

**TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL****BOUNDARY REVIEW COMMITTEE – 3 FEBRUARY 2014****FURTHER ELECTORAL REVIEW OF THE BOROUGH:  
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS****REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR : LAW, DEMOCRACY AND PEOPLE  
SERVICES****PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT****1.0 SUMMARY OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report draws to a conclusion the Further Electoral Review of the Borough with the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) final recommendations. Details of the proposed electoral arrangements are set out in Table A1 at pages 25-27 of the attached report and illustrated on the large map accompanying that report.

LGBCE have now completed their review of electoral arrangements for Telford & Wrekin. An Order – the legal document which brings into force the recommendations – will be laid in Parliament and will be implemented subject to Parliamentary scrutiny. The draft Order will provide for new electoral arrangements which will come into force at the next elections for Telford & Wrekin Council, in 2015.

Telford & Wrekin Council currently has 54 councillors elected from 16 single-member, 13 two-member and four three-member wards. The final recommendations for Telford & Wrekin are that the Council should have 54 members, with 12 single-member wards, 12 two-member wards and six three-member wards. No ward is forecast to have an electoral variance of greater than 10% by 2018. In making the final recommendations LGBCE have taken account of submissions received during consultation on their draft recommendations. As a result, they have proposed boundary amendments to draft recommendations for the Dothill, Edgmond & Ercall Magna, Hadley & Leegomery, Haygate, Park, Priorslee, Shawbirch and St Georges wards.

The full report is attached and is also available to download at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the committee note the LGBCE final recommendations which will come into force at the next council elections in May 2015.

## **SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

<b>COMMUNITY IMPACT</b>	Do these proposals contribute to specific Co-Operative Council priority objective(s)?	
	No	
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	No	Borough Wide
<b>DELIVERY DATE</b>	7 May 2015 local elections	
<b>FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT</b>	No	Costs associated with the electoral review are in the form of officer time and will be met from within existing budgets.  MLB 17.01.12
<b>LEGAL ISSUES</b>	No	The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has a statutory duty to keep under review electoral arrangements at local authority level
<b>OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS &amp; OPPORTUNITIES</b>	Yes	The outcome of any review may change the size of the council, number and boundaries of wards, names of wards and allocation of councillors to wards.
<b>IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS</b>	Yes	Borough-wide impact

## **PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**TABLE A1**

	<b>Ward name</b>	<b>Councillors (2012)</b>	<b>Electors 2012</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>	<b>Electorate (2018)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>
1	Admaston & Bratton	1	2284	2284	0%	2270	2270	-4%
2	Apley Castle	1	2417	2417	5%	2427	2427	2%
3	Arleston	1	2308	2308	1%	2425	2425	2%
4	Brookside	2	4628	2314	1%	4698	2349	-1%
5	Church Aston & Lilleshall	1	2391	2391	4%	2355	2355	-1%
6	College	1	2393	2393	4%	2407	2407	1%
7	Dawley & Aqueduct	3	7266	2422	6%	7196	2399	1%
8	Donnington	2	4931	2466	8%	4928	2464	4%
9	Dothill	1	2262	2262	-1%	2236	2236	-6%
10	Edgmond & Ercall Magna	2	4657	2329	2%	4635	2318	-2%
11	Ercall	1	2395	2395	4%	2408	2408	1%
12	Hadley & Leegomery	3	6717	2239	-2%	7081	2360	-1%
13	Haygate	1	2170	2170	-5%	2347	2347	-1%

	<b>Ward name</b>	<b>Councillors (2012)</b>	<b>Electors 2012</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>	<b>Electorate (2018)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>
14	Horsehay & Lightmoor	2	3337	1669	-27%	4931	2466	4%
15	Ironbridge Gorge	1	2556	2556	11%	2486	2486	5%
16	Ketley & Overdale	3	6401	2134	-7%	7083	2361	-1%
17	Madeley & Sutton Hill	3	7881	2627	15%	7767	2589	9%
18	Malinslee & Dawley Bank	2	4487	2244	-2%	4606	2303	-3%
19	Muxton	2	4828	2414	5%	4944	2472	4%
20	Newport North & West	2	4457	2229	-3%	4744	2372	0%
21	Newport South & East	2	4024	2012	-12%	4961	2481	4%
22	Oakengates & Ketley Bank	3	6243	2081	-9%	6828	2276	-4%
23	Park	1	2398	2398	5%	2441	2441	3%
24	Priorslee	2	4369	2185	-5%	4306	2153	-9%
25	Shawbirch	1	2425	2425	6%	2485	2485	5%
26	St Georges	2	4811	2406	5%	4763	2382	0%
27	The Nedge	3	7122	2374	4%	7113	2371	0%
28	Woodside	2	4474	2237	-2%	4322	2161	-9%
29	Wrockwardine	1	2309	2309	1%	2363	2363	-1%

	<b>Ward name</b>	<b>Councillors (2012)</b>	<b>Electors 2012</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>	<b>Electorate (2018)</b>	<b>Number of electors per councillor</b>	<b>Variance from average %</b>
30	Wrockwardine Wood & Trench	2	4849	2425	6%	4711	2356	-1%
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>123,790</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>128,249</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>
	<b>Averages</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2,292</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2,375</b>	<b>–</b>

## **4.0 THE REVIEW**

4.1 In June 2013 LGBCE published draft recommendations for a 54 member council comprising a pattern of 10 single-member wards, 13 two-member wards and six three-member wards. The final recommendations for Telford & Wrekin are that the Council should have 54 members, with 12 single-member wards, 12 two-member wards and six three-member wards.

4.2 To recap, some of the key statutory criteria that the review had to follow included:

- electoral fairness: ensuring every councillor represents about the same number of electors within a 10%+/- variance from the electoral quota;
- the need to work within existing parish boundaries, but with a capacity to alter parish ward boundaries so that they are co-terminous with borough ward boundaries;
- using clear and identifiable physical barriers for boundaries: boundaries in the no-man's land between communities of identity;
- respecting and avoiding partitioning our communities of identity;
- taking into account the electorate in six years time.

### **4.3 Borough Final Recommendations**

#### **Newport**

The final recommendations for Newport are for a two-member Newport North & West ward having a similar number of electors to the average number of electors for the borough by 2018 and a two-member Newport South & East ward having 4% more than the average for the borough by 2018.

#### **Church Aston & Lilleshall, Edgmond and Ercall Magna**

The final recommendation is to include the parishes of Eyton-upon-the-Weald-Moors Moors and Preston-upon-the-Weald-Moors in a two-member Edgmond & Ercall Magna ward. Final recommendations are for a two-member Edgmond & Ercall Magna ward and a single-member Church Aston & Lilleshall ward having 2% fewer and 1% fewer electors than the average for the borough by 2018, respectively.

#### **Wrockwardine and Shawbirch**

The final recommendations is for single-member Admaston & Bratton, Shawbirch and Wrockwardine wards with 4% fewer, 5% more and 1% fewer electors than the borough average by 2018, respectively.

#### **Wellington**

Final recommendations for Wellington, with the exception of Shawbirch, are for single-member Arleston, College, Dothill, Ercall, Haygate and Park wards which would contain 2% more, 1% more, 6% fewer, 1% more, 1% fewer and 3% more than the average number of electors for the borough by 2018, respectively.

### **North Telford**

In North Telford, final recommendations are for a three-member Hadley & Leegomery ward, three two-member Donnington, Muxton and Wrockwardine Wood & Trench wards and a single-member Apley Castle ward. These wards will contain 1% fewer, 4% more, 4% more, 1% fewer and 2% more electors than the borough average by 2018, respectively.

### **Lawley, Ketley, Overdale, Oakengates and Ketley Bank**

In Lawley, Ketley, Overdale, Oakengates and Ketley Bank final recommendations are for three-member Ketley & Overdale and Oakengates & Ketley Bank wards having 1% fewer and 4% fewer electors than the borough average by 2018, respectively.

### **St Georges and Priorslee**

Final recommendations are for two-member St Georges and Priorslee wards. These wards will a similar number to, and 9% fewer electors per councillor than the borough average by 2018, respectively.

### **South Telford and Ironbridge Gorge**

In South Telford and Ironbridge Gorge final recommendations are for three-member Dawley & Aqueduct, Madeley & Sutton Hill and The Nedge wards, two-member Brookside, Horsehay & Lightmoor, Malinslee & Dawley Bank and Woodside wards and a single-member Ironbridge Gorge ward. These will contain 1% more, 9% more, a number similar to, 1% fewer, 4% more, 3% fewer, 9% fewer and 5% more electors per councillor than the borough average by 2018, respectively.

### **Final recommendations**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2018</b>
Number of councillors	54	54
Number of wards	30	30
Average number of electors per councillor	2,292	2,375
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	4	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	1	0

### **Final recommendation for Borough**

Telford & Wrekin Council should comprise 54 councillors serving 30 wards, as detailed and named in Table A1 and illustrated on the large map accompanying the LGBCE report.

#### **4.4 Parish Electoral Arrangements**

As part of an electoral review, LGBCE 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. Under the 2009 Act, and notwithstanding representations made to them which would suggest that they do otherwise, they only have the power to make changes to parish electoral arrangements where these are as a direct consequence of their recommendations for principal authority warding arrangements. However, Telford & Wrekin 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.

To meet their obligations under the 2009 Act, LGBCE propose consequential parish warding arrangements for the parishes of Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote, The Gorge, Hadley & Leegomery, Ketley, Lawley & Overdale, Lilleshall, Donnington & Muxton, Madeley, Oakengates, St Georges & Priorslee, Stirchley & Brookside, Wellington, Wrockwardine and Wrockwardine Wood & Trench.

##### **Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote**

Parish Council should return seven parish councillors, as at present, representing two wards: Chetwynd Aston (returning four members) and Station Road (returning three members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1. They should, however, not come into effect until the ordinary election day in 2019.

##### **The Gorge**

Parish Council should return eight parish councillors, as at present, representing three wards: Coalport & Jackfield (returning two members), Ironbridge Gorge (returning three members) and Lightmoor (returning three members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

##### **Hadley & Leegomery**

Parish Council should return 16 parish councillors, as at present, representing five wards: Apley Castle (returning four members), Hadley Castle (returning three members), Hadley Manor (returning three members), Leegomery (returning four members) and Trench Lock (returning two members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

##### **Ketley**

Parish Council should return 11 parish councillors, as at present, representing two wards: Beveley (returning two members) and Ketley (returning nine members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

### **Lawley & Overdale**

Parish Council should return eight parish councillors, as at present, representing four wards: Central (returning four members), Dawley Bank (returning one member), Lawley (returning two members) and West (returning one member). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

### **Lilleshall, Donnington & Muxton**

Parish Council should return 15 parish councillors, as at present, representing five wards: Donnington East (returning one member), Donnington West (returning five members), Lilleshall (returning two members), Muxton (returning five members) and The Humbers (returning two members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

### **Madeley**

Parish Council should return 17 parish councillors, as at present, representing four wards: Cuckoo Oak (returning five members), Hill Top (returning one member), Madeley (returning five members) and Woodside (returning six members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

### **Oakengates**

Town Council should return 13 parish councillors, as at present, representing three wards: Hollyhurst (returning one member), North (returning three members) and Oakengates (returning nine members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

### **St Georges & Priorslee**

Parish Council should return 11 parish councillors, as at present, representing four wards: Snedshill (returning one member), St Georges East (returning one member), St Georges West (returning four members) and Priorslee (returning five members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

### **Stirchley & Brookside**

Parish Council should return 13 parish councillors, as at present, representing three wards: Brookside (returning seven members), Holmer Lake (returning one member) and Stirchley (returning five members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

### **Wellington**

Town Council should return 21 parish councillors, as at present, representing seven wards: Arleston (returning three members), College (returning three members), Dothill (returning three members), Ercall (returning three members), Haygate (returning three members), Park (returning three members) and Shawbirch (returning three members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

### **Wrockwardine**

Parish Council should return 10 parish councillors, as at present, representing two wards: Admaston & Bratton (returning seven members) and Wrockwardine (returning three members). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

### **Wrockwardine Wood & Trench**

Parish Council should return 11 parish councillors, as at present, representing four wards: East (returning one member), Trench (returning eight members), Wrockwardine Wood East (returning one member) and Wrockwardine Wood West (returning one member). The proposed parish ward boundaries are illustrated and named on Map 1.

Documents and information used in the preparation of this report can be found on the website of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk). Of particular relevance is the Commission's guidance: *Electoral reviews: technical guidance* (May 2011). Ward maps and electorates can be found at our elections website at [www.telford.gov.uk/elections](http://www.telford.gov.uk/elections)

The agendas for the Committee's meetings can be found on the council's website at

<http://apps.telford.gov.uk/demservice/CommitteesDetails.asp?theCommittee=Boundary>

**Report prepared by Phil Griffiths, Democratic Services Manager,  
telephone 01952 383210**