

Cumberland

Personal Details:

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Organisation Name: Assistant Chief Executive, Cumberland Council (District or county officer)

Comment text:

Please see attached.

Attached Documents:

- additional-consultation-boundary-review---portfolio-holder-decision-form.docx
- boundary-january-2026.docx
- consultation-covering-letter-january-2026.docx

The Review Officer (Cumberland)
LGBCE
7th Floor
3 Bunhill Row
London
EC1Y 8YZ

26 January 2026

Via E-mail

To whom it may concern

Cumberland Council response to consultation

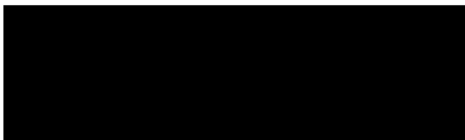
Please find attached to this email Cumberland Council's response to the LGBCE's consultation on draft recommendation for electoral arrangements in Cumberland.

Should you have any queries with this submission then please contact me using the details below:

Nik Hardy
Assistant Chief Executive
Nik.hardy@cumberland.gov.uk

We look forward to reviewing your proposal on the future warding pattern with interest.

Yours sincerely



Nik Hardy
Assistant Chief Executive



Cumberland Boundary Review

Response to the LGBCE Consultation

Draft Recommendations for Electoral Arrangements in Cumberland
January 2026

Cumberland Council

Boundary Review – January 2026

Multi member wards: we question the proposal to incorporate multi-member wards at this stage in the process. The proposals would create some very large urban geographies and if multi-member wards were an option earlier, there are other areas (Millom and Egremont for example) that would have benefited from that flexibility. This represents a significant change to the proposed warding patterns at a late stage.

Belle Vue & Sandsfield Park and Newtown & Raffles

If a multi member ward is to be considered, the obvious alignments would be to merge Belle Vue & Sandsfield Park with Newtown & Raffles into a Carlisle West ward, and Morton East and Morton West into a broader Morton ward. These larger multi-member wards would follow the flow of the main link roads out of the city, the A595 and the B5307, and surround their respective key services.

Considering them as single member wards, the creation of a Belle Vue & Sandsfield Park ward and a Newtown & Raffles ward better aligns with existing communities and reflects the historic outward expansion of the city, linking together communities that were built alongside each other.

Keeping the proposed boundary bordering Belle Vue Primary School does place a part of traditional Belle Vue into Newtown & Raffles, as referred to in paragraph 18, but we acknowledge the electoral equality reasons. Further there is not a corresponding section of streets we perceive to be less aligned to Belle Vue to propose any amendment.

Heysham Park is a long-established park, use of which is shared by both communities. The single connecting road within the Belle Vue & Sandsfield Park ward is not a locally recognised issue, there are sufficient local services either side of the park that serve their communities well, whilst it is a very well used connecting route for accessing the link road and navigating around Carlisle. Whilst the current boundaries are quite different across the Belle Vue and Yewdale wards, realistically within the geographical options available whilst balancing the statutory criteria, there is not an obvious alternative therefore we are content with these proposals.

We note the point in paragraph 25 about future boundary changes via a related alteration and will make the request when appropriate.

Botcherby, Harraby East, and Harraby West & Petteril Bank

Botcherby

Although the revised Botcherby boundary is smaller than guidance, we agree this version better reflects the Botcherby community and within the geographical restrictions across Cumberland it is inevitable that there are going to be anomalies.

Harraby East and Harraby West & Petteril Bank

We recognise that the revised boundary division along London Road is clearer, but in sectioning off Linden Terrace down to Lingmoor Way this revision sacrifices these streets for inclusion of the Malliclose Road end. From a community perspective these streets surrounding Inglewood Junior School host the local services, Central Avenue, that the Harraby East community looks to. Alongside the community centre they are the heart of 'new' Harraby and their exclusion, whilst including newer builds towards the eastern edge of the city, does not reflect the community.

Again, we note the comments at paragraph 37 and will consider requesting a related alternation order following any subsequent review.

Castle and Denton Holme

There are a small group of houses at Boustead's Grassing across the river from Denton Holme that have only footbridge access to Denton Holme, these houses would be better located in Castle ward as there is direct road access. Therefore, we'd propose using the river as the natural boundary for the east side of Denton Holme.

Kingstown & Crindledyke, Stanwix East & Houghton, and Stanwix West & Etterby

If a multi-member ward is to be considered, either proposal for a two or three member ward would equally represent the communities north of the river. There is good connectivity throughout with shared services and similar issues affecting residents.

Morton East and Morton West

We have no issues with the justification for decisions here.

St Aidan's

We remain of the view that the area is still commonly known as St Aidan's, but note the option to request a name change and it is something we can pick up as part of our community work for the future.

Workington

Workington Port and Workington Stainburn & St Joseph's

We are content with the revised proposals that they reflect a range of feedback, particularly from the community. The proposal to shift the boundary between Workington Stainburn & St Joseph's and Moorclose to unite the shopping centre in a single ward is pragmatic and enables issues in the area to have a single representative on the council.

We recognise that St John's is a historical ward name covering a part of this area of Workington and may be more recognised than St Joseph's, but we would be content to allow the community to provide their steer.

Rural Central Cumberland

The proposals contain some significant changes, but there is strong reasoning from many sections of the community, and we feel it is important that such large rural wards have strong links to avoid them lacking community connection. We are content to support the community view here.



Portfolio Holder Non Key Decision Notice

Date Decision to be taken: 26th January 2026

Public/Private – Public

Portfolio – Leader of the Council

Ward – All wards in Cumberland

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Business and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Directorate – Assistant Chief Executive

Details of Dispensation Granted – N/A

1. Decision Taken

That the Leader of the Council submits a response on behalf of the Council to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England public consultation on warding arrangements in Cumberland. The response is attached as Appendix A to this report.

2. Reason for Decision

When the Councils in Cumbria embarked on Local Government Reorganisation the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) was asked to undertake a review of electoral arrangements before the elections to be held in 2027.

The first stage of review process was to establish the number of councillors on Cumberland Council. After a public consultation the LGBCE determined that Cumberland Council would be represented by 55 Councillors from the elections in 2027.

The second stage of the electoral review process sought to establish the warding patterns for Cumberland Council based on 55 Councillors. This element of the review sought to ensure that each local councillor represents about the same number of electors, and that the wards they represent reflect community identities.

The LGBCE launched the public consultation on communities in November 2024 and it closed on 24 February 2025.

Further to this consultation the LGBCE published a further period of consultation on warding patters in Cumberland having proposed some amendments to their original proposals. This period of consultation run from 2nd December until 26th January 2026.

3. Summary of options rejected

The Leader of the Council may have chosen not to submit a response from the Council or could have submitted alternate views on wards and names of wards.

4. Risks

The decision to submit a response to the consultation is not considered to bring a significant risk that would not need to be considered as part of this report.

5. Consultation

In keeping with previous responses to the LGBCE, no consensus on the council response was forthcoming and the submission to the LGBCE therefore reflects the view of the ruling group.

Appendix A – Response to the LGBCE Consultation on Revised Proposals in Cumberland 2026

Signed:

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Mark Fryer.

Mark Fryer
Leader
Cumberland Council

26 January 2026