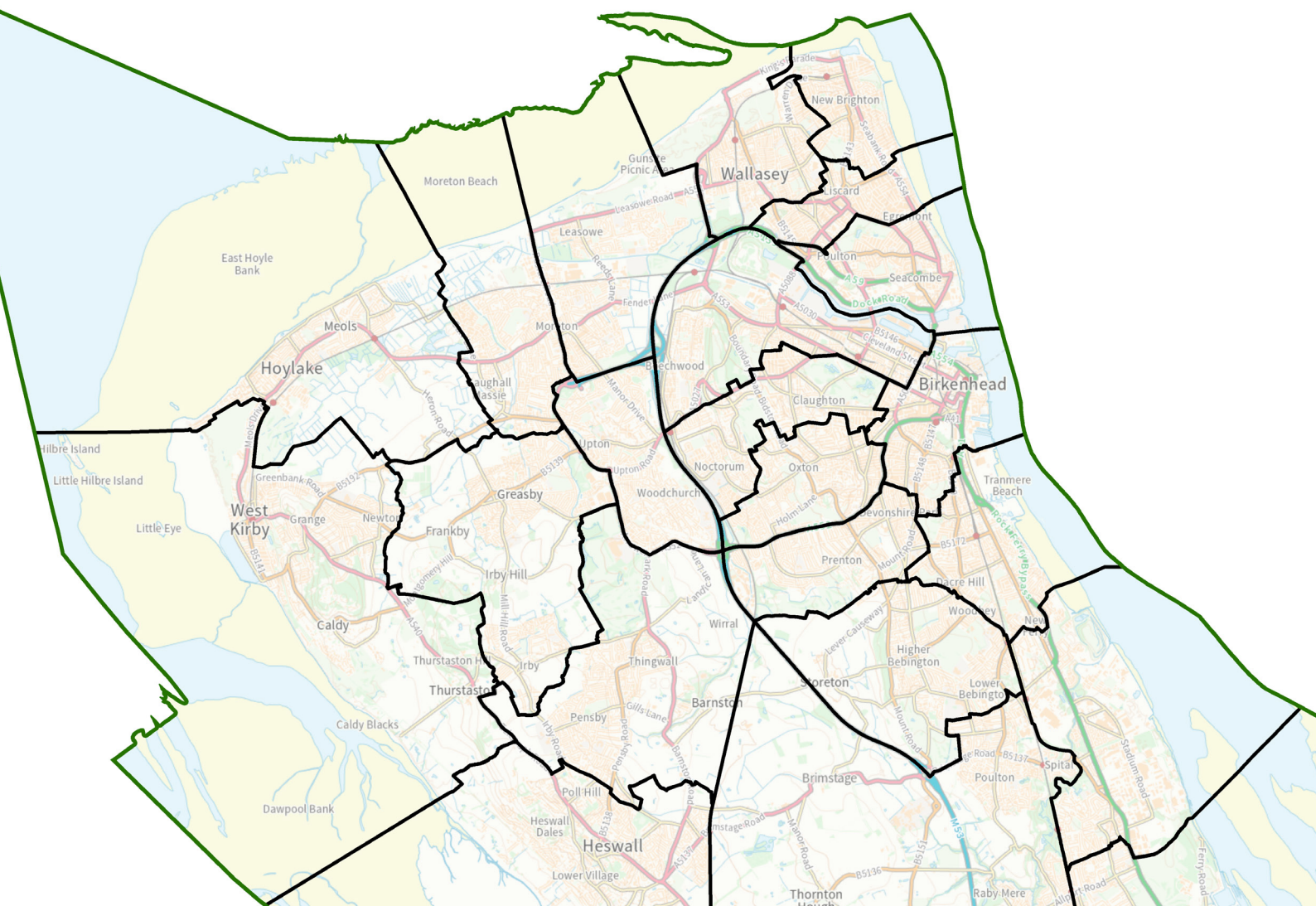




New electoral arrangements for Wirral Council Final Recommendations

September 2025

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

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: AC0000807452 2025

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 Wirral?	2
Our proposals for Wirral	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
Ward boundaries consultation	7
Draft recommendations consultation	8
Final recommendations	8
Birkenhead Central and South Wirral	10
North and Central Wirral	13
West Wirral	16
Conclusions	19
Summary of electoral arrangements	19
What happens next?	20
Equalities	23
Appendices	24
Appendix A	25
Final recommendations for Wirral	25
Appendix B	28
Outline map	28
Appendix C	29
Submissions received	29
Appendix D	30
Glossary and abbreviations	30

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.¹ 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) | • Steve Robinson |
| • Andrew Scallan CBE
(Deputy Chair) | • Wallace Sampson OBE |
| • Amanda Nobbs 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.

¹ Under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

6 More detail regarding 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

Why Wirral?

7 We are conducting a review of Wirral Council ('the Council') as its last review was completed in 2003, and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.² Additionally, 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 wards in Wirral 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 borough.

Our proposals for Wirral

9 Wirral should be represented by 65 councillors, one fewer than there is now.

10 Wirral should have 22 wards, the same number as there are now.

11 The boundaries of 13 wards should change; nine will stay the same.

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

How will the recommendations affect you?

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

14 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the borough 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 consider any representations which are based on these issues.

² Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 56(1).

Review timetable

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

16 The review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
20 August 2024	Number of councillors decided
10 September 2024	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
18 November 2024	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
1 April 2025	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
9 June 2025	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
30 September 2025	Publication of final recommendations

Analysis and final recommendations

17 Legislation³ states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors⁴ 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 wards.

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

	2024	2030
Electorate of Wirral	243,614	255,683
Number of councillors	65	65
Average number of electors per councillor	3,748	3,934

20 When the number of electors per councillor in a ward is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the ward as having 'good electoral equality'. All but one of our proposed wards (Pensby & Thingwall) for Wirral are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

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

Electorate figures

22 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2030, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2025. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 5% by 2030.

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.

³ Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

⁴ Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

24 Our mapping tool uses geocoded electoral registers supplied by the Council to locate electors, by associating addresses with specific geographic coordinates. It considers each elector's location to produce precise elector counts for each ward. There can be very slight differences between the electorate figures published on our website at the beginning of the review and the electorate figures published in this report. However, these are very minor and do not impact on our recommendations.

Number of councillors

25 Wirral Council currently has 66 councillors. We looked at evidence provided by the Council and concluded that keeping this number the same would ensure the Council could carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

26 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 66 councillors; for example, 66 one-councillor wards, 22 three-councillor wards, or a mix of one-, two- and three-councillor wards.

27 We received nine submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on warding patterns. These submissions were all brief and stated that 66 councillors were too many for the authority. However, in our view none of these submissions provided sufficient evidence to support this viewpoint or proposed an alternative number of members. We therefore based our draft recommendations on a 66-councillor council.

28 During the consultation on our draft recommendations, we received six submissions that mentioned the number of councillors for Wirral. Three submissions argued that 66 councillors were too many for the authority. Two of these submissions did not propose an alternative number whilst the remaining one suggested four councillors would be sufficient. The other three submissions supported 66 councillors but suggested that they represent 66 single-councillor wards. None of these submissions suggested potential boundaries for these 66 wards, although we did receive a separate submission from a local resident for 66 single-councillor wards, which is discussed in more detail below. We were not persuaded that the submissions received provided sufficient evidence to justify a specific alternative number or to justify a radical change in the number of councillors for Wirral.

29 We received a response to the draft recommendations from the Green Party Group on Wirral Council that addressed our proposals in specific areas of the authority. The revised warding pattern that they provided, which we are mostly adopting as part of our final recommendations, would lead to a reduction of one councillor so that the authority would be represented by 65 councillors in the future. We consider that this change allows a better warding pattern in the West Kirby area, which is discussed in more detail later in this report. We have concluded that a council size of 65 will still enable the council to carry out its roles and responsibilities

effectively and have therefore based our final recommendations on a 65-member council.

Ward boundaries consultation

30 We received 49 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included four borough-wide proposals from the Conservative, Green, Labour and Liberal Democrat groups on the Council. Councillor Cleary made a submission in support of the Green Group proposals. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for warding arrangements in particular areas of the borough.

31 The Conservative Group and Labour Group proposed uniform patterns of three-councillor wards. The borough-wide schemes from the Green Party Group and the Liberal Democrat Group proposed a mixed pattern of two- and three-councillor wards. We carefully considered the proposals received and were of the view that the proposed patterns of wards resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the authority and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries.

32 Our draft recommendations were based on a combination of the borough-wide proposals received and provided for a uniform pattern of 22 three-councillor wards. As Wirral Council has changed its electoral cycle and has moved to whole-council elections once every four years, it is no longer required to have a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards. However, in our draft recommendations we came to the view that a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards would provide the best balance of our three statutory criteria. We encouraged comments and evidence on this approach during the consultation on our draft recommendations and indicated that we were open to moving away from a uniform pattern of wards if we received sufficient evidence to do so.

33 Our recommendations also took into account local evidence 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.

34 We also visited the area in order to look at the various proposals on the ground. This tour of Wirral helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

35 Our draft recommendations were for 22 three-councillor wards. 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

36 We received 45 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations. These included a warding pattern for parts of the borough from the Green Party Group. This revised warding pattern would reduce the number of councillors for Wirral from 66 to 65. A local resident submitted a proposal for 66 single-councillor wards, which we also considered when drawing up our final recommendations. We received support for the draft recommendations from the Conservative and Liberal Democrat groups. The majority of the other submissions focused on specific areas, particularly our proposals in New Ferry and Rock Ferry, as well as the Spital area.

37 We examined the proposal for 66 single-councillor wards but have decided not to adopt these proposals as part of our final recommendations. In particular, we were concerned that the proposed wards would not provide for good electoral equality and noted that two of the wards would have forecast electoral variances of 39% and 62% by 2030. Furthermore, we noted that the warding pattern was put together using census output areas which we do not consider in themselves to necessarily provide for suitable ward boundaries.

38 We also considered the revised warding pattern from the Green Party Group. This proposed some minor amendments to wards in the Birkenhead, New Ferry, Prenton, Rock Ferry and Tranmere area which, it was argued, would better reflect community identities and interests. The Group also put forward changes to Hoylake & Meols and West Kirby wards. Specifically, it proposed that Hoylake & Meols ward be represented by two councillors and that a portion of the West Kirby community currently in Hoylake & Meols ward be transferred into a three-councillor West Kirby ward.

39 Having carefully considered the evidence received, we have decided to modify our final recommendations to reflect some aspects of the Green Party Group's proposals, including the reduction of the council size from 66 to 65. We have concluded from the evidence submitted that these alternative proposals will better reflect community identities while still ensuring a coherent and logical warding pattern.

Final recommendations

40 Our final recommendations are for 21 three-councillor wards and one two-councillor ward. 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.

41 As noted above, our final recommendations are based on the draft recommendations with a modification to the wards in the Birkenhead, New Ferry,

Prenton, Rock Ferry and Tranmere area, and the West Kirby and Hoylake areas based on the submissions received.

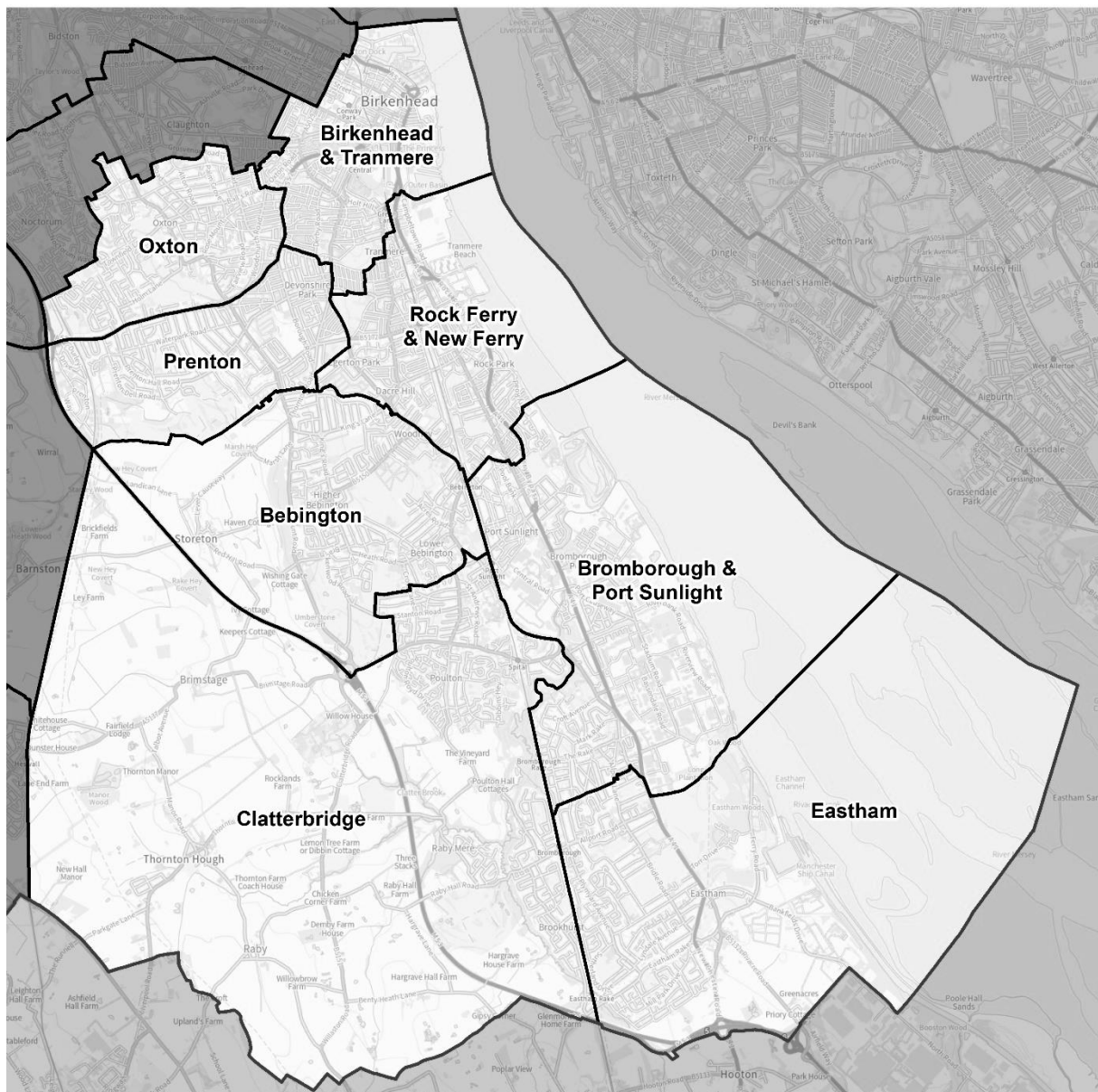
42 The tables and maps on pages 10–18 detail our final recommendations for each area of Wirral. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory⁵ criteria of:

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

43 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 25 and on the large map accompanying this report.

⁵ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Birkenhead Central and South Wirral



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Bebington	3	2%
Birkenhead & Tranmere	3	3%
Bromborough & Port Sunlight	3	-3%
Clatterbridge	3	1%
Eastham	3	-4%
Oxton	3	4%
Prenton	3	-3%
Rock Ferry & New Ferry	3	10%

Birkenhead & Tranmere, Bromborough & Port Sunlight, Oxton, Prenton and Rock Ferry & New Ferry

44 In addition to the support of the Conservative Group and Liberal Democrat Group for our draft recommendations, we also received a further eight submissions regarding these five wards. One of these was a revised warding pattern for the area from the Green Party Group.

45 The Green Party Group stated that the draft recommendations did not fully reflect existing community ties in New Ferry. It also argued this was the case in the Tranmere area between the wards of Birkenhead & Tranmere, Oxton and Prenton. It proposed a revision to the boundary between Bromborough and Rock Ferry wards to include central New Ferry in a renamed Rock Ferry & New Ferry ward. It was argued that the New Ferry community has worked hard to restore a sense of identity that was affected by a major gas explosion in 2017, and this has resulted in a major regeneration programme in the town centre. It was argued that a boundary along Bebington Road, as put forward in our draft recommendations, would be divisive for this community.

46 The Group's proposed ward boundary is relocated from Bebington Road and would follow Boundary Road, the New Ferry Bypass and New Ferry Road. It argued that this boundary better reflects the communities in the area and does not divide New Ferry between wards. It was also proposed that Bromborough ward be renamed Bromborough & Port Sunlight to better reflect the constitution of that ward.

47 Additionally, the Group argued that electors to the south of Mersey Park, which we included in Prenton ward in the draft recommendations, had limited community ties to that area. It was argued that this area had much stronger ties with electors to the north of Mersey Park who we had placed in Birkenhead & Tranmere ward. It was proposed that these electors be restored to Birkenhead & Tranmere ward and that an area bounded by Balls Road East, the A552 Borough Road, Kingsland Road and Woodchurch Road be moved to Oxton ward to ensure good electoral equality for both wards. The Group stated that the A552 Borough Road was a stronger boundary than the existing boundary which follows Woodchurch Road, and that electors in this area have stronger ties to Oxton than Birkenhead given their previous inclusion in Oxton ward.

48 We carefully considered the evidence received and have been persuaded to modify our recommendations with regard to the proposals for New Ferry ward. We note the evidence concerning the area's recovery from the 2017 gas explosion and have been convinced that including the whole area in the same ward as Rock Ferry would be reflective of community identities and interests.

49 We have based our final recommendations on the evidence provided in the Green Party Group's proposals for the wards of Birkenhead & Tranmere, Prenton and Oxton. When we visited the area as part of our tour of the borough we

considered that the area to the south of Mersey Park had satisfactory links to Prenton across Church Road. However, having considered the further evidence received, we are satisfied that this area has strong links with the area to the north of Mersey Park and that these ties are stronger than those shared with Prenton. In particular, we note the shared schooling facilities at Mersey Park Primary School. We were also persuaded that, in order to provide for good electoral equality in Birkenhead & Tranmere ward, it is appropriate to transfer the area bounded by Balls Road East, the A552 Borough Road, Kingsland Road and Woodchurch Road into Oxton ward. This is based on the evidence that the A552 Borough Road provides a stronger ward boundary than Woodchurch Road.

50 On our tour of Wirral, we observed that the A552 constitutes a strong boundary in other parts of the borough, notably where, as a continuation of Woodchurch Road, it forms the boundary between Oxton and Prenton wards. We are also persuaded that it will provide a strong boundary between Birkenhead & Tranmere and Oxton wards.

51 Our final recommendations are for the three-councillor wards of Birkenhead & Tranmere, Bromborough & Port Sunlight, Oxton, Prenton and Rock Ferry & New Ferry. These wards will have electoral variances of 3%, -3%, 4%, -3% and 10% respectively by 2030.

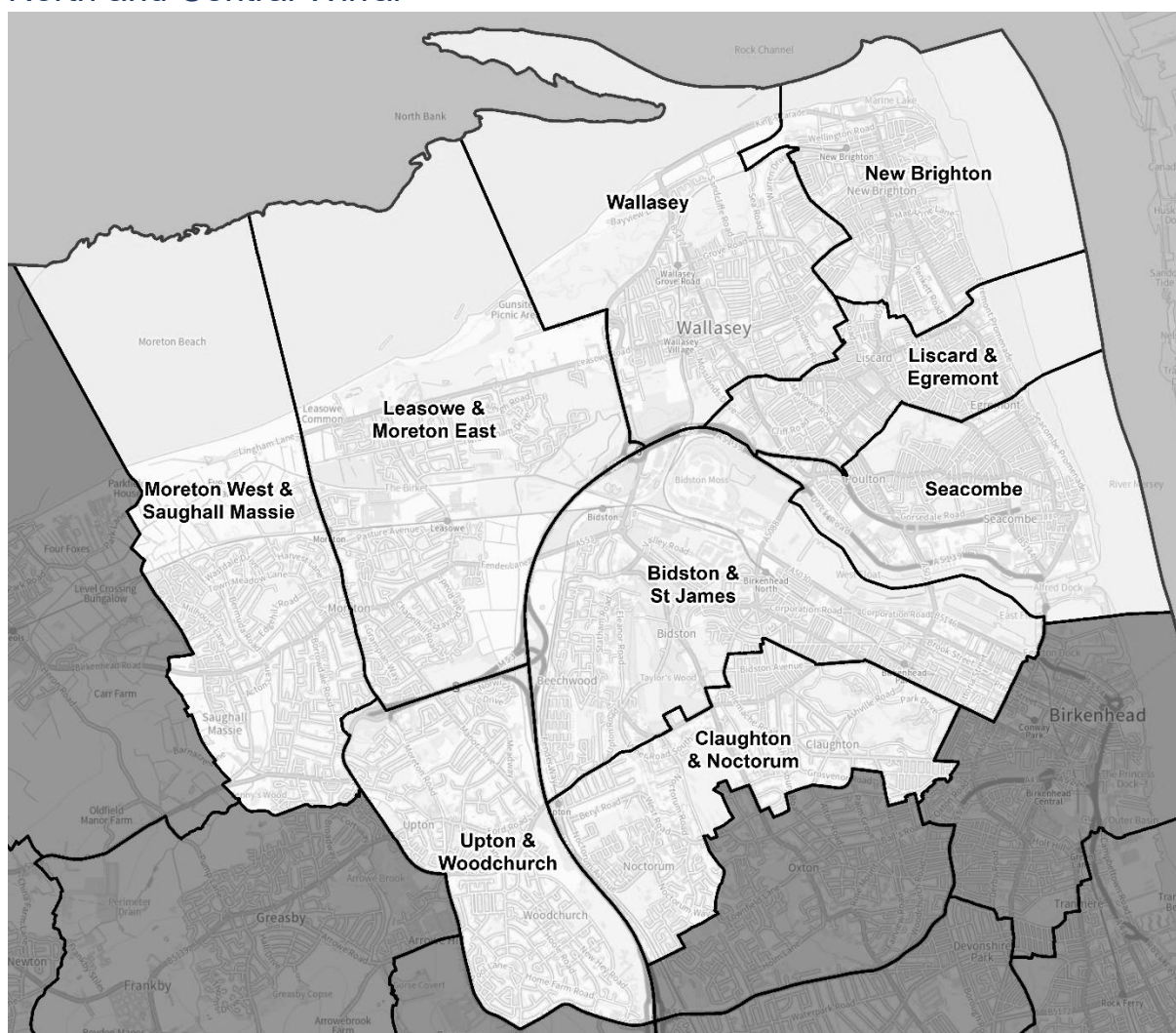
Bebington, Clatterbridge and Eastham

52 Our draft recommendations for these wards modified the existing warding pattern by moving the boundary between Bromborough and Clatterbridge wards from the railway line onto Dibbinsdale Brook. We made this change to ensure that the Spital community was no longer divided between wards.

53 In response to our draft recommendations, we received explicit support for this proposal from the Wirral Council Conservative Group, Councillors Cameron, Johnson, Jordan, Povall and Rennie, and a local resident. We received no other submissions for these three wards.

54 We have therefore decided to confirm our draft recommendations for these wards as final. The three-councillor wards of Bebington, Clatterbridge and Eastham are forecast to have electoral variances of 2%, 1% and -4% respectively by 2030.

North and Central Wirral



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Bidston & St James	3	1%
Claughton & Noctorum	3	-4%
Leasowe & Moreton East	3	0%
Liscard & Egremont	3	2%
Moreton West & Saughall Massie	3	-8%
New Brighton	3	-2%
Seacombe	3	2%
Upton & Woodchurch	3	5%
Wallasey	3	-1%

Whole area

55 In addition to the support for these wards from Wirral Council Conservative Group, the Liberal Democrat Group and a local councillor, we received eight submissions that mentioned one of these 10 wards. Councillor Johnson supported the proposed name changes for Claughton & Noctorum, Liscard & Egremont and

Upton & Woodchurch wards as being more reflective of the areas the wards cover. Councillors Baldwin, Bennett and Wilson supported the proposals for Moreton West & Saughall Massie ward.

56 Two local residents wrote regarding Bidston & St James ward. One stated that the name should be changed to Bidston & Birkenhead North while the other stated that the ward should be divided into two wards that covered Bidston and North Birkenhead. This submission did not propose any boundaries for these two wards.

57 Three local residents wrote regarding Liscard & Egremont and Wallasey wards, with two in favour of the draft recommendations. The other resident listed a number of streets off Mosslands Drive that they proposed should move from Liscard & Egremont ward to Wallasey ward.

58 A local resident wrote regarding Claughton & Noctorum ward and neighbouring Oxton ward. They proposed that each area should be covered by a two-councillor ward as they are distinct communities but did not provide an alternative warding pattern to support this assertion.

59 Another local resident wrote to suggest that their property, in a newly built small housing development, be moved out of the Woodchurch estate and into Upton.

60 We carefully considered all the submissions received for this area and propose to confirm our draft recommendations as final. We noted the support for these wards in a number of submissions received and concluded that insufficient evidence had been provided to justify any of the proposed changes made to us during consultation.

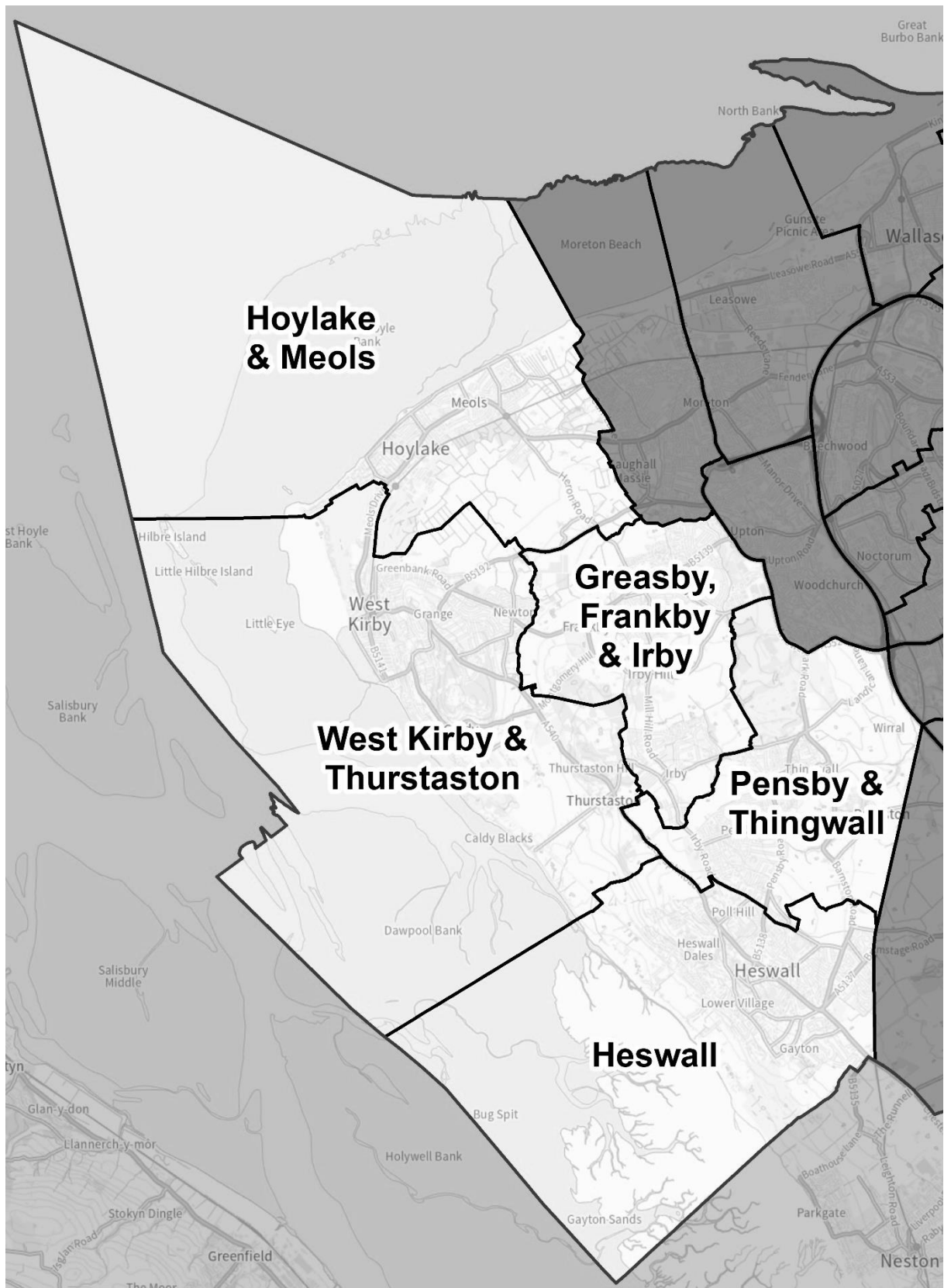
61 We have concluded that moving streets off Mosslands Drive from Liscard & Egremont to Wallasey ward would worsen electoral equality. In particular, we note that moving those streets to the west of Breck Road would result in variances of -12% in Liscard & Egremont ward and 12% in Wallasey ward. Given the evidence in support for our draft recommendations in other submissions and the electoral inequality that would result from this alternative proposal, we have decided not to adopt it as part of our final recommendations.

62 Similarly, we do not propose to adopt a revised warding pattern of three two-councillor wards for Claughton, Noctorum and Oxton given the lack of a specific alternative pattern being submitted during consultation. We do, however, propose to adopt a small change to Oxton ward, as discussed in paragraph 49. With regard to the comments from the resident on the new housing development in Woodchurch, we do not have the power to assign properties to different developments or change postcodes as the respondent requests. The development in question lies within the recognised boundaries of the Woodchurch area and we recommend that it remain in Upton & Woodchurch ward. Finally, we do not propose to change the name of

Bidston & St James ward as we did not consider that sufficient evidence has been submitted to justify the alternative names.

63 Our final recommendations are for the three-councillor wards of Bidston & St James, Cloughton & Noctorum, Leasowe & Moreton East, Liscard & Egremont, Moreton West & Saughall Massie, New Brighton, Seacombe, Upton & Woodchurch and Wallasey. All 10 wards will have good electoral equality with variances of 1%, -4%, 0%, 2%, -8%, -2%, 2%, 5% and -1% respectively by 2030.

West Wirral



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Greasby, Frankby & Irby	3	0%
Heswall	3	-6%
Hoylake & Meols	2	9%
Pensby & Thingwall	3	-11%
West Kirby & Thurstaston	3	7%

Greasby, Frankby & Irby, Heswall and Pensby & Thingwall

64 Other than the support for the draft recommendations from the Conservative and Liberal Democrat groups, we received no other comments regarding these three wards. As a consequence, we have decided to confirm our draft recommendations for these wards as final.

65 It should be noted that our recommendation to reduce the number of councillors in Wirral from 66 to 65 has the consequence of changing the electoral variances of otherwise unchanged wards. In the case of Pensby & Thingwall, under a 65-member council, this ward will have 11% fewer electors per councillor than the borough average by 2030. While this variance is relatively high, we have concluded that making changes to the ward boundary to reduce the electoral variance would not reflect established and ongoing community ties.

Hoylake & Meols and West Kirby & Thurstaston

66 A number of submissions received earlier in the process, including those from the Green Party Group, Liberal Democrat Group and several local residents stated that the division of West Kirby between wards was sub-optimal and asked that it be resolved. We considered a number of options as part of the draft recommendations including a proposal from the Green Party Group to provide for a single three-councillor ward for West Kirby.

67 However, we did not adopt this proposal in our draft recommendations due to the relatively high electoral variance in the proposed ward covering the Hoylake area. The proposal was that the area form a two-councillor ward which would contain 13% more electors per councillor than the average for Wirral by 2030.

68 In response to our draft recommendations, we received a revised proposal from the Green Party Group for Hoylake & Meols and West Kirby & Thurstaston wards. This proposal was again for a two-councillor ward for Hoylake & Meols as well as the transfer of Thurstaston village from West Kirby & Thurstaston ward to a renamed Heswall & Thurstaston ward. Further evidence was provided to justify uniting West Kirby in a single ward and reducing the overall number of councillors for Wirral to facilitate this change. We visited this area prior to agreeing our draft recommendations and acknowledged that the division of West Kirby between wards was not ideal and that it might not reflect the community ties in the town, However, at

that time we concluded that we were unable to recommend any of the initial proposals received. This was as a result of the poor electoral equality provided and the consequential impact on neighbouring wards. We decided to maintain the existing warding pattern in the area as part of our draft recommendations.

69 We have carefully considered the evidence received across both consultations and have concluded that sufficient evidence has been received to modify our recommendations. We consider that a warding pattern that provides for a three-councillor West Kirby & Thurstaston ward and a two-councillor Hoylake & Meols ward (while reducing the overall number of councillors for Wirral to 65) provides the best balance of our statutory criteria. We have therefore based our final recommendations on the wards proposed by the Green Party Group but have made some changes to provide what we consider to be more identifiable boundaries.

70 Our proposed boundary between Hoylake & Meols and West Kirby & Thurstaston wards follows the existing ward boundary until the Hoylake to West Kirby railway line where it runs north before following the rear of properties on Airlie Road, The King's Gap and Stanley Road. We do not propose to move Thurstaston village into a ward with Heswall and propose that it be located in West Kirby & Thurstaston ward. We therefore make no changes to the southern boundary with Heswall ward.

71 Our final recommendations for this area are for the three-councillor wards of Greasby, Frankby & Irby, Heswall, Pensby & Thingwall and West Kirby & Thurstaston and a two-councillor ward of Hoylake & Meols. We are satisfied that, unlike the proposals put forward in the initial round of consultation, our final recommendations both ensure West Kirby community is contained in a single ward and provide for electoral equality across the wider area.

72 These wards will have forecast electoral variances of 0%, -6%, -11%, 7% and 9% respectively by 2030.

Conclusions

73 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality in Wirral, referencing the 2025 and 2030 electorate figures against the proposed number of councillors and wards. A full list of wards, names and their corresponding electoral variances can be found in Appendix A to the back of this report. An outline map of the wards is provided in Appendix B.

Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2024	2030
Number of councillors	65	65
Number of electoral wards	22	22
Average number of electors per councillor	3,748	3,934
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	4	1
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

Final recommendations

Wirral should be made up of 65 councillors serving 22 wards: one two-councillor ward and 21 three-councillor wards. 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 wards for Wirral Council.

You can also view our final recommendations for Wirral on our interactive maps at www.lgbce.org.uk

What happens next?

74 We have now completed our review of Wirral. 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 local elections in 2027.

Equalities

75 The Commission is satisfied that it complies with its legal obligations under the Equality Act and that no adverse equality impacts will arise as a result of the outcome of the review.

Appendix A

Final recommendations for Wirral

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Bebington	3	11,776	3,925	5%	12,034	4,011	2%
2	Bidston & St James	3	10,782	3,594	-4%	11,912	3,971	1%
3	Birkenhead & Tranmere	3	9,671	3,224	-14%	12,196	4,065	3%
4	Bromborough & Port Sunlight	3	9,326	3,109	-17%	11,426	3,809	-3%
5	Clatterbridge	3	11,576	3,859	3%	11,953	3,984	1%
6	Claughton & Noctorum	3	11,076	3,692	-1%	11,325	3,775	-4%
7	Eastham	3	11,266	3,755	0%	11,355	3,785	-4%
8	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	3	11,536	3,845	3%	11,744	3,915	0%
9	Heswall	3	10,910	3,637	-3%	11,071	3,690	-6%
10	Hoylelake & Meols	2	8,401	4,201	12%	8,565	4,283	9%
11	Leasowe & Moreton East	3	11,152	3,717	-1%	11,753	3,918	0%
12	Liscard & Egremont	3	11,299	3,766	0%	11,980	3,993	2%

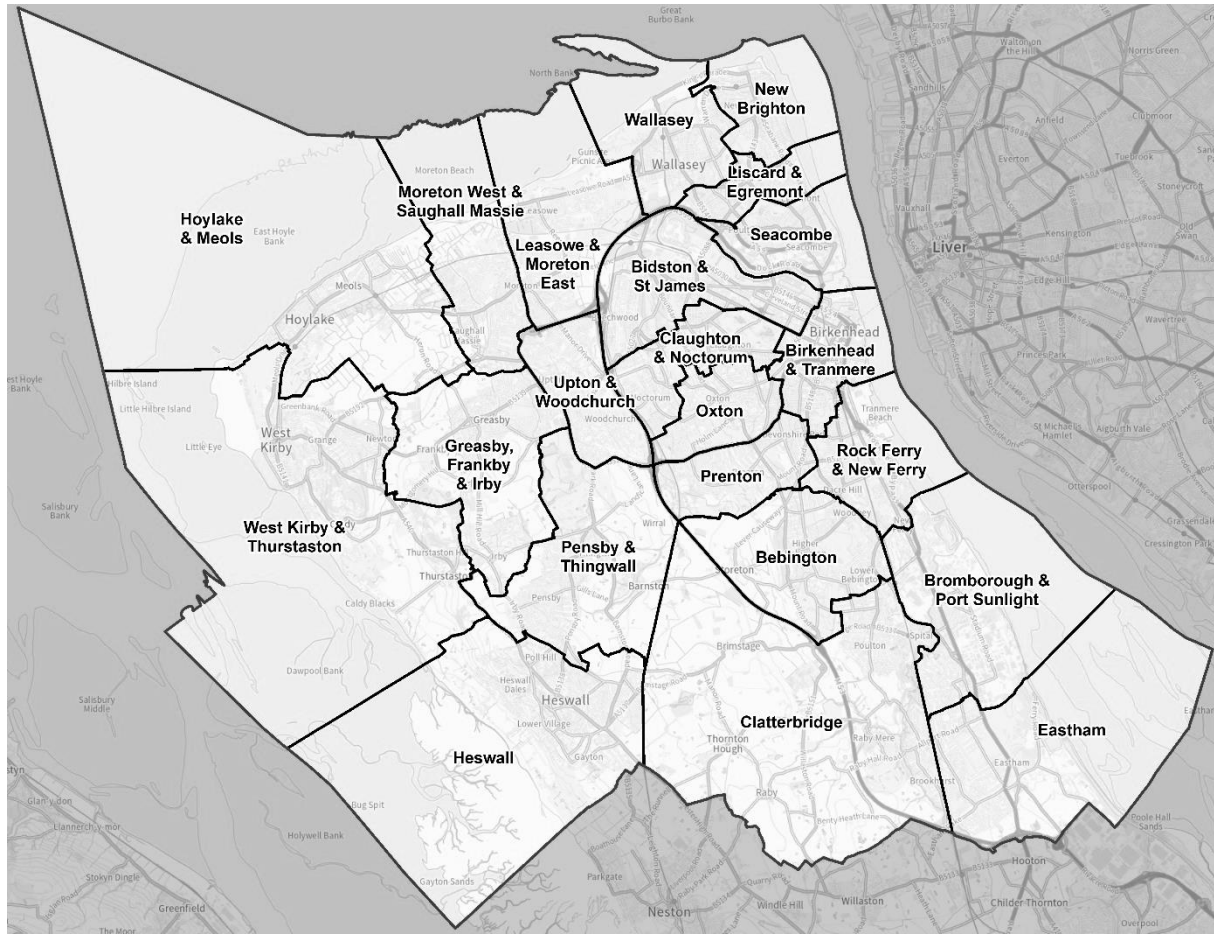
	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13	Moreton West & Saughall Massie	3	10,675	3,558	-5%	10,874	3,625	-8%
14	New Brighton	3	11,377	3,792	1%	11,575	3,858	-2%
15	Oxton	3	12,130	4,043	8%	12,256	4,085	4%
16	Pensby & Thingwall	3	10,371	3,457	-8%	10,541	3,514	-11%
17	Prenton	3	11,245	3,748	0%	11,418	3,806	-3%
18	Rock Ferry & New Ferry	3	12,499	4,166	11%	12,947	4,316	10%
19	Seacombe	3	10,384	3,461	-8%	12,035	4,012	2%
20	Upton & Woodchurch	3	12,257	4,086	9%	12,415	4,138	5%
21	Wallasey	3	11,542	3,847	3%	11,670	3,890	-1%
22	West Kirby & Thurstaston	3	12,363	4,121	10%	12,638	4,213	7%
Totals		65	243,614	–	–	255,683	–	–
Averages		–	–	3,748	–	–	3,934	–

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

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

Appendix B

Outline map



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/wirral

Appendix C

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at:

www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/wirral

Political Groups

- Wirral Council Conservative Group
- Wirral Council Green Party Group
- Wirral Council Liberal Democrat Group

Councillors

- Councillor C. Baldwin (Wirral Council)
- Councillor G. Bennett (Wirral Council)
- Councillor H. Cameron (Wirral Council)
- Councillor Dr J. Johnson (Wirral Council)
- Councillor M. Jordan (Wirral Council)
- Councillor C. Povall (Wirral Council)
- Councillor L. Rennie (Wirral Council)
- Councillor V. Wilson (Wirral Council)

Local organisations

- Magenta Living
- Save Our Social Housing

Local residents

- 32 local residents

Appendix D

Glossary and abbreviations

Council size	The number of councillors elected to serve on a council
Electoral Changes 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 www.nalc.gov.uk
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

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: AC 0000807452 2025

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

Telephone: 0330 500 1525

Email: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

Online: www.lgbce.org.uk

www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk

X: @LGBCE