

The  
Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
for England

Mrs Ann Inman  
Dartmoor Forest Parish Council  
Jade House, 8 Merrivale View Road,  
Dousland,  
Yelverton, Devon,  
PL20 6NS

29 April 2014

Dear Parish or Town Clerk,

**ELECTORAL REVIEW OF WEST DEVON: DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS**

I am pleased to enclose a copy of the letter sent to the Chief Executive of West Devon Borough Council and a summary of the Commission's report, outlining its draft recommendations. The report and an interactive map of the draft recommendations are available in the LGBCE consultation area, [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk).

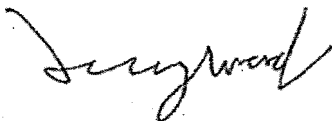
I have also enclosed a poster announcing the start of the consultation. It would be much appreciated if you could put it on display on a notice board or similar, and we invite you to take any other steps you consider appropriate to bring the review to the attention of your residents and other interested parties.

The Commission would welcome comments on its report by **21 July 2014**. Representations should be made through [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk), by email to [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk) or in writing to this address:

Review Officer (West Devon)  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
Layden House  
76-86 Turnmill Street  
London  
EC1M 5LG

If you have any queries, please contact me.

Yours sincerely



**Lucy Ward**  
**Review Officer**  
[lucy.ward@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:lucy.ward@lgbce.org.uk)  
020 7664 8520

Local Government Boundary Commission for England, 3rd Floor Layden House, 76-86 Turnmill Street, London EC1M 5LG

Tel: 020 7664 8534; Fax: 020 7298 6788; [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk); [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

The  
Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
for England

Mr Richard Sheard  
Chief Executive  
West Devon Borough Council  
Kilworthy Park  
Drake Road  
Tavistock  
Devon  
PL19 0BZ

29 April 2014

Dear Mr Sheard,

**ELECTORAL REVIEW OF WEST DEVON: DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Having considered the representations received during the initial stages of the review, the Commission today publishes its draft recommendations on the future electoral arrangements for West Devon Borough Council. A copy of this report can be accessed via our website, at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk). We have also arranged with your officers for hard copies of the report to be sent to the Council.

An interactive map of the Commission's draft recommendations for West Devon, electoral figures and guidance on how to propose new wards is available in the consultation area <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>. Here you can view the existing ward against the draft recommendations and have your say. Technical guidance can be found on the *Policy and publications* page of our website.

We have informed the national headquarters of the main political parties, MPs and MEPs with constituency interests in the area, all parish and town councils, and all people who responded to our initial consultations.

The Commission is now undertaking a period of consultation on its draft recommendations and is seeking the views of local people. It would be helpful if your Council could further publicise the Commission's draft recommendations by displaying the posters sent to your Council and taking such other steps as it considers appropriate to bring the review to the attention of the public and other interested parties.

We will send copies of all representations to you at the end of this consultation stage. I would be grateful if you would kindly make them available for public inspection on receipt. Copies of representations will also be posted on the Commission's website, at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk) and made available for inspection at the Commission's offices, by appointment.

Representations must be submitted to the Commission by **21 July 2014**. I should stress that the Commission has not finalised its conclusions and, in light of further evidence, may put forward final recommendations which differ from those set out in the draft

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recommendations. We therefore encourage all those who have a view to write to the Commission, whether they agree with its draft recommendations or not. It is very important that those who oppose the draft recommendations should suggest alternatives which are supported by evidence.

All representations received during the consultation period will be taken into account and the Commission will then consider whether or not to amend its draft recommendations. When the final recommendations are published, copies will again be sent to your Council and the other stakeholders detailed above. Representations should be made through <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>, by email to [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk) or in writing to this address:

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EC1 5LG

Any respondents who submit comments during this period of the review, and do not want all or any part of the response or name made public, must state this clearly in the response. Any such request should explain why confidentiality is necessary, but all information in responses may be subject to publication or disclosure as required by law (in particular under the Freedom of Information Act 2000).

If you have any queries, please contact Lucy Ward, on 020 7664 8520, or [lucy.ward@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:lucy.ward@lgbce.org.uk).

Yours sincerely



**Archie Gall**  
**Director of Reviews**  
[archie.gall@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:archie.gall@lgbce.org.uk)  
020 7664 8509

cc Devon County Council  
MPs and MEPs with constituency interests in West Devon  
Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon  
NHS NEW Devon Clinical Commissioning Group  
Devon Fire and Rescue Service  
Parish councils and town councils in West Devon  
Devon Association of local councils

## Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for West Devon Borough Council

Summary report

Read the full report, view detailed maps and have your say at: [www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

Find out more at: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

Follow us on Twitter at: @LGBCE

### Who we are

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England 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.

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

### Electoral review

An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority. A local authority's electoral arrangements are:

- The total number of councillors representing the council's voters ('council size').
- The names, number and boundaries of wards or electoral divisions.
- The number of councillors representing each ward or division.

### Why West Devon?

We are conducting an electoral review of West Devon Borough Council to deliver improved levels of electoral equality for local voters.

West Devon currently has high levels of electoral inequality where some councillors represent many more - or many fewer - voters than others. This means that the value of your vote - in district council elections - varies depending on where you live in West Devon.

### Our proposals

West Devon Borough Council currently has 31 councillors. We propose that the council should continue to have 31 councillors in future. The Commission believes that a council size of 31 members will ensure the council can discharge its roles and responsibilities effectively and provides for a warding pattern that meets our statutory criteria.

### Electoral arrangements

Our draft recommendations propose that West Devon's 31 councillors should represent three single-member, eleven two-member and two three-member wards across the council area.

### You have until 21 July 2014 to have your say on the recommendations

Stage of review	Description
3 Sep - 14 Oct 2013	Public consultation on council size
26 Nov 2013 - 3 Feb 2014	Public consultation on new ward boundaries
29 Apr - 21 Jul 2014	Public consultation on draft recommendations for new electoral arrangements
14 Oct 2014	Publication of final recommendations by the Commission
May 2015	Subject to parliamentary approval - implementation of new arrangements at local elections

# Overview of draft recommendations for West Devon Borough Council

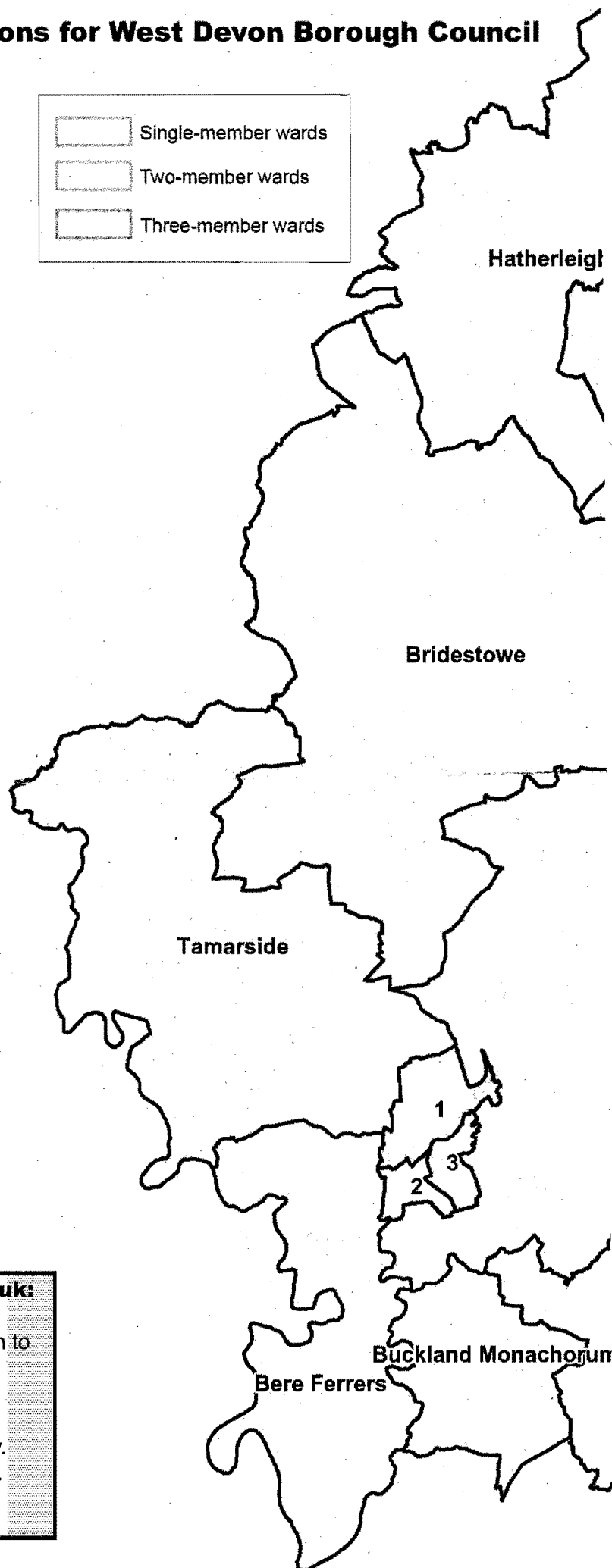
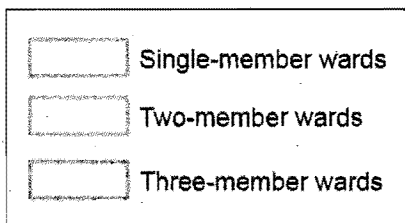
## Summary of our recommendations

We have considered all the submissions we received during the consultation on warding arrangements.

Our draft recommendations provide for 31 councillors to represent 16 wards.

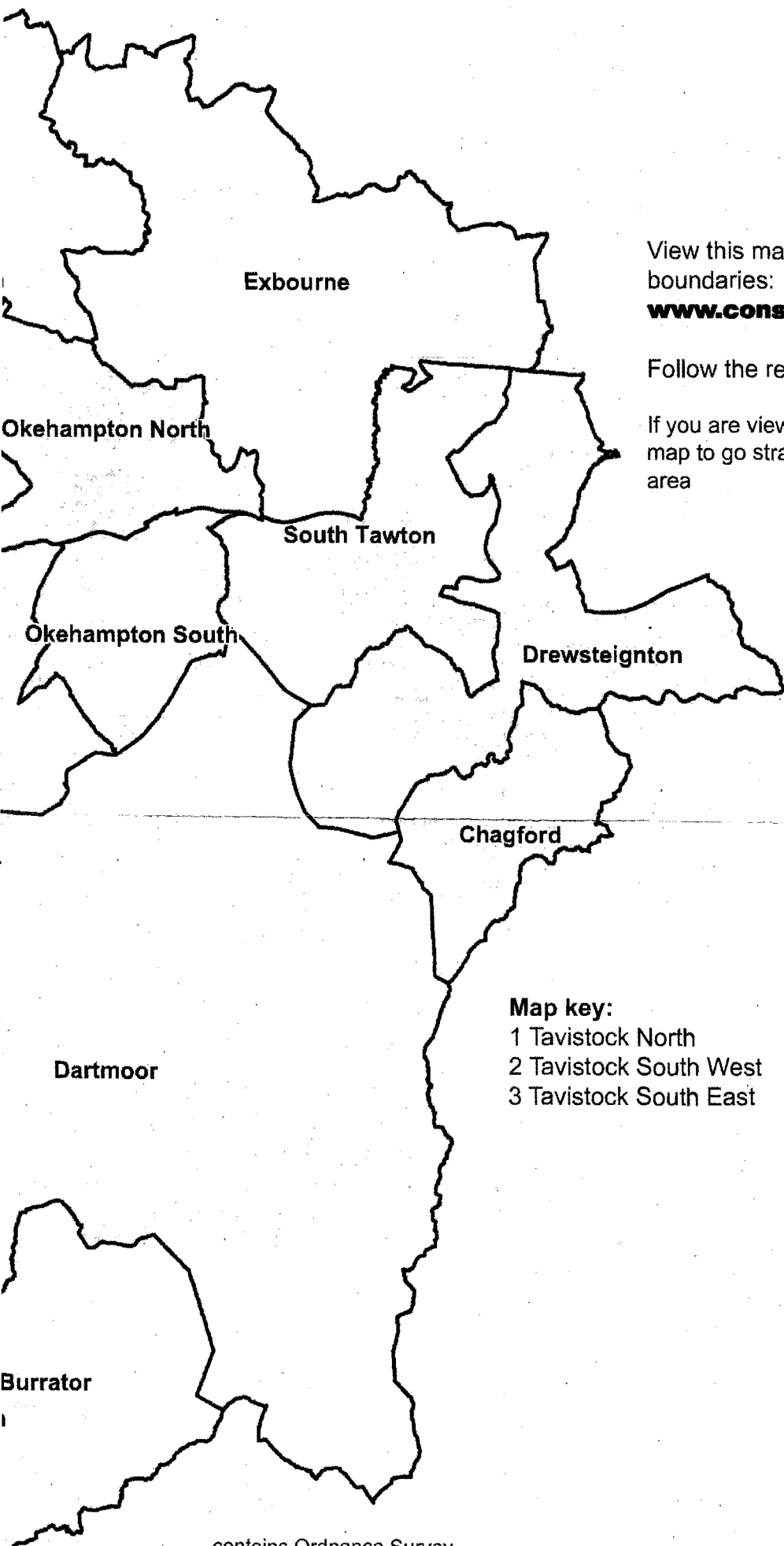
Our draft recommendations for West Devon are based on the proposals of West Devon Borough Council, with modifications in some areas to provide for improved levels of electoral equality and reflect the community evidence received. Some of these modifications are as proposed by Central Devon Conservative Association.

You can read the full report on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk).



## Have your say at [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

- view the map of our recommendations down to street level.
- draw your own boundaries online.
- zoom into the areas that interest you most.
- find more guidance on how to have your say.
- read the full report of our recommendations.
- send us your views directly.



View this map online and draw your own boundaries:

[www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

Follow the review on Twitter: **@LGBCE**

If you are viewing this page online, click on the map to go straight to our interactive consultation area

**Map key:**

- 1 Tavistock North
- 2 Tavistock South West
- 3 Tavistock South East

## Helping you to have your say:

We are now consulting local people on a new pattern of wards for West Devon. The Commission has an open mind about its final recommendations and will consider every piece of evidence it receives from local groups and people. Every representation will be considered, regardless of whom it is from or whether it relates to the whole borough or just a part of it.

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

The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for West Devon which delivers:

- **Electoral equality:** each 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.

### A good pattern of wards 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.

### Electoral equality:

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

### Have your say by writing to:

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London EC1M 5LG

Through our consultation area:

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or by email to: **[reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk)**

The full report and interactive maps are available to view at **[www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)**

Follow us on Twitter: **[@LGBCE](https://twitter.com/LGBCE)**

### Community identity:

- **Transport links:** are there good links across your proposed ward? Is there any form of public transport?
- **Community groups:** is there a parish council, residents association or another group that represents the area?
- **Facilities:** does your pattern of wards reflect where local people go for shops, medical services, leisure facilities etc?
- **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?

### 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?

### Useful tips:

- Our website has a special consultation area where you can explore the maps and draw your own proposed boundaries. You can find it at **[www.consultation.org.uk](http://www.consultation.org.uk)**.
- We publish all submissions we receive on our website so you can follow what other people and organisations have told us. Go to: **[www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)**

# Electoral review of West Devon

## Tell us what you think

The independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England is asking people across your area to comment on proposed new electoral arrangements for West Devon Borough Council.

## Our draft recommendations

Our draft recommendations propose new wards, ward boundaries and ward names across the borough.

We are now asking local people to have their say.

- Do the proposed wards reflect local communities?
- How do you think the proposals can be improved?
- Are the names of the proposed wards right?

For more information, including interactive maps, visit:  
[www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk) and [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

The report and maps will also be available in council buildings and libraries.

## Have your say

Your views will make a difference.

Write to:

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The consultation closes on **21 July 2014**

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