From: The Local Government Boundary Commission for England <reviews@lgbce.org.uk>
Sent: 27 February 2018 14:32
To: To Whom It May Concern
Subject: Have your say on new council ward boundaries for Basingstoke and Deane



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## **Hannington Parish Council**

Consultation on council ward boundaries for Basingstoke and Deane has re-opened

#### Have your say now via our consultation portal

## To Whom It May Concern

From today, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England is inviting proposals for new warding arrangements for Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

We are re-launching our consultation following a pause in the review process.

The Commission previously announced its view that the council should have 54 councillors in future. This decision was taken on the basis of evidence gathered at an earlier stage of the review. The Commission subsequently became aware that, due to an administrative error, the Commission had not considered the totality of evidence supplied by councillors and council groups before it took its decision.

Due to the importance the Commission attaches to considering all submissions presented to it, it decided to re-consider all the preliminary evidence before it takes its decision on councillor numbers again.

The Commission has now done this and is re-opening consultation.

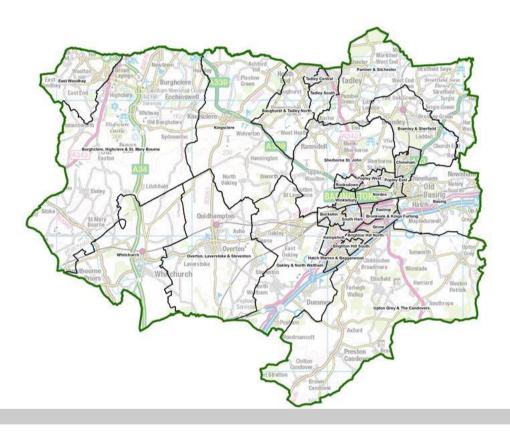
The consultation will close on 7 May 2018.

After considering all representations made during this consultation, the Commission intends to publish draft recommendations in August 2018. There will then be a further period of consultation on the draft recommendations.

Final recommendations are expected to be published in November 2018.

The new electoral arrangements will come into effect at the local elections in 2019.

If you represent a local organisation or community group in Basingstoke and Deane, please pass this message on to your members, or anyone you think might be interested in the review. You can share the message by email or through social media by using the buttons at the bottom right of this page.



#### What is an electoral review?

The electoral review will recommend new electoral arrangements for Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. It will propose:

- the total number of councillors elected to the council in the future;
- the number of wards;
- the number of councillors representing each ward;
- ward boundaries;
- the names of wards.

### How to get involved

This is a public consultation and we welcome views from individuals and organisations across Basingstoke and Deane on where they think new ward patterns should be drawn.

The Commission is now minded to recommend that **54 councillors** should be elected to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council in the future.

This is **6 fewer** than the current number of councillors.

It is now inviting proposals to help it draw up a pattern of wards to accommodate 54 councillors.

In drawing up a pattern of electoral wards, the Commission must balance three legal criteria, namely:

- to deliver electoral equality: where each councillor represents roughly the same number of electors as others across the borough;
- that the pattern of wards should, as far as possible, reflect the interests and identities of local communities;
- that the electoral arrangements should provide for effective and convenient local government.

The Commission will treat all submissions equally, and will judge each case on its merits and against the legal criteria.

If you wish to put forward a view, we would also urge you to ensure that evidence supports your submission. For example, if you wish to argue that two parishes should be included in the same electoral ward, make sure you tell the Commission why they should be together, providing evidence about community facilities, ties, organisations, and amenities, rather than simply asserting that they belong together.

There is plenty more advice on <u>our website</u> about how you can get involved in the consultation and put your views forward.

Our website features <u>technical guidance</u> that explains the process and our policies, as well as guidance on how to take part in each part of the process.

We have set up a page on our site dedicated to the review of <u>Basingstoke and Deane Borough</u> <u>Council</u>, where you can find further relevant information.

You can also access interactive maps of the current ward boundaries across Basingstoke and Deane on our <u>specialist consultation portal</u>. The portal also allows you to draw your own boundaries, mark areas of interest on the map and upload documents directly to it.

#### Promote the review in your area with our promotional poster

# Get in touch

The Commission welcomes comments on warding arrangements by **7 May 2018**. Representations should be made:

- Through our *interactive consultation portal*, where you can explore the maps of the recommendations, draw your own boundaries and make comments;

By email to: <u>reviews@lgbce.org.uk;</u>

- Or in writing to: Review Officer (Basingstoke and Deane), Local Government Boundary Commission for England, 14th Floor, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London, SW1P 4QP

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Local Government Boundary Commission for England, 14th Floor, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London, SW1P 4QP You're receiving this email because you represent an organisation that we believe will be interested in this electoral review.

