


Agenda Item No:	13	
Committee:	Council	
Date:	12 May 2022	
Report Title:	Council Consultation Response in relation to the Fenland Electoral Review - Proposed Future Warding Arrangements	

1 Purpose / Summary

- For Members to consider and agree the formal Council consultation submission in relation to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) Electoral Review of Fenland District Council. This report forms the Council's response to the final part of the electoral review process regarding the proposed future warding arrangements, including future ward boundaries, number of elected representatives per ward and future ward names.

2 Key issues

- The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body established by Parliament in April 2010. One of its objectives is to work with principal local authorities to help them deliver effective and convenient local government to citizens. Every year, the LGBCE assesses electorate data for each local authority in England with the intention to intervene where "significant" electoral inequality exists. As a result the LGBCE intervention would be in the form of an electoral review should significant electoral inequality have been identified.
- An electoral review is an examination of a council's electoral arrangements. This means:
 - the total number of members to be elected to the council;
 - the number and boundaries of electoral areas (wards / divisions) for the purposes of the election of councillors;
 - the number of councillors for any electoral area of a local authority; and
 - the name of any electoral area.
- During the Annual Council meeting in May 2021, Full Council agreed to approach the LGBCE to commence an Electoral Review of Fenland District Council given the predicted electoral inequality that would be apparent by the next round of all out elections in 2023. The LGBCE subsequently agreed to this request and Fenland was added to the Electoral Review Programme.
- The LGBCE then subsequently made a request to the District Council to submit a proposal regarding the future total number of Councillors to be elected to the Council, known as Council Size. Considerations regarding the future Council size form the initial part of the electoral review process
- During the September 2021 Council meeting, Members agreed that a proposal should be submitted to the LGBCE that the future Council size should contain 42 elected representatives. In addition, Members were also asked to note the following principles to help inform the second stage of the electoral review process, regarding future warding arrangements and the formulation of future ward boundaries:

- No ward should have an electoral variance greater than 10.00%
- No Parish Council Area should be split between two different wards
- Where unavoidable whilst adhering to the first two rules, a Parish Council Area may be joined with part of an adjoining Town Council Area in a single ward (as we have now with Benwick, Coates & Eastrea Ward).
- The LGBCE Commissioners met to discuss the Council Size proposal and later confirmed they were minded to support the suggestion of 42 Members. Members were advised that the LGBCE Commissioners 'minded to' decision reflects the Commission's intentions as to the future council size for Fenland, not its final decision. The Commission are prepared, during the course of the review, to consider whether it might be necessary to change the proposed number of councillors slightly to achieve better levels of electoral representation across the authority area.
- On 26 October the LGBCE commenced the public consultation process in relation to the formal second stage of the electoral review process, namely the formulation of the new district ward boundaries, seeking consultation submissions regarding where the new boundaries should be. This initial round of public consultation concluded on 10 January 2022.
- On 29 March 2022 the LGBCE published The Draft Recommendations report in relation to future electoral arrangements across Fenland including where future district ward boundaries should be located. Publication of the LGBCE draft recommendations initiated the second round of public consultation in relation to the electoral review, which runs for a ten week period from 29 March to 06 June 2022. The LGBCE will published its final recommendations report on 06 September 2022 and that report will define the future Fenland electoral arrangements which will be implemented during the 2023 'All Out' local Government elections.
- Fenland District Council decided that it would seek to put forward its own proposals at each stage of the LGBCE review project, to be ratified by Full Council. As a result the District Council formulated a cross party Member Working Group to lead the Council through the LGBCE process. The Member Working Group was informed by a series of member Focus Groups based on geographical which involved all 39 Councillors.
- The cross party Member Working Group was convened to consider the current and future district warding arrangements including specific warding options informed by the Member Focus Groups. The Member Focus Groups have played a key role in identifying and refining warding options within the extensive consultation which has been carried out as part of this stage of the project.
- Following conclusion of the workshops, the Member Working Group considered a number of issues and various proposals to address them. The primary issue raised was in relation to the previously proposed Benwick, Christchurch, Doddington and Wimblington ward and whether the proposed new ward could effectively satisfy the LGBCE criteria in respect of Effective and Convenient Local Government.
- The Member Working Group agreed to recommend to Full Council that the final Council submission is to formulate 18 District Council Wards representing 42 District Councillors. As a result, the average number of electors per councillor changes to 2046.
- The Member Working Group supports the proposed LGBCE warding arrangement in relation to 13 of the proposed future District wards including
 - Chatteris North and Manea
 - Chatteris South
 - Elm and Wisbech St Mary

- Parson Drove and Roman Bank
 - Whittlesey East and Villages
 - Whittlesey Lattersey
 - Whittlesey North West
 - Whittlesey South
 - Wisbech Leverington
 - Wisbech North
 - Wisbech Riverside
 - Wisbech South
 - Wisbech Walsoken and Waterlees
- Members of the Working Group propose alternative solutions for the remaining 5 District wards including the following
 - Doddington and Wimblington
 - March East and Christchurch
 - March North
 - March South
 - March West and Benwick
- The Member Working Group agreed that the revised scheme achieved the optimum level of electoral equality, with electoral variants of within +/- 10% from the average number of elected representatives per elector, whilst also being the most credible in terms of the other LGBCE statutory criteria, Communities of Interest and Effective and Convenient Local Government.

3 Recommendations

- To consider and agree the revised proposals as outlined in the report which will result in 18 District Council Wards representing 42 District Councillors. As a result, the average number of electors per councillor will be 2046.
- For Members to consider and endorse the LGBCE proposed future district warding arrangements in relation to
 - Chatteris North and Manea
 - Chatteris South
 - Elm and Wisbech St Mary
 - Parson Drove and Roman Bank
 - Whittlesey East and Villages
 - Whittlesey Lattersey
 - Whittlesey North West
 - Whittlesey South
 - Wisbech Leverington
 - Wisbech North

- Wisbech Riverside
- Wisbech South
- Wisbech Walsoken and Waterlees

To consider and agree the revised proposals as outlined in the report in relation to

- Doddington and Wimblington
 - March East and Christchurch
 - March North
 - March South
 - March West and Benwick
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- To delegate to Officers to formally submit the Council consultation submission to the LGBCE for consideration by the deadline of 06 June 2022.

Wards Affected	All	
Forward Plan Reference	N/A	
Portfolio Holder(s)	Member Working Group: Cllr Chris Boden Cllr Jan French Cllr Steve Tierney Cllr Sam Hoy Cllr Ian Benney Cllr Will Sutton Cllr Gavin Booth	
Report Originator(s)	Paul Medd - Chief Executive Peter catchpole Corporate Director Anna Goodall - Acting Assistant Director	
Contact Officer(s)	Paul Medd - Chief Executive Peter Catchpole - Corporate Director Anna Goodall - Acting Assistant Director	

Background Paper(s)	<p data-bbox="547 118 1497 192">Full Council Paper - Electoral Review for Fenland District Council - 19/05/21</p> <p data-bbox="547 208 1414 282">Full Council Paper - Fenland Electoral Review - Council Size Report - 30/09/21</p> <p data-bbox="547 297 1453 371">Full Council paper - Fenland Electoral Review - Future Warding Arrangements 08/12/21</p>	
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DISTRICT OF FENLAND
REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS
FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL RESPONSE TO THE LGBCE
DRAFT FUTURE DISTRICT WARDING PROPOSALS

INTRODUCTION

- The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body established by Parliament in April 2010. One of its objectives is to work with principal local authorities to help them deliver effective and convenient local government to citizens. Every year, the LGBCE assesses electorate data for each local authority in England with the intention to intervene where “significant” electoral inequality exists. As a result the LGBCE intervention would be in the form of an electoral review should significant electoral inequality have been identified.
- An electoral review is an examination of a council’s electoral arrangements. This means:
 - the total number of members to be elected to the council;
 - the number and boundaries of electoral areas (wards / divisions) for the purposes of the election of councillors;
 - the number of councillors for any electoral area of a local authority; and
 - the name of any electoral area.
- During the Annual Council meeting in May 2021, Full Council agreed to approach the LGBCE to commence an Electoral Review of Fenland District Council given the predicted electoral inequality that would be apparent by the next round of all out elections in 2023. The LGBCE subsequently agreed to this request and Fenland was added to the Electoral Review Programme.
- The LGBCE then subsequently made a request to the District Council to submit a proposal regarding the future total number of Councillors to be elected to the Council, known as Council Size. Considerations regarding the future Council size form the initial part of the electoral review process
- During the September 2021 Council meeting, the majority of Members agreed that a proposal should be submitted to the LGBCE that the future Council size should contain 42 elected representatives. In addition, Members were also asked to note the following principles to help inform the second stage of the electoral review process, regarding future warding arrangements and the formulation of future ward boundaries:
 - No ward should have an electoral variance greater than 10.00%
 - No Parish Council Area should be split between two different wards
 - Where unavoidable whilst adhering to the first two rules, a Parish Council Area may be joined with part of an adjoining

Town Council Area in a single ward (as we have now with Benwick, Coates & Eastrea Ward).

- The LGBCE Commissioners met to discuss the Council Size proposal and later confirmed they were minded to support the suggestion of 42 Members. Members were advised that the LGBCE Commissioners 'minded to' decision reflects the Commission's intentions as to the future council size for Fenland, not its final decision. The Commission are prepared, during the course of the review, to consider whether it might be necessary to change the proposed number of councillors slightly to achieve better levels of electoral representation across the authority area.
- On 26 October the LGBCE commenced the public consultation process in relation to the formal second stage of the electoral review process, namely the formulation of the new district ward boundaries, seeking consultation submissions regarding where the new boundaries should be. This initial round of public consultation concluded on 10 January 2022.
- Fenland District Council devised a comprehensive future electoral proposal, which was submitted to the LGBCE in January 2022. The review of electoral arrangements for the District was led by a cross party Member Working Group, who were extremely keen to engage with all Members representing each of the current 24 district wards.
- The resulting scheme arising from Member engagement and consultation activities was robust, well considered, effectively reflected the LGBCE criteria and the needs of the Community we represent whilst also ensuring the Council can operate effectively and to the highest standards.
- At the 08 December 2021 meeting, the majority of members of Full Council endorsed the warding arrangements that supported a future Full Council size of 42 elected representatives for 17 District wards and agreed this should be the scheme submitted to the LGBCE as the formal Fenland District Council electoral review consultation submission.
- On 29 March 2022 the LGBCE published the Draft Recommendations Report outlining the proposed new Electoral Arrangements for Fenland District Council. The publication of the report initiated the second and final round of public consultation, seeking comments in relation to the draft proposals for future ward boundaries reflecting a future Council size of 42 elected representatives. The current round of public consultation closes on 06 June 2022. This completes the standard approach to public consultation in relation to the electoral review (although the LGBCE reserve the right for a third round of consultation should it be necessary), as following this process the LGBCE will publish the final warding scheme for Fenland on 06 September 2022. It is the final recommendation report which will be implemented following the 2023 'all out' local elections.

- The District Council are delighted that the majority of our initial consultation submission has been endorsed by the LGBCE and as such reflected within the current draft future warding proposals. This is further testimony to the robust nature of the original submission.
- Members of the District Council have however raised some concerns about the scale of the previously proposed ward which encompassed Benwick, Christchurch, Doddington and Wimblington. The concerns centred around the ability of this proposal to fully satisfy the LGBCE criteria in respect of Effective and Convenient Local Government due to the proposed ward covering such a wide spread geographic area, particularly as the new ward is proposed to cross the entire width of the district from East to West. Whilst it is appreciated this proposal was initiated by the District Council, given the concerns raised, the Member Working Group have identified an alternative solution that better satisfies all three of the LGBCE Electoral Review criteria balancing Electoral Equality with Communities of Interest whilst also satisfying Effective and Convenient Local Government.
- The proposed solution is to introduce new district warding arrangements in this area that reflect former County Council electoral divisions that include the parishes of Benwick and Christchurch in March District wards.

REVIEW PROCESS

- From the point the review was announced the Council was clear that it wished to respond fully at each stage, as a result, strong project management and governance arrangements have been put in place.
- A cross party Member Working Group was established to steer the development of Fenland District Council's response. The group comprised 7 District Councillors (5 Councillors from the Conservative Group, 2 Councillors from the Fenland Independent Alliance, the group was chaired by the Leader of the District Council). The Working Group signed off the approach and draft proposals that were shared with the wider Member focus groups for consultation.
- A series of Member focus groups took place which comprised of all district councillors, however the groups were facilitated on an area basis in order to discuss detail of specific settlements. These discussions formed the basis of the revised warding proposals. Members who were not able to attend any of the 4 focus group meetings which took place, were asked to submit any comments electronically. This approach was taken in order to maximize member engagement and participation, eliciting their expertise and knowledge of the local area and the communities they serve.
- The Member focus group meetings focused on the LGBCE draft warding proposals and considered district council ward boundaries within each of town boundaries and key settlement affiliations, these discussions enabled the revised draft district warding scheme to be designed. The Member Working Group subsequently sanctioned the progress of the

warding arrangements to be put before Full Council for consideration prior to submission to the LGBCE.

- An officer project team managed the day to day work streams relating to the review and comprised of key officers from the District Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Fenland District Council's proposal for the future warding arrangements of the District has considered and addressed the LGBCE criteria of:
 - Electoral equality
 - Effective and convenient local government
 - Community identity
- The level of member consultation and engagement has been extensive and comprehensive, resulting in a revised proposed, differing from our initial proposals which the Council believes best reflects the LGBCE criteria, the needs of the community we represent and to ensure the Council can operate effectively and to the highest standards.
- Fenland District Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft future district warding proposals put forward by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.
- This report outlines Fenland District Council's response to the draft recommendations proposed by the LGBCE.
- The main points of the District Council submission are as follows;
 - The District Council fully supports the proposed warding arrangement in relation to 13 of the proposed future District wards
 - Chatteris North and Manea
 - Chatteris South
 - Elm and Wisbech St Mary
 - Parson Drove and Roman Bank
 - Whittlesey East and Villages
 - Whittlesey Lattersey
 - Whittlesey North West
 - Whittlesey South
 - Wisbech Leverington
 - Wisbech North
 - Wisbech Riverside
 - Wisbech South
 - Wisbech Walsoken and Waterlees

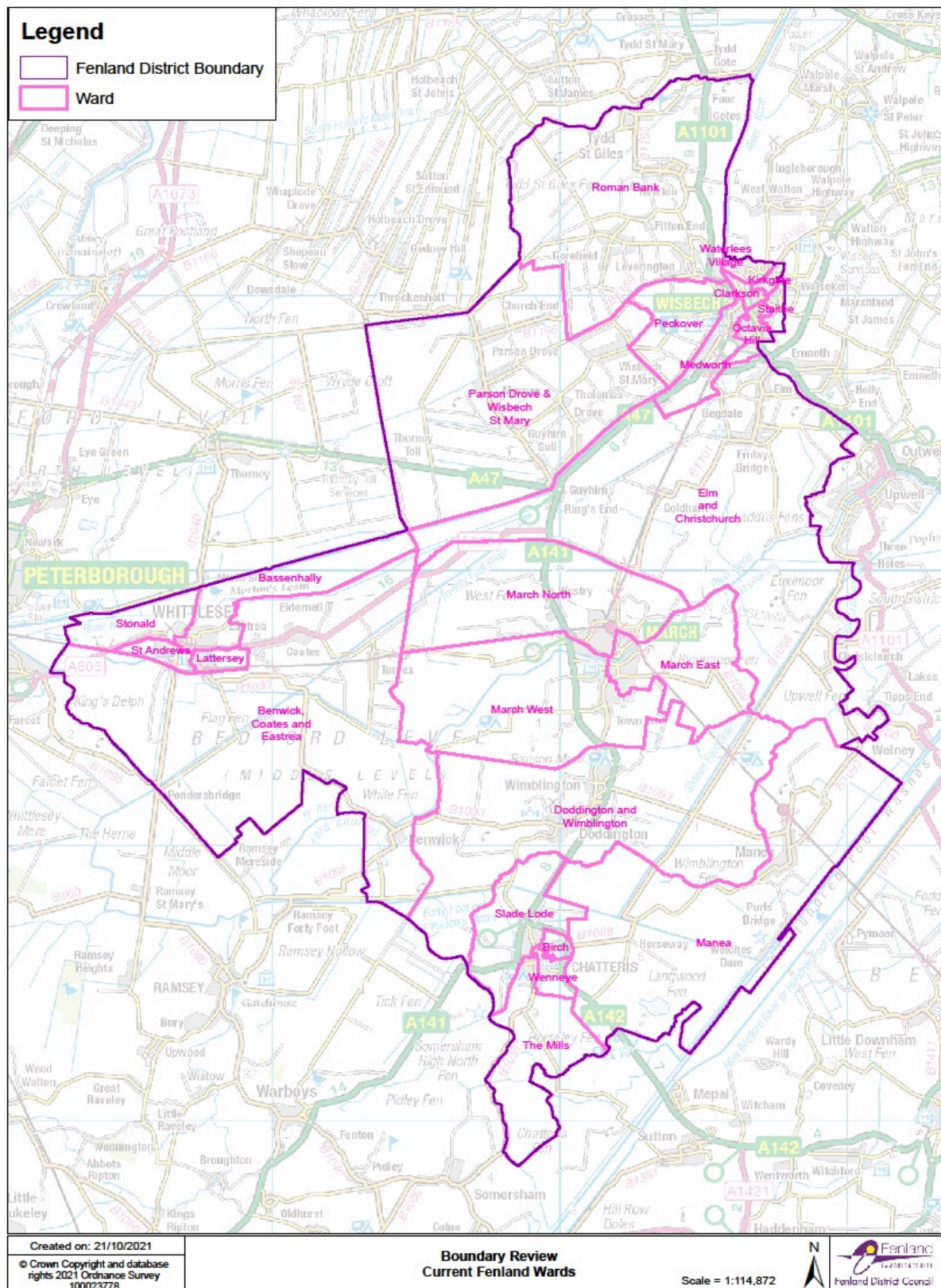
- Due to the concerns raised in relation to the scale of the previously proposed ward which encompassed Benwick, Christchurch, Doddington and Wimblington and issues centring around the ability of this proposal to fully satisfy the LGBCE criteria in respect of Effective and Convenient Local Government. This has resulted in Members wishing to reconsider and propose alternative solutions for the remaining 5 District wards including the following
 - Doddington and Wimblington
 - March East and Christchurch
 - March North
 - March South
 - March West and Benwick
- Members are firmly of the conviction the revised proposals will satisfy the LGBCE criteria including achieving electoral equality, maintaining communities of interest in addition to enabling convenient and effective Local Government.
- Members also recognise that the proposed changes to the wards relating to the March area of the district enable the strongest possible geographical boundaries to be utilised including the River Nene and the A 141, therefore ensuring these areas are clearly distinct and recognisable by the electorate they serve.
- The final Council submission is to formulate 18 District Council Wards representing 42 District Councillors. As a result, the average number of electors per councillor changes to 2046.
- The key factors in ensuring the LGBCE criteria have been met include:
 - Ward sizes have been determined with a range of criteria to ensure they are compact, reflect the geographical features of the area, the community facilities, community identity and the electorate size.
 - Electoral equality has been achieved and are within the LGBCE tolerance of +/- 10%.
 - Where possible we have utilised existing parishes as building blocks for the proposed warding arrangements
 - Communication networks within wards are effective and there are no major barriers within wards
 - The mixture of single, dual and three member wards ensures accountability, reflect communities whilst also ensuring ease of access to elected representatives.
 - The structure and arrangements are understandable and meet the objectives of the review without diluting the benefits of the current structure.
 - As part of the warding review the Working Group and Focus Groups have considered ward names. The agreement reached

was a principle that where there is coterminosity between District and Parish ward boundaries the proposed District and Parish ward names should be the same, however where there are no coterminous boundaries and boundaries differ, then names for District and Parish wards should be different. Both the Focus and Working Group felt this approach would provide greater clarity for the local electorate and prevent potential confusion.

**CURRENT AND FORECAST FUTURE ELECTORATE BY WARD - 2021
- 2027 ELECTORAL FIGURES**

Name of ward	Number of cllrs per ward	Electorate 2021	Variance 2021	Electorate 2027	Variance 2027
Birch	1	2,316	18%	2,433	10%
Slade Lode	1	2,069	5%	2,305	5%
The Mills	1	2,281	16%	2,560	16%
Wenneye	1	1,760	-11%	2,963	34%
March East	3	5,836	-1%	5,941	-10%
March North	3	5,568	-6%	5,957	-10%
March West	3	5,795	-2%	7,348	11%
Benwick Coates and Eastrea	2	3,631	-8%	3,861	-12%
Bassenhally	2	4,303	9%	5,074	15%
Lattersey	1	2,166	10%	2,835	29%
St Andrews	1	2,056	4%	2,128	-3%
Stonald	1	2,299	17%	2,445	11%
Clarkson	1	1,768	-10%	1,942	-12%
Octavia Hill	2	4,010	2%	4,354	-1%
Kirkgate	1	1,918	-3%	2,015	-9%
Medworth	1	1,971	0%	2,134	-3%
Peckover	1	1,800	-9%	1,965	-11%
Staithe	1	1,947	-1%	2,468	12%
Waterlees Village	2	3,907	-1%	3,894	-12%
Doddington and Wimblington	2	3,831	-3%	4,314	-2%
Elm and Christchurch	2	3,838	-3%	4,136	-6%
Manea	1	2,114	7%	2,378	8%
Parson Drove and Wisbech St Mary	2	4,188	6%	4,567	4%
Roman Bank	3	5,437	-8%	5,927	-10%
Totals	39				

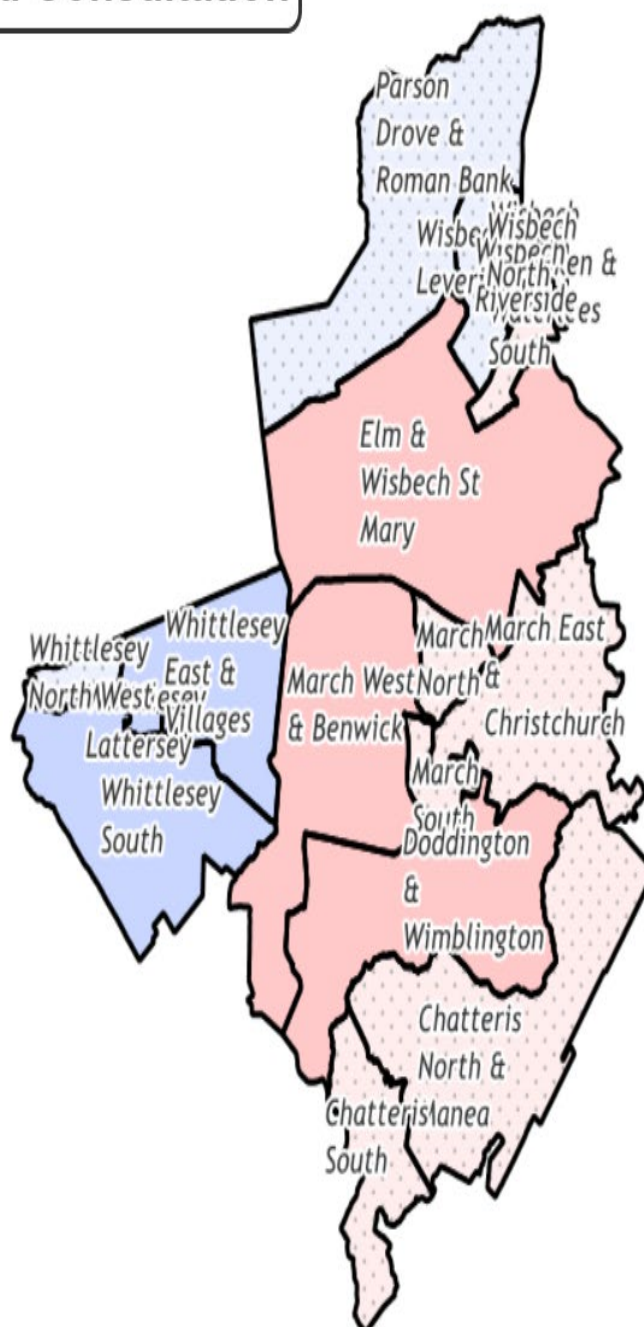
EXISTING WARDING ARRANGEMENTS



PROPOSED DISTRICT WARDING ARRANGEMENTS

Scenario:

New Council Scheme 2nd Consultation



PROPOSED NEW WARDING ARRANGEMENTS

New Ward	Number of Councillors to be Elected	2027 Electorate	Average Number of Electors per Councillor using the 2027 electorate	Variance from the 2,046 average number of electors per councillor
Chatteris North and Manea	3	6336	2138	+3.2%
Chatteris South	3	6303	2101	+2.7%
Doddington and Wimblington	2	4312	2156	+5.4%
Elm and Wisbech St Mary	3	6731	2244	+9.6%
March East and Christchurch	3	6166	2055	+0.4%
March North	3	6194	2065	+0.9%
March South	2	4137	2069	+1.1%
March West and Benwick	2	4404	2202	+7.6%
Parson Drove and Roman Bank	2	3912	1956	-4.4%
Whittlesey East and Villages	3	5800	1933	-5.5%
Whittlesey Lattersey	1	1942	1942	-5.1%
Whittlesey North West	2	3940	1970	-3.7%
Whittlesey South	2	3792	1896	-7.3%
Wisbech Leverington	2	4026	2013	-1.6%
Wisbech North	1	1968	1968	-3.8%
Wisbech Riverside	2	3884	1942	-5.1%
Wisbech South	3	6157	2052	+0.3%
Wisbech Walsoken and Waterlees	3	5940	1980	-3.2%

CHATTERIS TOWN AND MANEA SUMMARY

The District Council recognises the fact the LGBCE endorsed the original District submission for Chatteris and Manea without amendment. The proposal will result in two three-councillor wards of Chatteris North & Manea and Chatteris South.

Chatteris North & Manea as proposed will comprise of the existing Birch ward, the existing Manea ward (coterminous with Manea parish) and the northern part of the existing Slade Lode ward. Chatteris South as proposed will comprise of the existing wards named The Mills and Wenneye as well as the southern part of Slade Lode ward. The Council agree that the proposed warding arrangement will fulfil all three of the LGBCE electoral review criteria in equal measure including electoral equality, communities of interest in addition to effective and convenient Local Government.

This will result in the existing parish ward of Slade Lode being split in two, at the point the proposed new District ward crosses the parish. As such this will create an additional parish ward within the town of Chatteris. The Council have noted and fully agree with this inclusion and in addition agree the proposed names for the revised parish wards in this area in accordance with the LGBCE draft recommendations.

WARD PROFILE - DODDINGTON AND WIMBLINGTON – TWO MEMBER WARD

- **2027 FORECAST ELECTORATE FIGURE 4312 VARIANCE +5.4%**

ROADS IN THE PROPOSED WARD

The streets include the whole of the current Doddington and Wimblington Parishes.

Doddington Parish Streets

Ancaster Way	
Beech Avenue	
Beezling Fen Drove, Doddington & Chatteris	Barrots Farm House, Beezlings Farm, Ivydene
Benwick Road	
Bevills Close	
Brickmakers Arms Lane	
Burdett Close	
Carpenters Way	
Cedar Avenue	
Chestnut Close	
Childs Lane	
Church Lane	
Coneywood Road	
Cooks Green	
Cornfields	
Cowslip Close	
Cypress Close	
Dexter Close	
Doddington Road	
Drivers Close	
Dykemoor Drove	
Dykemoor Drove North	
Eastalls Close	
Eastmoor Lane	

Fen View	
Floods Ferry Road	The Bungalow Copalder Farm, 1 & 2 Copalder Farm Bungalows, Somerset Bungalow, Copalder Pumping Station, Sunrise, Sundown
Forty Foot Bank, Ramsey	
Harvest Close	
Hermitage Gardens	
High Street	
Holly Drive	
Hospital Road	
Hunts Close	
Ingles Lane	
Juniper Close	
Kingsland Close	
Knights Close	
Manor Estate	
May Meadows	
Miller Close	
Newgate Street	
New Street	
Oaktree Close	
Orchard Drive	
Parsons Land Drove	
Peyton Close	
Primrose Hill	
Ronalds Way	
Sutton Way	
The Cherries	
The Grange	
The Larches	
The Oaks	
The Rowans	

Thistledown	
Turf Fen Lane	
Turnpike Close	
Walden Close	
Webbs Close	
Willow Close	
Wimblington Road	
Witchford Close	
Woodside Close	
Wood Street	

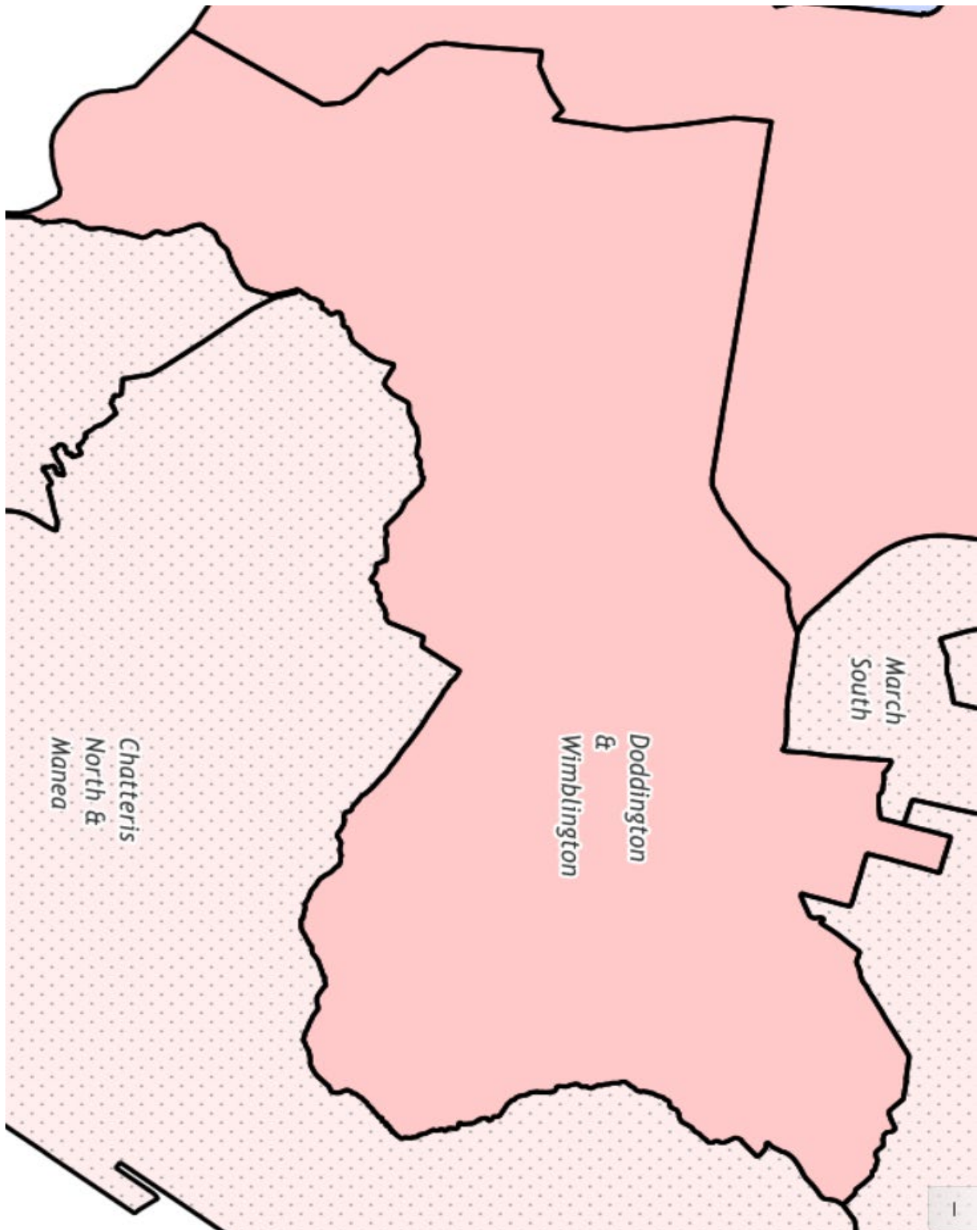
Wimblington Parish Streets

Addison Road	
Ash Tree Close	
Bell Gardens	
Block Fen Drove	
Blue Lane	
Bridge Lane	
Byall Fen Drove, Manea	Honey Hill House
Chapel Lane	
Church Street	
Clayfields Drive	
Coney Walk	
Coneywood Road, Doddington	Field View
Dobson Walk	
Doddington Road	
Dolby Close	
Eastwood End	
Eaton Estate	
Fenland Close	
Frogs Abbey Lane	
Fullers Lane	

Governess Close	
Greenwood Way	
Hassock Way	
Honeymead Road	
Honeysuckle Close	
Hook Road	
Horsemoor Road	
King Street	
Lily Avenue	
Lyon Walk	
Manea Road	
March Road	
Meadow Way	
Meadow Way South	
Morley Way	
Morton Way	
New Woods Drive	
Nixhill Road	
Norfolk Street	
Norman Way	
Old Bakery Close	
Orchard Way	
Parkfield Lane	
Pond Close	
Ray Court	
Rhonda Park	
Rose Cottage Gardens	
Sixteen Foot Bank, Stonea	
Snowdrop Way	
St Peters Drive	
The Chase, Stonea	

The Paddocks	
Waggoners Way	
Walnut Tree Walk	
Webb Gardens	
Westfield Road, Manea	112
Willow Gardens	
Wimblington Road, Manea	Boots Bridge Bungalow, 1 & 2 Lawrence Bridge Farm, Cornfields, Greensholme, Burnlea House, The Willows, Swan View, Laburnum House, Targaryen House, Brockenhurst
Woodysfield	

PROPOSED NEW DODDINGTON AND WIMBLINGTON DISTRICT WARD



EVIDENCE OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

The southern boundary is determined by the existing Chatteris and Manea parish boundary, whereas the northern boundary follows the southern boundaries of Whittlesey, March and Wisbech parishes. Both the Member focus group and Member Working Group were keen to utilise existing parishes as building blocks for the district warding arrangements. The proposed new ward encompasses the entire parishes of Doddington and Wimblington. Both villages encompassed within the ward have a clear sense of community identity, the villages encompass schools, shops and GP surgeries therefore the villages are largely self-sufficient. The proposed scheme builds on links between Doddington and Wimblington which are well established and long standing.

Electors within the villages do not associate themselves with the Towns of Whittlesey, March, Chatteris or Wisbech for electoral purposes, but both villages share a border with the Town of March and both look towards March as their closest main Town for relevant services and facilities.

In order to achieve electoral equality, we propose this becomes a dual member ward. The proposed ward name of Doddington and Wimblington Ward reflects the geographical area and is felt is well established and is already widely recognised and accepted by local residents.

WARD PROFILE – MARCH EAST AND CHRISTCHURCH – THREE MEMBER WARD

- 2027 FORECAST ELECTORATE FIGURE 6166 VARIANCE +0.4%

ROADS IN THE PROPOSED WARD

March East Streets

Abbeygate Court	
Alberts Drive	
Aldeby Close	
Apple Grove	
Ashbeach Road	
Asplin Avenue	
Badgeney End	
Badgeney Road	
Bevills Place	
Binnimoor Road	
Bittern Way	
Bosworth Way	
Breton Avenue	
Britannia View	
Camargue Drive	
Cavalry Drive	
Cavalry Park	
Chandlers Way	
Cleveland Bay	
Clydesdale Close	
Coleseed Road	Wimbleton Farm, 2
Collingwood Avenue	
Cotswold Close	
Cygnets Crescent	
Deerfield Road	

Dragoon Drive	
East Drive	
Eastwood Avenue	
Elwyn Court	
Elwyn Road	
Elwyndene Road	
Endeavour Way	
Fairfax Way	
Field Baulk	
Fleetwood Close	
Fleming Court	
Gimbert Square	
Green Street	
Grounds Avenue	
Haslehurst Close	
Heathcote Close	
Henry Orbell Close	
Heron Walk	
High Street	30-132 (evens)
Horsemoor Road, Wimblington	Bosworth House
Hunters Chase	
Hurst Avenue	
Hussars Court	
Ingoldsby Close	
Ireton Way	
Jordans Close	
Kelsey Way	
Kingfisher Close	
Mallard Way	
Mallett Close	
Market Place	

Meadow Drive	
Mills Gardens	
Minstrel Walk	
Monte Long Close	
Monument View	
Morton Avenue	
New Road	
Noble Gardens	
Norico Bay	
North Drive	
Olivers Way	
Orchard Close	
Orchard Road	
Orchard Road South	
Papworth Road	
Percheron Drive	
Plover Drive	
River Drive	
Robshaw Close	
Rodham Road	
Rosedene Drive	
Roses Close	
Rosewood Close	
Scargells Lane	
Shaftesbury Court	
Sheppersons Grove	
Silt Road	
Smiths Drive	
South Drive	
St Peters Road	
Stonecross Way	

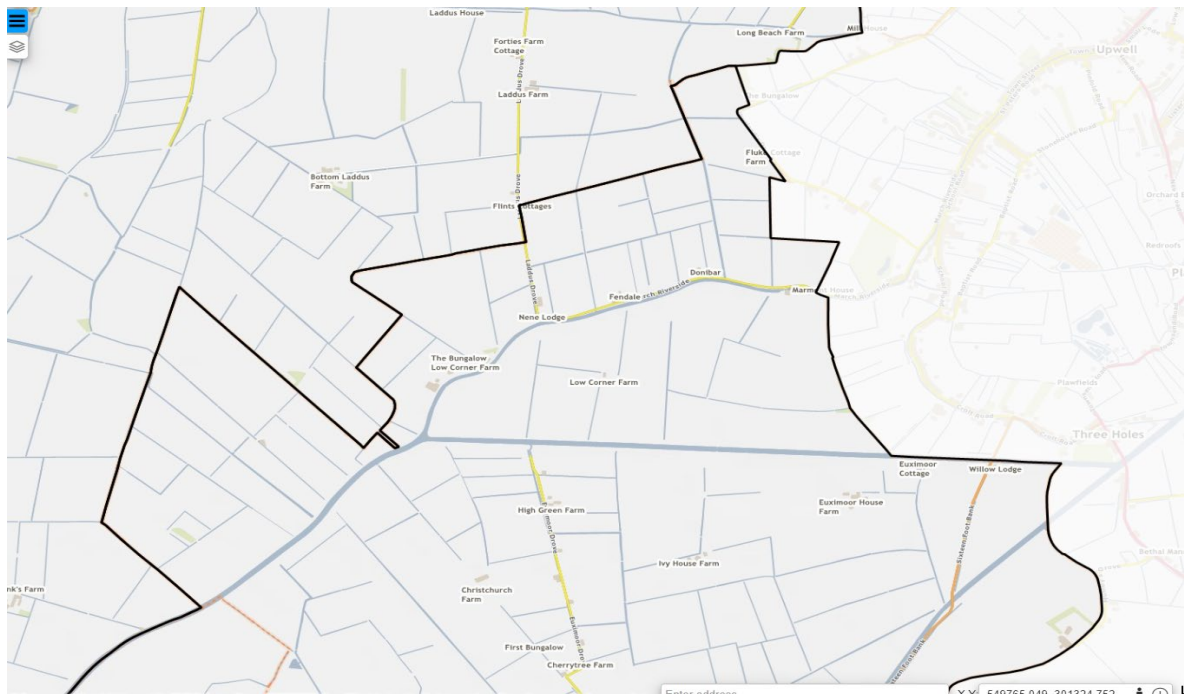
Strawberry Way	
Suffolk Way	
Swallow Way	
Swift Close	
The Avenue	2-92 (evens)
The Causeway	4-58 (evens)
The Greys	
The Shires	
The Walnuts	
Upwell Road	
West Drive	
Wherry Close	
White Lion Close	
Woodlands Avenue	
Worsley Chase	

Christchurch Parish Streets

Brimstone Close	
Church Road	
Crown Avenue	
Crown Drove	Crown Lodge
Crown Road	
Euximoor Drove	
Fen View	
Fifty Road	Burges Lodge
Green Lane	
Laddus Drove, Friday Bridge	Flints Cottage, The Cottage, Far End, River End
March Riverside, Upwell	
March Road, Tipps End	
Mumbys Drove, Three Holes	
Padgetts Road	

Poulters Drove	
Primrose Gardens	
Rotten Drove, Tipps End	The Cottage
Scotts Road	
Shrubbery Close	
Sixteen Foot Bank	
The Croft	
The Hill	
Turf Lot Drove, Tipps End	
Upwell Road	
Wayside Estate	





EVIDENCE OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

The eastern boundary of the proposed new ward is made up of the external District Council boundary. In addition the proposed new ward encompasses Streets South of River Nene from Broad Street to the railway line, River Nene Old Course to Stags Holt Wind Farm, West of track from the river to Rodham Road, West of drain from Rodham Road to nearly Bedlam Bridge, North of B1099 to drain that runs north of Horsemoor to Coleseed Road, East of Coleseed Road, North of Upwell Road, West of track behind Cavalry Drive and Fairfax Way, North of Barkers Lane, West of The Avenue, The Causeway, High Street to March Town Bridge in addition to the whole of Christchurch Parish

The ward encompasses the parish of Christchurch in its entirety as well as the eastern aspect of March Town. The area is self sufficient encompassing shops, health care provision in addition the community is linked by Cavalry Primary School, Townley Primary School as well as Neale Wade Academy. The majority of children from Christchurch Townley Primary school attend Neale Wade Acedemy in March and a school bus provides this clear transport route. In addition residents of Christchurch look towards March for their shopping, health care, worship and recreational activities.

Whilst it is acknowledged that there is not one road that links the two areas of March East and Christchurch together the junction at Bedlam Bridge is only slightly outside the proposed ward boundary.

It is proposed to retain this ward as a three member ward due to the long established governance arrangement within the town, whilst also enabling ease of accessibility for local electors to their respective political representatives.

The ward name reflects the local geography and will be easily recognisable by local residents.

WARD PROFILE -MARCH NORTH – THREE MEMBER WARD

- 2027 FORECAST ELECTORATE FIGURE 6,194 VARIANCE +0.9%

ROADS IN THE PROPOSED WARD

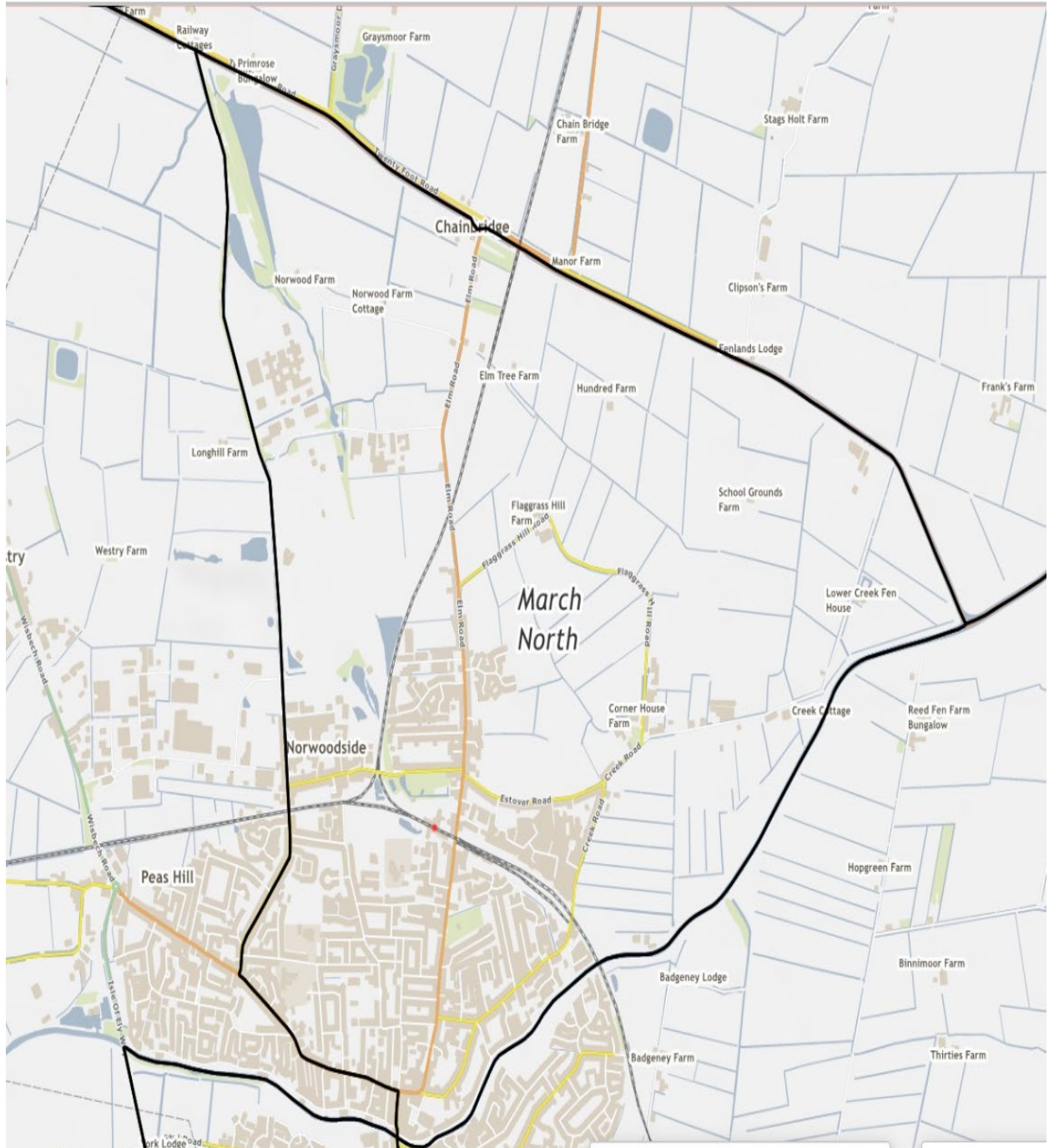
Acacia Grove	
Alder Close	
Alexander Gardens	
Alfruda Close	
All Saints Close	
Alpha Street	
Ash Grove	
Beech Grove	
Belmont Road	
Berryfield	
Blue Ridge Gardens	
Bramble Walk	
Broad Street	Odds
Bronze Street	Including Tondel Court and Chequers Court
Burn Street	
Burnet Gardens	
Campbell Way	
Cawood Close	
Cedar Close	
Century Way	
College Gardens	
County Road	
Cowslip Place	
Creek Fen	
Creel Road	
Cromwell Road	
Dagless Way	
Darthill Road	

Elm Close	
Elm Road	
Estover Road	
Flaggrass Hill Road	
Foxglove Way	
Gold Street	
Gordon Avenue	
Great Eastern Road	
Great Northern Close	
Harebell Close	
Hawthorne Grove	
Henford Gardens	
Henson Road	
Hereward Street	
High School Close	
Highfield Road	
Hobart Court	
Hundred Road	1-3 (odds)
Kingsley Street	
Laburnum Grove	
Lambs Place	
Landau Way	
Lime Grove	
Locomotive Drive	
Longhill Road	
Maple Grove	
Marsh Close	
Mayors Close	
Mill View	
Millers Yard	
Milner Close	

Nene Parade	
New Park	
Newlands Avenue	
Nightall Drive	
North Street	
Norwalde Street	
Norwood Avenue	
Norwood Crescent	
Norwood Road	1A-173 (odds) 2-228 (evens)
Peterhouse Crescent	
Pilgrims Close	
Poplar Close	
Primrose Crescent	
Princes Walk	
Queens Street	
Queens Street Close	
Regent Avenue	
Riverdown	
Robingoodfellows Lane	Including Oberon Park, Hansart Court
Roman Way	
Shaftesbury Avenue	
Silver Street	
Southwell Close	
St Johns Chase	
St Johns Road	
St Marys Drive	
Station Road	Including The Wheel Centre, Jim Hocking Court, Marwick House, Norfolk Court, Mortons Court
Stephenson Close	
Stevens Way	
Swan Court	

Swanton Close	
The Hollies	
The Junction	
The Laurels	
The Palms	
The Parks	
Thornton Road	
Wake Road	
Waterside Gardens	
Westwood Avenue	
Wigstones Road	
Wilkinson Close	
Willowherb Close	

PROPOSED NEW MARCH NORTH WARD



EVIDENCE OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

The proposed new ward contains the streets South of Twenty Foot Drain from Railway Cottages to where it meets River Nene, West and North of River Nene to Broad Street, East of Broad Street, North of Dartford Road and Wisbech Road to 61, East of Norwood Road and Hundred Road to where it meets Twenty Foot Drain

The area towards the River Nene is densely populated with similar housing estates creating a strong sense of community. The area is also self sufficient encompassing shops, health care provision in addition the community is linked by Westwood Community Primary school which incorporates the sister site Maple Grove Infants School and All Saints Primary School which provides a focal point for the local community

It is proposed to retain this ward as a three member ward due to the long established governance arrangement within the town, whilst also enabling ease of accessibility for local electors to their respective political representatives.

The proposed ward name reflects the local geography and will be easily recognisable by local residents.

WARD PROFILE – MARCH SOUTH – TWO MEMBER WARD

- **2027 FORECAST ELECTORATE FIGURE 4,137 VARIANCE +1.1%**

ROADS IN THE PROPOSED WARD

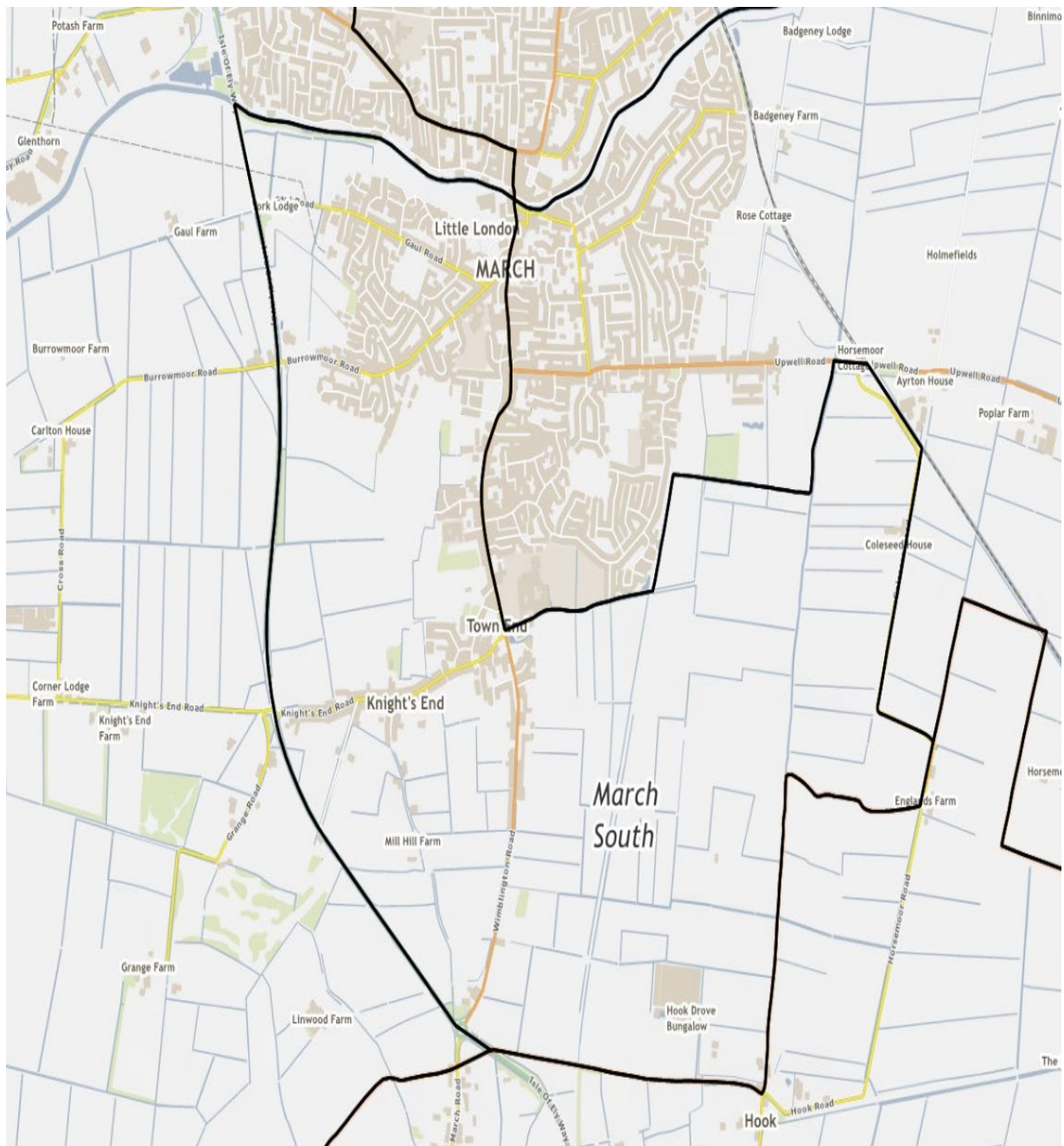
Acre Road	
Almond Drive	
Apple Tree Close	
Babble Close	
Barkers Lane	1, 2 and 4
Beck Close	
Birchwood Avenue	
Blossom Terrace	
Bluebell Way	
Boundary Drive	
Brewin Avenue	
Brewin Chase	
Brook Close	
Burrowmoor Road	To A141 March Bypass
Butt Avenue	
Buttercup Close	
Causeway Close	
Causeway Gardens	
Chapel Street	
Cherryholt Avenue	
Cherrywood Avenue	
Cherrywood Green	
Chestnut Crescent	
Church Close	
Church Street	
City Road	

Clover Close	
Coleseed Road	Coleseed House, The Bungalow
Conway Close	
Corn Mill	
Coronation Close	
Cousins Close	
Cricketers Close	
Crown Close	
Dahlia Close	
Daisy Avenue	
Damson Drive	
Deptford Close	
Ellingham Avenue	
Ermine Close	
Gas Road	
Gaul Road	To A141 March Bypass
George Street	
Heritage Way	
High Street	1A-133 (odds)
Hook Drove	Hook Drove Cottage, Hook Drove Bungalow
Hook Road	Corner House, Halfpenny Toll Stables
Hornbeam Close	
Jobs Lane	
Jones Close	
Kingswood Road	
Kirk Ogden Close	
Knights End Road	To A141 March Bypass
Lewis Close	
Linwood Lane	1 and 2
Magnolia Close	

Maiden Stile Close	
Mill Hill Lane	
Millfield Close	
Mulberry Close	
Oxbow Crescent	
Park View East	
Park View West	
Plowright Close	
Princess Avenue	
Ravenhill Drive	
Rectory Drive	
Richmond Avenue	
Riverbank Close	
Saxon Way	
Shaw Drive	
Sherbrooke Close	
Spire View	
Springfield Avenue	
St Thomas Drive	
St Wendredas Drive	
Steeple View	
Sunflower Avenue	
Swale Close	
Sycamore Close	
The Avenue	1-75 (odds)
The Bramleys	
The Causeway	1-63 (odds)
The Chase	
Town End Pits Lane	
Turnbull Road	

Violet Drive	
Willow Drive	
Wimblington Road	
Yardy Close	

PROPOSED NEW MARCH SOUTH WARD



EVIDENCE OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

The Southern and Western boundaries of the proposed new ward are informed by the March parish external boundaries. The proposed new March South Ward will encompass the Streets South of River Nene from A141 Roundabout to March Town Bridge, West of High Street, The Causeway, The Avenue to Barkers Lane, South of Barkers Lane, East of Fairfax Way, North of track from Cavalry Drive to drain, West of drain to Upwell Road, South and West of Coleseed Road to Horsemoor Road, West of Horsemoor Road to Firelots Drove, North of Firelots Drove following drain to Hook Drove, North of drain below Hook Drove to Isle of Ely Way, East of A141 March Bypass to River Nene

The new ward includes Burrowmoor Primary School which provides a strong focal point for the local community and serves the local surrounding area. The community is also linked by the use of the Cricket Ground and Gaul Road recreation ground

The proposed new ward achieves electoral equality in addition to facilitating effective and convenient local government in addition to supporting communities of interest as outlined above.

The proposed ward name reflects the geographic area and will be widely recognised and supported locally. It is recommended the proposed new March South ward is a two member ward.

WARD PROFILE – MARCH WEST AND BENWICK – TWO MEMBER WARD

- **2027 FORECAST ELECTORATE FIGURE 4,404 VARIANCE +7.6%**

ROADS IN THE PROPOSED WARD

Adelaide Place	
Anglers Close	
Aspenwood Grove	
Atlantic Close	
Barley Close	
Broad Street	evens
Brooks Road	
Burberry Close	
Burrowmoor Road	Properties over A141 Bypass
Church Gardens	
Clifton Close	
Coalville Close	
Coneywood Road	
Cross Road	
Deben Close	
Duncombes Road	Austins Barn, Stafford Farm, Derby Farm, Essex Farm, Lincoln Farm, Dorset Farm, Meridian House Holloways Farm, Murfins Farm, Willow House
East Close	
Elliott Road	
Fishermans Drive	
Floods Ferry Road	Fieldside Cottage, Farmside Cottage, Riverside The Bungalow
Gaul Road	Gaul Road Farm
Goosetree Road	Lancaster Farm, Goosetree Barn, Warwick Farm, Bramble Barn, Worcester Farm, Radnor Farm, Radnor Farm Barn, Pembroke Farm, Devon Farm, Infields Farm,
Grandford Drove	

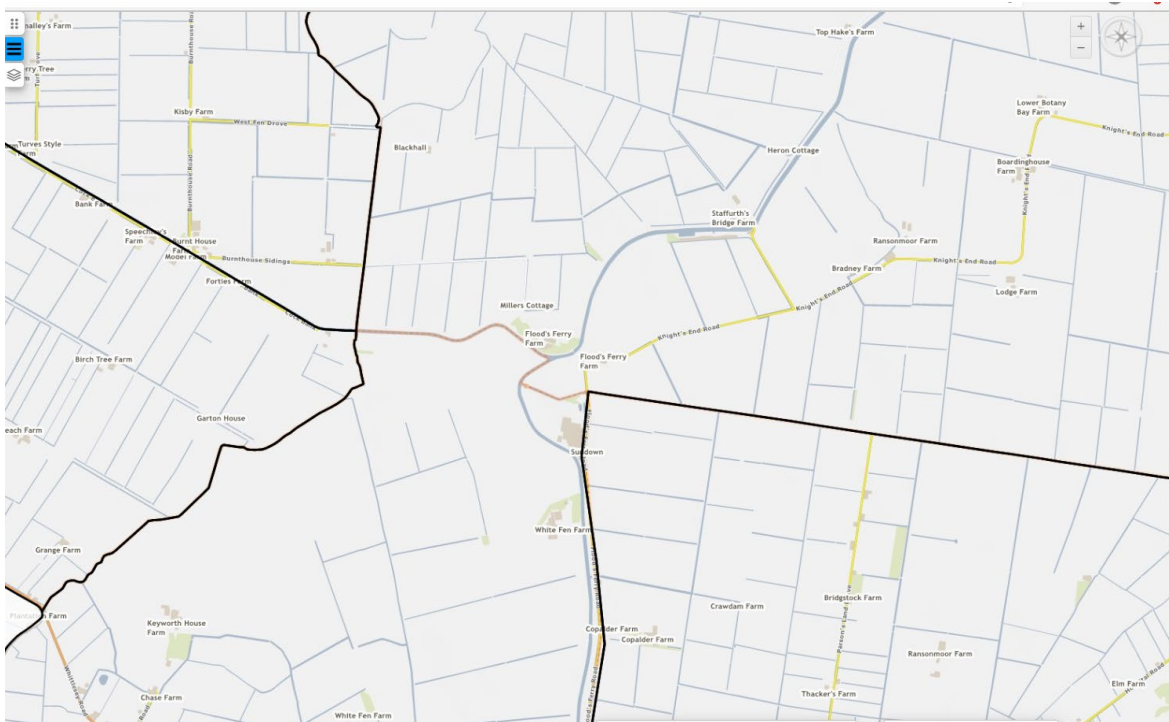
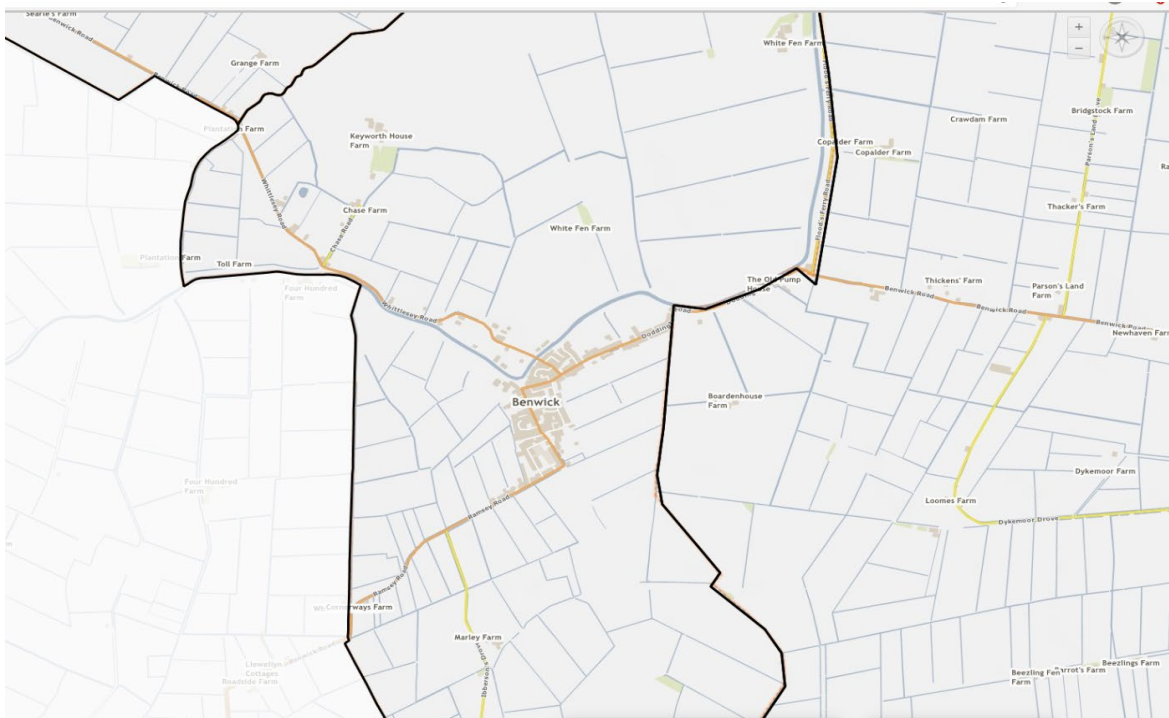
Grange Road	
Grays Lane	
Gresley Way	
Hakes Drove	Bottom Hakes Farmhouse, Hakes House, Airedale Lodge, Bungalow Top Hakes Farm
Harvester Close	
Hillside Road	
Hundred Road	2-54 (evens)
Kent Way	
Knights End Road	Properties over A141 Bypass
Lake Close	
Limetree Close	
Linwood Lane	Linwood Farm
March Road, Wimblington	69
Marina Drive	
Marylebone Road	
Meadowlands	
Middle Road	
Norwood Road	175-331 (odds)
Nursery Drive	
Oak Tree Close	
Orwell Drive	
Osprey Close	
Pacific Close	
Peas Hill Road	
Pentland Way	
Peyton Avenue	
Phillips Chase	
Poppy Lane	
Prospect Road	
Prospect Road	
Richards Close	

Rookswood Road	
Russell Avenue	
Smiths Chase	
Staceys Way	
Staffurths Bridge Road	
Summer Gardens	
Swanley Gardens	
The Birches	
The Green	
The Windsors	
Truman Avenue	
Wavemey Drive	
West Close	
West End	
West Fen Drove	Blackhall Cottage 1, Tokai Cottage 2
White Horse Gardens	
Whitemoor Road	
Whittlesey Road	<p>1-43, Prospect Bungalow 107, Four Winds 113, Clovelly 117, Mayena 119, Glenthorn 131, 1 & 2 West Fen Cottage Pearsons Farm, Old Nene Barn 161, Middle Fen Farm 257, Pump House 259, West Fen Cottage 309, Game Lodge 311, School Farm 313, Old School Barn 315, Willow Farm House 405, 537, 543, 713-733</p> <p>4-16, Holly Lodge, 100, Bridge House 112, 190, Myra Lodge 206, Trumans Farm 398, 532, The Triangle West Fen</p>
Windsor Drive	
Wisbech Road	<p>69-159 (odds)</p> <p>2-184C (evens)</p> <p>Westry, Hobbs Lot Farm, Elm Tree Farm, Riverside Farm</p>
Wisbech Road, Coates	Bedford Farm, Somerset Farm, Rutland Farm
Woodville Drive	
Yarrow Close	

Benwick Parish Streets

Alpha Close	
Bakehouse Close	
Cambridge Row	
Chapel Gardens	
Chase Road	
Cricketers Way	
Doddington Road	
Fields View	
Floods Ferry Road	White Fen Farm, 1 & 2 White Fen Farm
Forty Foot Bank, Ramsey	The Old Red Lodge, Grain Mill, High Trees, 1-6 Bank Farm Cottages, 1 & 2 Betty Nose Farm
Fountain Close	
Green Lane	
Heron Way	
High Street	
Ibbersons Drove	Marley Farm, Walcott Farm
Lilyholt Road	
Nene Parade	
Neneside	
Old West Estate	
Ramsey Road	
River Close	
Skeifs Row	
Summerfield Way	
The Old Orchard	
White Hart Drive	
Whittlesey Road	

PROPOSED NEW MARCH WEST AND BENWICK WARD



EVIDENCE OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

The eastern boundary of the proposed new ward is provided by the external March parish boundary as it meets Whittlesey parish. The southern boundary is provided by the external Benwick parish boundary. The northern boundary is provided by the external March Parish boundary as it meets Wisbech St Mary Parish. In the town of March the boundaries for the proposed new wards run east of Hundred Road and Norwood Road, South of Wisbech Road, East of Broad Street to River Nene, along River to East of A141 March Bypass to Mill Hill Roundabout, north of Ransonmoor, Floods Ferry Road Junction with Cock Bank, along drain West of Quakers Drove, Turves, March Road, Turves, Duncombes Road, Coates to junction of A605, North of drain, Goosetree Road and A605, North of drain opposite Goosetree Farm, North of Twenty Foot Drain to Railway Cottage. The new ward also includes the whole of the current Benwick, Parish.

Benwick residents look to March for retail, recreation, education and medical services. The two areas are linked by the Floods Ferry Road and Knights End Road ensuring the proposal meets all three of the LGBCE electoral review criteria in equal measure including Electoral equality, Communities of Interest in addition to Effective and Convenient Local Government.

The ward name reflects the local geography and will be easily recognisable by local residents. It is proposed the new March West and Benwick ward is a two member ward.

WHITTLESEY AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

The District Council recognises the fact the LGBCE endorsed the original District submission for Whittlesey and surrounding villages without amendment as the LGBCE agreed there was strong evidence that the Council proposal met all of the LGBCE electoral review criteria. In addition the LGBCE were also influenced by the strong evidence that Benwick parish lacks community ties to Whittlesey.

The Council continues to fully support our original proposal however wish to emphasis the point regarding parish ward naming conventions. The District Council firmly asserts that where District and Parish ward boundaries are coterminous that both the district and parish ward should share the same name, however where the boundaries are not coterminous then the parish ward and district wards should not share the same name. The District Council believe this approach will provide the local electorate with greater clarity and prevent any confusion.

WISBECH AND LEVERINGTON SUMMARY

The District Council recognises the fact the LGBCE endorsed the original District submission for Wisbech and Leverington as they accepted the strong evidence that Leverington parish identifies as an extension of Wisbech with strong communal ties, and road networks which ensure it is an integral part of the town, albeit with its own Parish Council. The LGBCE have however proposed one small modification to the Council consultation submission proposal. The amendment results in Lynn Road being utilised as the boundary between Wisbech Riverside and Wisbech Walsoken & Waterlees wards.

The Council supports the proposal put forward in relation to the boundary change as it agrees this provides a stronger geographical boundary between the district wards, which will provide clear demarcation between the two. The Council therefore agrees with and supports the LGBCE proposals for the area with a slight amendment to the names of the resulting Wisbech Parish Wards.

Members agree that the proposed Walsoken Parish Ward should in fact be named Waterlees parish ward and Kirkgate and Staithe Parish ward should be named Walsoken Parish Ward. Members agreed the proposed parish name changes better reflected the area and would be recognisable by the electorate they serve.