

### **Polling District and Polling Place Review 2023**

#### **Purpose**

1. The Committee is required to review the current polling districts and polling places by considering
  - The (Acting) Returning Officer ((A)RO) comments and initial proposals
  - The comments received during the consultation period
  - The (A)RO final recommendations.
2. This information is provided in the following supporting documents:
  - a. Appendix A – Overall report – Proposed polling arrangements following the public consultation
  - b. Appendix B – Summary of responses and (A)RO recommendations.
3. The committee must approve a final polling district and polling place scheme which will come into force from 1 December 2023 when the electoral register is revised.

#### **Background**

4. The Council is required by the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 to undertake a compulsory review of UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places which must be started and completed between 1 October 2023 and 31 January 2025 (inclusive).
5. The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 amended the Representation of the People Act 1983 to require relevant authorities to undertake regular reviews of both polling districts and polling places within its area. The definitions between a district, place and station are:
  - A **polling district** is a geographical sub-division of an electoral area (an electoral area being a UK Parliamentary constituency, a European Parliamentary electoral region, a parish, parish ward or an electoral division).
  - A **polling place** is the building or area in which polling stations will be selected by the Returning Officer. A polling place within a polling district must be designated so that polling stations are within easy reach of all electors from across the polling district.
  - A **polling station** is the actual area where the process of voting takes place and must be located within the polling place designated for the particular polling district. The Returning Officer for the particular election must provide a sufficient number of polling stations and allocate the electors to those polling stations in such a manner as they think is the most convenient.
6. Due to the geographical size of Wiltshire Council and the number of polling districts

to review, the reports and consultation have been categorised into unitary division areas for easier identification of locations and areas.

### **Summary of the review proposals**

7. There are 98 Unitary Divisions in Wiltshire.

<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Number of Unitary Divisions affected</b>
Changes Proposed	61
No Changes Proposed	37

### **Public consultation**

8. The public consultation took place from 2 October to 31 October 2023. Copies of the public consultation document were available online, by request, and paper copies were available at libraries in each of the Parliamentary constituencies.

9. Invitations to engage with the review were made in writing to:

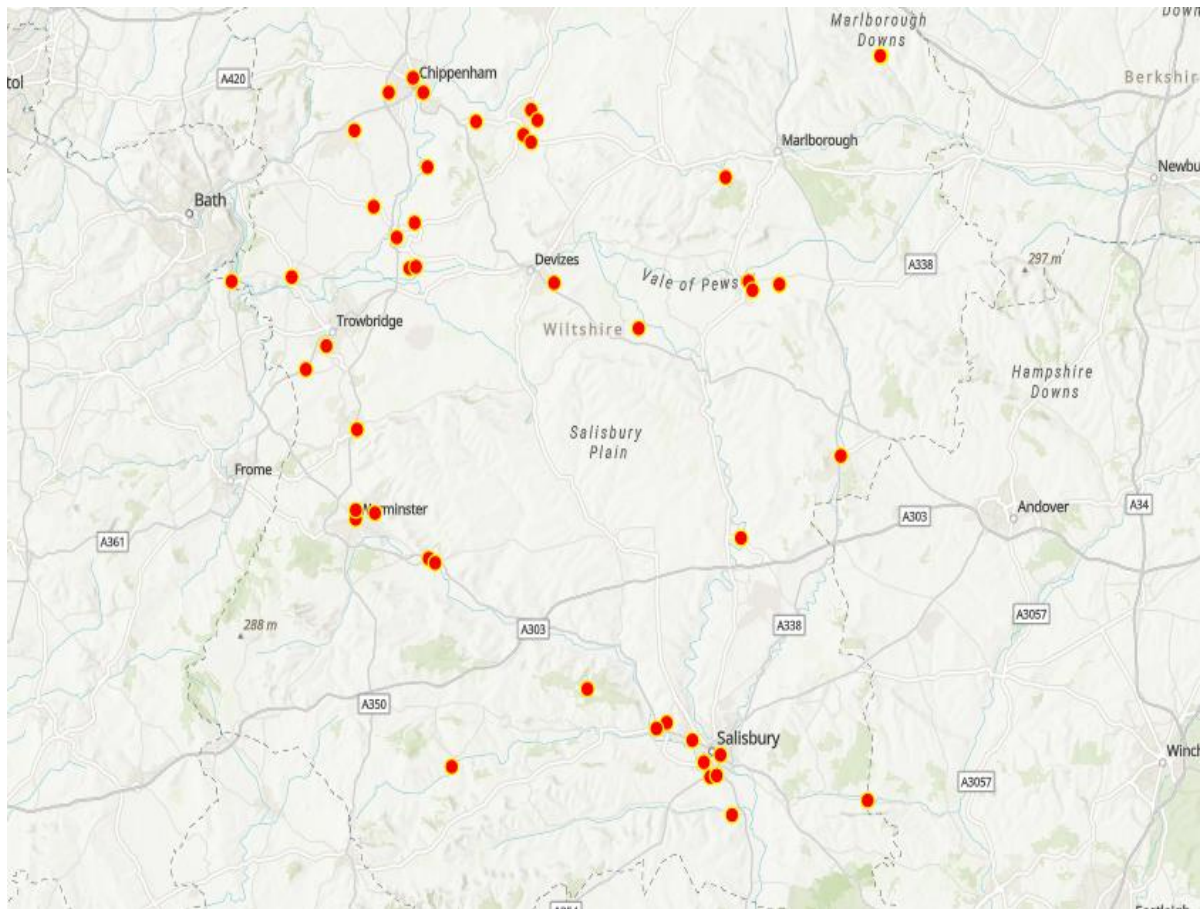
- Political Parties
- Elected Representatives in Wiltshire
- Groups identified as being under-represented by the Electoral Commission in elections
- Organisations deemed to have an interest in the review (for example Parish Councils)

10. The review was publicised and promoted in a variety of ways including a social media campaign, information to Area Boards, town and parish newsletters, Wiltshire Councillor newsletters, internal One Council newsletter, posters in Wiltshire libraries, press releases, Wiltshire Council website and Wiltshire Council residents e-newsletter.

### **Consultation responses**

11. There were 53 representations received during the consultation process. All of the comments from the review can be found in Appendix A under the relevant Unitary Division for consideration.

12. The map below plots the areas of Wiltshire where the representations from the public consultation came from.



13. Comments were received about 34 of the Unitary Divisions, 11 of which had no proposed changes, 23 of which had proposed changes.

14. A mixture of positive and constructive representations were made and while there were a cluster of responses received around Salisbury, otherwise the representations came from across the county.

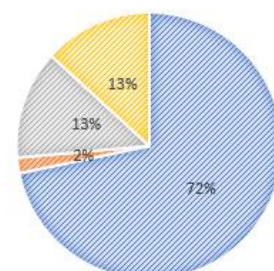
15. Seven representations confirmed that electors were happy with the polling stations they vote at.

### Source of representations

16. The majority of responses (72%) were from individual electors.

REPRESENTATIONS BY TYPE

■ Individual ■ Political Party ■ Organisation ■ Elected Official



## Proposals for approval:

17. There are 3 categories for the Committee to consider for approval:

- a. Unitary Divisions where no changes were proposed to polling districts and there are no relevant comments to be considered from the public consultation. Any proposed changes in this category relate to polling stations only.
- b. Unitary Divisions where changes were proposed to the polling districts
- c. Particular consideration and discussion to be given to the two Unitary Divisions of Sherston and Warminster North & Rural

18. A list of the Unitary Divisions which fall under these 3 categories is provided below. A summary table in Appendix B is also provided which includes the Responses from the (Acting) Returning Officer to the public consultation comments.

### **A Unitary Divisions where no polling district changes were proposed:** (44 Unitary Divisions)

<b>Reference</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Changes?</b>	<b>Comments?</b>
1	Aldbourne & Ramsbury	No proposed changes	Comments received
3	Amesbury East & Bulford	No proposed changes	No comments received
8	Box & Colerne	No proposed changes	No comments received
11	Brinkworth	Proposed Changes	Comments received
13	By Brook	No proposed changes	No comments received
14	Calne Central	No proposed changes	No comments received
15	Calne Chilvester & Abberd	Proposed Changes	Comments received
18	Calne South	No proposed changes	Comments received

20	Chippenham Cepen Park & Hunters Moon	No proposed changes	No comments received
23	Chippenham Lowden & Rowden	Proposed Changes	No comments received
27	Corsham Ladbroke	No proposed changes	No comments received
33	Devizes Rural West	Proposed Changes	No comments received
35	Downton & Ebbel Valley	No proposed changes	Comments received
36	Durrington	No proposed changes	Comments received
37	Ethandune	Proposed Changes	No comments received
38	Fovant & Chalke Valley	Proposed Changes	No comments received
39	Hilperton	No proposed changes	No comments received
40	Holt	No proposed changes	No comments received
41	Kington	No proposed changes	No comments received
43	Ludgershall North & Rural	No proposed changes	No comments received
44	Lyneham	No proposed changes	Comments received
45	Malmesbury	No proposed changes	No comments received
52	Melksham Without West & Rural	No proposed changes	Comments received
53	Mere	No proposed changes	No comments received
54	Minety	No proposed changes	No comments received
55	Nadder Valley	Proposed Changes	No comments received

57	Pewsey	No proposed changes	Comments received
62	Royal Wootton Bassett East	No proposed changes	No comments received
63	Royal Wootton Bassett North	No proposed changes	No comments received
64	Royal Wootton Bassett South & West	No proposed changes	No comments received
67	Salisbury Harnham East	No proposed changes	No comments received
71	Salisbury St Francis & Stratford	No proposed changes	No comments received
72	Salisbury St Paul's	No proposed changes	No comments received
74	Southwick	No proposed changes	Comments received
75	The Lavingtons	No proposed changes	No comments received
76	Tidworth East & Ludgershall South	No proposed Changes	Comments received
78	Till Valley	No proposed changes	No comments received
79	Tisbury	Proposed Changes	Comments received
84	Trowbridge Lambrok	No proposed changes	No comments received
86	Trowbridge Paxcroft	No proposed changes	No comments received
89	Warminster East	No proposed changes	No comments received
92	Westbury East	No proposed changes	Comments received
96	Winsley & Westwood	No proposed changes	Comments received
98	Wylke Valley	No proposed changes	Comments received



**B Unitary Divisions where changes were proposed to the polling districts**  
(52 Unitary Divisions)

<b>Reference</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Changes?</b>	<b>Comments?</b>
2	Alderbury & Whiteparish	Proposed Changes	No comments received
4	Amesbury South	Proposed Changes	No comments received
5	Amesbury West	Proposed Changes	No comments received
6	Avon Valley	Proposed Changes	No comments received
7	Bowerhill	Proposed Changes	Comments received
9	Bradford-on-Avon North	Proposed Changes	No comments received
10	Bradford-on-Avon South	Proposed Changes	No comments received
12	Bromham Rowde & Roundway	Proposed changes	No comments received
16	Calne North	Proposed Changes	No comments received
17	Calne Rural	No proposed changes	Comments received
19	Chippenham Cepen Park & Derriads	Proposed Changes	No comments received
21	Chippenham Hardenhuish	Proposed Changes	No comments received
22	Chippenham Hardens & Central	Proposed Changes	Comments received
24	Chippenham Monkton	Proposed Changes	No comments received
25	Chippenham Pewsham	Proposed Changes	No comments received
26	Chippenham Sheldon	Proposed Changes	No comments received



28	Corsham Pickwick	Proposed Changes	Comments received
29	Corsham Without	Proposed Changes	Comments received
30	Cricklade & Latton	Proposed Changes	Comments received
31	Devizes East	Proposed Changes	Comments received
32	Devizes North	Proposed Changes	No comments received
34	Devizes South	Proposed Changes	No comments received
42	Laverstock	Proposed Changes	No comments received
46	Marlborough East	Proposed Changes	No comments received
47	Marlborough West	Proposed Changes	Comments received
48	Melksham East	Proposed Changes	Comments received
49	Melksham Forest	Proposed Changes	Comments received
50	Melksham South	Proposed Changes	No comments received
51	Melksham Without North & Shurnhold	Proposed Changes	Comments received
56	Old Sarum & Lower Bourne Valley	Proposed Changes	No comments received
58	Pewsey Vale East	Proposed Changes	No comments received
59	Pewsey Vale West	Proposed Changes	Comments received
60	Purton	Proposed Changes	Comments received
61	Redlynch & Landford	Proposed Changes	No comments received

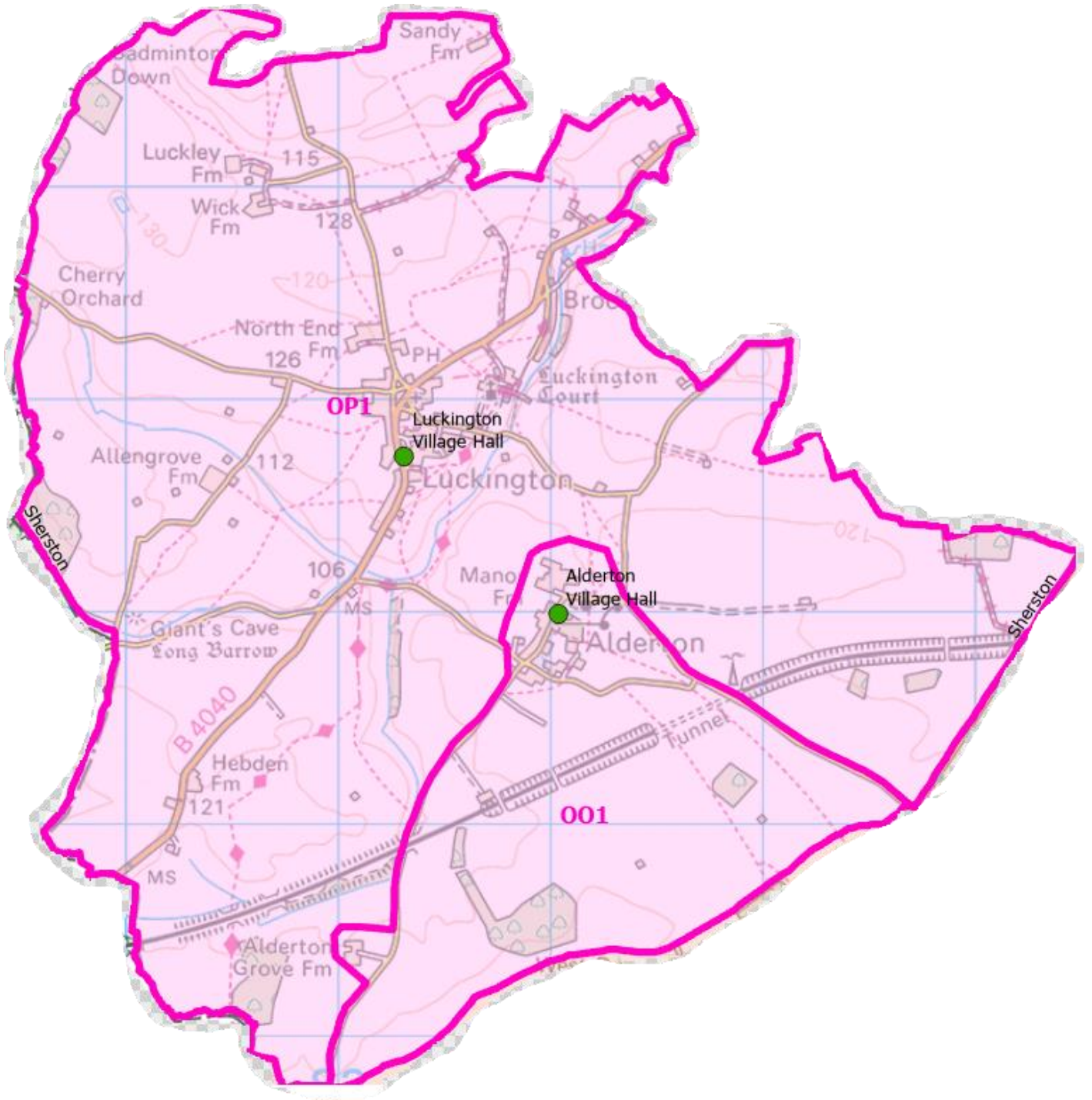
65	Salisbury Bemerton Heath	Proposed Changes	No comments received
66	Salisbury Fisherton & Bemerton Village	Proposed Changes	Comments received
68	Salisbury Harnham West	Proposed Changes	Comments received
69	Salisbury Milford	Proposed Changes	No comments received
70	Salisbury St Edmund's	Proposed Changes	Comments received
77	Tidworth North & West	Proposed Changes	No comments received
80	Trowbridge Adcroft	Proposed Changes	No comments received
81	Trowbridge Central	Proposed Changes	No comments received
82	Trowbridge Drynham	Proposed Changes	No comments received
83	Trowbridge Grove	Proposed Changes	Comments received
85	Trowbridge Park	Proposed Changes	No comments received
87	Urchfont & Bishops Cannings	Proposed Changes	No comments received
88	Warminster Broadway	Proposed Changes	No comments received
91	Warminster West	Proposed Changes	No comments received
93	Westbury North	Proposed Changes	No comments received
94	Westbury West	Proposed Changes	Comments received
95	Wilton	Proposed Changes	Comments received
97	Winterslow & Upper Bourne Valley	Proposed Changes	No comments received

**C Particular consideration and discussion to be given to the 2 Unitary Divisions  
Warminster North & Rural and Sherston  
(2 Unitary Divisions)**

<b>Reference</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Changes?</b>	<b>Comments?</b>
<b>73</b>	<b>Sherston</b>	<b>Proposed Changes</b>	<b>Comments received</b>
<b>90</b>	<b>Warminster North &amp; Rural</b>	<b>Proposed Changes</b>	<b>Comments received</b>

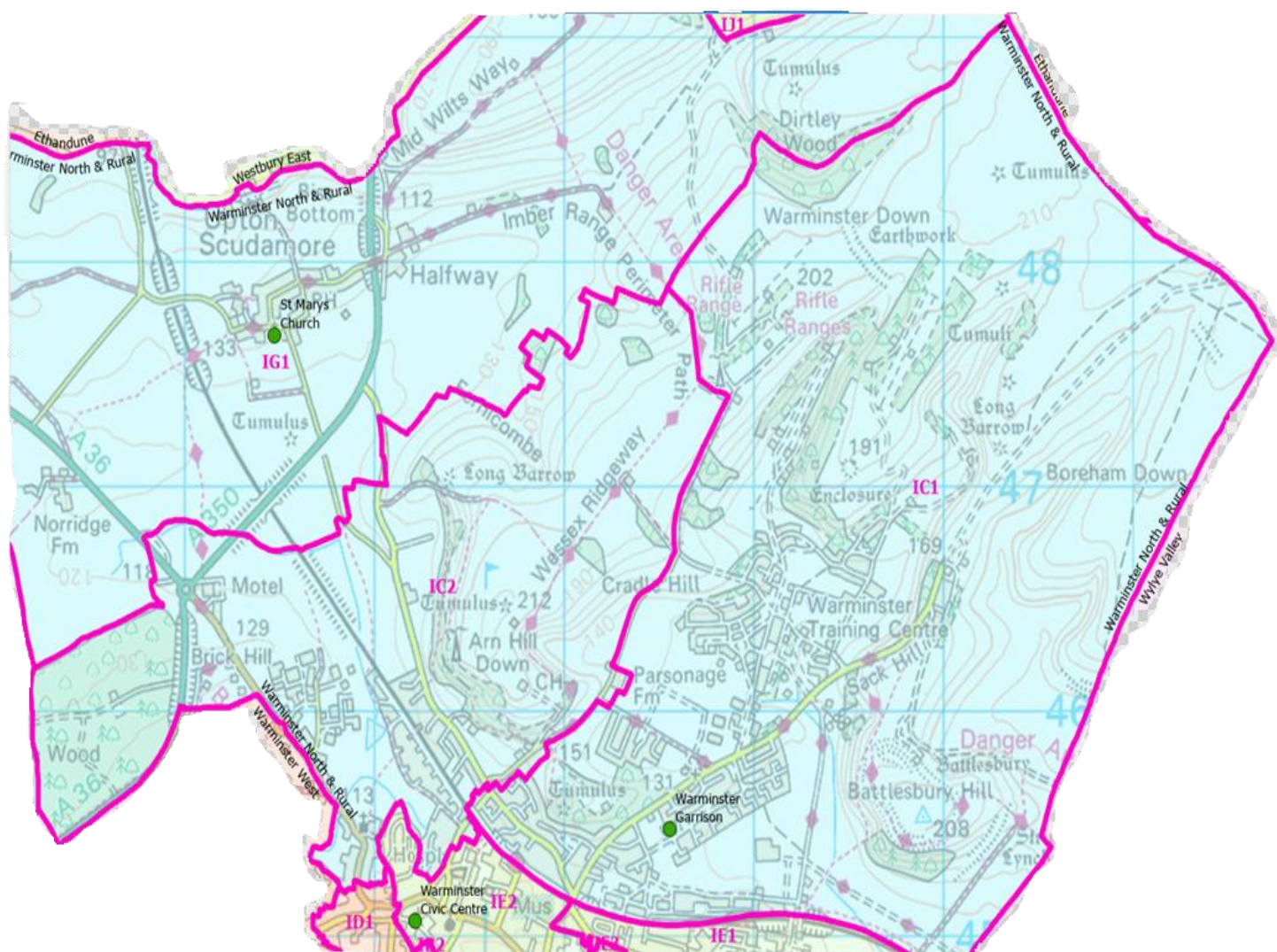
**Sherston**

19. The Committee is asked to consider the electoral arrangements for the Sherston Unitary Division taking into consideration the comments received from the public consultation and the (A)RO response.
20. The parish of Luckington currently comprises of two polling districts OO1 and OP1. The electorate of OO1 is 83 and the electorate of OP1 is 439 electors. Each polling district currently has a polling station venue.
21. The (A)RO proposed that the two polling districts are merged into one for the whole parish and that Luckington Village Hall is the designated polling station. Whilst the polling station for OO1 is convenient for their 83 electors, Luckington Village Hall is situated centrally within the Parish. The two Village Halls are approximately 1.1 miles away from each other.
22. One response to the public consultation was received for this parish where they have asked for the polling station for OO1 to remain and the polling districts not to merge. The Committee is asked to consider the (A)RO recommendation from the review or keep the current electoral arrangements as per the response from the public consultation



## Warminster North & Rural

23. The Committee is asked to consider the electoral arrangements for the Warminster North & Rural Unitary Division taking into consideration the comments received from the public consultation and the (A)RO response.
24. The minor boundary change proposal between IC1 and IC2 has been revoked from the review as it is deemed to be unnecessary.
25. The Committee is asked to consider the suggestion from the review that it is not preferable for electors voting in IC2 to vote in person at the Warminster Garrison. The consequence of this would mean the Committee allowing a polling place outside of the Unitary Division. The (A)RO recommends that if this is the decision of the Committee that the polling station would be Warminster Civic Centre.



## **Final recommendations for approval:**

26. The Committee is asked to approve:

- The Unitary Divisions where no changes were proposed to polling districts and there are no relevant comments to be considered from the public consultation. Any proposed changes in this category relate to polling stations only.
- The Unitary Divisions where changes were proposed to the polling districts
- The outcome for the Unitary Division of Sherston
- The outcome for the Unitary Division of Warminster North & Rural

**Perry Holmes**

**Director, Legal and Governance**

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## **Appendices**

Appendix A – Overall report

Appendix B – Summary of proposals including (A)RO Comments