

News Release

Embargoed until: 00:01, 3 July 2018

Have your say on new council ward boundaries for Dorset

The independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England is asking local people to comment on plans for council ward boundaries across the new Dorset Council.

In May, the government confirmed that local government in Dorset should change with the county and all other councils replaced by two new councils. This includes a new Dorset Council.

The Commission's consultation proposes ward boundaries to be used to elect councillors in the new authority. The Commission is asking for local views on the proposals before it finalises them in October. A consultation is taking place at the same time on new ward boundaries for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council.

The consultation runs until **27 August 2018** and is open to anyone who is interested how Dorset will be represented.

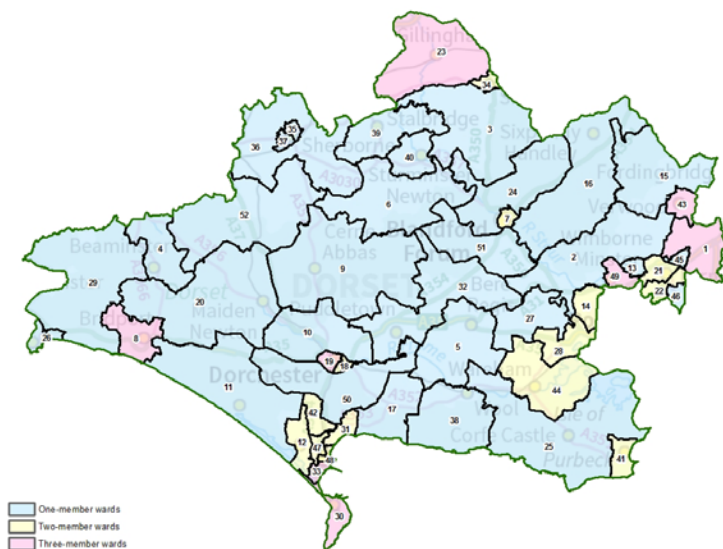
The Commission proposes that the council should have 82 councillors in total. The plans propose thirty one-councillor wards, fourteen two-councillor wards and eight three-councillor wards.

The boundaries will come into effect at the first election for the authority in May 2019.

Professor Colin Mellors, Chair of the Commission, said: "This is a chance for local people to have their say on how they will be represented by the new Dorset Council.

"We want to build wards that make sense to local people and mean something to them. That is why we want to hear as much local evidence as possible before we finalise the plans in October."

The full recommendations and detailed interactive maps are available on the Commission's website at consultation.lgbce.org.uk and www.lgbce.org.uk. Hard copies of the Commission's report and maps will also be available to view at council buildings.



Illustrate your story with a map of the recommendations. High res version available at:

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The Commission wants to hear as much evidence as possible to develop final recommendations. Anyone wishing to make a submission to the Commission should write or email by 27 August 2018.

By post:

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Email: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

Give us your views online: consultation.lgbce.org.uk

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

For further information contact:
Press Office: 0330 500 1250 / 1525
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Ends

Key to map:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Avon Heath & Moors Valley | 27. Lytchett Matravers & Morden |
| 2. Badbury & Allen Vale | 28. Lytchett Minster & Upton |
| 3. Beacon | 29. Marshwood Vale |
| 4. Beaminster | 30. Portland |
| 5. Bere Regis & Bovington | 31. Preston & Radipole |
| 6. Blackmore Vale | 32. Puddletown & Lower Winterborne |
| 7. Blandford | 33. Rodwell & Wyke |
| 8. Bridport | 34. Shaftesbury Town |
| 9. Chalk Valleys | 35. Sherborne East |
| 10. Charminster St Mary's | 36. Sherborne Rural |
| 11. Chesil Bank | 37. Sherborne West |
| 12. Chickerell | 38. South West Purbeck |
| 13. Colehill East | 39. Stalbridge |
| 14. Corfe Mullen | 40. Sturminster Newton |
| 15. Cranborne & Alderholt | 41. Swanage |
| 16. Cranborne Chase | 42. Upwey & Broadway |
| 17. Crossways | 43. Verwood |
| 18. Dorchester East | 44. Wareham |
| 19. Dorchester West | 45. West Moors South |
| 20. Eggardon | 46. West Parley |
| 21. Ferndown North | 47. Westham |
| 22. Ferndown South | 48. Weymouth Town |
| 23. Gillingham | 49. Wimborne Minster & Colehill West |
| 24. Hill Forts & Upper Tarrants | 50. Winterborne & Broadmayne |
| 25. Isle of Purbeck | 51. Winterborne North |
| 26. Lyme & Charmouth | 52. Yetminster |

Notes to editors:

1. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is responsible for reviewing local authority electoral arrangements, defining boundaries for local elections and the number of councillors to be elected, as well as conducting reviews of local government external boundaries and structures.
2. The types of questions the Commission is asking residents at this stage are:
 - Do the proposed wards reflect local communities?
 - How do you think the proposals can be improved whilst maintaining electoral equality?
 - Are the names of the proposed wards right?
3. Residents have from 3 July 2018 until 27 August 2018 to have their say about where ward boundaries for Dorset Council should be drawn. The Commission will consider all submissions and aims to publish its final recommendations in October 2018. Once the Commission agrees its final recommendations it will lay a draft order in both Houses of Parliament. Parliament will then have 40 days in which to consider the recommendations. If both Houses are satisfied with the recommendations, the draft order will be 'made' and the new wards will come into effect at the council elections in May 2019.