

# Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Babergh District Council

Electoral review

October 2017

## Translations and other formats

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# Summary

## Who we are and what we do

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

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

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

## Why Babergh?

4 We are conducting a review of Babergh at the request of the District Council. Some councillors currently represent many more or fewer voters than others. This is 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where votes are as equal as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.

## Our proposals for Babergh

- Babergh should be represented by 32 councillors, 11 fewer than there are now.
- Babergh should have 22 wards, five fewer than there are now.
- The boundaries of all wards should change, none will stay the same.

## Have your say

5 We are consulting on our draft recommendations for a 10-week period, from 3 October 2017 to 11 December 2017. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to contribute to the design of the new wards – the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be when analysing all the views we received.

6 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.

**You have until 11 December 2017 to have your say on the draft recommendations. See page 19 for how to send us your response.**

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

7 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament.<sup>1</sup>

8 The members of the Commission are:

- Professor Colin Mellors OBE (Chair)
- Dr Peter Knight CBE, DL
- Alison Lowton
- Peter Maddison QPM
- Sir Tony Redmond
  
- Chief Executive: Jolyon Jackson CBE

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

# 1 Introduction

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

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

## What is an electoral review?

10 Our three main considerations are to:

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

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

## Consultation

12 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Babergh. We then held a period of consultation on warding patterns for the district. The submissions received during consultation have informed our draft recommendations.

13 This review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
18 April 2017	Number of councillors decided
13 June 2017	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
14 August 2017	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
3 October 2017	Publication of draft recommendations, start of second consultation
11 December 2017	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
6 February 2018	Publication of final recommendations

## How will the recommendations affect you?

14 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.

## 2 Analysis and draft recommendations

15 Legislation<sup>2</sup> states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors<sup>3</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.

16 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.

17 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.

	2016	2023
Electorate of Babergh	71,251	74,029
Number of councillors	32	32
Average number of electors per councillor	2,227	2,313

18 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 Babergh will have electoral equality by 2023.

19 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 take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

### Submissions received

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

### Electorate figures

21 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2023, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2018. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 4% by 2023.

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

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

22 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.

## Number of councillors

23 Babergh Council currently has 43 councillors. We looked at evidence provided by the Council and concluded that decreasing by 12 would make sure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

24 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.

25 We received three submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on ward patterns. Two submissions stated that the reduction was too large and one submission stated that the reduction was not enough.

26 During our formulation of draft recommendations, we found that a council size of 32 allowed a better allocation of councillors across the district. As stated in our Guidance, we are prepared to alter the number of councillors by a small amount if, by doing so, it provides for a better pattern of wards. We have therefore based our draft recommendations on 32 councillors.

## Ward boundaries consultation

27 We received 48 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included seven detailed borough-wide proposals including proposals from the District Council and two councillors. The schemes were based on a pattern of wards to be represented by between 30 and 34 elected members.

28 The borough-wide schemes each provided for a mix of one-, two- and three-councillor wards for Babergh. All the schemes expressed the desire for single-member wards, wherever possible. We carefully considered the proposals received and concluded that the proposed ward boundaries would not have sufficient levels of electoral equality, although they generally used clearly identifiable boundaries. The evidence received for six of the schemes was rather limited. One of the schemes from an independent councillor provided more substantial evidence, but did not provide for good electoral equality across the district.

29 Our draft recommendations are based on Councillor McCraw's proposals, as well as a combination of the district-wide proposals that we received, particularly in areas where there was consensus. We were not persuaded that the District Council's proposals provided sufficient evidence, particularly with regard to how its proposals reflected community identities. Therefore, in some areas of the district we have also taken into account more localised submissions, which provided 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. We also visited the area in order to look at the various different proposals on the ground. This tour of the area helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

30 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table on page 16 and on the large map accompanying this report.

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

## Draft recommendations

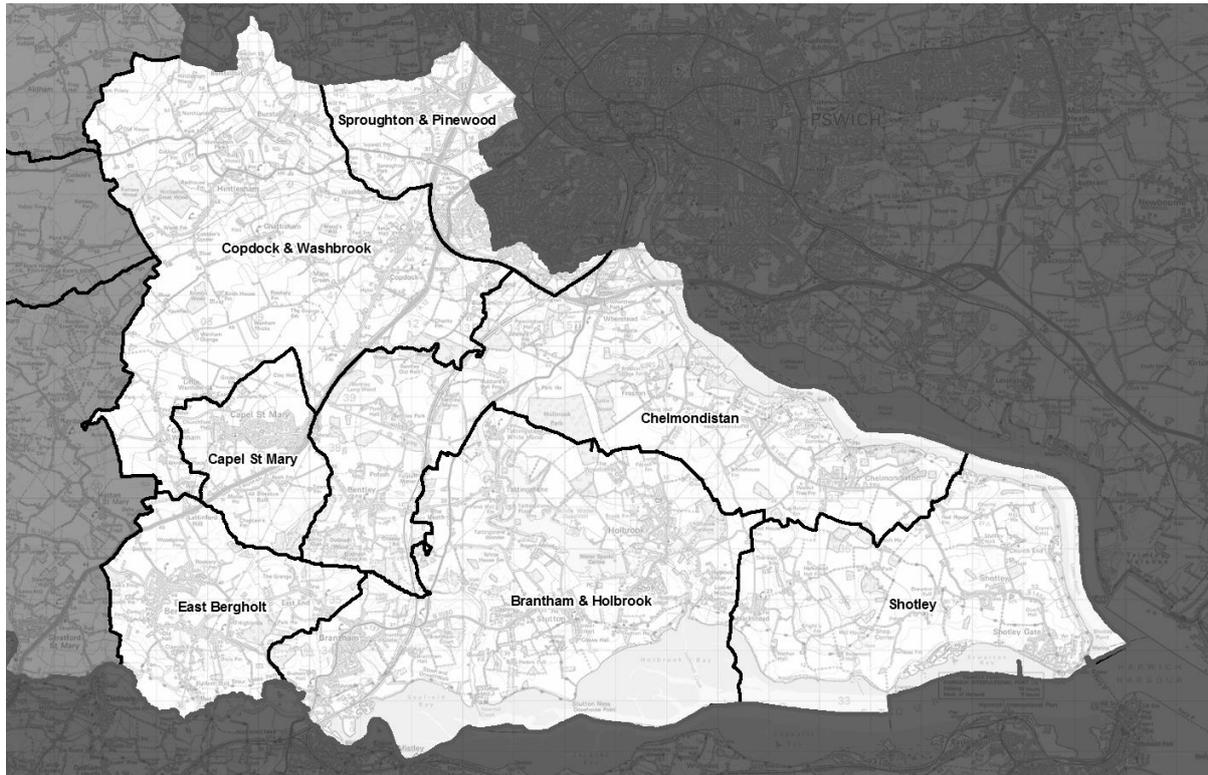
32 The tables and maps on pages 8–15 detail our draft recommendations for each area of the Babergh. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory<sup>4</sup> criteria of:

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

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<sup>4</sup> Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

## South-eastern parishes



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Brantham & Holbrook	2	6%
Capel St Mary	1	5%
Chelmondistan	1	3%
Copdock & Washbrook	1	0%
East Bergholt	1	4%
Sproughton & Pinewood	2	-2%
Shotley	1	7%

### *Brantham & Holbrook*

33 We received a submission from Holbrook Parish Council which stated that Holbrook should not be subsumed into another ward given that it is a lead settlement on the peninsula. We are therefore proposing to join the Holbrook, Brantham, Stutton and Tattinstone parishes to create a two-member Brantham & Holbrook ward, which will achieve good electoral equality by 2023.

### *Capel St Mary and East Bergholt*

34 Three of the borough-wide schemes we received proposed single-member Capel St Mary and East Bergholt wards. We have therefore based our wards in these areas on these proposals, which reflect the parish boundaries for both areas. Both wards will achieve good electoral equality by 2023.

### *Chelmondistan*

35 We received a submission from Bentley Parish Council, supporting its inclusion in a larger ward. We received another submission from Freston Parish Council that proposed its inclusion in a ward with Holbrook parish; however, they did not propose an alternative ward boundary. A stand-alone ward of Freston and Holbrook would have an electoral variance of -32% which, in our view, is an unacceptably high variance. We have therefore based our proposed Chelmondistan ward on the submission received from Councillor McCraw which groups a number of parishes in the south-east of the district together.

### *Copdock & Washbrook*

36 We did not receive any submissions relating to the parishes within our proposed Copdock & Washbrook wards other than within the district-wide schemes. One of the schemes submitted proposed that the parishes of Burstall, Hintlesham, Chattisham and Copdock & Washbrook should be grouped together in one ward. We have accepted this proposal, with the addition of the parishes of Wenham Magna and Wenham Parva to improve electoral equality in the ward.

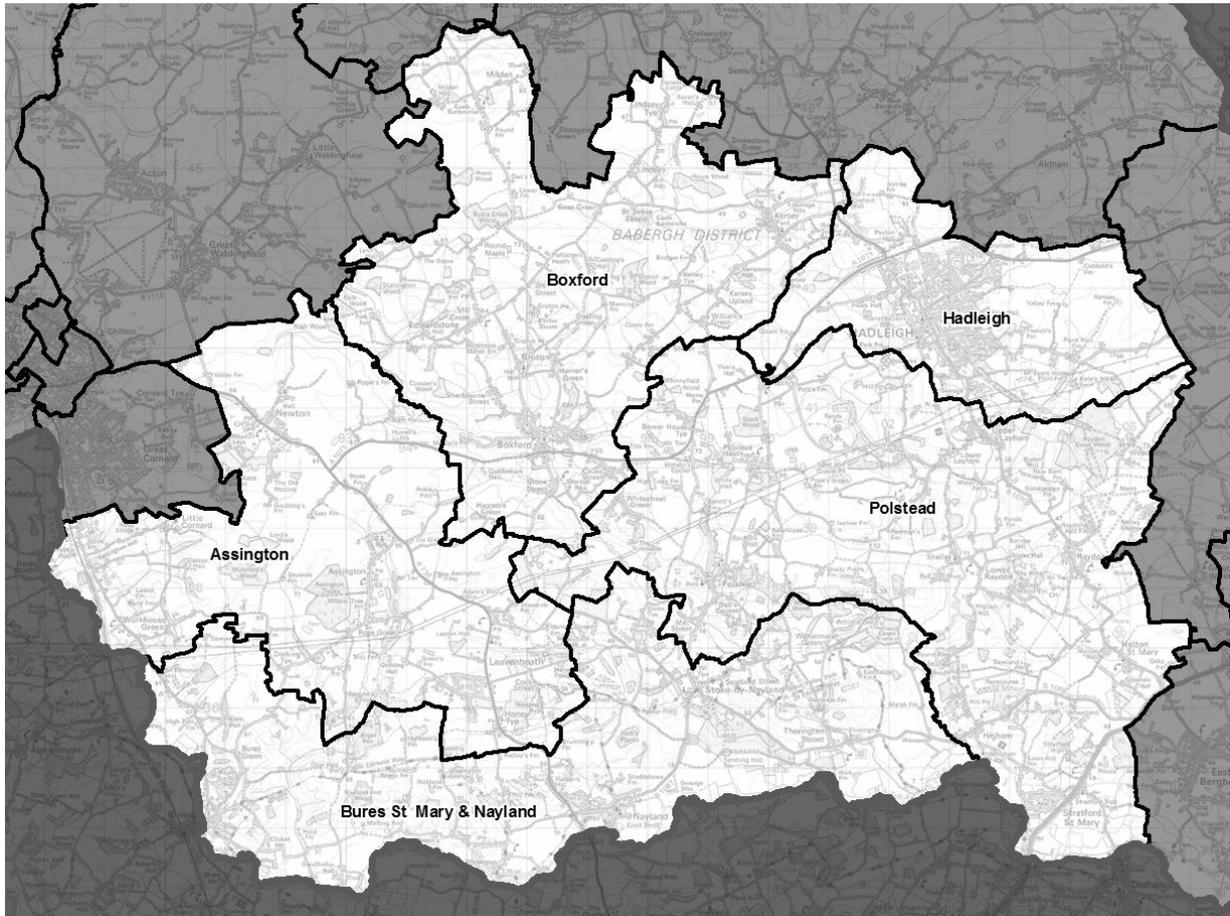
### *Sproughton & Pinewood and Shotley*

37 We received a submission from Sproughton Parish Council suggesting that the area should be combined with the parish of Pinewood to form a two-member ward. This was also proposed by the Council and two councillors in some of the other district-wide schemes we received.

38 We have based our Shotley ward on grouping the parishes of Shotley, Harkstead and Arwarton into a single-member ward. This was proposed in three of the schemes that we received.

39 Both Sproughton & Pinewood and Shotley will achieve good electoral equality by 2023.

## Central and South-western parishes



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Assington	1	-7%
Boxford	1	-5%
Bures St Mary & Nayland	1	1%
Hadleigh	3	-2%
Polstead	1	11%

### *Assington*

40 We received one submission from Little Cornard Parish Council that suggested the parishes of Little Cornard, Newton, Assington and Leavenheath should be grouped together. This was also proposed in one of the schemes submitted by the Council and a scheme submitted by a councillor. We have accepted this proposal and are recommending a one-member Assington ward that will achieve good electoral equality by 2023.

### *Boxford*

41 We have based our draft Boxford ward on the proposal submitted by Councillor McCraw, grouping together the parishes of Boxford, Groton, Edwardstone, Kersey, Milden and Lindsey. This was supported by a submission from Groton Parish Council, that stated the parishes of Groton, Edwardstone and Boxford have a shared community identity and therefore should remain in the same ward. Our draft Boxford ward will achieve good electoral equality by 2023.

### *Bures St Mary & Nayland*

42 We received two submissions from Polstead Parish Council and Leavenheath Parish Council stating that they have connections with Nayland. However, moving either of these parishes would lead to poor electoral equality. Bures St Mary & Nayland would have a 50% electoral variance with the inclusion of Polstead. The alternative ward that would include Leavenheath would have a 31% variance. Two of the schemes that we received, from the Council and a councillor, proposed grouping the parishes of Stoke-by-Nayland, Nayland-with-Wissington and Bures St Mary to form a single-member ward. We therefore propose to accept this scheme. Bures St Mary & Nayland will achieve electoral equality by 2023.

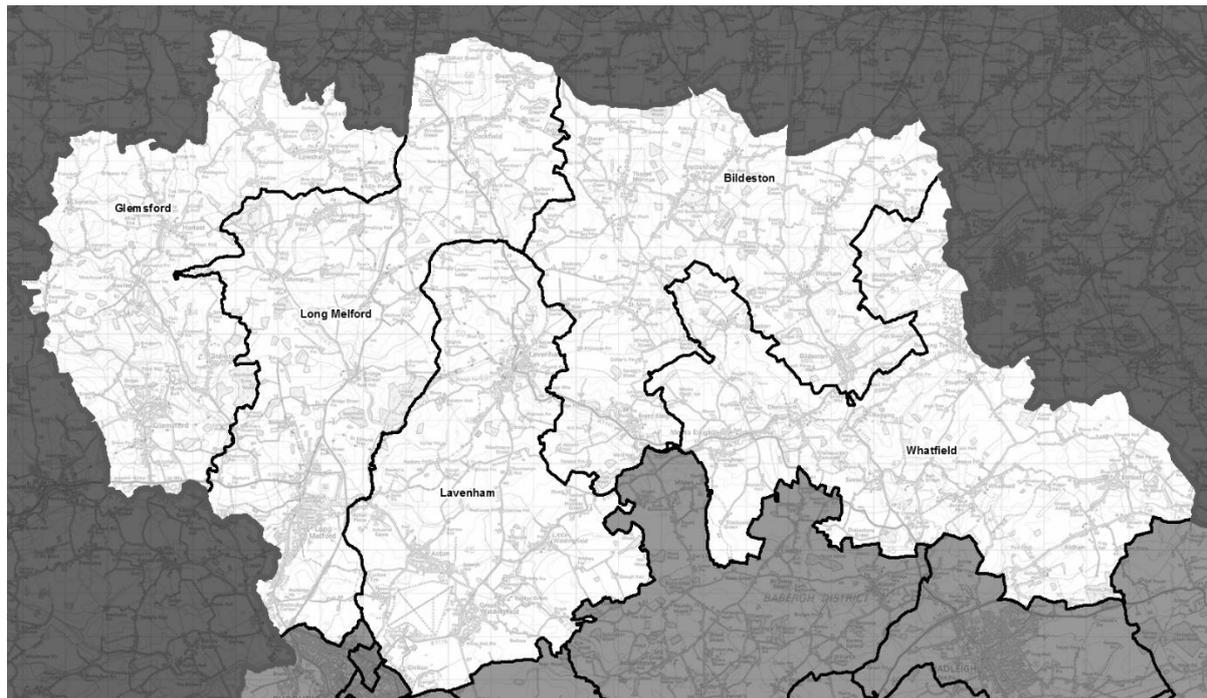
### *Hadleigh*

43 We received three submissions regarding Hadleigh from two local residents and Hadleigh Town Council. Two of these submissions requested that the Hadleigh area retain its current allocation of four councillors. Retaining four councillors in Hadleigh would result in an electoral variance of -26% which we consider to be unacceptably high. We are therefore recommending a draft three-member Hadleigh ward based on the parish of Hadleigh. This was supported by all of the schemes that we received during consultation. Hadleigh ward will have good electoral equality by 2023 while reflecting the community identity of the town.

### *Polstead*

44 We received three submissions regarding Polstead ward from parish councils. Polstead Parish Council stated that it wished to be placed in a ward with the parishes to the south covering the Nayland area. To group these parishes within our proposed Bures St Mary & Nayland ward would result in poor electoral equality for the area. We received a submission from Stratford St Mary Parish Council and Raydon Parish Council that underlined the close connection between the parishes of Raydon, Holton St Mary, Stratford St Mary and Higham. Based on the evidence submitted, we are recommending a single-member Polstead ward with a variance of 11%, comprising these parishes, along with Shelley and Layham. While this variance is relatively high, we consider our proposed ward will most accurately reflect community identity in this area.

## North and north-western parishes



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Bideston	1	-4%
Glemsford	2	-2%
Lavenham	2	7%
Long Melford	2	-5%
Whatfield	1	-2%

### *Bildeston and Whatfield*

45 The schemes that we received for Bildeston and Whatfield all proposed significantly different boundaries with varying levels of electoral equality. We received a submission from Thorpe Morieux Parish Council which supported inclusion in a ward with the parish of Cockfield; however, this would lead to poor electoral equality with Bildeston containing 28% more electors than the average by 2023. We also received one submission from a local resident that supported grouping the parishes of Brent Eleigh and Preston St Mary in a ward on the basis that they have shared community links. We have therefore based our draft Bildeston ward on grouping the parishes of Bildeston, Hitcham, Brettenham, Thorpe Morieux, Preston St Mary and Brent Eleigh.

46 We have based our draft Whatfield ward on grouping of the parishes of Aldham, Elmsett, Semer, Nedging-with-Naughton, Wattisham, Chelsworth, Monks Eleigh and Kettlebaston. Following our visit to the area, we feel that this offers a better balance of our statutory criteria than the other schemes submitted. Bildeston and Whatfield will have good electoral equality by 2023.

### *Glemsford*

47 We have based our draft ward on the current ward in this area, with the addition of the parishes of Glemsford and Stanstead. We received three submissions from two parish councils and a village meeting in the area that supported the current grouping of parishes. This was also proposed in the scheme submitted by Councillor McCraw. Glemsford will have good electoral equality by 2023.

### *Lavenham*

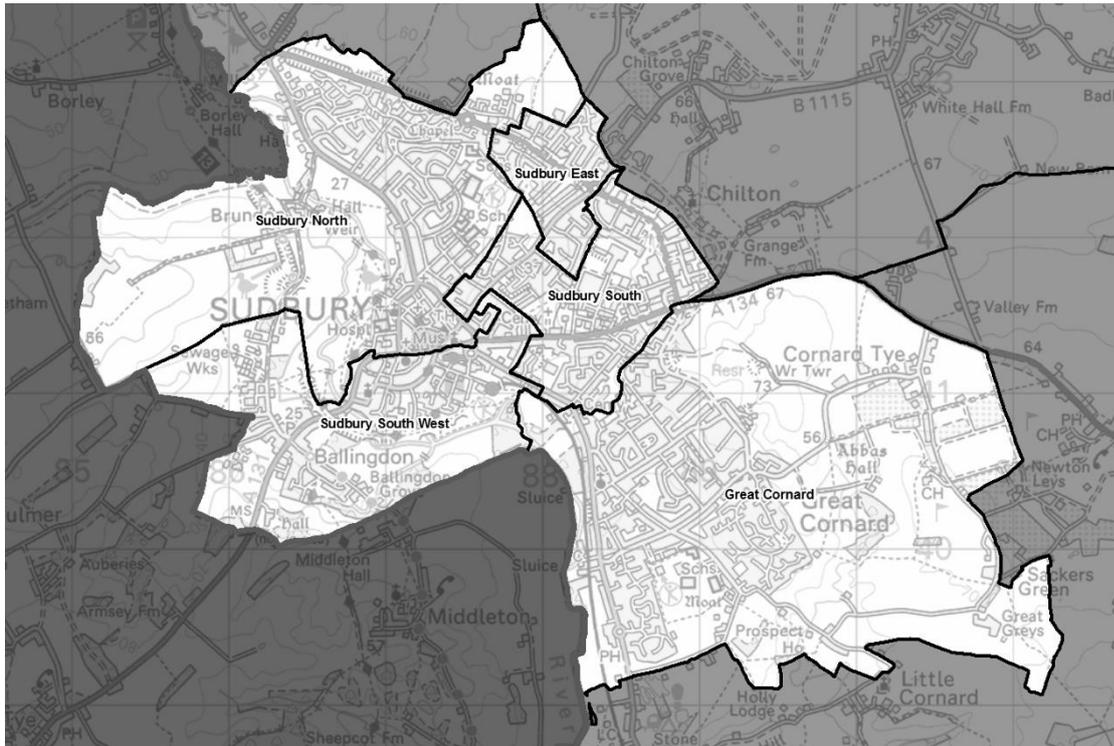
48 We received two submissions from Great Waldingfield Parish Council and Acton Parish Council that argued in favour of the current grouping of parishes within one ward. Additionally, we received a submission from Chilton Parish Council that argued against its inclusion in a more urban ward, such as Sudbury or Great Cornard, both of which were proposed under some of the warding schemes we received. Our draft Lavenham ward is based on the existing Waldingfield ward, with the addition of Chilton parish, and will have good electoral equality by 2023.

### *Long Melford*

49 We received a submission regarding these wards from Cockfield Parish Council. It argued that the current groupings of parishes should be retained for district warding. This leads to poor electoral equality in Bildeston at 28%.

50 We also received a submission from Shimpling Parish Council that stated it did not wish to be placed in the same ward as Glemsford. We therefore have grouped the more rural parishes of Alpheton, Cockfield and Shimpling with the parish of Long Melford into a two-member Long Melford ward. Long Melford will have good electoral equality by 2023.

## Sudbury and Great Cornard



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Great Cornard	3	4%
Sudbury East	1	-4%
Sudbury North	2	-10%
Sudbury South	1	-2%
Sudbury South West	1	-1%

### *Great Cornard*

51 We received one submission from Great Cornard Parish Council arguing against dividing the parish or placing it in a ward with the parish of Little Cornard, arguing that there is no shared community identity and a very distinct urban/rural divide. This was also supported by two of the schemes that we received.

52 Following our visit to the area, we are proposing to move electors in the Cat's Lane area of Great Cornard into our draft Sudbury South ward to reflect access routes and ensure better electoral equality in Sudbury South and Great Cornard.

53 Overall, we are persuaded by the community evidence submitted and are therefore recommending a draft three-member Great Cornard ward based on the current parish, with the exclusion of electors around Cat's Lane.

### *Sudbury*

54 Four of the schemes that we received for Sudbury proposed a four-member Sudbury ward retaining the current boundaries, with a variance of 11%. While the legislation does not preclude a four-member ward, the Commission's Guidance is clear that wards of greater than three-members do not provide for effective and convenient local government and potentially dilute accountability.

55 We received one submission from Sudbury Town Council that suggested that the external boundary of the parish should be followed for ward boundaries, which was supported by a submission from a local resident. The submission from the Town Council also argued that Sudbury should be split into four single-member wards to provide better accountability, but did not provide an alternative warding pattern or evidence to help determine where the boundaries should be drawn. We therefore looked at alternative boundaries on our visit to the area.

56 Our draft warding arrangements for Sudbury are for single-member Sudbury South, Sudbury South West and Sudbury East wards and a two-member Sudbury North ward, to allow for better electoral equality. Taking account of the spread of residential areas in the town, we have sought to follow identifiable boundaries while seeking to reflect local communities. All Sudbury wards will achieve good electoral equality by 2023. We would particularly welcome comments on our draft recommendations for Sudbury during this consultation.

## Conclusions

57 The table below shows the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2016 and 2023 electorate figures.

### Summary of electoral arrangements

	Draft recommendations	
	2016	2023
Number of councillors	32	32
Number of electoral wards	22	22
Average number of electors per councillor	2,227	2,313
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	1	1
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

#### **Draft recommendation**

Babergh District Council should be made up of 32 councillors serving 22 wards representing 14 single-councillor wards, six 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 ward for Babergh District Council.

**You can also view our draft recommendations for Babergh on our interactive maps at <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>**

### Parish electoral arrangements

58 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 ward 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.

59 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, Babergh 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.

60 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 Sudbury Town Council and Great Cornard Parish Council.

61 As 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 Sudbury parish.

<b>Draft recommendation</b>	
Sudbury Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing 7 wards:	
<b>Parish ward</b>	<b>Number of parish councillors</b>
Elm & Hillside	1
Hawkins Road	1
St Leonards	1
Sudbury East	3
Sudbury North	6
Sudbury South	1
Sudbury South West	2

62 As 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 Great Cornard parish.

<b>Draft recommendation</b>	
Great Cornard Parish Council should comprise 14 councillors, as at present, representing 3 wards:	
<b>Parish ward</b>	<b>Number of parish councillors</b>
Cat's Lane	1
Great Cornard North	6
Great Cornard South	7



### 3 Have your say

63 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.

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

65 Our website has a special consultation area where you can explore the maps and draw your own proposed boundaries. You can find it at [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

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

**Review Officer (Babergh)**  
**The Local Government Boundary Commission for England**  
**14th Floor, Millbank Tower**  
**Millbank**  
**London SW1P 4QP**

67 The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for the Babergh which delivers:

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

68 A good pattern of ward should:

- Provide good electoral equality, with each councillor representing, as closely as possible, the same number of voters
- 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

69 Electoral equality:

- Does your proposal mean that councillors would represent roughly the same number of voters as elsewhere in the council area?

70 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?

71 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?

72 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 in Millbank (London) 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.

73 If you are a member of the public and not writing on behalf of a council or organisation we will remove any personal identifiers, such as 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.

74 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.

75 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 the Babergh in 2019.

## Equalities

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

## Appendix A

### Draft recommendations for Babergh District Council

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2016)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1 Assington	1	2,157	2,157	-3%	2,157	2,157	-7%
2 Bildeston	1	2,147	2,147	-4%	2,223	2,223	-4%
3 Boxford	1	2,104	2,104	-6%	2,188	2,188	-5%
4 Brantham & Holbrook	2	4,598	2,299	3%	4,887	2,444	6%
5 Bures St. Mary & Nayland	1	2,333	2,333	5%	2,333	2,333	1%
6 Capel St. Mary	1	2,407	2,407	8%	2,439	2,439	5%
7 Chelmondistan	1	2,134	2,134	-4%	2,375	2,375	3%
8 Copdock & Washbrook	1	2,100	2,100	-6%	2,324	2,324	0%
9 East Bergholt	1	2,283	2,283	3%	2,412	2,412	4%
10 Glemsford	2	4,479	2,240	1%	4,540	2,270	-2%
11 Great Cornard	3	6,737	2,246	1%	7,220	2,407	4%

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2016)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
12 Hadleigh	3	6,652	2,217	0%	6,804	2,268	-2%
13 Lavenham	2	4,917	2,459	10%	4,953	2,477	7%
14 Long Melford	2	4,219	2,110	-5%	4,412	2,206	-5%
15 Polstead	1	2,548	2,548	14%	2,558	2,558	11%
16 Shotley	1	2,169	2,169	-3%	2,466	2,466	7%
17 Sproughton & Pinewood	2	4,428	2,214	-1%	4,554	2,277	-2%
18 Sudbury East	1	2,116	2,116	-5%	2,218	2,218	-4%
19 Sudbury North	2	4,099	2,050	-8%	4,147	2,074	-10%
20 Sudbury South	1	2,173	2,173	-2%	2,268	2,268	-2%
21 Sudbury South West	1	2,211	2,211	-1%	2,285	2,285	-1%
22 Whatfield	1	2,240	2,240	1%	2,266	2,266	-2%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>71,251</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>74,029</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Averages</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,227</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,313</b>	<b>-</b>

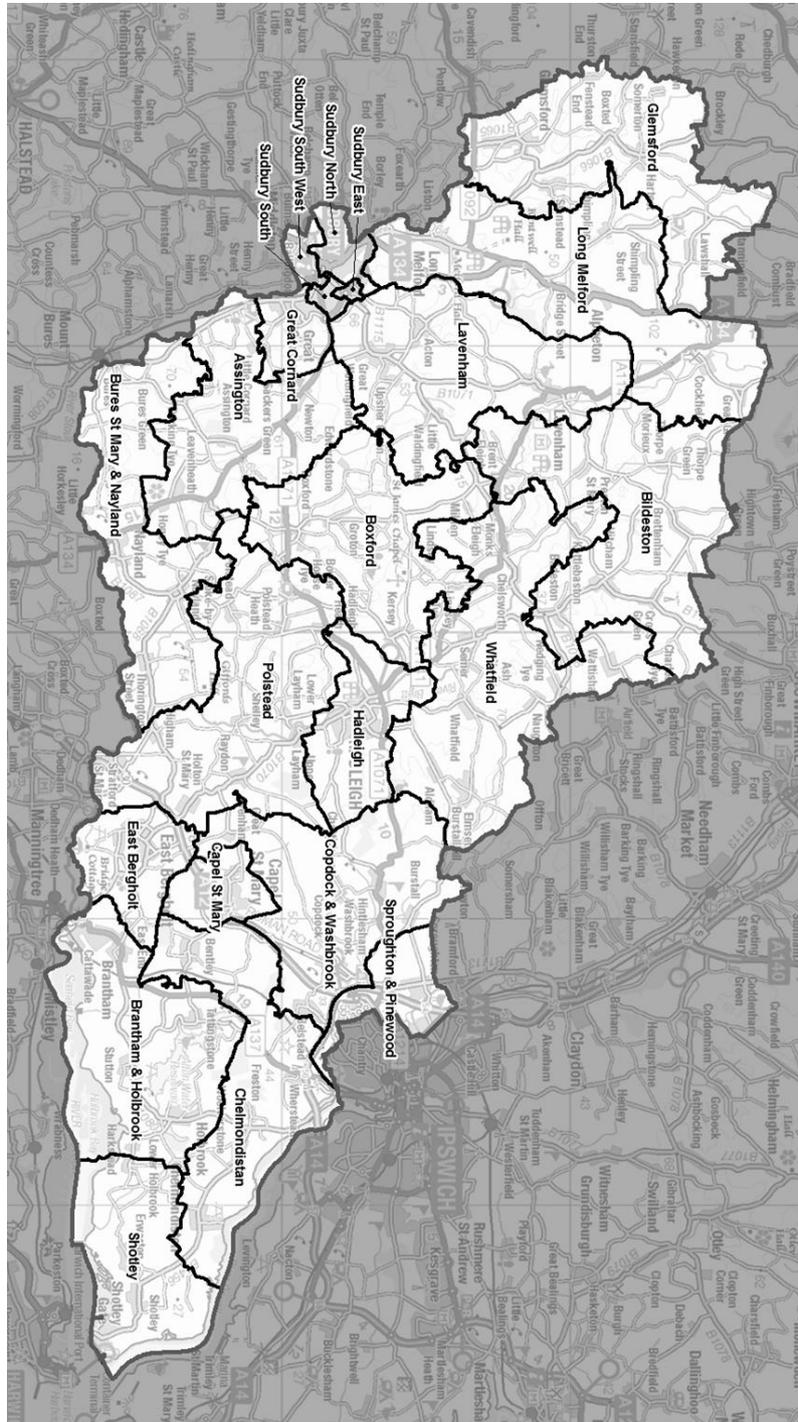
Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Babergh District Council.

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 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



A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/eastern/suffolk/babergh>

# Appendix C

## Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/eastern/suffolk/babergh>

### Local Authority

- Babergh District Council

### Political Group

- Green Party Group Babergh District Council
- South Suffolk Constituency Labour Party

### Councillors

- Councillor D. Busby
- Councillor A. Ferguson
- Councillor B. Hurren
- Councillor A. McCraw
- Councillor A. Osborne

### Parish and Town Council

- Acton Parish Council
- Assington Parish Council
- Bentley Parish Council
- Boxted Parish Meeting
- Chilton Parish Council
- Cockfield Parish Council
- Freston Parish Council
- Great Cornard Parish Council
- Great Waldingfield Parish Council
- Groton Parish Council
- Hadleigh Town Council
- Holbrook Parish Council
- Lawshall Parish Council
- Leavenheath Parish Council
- Little Cornard Parish Council
- Little Waldingfield Parish Council
- Newton Parish Council
- Pinewood Parish Council
- Polstead Parish Council
- Raydon Parish Council
- Shimpling Parish Council

- Somerton Village Meeting
- Sproughton Parish Council
- Stanstead Parish
- Stratford St Mary Parish Council
- Sudbury Town Council
- Thorpe Morieux Parish Council
- Woolverstone Parish Council

### **Local Residents**

- 11 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 fairness	When one elector's vote is worth the same as another's
Electoral inequality	Where there is a difference between the number of electors represented by a councillor and the average for the local authority
Electorate	People in the authority who are registered to vote in elections. For the purposes of this report, we refer specifically to the electorate for local government elections
Number of electors per councillor	The total number of electors in a local authority divided by the number of councillors
Over-represented	Where there are fewer electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average

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

Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council
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