

**SHDC Boundary Commission Electoral Review - Alternative Warding proposal**

**Submission by Cllr. Cathie Pannell, South Brent**

If it is resolved that South Hams should become a 30 member council, I wish to submit a proposal which will move a small number of parishes between four wards to achieve a better balance of numbers of electors in line with the Boundary Commission's target of 2,486 electors per councillor. It will also result in a reunification of the whole of South Brent Parish into one ward. At present this appears to be the only rural parish divided between two wards. South Brent Parish and Brentmoor belong to the same civil parish and have much more in common than they do with neighbouring wards. This solution would better achieve the Commission's stated aim of reflecting, as far as possible, the interests and identities of communities across the district.

This proposal will have no impact on the remaining wards of the South Hams, other than those listed.

1. Move Churchstow (Electorate 400) into South Huish, Malborough, South Milton, Thurlestone, Salcombe and West Alvington. It is currently proposed that this ward should have two councillors, but will be 9% below the target. This proposal will increase the total electorate from 4,545 to 4,945, 2,472 electors per councillor, a variance of less than one per cent. This proposal has sound geographic reasons, with Churchstow adjoining three of its neighbours in the new ward.
2. Move North Huish (Electorate 385) into Aveton Gifford, Woodleigh, Loddiswell and Buckland-Tout-Saints giving an electorate of 2340(-6%) only 15 electors less than the current proposal (less than one per cent difference).
3. Reunite Brentmoor (Electorate 285) with South Brent Parish, giving an electorate of 2,523, which is 100 less than the current proposal, resulting in an improved variance of plus 1.5% as opposed to plus 6%. These two areas are part of the same civil parish.
4. Removing Brentmoor from the two-member ward of Dartington, Harberton, Rattery, Holne, West Buckfastleigh, Staverton and Littlehempston reduces the electorate from 5,057 to 4,772, giving 2,386 electors per councillor, a variance of minus 4%, compared with plus 2% under the current proposal. It also reduces the very large geographic area to be covered by the two councillors and the number of parishes from eight to seven.

Should members wish to avoid, as far as possible, multi-member wards in rural areas I would propose the following amendments:

1. Newton & Noss & Holbeton, Yealmpton & Ermington.

Presently proposed as a two-member ward with an electorate of 4,798 (-4%).

Divide into two one-member wards:

Newton & Noss & Holbeton, Electorate 2,094 (-16%)

Yealmpton & Ermington, Electorate 2,704 (+9%)

2. S. Huish, Malborough, S. Milton, Thurlestone, Salcombe, Churchstow & W. Alvington.

Presently proposed as a two-member ward with an electorate of 4,945 (-1%)

Divide into two one-member wards:

Salcombe & Malborough, Electorate 2,535 (+2%)

S.Huish, W. Alvington, S.Milton, Thurlestone & Churchstow, Electorate 2,410 (-3%)

3. Dartington, Harberton, Rattery, Holne, W. Buckfastleigh, Staverton, Littlehempston & Dean Prior

Presently proposed as a two-member ward with an electorate of 4,772 (-4%)

Divide into two one-member wards:

Dartington, Staverton & Littlehempston, Electorate 2,589 (+4%)

Harberton, Rattery, Dean Prior, W. Buckfastleigh & Holne, Electorate 2,183 (-12%)

- I can see no way of dividing Bickleigh, Shaugh and Sparkwell into one-member wards without dividing Bickleigh parish.
- The towns of Ivybridge, Totnes, Dartmouth and Kingsbridge, which are proposed as multi-member wards, could be looked at with a view to warding within their boundaries.
- Members may wish to set up a working group to propose names for the new wards.

| <b>Parishes</b>   | <b>No of Members</b> | <b>Electorate</b> | <b>Variance</b> |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Bickleigh, Shaugh Prior and Sparkwell   | 2                    | 4,897             | -2%             |
| Brixton   | 1                    | 2,717             | 9%              |
| Wembury   | 1                    | 2,447             | -2%             |
| Newton & Noss, Holbeton, Yealmpton and Ermington  | 2                    | 4,798             | -4%             |
| Ivybridge   | 4                    | 9,639             | -3%             |
| Ugborough, Harford and Cornwood   | 1                    | 2,831             | 14%             |
| Modbury, Kingston, Ringmore and Bigbury   | 1                    | 2,536             | 2%              |
| Aveton Gifford, Woodleigh, Loddiswell, Buckland Tout-Saints and North Huish                         | 1                    | 2,340             | -6%             |
| South Huish, Malborough, South Milton, Thurlestone, Salcombe, West Alvington and Churchstow         | 2                    | 4,945             | -1%             |
| Kingsbridge   | 2                    | 5,199             | 5%              |
| South Pool, East Portlemouth, Slapton, Chivelstone and Stokenham                                    | 1                    | 2,655             | 7%              |
| Blackawton, East Allington, Strete, Frogmore Charleton and Sherford                                 | 1                    | 2,613             | 5%              |
| Stoke Fleming, Halwell and Moreleigh, Diptford, Dittisham and Cornworthy                            | 1                    | 2,795             | 12%             |
| Kingswear and Stoke Gabriel   | 1                    | 2,320             | -7%             |
| Totnes and Berry Pomeroy (Bridgetown)   | 3                    | 7,372             | -1%             |
| Marldon, Berry Pomeroy and Ashprington  | 1                    | 2,590             | 4%              |
| Dartington, Harberton, Rattery, Dean Prior, Holne, West Buckfastleigh, Staverton and Littlehempston | 2                    | 4,772             | -4%             |
| South Brent and Brent Moor  | 1                    | 2,523             | 1%              |
| Dartmouth and Dartmouth Townstal  | 2                    | 4,596             | -8%             |
|   | 30                   | 74,585            |                 |