

Lewes District Council response to LGBCE draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements

APPENDIX A

Ward	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021	LGBCE Description	LGBCE Recommendations	Lewes District Council Response
<p>Chailey, Barcombe & Hamsey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chailey - Barcombe - Hamsey 	2	13%	This ward comprises the parishes of Chailey, Barcombe and Hamsey.	We received 13 submissions specifically relating to this ward, and its relationship with the proposed Wivelsfield ward. Respondents felt that the Chailey area identified more strongly with Wivelsfield, and asked for the current Chailey & Wivelsfield ward to be maintained. However, this would result in an unacceptably high variance of 20%. Whilst we note that the variance proposed is 13%, we consider that no appropriate alternative has been suggested, and that the ward proposed provides for the best balance of the statutory criteria. We did investigate alternative warding patterns but considered these would not provide for a better balance between the statutory criteria.	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.
<p>Ditchling & Westmeston</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ditchling - Westmeston 	1	9%	This ward includes the parishes of Ditchling and Westmeston.	We did not receive any submissions directly regarding this ward. We consider that the proposals in this area provided for good adherence to the statutory criteria, and therefore include this ward as part of our draft recommendations.	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.
<p>Newick</p>	1	7%	This ward includes the parish of Newick.	We received one submission specifically relating to this ward and its relationship with North Chailey. The respondent suggested moving North Chailey into the Newick ward. However, this would result in a variance of 63% for Newick, which is unacceptably high. The ward is therefore based on the ward proposed by another respondent. We consider this ward provides for a good balance of the statutory criteria.	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.
<p>Plumpton, Streat, East Chiltington &</p>	1	2%	This ward comprises the parishes of Streat,	We did not receive any submissions directly regarding this ward. We consider that the	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.

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St John (Without) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plumpton - Streat - East Chiltington - St John (Without) 			Plumpton, East Chiltington and St John (Without).	proposals in this area provided for good adherence to the statutory criteria, and therefore include this ward as part of our draft recommendations.	
Wivelsfield	1	2%	This ward comprises the parish of Wivelsfield.	We received 13 submissions specifically relating to this ward and its relationship with the proposed Chailey, Barcombe & Hamsey ward. Respondents felt that the current Chailey & Wivelsfield ward should be maintained, but this would result in an unacceptably high variance of 20%. We did not receive any alternative warding patterns for this area that provided for a good balance of the statutory criteria. We have also not been able to identify an alternative warding pattern that would provide for a better balance between the statutory criteria. We have therefore decided to include a single-member Wivelsfield ward as part of our draft recommendations.	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.
Lewes Bridge	2	-1%	This ward comprises the area to the east of the River Ouse, including South Malling, the Malling Down Nature Reserve and Cliffe. It also includes the area of the town centre around the eastern end of the High Street.	We did not receive any submissions directly regarding this ward. We received one submission regarding Lewes, requesting that the town be split into eight single-member wards. However, we do not feel that this would be representative of the town as a whole, and are not conducting a single-member ward review of the authority. We consider that the district-wide proposals in this area provided for good adherence to the statutory criteria, and therefore confirm this ward as part of our draft recommendations.	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.
Lewes Castle	2	1%	This ward comprises the Landport area to the	We did not receive any submissions directly regarding this ward. We consider that the	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.

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(less Christie Road, Clare Road, Ferrers Road, Fitzjohns Road, Gundreda Road, Mildmay Road)			south-west of the railway line, as well as the areas directly south of Offham Road, including Lewes Castle.	district-wide proposals in this area provided for good adherence to the statutory criteria, and therefore confirm this ward as part of our draft recommendations.	
Lewes Priory (including Christie Road, Clare Road, Ferrers Road, Fitzjohns Road, Gundreda Road, Mildmay Road)	3	2%	This ward includes the western area of the town, including the Kingston Road area to the south of the A27.	We did not receive any submissions directly regarding this ward. We consider that the district-wide proposals in this area provided for good adherence to the statutory criteria, and therefore confirm this ward as part of our draft recommendations.	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.
Kingston – Falmer – Iford – Kingston – Piddinghoe – Rodmell – St Ann (Without) – Southease	1	-9%	This ward comprises the parishes of Falmer, St Ann (Without), Kingston Near Lewes, Iford, Rodmell, Southease and Piddinghoe.	We did not receive any submissions directly regarding this ward. Whilst the proposed Kingston ward covers a large area, it is rural in nature and made up of a number of parishes with a small number of electors, which would have made alternative warding arrangements difficult. We consider that the proposed ward provides for good balance between the statutory criteria and are therefore including it as part of the draft recommendations for Lewes.	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward. The Council requests that the LGBCE consider the following proposed ward name to better reflect the different nature of the draft ward and define the area more effectively: Kingston & Ouse Valley West
Ouse Valley & Ringmer – Glynde – Ringmer	2	4%	This ward comprises the parishes of Ringmer and Glynde.	In the Ouse Valley, we received a proposal in this area for a ward with a variance of 16%. We consider that persuasive evidence was not provided to justify such a high variance, and therefore investigated alternative warding patterns. As part of our draft recommendations we have decided to include the parishes of Firle and Beddingham to form part of the proposed Newhaven North ward. This provides for significantly improved levels of electoral inequality for our Ouse Valley & Ringmer	The Council requests that the LGBCE reconsider its proposal to move the parishes of Firle and Beddingham into the draft Newhaven North ward. The Council is concerned that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The residents of rural Firle and Beddingham do not closely identify with the residents of Newhaven town and are geographically too far apart.

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				ward.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of Beddingham is just across the railway line from Glynde and they are driven through as one village so it is not logical to divide them. • The villages of Firle and Beddingham share a community identity with the villages of Ringmer and Glynde and so should be kept together. • Electoral equality should not be at the expense of community cohesion. <p>If the LGBCE adheres to its proposal, the Council requests that the LGBCE consider the following proposed ward name to better reflect the different nature of the draft ward and define the area more effectively:</p> <p><i>Ringmer & Glynde</i></p>
<p>Newhaven North</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beddingham - Firle - South Heighton - Tarring Neville 	3	-4%	This ward comprises the parishes of Firle, Beddingham, Tarring Neville and South Heighton. It also contains the northern area of the town of Newhaven, with the A259 forming the ward's southern boundary.	We received three submissions relating to this ward. Two referenced the parish of South Heighton, preferring it to be in a purely rural ward. However, the majority of electors in the parish of South Heighton live in areas that are part of the town of Newhaven, and to move the more rural electors into a different ward would necessitate the creation of an unviable parish ward (we consider an unviable parish ward to contain fewer than 100 electors). The ward proposed as part of the district-wide pattern in this area had a variance of -12%, and it was not considered	<p>The Council accepts, subject to the change outlined in the response to the Newhaven South ward, the LGBCE's recommendations for this ward, but only as it could not find a viable alternative.</p> <p>The Council requests that the LGBCE consider the following proposed ward name to better reflect the different nature of the draft ward and define the area more effectively:</p>

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				<p>that persuasive evidence had been received to justify such a high variance. We therefore investigated alternative warding patterns. The inclusion of the parishes of Firle and Beddingham, as referenced above (in the Ouse Valley & Ringmer section), provides significantly improved levels of electoral equality.</p> <p>One submission favoured the creation of three two-member wards in Newhaven. However, we do not consider that sufficient evidence was provided to move away from the district-wide proposal of two three-member wards in this area, with the above incorporated changes.</p>	<p><i>Ouse Valley & Newhaven North</i></p>
Newhaven South	3	-5%	<p>This ward is bounded in the north by the A259, and comprises the south of Newhaven town. It includes the harbour, marina and fort.</p>	<p>We received one submission relating to this area, which favoured the three-ward approach mentioned above. We do not consider that persuasive evidence has been received to propose this pattern. We have therefore included a three-member Newhaven South ward as part of our draft recommendations.</p>	<p>The Council requests that the LGBCE change its proposed ward boundary, at the point between Lewes Road and Lower Place, following the natural line of the A259 and that the small area within the one way system be included in Newhaven South, and not in Newhaven North as currently proposed.</p> <p>The Council accepts the LGBCE's inclusion of the residential areas of Evelyn Avenue and Harpers Road, but is unclear as to the reasoning why the small area of Essex Place and a few properties on Lewes Road (totalling 42 electors) have been included in the Newhaven North ward, so is unable to accept their inclusion.</p>
East Saltdean &	3	-2%	This ward comprises the	We did not receive any submissions directly	The Council agrees with the LGBCE

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Telscombe Cliffs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - East Saltdean - Telscombe Cliffs 			parish of Telscombe, which includes the areas of Saltdean, Telscombe Cliffs and Telscombe.	relating to this ward. The ward proposed as part of the district-wide pattern mirrors the existing ward in this area, and provides for good electoral equality. For these reasons, we have decided to include the proposed East Saltdean & Telscombe Cliffs ward as part of our draft recommendations.	recommendations for this ward.
Peacehaven East (less Bolney Avenue, Bramber Avenue, Damon Close, Rayford Close, Steyning Avenue, Victoria Avenue)	2	1%	This ward comprises the eastern area of Peacehaven, to the east of Capel Avenue and including Peacehaven Heights.	We did not receive any submissions directly relating to this ward. The ward proposed by the district-wide pattern is very similar to the existing ward, with the exception of Victoria Avenue and its immediate environs, which have been included in the Peacehaven West ward, and fulfils the statutory criteria. We are therefore including the Peacehaven East ward as part of our draft recommendations.	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.
Peacehaven North (including Bramber Avenue North, Bramber Close, Dorothy Avenue North, Edith Avenue North, Horsham Avenue North, Southview Road)	2	-6%	This ward comprises the area north of Peacehaven Community School and Firle Road.	We did not receive any submissions directly relating to this ward. The ward proposed as part of the district-wide scheme is very similar to the existing ward in this area, but incorporates the area between Peacehaven Community School and Southview Road; this area was previously part of the Peacehaven West ward. We consider that this ward fulfils our statutory criteria, and therefore are including it as part of our draft recommendations.	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.
Peacehaven West (less Bramber Avenue North, Bramber Close, Dorothy Avenue North, Edith Avenue North, Horsham Avenue North, Southview Road)	2	-3%	This ward is bounded in the east by Bolney Avenue, and in the west by Lincoln Avenue. Firle Road lies to the north of the proposed ward.	We did not receive any submissions directly relating to this ward. The ward proposed in the district-wide pattern is relatively similar to the existing Peacehaven West ward. However, the proposed ward includes the area west of Bolney Avenue (previously in Peacehaven East), and the Southview Road area is now included in Peacehaven North, as mentioned above. We consider that this	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.

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(including Bolney Avenue, Bramber Avenue, Damon Close, Rayford Close, Steyning Avenue, Victoria Avenue)				ward fulfils our statutory criteria, and therefore are including it as part of our draft recommendations.	
Seaford Central	2	2%	This ward comprises the area south-west of Firle Road and Blatchington Hill. Westdown Road forms the western boundary, with Sutton Park Road and Broad Street to the east.	We did not receive any submissions directly relating to this ward. The ward proposed in the district-wide proposal mirrors the existing ward in this area, and provides for good electoral equality. For these reasons, we are including the proposed Seaford Central ward as part of our draft recommendations.	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.
Seaford East	2	1%	This ward comprises the eastern area of Seaford, east of Alfriston Road and Eastbourne Road, including the Sutton area of the town, along with the rural area towards Cuckmere Haven.	We did not receive any submissions directly relating to this ward. The ward was proposed as part of the district-wide proposal and mirrors the existing ward in this area, and provides for good electoral equality. For these reasons, we are including the proposed Seaford East ward as part of our draft recommendations.	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.
Seaford North	2	4%	This ward comprises the northern area of Seaford, to the north of Alfriston Road and east of Firle Road.	We did not receive any submissions directly relating to this ward. The ward proposed as part of the district-wide proposal mirrors the existing ward in this area, and provides for good electoral equality. For these reasons, we are including the proposed Seaford North ward as part of our draft recommendations.	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.
Seaford South	2	-6%	This ward comprises the area to the south of the A259 and Hindover Road, to the east of Saxon Lane, and	We did not receive any submissions directly relating to this ward. The ward was proposed as part of the district-wide proposal and mirrors the existing ward in this area, and provides for good electoral equality. For	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.

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			includes the area around Seaford Head.	these reasons, we are including the proposed Seaford South ward as part of our draft recommendations.	
Seaford West	2	-2%	This ward comprises the western edge of Seaford, including the East Blatchington and Rookery Hill areas.	We did not receive any submissions directly relating to this ward. The ward proposed as part of the district-wide proposal mirrors the existing ward in this area, and provides for good electoral equality. For these reasons, we are including the proposed Seaford West ward as part of our draft recommendations.	The Council agrees with the LGBCE recommendations for this ward.