Wiltshire Council
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AGENDA SUPPLEMENT (1)

Meeting: **Electoral Review Committee**

Place: **Council Chamber - County Hall, Trowbridge BA14 8JN**

Date: **Wednesday 7 February 2018**

Time: **12.00 pm**

The Agenda for the above meeting was published on <u>29 January 2018</u>. Additional documents are now available and are attached to this Agenda Supplement.

Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Kieran Elliott of Democratic Services, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, direct line 01225 718504 or email kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk

Press enquiries to Communications on direct lines (01225)713114/713115.

This Agenda and all the documents referred to within it are available on the Council's website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

6   **Electoral Review Update** *(Pages 3 - 36)*

A draft submission and report are attached.

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 2 February 2018

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Wiltshire Council

Electoral Review Committee

25 January 2018

Council Size Submission Update

Purpose

1. For the Electoral Review Committee ("The Committee") to approve a draft submission on council size, for consideration by Full Council on 20 February 2018.

Background

2. At its meeting on 25 January 2018 the Committee, after consideration of all relevant evidence that had been gathered on governance arrangements, scrutiny arrangements and the representational role of councillors, resolved that the most appropriate council size was 99.

3. A draft submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England ("The Commission") has been prepared by officers using the evidence and reasoning previously approved by the Committee.

Main Considerations

4. In their guidance, the Commission recommend that Council representations on size be made in a short submission of approximately ten pages, setting out the relevant justification and evidence to support the number being put forward. The layout of the proposed submission follows the suggested template from the Commission.

5. The Committee is requested to review the draft submission and indicate whether any further reasoning or evidence should be included.

6. The draft submission has been written as a recommendation from the Committee to Full Council. If approved by Council on 20 February, it will be amended to reflect its status as the formal view of Council. The final deadline for submission to the Commission is 15 March.

Proposal

7. That the Committee approve the draft submission on council size for consideration by Council on 20 February 2018, subject to any minor drafting and consequential changes to be delegated to the Director of Legal and Democratic Services in consultation with the Chairman.

Ian Gibbons – Director of Legal and Democratic Services (and Monitoring Officer)

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Appendix 1 – Draft Council Size Submission

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Electoral Review

Wiltshire Council Submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) Preliminary Stage - Council Size - February 2018

DRAFT

Summary

1. It is proposed that a council size of 99 members be recommended to Full Council for submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England ("The Commission"). This number is considered to be the most appropriate to enable Wiltshire Council ("The Council") to provide effective and convenient local government within Wiltshire, taking into account the Council's political management arrangements, its regulatory and scrutiny functions and the representational role of councillors.

Introduction

2. On 15 September 2017 the Commission informed the Council of its intention to carry out an electoral review in its 2018/19 work programme.

3. This was because, as of 1 December 2016, 25 of the 98 electoral divisions in Wiltshire had a variance from the average division greater than 10% and 2 had a variance of more than 30%. The last review of Wiltshire Council by the Commission was in 2008 in preparation for the first unitary elections in 2009.

4. The aim of the preliminary stage of the electoral review is to determine the total number of councillors to be elected to the council from the next elections in 2021. The figure will be determined after considering the governance arrangements of the council, its scrutiny function, and the representational role of councillors in the local community, and consideration of the total number of councillors needed to most effectively take decisions, hold decision makers to account, discharge responsibilities and effectively represent local groups and people.

5. Additionally, a series of community governance reviews were conducted between 1 April 2014 and 18 October 2016, of a number of town and parish council boundaries and warding arrangements within parishes. A small number of reviews which were not completed in advance of the May 2017 Local Elections have been deferred for consideration while the electoral review of Wiltshire Council is ongoing.

Background

Local Authority Profile

6. Wiltshire Council's administrative area covers 3255km² of the Ceremonial County of Wiltshire, with a population of 488,409[1]. The rest of the county is administered by Swindon Borough Council, who do not form part of this electoral review.

7. Wiltshire Council was formed in 2009 with the merger of Wiltshire County Council and four district councils: West Wiltshire, North Wiltshire, Kennet and Salisbury. The Council operates a strong Leader and Cabinet model of governance, along with a system of community areas for local engagement and decision making.

8. Elections are held on a four-yearly cycle to 98 single-member divisions. There have been no electoral reviews within the 9-year lifespan of the Council. The most recent election was on 2 May 2017, and the current political composition of the council is as follows:

Conservative:	68
Liberal Democrat:	20
Independent :	7
Labour:	3

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[1] *Office of National Statistics Mid-Year 2016 estimates*

9. Figures on the number of candidates at each election are as follows:

> 2009: 353 candidates stood for election to 98 divisions.
> 2013: 308 candidates stood for election and 6 divisions were uncontested. 70 councillors were the same as those elected in 2009.
> 2017: 322 candidates stood for election and 1 division was uncontested. 69 councillors were the same as those elected in 2013.

10. There are 253 town and parish councils within the Wiltshire Council area.

11. There are 5 parliamentary constituencies within the Wiltshire Council area: Chippenham, Salisbury, Devizes, North Wiltshire and South West Wiltshire.

12. Wiltshire Council is the 8th largest local authority in England by population, and the 3rd largest planning authority. It is home to the 3rd highest number of people aged 65+.

13. Wiltshire is home to a significant military presence, and as part of the army rebasing programme 4000 troops stationed in Germany and other areas and their families are due to move to Wiltshire by 2019, requiring significant development of housing, infrastructure and amenities in several areas and impacting on electoral division arrangements.

14. Employment levels in Wiltshire are above average, and though above average economically, significant pockets of urban and rural deprivation exist. Wiltshire is typified by the number of global innovators who have invested and prospered in the Swindon and Wiltshire area such as Honda, Intel and Dyson as well as the presence of a number of innovation-driven sectors including health and life sciences, pharmaceuticals, mobile telecommunications, digital and high value manufacturing in addition to the agricultural and tourism sectors, with Wiltshire home to some of the most ancient monuments in the United Kingdom with Stonehenge, Avebury and other Neolithic sites.

Electoral Review Committee

15. On 17 October 2017 Full Council established an Electoral Review Committee ("The Committee") to progress the review on its behalf, and to formulate recommendations on any submissions to be made to the Commission during the review process. The Committee's terms of reference are attached at Appendix A.

16. The Committee is comprised of 10 elected members appointed in accordance with the rules of political proportionality as follows:

> Conservative: 6
> Liberal Democrat: 2
> Independent: 1
> Labour: 1

17. The Committee is supported by an officer project board headed by one of the council's current three Corporate Directors.

18. The Committee met on the following occasions: 12 December 2017, 11 January, 25 January and 7 February 2018. Committee workshops were also held on 20 December 2017 and 3 January 2018. Previously all elected members were invited to a briefing on the review from the Commission, which was held on 28 November 2017.

19. The Committee's report and recommendations are subject to endorsement by Full Council on 20 February 2018.

Main Considerations

20. In developing its recommendation and proposal the Committee had regard to the following considerations and data:

<u>Governance Arrangements</u>

Cabinet

21. As noted in paragraph 8 the council operates a Leader and Cabinet style of governance. The Leader plus 7 Cabinet Members (within a maximum of 9) comprise the Executive of the council, with the portfolios currently as follows:

- Leader (including Economic Development)
- Adult Social Care, Public Health and Public Protection
- Children, Education and Skills
- Communications, Communities, Leisure and Libraries
- Corporate Services, Heritage, Housing, Arts and Tourism
- Finance, Procurement, ICT and Operational Assets
- Highways, Transport and Waste
- Spatial Planning, Development Management and Property

22. Cabinet meets at least 11 times per year and, alongside two former cabinet committees, met for 99 hours across 73 meetings in the council term 2013-17.

23. Cabinet Members give political direction to officers working within their portfolio and to support them in the implementation of policy. They are accountable for individual delegated decisions and performance within their portfolio both internally and to partners and the community. Approximately 40 delegated decisions are taken per year and as part of the Business Plan commitment for flexible decision making taking place at the right level, whether Cabinet, Cabinet Members, Committees, Full Council, Area Board, or delegated to officers, it is expected that this number will increase in future years in the interests of flexibility and efficiency.

24. In addition to the Cabinet Members, who are the formal members of the Executive, 16 'Portfolio Holders' assist the Cabinet Members. The current positions cover:

- Leisure and Sport
- Communities and Youth
- Libraries, Campuses and Hubs
- Education and Skills
- Children's Safeguarding
- Disabled Children and Adults
- Flooding and Military Covenant
- Heritage, Arts and Tourism
- Adult Social Care Transformation
- Public Health and Public Protection
- IT and Digitisation
- Housing Stock
- Transport
- Streetscene
- Waste
- Strategic Highways, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, European Structural Investment Fund, Canals and Military-Civilian Integration

Page 8

25. The Council see the non-decision making Portfolio Holders as an essential part of ensuring a member-led authority. Their role includes working with services and external partners and other activities such as press communication and public representation. The Independent Remuneration Panel on Members' Allowances noted in 2013 during a review that they were "*an additional resource providing extra capacity to Cabinet Members' work, undertaking in-depth work with Service Directors and also functioning as an extra contact point for non-executive Councillors*" and considered that the role was "*a sensible addition to the structure*". A review by the Independent Remuneration Panel in 2017 maintained the level of special responsibility allowance for the role, recognising their importance to the structure, with the remuneration for Portfolio Holders exceeded only by that for the roles of Cabinet Members, the Chairman of the Council, and the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

26. The number of Portfolio Holders is not fixed but has ranged from 11-16 councillors. The principal impact on other council governance is that as Portfolio Holders, like Cabinet Members, cannot serve on scrutiny committees, and this therefore requires sufficient numbers of non-executive councillors to undertake appropriate and extensive scrutiny activities.

27. There is no anticipation within the council's 10-year business plan that there will be a change from a Leader and Cabinet model.

28. The council is strongly member led, with a Local Government Association Peer Review in 2017 commenting on the political leadership as strong, visible and accessible to partners, public and staff, and setting a clear direction for the council. The Committee maintains this is in part a result of the presence of Portfolio Holders assisting the formal executive membership, with the LGA Peer Review commenting "*There is great strength in the people and processes underpinning the political leadership of the council. We were particularly impressed with the Cabinet and portfolio holders' structure which is strong, inclusive, increases capacity and provides opportunity for succession planning*".

Community Areas and Area Boards
29. The Wiltshire Council area incorporates 20 community areas as shown in the map at Appendix B, focused on natural communities with strong senses of local identity. This community area system has, with minor variations, been employed since 1997 by county and district councils following historical analysis as summarised in Appendix C(from the 2008 submission), and as noted by the Commission in its July 2008 recommendations, has "*been used as the basis of all community and service delivery planning work*" as well as the focus for local engagement with town and parish councils, public bodies and the role of councillors as leaders of their local communities.

30. The community area system was described as a "*fundamental building block*" in the successful bid for unitary status, and the 2017 LGA Peer Review noted the "*well-established and respected community area model with 18 Area Boards which reinforces their 'strong communities' mantra*", and that this "*sound basis of an area model could be used to influence still further activities to support 'place based' delivery of services so that co-ordination of activities between communities, parishes and towns across a larger geographical footprint can be exploited to the full*".

31. Area Boards comprising local unitary councillors within a community area have delegated executive authority to determine £1.3m of funding in 2016/17and influence the net council spend of £327m. In addition to community grants, local highways, youth services, health and wellbeing, older peoples' services, digital inclusion and Voluntary Community Sector

support have been devolved to the Area Boards. It is also a strategic priority of the business plan to devolve further powers and responsibilities to local areas, thereby increasing the workload and responsibility of local members as well as the significance of the community area.

32. The Committee, recognising the continuing and increasing significance of the community area structure to council governance, operation, service delivery and engagement with partners and public, are strongly of the view that any new divisions should be contained within the existing community area boundaries. It was recognised and accepted that in some community areas this would require alterations to existing division boundaries no matter the overall council size, in order to improve electoral equality.

33. 3 community areas, owing to their low populations and lack of a significant centre for South West Wiltshire are combined into a single area board, meaning a total of 18 Area Boards. The boards range from 3-10 members.

34. In the Council's 2008 submission, which was broadly accepted by the Commission, it was argued that the most effective and democratic arrangement would be for a minimum of 4 unitary councillors per Area Board. In recognition of the need for overall electoral equality it was accepted that 2 of the 18 Area Boards would only be able to have 3 members, and substitution arrangements were put in place in the interests of administrative efficiency of decision making. They are the neighbouring boards of Pewsey and Tidworth, who share many characteristics, including being large areas with many parish councils, with similar population sizes.

35. Given the increasing devolved powers granted to community areas via the Area Boards, and their continued focus as the hub of local decisions and engagement for individual councillors, the Committee considers that any overall council size which increased the number of 3-member area boards would unacceptably impact the integrity of the community area system and limit the ability and the role of councillors as community leaders for those areas. It would increase the risk of boards not being quorate for determination of executive allocated funding.

36. Furthermore, the Committee considered that while alternate arrangements were in place for Pewsey and Tidworth, it would not be democratically appropriate for local decision making or reflect the community appropriately to join together other community areas which were not neighbouring and/or lacked such similar characteristics.

37. Therefore, the Committee does not see a situation where any division boundaries cross community area boundaries, and that the sole present example, Laverstock, Ford and Old Sarum, be adjusted to correct this.

38. The tables overleaf show the spread of councillors to area boards for 93-99 councillors, and the variance from the council-wide average for the divisions within that board area, assuming electoral equality within that area is achieved[2].

39. The tables[3] demonstrate that by distributing Area Board councillor numbers based on the average council electorate, any number below 99 results in an additional board dropping to 3 councillors. Additionally, by the same method, any number below 87 would result in one board dropping to only 2 councillors.

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[2] After initial consideration of the evidence the Committee directed the Project team to work within a council size range of 93-99, before determining the optimum size of 99

40. Additionally, at 99 councillors it is possible for all divisions across all area boards to be within 10-15% of the average. In 3 Area Boards it is acknowledged it would result in up to 11 divisions with such variations even if perfect equality is achieved within that area. By comparison, the divisions created by the Commission in 2009 included 1 division at 17% from the average, and 14 divisions between 10-15%.

Table 1 – Number of Councillors Per Area Board

	TOTAL	COUNCILORS	PER	AREA	BOARD		
Area Boards	**93**	**94**	**95**	**96**	**97**	**98**	**99**
Amesbury	6	6	6	7	7	7	7
Bradford on Avon	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Calne	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Chippenham	9	9	9	9	9	10	10
Corsham	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Devizes	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Malmesbury	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Marlborough	3	3	3	3	3	3	4
Melksham	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Pewsey	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Salisbury	8	8	8	8	9	9	9
South West	4	4	5	5	5	5	5
Southern	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
Tidworth	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Trowbridge	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Warminster	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Westbury	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Average Voters Per Division	**4474**	**4426**	**4380**	**4334**	**4290**	**4246**	**4203**

Table 2 – Area Board Variance (%)

Area Board/Council Size	93	94	95	96	97	98	99
Amesbury	7	8	10	-5	-4	-3	-2
Bradford on Avon	-12	-11	-10	-9	-8	-7	-6
Calne	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3
Chippenham	1	2	3	4	5	-4	-3
Corsham	5	6	7	9	10	11	12
Devizes	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Malmesbury	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Marlborough	10	11	12	14	15	16	-12
Melksham	-2	0	1	2	3	4	5
Pewsey	-10	-9	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5
Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Salisbury	2	3	4	5	-6	-5	-4
South West	12	13	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5
Southern	12	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4
Tidworth	6	7	9	10	11	12	13
Trowbridge	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1
Warminster	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	2	3
Westbury	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	3

Council and Committee Overview

41. Full Council has 4-5 scheduled meetings per year and has met for 110 hours across 20 meetings in the council term 2013-17.

42. At its first meeting in 2009 the Council allocated 172 committee places, including joint committees with Swindon Borough Council and others. As of the end of 2017, the Council has allocated 174 committee places, across a schedule of committees based on current political proportionality as detailed overleaf:

Table 3 – Schedule of Committee Places

Committee	Total Number of Places for Elected Members	Conservative Group Allocation (68 seats)	Liberal Democrat Group Allocation (20 seats)	Labour Group Allocation (3 seats)	Independent Group Allocation (7 seats)
Strategic Planning	11	8	2	0	1
Area Planning Committees					
North	11	8	3	0	0
South	11	7	1	1	2
East	8	7	0	0	1
West	11	7	3	0	1
Licensing	12	8	3	0	1
Overview and Scrutiny Management	15	10	3	1	1
Children's Select	13	9	3	0	1
Environment Select	13	8	3	1	1
Health Select	13	9	3	0	1
Standards	11	8	2	0	1
Police and Crime Panel	7	5	2	0	0
Audit	11	8	2	1	0
Appeals	8	5	2	0	1
Staffing Policy	9	6	2	1	0
Officer Appointments	5	4	1	0	0
Pension Fund	5	4	1	0	0
TOTALS:	174	121	36	5	12

43. Additionally, 8 places each are allocated to the politically proportionate standing working groups of the Corporate Parenting Panel and the Safeguarding Children and Young People Panel. In effect, therefore, there are presently 190 committee places.

44. Chairmanship of committees is determined by Full Council at its annual meeting, with the exception of the scrutiny committees, police and crime panels and area boards, who appoint their chairs at their first meeting after the annual meeting of council.

45. Excluding members from the calculation who cannot serve on some committees, such as scrutiny committees, each councillor is appointed, on average, to 3.1 committees as a full member and 1.9 committees as a substitute. Data collected for the review indicated councillors were expected to attend on average over 23 formal committee meetings per year, with all attendant preparatory work.

Regulatory - Planning and Licensing
46. The council has five planning committees: A strategic planning committee covering applications defined as significant countywide, and four area planning committees to enable more localised decision making. For the council term 2013-2017 the planning committees met for a combined total of 489 hours across 225 meetings.

47. All the committees are presently scheduled to meet 12-13 times per year. 52 committee places are allocated to the planning committees out of the total of 190, in recognition of the importance of the planning function to residents.

48. The most recent available figures indicate that 96% of planning application decisions were taken by officers under delegated powers[4].

49. The Licensing Committee, comprised of 12 members, meets quarterly to oversee all licensing functions that are the responsibility of the council. Sub-Committees of three members are arranged on an ad hoc basis to determine applications and reviews. For the Council term 2013-2017 there were 45 sub-committee hearings in addition to 12 hours of the full committee.

Governance Committees
50. The council has maintained Audit and Standards Committees to oversee various aspects of its governance. Each is scheduled to meet quarterly and has 11 members.

51. In addition to meeting for 43 hours across 31 meetings for Audit and Standards for the council term 2013-2017, 30 Standards Review Sub-Committee meetings and 1 Standards Hearing Sub-Committee were held to consider matters relating to Code of Conduct complaints as required under the Localism Act 2011.

Other Committees
52. Other committees include the Officer Appointments Committee for the interview and selection of council directors, and the Appeals Committee for rates relief and school transport appeals, both of which meet on an ad hoc basis, 32 times for the council term 2013-2017, and the Staffing Policy Committee, which meets quarterly to consider council staffing matters.

Joint Arrangements
53. The council operates a number of different arrangements with other authorities and bodies. The Joint Strategic Economic Committee was established in 2015 and meets 4-5 times per year and consists of representatives from the executives of Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council to monitor the work of the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SWLEP) as well as consider other joint planning work.

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[4] Jul-Sept 17 figures reported to DCLG

Additionally, joint scrutiny of the SWLEP is included in the Overview and Scrutiny arrangements of both Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council, and is recognised as among the more advanced in the country in respect of Local Enterprise Partnerships[5].

54. The Wiltshire Pension Fund Committee meets 5-6 times per year and consists of 5 representatives from Wiltshire Council, 2 from Swindon Borough Council, as well as other voting representatives from employers invested in the Fund, and union observers. The Local Pension Board monitors the management of the Fund.

55. The Health and Wellbeing Board brings together health and social care system leaders to agree the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (shared evidence base), a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (shared priorities) and encourage integrated commissioning and provision of health and social care. It is currently Chaired by the Leader of the Council and includes cabinet member and opposition councillors, as well as Clinical Commission Group and other health partners and meets 4-5 times per year. In the council term 2013-2017 it met 21 times for over 33 hours.

56. The Police and Crime Panel meets 6 times per year and includes 6 Wiltshire Councillors to review and scrutinise the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner. In the council term 2013-2017 it met 26 times for over 66 hours.

Shared Services

57. The council shares many services with external partners, including IT, Systems Thinking and a Programme Office with Wiltshire Police. Children's commissioning is shared with the Clinical Commissioning Group, with a new senior officer structure being negotiated with the Secretary of State to include a joint Director of the council and the CCG. Others include the shared history centre and archiving service with Swindon Borough Council. In relation to partnership working, the LGA Peer Review in 2017 stated Wiltshire in several instances such as the One Public Estate Programme or military rebasing was the "go to exemplar site for effective partnership and implementation".

Scrutiny Arrangements
58. Since a major review in 2012 Wiltshire Council's Overview and Scrutiny Structure has comprised a Management Committee and three service focused Select Committees: Children's Select, Health Select and Environment Select. The Management Committee comprises 15 members and meets approximately 8 times per year, with the Select Committees comprising 13 members and meeting approximately 6 times per year. Across the council term 2013-2017 they met for a combined 107 meetings and 219 hours.

59. The Committees consider an average of 5 substantive agenda items per meeting. More in-depth work is undertaken in task groups, rapid scrutiny exercises, and by appointing representatives to corporate programme boards at the invitation of the executive.

60. There are currently 11 active task groups with an average of 5 members on each, including 3 standing task groups and a mixture of medium to long term groups to last between 6-12 months. There have been 3 rapid scrutiny exercises since May 2017 with a further 2 planned, and three representatives sit on programme boards.

61. The Scrutiny forward planning is extensive and involves significant coordination with the Executive, including close work with the portfolio holders, to identify suitable topics for

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[5] https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcomloc/369/369.pdf

scrutiny engagement. These focus significantly on developing policy and the delivery of the Business Plan. This also includes annual consideration of the Administration Budget, and also the opportunity for any opposition amendments to be considered. Call-ins of executive decisions are rare, with only 3 in the past 4 years due to the extent of open dialogue and constructive reporting that takes place between Cabinet Members, Portfolio Holders, directors and leading Overview and Scrutiny councillors.

62. In 2015 the council invited the Local Government Association to undertake a peer review of the Overview and Scrutiny arrangements, which was the first in the country. In addition to noting the "*mature approach"* in respect of Call-ins, the overall outcomes of the review were positive, with the alignment with the council's business plan, positive relationship between executive and scrutiny, work with partners, and clear understanding of the role of scrutiny among councillors and officers, as well as "*good opportunities for opposition members to provide leadership to the function*" were highlighted.

63. Around 100 recommendations are made by task groups per year, and committees had involvement with 59% of cabinet decisions. In order to continue to have meaningful, long term involvement in the development of council policies and scrutinise the decision-making process, the Committee argues that there needs to be sufficient numbers of non-executive councillors to perform this key function.

64. In 2016/17 88% of non-executive councillors had involvement with the scrutiny process. However, many of those will not have been involved with more than one activity in that period. Should the number of councillors be reduced it would be difficult to maintain the present level of effective scrutiny activities, particularly in light of other committee requirements the reduced number of councillors would be required to perform.

65. There are no plans at this stage to further review the scrutiny arrangements apart from any appropriate reaction to the findings from the Department of Communities and Local Government's recent review of scrutiny.

Representational Role of Councillors
66. The need to reflect the identities and interests of local communities is a key factor in any review, and the ability of councillors to represent those communities is essential.

67. The council's arrangements prioritise the role of councillors as community leaders, with Area Boards an integral part in providing a focus for community leadership, local influence and delegated decision-making, through the democratic mandate of elected councillors and formalised engagement with the local community, local groups, public bodies and parish council's formal partners within a community area. They enable local decision making for a variety of grant funding, as well as provide forums for local communities to raise issues or be consulted by the unitary authority. Community Engagement Managers work with councillors to coordinate work with local bodies and groups to enhance their leadership of their communities through public and other meetings, as well as setting strategic priorities, collaboration with partners and examining local issues.

68. For the council term 2013-2017, the average attendance at area boards, including officers and councillors, was between 40-50 people, and they met on average 25 times for a total of 51 hours, not including associated meetings such as Local Youth Network and Community Area Transport Group meetings.

69. The Committee has undertaken surveys to determine both the type of activity undertaken by councillors in their representational role, and the amount of time allocated to specific

activities. The questions asked were taken from the Commission's technical guidance and were collated as part of the papers for the meeting held on 11 January 2018.

70. In summary, from the 49 responses received it was clear councillors carry out their representational role responsively in a variety of ways, as each councillor is responsible for their own constituency arrangements. Some held regular surgeries and public meetings or as needed on major issues, particularly in larger, rural divisions, and while referral to officers and other agencies would often form part of their casework process, responses indicated many councillors undertake extensive work to attempt resolution in the first instance. While induction training and information updates were provided, as well as the area board and associated bodies providing a level of assistance, no administrative support was available for casework.

71. On overall workloads, councillors indicated on average 24 hours per week were spent on council business, an increase of 3 hours since the last survey in 2013. There were 50 responses. From those responses, it was indicated 5.1 per week was taken up with committee preparation and work, 5.6 hours on casework, 2.9 hours on parish council engagement and other work, 7.3 hours working via email or social media, and 3.7 hours travelling on council business.

72. The council is currently reviewing the role of councillors on outside bodies. Some of these bodies are locally based with an expectation the local member be involved, others are county wide, some are appointed by areas boards, and some allocated by political group leaders. There are presently approximately 150 outside bodies. Of those around half involve formal voting rights on decisions. There are variable activities, but in some case can be a significant additional workload. Some councillors may be on as many as 6 or more outside bodies, and meet quarterly or more frequently.

Population and Electorate Data
73. The Committee considered several approaches to calculate a projected electorate for 2024. The impact of that projection under the current division boundaries is shown at Appendix C. The data will be provided subsequently to the Commission at polling district level in time for Stage 1 of the review.

74. The used calculation applies both the Office for National Statistics (ONS) population projection increase (3.8% for Wiltshire) and the proposed growth in housing numbers from April 2017 to March 2024. This is likely to include an element of 'double-counting' as a proportion of the population increase will also reside in the new housing built from 2017 to 2024.

75. Proposed new housing figures used in the calculation used by the committee included:

   * Planning permissions granted and resolutions to grant planning permission up to 31 March 2016 (Source: Wiltshire Council, Housing Land Supply Statement Update, March 2017)
   * Additional large sites (>10 units) identified beyond 1 April 2016 (Table 3, Wiltshire Council, Housing Land Supply Statement Update, March 2017)
   * Outstanding allocations (Wiltshire Core Strategy, Chippenham Site Allocation Plan, emerging Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan and former district council saved policies)
   * 'Made' and post-examination Neighbourhood Plan allocations (as at 31 March 2016)
   * Army Basing Service Family Accommodation with planning permission

- An allowance has been included for 'windfall' housing development in Wiltshire

76. A ratio of number of electors per dwelling to convert the additional housing numbers into a projected electorate was then calculated as follows, though it remains a priority for the council to improve its electoral registration and so for the ratio to potentially increase:

Table 4 – Elector ratio

Total dwellings in Wiltshire (1 April 2016 *Source: DCLG – Live tables on dwelling stock: "Table 100: number of dwellings by tenure and district, England"*)	211,580
Total Electorate (December 2016)	364,167
Average number of electorate per dwelling	1.72

77. The table below shows the total projected electorate, and the average of electors per Councillor as the council currently stands.

Table 5 – Projected Electorate Total

	Electorate 2017 *(a)*	Electorate 2024 applying ONS population projection only (3.8%) *(b)*	Planned new residential units 2017 - 2024 *(c)*	Estimated additional electorate from planned residential units and including windfall *(d)* *(d) = (c) x 1.72*	Total Electorate Estimate 2024 *(e)* *(e) = (b) + (d)*
Wiltshire Total	**367686**	381658	22611	38890	**420549**[6]

2017 Average Electors per Councillor (98)	3752

2024 Average Electors per Councillor (98)	4291

78. The table overleaf shows the present figures as compared to the council's statistical neighbours, derived from the CIPFA family group[7].

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[6] This total includes windfall figures, hence the slight difference from the community model average
[7] Although the table listed Rutland Council as the 15th statistical neighbor it has not been included due to its far smaller scale to all others listed. Where electoral reviews are ongoing or recently concluded, the figure for the new council size has been used.

Table 6 – Statistical neighbours

Unitary Authority	Population (ONS mid 2016 estimates)	Geographic Area (square km) ONS	People per square km	Number of Councillors	Number of Wards	Electors (1 Dec 2016)	Average electors per councillor
Cheshire East	376,695	1166	323	82	52	296,368	3614
Central Bedfordshire	278,937	716	390	59	31	205,961	3491
Shropshire Council	313,373	3197	98	74	63	240,412	2245
Cheshire West and Chester	335,680	917	366	75	46	264,798	3783
Herefordshire Council	189,309	2180	87	53	53	138,719	2617
Bath and North East Somerset	187,751	345.9	543	65	37	134,037	2257
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	337,696	2405	140	67	26	260,403	3887
North Somerset	211,681	374	566	50	35	161,880	3238
Cornwall Council	553,687	3546	156	123	122	408,453	4891
Bedford	168,751	476	355	40	27	128,199	3205
South Gloucestershire	277,623	497	559	70	35	210,251	3451
Northumberland County Council	316,002	5014	63	67	66	235,556	3516
West Berkshire Council	156,837	704.2	223	52	30	120,464	2825
City of York	208,367	271.9	766.3	47	21	147,099	3130
Average	**279,456**	**1557.9**	**331**	na	na	**210,900**	**3,296**
Wiltshire Council	**488,409**	**3255**	**150**	**98**	**98**	**361,567**	**3689**

79. It was noted that the council's present electorate to Councillor ratio was exceeded by only 3 of its statistical neighbours, and that the ratio would rise to 4203 per councillor if a council size of 99 were adopted, larger than all but 1 other statistical neighbour.

Conclusion

80. The Electoral Review Committee undertook a review of council size based on the briefing and guidance given by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England. It considered evidence as detailed in this submission over a 2-month period for the preliminary stage of the electoral review.

81. In respect of governance arrangements the council's committee structure is arranged to meet its statutory and other obligations. No evidence was received which indicated that a reduction in the number of councillors on those committees would improve their effectiveness. The only appreciable impact would be to increase the workload of individual councillors. LGA peer reviews have not identified weaknesses in the council's governance arrangements.

82. Moreover, while much work is done online, travel time is a significant factor for councillors in a large county such as Wiltshire. For some the travel distance to main hubs will be unavoidable, but in order to devote appropriate attention to local casework, parish council attendance and other local work, divisions cannot become too geographically large. Given the low population in some areas, a reduction in council size would result in overly large divisions which would prevent councillors from performing their role as community leaders efficiently and effectively. Area boards also serve as hubs for meetings between parish council representatives and division members. Councillors are central to the council's operating structure and, with the reduction in council staff often act as the primary liaison on many operational matters to those areas. As more services are delegated to parish councils, unitary councillors will increasingly take on this role.

83. Furthermore, the evidence clearly demonstrated the central importance of the community area system to council governance, and the need to maintain an optimum council size.

84. In relation to scrutiny arrangements, the evidence demonstrated an effective scrutiny function with substantial levels of activity and positive outcomes, and that to enable this to continue it is important to retain sufficient numbers of non-executive councillors to perform the necessary tasks.

Recommendation

85. On the basis of the deliberations and evidence the Committee recommends a council size 99 for the following reasons:

    - It would enable arrangements which would meet the requirements of electoral equality with the redrawing of the boundaries of a number of divisions;
    - It would maintain and secure effective and convenient local government; and
    - Through retention of the community areas, the identities and interests of local communities would be reflected.

86. The Committee also expressed a strong preference to retain the council's present single member division structure, with no multi-member divisions.

The Electoral Review Committee

Appendices

Appendix A - Terms of Reference of the Electoral Review Committee
Appendix B - Area Board Map
Appendix C - Extract from 2008 Submission - Community Areas
Appendix D - Electorate Projection by Division including variance

Background Papers

LGA Peer Review 2017
Wiltshire Council Business Plan 2017-2027
Overview and Scrutiny Peer Challenge 2015
2008 Submission to the Boundary Commission for England
BCE 2008 Final Recommendations
Independent Remuneration Panel Reports 2013 and 2017

Electoral Review Committee Terms of Reference

1) <u>Composition</u>

   a) The Committee shall consist of 10 members appointed in accordance with the rules on political proportionality.

   b) The Committee shall appoint a chairman and vice chairman from among its membership.

2) <u>Responsibilities</u>

   a) To oversee the provision of information required by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England in carrying out its Electoral Review of Wiltshire, including any consultation arrangements with electors or other stakeholders;

   b) To update full Council on the progress of the Electoral Review;

   c) To make recommendations to full Council on proposed submissions to the LGBCE relating to:
      i) The total number of councillors on Wiltshire Council;
      ii) The number and boundaries of electoral divisions within Wiltshire Council;
      iii) The number of councillors to be returned by any electoral division;
      iv) The name of any electoral division;

   c) To determine on a case by case basis whether any requests for community governance reviews should be progressed during the Electoral Review and if so:

      i) to make recommendations to Council accordingly
      ii) to oversee any community governance reviews that are to proceed and to make recommendations to Council on the outcomes of such reviews.

   e) To provide such further advice and support as may be requested by the Council related to or impacted upon by the Electoral Review.

Wiltshire Area Boards and Community Partnership Areas 2009

Board Areas

Parish

Community Partnership Areas
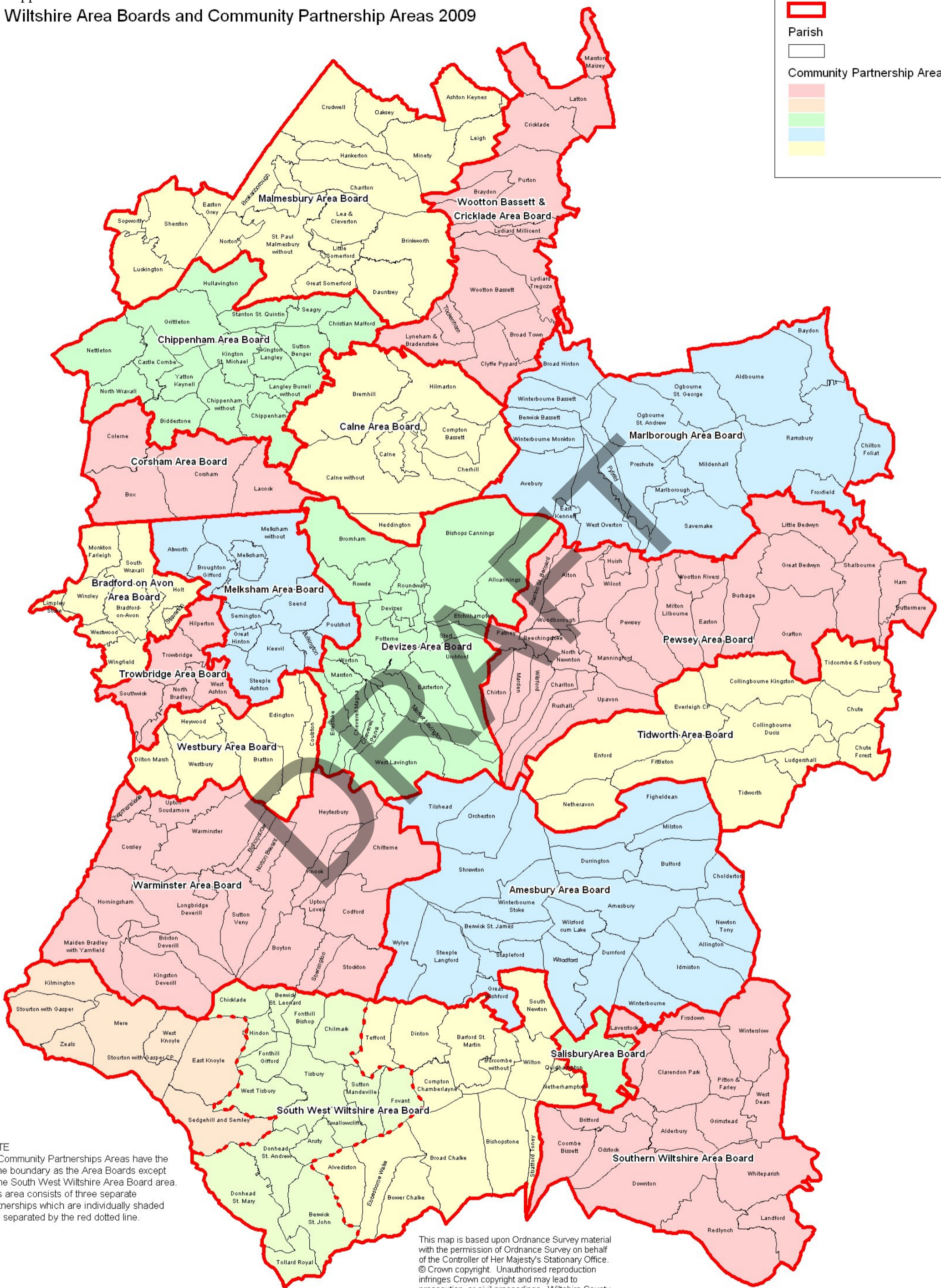
NOTE
All Community Partnerships Areas have the same boundary as the Area Boards except in the South West Wiltshire Area Board area. This area consists of three separate partnerships which are individually shaded and separated by the red dotted line.

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office. © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Wiltshire County Council. 100023455. 2008.

Susie Read, Senior Research Officer, Policy Research & Communications

Extract from the 2008 submission to the Boundary Commission for England

4. COMMUNITY IDENTITY: Wiltshire's 20 Community Areas
4.1 Origin and Concept

4.1.1 In the mid 1990's there was an interest in defining 'natural communities' ie. areas that reflected local patterns of life, not the administrative needs of local service providers. The objective in Wiltshire was to define a manageable number of such areas, which would be intermediate in size between the district and the individual parish levels.

4.2 Defining the Community Areas

4.2.1 To begin to define the areas an initial map was produced based on the best fit between a number of factors. These factors were:-
- Secondary school catchment areas
- Pre-1974 urban and rural district council areas
- Postcode towns
- Local convenience shopping catchment areas
- Travel-to-Work Areas
- Public transport links and car journey times
- Geology and topography ie. landscape types

4.3 Initial Testing
4.3.1 The resulting map was subsequently tested in a variety of ways:

- Through consultation with the 256 town and parish councils, which led to a handful of parishes changing area to retain community links
- Consultation with County Councillors
- By commissioning a study from an eminent local historian, Dr. John Chandler, on the historical validity of the areas. This study was subsequently published as the book, 'A Sense of Belonging' (1998). The book examined a wide range of evidence, including historical local authority administrative boundaries; rural deaneries; hundreds; religious allegiance and attendance patterns; railway, canal and stagecoach links; patterns of local life from the geographer, Bracey's

  Social Provision in Wiltshire (1952); population trends; and the growth of market towns, etc.
- One district council requested that Mere and Tisbury community area be divided into two, as a condition for using the areas for the production of community area plans. This resulted in the current 20 community areas.

4.4 Community Areas in Practise

4.4.1 The Community Areas have been used for a wide variety of work in the County Council, Districts Councils and other Public Sector partners. For example:

- As a basis for defining local service team boundaries (many such service areas cover two, and in some cases, three community areas)
- As a basis for some district council area committee boundaries
- As areas for crime recording and reporting by the Police, and as the framework within which neighbourhood policing areas nest. Neighbourhood tasking teams use community area partnerships as their contact groups for engaging with local communities
- Analytical work to support strategic land use planning, including population forecasting, rural facilities monitoring, etc.
- Production of 20 community area statistical profiles
- Production of 20 community area plans
- As a basis for consultations with communities, eg. on waste, the Local Transport Plan, and for the County's People's Voice panel
- As the geographical basis for the formation of community area partnerships in all districts, except Salisbury which has a preference for parish planning
- Local Transport Plan – contains (community) area transport strategies
- Market town regeneration projects eg. the RDA's Coastal and Market Towns Initiative

4.5 Retaining a Common Map

4.5.1 It should not be underestimated what an achievement it is to have defined areas which have been adopted by all key organisations in the County, and which have become part of the everyday language of local governance. The current situation is the result of 15 years of joint working and development. The community areas are considered best practice nationally, and were a factor in the County Council receiving Beacon Status for 'Getting Closer to Communities' in 2005.

4.5.2 Nor should it be underestimated how easily this vital common resource could be lost. Any changes to the areas need to be rigorously argued, as every change, even minor ones, have costs attached to them eg. the police would have to change all their crime reporting areas, and recalculate time series and trends, as would the County Council for population estimates, and rural facilities, etc.

4.5.3 This is not to say that there are not pressures on the system. For example, Salisbury district area committees have diverged from the community areas due to the need to contain enough members to run an area committee, and the wish to avoid splitting district wards. This led to the area committee boundary being a rival to the community area as a basis for local governance, and this can be confusing for the public.

4.5.4 Some community areas which contain more than one large settlement also periodically express a wish to subdivide their area. Some rural parishes also want to underplay their interaction with and use of local towns, and so question the underlying functionality of the community areas.

4.5.5 Finally, the previous Boundary Committee review of electoral areas took little note of the importance of community areas in Wiltshire, with the result that the number of county council divisions which crossed community area boundaries was actually increased over the previous electoral arrangements, and one division actually extended into three community areas. This was not helpful in reinforcing the shared community areas map as a common basis for organising the county.

4.6 The Continuing Validity of Community Areas

4.6.1 Many of the factors that informed the original definition of the community areas are tied to the basic characteristics of Wiltshire. For instance, geological and topological factors still underlie differences in landscape character, the historical routing of roads (eg. along river valleys) and settlement distribution - with the County's population being particularly concentrated along the Bristol Avon, which flows through the clay vales to the west of the County, whereas the chalk downlands are characterised by small, widely dispersed villages. The largest settlement in South Wiltshire, Salisbury, occupies a unique position at the confluence of three river valleys, fed by a further two tributary rivers. Other factors, such as the historical importance of pre-1974 urban and rural district council areas, and postcode areas, remain unchanged.

4.6.2 An analysis of the hierarchy of centres within the County which provided services and facilities for their surrounding areas was undertaken as part of the last Structure Plan development. This showed that there was a good fit between the higher level service centres that were identified, and the centres which give their names to the community areas.

4.6.3 With a view to considering the continuing validity of the community areas, work has been done on checking the range of services and facilities at each of the local service centres within each community area. This has involved analyses of current school catchments (with the exception of Downton, Mere and Tisbury, secondary schools are located at each of these centres) and travel-to-work patterns. In addition, a mid-point analysis of distances between these same settlements, which can be used as a proxy for journey times, has also been undertaken. There have been some changes to the transport infrastructure of the County in recent years, notably the Chippenham by-pass and Semington diversion. Ideally, one would want to undertake an analysis of bus routes and car journey times, but this has not been possible as part of this exercise, and in any case is variable depending on time of day, and changes in bus services and timetables. Also, it would be useful to reassess local convenience shopping patterns, but this would be a considerable undertaking.

4.6.4 The work undertaken established that, in the context of the surrounding area, each of these service centres continues to have a good range of services and facilities. In consequence, it is likely that each centre will continue to function as the main focus for the surrounding area. (See Appendix 2)(In some of the community areas there are sub-centres, such as Durrington within the Amesbury area, Ludgershall within the Tidworth area, and Cricklade within the Wootton Bassett and Cricklade area, but they have a smaller range of services and facilities, and consequently smaller catchments. Also, the physical proximity of these lower order centres to the named community area service centre makes them of secondary importance within their areas).

4.6.5 In terms of the relationships within each community area, the analysis established that, currently, a significant 83% of all pupils both live and attend school in their own community area, and for many areas this figure is higher. Similarly, in terms of travel-to-work patterns, an analysis of 2001 travel-to-work patterns showed that, on the whole, the areas with the strongest links to each of the local service centres were remarkably similar in pattern and scale to the twenty community areas, although this was less so in the Salisbury area. (See Appendix 3) However, even in this area, the mid-point analysis showed that the spatial pattern that resulted closely reflected the pattern of community areas. In summary, in one way or another, virtually all community areas continue to represent important "on the ground" patterns of community life.

4.6.6 It is important to remember that, in addition to these functional considerations, the purpose of the community map was to describe areas that are small enough in scale to be familiar to local residents, and in which they spend the major part of their daily lives. All available evidence suggests that people identify most strongly with their village and local town ie. their local area. Community areas need to be small enough to be a basis for community engagement, debate and action. The existing map has proved that it is able to produce this sort of engagement and interest.

4.7 Future Prospects

4.7.1 There are a number of developments which make retaining the community area map even more important:

- The amalgamation of the three PCT's into a single Wiltshire PCT creates the opportunity to adopt community areas as a common basis for joint working, and this is already beginning to happen

- The proposals for the new Wiltshire Authority from April 2009 place massive emphasis on community area working, and set great store by a future way of working based on community area boards and area partnerships. Local elected members will be expected to use area boards,

in particular, as a key vehicle for exercising their community leadership role

- Creation of single police division for Wiltshire, and neighbourhood policing reinforce the links with community area working

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Projected electorate at 2024 using ONS population projections and anticipated growth in residential dwellings (estimate January 2018)

Electoral Division	Electorate 2017	Electorate 2024 applying ONS population projection only (3.8%)	Planned new residential units 2017 - 2024	Estimated additional electorate from planned residential units (c) x 1.72	Total Electorate Estimate 2024
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d) (d) = (c) x 1.72	(e) (e) = (b) + (d)
Aldbourne and Ramsbury ED	4054	4208	22	37	4245
Alderbury and Whiteparish ED	3389	3518	38	65	3583
Amesbury East ED	4861	5046	859	1478	6523
Amesbury West ED	3709	3850	30	51	3901
Bourne and Woodford Valley ED	3425	3555	23	40	3595
Box and Colerne ED	3852	3998	8	14	4012
Bradford-on-Avon North ED	3856	4003	204	351	4353
Bradford-on-Avon South ED	4091	4246	6	10	4256
Brinkworth ED	3710	3851	39	68	3919
Bromham, Rowde and Potterne ED	3892	4040	25	43	4083
Bulford, Allington and Figheldean ED	4009	4161	252	433	4594
Burbage and The Bedwyns ED	3944	4094	36	61	4155
By Brook ED	3595	3732	85	146	3877
Calne Central ED	3438	3569	223	384	3952
Calne Chilvister and Abberd ED	3936	4086	12	21	4106
Calne North ED	3361	3489	283	487	3975
Calne Rural ED	3621	3759	220	379	4137
Calne South and Cherhill ED	3735	3877	222	382	4259
Chippenham Cepen Park and Derriads ED	3390	3519	1	1	3520
Chippenham Cepen Park and Redlands ED	3554	3689	78	134	3823
Chippenham Hardenhuish ED	3491	3624	29	50	3674
Chippenham Hardens and England ED	3281	3406	53	92	3497
Chippenham Lowden and Rowden ED	3691	3831	592	1019	4850

Chippenham Monkton ED	3045	3161	505	869	4030
Chippenham Pewsham ED	3425	3555	1	1	3556
Chippenham Queens and Sheldon ED	3280	3405	1	1	3406
Corsham Pickwick ED	3767	3910	156	269	4179
Corsham Town ED	3781	3925	385	661	4586
Corsham Without and Box Hill ED	4128	4285	1020	1754	6039
Cricklade and Latton ED	3900	4048	101	174	4222
Devizes and Roundway South ED	3456	3587	54	92	3680
Devizes East ED	3064	3180	25	43	3223
Devizes North ED	3203	3325	199	342	3667
Downton and Ebble Valley ED	3830	3976	109	188	4163
Durrington and Larkhill ED	4847	5031	786	1352	6383
Ethandune ED	3607	3744	47	81	3825
Fovant and Chalke Valley ED	3423	3553	413	711	4264
Hilperton ED	3925	4074	205	352	4426
Holt and Staverton ED	3491	3624	70	121	3744
Kington ED	4063	4217	1228	2112	6329
Laverstock, Ford and Old Sarum ED	4108	4264	533	917	5181
Ludgershall and Perham Down ED	3739	3881	923	1588	5469
Lyneham ED	3306	3432	30	52	3484
Malmesbury ED	4164	4322	368	634	4956
Marlborough East ED	3269	3393	76	131	3524
Marlborough West ED	2950	3062	230	395	3458
Melksham Central ED	3837	3983	24	41	4024
Melksham North ED	3686	3826	214	367	4194
Melksham South ED	4005	4157	29	50	4207
Melksham Without North ED	4346	4511	120	207	4718
Melksham Without South ED	4043	4197	841	1447	5644
Mere ED	3470	3602	141	242	3844
Minety ED	3844	3990	65	112	4102
Nadder and East Knoyle ED	3505	3638	8	14	3652
Pewsey ED	3837	3983	92	157	4140
Pewsey Vale ED	3502	3635	52	90	3725

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Purton ED	4333	4498	424	729	5226
Redlynch and Landford ED	3724	3866	5	9	3875
Roundway ED	3505	3638	82	140	3778
Royal Wootton Bassett East ED	3821	3966	7	12	3978
Royal Wootton Bassett North ED	3642	3780	24	41	3822
Royal Wootton Bassett South ED	4944	5132	134	231	5363
Salisbury Bemerton ED	4408	4576	910	1565	6141
Salisbury Fisherton and Bemerton Village ED	3430	3560	4	6	3567
Salisbury Harnham ED	4154	4312	102	175	4487
Salisbury St. Edmund and Milford ED	3629	3767	290	498	4265
Salisbury St. Francis and Stratford ED	4087	4242	72	124	4366
Salisbury St. Mark's and Bishopdown ED	4119	4276	94	162	4437
Salisbury St. Martin's and Cathedral ED	4177	4336	7	12	4348
Salisbury St. Paul's ED	3770	3913	541	931	4844
Sherston ED	4016	4169	125	215	4384
Southwick ED	3578	3714	1581	2720	6434
Summerham and Seend ED	3462	3594	29	50	3644
The Collingbournes and Netheravon ED	3276	3400	1	2	3402
The Lavingtons and Erlestoke ED	3994	4146	88	152	4298
Tidworth ED	4654	4831	326	560	5391
Till and Wylye Valley ED	3626	3764	11	18	3782
Tisbury ED	3601	3738	6	10	3748
Trowbridge Adcroft ED	3600	3737	16	28	3765
Trowbridge Central ED	3746	3888	35	61	3949
Trowbridge Drynham ED	3176	3297	3	5	3301
Trowbridge Grove ED	3301	3426	67	115	3542
Trowbridge Lambrok ED	3666	3805	1	2	3807
Trowbridge Park ED	3701	3842	38	65	3907
Trowbridge Paxcroft ED	4657	4834	125	215	5049
Urchfont and The Cannings ED	3849	3995	312	537	4532
Warminster Broadway ED	3713	3854	277	477	4331
Warminster Copheap and Wylye ED	3533	3667	5	9	3676
Warminster East ED	4315	4479	172	296	4775

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Warminster West ED	4146	4304	477	820	5123
Warminster Without ED	3436	3567	46	78	3645
West Selkley ED	3384	3513	23	40	3552
Westbury East ED	3765	3908	333	574	4482
Westbury North ED	3659	3798	290	499	4297
Westbury West ED	3909	4058	306	527	4584
Wilton and Lower Wylye Valley ED	4003	4155	209	359	4514
Winsley and Westwood ED	3288	3413	1	2	3415
Winterslow ED	3158	3278	27	47	3325
WINDFALL ALLOWANCE	0	0	2595	4463	4463
WILTSHIRE TOTAL	**367686**	**381658**	**22611**	**38890**	**420549**

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Division Variance

Name of division	Electorate 2017	Variance 2017	Electoral 2024	Variance 2024
Aldbourne & Ramsbury	4054	8%	4245	0%
Alderbury & Whiteparish	3389	-10%	3583	-16%
Amesbury East	4861	30%	6523	54%
Amesbury West	3709	-1%	3901	-8%
Bourne & Woodford Valley	3425	-9%	3595	-15%
Box & Colerne	3852	3%	4012	-6%
Bradford-On-Avon North	3856	3%	4353	3%
Bradford-On-Avon South	4091	9%	4256	0%
Brinkworth	3710	-1%	3919	-8%
Bromham, Rowde & Potterne	3892	4%	4083	-4%
Bulford, Allington & Figheldean	4009	7%	4594	8%
Burbage & The Bedwyns	3944	5%	4155	6%
By Brook	3595	-4%	3877	-9%
Calne Central	3438	-8%	3952	-7%
Calne Chilvester & Abberd	3936	5%	4106	-3%
Calne North	3361	-10%	3975	1%
Calne Rural	3621	-3%	4137	-3%
Calne South & Cherhill	3735	0%	4259	0%
Chippenham Cepen Park & Derriads	3390	-10%	3520	-17%
Chippenham Cepen Park & Redlands	3554	-5%	3823	-10%
Chippenham Hardenhuish	3491	-7%	3674	-13%
Chippenham Hardens & England	3281	-13%	3497	-18%
Chippenham Lowden & Rowden	3691	-2%	4850	14%
Chippenham Monkton	3045	-19%	4030	-5%
Chippenham Pewsham	3425	-9%	3556	-16%
Chippenham Queens & Sheldon	3280	-13%	3406	-20%
Corsham Pickwick	3767	0%	4179	-2%
Corsham Town	3781	1%	4586	8%
Corsham Without & Box Hill	4128	10%	6039	42%
Cricklade & Latton	3900	4%	4222	-1%
Devizes & Roundway South	3456	-8%	3680	-13%
Devizes East	3064	-18%	3223	-24%

Devizes North	3203	-15%	3667	-14%
Downton & Ebble Valley	3830	2%	4163	-2%
Durrington & Larkhill	4847	29%	6383	50%
Ethandune	3607	-4%	3825	-10%
Fovant & Chalke Valley	3423	-9%	4264	0%
Hilperton	3925	5%	4426	4%
Holt & Staverton	3491	-7%	3744	-12%
Kington	4063	8%	6329	49%
Laverstock, Ford & Old Sarum	4108	9%	5181	22%
Ludgershall & Perham Down	3739	0%	5469	29%
Lyneham	3306	-12%	3484	-18%
Malmesbury	4164	11%	4956	17%
Marlborough East	3269	-13%	3524	-17%
Marlborough West	2950	-21%	3458	-19%
Melksham Central	3837	2%	4024	-5%
Melksham North	3686	-2%	4194	-1%
Melksham South	4005	7%	4207	-1%
Melksham Without North	4346	16%	4718	11%
Melksham Without South	4043	8%	5644	33%
Mere	3470	-8%	3844	-9%
Minety	3844	2%	4102	-3%
Nadder & East Knoyle	3505	-7%	3652	-14%
Pewsey	3837	2%	4140	-2%
Pewsey Vale	3502	-7%	3725	-12%
Purton	4333	15%	5226	23%
Redlynch & Landford	3724	-1%	3875	-9%
Roundway	3505	-7%	3778	-11%
Royal Wootton Bassett East	3821	2%	3978	-6%
Royal Wootton Bassett North	3642	-3%	3822	-10%
Royal Wootton Bassett South	4944	32%	5363	26%
Salisbury Bemerton	4408	17%	6141	45%
Salisbury Fisherton & Bemerton Village	3430	-9%	3567	-16%
Salisbury Harnham	4154	11%	4487	6%
Salisbury St. Edmund & Milford	3629	-3%	4265	0%

Salisbury St. Francis & Stratford	4087	9%	4366	3%
Salisbury St. Mark's & Bishopdown	4119	10%	4437	5%
Salisbury St. Martin's & Cathedral	4177	11%	4348	2%
Salisbury St. Paul's	3770	0%	4844	14%
Sherston	4016	7%	4384	3%
Southwick	3578	-5%	6434	52%
Summerham & Seend	3462	-8%	3644	-14%
The Collingbournes & Netheravon	3276	-13%	3402	-20%
The Lavingtons & Erlestoke	3994	6%	4298	1%
Tidworth	4654	24%	5391	27%
Till & Wylye Valley	3626	-3%	3782	-11%
Tisbury	3601	-4%	3748	-12%
Trowbridge Adcroft	3600	-4%	3765	-11%
Trowbridge Central	3746	0%	3949	-7%
Trowbridge Drynham	3176	-15%	3301	-22%
Trowbridge Grove	3301	-12%	3542	-17%
Trowbridge Lambrok	3666	-2%	3807	-10%
Trowbridge Park	3701	-1%	3907	-8%
Trowbridge Paxcroft	4657	24%	5049	19%
Urchfont & The Cannings	3849	3%	4532	7%
Warminster Broadway	3713	-1%	4331	2%
Warminster Copheap & Wylye	3533	-6%	3676	-13%
Warminster East	4315	15%	4775	12%
Warminster West	4146	11%	5123	21%
Warminster Without	3436	-8%	3645	-14%
West Selkley	3384	-10%	3552	-16%
Westbury East	3765	0%	4482	6%
Westbury North	3659	-2%	4297	1%
Westbury West	3909	4%	4584	8%
Wilton & Lower Wylye Valley	4003	7%	4514	6%
Winsley & Westwood	3288	-12%	3415	-20%
Winterslow	3158	-16%	3325	-22%
Avg.	3752	Avg.	4246	

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