

## Have your say

We are now consulting local people on a new pattern of divisions for Suffolk County Council. We have an open mind about our final recommendations, and we will consider every piece of evidence we receive from local groups and people, regardless of whom it is from or whether it relates to the whole council area or just a part of it.

If you agree with our recommendations, please let us know. If you don't think our recommendations are right for Suffolk we want to hear alternative proposals for a different pattern of wards.

# Suffolk County Council

## Draft Recommendations on the new electoral arrangements

We aim to propose a pattern of wards for Suffolk County Council which delivers:

- **Electoral equality:** each councillor represents a similar number of voters.
- **Community identity:** reflects the identity and interests of local communities.
- **Effective and convenient local government:** helping your council discharge its responsibilities effectively.

### A good pattern of wards should:

- Provide good electoral equality, with each councillor representing, as closely as possible, the same number of voters.
- Reflect community interests and identities and include evidence of community links.
- Be based on strong, easily identifiable boundaries.
- Help the council deliver effective and convenient local government.

### Electoral equality

- Does your proposal mean that councillors would represent roughly the same number of voters as elsewhere in the council area?

### Community identity

- **Transport links:** are there good links across your proposed division? Is there any form of public transport?
- **Community groups:** is there a parish council, residents association or another group that represents the area?
- **Facilities:** does your pattern of divisions reflect where local people go for shops, medical services, leisure facilities etc?

### Write to:

Review Officer (Suffolk)  
LGBCE, c/o Cleardata, Innovation  
House, Coniston Court, Riverside  
Business Park, Blyth, NE24 4RP

- **Interests:** what issues bind the community together or separate it from other parts of your area?
- **Identifiable boundaries:** are there natural or constructed features which make strong boundaries for your proposals?

### Effective local government

- Are any of the proposed divisions too large or small to be represented effectively?
- Are the proposed names of the divisions appropriate?

### Useful tips

- Our website has a special consultation area where you can explore the maps and draw your own proposed boundaries. You can find it at [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk).
- We publish all submissions we receive on our website. Go to: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

### Our consultation area:

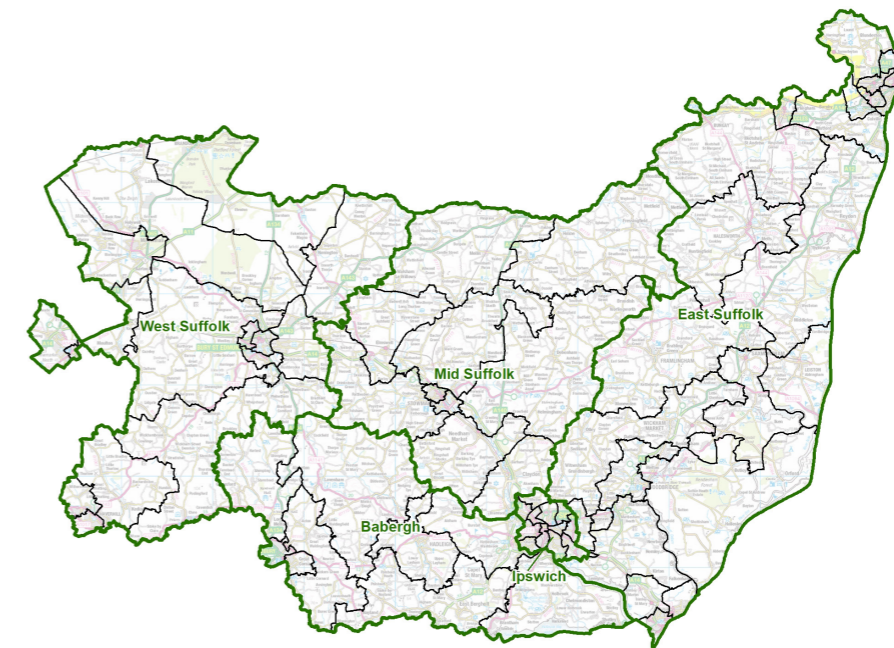
[consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

### Email:

[reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk)

### Twitter:

@LGBCE



### Who we are

- The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament.
- We are not part of government or any political party.
- We are accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons.
- Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

### Electoral review

An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority, including:

- The total number of councillors representing the council's voters ('council size').
- The names, number and boundaries of electoral divisions.
- The number of councillors for each division.

### Why Suffolk?

- Suffolk County Council currently has high levels of electoral inequality: some councillors represent many more - or many fewer - voters than others.
- Therefore the value of your vote, in Suffolk Council elections, varies depending on where you live in Suffolk.
- We are seeking to improve levels of electoral equality for local voters

### Our proposals

- We propose that the council should have **70 councillors** in future, representing 70 single-councillor divisions across the council area.

**You have until 23 November 2020 to have your say on the recommendations**

## Summary of our recommendations

We have considered all the submissions we received during the previous phase of consultation on warding arrangements.

Our draft recommendations propose that Suffolk County Council should have 70 councillors, a decrease of five from the existing arrangements.

Those councillors should represent 70 single-councillor divisions across the council area.

The boundaries of all but one division should change.

An outline of the proposals is shown in the map to the right. A detailed report on the recommendations and interactive mapping is available on our website at: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk).

We welcome comments on our draft recommendations, whether you support the proposals or wish to put forward alternative arrangements.

In particular, we welcome proposals for alternative boundaries or division names which meet the criteria we must follow as part of electoral reviews and which are described in more detail over the page.

Have your say at [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk):

- view the map of our recommendations down to street level.
- draw your own boundaries online.
- zoom into the areas that interest you most.
- find more guidance on how to have your say.
- read the full report of our recommendations.
- send us your views directly.

Stage of Review	Description
24 September 2019 - 13 January 2020	Public consultation on division arrangements
15 September 2020 - 23 November 2020	Public consultation on draft recommendations
11 May 2021	Publication of final recommendations
May 2025	Subject to parliamentary approval - implementation of new arrangements at local elections

# Overview of draft recommendations for Suffolk County Council

View this map online and draw your own boundaries: [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

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

