



www.dacorum.gov.uk

Electoral Review Committee

| | |
|--|---|
| Report for: | Electoral Review Committee |
| Title of report: | Electoral Review |
| Date: | 18 th January 2024 |
| Report on behalf of: | Councillor Tindall, Leader & Portfolio Holder for Corporate & Commercial Services |
| Part: | I |
| If Part II, reason: | n/a |
| Appendices: | Appendix A: Electorate forecast data Appendix B: Council Size submission |
| Background papers: | n/a |
| Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report: | LGBCE: Local Government Boundary Commission for England |

Report Author / Responsible Officer

Mark Brookes, Assistant Director (Legal & Democratic Services)

Michelle Anderson, Electoral Services Manager



Mark.brookes@dacorum.gov.uk / 01442 228236 (ext. 2236)

Michelle.anderson@dacorum.gov.uk / 01442 2282230 (ext. 2230)

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Corporate Priorities | Building strong and vibrant communities Ensuring efficient, effective and modern service delivery |
| Wards affected | All of Dacorum |
| Purpose of the report: | 1. To discuss phase 1 of the electoral review 2. To provide committee with the draft template submission on proposed council size for consideration. |

| | |
|--|---|
| Recommendation (s) to the decision maker (s): | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To recommend the council size, as agreed by the committee, onto Full Council. 2. That Committee consider the draft template response and allocate a lead councillor to work with the Monitoring Officer to finalise the template. |
| Period for post policy/project review: | n/a |

1 Introduction/Background:

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is currently conducting the Electoral Review for Dacorum. This is a compulsory review which takes place around every 15 years. Dacorum last completed this review in 2006.

Phase one of the review is to make proposals for the council size. Councillors were asked to make council size recommendations, supported by evidence. Since the last meeting of the Electoral Review committee, Officers have provided data on the proposed electorate for 2030, taking into consideration the average electorate increases and future developments sites (Appendix A).

In addition, the council size submission document (Appendix B) is annexed provided, which explains the council governance process and offers opportunities for councillor comments. Members will note that this is a working draft requiring further input from officers and members.

2 Council Size

The Electoral Review committee will be asked to discuss and agree on a council proposal for its future council size.

The committee will receive a demonstration from Civica to show how the mapping software will work in practice. This will assist the phase 2 stage of the review, when councillors are asked to look at all borough ward boundaries.

3 Next steps

Following the agreement of the Electoral Review, the proposal will be submitted to Full Council for approval at its meeting on 28th of February 2024. Following this, the submission will be made to the LGBCE by their statutory deadline of 11th of March 2024.

Phase two will begin on the 7th of May, where proposals are invited to be submitted by the 15th of July 2024 which look at all ward boundaries across the borough.

4 Consultation

All Dacorum Borough Council staff and electorate via the DBC website. The full review consultation will continue to be conducted by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE)

5 Financial and value for money implications:

The re-alignment of the parliamentary boundaries will not incur any costs other than back office resources.

There will be costs associated with the mapping software but this can be resourced through existing budgets.

6 Legal Implications

The Council must turn the recommendations of the LGBCE into an 'Order in Council' that implements the recommendations. The amended Polling Place Order will be agreed by Full Council

The updated ward boundaries will be implemented at the next local elections in May 2027.

7 Risk implications:

Electoral matters require continual review to ensure that the democratic process operates effectively. A failure to provide set boundaries would result in huge reputational damage.

8 Equalities, Community Impact and Human Rights:

There are no equalities or community impacts arising directly from this report.

9 Sustainability implications (including climate change, health and wellbeing, community safety)

There are no sustainability implications arising directly from this report.

10 Council infrastructure (including Health and Safety, HR/OD, assets and other resources)

There are no council infrastructure implications arising directly from this report.

11 Conclusions:

As part of phase 1, the Electoral Services team will ensure the council's proposal is submitted by the 11th of March 2024 deadline.

Electorate forecast: Councillor Information

Appendix A

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Check your data | 2023 | 2030 | 2030 |
| Number of councillors: | 51 | 53 | 51 |
| Overall electorate: | 112,155 | 124,239 | 124,239 |
| Average electorate per cllr: | 2,199 | 2,344 | 2,436 |

Scroll left to see the first table

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---|
| Fill in the name of each ward once | Fill in the number of councillors per ward | These cells will show you the electorate and variance. They change depending what you enter in the table to the left. |
|------------------------------------|--|---|

| Name of ward | Number of cllrs per ward | Electorate 2023 | Variance 2023 | Electorate 2030 | Variance 2030 | Variance 2030 if Cllr avg is 2,199 |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| Adeyfield East | 2 | 4,153 | -6% | 5,028 | 7% | 14% |
| Adeyfield West | 2 | 4,230 | -4% | 4,608 | -2% | 5% |
| Aldbury and Wigginton | 1 | 1,891 | -14% | 1,975 | -16% | -10% |
| Apsley and Corner Hall | 3 | 7,322 | 11% | 9,263 | 32% | 40% |
| Ashridge | 1 | 2,100 | -5% | 2,211 | -6% | 1% |
| Bennetts End | 2 | 4,493 | 2% | 4,714 | 1% | 7% |
| Berkhamsted Castle | 2 | 4,521 | 3% | 4,801 | 2% | 9% |
| Berkhamsted East | 2 | 4,668 | 6% | 4,938 | 5% | 12% |
| Berkhamsted West | 2 | 4,663 | 6% | 5,085 | 8% | 16% |
| Bovingdon | 3 | 6,708 | 2% | 7,142 | 2% | 8% |
| Boxmoor | 3 | 6,818 | 3% | 7,133 | 1% | 8% |
| Chaulden and Warners End | 3 | 6,660 | 1% | 7,574 | 8% | 15% |
| Gadebridge | 2 | 4,010 | -9% | 4,228 | -10% | -4% |
| Grovehill | 3 | 5,547 | -16% | 6,527 | -7% | -1% |
| Hemel Hempstead Town | 2 | 4,967 | 13% | 6,729 | 44% | 53% |
| Highfield | 2 | 3,966 | -10% | 4,216 | -10% | -4% |
| Kings Langley | 2 | 3,991 | -9% | 4,069 | -13% | -7% |
| Leverstock Green | 3 | 6,967 | 6% | 7,474 | 6% | 13% |
| Nash Mills | 1 | 2,693 | 22% | 2,852 | 22% | 30% |
| Northchurch | 1 | 2,315 | 5% | 2,409 | 3% | 10% |
| Tring Central | 2 | 3,848 | -13% | 4,058 | -13% | -8% |
| Tring East | 1 | 2,286 | 4% | 2,428 | 4% | 10% |
| Tring West and Rural | 2 | 4,429 | 1% | 4,718 | 1% | 7% |
| Watling | 2 | 4,357 | -1% | 4,615 | -2% | 5% |
| Woodhall Farm | 2 | 4,552 | 3% | 5,444 | 16% | 24% |
| TOTAL | | 112,155 | | 124,239 | | |

| A | B | |
|--|----------------------------------|----------|
| 53 cllrs | 53 cllrs | |
| Variance 2030 if Cllr avg is 2,344/53 cllr | Variance % 2030 if 2344/53 cllrs | Add Cllr |
| 170 | 7% | |
| -40 | -2% | |
| -369 | -16% | |
| -28 | -1% | 1 |
| -133 | -6% | |
| 13 | 1% | |
| 56 | 2% | |
| 125 | 5% | |
| 198 | 8% | |
| 37 | 2% | |
| 34 | -1% | |
| 181 | 8% | |
| -230 | -10% | |
| -168 | -7% | |
| -101 | -4% | 1 |
| -236 | -10% | |
| -310 | -13% | |
| 147 | 6% | |
| 508 | 22% | |
| 65 | 3% | |
| -315 | -13% | |
| 84 | 4% | |
| 15 | -1% | |
| -37 | -2% | |
| 378 | 16% | |