

**From:** [Hendry, Angela](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FOI Acknowledgment  
**Date:** 12 June 2025 17:30:00

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Dear [REDACTED]

**FOI Ref: 87778/25**

Thank you for your request for information, dated 12 June 2025, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

**You requested:**

- It appears that The Boundary Commission (BC) have approached City of York Council with yet another review of the Council Ward boundaries despite the last review and changes taking place in 2014 for the 2015 local elections. If this is correct - I have been an Independent Councillor on the City of York Council (CYC) since 2011 but in recent years the dysfunctional 'Governance' function at CYC has done its best to reduce information flow to me so I have seen no indication of this other than the attached political party piece - I wish to request the following;
  - Full copies of the BC approach to CYC and any subsequent replies.
  - Full copies of any replies from political parties at CYC to the BC.

The Commission aims to respond promptly and within the statutory deadline of 20 working days set by the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please expect a response by 10 July 2025.

In some cases a fee may be payable and if that is the case I will let you know. A fees notice will be issued to you, and you will be required to pay before I will proceed to deal with your request.

If you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me on the details provided below. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Kind regards

Angela Hendry

**From:** [Hendry, Angela](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fw: FOI Response  
**Date:** 08 July 2025 11:04:20  
**Attachments:** [York Correspondence FOI.pdf](#)

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Dear [REDACTED]

**FOI Ref: 87778/25**

Thank you for your request for information, dated 12 June 2025, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

**Your request:**

- It appears that The Boundary Commission (BC) have approached City of York Council with yet another review of the Council Ward boundaries despite the last review and changes taking place in 2014 for the 2015 local elections. If this is correct - I have been an Independent Councillor on the City of York Council (CYC) since 2011 but in recent years the dysfunctional 'Governance' function at CYC has done its best to reduce information flow to me so I have seen no indication of this other than the attached political party piece - I wish to request the following;
  - Full copies of the BC approach to CYC and any subsequent replies.
  - Full copies of any replies from political parties at CYC to the BC.

**Our response:**

Please see attached a copy of the email correspondence between the LGBCE and officers at City of York Council. This includes a letter which was e-mailed to the Council, informing them that the Commission has decided to undertake an electoral review. We do not hold any replies from political parties.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me, quoting the reference number above in any correspondence.

If you are unhappy with the response or the way in which your request was dealt with and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to:

Bipon Bhakri  
Director of Corporate Services  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
3 Bunhill Row  
London  
EC1Y 8YZ

Kind regards

Angela

**rom:** Evison, Alison <alison.evison@lgbce.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 16 May 2025 12:22  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Rutherford, Tom <tom.rutherford@lgbce.org.uk>  
**Subject:** Re: Electoral review - York

Morning [REDACTED]

I've been struggling with dates from our Chair so I'm pleased that Andrew Scallan who is our Deputy Chair will be able to step in to attend this session.

Could he and Ailsa meet with you at 11am on 30 May please.

Could you send invitations directly to [andrew.scallan@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:andrew.scallan@lgbce.org.uk) and [ailsa.irvine@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:ailsa.irvine@lgbce.org.uk)

I have copied in my colleague Tom who is going to be the lead contact for the review, please could you copy him into any further correspondence.

Thanks, Alison

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15 May 2025 12:08  
**To:** Evison, Alison <alison.evison@lgbce.org.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Electoral review - York

Hi Alison – how about the below:

28<sup>th</sup> May 15:00

30<sup>th</sup> May between 11:00-14:00

Many thanks

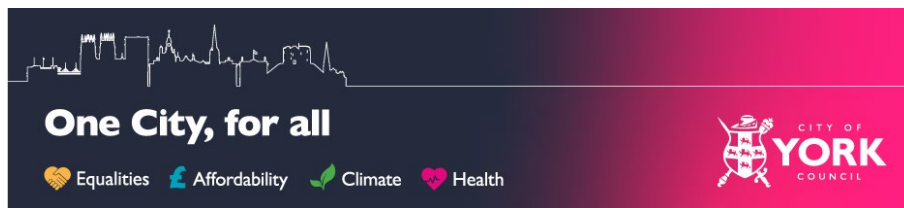
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Evison, Alison <alison.evison@lgbce.org.uk>

**Sent:** 14 May 2025 17:40

[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Re: Electoral review - York

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Thanks, that's looking tricky too. We may be able to shuffle some dates around to make it work but could you please offer some alternative dates/times for a 1hr 15 minute meeting.

Thanks!

**Alison Evison**

Review & Programme Manager

The  
Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
for England

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My usual working hours are Tuesday to Friday

[t: 0330 500 1270](tel:03305001270)

[e: alison.evison@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:alison.evison@lgbce.org.uk) | [w: lgbce.org.uk](http://w:lgbce.org.uk)

7th Floor, 3 Bunhill Row, London, EC1Y 8YZ

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[REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14 May 2025 16:07

**To:** Evison, Alison

**Subject:** RE: Electoral review - York

Hi Alison – no problem at all, how about 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 11:00 via MS Teams?

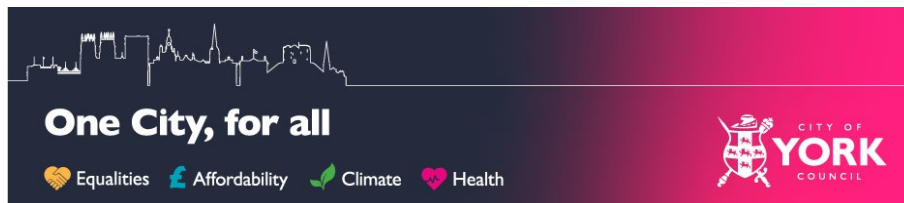
Many thanks

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Evison, Alison

**Sent:** 14 May 2025 12:18

[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Electoral review - York

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Hi [REDACTED]

I'm afraid we have our monthly board meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> May so that day won't work for us.

Please let me know any other dates that might work.

Thanks, Alison



**Alison Evison**

Review & Programme Manager

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My usual working hours are Tuesday to Friday

[t: 0330 500 1270](tel:03305001270)

[e: alison.evison@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:alison.evison@lgbce.org.uk) | [w: lgbce.org.uk](http://w:lgbce.org.uk)

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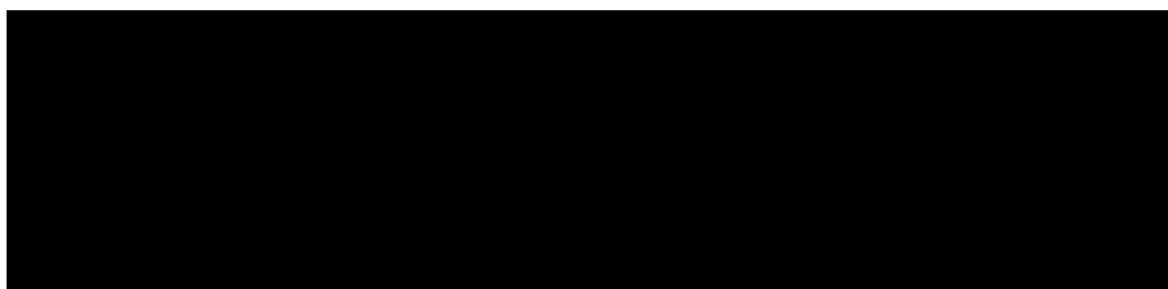
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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12 May 2025 10:00  
**To:** Evison, Alison  
**Subject:** RE: Electoral review - York

Hi Alison – re the below I'm just looking at getting the first meeting in with Ian and Cllr Douglas. Would 20<sup>th</sup> May at 10:00 work for you? Our Director of Governance would also like to join this call too if you'd be happy with that.

Our officers are just reviewing the other meeting requests so we will come back to you separately on them if that's okay.

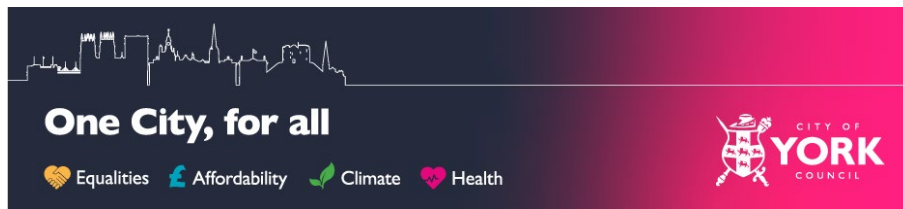
Many thanks



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**From:** Evison, Alison

**Sent:** 08 May 2025 15:45

**Subject:** Electoral review - York

This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear [REDACTED]

Further to a helpful discussion with [REDACTED], please find attached a letter outlining the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's intention to conduct an electoral review of York. I have also included an outline time-table for the review.

I would welcome setting up a series of meetings so that we can update you and your members on the review process:

1. Leader of York City Council, Claire Douglas; Chief Executive of York City Council, Ian Floyd; LGBCE Chair, Professor Colin Mellors and LGBCE Chief Executive, Ailsa Irvine, – May 2025 (1hr 15 mins)
2. Group Leader briefing – May 2025; following the briefing to the Leader (1hr 15 mins)
3. Briefing to all members – May/June 2025 following the briefing to Group Leaders (1hr 30mins)
4. Briefing to key officer group – May/June (1hr 30mins)

We would be happy to undertake these briefings virtually but please let me know if you would prefer them to be face to face.

I look forward to working with you and would be very happy to have a phone call to discuss any part of the review process if you would find that helpful.

Kind regards,

Alison



Alison Evison

Review & Programme Manager

My usual working hours are Tuesday to Friday



[0330 500 1270](tel:0330 500 1270)



[alison.evison@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:alison.evison@lgbce.org.uk)



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



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8 May 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is the independent body responsible for determining the electoral arrangements of local authorities across England. I am writing to you to inform you that the Commission has decided to undertake an electoral review of York City Council.

The purpose of an electoral review is to consider the number of councillors elected to the council, the names, number and boundaries of the wards, and the number of councillors to be elected to each ward.

The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 sets out the duty placed on the Commission to undertake an electoral review of every principal local authority in England 'from time to time'. Accordingly, the Commission considers that a review of your authority should take place in time to be implemented at your election in 2027. I am writing to a number of other authorities on a similar basis.

**The electoral review process:**

The first decision the Commission will take is how many councillors you will have. We will invite the Council (and groups on the council) to make proposals for how many members you believe there should be in the future. There is [guidance and a template](#) on our website that will support you through this process.

Once the Commission decides on the total number of councillors, we will then move to the warding pattern part of the process which starts with a full public consultation where we ask the Council as well as the wider electorate, including community groups, parish/town councils and members of the public think the ward boundaries should be.

We will then publish our draft recommendations which we then consult on again.

The publication of our final recommendations marks the end of the review process. We will then lay an Order in Parliament. The new electoral arrangements will be implemented at an 'all out' election on the ordinary day of elections in 2027.

### **The role of the authority under review**

In advance of the first public consultation, there will be a preliminary period of around six months during which the Commission will gather information from the Council. We will also brief your members and officers on the detail of the review process.

There are three main areas of work for the Council:

1. Preparing electorate forecasts, mapping and details of your housing developments. We will expect you to prepare five-year electorate forecasts broken down to polling district level. This reflects the statutory duty to consider forecasts five years from the end of the review.
2. Preparing and submitting a warding pattern during the first public consultation and responding to our draft recommendations
3. Supporting us in publicising the review including by sharing details of interested parties and supporting meetings with community and residents' groups.

I look forward to working with you.

If you would like to discuss the contents of this letter, please do get in touch.

Your sincerely,



**Alison Evison**

Review & Programme Manager

0330 500 1270

[alison.evison@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:alison.evison@lgbce.org.uk)

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

This timetable outlines the key dates and activities for both the Council (shown in bold) and the Commission during the review process.

#### Preliminary Period

<b>Briefings</b>	<b>Attendees</b>		<b>Key Dates</b>
	<b>Council</b>	<b>LGBCE</b>	
<b>Preliminary Meeting</b>	Council Leader Chief Executive	Chair Chief Executive	May 2025
<b>Officer Briefing</b>	Council Officers involved in review	Review Manager Review Officer	May 2025
<b>Group Leader Briefing</b>	Council Group Leaders	Lead Commissioner Review Manager Review Officer	
<b>Full Council Briefing</b>	All Councillors	Lead Commissioner Review Manager Review Officer	
<b>Parish/Town Council &amp; Local Groups Briefing</b>	Not required	Review Manager Review Officer	TBC Nov 2025

#### Council Size

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Involvement</b>		<b>Key Dates</b>
	<b>Council</b>	<b>LGBCE</b>	
<b>Develop council size proposal</b>	Council Political Groups	Officers will be available to answer any technical queries on making a submission.	May – Mid October 2025
<b>Submission of council size proposals</b>	Council Political Groups	Officers will acknowledge receipt of submissions.	Mid/Late October 2025
<b>Commission Meeting: Council Size</b>	Not required	Commission	18 November 2025

#### Warding Patterns

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Involvement</b>		<b>Key Dates</b>
	<b>Council</b>	<b>LGBCE</b>	
<b>Consultation on warding patterns</b>	Council Political Groups General Public	Run consultation, collate & analyse responses.	25 November 2025 – 16 March 2026
<b>Commission Meeting: Draft Recommendations</b>	Not required	Commission	21 April 2026
<b>Consultation on Draft Recommendations</b>	Council Political Groups General Public	Publish draft recommendations. Run consultation, collate & analyse responses.	5 May 2026 – 13 July 2026
<b>Commission Meeting: Final Recommendations</b>	Not required	Commission	15 September 2026
<b>Final Recommendations Published</b>	Not required	Commission publish final recommendations report and mapping	29 September 2026

#### Order

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Involvement</b>		<b>Key Dates</b>
	<b>Council</b>	<b>LGBCE</b>	
<b>Order laid</b>	Not required	Commission	Autumn 2026
<b>Order made</b>	Not required	Commission	Winter 2026
<b>Implementation</b>	Council	Not required	May 2027

Local Government Boundary Commission for England, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, 3 Bunhill Row, London, EC1Y 8YZ

Tel: 0330 500 1525; Fax: 0330 500 1526; reviews@lgbce.org.uk; [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

**From:** Evison, Alison <alison.evison@lgbce.org.uk>

**Sent:** 01 May 2025 11:57

**Subject:** Re: Electoral Review - York

Hi [REDACTED]

I think you just tried calling, I'm sorry I missed you.

I'm around for the rest of the afternoon.

Alison

---

**From:** Evison, Alison <alison.evison@lgbce.org.uk>

**Sent:** 01 May 2025 10:57

**Subject:** Electoral Review - York

Dear [REDACTED]

I'm emailing as the Review & Programme Manager of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

I've tried calling you a couple of times but unfortunately couldn't get through, I would be grateful if you could please give me a ring back regarding an electoral review of York.

Many thanks,

Alison