Have your say

A consultation on draft recommendations for wards boundaries in East Suffolk has begun

Have your say now via our consultation portal

In May 2018, the government agreed to set up a new local authority called East Suffolk District Council.

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is now drawing up ward boundaries for the new authority in time for its first elections in May 2019.

Today we published draft recommendations for the new ward, ward boundaries, and ward names for East Suffolk District Council.

We are minded to recommend that 55 councillors should be elected to East Suffolk Council.

We are now inviting comments on those recommendations.

Our consultation closes on 27 August 2018.

If you represent a local organisation or community group in East Suffolk, please pass this message on to your members or anyone you think who might be interested in the review. You can share the message by email or through social media by using the buttons at the bottom right of the page.
As a result of our draft recommendations for new warding patterns, we propose making changes to the parish electoral arrangements for the following parish and town councils:

- Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council
- Oulton Parish Council
- Oulton Broad Parish Council
- Lowesoft Town Council

Have your say

You can take part in the consultation by clicking the button at the top of this message or through our interactive consultation portal.

Our website includes further information about the Commission and the review.
We encourage everyone who has a view on the draft recommendations to contact us, whether you support them or whether you wish to propose alternative arrangements.

We will consider every representation received during consultation, whether it is submitted by an individual, a local group or an organisation.

We will weigh each submission against the legal criteria which we must follow when drawing up electoral arrangements:

- to deliver electoral equality: where each councillor represents roughly the same number of electors as others across the council;
- that the pattern of wards should, as far as possible, reflect the interests and identities of local communities;
- that the electoral arrangements should provide for effective and convenient local government.

It is important that you take account of the criteria if you are suggesting an alternative pattern of wards.

If you wish to put forward a view, we would also urge you to ensure that evidence supports your submission.

For example, if you wish to argue that two areas should be included in the same electoral ward, make sure you tell us why they should be together, providing evidence about community facilities, ties, organisations, and amenities, rather than simply asserting that they belong together.

Our website features technical guidance that explains the process and our policies, as well as guidance on how to take part in each part of the process.

Get in touch

We welcome comments on our draft recommendations by 27 August 2018. Representations should be made:

- Through our interactive consultation portal, where you can explore the maps of the recommendations, draw your own boundaries and make comments;

- By email to reviews@lgbce.org.uk;
- Or in writing to Review Officer (West Suffolk), Local Government Boundary Commission for England, 1st Floor, Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0TL.