

## Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for South Kesteven District Council

Summary report

Read the full report, view the detailed maps and have your say at: [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

Find out more at: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

Follow us on Twitter at: [@LGBCE](https://twitter.com/LGBCE)

### Helping you to have your say:

We are now consulting local people on a new pattern of wards for South Kesteven. The Commission has an open mind about its final recommendations and will consider every piece of evidence we receive from local groups and people. Every representation will be considered, regardless of whom it is from or whether it relates to the whole district 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 South Kesteven, we want to hear alternative proposals for a different pattern of wards.

The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for South Kesteven 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 ward? 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 wards reflect where local people go for shops, medical services, leisure facilities etc?
- **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 wards too large or small to be represented effectively?
- Are the proposed names of the wards 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.org.uk](http://consultation.org.uk).
- We publish all submissions we receive on our website so you can follow what other people and organisations have told us. Go to: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

### Have your say by writing to:

Review Officer (South Kesteven)  
LGBCE  
Layden House  
76-86 Turnmill Street  
London EC1M 5LG

Through our consultation area:  
[consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk)  
or by email to: [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk)

The full report and interactive maps are available to view at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

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### 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. A local authority's electoral arrangements are:

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

### Why South Kesteven?

We are conducting an electoral review of South Kesteven District Council to deliver improved levels of electoral equality for local voters.

South Kesteven currently has high levels of electoral inequality where some councillors represent many more - or many fewer - voters than others. This means that the value of your vote - in district council elections - varies depending on where you live in South Kesteven.

### Our proposals for South Kesteven

South Kesteven District Council currently has 58 councillors. We propose that the council should have 56 councillors in future. The Commission believes that a council size of 56 members will ensure the council can discharge its roles and responsibilities effectively and provides for a warding pattern that meets our statutory criteria.

### Electoral arrangements

Our draft recommendations propose that South Kesteven's 56 councillors should represent eight single-member, 18 two-member and four three-member wards across the district.

### You have until 6 January 2014 to have your say on the draft recommendations

Stage of review	Description
26 Feb - 8 April 2013	Public consultation on council size
15 Oct 2013 - 6 Jan 2014	Public consultation on draft recommendations for new electoral arrangements
25 March 2014	Publication of final recommendations by the Commission
May 2015	Subject to parliamentary approval - implementation of new arrangements at local elections

## Overview of draft recommendations for South Kesteven District Council

### Summary of our recommendations

We have considered all of the submissions we received during the previous phase of consultation and our draft recommendations are largely based on the submission from the Council.

In some areas we have adopted the wards proposed by the Council. In other parts of the district we have modified the Council's proposed wards to better reflect our statutory criteria. Our draft recommendations are based on a council size of 56.

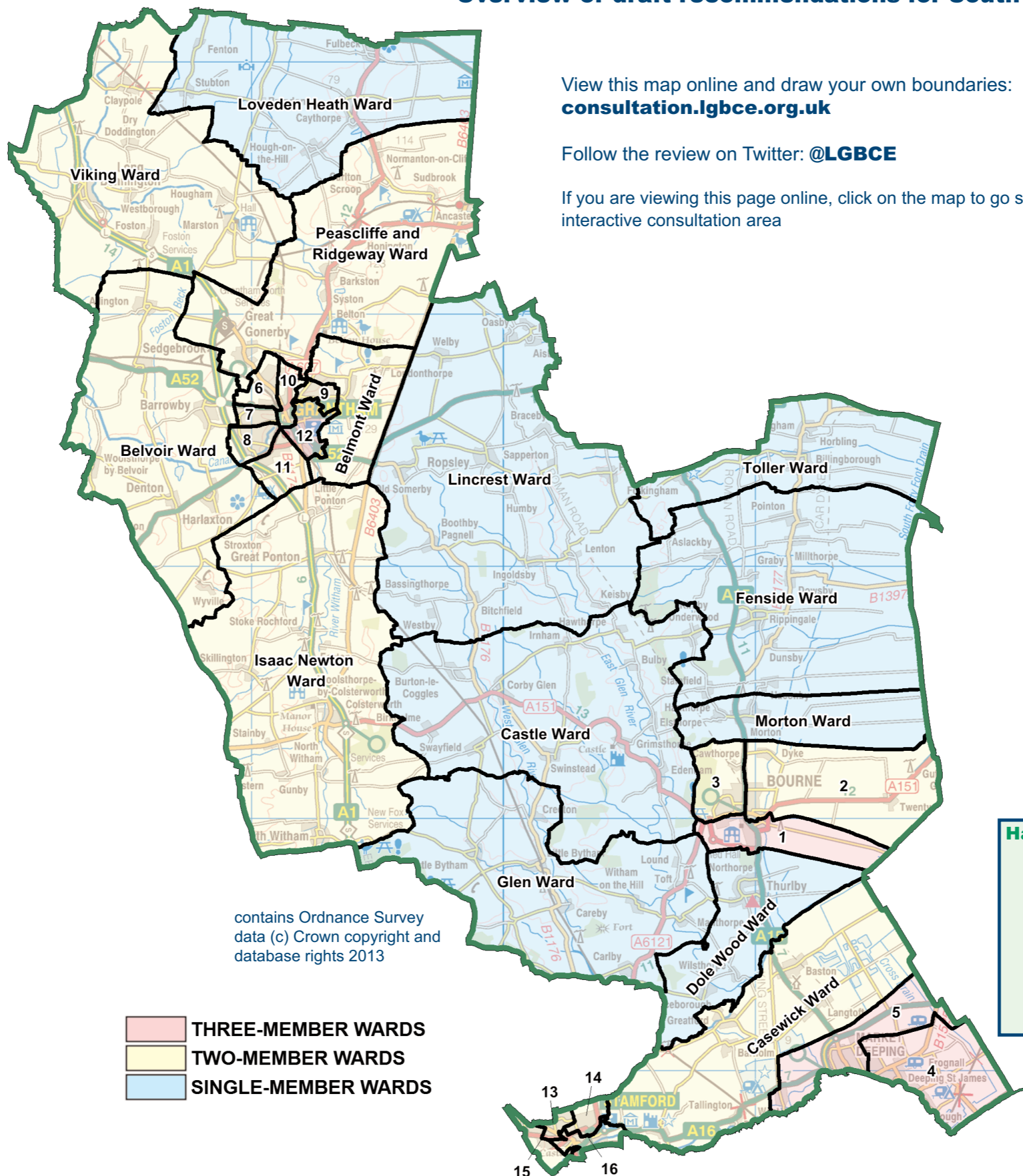
In response to the submissions received, we have developed warding patterns in the **Grantham** area that are based broadly on those of the Council. We have decided to include communities on the edge of Grantham, which appear to be part of the town's communities in wards covering the town. We have also decided to adopt the proposal from two district councillors for this area.

We have also largely based our draft recommendations for the **Bourne, Market Deeping** and **Deeping St James** areas of the district on the proposals from the Council. In the Bourne area we have proposed some small modifications to the boundaries proposed by the Council.

In the **Stamford** area, we have again largely based our draft recommendations on those suggested by the Council, with some amendments to provide for stronger boundaries. We have also decided to propose the ward names as suggested by Stamford Town Council.

In the **rural area** of the district we have based our draft recommendations on those proposed by the Council. However, we have differed from the Council's proposals in one area where we are proposing a combined **Peascliffe & Ridgeway** ward.

You can read the full report on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk).



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)

If you are viewing this page online, click on the map to go straight to our interactive consultation area

### Map key:

- 1 – Austerby
- 2 – Bourne East
- 3 – Bourne West
- 4 – Deeping St James
- 5 – Market & West Deeping
- 6 – Grantham Arnoldfield
- 7 – Grantham Barrowby Gate
- 8 – Grantham Earlesfield
- 9 – Grantham Harrowby
- 10 – Grantham Priors
- 11 – Grantham Springfield
- 12 – Grantham St Vincent's
- 13 – Stamford All Saints
- 14 – Stamford St George's
- 15 – Stamford St John's
- 16 – Stamford St Mary's

### 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.