

# New electoral arrangements for Knowsley Council Draft Recommendations

June 2026



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### **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.

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# 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:

- Bev Smith (Chair)
- Andrew Scallan CBE (Deputy Chair)
- Dame Gillian Guy
- Wallace Sampson OBE
- Liz Treacy
- Janet Waggott
- 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 there should be, where their boundaries are and what they should be called.
- How many councillors should represent each ward.

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.

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

6 More details 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](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

## Why Knowsley?

7 We are conducting a review of Knowsley Council ('the Council') as its last review was completed in 2016, and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.<sup>2</sup> 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 Knowsley 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 Knowsley

9 Knowsley should be represented by 45 councillors, the same number as there are now.

10 Knowsley should have 15 wards, the same number as there are now.

11 The boundaries of eight wards should change; seven will stay the same.

## How will the recommendations affect you?

12 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.

13 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.

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

## Have your say

14 We will consult on the draft recommendations for a 10-week period, from 30 June 2026 to 7 September 2026. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to comment on these proposed wards as the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be in making our final recommendations.

15 We ask everyone wishing to contribute ideas for the new wards to first read this report and look at the accompanying map before responding to us.

16 You have until 7 September 2026 to have your say on the draft recommendations. See page 23 for how to send us your response.

## Review timetable

17 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Knowsley. We then held a period of consultation with the public on warding patterns for the borough. The submissions received during consultation have informed our draft recommendations.

18 The review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
21 October 2025	Number of councillors decided
25 November 2025	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
16 February 2026	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
30 June 2026	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
7 September 2026	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
1 December 2026	Publication of final recommendations



## Analysis and draft recommendations

19 Legislation<sup>3</sup> states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors<sup>4</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 wards.

20 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.

21 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.

	2025	2031
Electorate of Knowsley	121,560	127,991
Number of councillors	45	45
Average number of electors per councillor	2,701	2,844

22 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 of our proposed wards for Knowsley are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2031.

## Submissions received

23 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

24 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2031, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2026. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 5% by 2031.

25 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 draft recommendations.

<sup>3</sup> Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

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

26 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

27 Knowsley Council currently has 45 councillors. We looked at evidence provided by the Council and concluded that keeping this number the same will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

28 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 45 councillors. As Knowsley Borough Council elects by thirds (meaning it has elections in three out of every four years), there is a presumption in legislation<sup>5</sup> that the Council have a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards. In each review of local authorities that elect by thirds, we will aim to deliver a pattern of three-member wards. However, in all cases this consideration will not take precedence over our other statutory criteria, and we will not recommend uniform patterns in the number of councillors per ward or division if, in our view or as is shown in evidence provided to us, it is not compatible with our other statutory criteria.

29 We received two submissions from local residents about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on ward patterns. Both argued for a reduction in the proposed number of councillors. One suggested that there should be no more than 20 councillors in Knowsley, while the other proposed 10 councillors for the Council. However, neither of them provided any evidence of how the Council would carry out its duties with these significantly reduced councillor numbers.

30 Accordingly, we were not persuaded by these submissions and have therefore based our draft recommendations on a 45-member council.

## Ward boundaries consultation

31 We received 26 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included one borough-wide proposal from the Council. We also received a submission from the Knowsley Chamber of Commerce expressing support for the Council's proposals. The remainder of the submissions were from a parish councillor and residents and provided localised comments on specific areas of the borough.

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<sup>5</sup> Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 2(3)(d) and paragraph 2(5)(c).

32 Several submissions included comments about the Council's services but did not link this to what a future warding pattern should be. In any case, Council services are outside the scope of any electoral review, and so these comments have not been taken into consideration.

33 A resident commented that Huyton had more councillors than Kirkby and felt that this was unfair. The number of councillors for any area of the borough is determined by the size of the electorate for that area. As Huyton has more electors than Kirkby, it will have more councillors.

34 The Council's borough-wide scheme provided a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards for Knowsley and the proposed pattern of wards resulted in good levels of electoral equality in all areas of the authority. It is based on the existing wards with modifications to improve the electoral equality of some of the wards.

35 Our draft recommendations are based on the borough-wide scheme. We note that, aside from the Council's proposals, we received limited community evidence across Knowsley. Where we have received evidence of communities we have taken these into account. In some areas we considered that the proposal from the Council did not provide for the best balance between our statutory criteria and so we identified alternative boundaries.

36 We conducted a virtual tour of the area to look at the proposed boundaries. This tour of Knowsley helped us in putting together the draft recommendations. Once this consultation is completed, we intend to visit Knowsley in person to carry out another tour prior to the publication of final recommendations.

## Draft recommendations

37 Our draft recommendations are for 15 three-councillor wards. We consider that our draft recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

38 The tables and maps on pages 9–20 detail our draft recommendations for each area of Knowsley. They detail how the proposed warding 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.

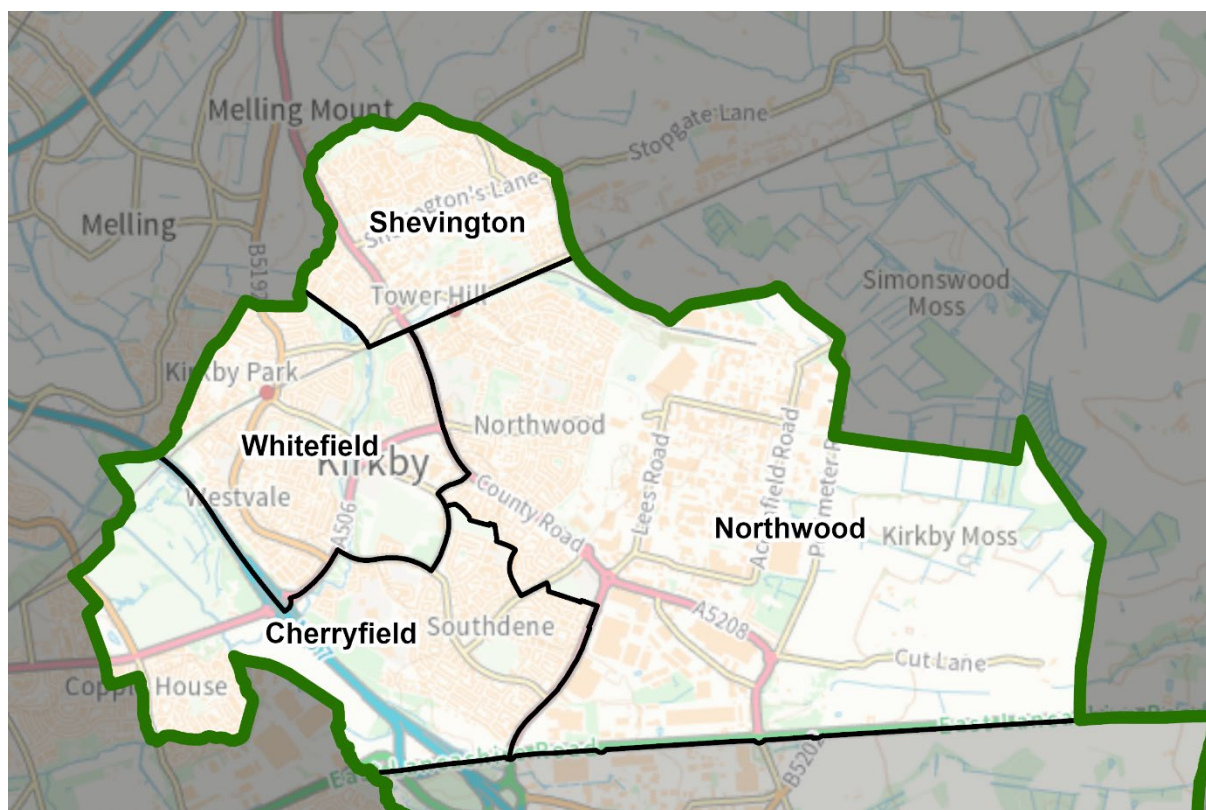
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<sup>6</sup> Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

39 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 29 and on the large map accompanying this report.

40 We welcome all comments on these draft recommendations, particularly on the location of the ward boundaries, and the names of our proposed wards.

## Kirkby



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2031
Cherryfield	3	9%
Northwood	3	0%
Shevington	3	1%
Whitefield	3	0%

### *Cherryfield and Northwood*

41 The Council's proposal was the only one we received for this area. It proposed a modification to the boundary between these two wards to improve the forecast electoral variance of Northwood ward.

42 The Council stated that the existing Northwood ward is based around the Northwood community but also included a northeastern section of the Southdene neighbourhood. It said that residents south of Britonside Avenue in particular identified as part of Southdene neighbourhood which 'is more naturally aligned with Cherryfield ward'.

43 We conducted a virtual tour of this area. We were not persuaded that it was just those south of Britonside Avenue that would identify as part of the Southdene community in that area. In our view, the community appears to extend across Britonside Avenue, including the roads coming off it. We considered that using it as a

boundary could split that community. Instead, we considered that Lindby Road and the playing field to its north would form a stronger boundary.

44 Accordingly, we have modified the Council's proposal by moving its proposed boundary on Britonside Avenue to run along Lindby Road, the northern section of Pinfold Crescent and a short section of Broad Lane. While we recognise that this provides a slightly lower level of electoral equality, we consider our modification a better reflection of community identity.

45 Cherryfield and Northwood wards are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2031.

### *Shevington and Whitefield*

46 The Council proposed retaining the existing two wards in this area.

47 Its submission explained that the existing Shevington ward is surrounded on three sides by Simonswood Brook and rural space, with the southern boundary bounded by a railway line. It considered that this existing ward is based around the Tower Hill community and should be retained.

48 The Council also told us that the existing Whitefield ward is based around the Westvale community.

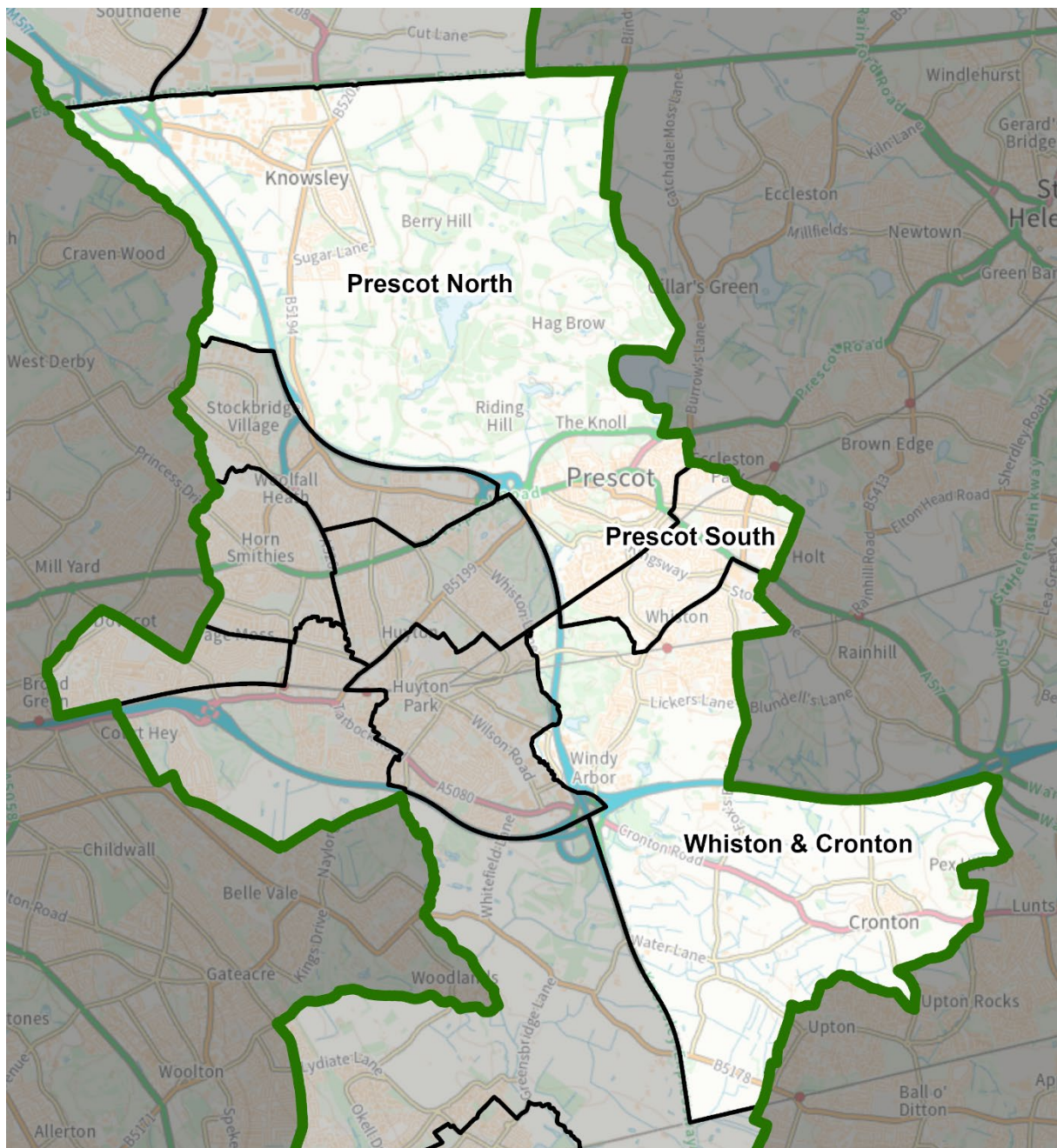
49 We note that a significant part of Shevington ward is bounded by the borough boundary. Simonswood Brook and a railway line form the rest of the boundary. These are all strong, identifiable and logical boundaries. Similarly, Whitefield is mostly bounded by the borough boundary, the M57 and the A5208. We consider these strong boundaries.

50 We noted that Meadowbarn Close, Pondwater Close and Whinberry Drive (off Bewley Drive) seem isolated from the rest of Whitefield ward and we considered whether to move them into Cherryfield ward instead. However, on our virtual tour of the area we noted that Meadowbarn Close and Pondwater Close do not have direct vehicular access to Bewley Drive and that there were barriers separating them from the other side of that road. Furthermore, we noted that there are housing developments planned to the north of these roads which will bring them closer to the rest of Whitefield ward.

51 In view of this, we are content to retain the existing boundary along Bewley Drive and adopt the existing wards as part of our draft recommendations.

52 Shevington and Whitefield wards are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2031.

## Prescot and Whiston & Cronton



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2031
Prescot North	3	-2%
Prescot South	3	4%
Whiston & Cronton	3	1%

### *Prescot North and Prescot South*

53 The Council's proposal for Prescot was the only one we received about the ward boundaries in this area.

54 We received a submission from a resident about the frequency of trains and council services in the area. Those are issues for the relevant train company and Knowsley Council respectively, and outside the scope of an electoral review.

55 The Council's submission proposed a modification to the boundary between the existing Prescott North and Prescott South wards to improve the forecast electoral equality of Prescott North ward. It proposed moving the boundary from the railway line and east of Coniston Avenue to run along a short stretch of Warrington Road (A57) and St James Road. We note that this means that the proposed Prescott South ward would extend across the railway line much more than before. The Council pointed out that there were three places where residents could cross the railway line in this area.

56 We conducted a virtual tour of the area. We noted that St James Road is in a built-up area which can make it challenging to identify with clarity where communities are. However, it is an identifiable boundary. We noted that along a section of the road the houses on opposite sides of the road do not face each other directly.

57 Furthermore, we confirmed that, under the Council's proposals, the area between St James Road and the railway line would not be cut off from the rest of Prescott South ward because of the crossings on Old Lane, Scotchbarn Lane and Warrington Road. In each case the railway line is in a cutting and therefore does not impede the flow of community across either side of the track.

58 We also noted that, unlike at present where residents of Alder Close and a few houses on Old Lane are the only ones north of the railway line included in the southern ward, the proposed arrangements place these residents and their neighbours in adjacent roads in the same borough ward.

59 We note the Council's view that residents of both Prescott North and Prescott South borough wards are 'happy to use services' across both areas. After careful consideration, on balance, we are content to adopt the Council's proposals as part of our draft recommendations.

60 We invite comments on these wards, having regard to our statutory criteria, from residents and community organisations in the area.

61 Prescott North and Prescott South wards are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2031.

### *Whiston & Cronton*

62 In addition to the Council's submission, we received one from a resident.

63 The Council proposed retaining the existing Whiston & Cronton ward. The resident asked why Whiston was linked with Cronton especially since their postal address was 'Whiston, Prescot not Whiston, Cronton'.

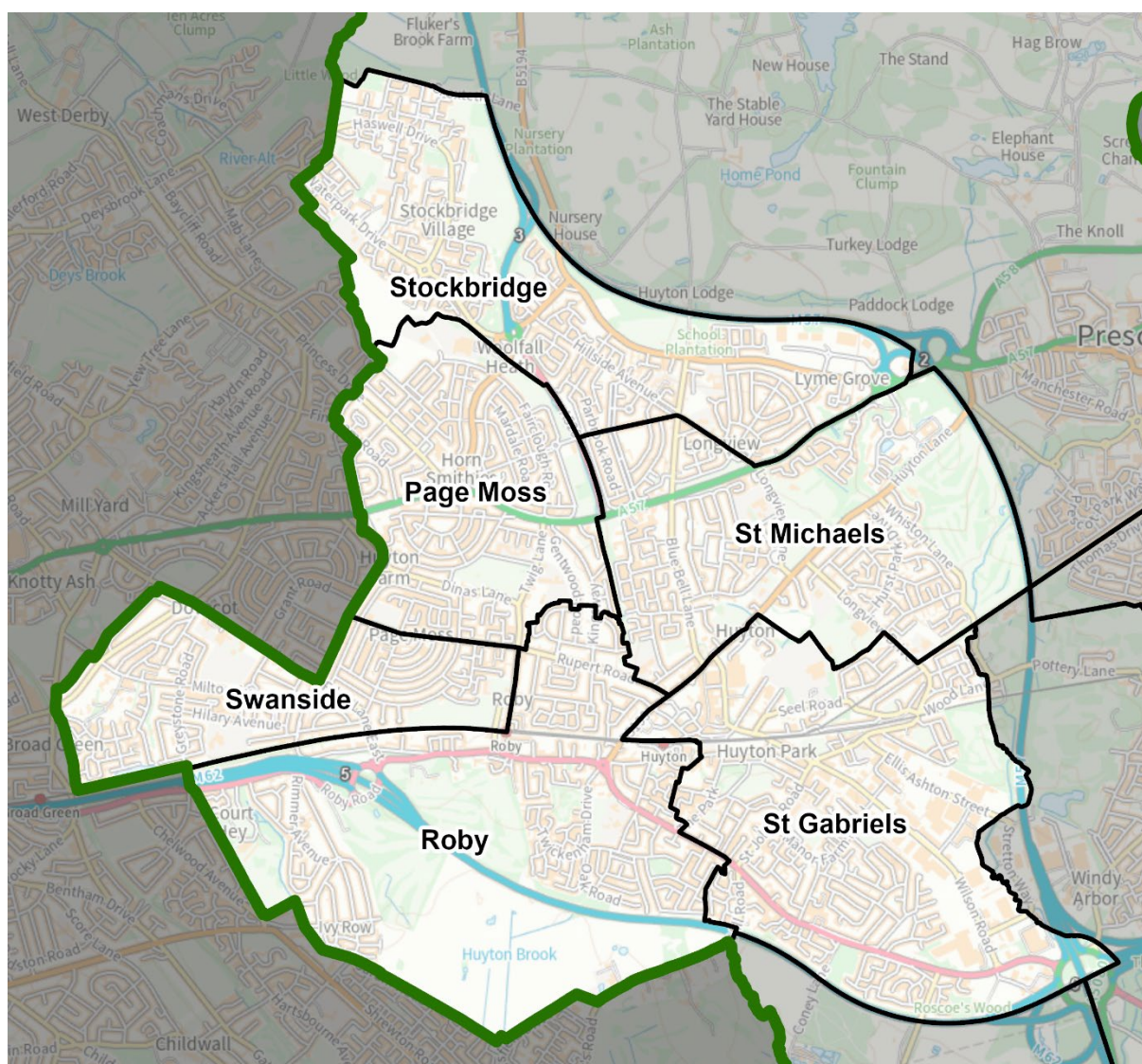
64 The Council noted that this existing ward is bounded by the borough boundary to the east, mostly the A5300 to the west, a railway line to the south and Dragon Lane and Stadt Moers Park to the north. It stated that Dragon Lane was a main arterial route. It also pointed out that there were two distinct communities, Whiston and Cronton, within the ward.

65 We agree that the existing ward boundaries are strong. These include the parish boundaries in places as well as the borough boundary, major roads and a railway line. We note the ward is also forecast to have good electoral equality.

66 Regarding the resident's question about including Cronton parish in a borough ward with Whiston, it might help to explain that electoral wards and postal addresses serve different purposes. A postal address is used for mail delivery while an electoral ward is a geographical boundary used for local government elections to elect councillors. Electoral wards do not change or affect postal addresses.

67 We are content to adopt the Council's proposal to retain the existing boundaries as part of our draft recommendations. Whiston & Cronton ward is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2031.

## Huyton



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2031
Page Moss	3	-3%
Roby	3	-5%
St Gabriels	3	-5%
St Michaels	3	-7%
Stockbridge	3	5%
Swanside	3	-6%

### *Page Moss, Roby, St Gabriels and St Michaels*

68 The Council's proposal was the only one we received about the boundaries of wards in this part of Huyton.

69 It proposed several modifications and consequential changes to improve the forecast electoral equality in St Gabriels and St Michaels wards. To achieve good

electoral equality, in St Michaels ward in particular, the Council's proposals involved moving an area between Archway Road and Derby Road, and the roads off Wheat Hill Road from Roby ward, into St Gabriels ward. It also moved an area around Cassino Road, between Rupert Road, Salerno Drive and Archway Road, from Roby into St Michaels ward.

70 To compensate for the areas moved out of Roby ward, the Council proposed moving the Coral Avenue and Crosswood Crescent area from Page Moss ward into Roby ward. As a result of this, Roby ward would extend across Rupert Road between Church Road and Huyton with Roby Church of England Primary School. This modification also placed the southern ends of Gentwood Road and Kingsway in Roby ward. The Council explains that this modification is necessary to address the electoral variations in the neighbouring wards.

71 We conducted a virtual tour of the Council's proposed boundaries. We observed the strength of Archway Road as a boundary between Blue Bell Lane and the railway line to the south. Furthermore, we noted that the Council's proposal unites the businesses on both sides of Derby Road in St Gabriels ward.

72 We noted that moving the Cassino Road area into St Michaels ward unites Blue Bell Lane in that ward. With regards to Rupert Road, we note that the proposed Roby ward crosses it where the houses face each other and residents are likely to share community and issues.

73 We looked at the newly proposed boundary that ran from Rupert Road along Church Road up to the junction with Dinas Lane and Twig Lane. We considered that, although identifiable, using this road as a boundary would separate close neighbours both on the other side of this stretch of Church Road but also adjacent ones on Twig Lane. We noted their proximity to Jubilee Park, an amenity which the Council says is important to Page Moss residents.

74 After careful consideration, we acknowledge that these amendments are necessary to create wards which take account of our statutory criteria. We understand why the Council has suggested several amendments to address the poor forecast electoral equality in St Micheals ward. The boundary between Page Moss ward and St Michaels ward consisting of the River Alt and the A526 (Seth Powell Way) is strong. Therefore, it would be less ideal to create a ward that crosses it.

75 Accordingly, we have been persuaded to adopt the Council's proposed wards as part of our draft recommendations, with a modification to the proposed boundary between Roby and Page Moss wards on Church Road.

76 We propose to run the boundary behind the properties on the east side of Church Road thereby uniting that section of Church Road together with residents of

Dinas Lane and Twig Lane in Page Moss ward. This also keeps them in a ward with Jubilee Park.

77 We considered the option of retaining the Council's boundary along Church Road but also including houses 67 to 87 Twig Lane in Roby ward. However, we determined that uniting that section of Church Road in the same ward was a better balance of our statutory criteria, although we would welcome comments on this alternative proposal.

78 Page Moss, Roby, St Gabriels and St Michaels wards are all forecast to have good electoral equality by 2031.

### *Stockbridge*

79 The Council proposed retaining the boundaries of the existing Stockbridge ward. It cited the strong physical boundary around much of the ward i.e., the M57, Liverpool Road (A57), 'some rural space' and the River Alt. It also stated that the ward included Stockbridge Village, the Hillside development area and the community around the Knowsley Lane Primary school and shops.

80 We received two submissions from residents in addition to the Council's submission. One resident expressed support for the retention of the existing ward. The other resident pointed out that the end of Pennard Avenue where they lived was in a different 'area' from '90%' of the rest of the street, and that this did not facilitate or help the community.

81 We note that Pennard Avenue is split across two existing borough wards by Woolfall Heath Avenue, with numbers 104 to 175 Pennard Avenue in Stockbridge ward and numbers 1 to 103 in St Michaels ward to the south. On our virtual tour of the area, we noted that Woolfall Heath Avenue is an identifiable and logical boundary between the two wards. It is a significant road and there are bollards at the junction on one side of Pennard Avenue which prevent direct access between the two 'halves' of Pennard Avenue.

82 Accordingly, we have been persuaded of the strength of Woolfall Heath Avenue as a boundary and are content to retain it. We note the other strong and identifiable boundaries in the ward as detailed by the Council.

83 After careful consideration, we are content to retain the existing ward as part of our draft recommendations, as proposed by the Council. Stockbridge ward is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2031.

84 At the same time, we note that numbers 165 to 175 Pennard Avenue are in Knowsley parish while the rest of the road is in an unparished area of the borough, which may be what the resident is referring to. We also note that the parish boundary

in this area is defaced and bisects several properties. However, we are unable to modify parish boundaries. This is the responsibility of Knowsley Borough Council who would be able to make such changes by way of a Community Governance Review.

### *Swanside*

85 For this area, we received two submissions in addition to the Council's submission. Both were from residents who advocated for specific areas of the ward to be moved from Knowsley Borough into Liverpool City. This is an electoral review which is concerned with Knowsley's internal ward boundaries. The external boundaries between Knowsley and any other neighbouring local authorities are outside the scope of this review.

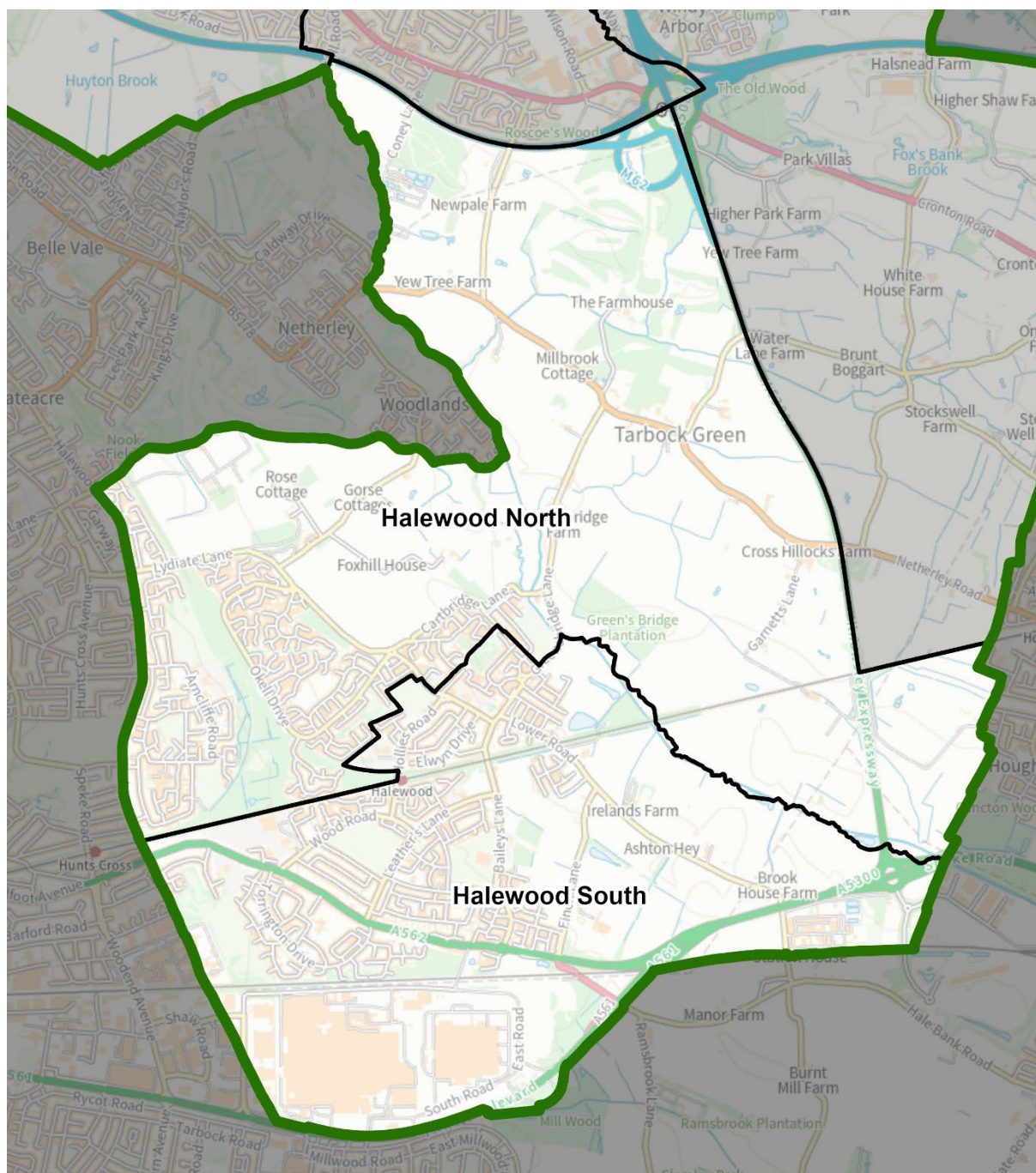
86 The Council proposed the retention of the existing boundaries of Swanside ward. It stated that this ward's boundaries have given the communities within it their own identity.

87 We note that, as listed by the Council in their submission, the ward is bounded by the borough boundary, a railway line and major roads. We consider these strong and identifiable boundaries. We also note that the ward is forecast to have good electoral equality.

88 Accordingly, we are content to adopt the Council's proposal to retain the existing ward as part of our draft recommendations. We welcome comments on this from the community in this area.

89 Swanside ward is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2031.

## Halewood



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2031
Halewood North	3	1%
Halewood South	3	7%

### *Halewood North and Halewood South*

90 We received seven submissions about Halewood in addition to the Council's borough-wide proposal. These were from Councillor Hamilton and residents.

91 The Council proposed retaining the existing wards in Halewood. It said that Halewood is a defined community and residents move around the area to use different facilities.

92 Councillor Hamilton advocated for either an additional ward in Halewood or a modification of the boundaries between Halewood North and Halewood South to 'bring parity between the two' wards. He was of the view that this was needed because of the scale of housing development in the area which would lead to a significant increase in the number of residents in wards which he considers have some of the highest electorates in the borough.

93 One resident advocated for any new ward boundaries to 'reflect a socioeconomic demographic balance'.

94 We considered the submissions we received very carefully. With regards to the number of wards, based on the size of the forecast electorate, Halewood is entitled to six councillors.

95 With regards to the relative size of the electorate in each of the two wards, we note that while it is true that Halewood South ward is forecast to have approximately 450 more electors than Halewood North by 2031, with variances of 7% and 1% respectively, both wards are forecast to have what we consider to be good electoral equality. Nevertheless, we considered moving the boundary between the wards to run along the railway line up to the parish boundary. However, this produced a Halewood North ward forecast to have 22% more electors and a Halewood South forecast to have 14% fewer electors than the average for Knowsley by 2031. We consider that these variances represent very poor electoral equality and we were not persuaded to change the boundary.

96 Instead, we are content to retain the existing wards as part of our draft recommendations. We note that there are three crossings, at Baileys Lane, Hollies Road and Lower Road, where the existing Halewood South ward extends across the railway line.

97 Halewood North and Halewood South wards are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2031.

98 A resident requested that their 'area' be merged 'with HA3'. The resident expressed the view that the amenities used by residents in their area were all located in HA3, and that they had no connection with Tarbock. HA3 is a polling district which includes Tarbock Green and the resident lives in polling district HA3A. Polling districts are geographic areas created by local authorities to administer elections. We are unable to create or modify polling districts. That is matter for Knowsley Borough Council. However, we note that both polling districts HA3 and

HA3A are located within Halewood North borough ward which reflects the shared community amenities mentioned by the resident.

99 Three residents raised issues about council services which are outside our remit and a matter for Knowsley Borough Council. Another resident suggested a change in the external boundary of Knowsley as they felt that Halewood should be included in Liverpool City Council area. This is also outside the scope of this electoral review which is about Knowsley's internal electoral ward boundaries and their names.

## Conclusions

100 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality in Knowsley, referencing the 2025 and 2031 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

	Draft recommendations	
	2025	2031
Number of councillors	45	45
Number of electoral wards	15	15
Average number of electors per councillor	2,701	2,844
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	0	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

#### Draft recommendations

Knowsley Borough Council should be made up of 45 councillors representing 15 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 Knowsley Borough Council. You can also view our draft recommendations for Knowsley Borough Council on our interactive maps at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

### Parish electoral arrangements

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

102 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, Knowsley Borough 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.

103 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 Prescott parish.

104 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Prescott parish.

#### Draft recommendations

Prescot Town Council should comprise 12 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Prescot North	7
Prescot South	5

## Have your say

105 The Commission has an open mind about its draft recommendations. Every representation we receive will be considered, regardless of who it is from or whether it relates to the whole borough or just a part of it.

106 If you agree with our recommendations, please let us know. If you don't think our recommendations are right for Knowsley, we want to hear alternative proposals for a different pattern of wards.

107 Our website is the best way to keep up to date with progress on the review and to have your say [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

108 Each review has its own page with details of the timetable for the review, information about its different stages and interactive mapping.

109 Submissions can also be made by emailing [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk) or by writing to:

**Review Officer (Knowsley)**  
**LGBCE**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**3 Bunhill Row**  
**London**  
**EC1Y 8YZ**

110 The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for Knowsley Council which delivers:

- Electoral equality: each local councillor represents a similar number of electors.
- Community identity: reflects the identity and interests of local communities.
- Effective and convenient local government: helping your council discharge its responsibilities effectively.

111 A good pattern of wards should:

- Provide good electoral equality, with each councillor representing, as closely as possible, the same number of electors.
- Reflect community interests and identities and include evidence of community links.
- Be based on strong, easily identifiable boundaries.
- Help the council deliver effective and convenient local government.

112 Electoral equality:

- Does your proposal mean that councillors would represent roughly the same number of electors as elsewhere in Knowsley?

113 Community identity:

- Community groups: is there a parish council, residents' association or other group that represents the area?
- Interests: what issues bind the community together or separate it from other parts of your area?
- Identifiable boundaries: are there natural or constructed features which make strong boundaries for your proposals?

114 Effective local government:

- Are any of the proposed wards too large or small to be represented effectively?
- Are the proposed names of the wards appropriate?
- Are there good links across your proposed wards? Is there any form of public transport?

115 Please note that the consultation stages of an electoral review are public consultations. In the interests of openness and transparency, we make available for public inspection full copies of all representations the Commission takes into account as part of a review. Accordingly, copies of all representations will be placed on deposit at our offices and on our website at [www.lqbce.org.uk](http://www.lqbce.org.uk) A list of respondents will be available from us on request after the end of the consultation period.

116 If you are a member of the public and not writing on behalf of a council or organisation we will remove any personal identifiers. This includes your name, postal or email addresses, signatures or phone numbers from your submission before it is made public. We will remove signatures from all letters, no matter who they are from.

117 In the light of representations received, we will review our draft recommendations and consider whether they should be altered. As indicated earlier, it is therefore important that all interested parties let us have their views and evidence, **whether or not** they agree with the draft recommendations. We will then publish our final recommendations.

118 After the publication of our final recommendations, the changes we have proposed must be approved by Parliament. An Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in draft in Parliament. The draft

Order will provide for new electoral arrangements to be implemented at the all-out elections for Knowsley Council in 2028.



## Equalities

119 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.

# Appendices

## Appendix A

### Draft recommendations for Knowsley Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2025)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2031)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Cherryfield	3	8,752	2,917	8%	9,298	3,099	9%
2	Halewood North	3	8,141	2,714	0%	8,656	2,885	1%
3	Halewood South	3	8,737	2,912	8%	9,104	3,035	7%
4	Northwood	3	8,054	2,685	-1%	8,530	2,843	0%
5	Page Moss	3	8,132	2,711	0%	8,293	2,764	-3%
6	Prescott North	3	8,227	2,742	2%	8,387	2,796	-2%
7	Prescot South	3	8,368	2,789	3%	8,858	2,953	4%
8	Roby	3	7,763	2,588	-4%	8,120	2,707	-5%
9	Shevington	3	8,185	2,728	1%	8,601	2,867	1%
10	St Gabriels	3	7,575	2,525	-7%	8,093	2,698	-5%
11	St Michaels	3	7,434	2,478	-8%	7,941	2,647	-7%
12	Stockbridge	3	8,780	2,927	8%	8,965	2,988	5%

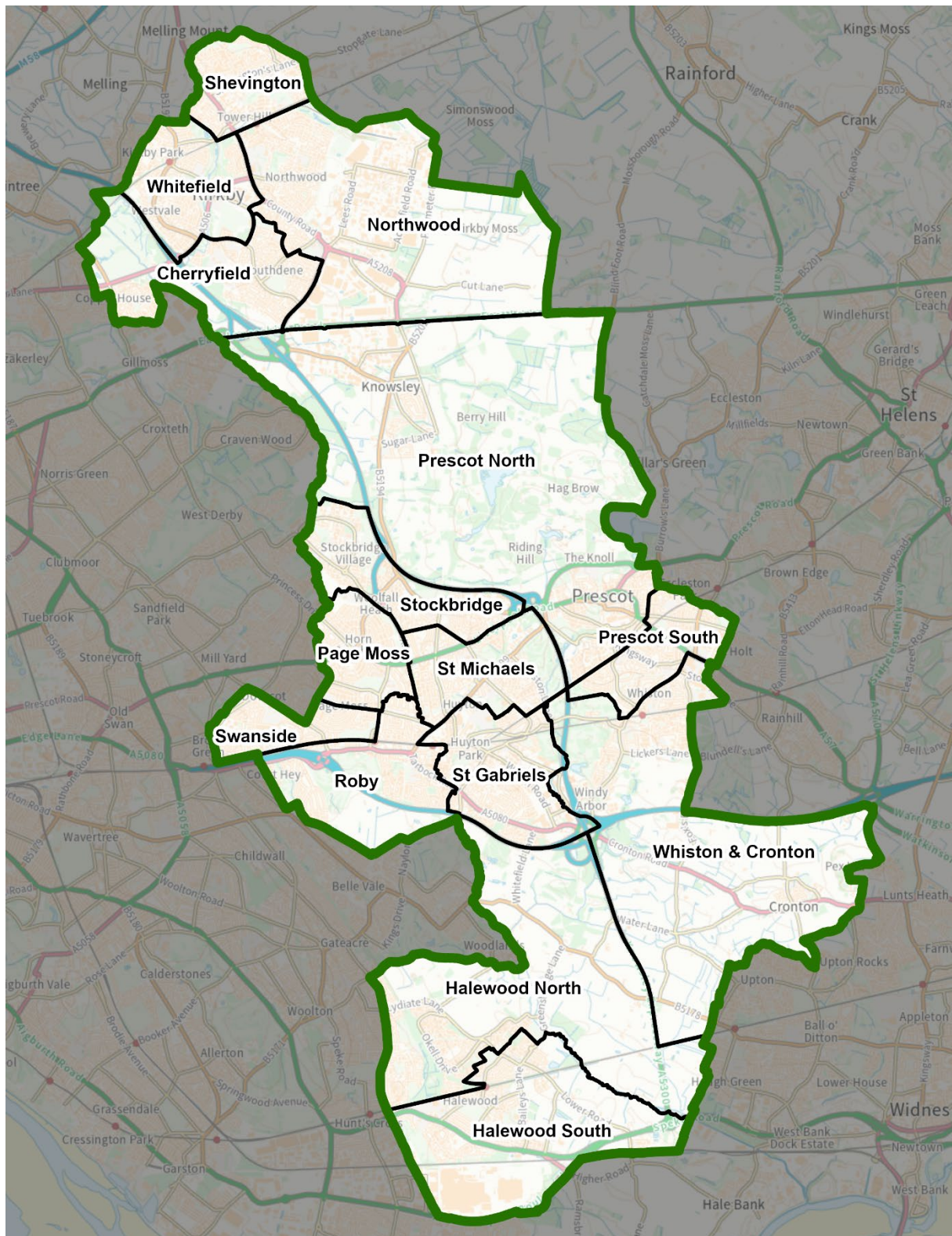
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2025)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2031)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13 Swanside	3	7,550	2,517	-7%	7,987	2,662	-6%
14 Whiston & Cronton	3	7,808	2,603	-4%	8,655	2,885	1%
15 Whitefield	3	8,054	2,685	-1%	8,503	2,834	0%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>121,560</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>127,991</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Averages</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2,701</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2,844</b>	<b>–</b>

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Knowsley 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/knowsley](http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/knowsley)



## Appendix C

### Submissions received

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

#### *Local Authority*

- Knowsley Borough Council

#### *Councillors*

- Councillor I. Hamilton (Halewood Town Council)

#### *Local organisations*

- Knowsley Chamber of Commerce

#### *Local residents*

- 23 local residents

## 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

The  
Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
for England

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,  
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