

Appendix 2 - Basildon

Possible Revised Basildon Proposal for the Committee to Consider

Basildon Borough is entitled to nine members, which would give an average forecast population of 16,839. This is significantly higher than the whole of Essex average forecast of 15,848.

Essex County Council's (ECC) original submission, which was accepted by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) achieved good electoral equality but at the expense of sub-optimal recognition of community boundaries and links.

Since the first draft of ECC's original submission has been produced we have heard that:

- The Church of St Nicholas, Laindon with Dunton is located in polling district CB which is not in the proposed Laindon Town Division.
- Some people were concerned that polling districts CB, DJ and DN are south of the A127 but are in divisions which are predominantly north of the A127.

Therefore, having heard the strength of feeling, ECC wishes to make an alternative submission.

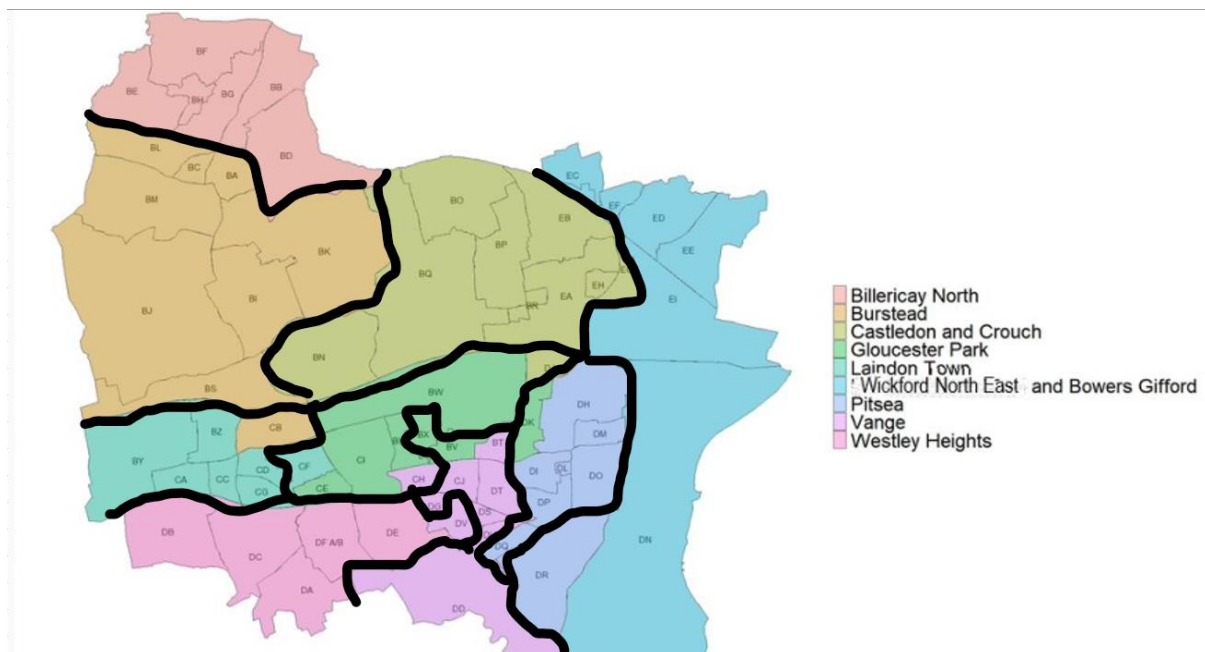
- The proposal makes the following changes to the LGBCE submission:
 - CB moved from Burstead and split between Gloucester Park and Laindon Town
 - CF and DJ moved into Gloucester Park
 - DR moved into Wickford and Bowers Gifford
 - DK into Pitsea
 - CH into Gloucester Park
 - BV into Vange
 - BX into Vange
 - DV into Westley Heights
- The proposal would see CB and DJ in divisions exclusively south of the A127. In proposing this change, it is suggested that Basildon Road, Buckingham Road, Church Road, Czarina Rise, Duke Place, Palace Grove, Princess Close, Regent Court, Royal Oak Chase, Sandringham Road, are split from the existing CB division, but remain in Gloucester Park. This equates to 2409 electors in CB West and 408 in CB East.
- The proposed Wickford North and Bowers Gifford division is still split across the A127 but the inclusion of DR into this division means that the division is more balanced between north and south. It does not resolve a concern that some people have told us that there are no community links between DN and places north of the A127. However, we have not found a way of doing this whilst still balancing the division.

- Consequential changes mean that overall the divisions are a little less balanced as shown below, however apart from Burstead and Westley Heights, who are slightly below and above the 10% variance, they are all comfortably within 10% of the average elector per division for Basildon Borough, although the Commission will consider the variance from the ECC average, which is greater.

Billericay North	Burstead	Castledon and Crouch	Wickford North East and Bowers Gifford	Laindon Town	Gloucester Park	Pitsea	Vange	Westley Heights
17,183	14,743	15,431	17,428	15,768	18,519	17,018	16,854	18,623

A map showing how the divisions would be changed is shown below. The thick black line shows the proposed division boundaries in a diagrammatic way – they would still follow existing polling district boundaries. This contrasts with the proposals which are shown in different colours.

(NB it is proposed that CB is split between Burstead and Gloucester Park).



Appendix 3 – Brentwood

Brentwood Considerations for the Committee to Consider

Brentwood Borough is entitled to four members, which would give an average forecast population of 16,976.

Essex County Council's (ECC) original submission suggested maintaining the current boundaries for the four divisions as Brentwood Councillors told us these worked well for the communities.

A local resident provided an alternative scheme to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE), which saw two areas swap within the existing divisions. The resident suggested moving an area north of Ingrave Road, which compromises the southern section of the new Hutton South borough ward (BC and BD) into Brentwood Hutton division and transferring West Horndon and the surrounding area (EC) into Brentwood South division.

The LGBCE felt that this change offered better electoral equality than the proposal submitted by ECC.

Cllr Robinson has made the following suggestion for consideration by the Committee to go into the ECC submission:

We oppose your draft proposals as they affect Brentwood Hutton and Brentwood South divisions and support the other proposals.

Brentwood Hutton and Brentwood South

We restate our original proposal to maintain these two divisions largely as they currently are, on the grounds that this better reflects community ties and effective local government. Specifically, therefore, we propose that you move BC-Three Arches and BD-Thrift Park (back) to South and EC-West Horndon (back) to Hutton.

We relate this proposal to your three criteria as follows:

1. Electoral equality

This would increase South by 249 and reduce Hutton by the same amount. Although this would make South more than 11% above the county average, three of the four divisions in the Borough have to be above the average anyway. Hutton would then only be 8.5% above the average.

We believe that the arguments under criteria two and three are stronger in favour of this change than the electoral equality criterion.

2 (a) Community identity: West Horndon with Herongate and Ingrave

- *West Horndon is a rural and semi-rural parish with its own identity and issues, and has no historical links with the more urban Warley, Brentwood South and West Wards.*
- *It should continue to be linked with the rest of the Herongate, Ingrave and West Horndon Borough Council ward, with which it has historical and cultural links and is equally rural.*

- Over 90% of the West Horndon electorate is in a collection of streets near the station, in the eastern half of the ward (i.e. near to the A128 and much nearer to Herongate than Warley). When the new housing is built in the “Dunton Garden village” that will all be at the far eastern end of the parish/ward, much nearer to Herongate than Brentwood.
- The A128 runs north-south between West Horndon and Herongate, whereas the links to Warley are via an unclassified road and the B186.

2 (b) Community identity: Three Arches / Thrift Park with Brentwood South

- Three Arches / Thrift Park is primarily a post-World War Two housing area, known as the East Ham estate (built for relocated London families). It is more urban in nature and thus has more in common with south Brentwood than with Hutton.
- Although the estate was recently added to the Hutton South ward for the 2024 election, this was more about equalising electorates than strong community ties. The rest of Hutton South ward is much newer and more suburban.

3. Effective government

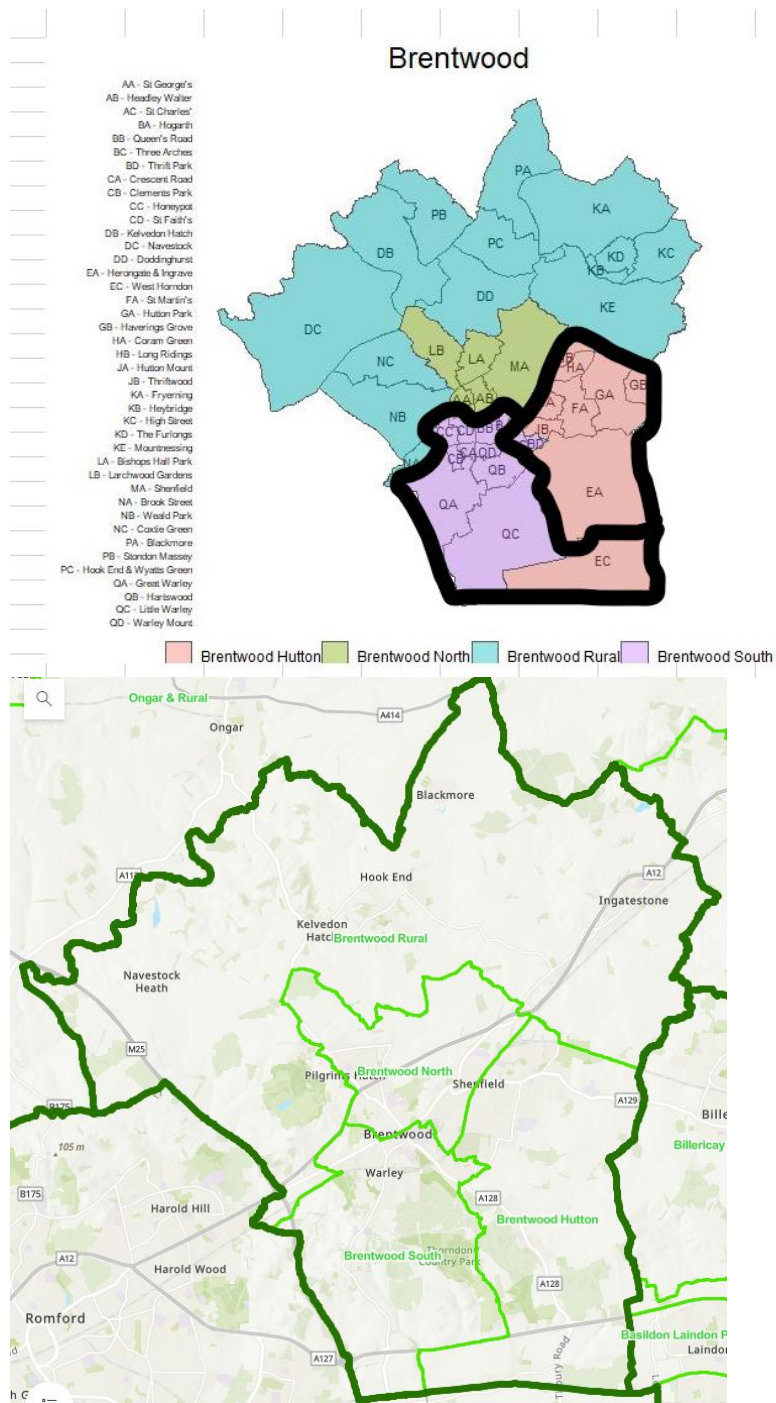
- West Horndon has been part of the Hutton Division for many years and there is already a strong relationship between the West Horndon Parish Council and the County Councillor for Brentwood Hutton, enabling the best support to the area for issues affecting this village.
- Equally, the East Ham estate has always been in the Brentwood South division.
- The 2022 to 2029 electorate figures show a 944 increase in West Horndon, primarily due to the Dunton Garden Village in the Local Plan. However, the eventual growth allocated in the Local Plan at this location (beyond 2029) will be significantly more. So it makes more sense for this further growth to be added to the workload of the smaller (Hutton) division.

Brentwood North and Brentwood Rural

We agree with adjusting the boundary between these two divisions in the area of Bellhouse Lane, Coxtie Green Road and Apple Gate, in order to follow the new boundary between Pilgrims Hatch, and Brizes, Stondon Massey and South Weald Borough wards.

The first map shows the LGBCE draft recommendation. The second shows it with the black thick line as the LGBCE propose overlaid onto the ECC submission map and the third shows the ECC original initial submission.





Options:

The Committee may like to either:

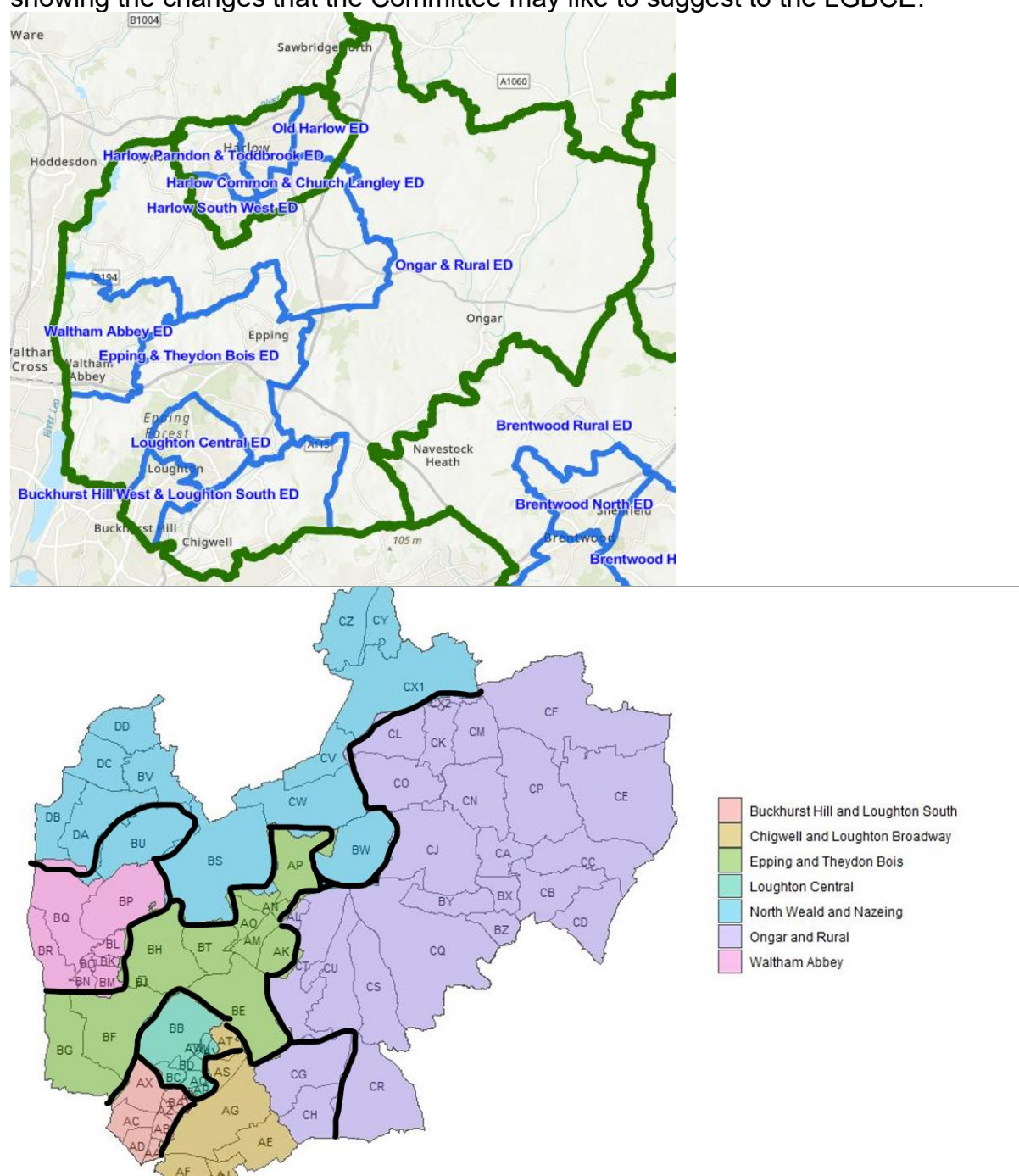
- (a) Reiterate our original proposal as proposed by Councillor Robinson.
- (b) Accept the proposal made by the LGBCE.

Appendix 4 – Epping Forest

Possible Revised Epping Forest Proposal for the Committee to Consider

Epping Forest has seven divisions, with an average forecast electorate of 15,466 – slightly smaller than the ECC average of 15,848. Unlike in Basildon, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) proposal for Epping Forest was significantly different from that advanced by Essex County Council (ECC).

The first map shows the LGBCE draft recommendation. The second shows the ECC initial submission (using shading to show the boundaries, with the thick black line showing the changes that the Committee may like to suggest to the LGBCE).



The issues that some had with the LGBCE proposals are:

1. The geographical size of the proposed Ongar and Rural division – members felt that the northernmost part of the district, including the parishes which curl around Harlow, can be represented as North Weald and Nazeing.
2. Too much weight had been given by the Commission to keeping the town of Loughton in two divisions, when Loughton is not a single place with, for example, many people viewing Debden as separate to Loughton.
3. Not enough weight being given to keeping Buckhurst Hill together – this is a single coherent community which can be kept together and, in the views of many members, should be.

Options:

The Committee may like to either:

- (a) Reiterate our original proposal, which largely avoids the above issues.
- (b) Put forward a variant to our original proposal which would see:
 - a. BU (Bumbles Green) moving to Waltham Abbey
 - b. AT moving to Chigwell
 - c. CG and CH (Abridge and Lambourn End) moving from Ongar and Rural to Chigwell.

The variant would give the following forecast populations. This leaves Ongar and Rural with a low population compared to the 14,604 in our original submission.

Buckhurst Hill and Loughton South	Chigwell	Epping and Theydon Bois	Loughton Central	Waltham Abbey	North Weald and Nazeing	Ongar and Rural
16814	14886	15584	16060	15890	16126	12,903