



# BOUNDARY COMMISSION: FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 51/19

10 JUNE 2019

The purpose of this Report is to inform Members of the final proposals from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England for the new Isle of Wight Council electoral boundaries for the Ventnor/Wroxall area and related proposals for the adjustment of the town's Ward boundaries and their representation.

## NO. DETAILS

### 1) BACKGROUND

- a) The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) published its initial proposals following its Review of the Island's Electoral Arrangements aiming to create 'electoral equality', where votes are as equal as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal in July 2018 for consultation ending on 12 November 2018.
- b) The Town Council considered its response to the proposals for the Ventnor/Wroxall area at its meeting of 12 November and resolved, in Minute 124/18, to support the Isle of Wight Council's response to reject the proposed two-Member constituency for the area in favour of two electoral divisions each represented by a one Member.
- c) By the same Minute, the Town Council agreed to recommend the inclusion of Wroxall with Bonchurch rather than St Lawrence as in the Isle of Wight Council's proposal.

### 2) FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) The LGBCE has now published its Final Recommendations that, subject to Parliamentary approval, will come into operation for and from the elections of May 2021.
- b) The recommendations reflect the proposals for the Wroxall/Ventnor area made by both the Isle of Wight Council and Ventnor Town Council.
- c) A copy of the summary of the LGBCE's full set of final recommendations for the Island is attached for Members' information.
- d) A copy of the full Document is available by clicking [this link](#).



What happens next?

We have now completed our review of the Isle of Wight Council.

The recommendations must now be approved by Parliament. A draft order - the legal document which brings into force our recommendations - will be laid in Parliament.

Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements will come into force at the local elections in May 2021

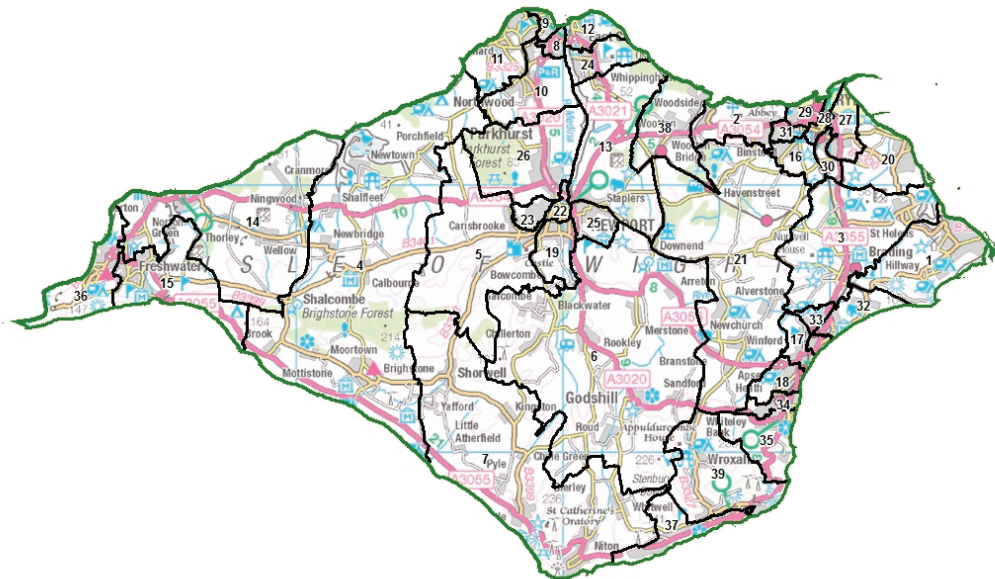
Our recommendations:

The table lists all the divisions we are proposing as part of our final recommendations along with the number of voters forecasted to to be in each ward in 2024. The table also shows the electoral variances for each of the proposed divisions, which tells you how we have delivered electoral equality.

Division Name:	No. of electors per councillor (2024)	Variance from average (%)	Division Name:	No. of Electors per councillor (2024)	Variance from Average %
Bembridge	3,286	11%	Newchurch, Havenstreet & Ashey	2,914	-1%
Binstead & Fishbourne	2,916	-1%	Newport Central	2,722	-8%
Brading & St Helens	2,803	-5%	Newport West	2,902	-2%
Brighstone, Calbourne & Shalfleet	2,738	-7%	Osborne	3,097	5%
Carisbrooke & Gunville	2,858	-3%	Pan & Barton	3,211	9%
Central Rural	3,036	3%	Parkhurst & Hunnyhill	2,732	-7%
Chale, Niton & Shorwell	2,962	0%	Ryde Appley & Elmfield	3,107	5%
Cowes Medina	3,045	3%	Ryde Monktonmead	3,103	5%
Cowes North	2,865	-3%	Ryde North West	3,097	5%
Cowes South & Northwood	2,904	-2%	Ryde South East	3,093	5%
Cowes West & Gurnard	3,031	3%	Ryde West	2,719	-8%
East Cowes	3,155	7%	Sandown North	2,692	-9%
Fairlee & Whippingham	2,931	-1%	Sandown South	2,780	-6%
Freshwater North & Yarmouth	2,660	-10%	Shanklin Central	2,903	-2%
Freshwater South	3,168	7%	Shanklin South	3,039	3%
Haylands & Swanmore	2,735	-7%	Totland & Colwell	3,275	11%
Lake North	2,904	-2%	Ventnor & St Lawrence	3,206	9%
Lake South	2,958	0%	Wootton Bridge	2,874	-3%
Mountjoy & Shide	2,807	-5%	Wroxall, Lowtherville & Bonchurch	3,130	6%
Nettlestone & Seaview	2,775	-6%			
Averages:	-	-		2,952	-

Isle of Wight Council

Final recommendations on the new electoral arrangements



**Who we are:**

- The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament.
- 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.

**Electoral review:**

An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority, including:

- The total number of councillors representing the council's voters ('council size').
- The names, number and boundaries of electoral divisions.
- The number of councillors for each division.

**Why Isle of Wight?**

- Isle of Wight Council currently has high levels of electoral inequality: some councillors represent many more - or many fewer - voters than others.
- Therefore the value of your vote, in Isle of Wight council elections, varies depending on where you live in the Isle of Wight.
- We are seeking to improve levels of electoral equality for local voters.

**Our proposals:**

- Isle of Wight Council currently has 40 councillors. Based on the evidence we received, we recommend that **39 councillors** should serve the council in the future.
- We believe our final recommendations meet our statutory criteria to:  
(1) Deliver electoral equality for voters.  
(2) Reflect community interests and identities.  
(3) Promote effective and convenient local government.



Summary of our recommendations

We have considered all the submissions we received during our consultation on our draft recommendations.

The final recommendations propose that Isle of Wight Council should have **39 councillors**. This is **1 fewer than** the current number of councillors.

Those councillors should represent 39 one-councillor divisions across the council.

We propose that the boundaries of 30 divisions will change and some divisions will have new names.

In response to feedback on its draft recommendations and further draft recommendations, the Commission has amended some of its proposals. For example, the Commission is confirming its further draft recommendations for the West of the Island and including the shopping area around Avenue road in a Freshwater division instead of Totland division as it originally proposed. Also, following submissions from the Isle of Wight Council, Parish Councils and local residents, the Commission amended its proposals for the Bay area of the Island and maintained the current divisions, with only a minor alteration.

The Commission also changed its original proposal for a two-member division around the Ventnor area in response to local representation. The area now has two single-member divisions.

An outline of the proposals is shown in the map to the right. A detailed report on the recommendations and interactive mapping is available on our website at: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk).

Find out more: [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk):

- view the map of our recommendations down to street level.
- zoom into the areas that interest you most.
- find more guidance on the review process.
- read the full report of our recommendations.

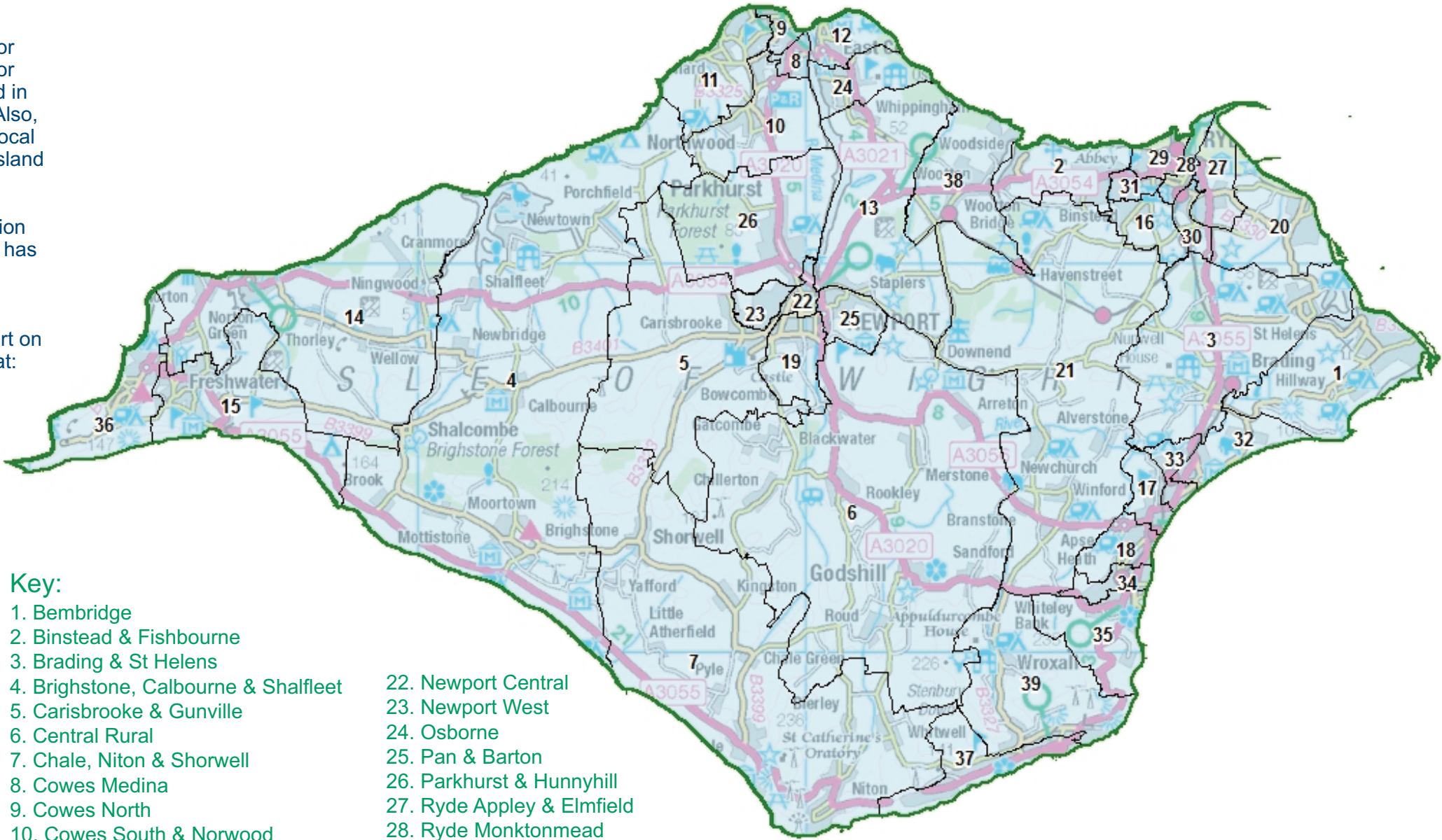
Stage of review	Description
1 May 2018-9 July 2018	Public consultation on new ward boundaries
4 September 2018-12 November 2018	Public consultation on draft recommendations
5 March 2019-1 April 2019	Public further limited consultation on draft recommendations
4 June 2019	Publication of final recommendations
May 2021	Subject to parliamentary approval - implementation of new arrangements at local elections

Overview of final recommendations for Isle of Wight Council

View this map online and explore it in more detail at: [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

Follow us on Twitter: [@LGBCE](https://twitter.com/LGBCE)

If you are viewing this page online, click on the map to go straight to our interactive consultation area.



- Key:
- 1. Bembridge
  - 2. Binstead & Fishbourne
  - 3. Brading & St Helens
  - 4. Brighthstone, Calbourne & Shalfleet
  - 5. Carisbrooke & Gunville
  - 6. Central Rural
  - 7. Chale, Niton & Shorwell
  - 8. Cowes Medina
  - 9. Cowes North
  - 10. Cowes South & Norwood
  - 11. Cowes West & Gurnard
  - 12. East Cowes
  - 13. Fairlee & Whippingham
  - 14. Freshwater North & Yarmouth
  - 15. Freshwater South
  - 16. Haylands & Swanmore
  - 17. Lake North
  - 18. Lake South
  - 19. Mountjoy & Shide
  - 20. Nettlestone & Seaview
  - 21. Newchurch, Havenstreet & Ashe
  - 22. Newport Central
  - 23. Newport West
  - 24. Osborne
  - 25. Pan & Barton
  - 26. Parkhurst & Hunnyhill
  - 27. Ryde Appley & Elmfield
  - 28. Ryde Monktonmead
  - 29. Ryde North West
  - 30. Ryde South East
  - 31. Ryde West
  - 32. Sandown North
  - 33. Sandown South
  - 34. Shanklin Central
  - 35. Shanklin South
  - 36. Totland & Colwell
  - 37. Ventnor & St Lawrence
  - 38. Wootton Bridge
  - 39. Wroxall, Lowtherville & Bonchurch