

# New electoral arrangements for Gloucestershire County Council Final Recommendations

March 2024

# Final recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Gloucestershire County Council

Electoral review

March 2024



## Translations and other formats:

To get this report in another language or in a large-print or Braille version, please contact the Local Government Boundary Commission for England at:

Tel: 0330 500 1525

Email: [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk)

## Licensing:

The mapping in this report is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Keeper of Public Records © Crown copyright and database right. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and database right.

Licence Number: GD 100049926 2024

## A note on our mapping:

The maps shown in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Whilst best efforts have been made by our staff to ensure that the maps included in this report are representative of the boundaries described by the text, there may be slight variations between these maps and the large PDF map that accompanies this report, or the digital mapping supplied on our consultation portal. This is due to the way in which the final mapped products are produced. The reader should therefore refer to either the large PDF supplied with this report or the digital mapping for the true likeness of the boundaries intended. The boundaries as shown on either the large PDF map or the digital mapping should always appear identical.

# Contents

Introduction	1
Who we are and what we do	1
What is an electoral review?	1
Why Gloucestershire?	2
Our proposals for Gloucestershire	2
How will the recommendations affect you?	2
Review timetable	3
Analysis and final recommendations	5
Submissions received	5
Electorate figures	5
Number of councillors	6
Councillor allocation and coterminosity	6
Division boundaries consultation	7
Draft recommendations consultation	7
Final recommendations	7
Cheltenham	9
Cotswold	12
Forest of Dean	16
Gloucester	18
Stroud	21
Tewkesbury	27
Conclusions	29
Summary of electoral arrangements	29
Parish electoral arrangements	29
What happens next?	33
Equalities	35
Appendices	37
Appendix A	37
Final recommendations for Gloucestershire County Council	37
Appendix B	42
Outline map	42
Appendix C	45

Submissions received	45
Appendix D	47
Glossary and abbreviations	47



# Introduction

## Who we are and what we do

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

2 The members of the Commission are:

- Professor Colin Mellors OBE (Chair)
- Andrew Scallan CBE (Deputy Chair)
- Amanda Nobbs OBE
- Steve Robinson
- Wallace Sampson OBE
- Liz Treacy
- Ailsa Irvine (Chief Executive)

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

4 When carrying out an electoral review the Commission has three main considerations:

- Improving electoral equality by equalising the number of electors that each councillor represents.
- Ensuring that the recommendations reflect community identity.
- Providing arrangements that support effective and convenient local government.

5 Our task is to strike the best balance between these three considerations when making our recommendations.

---

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



6 More detail on the powers that we have, as well as further guidance and information about electoral reviews and the review process in general, can be found on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

## Why Gloucestershire?

7 We are conducting a review of Gloucestershire County Council ('the Council') as some councillors currently represent many more or fewer electors than others. We describe this as 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where the number of electors per councillor is as even as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.

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

- The divisions in Gloucestershire are in the best possible places to help the Council carry out its responsibilities effectively.
- The number of electors represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the county.

## Our proposals for Gloucestershire

9 Gloucestershire County Council should be represented by 55 councillors, two more than there are now.

10 Gloucestershire should have 55 divisions, two more than there are now.

11 The boundaries of 39 divisions should change, including the two new divisions; 16 will stay the same.

12 We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for Gloucestershire.

## How will the recommendations affect you?

13 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which division you vote in, which other communities are in that division, and, in some cases, which parish council ward you vote in. Your division name may also change.

14 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the county 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.

## Review timetable

15 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Gloucestershire. We then held two periods of consultation with the public on division patterns for the county. The submissions received during consultation have informed our final recommendations.

16 The review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
21 March 2023	Number of councillors decided
28 March 2023	Start of consultation seeking views on new divisions
5 June 2023	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
3 October 2023	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
11 December 2023	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
26 March 2024	Publication of final recommendations



## Analysis and final recommendations

17 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 divisions.

18 In reality, we are unlikely to be able to create divisions 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.

19 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.

	2023	2029
Electorate of Gloucestershire	485,812	522,747
Number of councillors	55	55
Average number of electors per councillor	8,833	9,504

20 When the number of electors per councillor in a division is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the division as having 'good electoral equality'. Fifty of our proposed divisions for Gloucestershire are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2029.

### Submissions received

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

### Electorate figures

22 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2029, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2024. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 8% by 2029.

23 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 final recommendations.

<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.

## Number of councillors

24 Gloucestershire County Council currently has 53 councillors. We have looked at evidence provided by the Council and have concluded that increasing by two will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

25 At the beginning of the review the Council requested that this review be conducted as a ‘single-member division’ review.<sup>4</sup> The Commission agreed to this request, and we invited proposals for divisions that would each be represented by one councillor.

26 We received a small number of submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on division patterns, including two which advocated for a size of 63; we considered that these submissions did not provide sufficient evidence in favour of an increase. Our draft recommendations are based on a council size of 55, as originally suggested by the Gloucestershire County Council Conservative Group.

## Councillor allocation and coterminosity

27 A council size of 55 provides the following allocation between the district and borough councils in the county. When conducting reviews of two-tier county councils there are a number of rules that we must follow. Firstly, we must not recommend any divisions that cross the district/borough boundary. Secondly, we must have regard for the district/borough wards that exist within each area. Where possible we try to use the district/borough wards to form the boundaries of the county divisions. The table below shows the percentage of district/borough wards that are wholly contained within our proposed divisions. We refer to this as coterminosity.

District/Borough	Allocation of councillors	Coterminosity
Cheltenham	10	45% <sup>5</sup>
Cotswold	8	59%
Forest of Dean	8	71%
Gloucester	10	78%
Stroud	11	70%
Tewkesbury	8	63%

<sup>4</sup> Section 57 of Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

<sup>5</sup> New ward boundaries for Cheltenham have been finalised, and are due to be implemented as part of the next election in May 2024. Coterminosity of divisions, as recommended in this report, with these new borough wards will be 100% when implemented.

## Division boundaries consultation

28 We received 39 submissions in response to our consultation on division boundaries. We received no county-wide proposals; however, the Gloucestershire County Council Liberal Democrat Group ('Liberal Democrat Group') did submit a proposal for five of six districts in the county. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for division arrangements in particular areas of the county.

29 Our draft recommendations were broadly based on the scheme proposed by the Liberal Democrat Group, with the exception of Cheltenham, where we adopted proposals from the Cheltenham Constituency Labour Party ('Cheltenham CLP'). The draft recommendations also took into account local evidence that we received, which provided further 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.

30 We visited the area in order to look at the different proposals on the ground. This tour of Gloucestershire helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

31 Our draft recommendations were for 55 single-councillor divisions. We considered that our draft recommendations would provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

## Draft recommendations consultation

32 We received 272 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations, as well as a petition with 76 signatories. These included comments from the Gloucestershire County Council Conservative Group ('Conservative Group'), whose proposals received support from Siobhan Baillie MP (Stroud), Alex Chalk MP (Cheltenham), and Richard Graham MP (Gloucester). We also received submissions from political groups, local organisations, parish councils and local residents. The majority of the submissions focused on specific areas – particularly our proposals in Stroud District, where there was opposition to the composition of the proposed Bisley & Painswick and Stroud Central divisions, as well as the boundary between Dursley and Wotton-under-Edge divisions that divided the parishes of Owlpen and Uley.

## Final recommendations

33 Our final recommendations are for 55 single-councillor divisions. We consider that our final recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting

community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

34 Our final recommendations are based on the draft recommendations with modifications to the Bisley & Painswick, Minchinhampton and Stroud Central divisions based on the submissions received concerning Stroud Trinity ward; elsewhere in Stroud District we made a minor adjustment to the boundary between the Dursley and Wotton-under-Edge divisions, to address submissions received regarding Owlpen parish. We have also made minor modifications to some of the boundaries in Cotswold District: between the Bourton-on-the-Water & Northleach, Campden-Vale, and Moreton, Stow & the Rissingtons divisions; and between the Cirencester North with Ermin and Tetbury divisions.

35 The tables and maps on pages 9–28 detail our final recommendations for each area of Gloucestershire. They detail how the proposed division arrangements reflect the three statutory<sup>6</sup> criteria of:

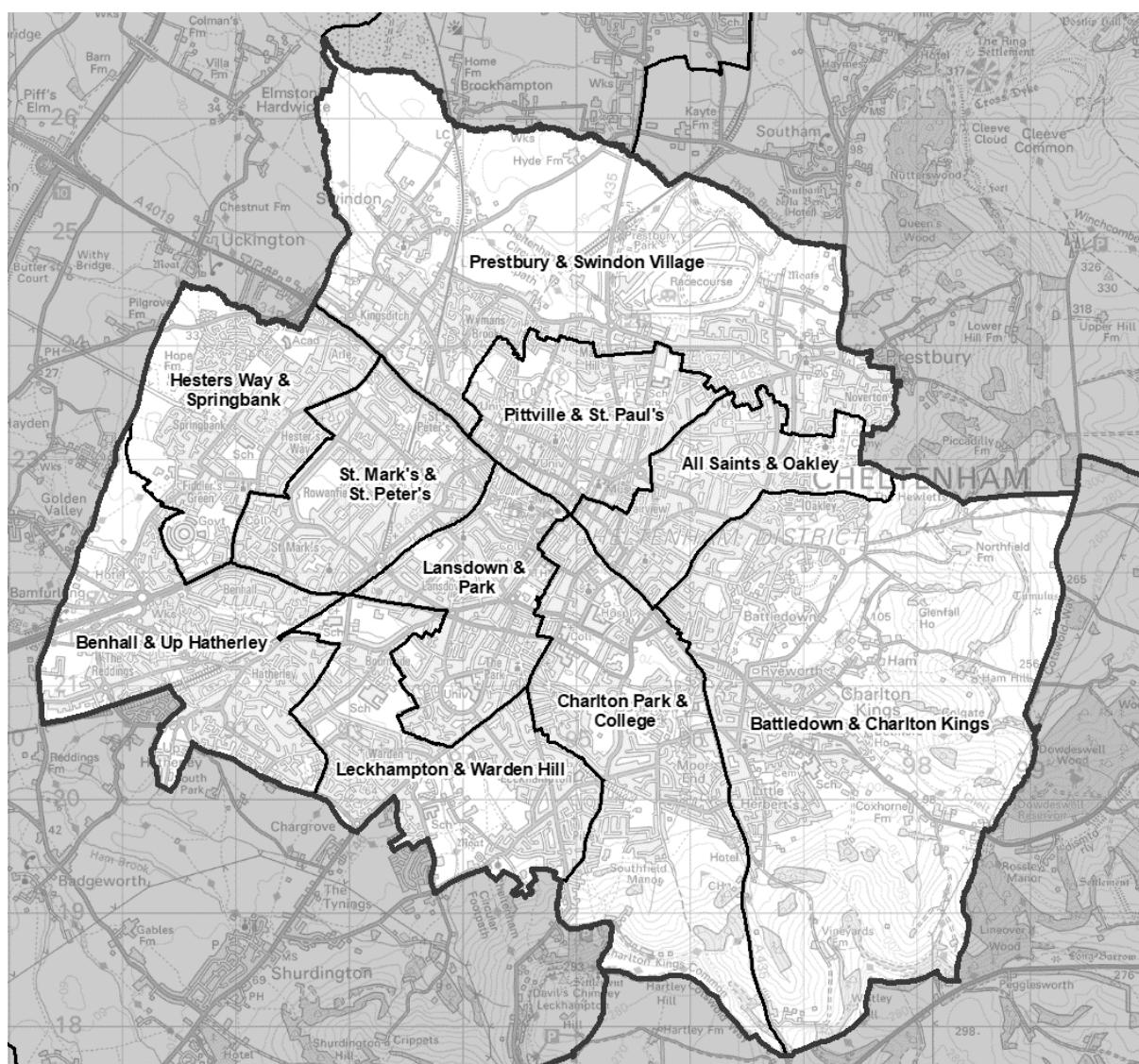
- Equality of representation.
- Reflecting community interests and identities.
- Providing for effective and convenient local government.

36 A summary of our proposed new divisions is set out in the table starting on page 37 and on the large map accompanying this report.

---

<sup>6</sup> Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

## Cheltenham



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
All Saints & Oakley	1	-4%
Battledown & Charlton Kings	1	-2%
Benhall & Up Hatherley	1	6%
Charlton Park & College	1	-9%
Hesters Way & Springbank	1	7%
Lansdown & Park	1	-2%
Leckhampton & Warden Hill	1	-9%
Pittville & St Paul's	1	-6%
Prestbury & Swindon Village	1	-7%
St Mark's & St Peter's	1	2%



37 We received several submissions that related to our proposals in Cheltenham. The majority of these were concerned with the two divisions of St Paul's & Pittville and Swindon & Prestbury.

*All Saints & Oakley, Battledown & Charlton Kings, Benhall & Up Hatherley, Charlton Park & College, Hesters Way & Springbank, Lansdown & Park, Leckhampton & Warden Hill, and St Mark's & St Peter's*

38 We received very few submissions regarding any of these proposed divisions. Councillor Willingham, the county councillor for St Mark's & St Peter's, supported the draft recommendations for that division, noting the logic of aligning its boundaries to new ward boundaries for St Mark's and St Peter's Cheltenham borough wards.

39 We consider that the draft recommendation divisions here meet our criteria, and therefore propose to retain them as our final recommendations.

*Pittville & St Paul's and Prestbury & Swindon Village*

40 Almost all of the submissions received in Cheltenham were regarding the two proposed divisions of St Paul's & Pittville and Swindon & Prestbury. These were the only divisions we proposed which differed from the existing ward pairings in the borough; we were persuaded that they offered a better balance of forecast electors and that the wards comprising the proposed divisions had satisfactory links.

41 The Cheltenham Constituency Labour Party ('Cheltenham CLP') made comments in support of the draft recommendations, which were principally based upon its suggestions during the initial consultation. It additionally suggested revised names of Prestbury & Swindon Village, Pittville & St Paul's, and Benhall, Fiddlers Green & Up Hatherley so that each division is presented alphabetically and reflects the full borough ward names.

42 We received several submissions in opposition to the draft recommendations, including from Alex Chalk MP (Cheltenham), Prestbury Parish Council, and three county councillors representing divisions in Cheltenham. Local respondents suggested that there was limited evidence of shared community in a Cheltenham 'Outer Division' (the Swindon & Prestbury division we proposed as part of our draft recommendations) and that the existing Pittville & Prestbury division represents a historically linked area with commonality, including in the administration and organisation of Cheltenham Racecourse event days.

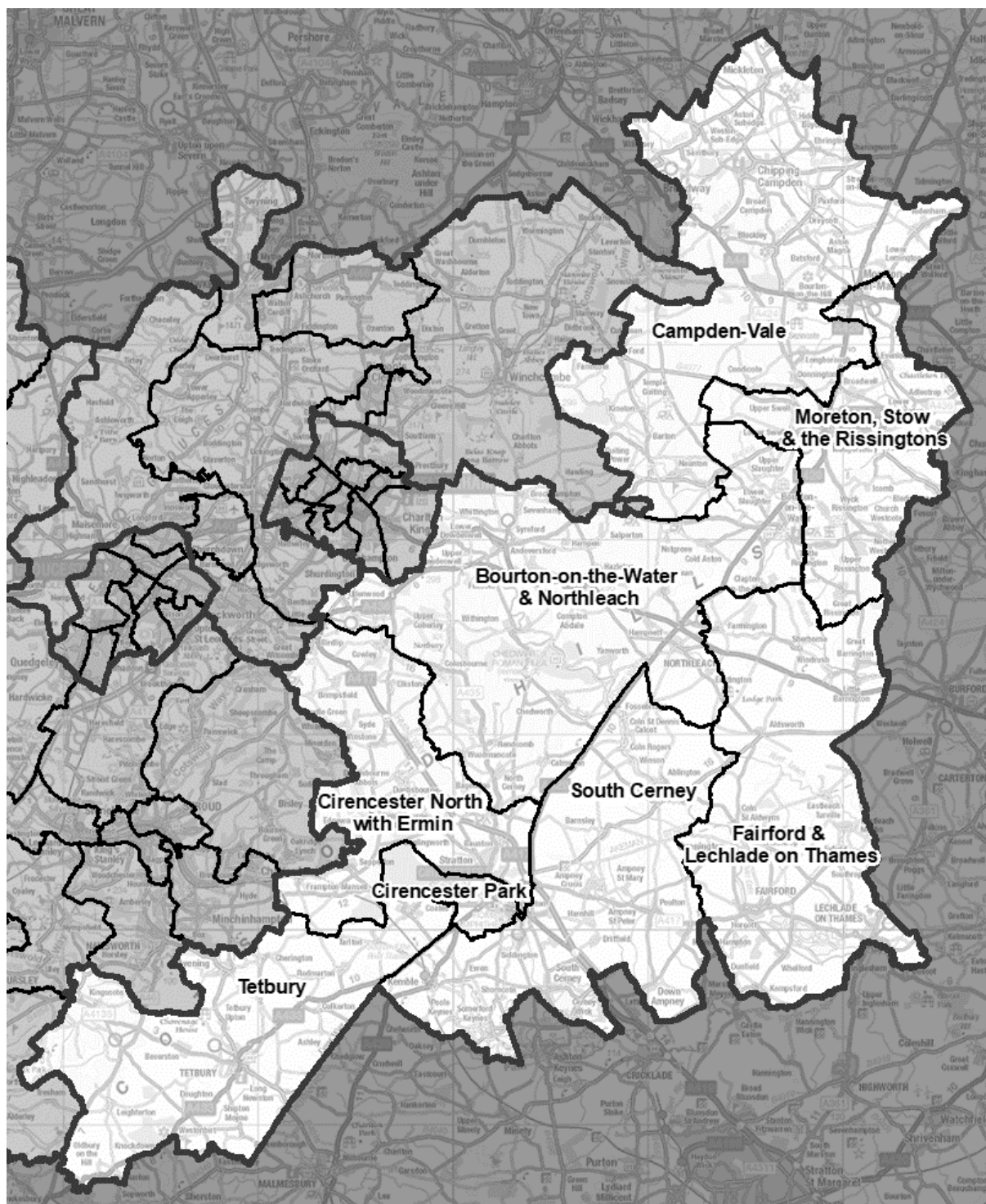
43 The Conservative Group also opposed the draft recommendations for these divisions, for similar reasons to those given by local residents. It put forward an alternative scheme to preserve the principle of the current Pittville & Prestbury and St Paul's & Swindon divisions. It proposed a Pittville & Prestbury division comprised of Pittville ward (minus the Winterborne Estate west of Tommy Taylors Lane) and Prestbury ward, and a St Paul's & Swindon Village division comprised of the St

Paul's and Swindon Village wards, along with the addition of the Winterborne Estate. This estate comprises Denman Avenue, Jodami Crescent, Fort Leney Walk, Kauto Star Gardens, Little Owl Walk, Pas Seul Street, and Prince Regent Avenue.

44 We carefully considered this counter-proposal, but are not persuaded that it better meets our statutory criteria than the draft recommendations. We consider that it does not reflect convenient and effective local government, as the Winterborne Estate area identified as the element of Pittville ward to be transferred to the proposed St Paul's & Swindon Village division has very limited internal connectivity to the rest of that division. The only access point for the residential roads of the estate is Prince Regent Avenue, which itself is only accessible via Tommy Taylors Lane at a junction in the middle of a non-residential green space. The Winterborne Estate is separated from Swindon Village ward by Wyman's Brook to the north and the Midwinter Allotments to the west; and it is separated from St Paul's ward by the Elmfield Play Park and Denman Avenue Playground to the south. Only pedestrian walkways link these neighbourhoods. We also consider that, while there is some shared community between Pittville and Prestbury wards, the governing and administration of Cheltenham Racecourse events is not a uniquely local issue concerning these neighbourhoods and is a responsibility shared across the local authority and by many of its county councillors.

45 We were persuaded by the name changes proposed by the Cheltenham CLP, except in the case of Benhall & Up Hatherley, as the full name of the proposed ward is Benhall, the Reddings & Fiddlers Green, which when combined with Up Hatherley would be too verbose when included in one division name. We propose to retain our draft recommendations for these two divisions, with amended names of Pittville & St Paul's (originally St Paul's & Pittville) and Prestbury & Swindon Village (originally Swindon & Prestbury).

## Cotswold



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Bourton-on-the-Water & Northleach	1	5%
Campden-Vale	1	9%
Cirencester North with Ermin	1	8%
Cirencester Park	1	2%

Fairford & Lechlade on Thames	1	-3%
Moreton, Stow & the Rissingtons	1	11%
South Cerney	1	9%
Tetbury	1	-3%

46 We received a small number of submissions regarding divisions in Cotswold. The majority of these submissions were regarding the names of divisions.

47 A submission from the District Council supported the proposed division boundaries in Cotswold. It suggested new names for all eight divisions in the district, working on the principle that the existing names are often based on the largest settlement within a division, and that a broader geographic naming pattern would be more reflective of the divisions. It therefore proposed names of Mid Cotswold (for Bourton-on-the-Water & Northleach), Moreton, Stow & the Rissingtons (for Stow-on-the-Wold), North Cotswold (for Campden-Vale), North East Cirencester & Ermin (for Cirencester Beeches), South Cotswold (for South Cerney), South East Cotswold (for Fairford & Lechlade on Thames), Tetbury & West Cotswold (for Tetbury), and West Cirencester (for Cirencester Park).

48 This submission subsequently received support from Cirencester Town Council as well as some local district and county councillors.

49 We are not persuaded that most of these names are better representations of the areas in question, or that they would mean more to local people. We note that the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) encompasses villages in Warwickshire to the north, Oxfordshire to the east, and Somerset to the south. The element of Cotswolds AONB within Gloucestershire also includes many areas outside of Cotswold District Council, including significant elements in Stroud and Tewkesbury. We do not consider that names using compass points to orient with a 'Cotswold' segment are geographically accurate and would be more likely to result in confusion than in greater understanding from local residents. Many rural divisions and wards throughout England are named after their largest settlement (or settlements), and we have no reason to believe that a diversion from this practice in Cotswold district would allow for more convenient and effective local government.

50 Of the above naming suggestions, we are only persuaded by Moreton, Stow & the Rissingtons, which we consider an accurate reflection of the three significant and recognisable population centres in the division. We propose to keep the other division names in Cotswold as originally proposed, except for Cirencester North with Ermin (which is discussed further below).

### *Bourton-on-the-Water & Northleach, Campden-Vale, and Moreton, Stow & the Rissingtons*

51 The Conservative Group proposed small adjustments in the north of Cotswold district. Specifically, it suggested transferring Broadwell Parish from Campden-Vale into Stow-on-the-Wold, and transferring the two parishes of Lower Slaughter and Upper Slaughter from Stow-on-the-Wold into Bourton-on-the-Water & Northleach.

52 In the first instance, it noted Broadwell's geographic position situated between the towns of Moreton-in-Marsh and Stow-on-the-Wold; it suggested that Broadwell has strong economic and infrastructure links with Stow and is best suited to being represented by a councillor also responsible for Stow and Moreton to ensure convenient and effective local government. In the second instance, it argued that Lower Slaughter and Upper Slaughter both look more to Bourton-on-the-Water, a closer hub with better road access, than they do to Stow.

53 The submission also noted that this orientation of the three northernmost divisions in Cotswold results in better forecast electoral variances of 5%, 9%, and 11% for Bourton-on-the-Water & Northleach, Campden-Vale, and Stow-on-the-Wold, respectively. Finally, it proposed new names of North Cotswolds for Campden-Vale and Moreton & Stow for Stow-on-the-Wold, to better reflect the local areas.

54 In the draft recommendations report, we requested feedback from local residents regarding the proposal to include both Moreton district wards in one division rather than using the ward boundary which divides the town into east and west. We received a submission from a resident of Moreton-in-Marsh who suggested that the district ward boundary which divides the town is unsatisfactory.

55 We are persuaded by the Conservative Group's suggestions here, other than the proposed names, as they result in a better balance of forecast electors while also reflecting community ties and road links on the ground.

56 We therefore propose slight amendments to these three divisions in line with the Conservative Group submission, namely: the transfer of Broadwell parish from Campden-Vale to Moreton, Stow & the Rissingtons (originally Stow-on-the-Wold), and the transfer of Lower Slaughter and Upper Slaughter parishes from Moreton, Stow & the Rissingtons to Bourton-on-the-Water & Northleach.

### *Cirencester North with Ermin and Tetbury*

57 We received a submission from Councillor Twells, who previously responded to the initial consultation with an alternative scheme for Cotswold. In the draft recommendations consultation, he made a further submission which suggested a small adjustment to the boundary between the Cirencester Beeches and Tetbury divisions. Specifically, he argued that including Sapperton parish in Cirencester Beeches instead of Tetbury allowed for more convenient and effective local

government, as well as a better reflection of community ties in the area. He additionally advocated for Cirencester Beeches to be renamed Cirencester North with Ermin division, reflecting that a greater proportion of the Ermin district ward would be within the division, and that The Beeches ward only comprises a small area of the whole division.

58 We received a petition in favour of Councillor Twells' submission, with 76 residents agreeing with his proposals. Two other local respondents submitted comments in support of this arrangement.

59 We are persuaded by this submission, noting that it is more in line with district ward boundaries and seems to reflect local community ties, and consider that the proposed name of Cirencester North with Ermin means more to local people. We are therefore proposing a slight amendment to these two divisions as part of our final recommendations, with the transfer of the parish of Sapperton from Tetbury to Cirencester North with Ermin (originally Cirencester Beeches).

*Cirencester Park, Fairford & Lechlade on Thames, and South Cerney*

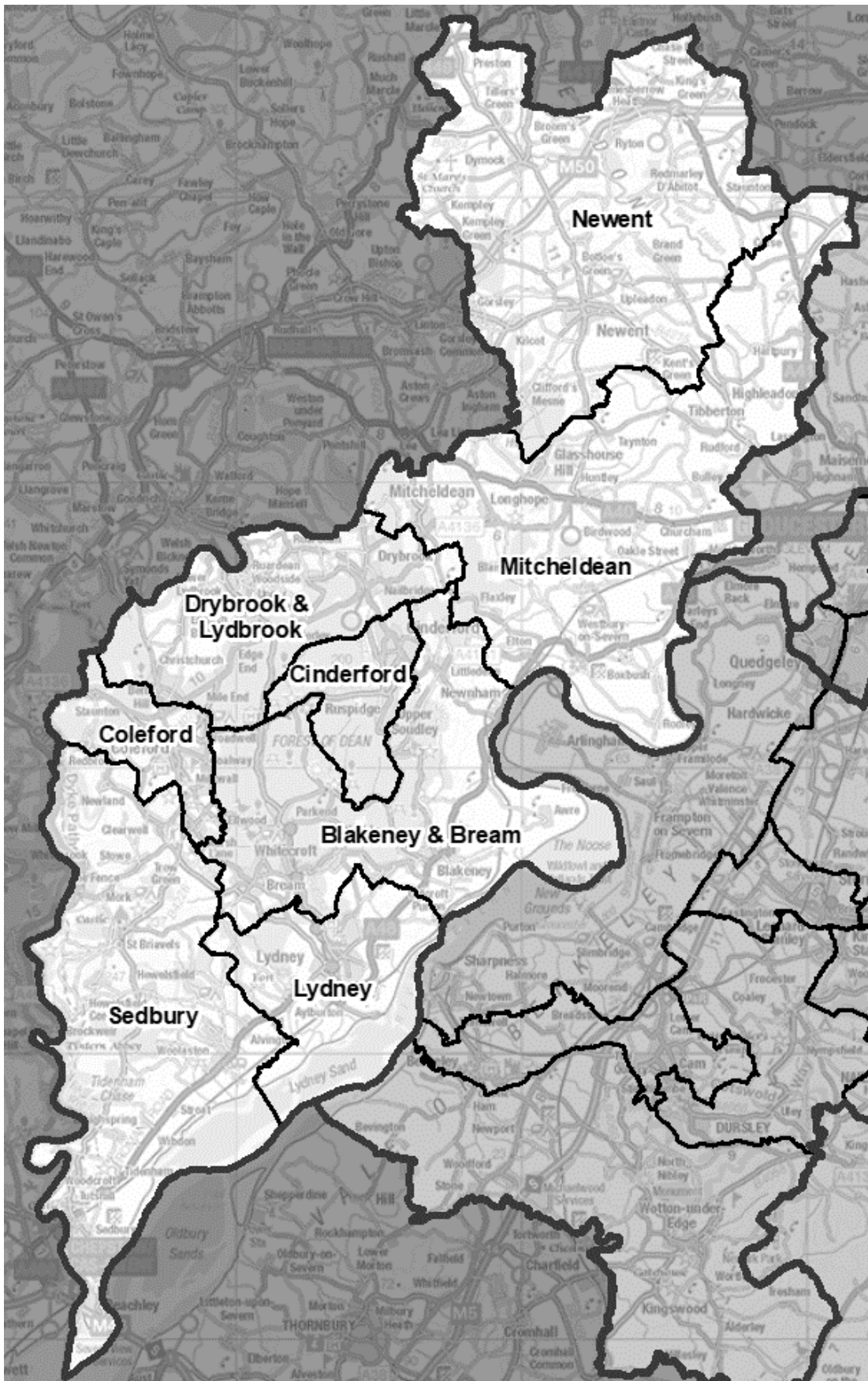
60 We received a submission from a local resident in Kempsford who suggested that we should take consideration of recently agreed parliamentary constituency boundaries in Cotswold, such that all of the Coin Valley ward (included in the North Cotswold constituency) could be within the same division.

61 We are not persuaded that providing coterminosity with parliamentary constituency boundaries is a reason in itself to amend our county division boundaries and accordingly have not made changes to our draft recommendations on this basis.

62 There were some suggestions that Cirencester Park division be renamed West Cirencester. Although there is no longer a Cirencester Park district ward, we note that Cirencester Park itself is still a significant and identifiable location to local residents, and that it geographically constitutes a large area of the division.

63 We are therefore proposing to retain our draft recommendation proposals for the divisions of Cirencester Park, Fairford & Lechlade on Thames and South Cerney (with unchanged names) as part of our final recommendations.

# Forest of Dean



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Blakeney & Bream	1	4%
Cinderford	1	-10%
Coleford	1	-4%
Drybrook & Lydbrook	1	-8%
Lydney	1	4%
Mitcheldean	1	-8%
Newent	1	1%
Sedbury	1	-9%

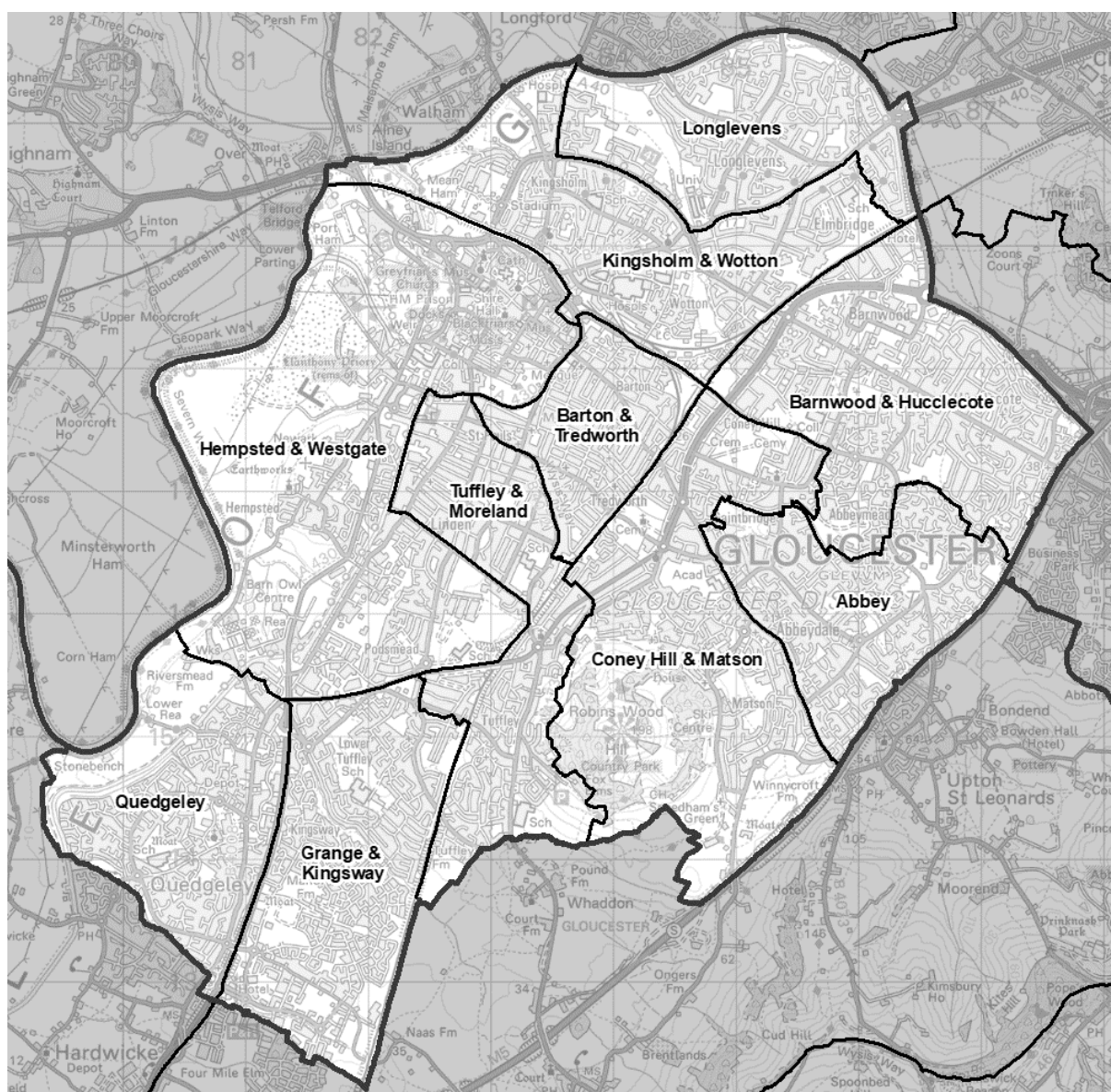
64 We received no submissions regarding boundaries or names of divisions in the Forest of Dean during the draft recommendations consultation.

*Blakeney & Bream, Cinderford, Coleford, Drybrook & Lydbrook, Lydney, Mitcheldean, Newent, and Sedbury*

65 As we received no further detailed proposals or submissions concerning division boundaries or names in Forest of Dean district, we are proposing to retain our draft recommendations as part of our final recommendations here. These recommendations are the same as the existing divisions, which are all forecast to have good levels of electoral equality by 2029.



## Gloucester



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Abbey	1	4%
Barnwood & Hucclecote	1	9%
Barton & Tredworth	1	-5%
Coney Hill & Matson	1	4%
Grange & Kingsway	1	11%
Hempsted & Westgate	1	-4%
Kingsholm & Wotton	1	0%
Longlevens	1	-10%
Quedgeley	1	-5%
Tuffley & Moreland	1	-1%

66 We received very few comments regarding proposed divisions in Gloucester.

*Hempsted & Westgate and Tuffley & Moreland*

67 The Conservative Group suggested swapping two small areas between the divisions of Hempsted & Westgate and Tuffley. It proposed transferring an area largely west of Podsmead Road from Hempsted & Westgate into Tuffley, and transferring an area west of Bristol Road and largely north of Robinson Road and Theresa Street from Tuffley into Hempsted & Westgate. It argued that composing the divisions in this orientation allows for a more natural separation in terms of geography, identify and clarity for electors. The Group identified Tuffley Park in the area west of Podsmead Road as an important space for local residents in Tuffley. It suggested that the proposed orientation of Tuffley in the draft recommendations was non-continuous and that its counter-proposal would resolve this anomaly. Finally, in recognition of its new boundaries, the submission suggested an alternative name of Tuffley & Linden to recognise the Linden community in the division.

68 The Conservative Group proposal was supported in a further submission by Richard Graham MP (Gloucester).

69 We received a submission from Councillor Pullen, the city councillor for Moreland ward, in support of the draft recommendation boundaries for Tuffley, but which suggested an alternative name of Tuffley & Moreland to represent both city council wards which comprise the division.

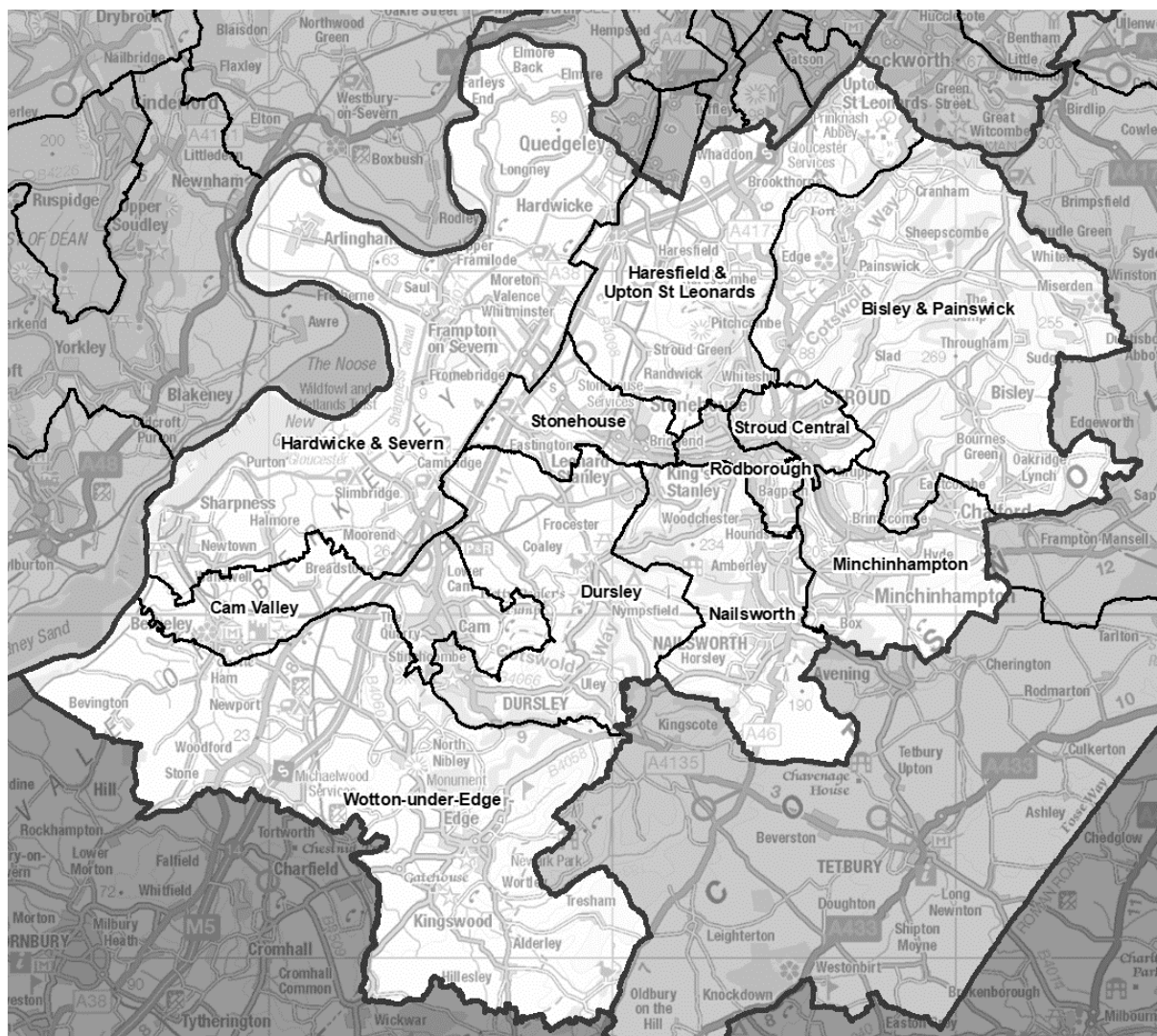
70 We are not persuaded by the Conservative Group's submission in Gloucester. We do not consider that the proposed adjustments better reflect local communities, particularly regarding the specific boundaries suggested (which align to polling district boundaries) which we consider would divide communities along Manu Marble Way and Robinson Road. We note that in the initial consultation we received a submission from the Podsmead Big Local Partnership which provided good evidence for keeping Podsmead undivided as a ward within the Hempsted & Westgate division. The Conservative Group's submission provides for less convenient and effective local government, as it divides two additional city wards which can otherwise be entirely contained within divisions, as in the draft recommendations.

71 We are persuaded by the submission from Councillor Pullen to change the division names. This is consistent with our decisions elsewhere where we have used a combination of ward names when naming divisions. We also note that the boundary between Tuffley & Moreland and Grange & Kingsway can be adjusted in a minor way, impacting no electors, to run along the northern extent of Randwick Park on Tuffley Lane to match the ward boundary here and achieve better coterminosity. We are therefore proposing to retain the draft recommendation division boundaries, with the amendment described at Randwick Park, for Hempsted & Westgate and a renamed Tuffley & Moreland (originally Tuffley).

*Abbey, Barnwood & Hucclecote, Barton & Tredworth, Coney Hill & Matson, Grange & Kingsway, Kingsholm & Wotton, Longlevens, and Quedgeley*

72 We received no additional submissions in Gloucester, and therefore we propose to retain draft recommendation boundaries and names in these divisions, with the exception of the small realignment between Grange & Kingsway and Tuffley & Moreland described above.

## Stroud



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Bisley & Painswick	1	-13%
Cam Valley	1	9%
Dursley	1	-6%
Hardwicke & Severn	1	-3%
Haresfield & Upton St Leonards	1	-10%
Minchinhampton	1	-10%
Nailsworth	1	-6%
Rodborough	1	3%
Stonehouse	1	-1%
Stroud Central	1	8%
Wotton-under-Edge	1	-10%

73 We received a large number of submissions regarding our proposed divisions in Stroud District. These submissions were principally concerned with two key issues: the inclusion of Stroud Trinity district ward in the rural Bisley & Painswick division (as opposed to Stroud Central division) and a proposed division boundary separating the neighbouring parishes of Owlpen and Uley, which were included in Dursley and Wotton-under-Edge divisions, respectively.

74 The Conservative Group suggested an alternative arrangement of several divisions in the district in order to include the Stroud Trinity district and parish ward in Stroud Central division. It proposed the following transfers between divisions to achieve a Stroud Central division coterminous with the parish of Stroud, with all divisions within an acceptable forecast electorate variance: Brimscombe & Thrupp parish transferred from Bisley & Painswick to Minchinhampton, part of Chalford parish transferred from Minchinhampton to Bisley & Painswick, part of Rodborough parish transferred from Rodborough to Minchinhampton, part of Minchinhampton parish transferred from Nailsworth to Minchinhampton, Nymphsfield parish transferred from Dursley to Nailsworth, Owlpen parish transferred from Wotton-under-Edge to Nailsworth, and Stroud Trinity transferred from Bisley & Painswick to Stroud.

75 The Gloucestershire County Council Labour Group ('Labour Group') made a submission addressing the challenge of proposing 11 divisions within Stroud. It noted that it had sought to identify a stronger set of divisions in the district, but had not been able to produce an alternative that better reflects our statutory criteria than what it originally proposed in the initial consultation.

76 We believe there are some strengths, and some weaknesses, to the Conservative Group's scheme which we will discuss in more detail below. We note the concerns raised by the Labour Group in its submission, including regarding its suggested names of Stroud East and Stroud North rather than the Bisley & Painswick and Haresfield & Upton St Leonards divisions that we originally proposed.

#### *Bisley & Painswick, Minchinhampton, Rodborough, and Stroud Central*

77 We received over 150 submissions regarding these divisions, of which the vast majority were concerned with the proposal to include part of the town of Stroud in the otherwise largely rural Bisley & Painswick division. A smaller number were regarding the parish of Brimscombe & Thrupp, which respondents indicated was better aligned with Minchinhampton division than with Bisley & Painswick.

78 We originally included Stroud Trinity ward in Bisley & Painswick in order to allow for a balanced forecast electorate variance, which is otherwise difficult to achieve in this part of the district. The significant response to this decision was principally concerned with including the town-oriented population of Stroud Trinity (as well as Brimscombe & Thrupp parish) in a large Bisley & Painswick area which has a more rural character, and to which Stroud Trinity is not well connected internally.

79 We received a submission from Stroud Town Council which opposed the transfer of Stroud Trinity into a more rural division, noting that the ward included key sites and essential services for the wider Stroud community such as hospitals and medical facilities, a cemetery, a primary school, Trinity Church and the Trinity Hub.

80 We received a submission from the county councillors for Stroud Central division and Bisley & Painswick division in opposition to the draft recommendations, identifying Stroud Trinity as an essential element of Stroud town and the Stroud Central division, and an area that does not fit well with the rest of Bisley & Painswick.

81 We received a submission from the Stroud District Green Party which argued that Stroud Trinity is an essential part of Stroud, and that Brimscombe & Thrupp parish is best preserved in the Minchinhampton division as it is currently.

82 We welcomed views on this area in our draft recommendations report, and believe that the strength of response has helped us to arrive at a stronger permutation here as part of our final recommendations. We note the proposals from the Conservative Group, described in detail above; however, we believe that alternative amended arrangements result in a better pattern of divisions in this area, while still addressing the core issues raised by respondents in the area.

83 Including Stroud Trinity ward in Stroud Central leaves Bisley & Painswick with about 20% fewer electors than the average for the county. We think this should be improved and we therefore propose including the village of Edge (which is part of Painswick parish) in Bisley & Painswick division; this results in the entirety of Painswick parish being within the division. We additionally propose including the Bussage parish ward of Chalford parish in the division. We consider that the Conservative Group's proposal to include a greater proportion of Chalford parish (including Chalford and Chalford Hill) is less satisfactory, as we received a number of submissions evidencing Chalford's connections south to Minchinhampton, including from the Councillor Fenton, the district councillor for Chalford ward. We consider that Bussage is better suited to be included in Bisley & Painswick, as there is a continuous community (originally one historic housing development) extending from Bussage into Eastcombe to the north, with Bisley village two miles away. South of Brownhill, which comprises the southern extent of Bussage parish ward, there is a steep hill separating the community from the River Frome and Minchinhampton further south. Although we note that dividing the parish of Chalford, such that Bussage is included in Bisley & Painswick while Chalford and Chalford Hill are included in Minchinhampton, is not ideal, we consider that there are no other more suitable communities anywhere along the boundary of Bisley & Painswick division such that the division will have a balanced forecast electoral variance.

84 We additionally propose transferring the parish of Brimscombe and Thrupp, as well as the Butterrow parish ward of Rodborough parish, from Bisley & Painswick

into Minchinhampton. We received a number of submissions commenting upon the better links these communities have with Minchinhampton along the A419 (London Road), including from Brimscombe & Thrupp Parish Council.

85 We consider that our arrangements for these three divisions achieve a better balance of our statutory criteria than the suggestions of the Conservative Group. Although that submission does avoid any divisions with forecast electorate variances below -10%, we consider that the substantial knock-on impacts to Rodborough, Nailsworth and the parish of Owlpen (which is discussed in more detail below) are significant and that it unnecessarily divides communities. We therefore consider that accepting a -13% variance division in this instance is justified, and will allow for both better preservation of communities in the area as well as more convenient and effective local government that reflects how local people understand their area.

86 We therefore propose a Bisley & Painswick division which includes all of Painswick parish (including the parish ward of Edge) and part of Chalford parish (namely the Bussage parish ward); a Minchinhampton division which includes all of Brimscombe & Thrupp Parish, the Hill and Valley parish wards of Chalford parish, and the Butterrow parish ward of Rodborough parish; and a Stroud Central division which is coterminous with Stroud Town Council (including the Stroud Trinity ward).

#### *Dursley and Wotton-under-Edge*

87 We received over 50 submissions regarding the proposal to include Owlpen parish in the Wotton-under-Edge division. All of these comments made clear that there is an important and intrinsic link between Owlpen and its neighbouring parish of Uley, and that the two should remain linked within the Dursley division.

88 The Owlpen Parish Meeting submitted a comprehensive response detailing: the essential local services in Uley that Owlpen residents are reliant upon, the relative distance (and difficult geography) between Owlpen and Wotton, and the large overlap of local issues and concerns shared by both Owlpen and Uley.

89 Uley Parish Council submitted similarly persuasive comments, making reference to a local bus route connecting Owlpen and Uley as well as the consistent community of the Ewelme Valley (including a combined church network).

90 The Uley Society, a local charity organisation, also submitted comments. These referenced: the society's constitution making specific reference to benefiting the 'area comprising Uley with Owlpen'; a membership including residents of both parishes; and a stark contrast between Owlpen's proximity to Uley (which are within sight of each other) and its lack of connection to Wotton-under-Edge (six miles and over 20 minutes' drive away, with only a small section of shared boundary).

91 The large number of submissions we received from local residents of both Owlpen and Uley parishes were of a high quality, and repeatedly demonstrated why these communities are best preserved within one county council division. We also received a submission from Councillor Thomas, the county councillor for Dursley division, advocating for keeping both parishes together within Dursley.

92 We therefore propose slightly amended Dursley and Wotton-under-Edge divisions; namely, the transfer of Owlpen parish to Dursley from Wotton-under-Edge. Although this results in a Wotton-under-Edge division with a forecast variance marginally below -10%, we are persuaded in this instance that the balance of our statutory criteria is best met by the division arrangement described here.

### *Haresfield & Upton St Leonards*

93 We received fewer submissions here; some local respondents felt that Haresfield & Upton St Leonards did not constitute a strong division.

94 Councillor Ryder, the district councillor for Hardwicke ward, supported the draft recommendations but noted that Hunts Grove parish has significantly more electors than Haresfield, and should therefore be included in the name alongside Upton St Leonards.

95 Randwick and Westrip Parish Council objected to its inclusion in the Haresfield & Upton St Leonards division, noting a difference in geography between the division's key settlements (which are on the western side of the Cotswold scarp) and Randwick village (which is on the eastern side of the scarp overlooking Stroud). It did accept that the parish's southern neighbourhoods are of a different character and form part of the Rodborough division, in support of the draft recommendations there.

96 Standish Parish Council supported its inclusion in the new Haresfield & Upton St Leonards division, noting that it was well suited within a rural division. A local resident commented in disagreement with the parish council, as they considered that Standish shared a greater natural association with Stonehouse division.

97 Whiteshill & Ruscombe Parish Council objected to its inclusion in our proposed Haresfield & Upton St Leonards division, noting that a large proportion of the electorate in the division was situated in commuter communities oriented towards Gloucester rather than rural villages which look to Stroud. This submission was subsequently supported and expanded upon by some local residents.

98 We note the concerns raised by the two parish councils who consider themselves less clearly aligned with the Haresfield & Upton St Leonards division than with the existing arrangement. However, there are a limited number of suitable communities to be included in the new division, and we consider these areas are more appropriate than others (notably any communities east of Painswick or west of



the M5) to be included. As the division is expected to have a forecast variance of -10% in 2029, there is little flexibility to transfer additional parishes out of it.

99 We note the comments from Councillor Ryder on the division's name and lack of reference to Hunts Grove. However, we consider that the Haresfield & Upton St Leonards name better reflects the division's nature: it includes representations of both the newer growing suburban communities immediately adjacent to Gloucester and the older, more rural villages of the western Cotswolds.

100 Since the draft recommendations were published, Stroud District Council has conducted a community governance review which created a new parish of Great Oldbury. Accordingly, and to align with the district ward boundary amendments as described in our Electoral Changes Order, we are including the area of Great Oldbury that was previously in Standish parish (a small plot of land to the west of the Bristol-Birmingham rail line with no electors) in our proposed Stonehouse division.

101 We therefore propose a Haresfield & Upton St Leonards division similar to our draft recommendations, other than the transfer of part of the parish of Great Oldbury to Stonehouse and by including Edge village in a Bisley & Painswick division, as part of our final recommendations.

#### *Cam Valley, Hardwicke & Severn, Nailsworth, and Stonehouse*

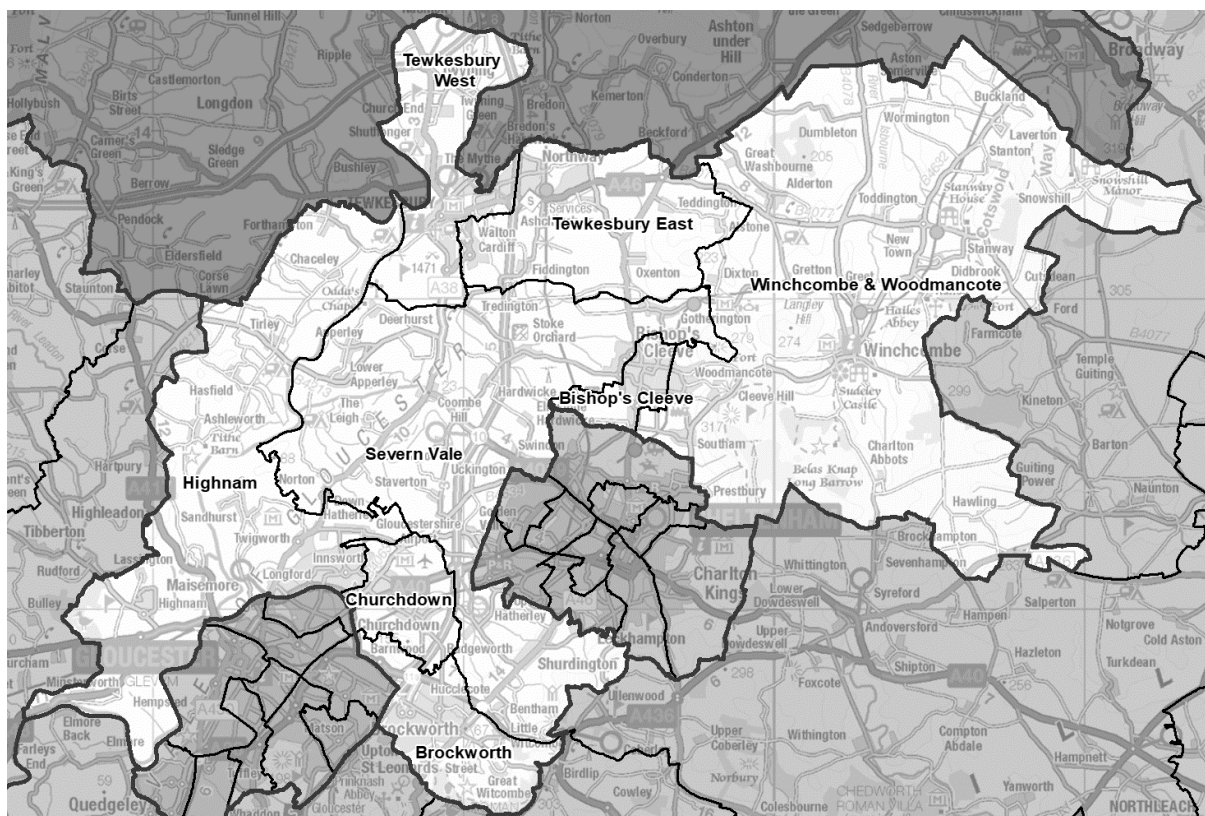
102 We received very few submissions regarding these divisions.

103 Hamfallow Parish Council addressed that it would need to co-ordinate with two county councillors under the draft recommendations, as it is split between divisions, but did not object to the proposals for Cam Valley and Hardwicke & Severn divisions.

104 Hinton Parish Council objected to the proposals for Hardwicke & Severn, noting that existing arrangements better reflect local needs rather than taking into account incoming housing developments which will impact the forecast electorate.

105 In the absence of any detailed submissions here, we propose retaining our draft recommendation divisions, with the exception of the alterations to the Stonehouse boundary to account for Great Oldbury parish as noted above, as part of our final recommendations.

## Tewkesbury



Division name	Number of councillors	Variance 2029
Bishop's Cleeve	1	-3%
Brockworth	1	10%
Churchdown	1	-3%
Highnam	1	9%
Severn Vale	1	11%
Tewkesbury East	1	8%
Tewkesbury West	1	8%
Winchcombe & Woodmancote	1	12%

106 We received very few submissions regarding the draft recommendation proposals in Tewkesbury. Most that we did receive came from parish councils.

### *Bishop's Cleeve and Severn Vale*

107 Bishop's Cleeve Parish Council commented in opposition to the proposals, noting that it is a distinct community and settlement. It did not consider that there would be shared concerns between the new developments on the western edge of Bishop's Cleeve and the villages that comprise the rest of the Severn Vale division. Although the parish council accepts that we cannot achieve an ideal balance of our statutory criteria in reaching a decision regarding Bishop's Cleeve, it maintains that

the entirety of Bishop's Cleeve should fall within one division, even if that is at the expense of forecast electoral imbalance.

108 Shurdington Parish Council also commented in opposition to the proposed Severn Vale division; it considered that the parish is better represented as part of the Brockworth division (where it is currently situated) because it feels remote from the rest of the Severn Vale communities north of the A40.

109 Norton Parish Council commented in support of the Severn Vale division, noting that the new division is a logical way to address the increasing electorate around Highnam while also allowing for a better alignment with existing Tewkesbury Borough Council ward boundaries.

110 We recognise the views of Bishop's Cleeve and Shurdington parish councils and note the strength of feeling in their responses regarding dissatisfaction with Severn Vale; however, we note that the principle of a Severn Vale division encompassing many smaller settlements within Tewkesbury is still a practicable solution to the increasing electorate in the borough. We consider that there is no stronger alternative arrangement which can address the concerns of these parish councils without creating at least one division with poor levels of electoral equality. As such, we propose to retain our draft recommendations for the Bishop's Cleeve and Severn Vale divisions.

#### *Brockworth and Churchdown*

111 We received comments in support of the draft recommendations from Hucclecote Parish Council, which accepts the suggestion to keep all of Hucclecote within the Brockworth division, and a resident of Churchdown, who agreed with the principle of keeping Churchdown parish coterminous with the Churchdown division.

112 We propose to retain our draft recommendations for the Brockworth and Churchdown divisions.

#### *Highnam, Tewkesbury East, Tewkesbury West, and Winchcombe & Woodmancote*

113 We received no further submissions in this area, and therefore we propose to retain draft recommendation boundaries and names in these divisions.

## Conclusions

114 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality in Gloucestershire, referencing the 2023 and 2029 electorate figures against the proposed number of councillors and divisions. A full list of wards, names and their corresponding electoral variances can be found at Appendix A. An outline map of the wards is provided at Appendix B.

### Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2023	2029
Number of councillors	55	55
Number of electoral divisions	55	55
Average number of electors per councillor	8,833	9,504
Number of divisions with a variance more than 10% from the average	8	5
Number of divisions with a variance more than 20% from the average	1	0

#### Final recommendations

Gloucestershire County Council should be made up of 55 councillors representing 55 single-councillor divisions. 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 divisions for Gloucestershire County Council. You can also view our final recommendations for Gloucestershire on our interactive maps at [www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

### Parish electoral arrangements

115 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 divisions it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single division. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

116 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, Gloucestershire County 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.

117 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 Badgeworth, Bishop's Cleeve, Cirencester, Hamfallow and Randwick and Westrip.

118 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Badgeworth parish.

#### Final recommendations

Badgeworth Parish Council should comprise nine councillors, as at present, representing three wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Badgeworth	6
Bentham	1
Little Witcombe	2

119 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Bishop's Cleeve parish.

#### Final recommendations

Bishop's Cleeve Parish Council should comprise 20 councillors, as at present, representing four wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Cleeve Central	4
Cleeve Grange	4
Cleeve St Michaels	8
Cleeve West	4

120 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Cirencester parish.

#### Final recommendations

Cirencester Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing nine wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Abbey	1
Chesterton	2
Four Acres	2
New Mills	2
St Michael's	2
Stratton	2
The Beeches	2

Watermoor	2
Whiteway	1

121 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Hamfallow parish.

#### Final recommendations

Hamfallow Parish Council should comprise nine councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Hamfallow North	5
Hamfallow South	4

122 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Randwick and Westrip parish.

#### Final recommendations

Randwick and Westrip Parish Council should comprise nine councillors, as at present, representing three wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Randwick	3
South East	3
South West	3



## What happens next?

123 We have now completed our review of Gloucestershire County Council. The recommendations must now be approved by Parliament. A draft Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in Parliament. Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements will come into force at the elections in 2025.





## Equalities

124 The Commission has looked at how it carries out reviews under the guidelines set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. It has made best endeavours to ensure that people with protected characteristics can participate in the review process and is sufficiently satisfied that no adverse equality impacts will arise as a result of the outcome of the review.



# Appendices

## Appendix A

### Final recommendations for Gloucestershire County Council

Division name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2029)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
<b>CHELTENHAM</b>							
1 All Saints & Oakley	1	8,799	8,799	0%	9,160	9,160	-4%
2 Battledown & Charlton Kings	1	9,128	9,128	3%	9,337	9,337	-2%
3 Benhall & Up Hatherley	1	9,827	9,827	11%	10,069	10,069	6%
4 Charlton Park & College	1	8,376	8,376	-5%	8,611	8,611	-9%
5 Hesters Way & Springbank	1	9,664	9,664	9%	10,130	10,130	7%
6 Lansdown & Park	1	9,073	9,073	3%	9,287	9,287	-2%
7 Leckhampton & Warden Hill	1	8,444	8,444	-4%	8,675	8,675	-9%
8 Pittville & St Paul's	1	8,734	8,734	-1%	8,973	8,973	-6%
9 Prestbury & Swindon Village	1	8,633	8,633	-2%	8,821	8,821	-7%

10	St Mark's & St Peter's	1	9,726	9,726	10%	9,684	9,684	2%
<b>COTSWOLD</b>								
11	Bourton-on-the-Water & Northleach	1	8,932	8,932	1%	9,993	9,993	5%
12	Campden-Vale	1	9,193	9,193	4%	10,361	10,361	9%
13	Cirencester North with Ermin	1	9,141	9,141	3%	10,218	10,218	8%
14	Cirencester Park	1	8,129	8,129	-8%	9,728	9,728	2%
15	Fairford & Lechlade on Thames	1	8,552	8,552	-3%	9,215	9,215	-3%
16	Moreton, Stow & the Rissingtons	1	9,231	9,231	5%	10,522	10,522	11%
17	South Cerney	1	8,561	8,561	-3%	10,344	10,344	9%
18	Tetbury	1	8,270	8,270	-6%	9,235	9,235	-3%
<b>FOREST OF DEAN</b>								
19	Blakeney & Bream	1	9,316	9,316	5%	9,915	9,915	4%
20	Cinderford	1	8,160	8,160	-8%	8,516	8,516	-10%
21	Coleford	1	8,473	8,473	-4%	9,164	9,164	-4%

22	Drybrook & Lydbrook	1	8,236	8,236	-7%	8,703	8,703	-8%
23	Lydney	1	8,486	8,486	-4%	9,904	9,904	4%
24	Mitcheldean	1	8,477	8,477	-4%	8,750	8,750	-8%
25	Newent	1	8,703	8,703	-1%	9,596	9,596	1%
26	Sedbury	1	8,262	8,262	-6%	8,625	8,625	-9%
<b>GLOUCESTER</b>								
27	Abbey	1	9,553	9,553	8%	9,909	9,909	4%
28	Barnwood & Hucclecote	1	9,910	9,910	12%	10,354	10,354	9%
29	Barton & Tredworth	1	8,920	8,920	1%	9,063	9,063	-5%
30	Coney Hill & Matson	1	8,929	8,929	1%	9,839	9,839	4%
31	Grange & Kingsway	1	10,380	10,380	18%	10,541	10,541	11%
32	Hempsted & Westgate	1	7,938	7,938	-10%	9,110	9,110	-4%
33	Kingsholm & Wotton	1	9,202	9,202	4%	9,488	9,488	0%
34	Longlevens	1	8,090	8,090	-8%	8,562	8,562	-10%

35	Quedgeley	1	8,664	8,664	-2%	9,049	9,049	-5%
36	Tuffley & Moreland	1	9,274	9,274	5%	9,441	9,441	-1%
<b>STROUD</b>								
37	Bisley & Painswick	1	8,309	8,309	-6%	8,293	8,293	-13%
38	Cam Valley	1	9,254	9,254	5%	10,400	10,400	9%
39	Dursley	1	9,090	9,090	3%	8,930	8,930	-6%
40	Hardwicke & Severn	1	8,923	8,923	1%	9,218	9,218	-3%
41	Haresfield & Upton St Leonards	1	6,360	6,360	-28%	8,567	8,567	-10%
42	Minchinhampton	1	7,794	7,794	-12%	8,551	8,551	-10%
43	Nailsworth	1	8,972	8,972	2%	8,969	8,969	-6%
44	Rodborough	1	9,571	9,571	8%	9,832	9,832	3%
45	Stonehouse	1	8,036	8,036	-9%	9,436	9,436	-1%
46	Stroud Central	1	10,283	10,283	16%	10,222	10,222	8%
47	Wotton-under-Edge	1	8,485	8,485	-4%	8,541	8,541	-10%

<b>TEWKESBURY</b>								
48	Bishop's Cleeve	1	8,611	8,611	-3%	9,186	9,186	-3%
49	Brockworth	1	9,134	9,134	3%	10,422	10,422	10%
50	Churchdown	1	8,348	8,348	-5%	9,232	9,232	-3%
51	Highnam	1	7,996	7,996	-9%	10,377	10,377	9%
52	Severn Vale	1	9,373	9,373	6%	10,532	10,532	11%
53	Tewkesbury East	1	7,917	7,917	-10%	10,255	10,255	8%
54	Tewkesbury West	1	9,794	9,794	11%	10,293	10,293	8%
55	Winchcombe & Woodmancote	1	10,176	10,176	15%	10,599	10,599	12%
<b>Totals</b>		<b>55</b>	<b>485,812</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>522,747</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Averages</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,833</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,504</b>	<b>-</b>

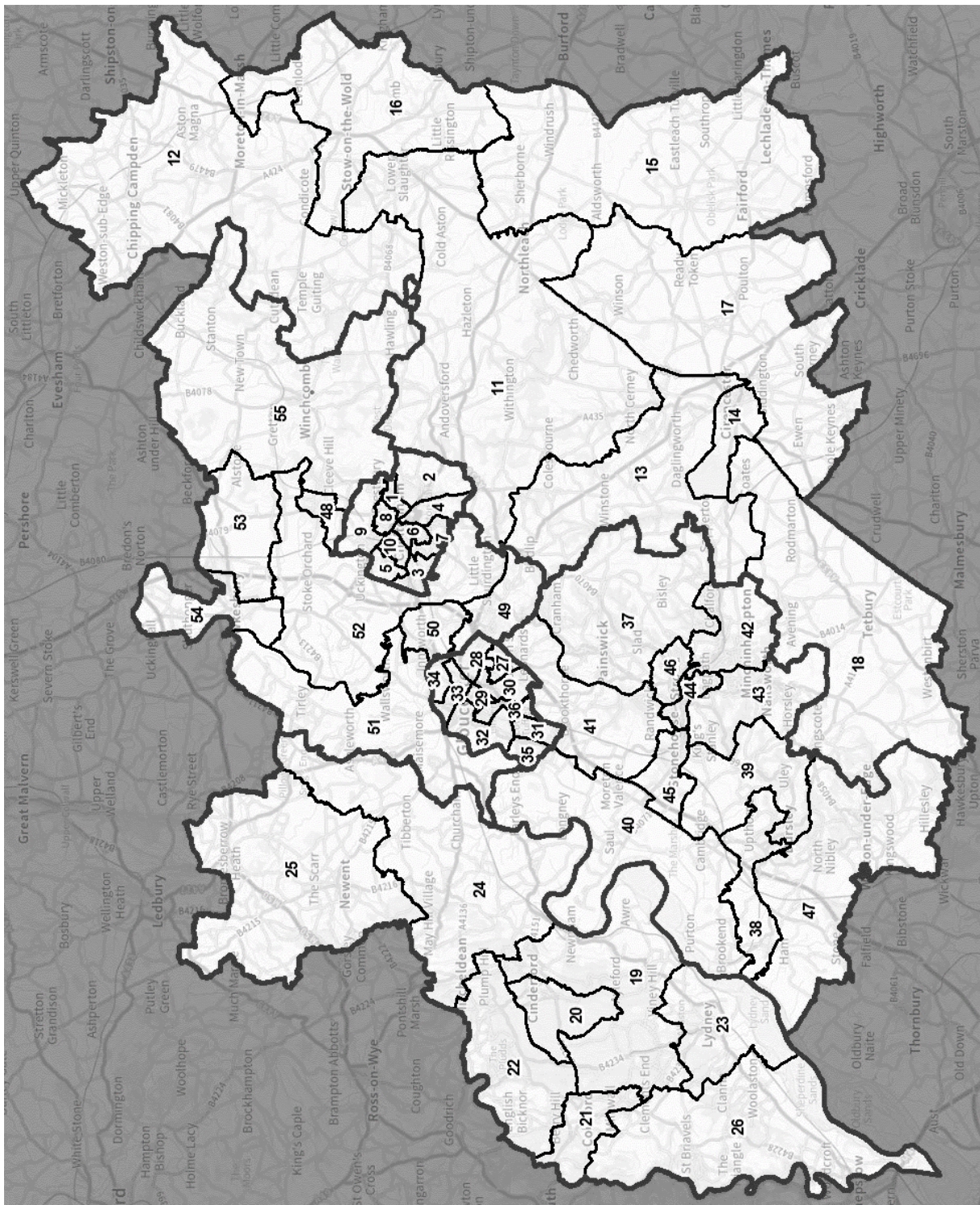
Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Gloucestershire County Council.

Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the number of electors per councillor in each electoral division varies from the average for the county. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.



# Appendix B

## Outline map



Number	Ward name
<b>CHELTENHAM</b>	
1	All Saints & Oakley
2	Battledown & Charlton Kings

3	Benhall & Up Hatherley
4	Charlton Park & College
5	Hesters Way & Springbank
6	Lansdown & Park
7	Leckhampton & Warden Hill
8	Pittville & St Paul's
9	Prestbury & Swindon Village
10	St Mark's & St Peter's
<b>COTSWOLD</b>	
11	Bourton-on-the-Water & Northleach
12	Campden-Vale
13	Cirencester North with Ermin
14	Cirencester Park
15	Fairford & Lechlade on Thames
16	Moreton, Stow & the Rissingtons
17	South Cerney
18	Tetbury
<b>FOREST OF DEAN</b>	
19	Blakeney & Bream
20	Cinderford
21	Coleford
22	Drybrook & Lydbrook
23	Lydney
24	Mitcheldean
25	Newent
26	Sedbury
<b>GLOUCESTER</b>	
27	Abbey
28	Barnwood & Hucclecote
29	Barton & Tredworth
30	Coney Hill & Matson
31	Grange & Kingsway
32	Hempsted & Westgate
33	Kingsholm & Wotton
34	Longlevens
35	Quedgeley
36	Tuffley & Moreland
<b>STROUD</b>	
37	Bisley & Painswick
38	Cam Valley
39	Dursley
40	Hardwicke & Severn

41	Haresfield & Upton St Leonards
42	Minchinhampton
43	Nailsworth
44	Rodborough
45	Stonehouse
46	Stroud Central
47	Wotton-under-Edge
<b>TEWKESBURY</b>	
48	Bishop's Cleeve
49	Brockworth
50	Churchdown
51	Highnam
52	Severn Vale
53	Tewkesbury East
54	Tewkesbury West
55	Winchcombe & Woodmancote

A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: [www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/gloucestershire](http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/gloucestershire)

## Appendix C

### Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at:  
[www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/gloucestershire](http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/gloucestershire)

#### *Local Authority*

- Cotswold District Council

#### *Political Groups*

- Cheltenham Constituency Labour Party
- Gloucestershire County Council Conservative Group
- Gloucestershire County Council Labour Group
- Stroud District Green Party

#### *Councillors*

- Councillor S. Davies (Gloucestershire County Council)
- Councillor D. Drew (Gloucestershire County Council)
- Councillor S. Fifield (Gloucestershire County Council)
- Councillor H. Fenton (Stroud District Council)
- Councillor S. Fenton (Stroud Town Council)
- Councillor T. Harman (Gloucestershire County Council)
- Councillor J. Harris (Cotswold District Council)
- Councillor M. Harris (Cotswold District Council)
- Councillor P. Hodgkinson (Gloucestershire County Council)
- Councillor M. Mackenzie-Charrington (Gloucestershire County Council)
- Councillor A. Miller (Gloucestershire County Council)
- Councillor E. Nelson (Gloucestershire County Council)
- Councillor A. Oldman (Stroud Town Council)
- Councillor S. Orr (Cirencester Town Council)
- Councillor G. Pilley (Brimcombe & Thrupp Parish Council)
- Councillor T. Pullen (Gloucester City Council)
- Councillor M. Ryder (Stroud District Council)
- Councillor L. Spivey (Cotswold District Council)
- Councillor L. Stowe (Gloucestershire County Council)
- Councillor W. Thomas (Gloucestershire County Council)
- Councillor P. Tracey (Gloucestershire County Council)
- Councillor C. Twells (Cotswold District Council)
- Councillor T. Watson (Stroud District Council)

- Councillor S. Williams (Gloucestershire County Council)
- Councillor D. Willingham (Gloucestershire County Council)
- Councillor J. Wood (Uley Parish Council)

#### *Members of Parliament*

- Siobhan Baillie MP (Stroud)
- Alex Chalk MP (Cheltenham)
- Richard Graham MP (Gloucester)

#### *Local Organisations*

- Stroud Community Agriculture
- Stroud Local History Society
- Uley Society (two submissions)

#### *Parish and Town Councils*

- Bishop's Cleeve Parish Council
- Brimscombe & Thrupp Parish Council
- Chalford Parish Council (two submissions)
- Cirencester Town Council
- Hamfallow Parish Council
- Hinton Parish Council
- Hucclecote Parish Council
- Kingswood Parish Council
- Norton Parish Council
- Owlpen Parish Meeting
- Prestbury Parish Council
- Randwick and Westrip Parish Council
- Shurdington Parish Council
- Standish Parish Council
- Stroud Town Council
- Uley Parish Council (two submissions)
- Whiteshill & Ruscombe Parish Council

#### *Local Residents*

- 215 local residents

#### *Petitions*

- Include Sapperton Parish in Cirencester North with Ermin (76 signatories)

## 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 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. We only take account of electors registered specifically for local elections during our reviews.
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 can 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

### **Translations and other formats:**

To get this report in another language or in a large-print or Braille version, please contact the Local Government Boundary Commission for England at:

Tel: 0330 500 1525

Email: [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk)

### **Licensing:**

The mapping in this report is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Keeper of Public Records © Crown copyright and database right. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and database right.

Licence Number: GD 100049926 2024

### **A note on our mapping:**

The maps shown in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Whilst best efforts have been made by our staff to ensure that the maps included in this report are representative of the boundaries described by the text, there may be slight variations between these maps and the large PDF map that accompanies this report, or the digital mapping supplied on our consultation portal. This is due to the way in which the final mapped products are produced. The reader should therefore refer to either the large PDF supplied with this report or the digital mapping for the true likeness of the boundaries intended. The boundaries as shown on either the large PDF map or the digital mapping should always appear identical.



The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) was set up by Parliament, independent of Government and political parties. It is directly accountable to Parliament through a committee chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons. It is responsible for conducting boundary, electoral and structural reviews of local government.

Local Government Boundary Commission for  
England  
1st Floor, Windsor House  
50 Victoria Street, London  
SW1H 0TL

**Telephone:** 0330 500 1525

**Email:** [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk)

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

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

**Twitter:** @LGBCE