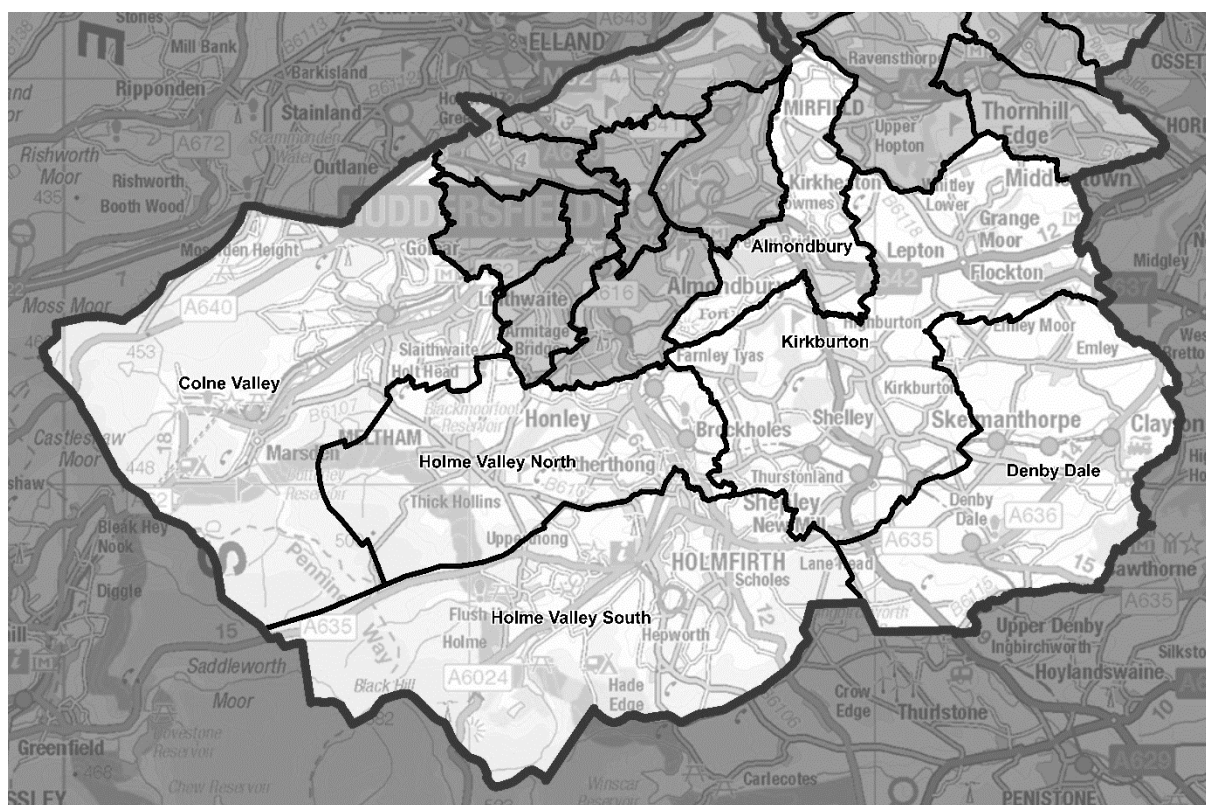
53 The Conservative Group, Golcar Labour Party, Liberal Democrats and Councillor Turner proposed to move the community of Quarmby from Lindley ward to Golcar ward to improve the electoral variance in Lindley ward, which is forecast to be 11% by 2029. The Conservatives proposed to extend the boundary to New Hey Road while the Golcar Labour Party and Councillor Turner proposed that the boundary run through the playing fields north of Quarmby Road and behind the properties along Chesil Bank to join Oakes Road South. The Liberal Democrats did not present an alternative boundary for us to consider.

54 We consider the boundary suggested by the Conservative Group to be more locally recognised in that it follows clearly identifiable boundaries. Furthermore, it will ensure good electoral equality for both wards by 2029. We have therefore decided to

adopt this proposal as part of our draft recommendations.

55 The Liberal Democrats also suggested amending the boundary between the existing wards of Greenhead and Lindley to follow the A629. We considered this proposal but concluded that this would result in a high electoral variance for Huddersfield North ward. They also suggested to move the entirety of Mount into the Golcar ward, stating that this community is currently split between Golcar and Lindley wards. However, they did not submit an alternative boundary for us to consider. We were therefore not persuaded to adopt these proposals as part of our draft recommendations.

## Kirklees South



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Almondbury	3	-2%
Colne Valley	3	-1%
Denby Dale	3	-2%
Holme Valley North	3	2%
Holme Valley South	3	3%
Kirkburton	3	-4%

### *Colne Valley and Denby Dale*

56 The Conservative Group proposed no changes to these two wards, as they are projected to maintain good electoral equality by 2029. On the basis of the evidence provided, we recommend retaining these two wards in our draft recommendations.

### *Holme Valley North and Holme Valley South*

57 The Liberal Democrats stated that an amendment of the boundary between Holme Valley North and Holme Valley South wards would improve electoral equality. However, they expressed difficulty at achieving this whilst keeping communities together. They therefore did not suggest an alternative boundary for us to consider.

58 The Conservative Group proposed to amend the boundary between these wards to follow Moor Lane and Thong Lane to improve electoral equality and deemed this as ‘the most natural split’ in this area.

59 We propose to adopt the modification suggested by the Conservative Group as part of our draft recommendations. It uses a more logical and locally recognised boundary between Holme Valley North and Holme Valley South wards than the existing boundary which follows the Netherthong parish ward boundary.

#### *Kirkburton*

60 The Conservative Group proposed to include the villages of Bristfield and Whitley Lower in Kirkburton ward. It was argued that, although they are historically part of Dewsbury, they are of similar character to the villages that make up Kirkburton ward. Although this ward is forecast to have good electoral equality under the existing arrangements, we have decided to adopt this suggestion in our draft recommendations to reflect community identities in this area of the borough.

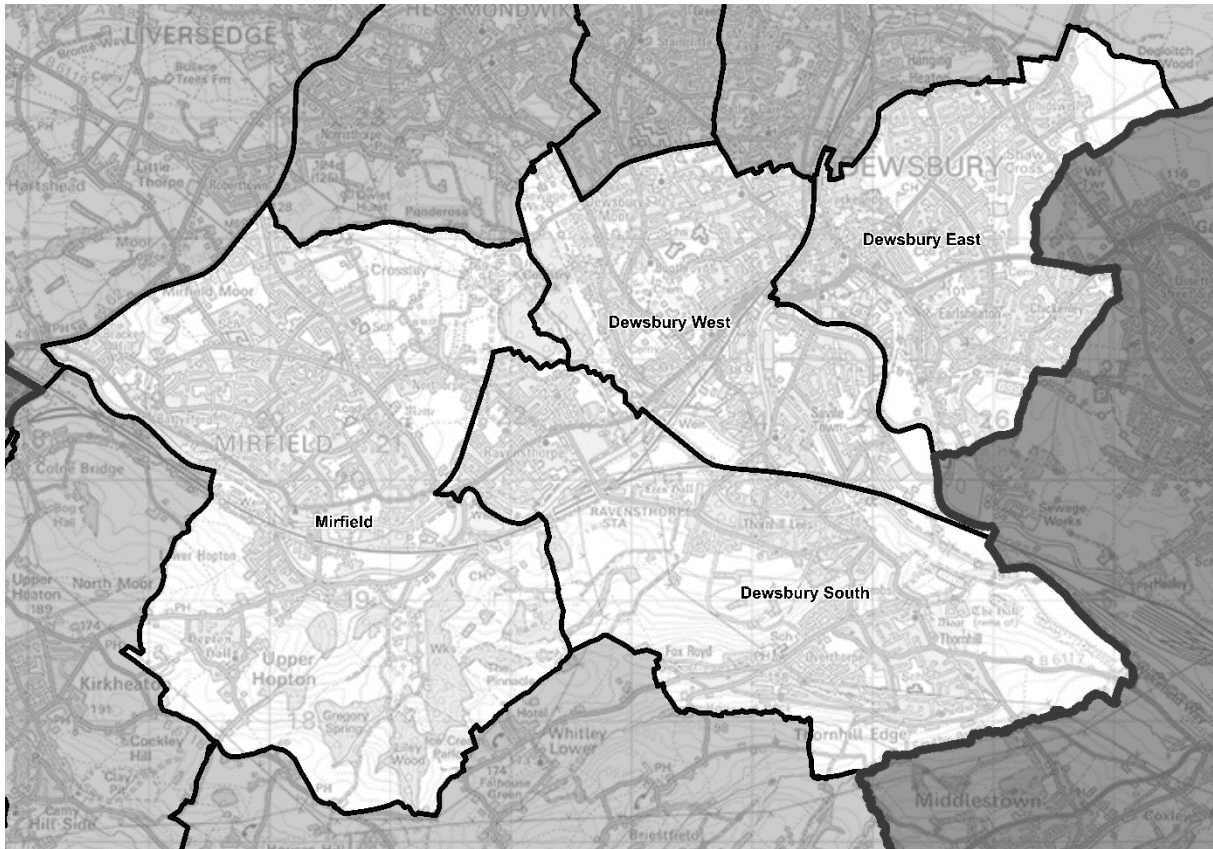
61 A local resident of Flockton, which is currently in Kirkburton ward, stated that being a part of Kirkburton ward does not reflect their local reality. They suggested the creation of a new ward comprising of the villages of Emley, Flockton, Grange Moor and Lepton. We decided not to adopt this suggestion as part of our draft recommendations because this ward would have poor electoral equality. In particular, it would contain too few electors and would negatively impact the electoral equality of neighbouring wards.

#### *Almondbury*

62 The Conservative Group proposed to extend Almondbury ward north to include the rural village of Kirkheaton. They stated that the village was better suited to be linked with the rural villages of Almondbury and Lepton instead of a predominantly urban ward in the Huddersfield area. We propose to adopt this amendment as part of our draft recommendations to reflect community identities and interests in this area.

63 A local resident of Fenay Bridge, which is currently in Almondbury ward, stated that this area should be in Kirkburton ward. Relocating this area into Kirkburton ward would result in high electoral variances for both affected wards. We did not consider this submission to contain sufficiently compelling evidence to justify the high electoral variances that would result. We have therefore retained this area in Almondbury ward as part of our draft recommendations.

#### *Dewsbury*



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Dewsbury East	3	-7%
Dewsbury South	3	7%
Dewsbury West	3	-3%
Mirfield	3	9%

*Dewsbury East, Dewsbury South and Dewsbury West*

64 The Liberal Democrats stated that an adjustment to the boundary between Dewsbury South and Dewsbury East wards would improve electoral equality but did not suggest an alternative boundary for us to consider.

65 The Conservative Group proposed to extend Dewsbury West ward to include Savile Town and amend the boundary to follow the railway line to bring in more electors to improve electoral equality. These suggested amendments also improved the 12% forecast electoral variance in Dewsbury South ward and it was proposed to adjust the boundary of this ward to include the Ravensthorpe area.

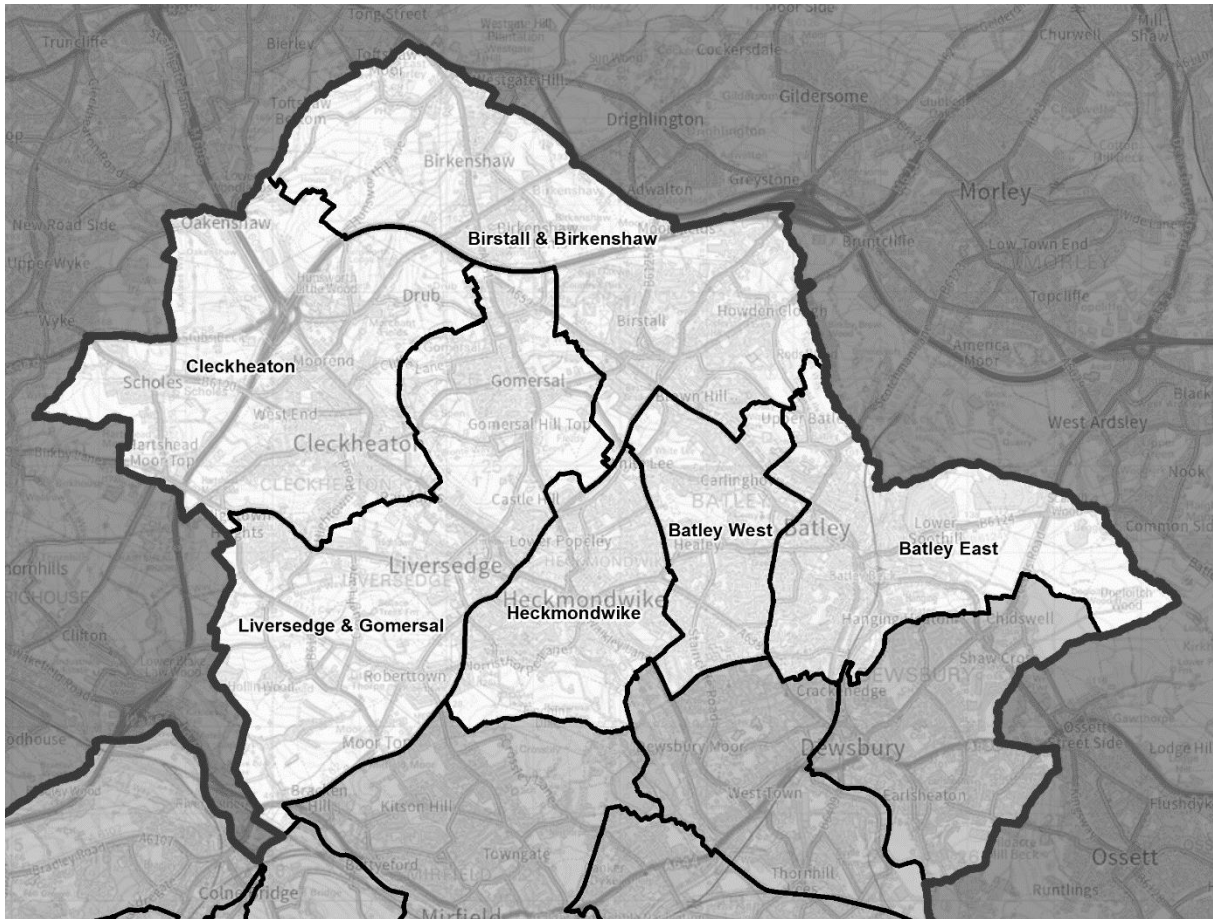
66 As part of our draft recommendations, we have decided to adopt the Conservative Group’s proposals for the Dewsbury area as they result in improved electoral equality and use strong and identifiable boundaries.

*Mirfield*

67 The Liberal Democrats proposed adjusting the boundary between Mirfield and Heckmondwike wards to improve electoral equality. However, they did not suggest a specific boundary for us to consider.

68 A local resident in the Spring Place Gardens estate, which is currently split between Mirfield and Dewsbury South wards, stated that the whole estate should be in Mirfield ward. We have decided not to transfer part of the Spring Place Gardens estate from Dewsbury South to Mirfield ward. This is because, by our calculations, this would result in Mirfield ward having a forecast electoral variance of 11% by 2029. However, we would welcome further evidence from residents and others in this area to justify uniting the estate in one ward.

69 The Conservative Group proposed to retain the existing Mirfield ward to reflect communities and promote coterminosity with the Mirfield parish boundary to aid in effective and convenient local government. We were persuaded to adopt this proposal as part of our draft recommendations as we consider this to provide the best reflection our statutory criteria.



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Batley East	3	1%
Batley West	3	-3%
Birstall & Birkenshaw	3	-2%
Cleckheaton	3	0%
Heckmondwike	3	-9%
Liversedge & Gomersal	3	2%

***Batley East and Batley West***

70 Batley East ward is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2029. The Conservative Group proposed no change to this ward. The Liberal Democrats stated that a change to the boundary between Batley East and Batley West wards could improve representation for the communities in this area. However, the Liberal Democrats did not suggest an alternative boundary for us to consider. On this basis, we recommend retaining this ward as part of our draft recommendations.

71 The Conservative Group proposed amendments to Batley West ward which included altering the boundary in the north to follow Huddersfield Road and part of White Lee Road and in the south to follow part of the B6117 and Knowles Hill Road. The Group stated that these changes would bring historic areas of Batley into the

ward. We consider these proposals use identifiable and locally recognised boundaries which will help to promote effective and convenient local government. We have therefore adopted these proposals as part of our draft recommendations.

#### *Birstall & Birkenshaw*

72 A local resident stated that their property in the Birstall Smithies area, which is currently in Batley West ward, should be relocated to Birstall & Birkenshaw ward. The comments made did not include a suggested ward boundary and we did not consider there to be strong enough evidence to put forward this amendment as part of our draft recommendations.

73 Birstall & Birkenshaw ward is projected to have good electoral equality by 2029 under the Conservative Group's proposals. The Group proposed to extend the boundary of this ward to include electors to the east of Leeds Road. A local resident of Upper Batley Lane provided evidence for this area to join Birstall & Birkenshaw ward, which is reflected in the Conservative Group's proposals. We consider the amendments suggested to use more appropriate and identifiable boundaries which will help to promote effective and convenient local government and reflect community identities and interests. Therefore, we propose to adopt this proposal as part of our draft recommendations.

#### *Cleckheaton*

74 The Conservative Group proposed no change to Cleckheaton ward as it is projected to maintain good electoral equality by 2029. Therefore, we recommend retaining this ward in our draft recommendations.

#### *Heckmondwike*

75 The Conservative Group suggested a minor modification to Heckmondwike ward with the aim to reunite the township of Heckmondwike in the ward. While this requires moving the boundary away from the main road, we consider this boundary to better reflect community identities in this area. We were persuaded by the evidence supporting these proposals and have therefore adopted this amendment as part of our draft recommendations.

#### *Liversedge & Gomersal*

76 Liversedge & Gomersal ward is forecasted good electoral equality by 2029 under the existing warding arrangements. However, the Conservative Group proposed the M62 as the boundary and to move Gomersal village into the ward.

77 A local resident proposed a new four-councillor ward that merged the existing Liversedge & Gomersal and Heckmondwike wards. As discussed in paragraph 28, Kirklees elects by thirds and we therefore work under the presumption that the Council should have a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards. Notwithstanding this, we consider that wards represented by more than more than three members are



likely to dilute the accountability of elected members to the electorate.

78 We therefore propose to adopt the Conservative Group's suggestion for Liversedge & Gomersal ward as part of our draft recommendations in order to reflect community identities in this area.

## Conclusions

79 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality in Kirklees, referencing the 2023 and 2029 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

	Draft recommendations	
	2023	2029
Number of councillors	69	69
Number of electoral wards	23	23
Average number of electors per councillor	4,587	5,053
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	2	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

### Draft recommendations

Kirklees should be made up of 69 councillors serving 23 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 Kirklees. You can also view our draft recommendations for Kirklees on our interactive maps at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

## Parish electoral arrangements

80 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.

81 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, Kirklees 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.

82 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 Holme Valley Parish Council.

83 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Holme Valley parish.

#### Draft recommendations

Holme Valley Parish Council should comprise 23 councillors, as at present, representing 13 wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Brockholes	2
Fulstone	2
Hepworth	1
Holmfirth Central	2
Honley Central & East	2
Honley South	1
Honley West	2
Netherthong North	1
Netherthong South	1
Scholes	2
Upper Holme Valley	2
Upperthong	2
Wooldale	3

## Have your say

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

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

86 Our website is the best way to keep up to date with progress on the review and to have your say [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

87 Each review has its own page with details of the timetable for the review, information about its different stages and interactive mapping.

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

**Review Officer (Kirklees)**  
**The Local Government Boundary Commission for England**  
**PO Box 133**  
**Blyth**  
**NE24 9FE**

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

- Electoral equality: each local councillor represents a similar number of electors.
- Community identity: reflects the identity and interests of local communities.
- Effective and convenient local government: helping your council discharge its responsibilities effectively.

90 A good pattern of wards should:

- Provide good electoral equality, with each councillor representing, as closely as possible, the same number of electors.
- Reflect community interests and identities and include evidence of community links.
- Be based on strong, easily identifiable boundaries.
- Help the council deliver effective and convenient local government.

91 Electoral equality:

- Does your proposal mean that councillors would represent roughly the same number of electors as elsewhere in Kirklees?

92 Community identity:

- Community groups: is there a parish council, residents' association or other group that represents the area?
- Interests: what issues bind the community together or separate it from other parts of your area?
- Identifiable boundaries: are there natural or constructed features which make strong boundaries for your proposals?

93 Effective local government:

- Are any of the proposed wards too large or small to be represented effectively?
- Are the proposed names of the wards appropriate?
- Are there good links across your proposed wards? Is there any form of public transport?

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

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

96 In the light of representations received, we will review our draft recommendations and consider whether they should be altered. As indicated earlier, it is therefore important that all interested parties let us have their views and evidence, **whether or not** they agree with the draft recommendations. We will then publish our final recommendations. After the publication of our final recommendations, the changes we have proposed must be approved by Parliament. An Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in draft in Parliament. The draft Order will provide for new electoral arrangements to be implemented at the all-out elections for Kirklees in 2026.

## Equalities

97 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

### Draft recommendations for Kirklees Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2029)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Almondbury	3	13,674	4,558	-1%	14,900	4,967	-2%
2	Batley East	3	13,144	4,381	-5%	15,364	5,121	1%
3	Batley West	3	13,357	4,452	-3%	14,711	4,904	-3%
4	Birstall & Birkenshaw	3	13,983	4,661	2%	14,874	4,958	-2%
5	Cleckheaton	3	13,513	4,504	-2%	15,121	5,040	0%
6	Colne Valley	3	13,633	4,544	-1%	14,985	4,995	-1%
7	Denby Dale	3	13,371	4,457	-3%	14,808	4,936	-2%
8	Dewsbury East	3	12,590	4,197	-9%	14,125	4,708	-7%
9	Dewsbury South	3	14,017	4,672	2%	16,237	5,412	7%
10	Dewsbury West	3	13,566	4,522	-1%	14,675	4,892	-3%
11	Golcar	3	15,081	5,027	10%	16,248	5,416	7%
12	Heckmondwike	3	13,170	4,390	-4%	13,776	4,592	-9%



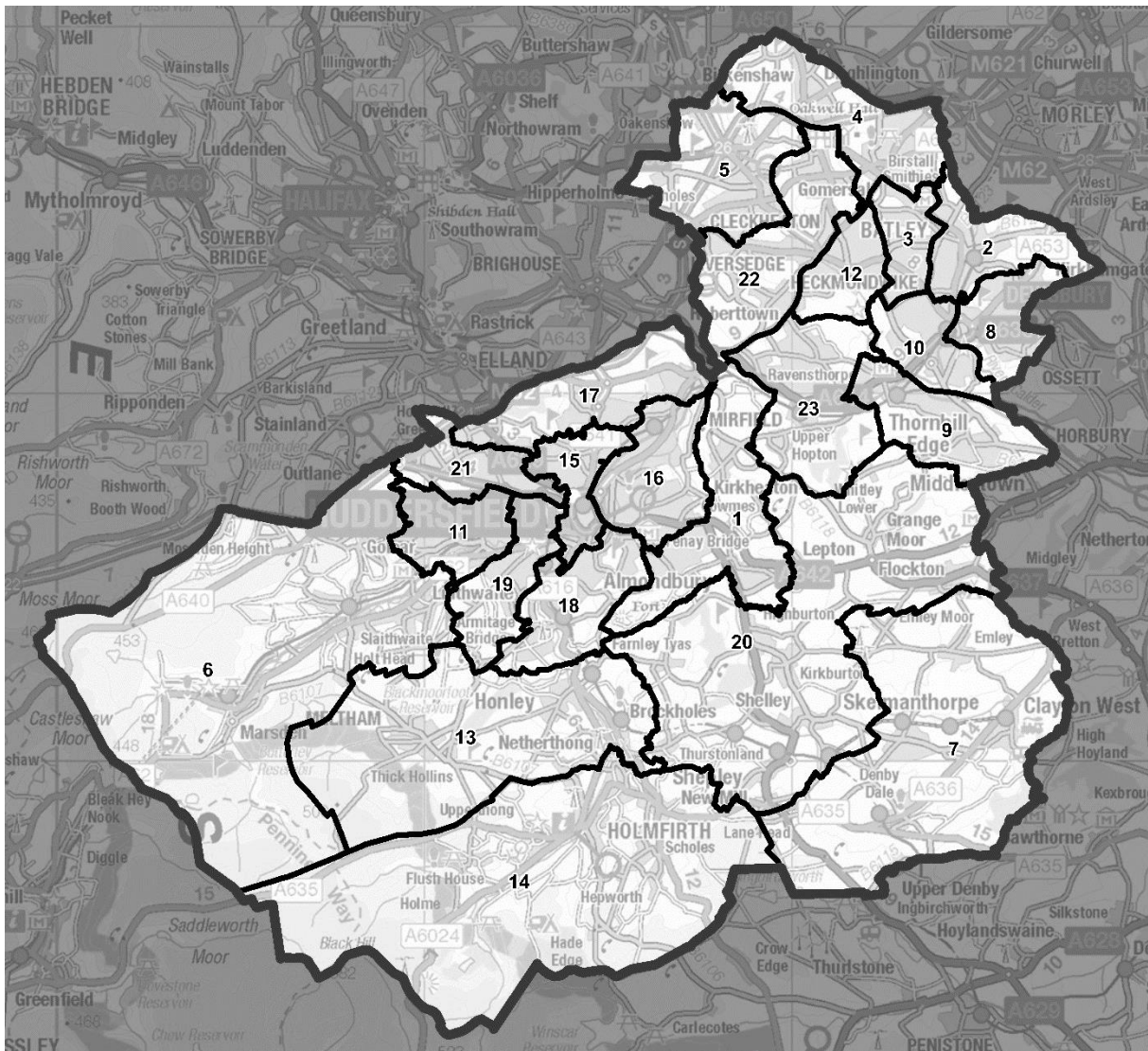
	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2029)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13	Holme Valley North	3	14,358	4,786	4%	15,529	5,176	2%
14	Holme Valley South	3	14,339	4,780	4%	15,603	5,201	3%
15	Huddersfield Central	3	13,649	4,550	-1%	15,975	5,325	5%
16	Huddersfield East	3	14,002	4,667	2%	14,859	4,953	-2%
17	Huddersfield North	3	12,127	4,042	-12%	14,693	4,898	-3%
18	Huddersfield South	3	14,159	4,720	3%	15,525	5,051	0%
19	Huddersfield West	3	13,628	4,543	-1%	15,224	5,199	3%
20	Kirkburton	3	13,103	4,683	2%	14,536	4,845	-4%
21	Lindley	3	14,050	4,683	2%	14,829	4,943	-2%
22	Liversedge & Gomersal	3	14,341	4,780	4%	15,441	5,147	2%
23	Mirfield	3	15,656	5,219	14%	16,585	5,528	9%
<b>Totals</b>		<b>69</b>	<b>316,517</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>348,628</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Averages</b>		<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>4,587</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>5,053</b>	<b>–</b>

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Kirklees 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

## Outline map



Number	Ward name
1	Almondbury
2	Batley East
3	Batley West
4	Birstall & Birkenshaw
5	Cleckheaton
6	Colne Valley
7	Denby Dale
8	Dewsbury East
9	Dewsbury South
10	Dewsbury West
11	Golcar
12	Heckmondwike

13	Holme Valley North
14	Holme Valley South
15	Huddersfield Central
16	Huddersfield East
17	Huddersfield North
18	Huddersfield South
19	Huddersfield West
20	Kirkburton
21	Lindley
22	Liversedge & Gomersal
23	Mirfield

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/kirklees](http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/kirklees)

## Submissions received

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

[www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/kirklees](http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/kirklees)

### *Political Groups*

- Golcar Labour Party
- Kirklees Conservatives
- Kirklees Liberal Democrats

### *Councillors*

- Councillor C. Greaves (Kirklees Council)
- Councillor G. Turner (Kirklees Council)

### *Local Residents*

- 73 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 <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

### **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](mailto: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

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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