

Local government reorganisation

Shaping the future of Devon together

SCO Update including warding arrangements

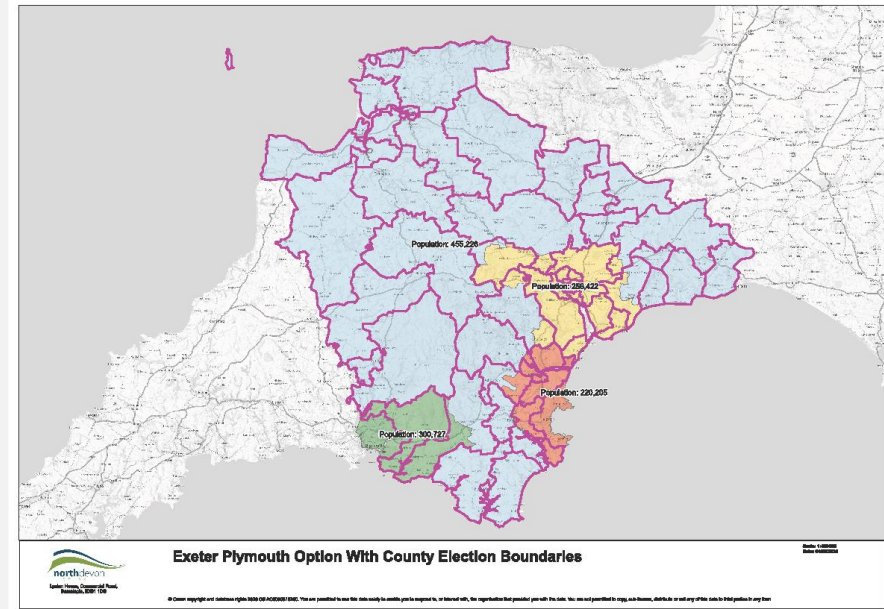
Background

Eleven authorities, One objective

Local Government Reorganisation in Devon is complex; probably the most complex programme of all of the areas undergoing LGR.

Because of that complexity and the time allowed, the overriding objective of the programme will be that the new authorities are “safe and legal” on vesting day. That means that some of the more permanent arrangements for service delivery etc will be left to the new authorities to implement.

Part of being “safe and legal” is to introduce an interim warding pattern that allows councillors to be elected to the new authorities, initially in shadow form, so that the decision making that is necessary to start the new authorities on their journey can take place.



Background

Eleven authorities, One interim warding pattern

The task has been set by government to draw up an interim warding pattern for the 4 new unitary authorities being created in Devon.

The deadline given for the task is 17 August.

This is not a full community governance review or boundary review.

These are interim arrangements designed to ensure that the authorities are safe and legal on vesting day. A full boundary review will be conducted by the LGBCE within the first term of the new authorities. At that point permanent warding arrangements will be introduced following engagement with communities and local councils.

Unitary Name	Composition	Councillors
Exeter Council	Exeter + 15 parishes from Teignbridge, 28 parishes from East Devon and 6 parishes from Mid Devon	86
Torbay & South Devon	Torbay council, + 16 parishes from Teignbridge and 5 from South Hams	64
Greater Plymouth	Plymouth + 13 parishes from South Hams	68
Devon Council	North Devon, Torridge, West Devon together with remaining parts of Mid Devon, East Devon, South Hams and Teignbridge	103

Interim warding arrangements

MHCLG and LGBCE requirements

Based on representations made by each authority MHCLG has specified that the total councillors for each new unitary will be as set out in the previous slide.

MHCLG has also specified that the proposed interim warding arrangements should be based on any existing boundaries. That means that arrangements can be based on divisions, wards, parishes or parish wards. Polling districts cannot be used.

MHCLG have stated that in arriving at a suitable interim warding pattern the guidance issued by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England should be used. However, there is recognition that the full criteria set out by the LGBCE will not necessarily be capable of being met in the same way as on a full review.

LGBCE Guidance – [Local Government Reorganisation | LGBCE](#)
The warding arrangements have been mindful of the criteria

Electoral equality

Reflecting local communities and interests

Facilitating effective and convenient local government

Interim warding arrangements

Work carried out

The Electoral Services teams from all of the councils in Devon have worked collaboratively with an overall aim to prepare an interim warding arrangement that, so far as possible at this stage, works for all of our communities in Devon.

The task has not been easy and it is fair to say that with more time and more input from communities etc, a different arrangement might have been arrived at.

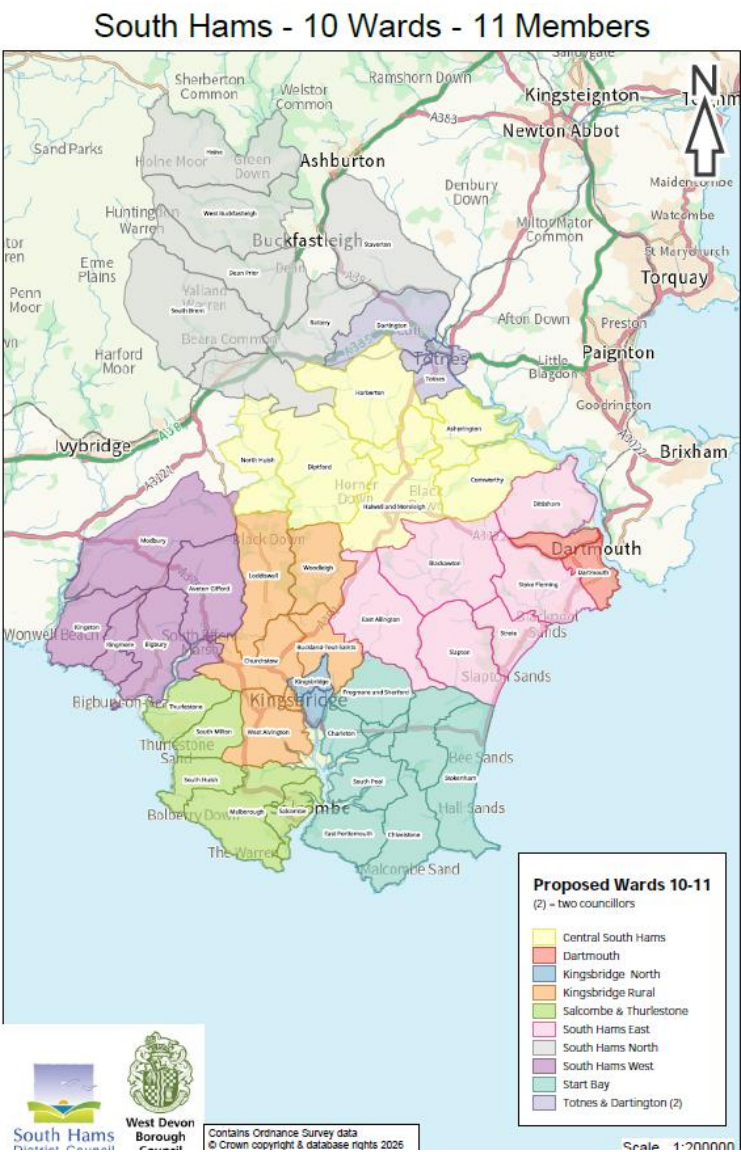
However, these arrangements have to be seen very much as interim arrangements with a full review to follow in the first term of the new authorities.

The teams have tried to comply with the LGBCE guidance and sought advice from the LGBCE throughout the process and shared the work completed and proposed warding. LGBCE have indicated that they accept in the current situation with Government providing the remit of the number of councillors and the restriction of using existing boundaries it will not be possible to adhere to all of the criteria.

Due to some areas not been parished and having different challenges to warding the boundaries applied have required different solutions with some basing arrangements on divisions and wards, some on parishes, or some using a mix of all. All have however relied on existing boundaries as directed by government.

In some areas, this work will be followed up with Community Governance Reviews to establish new Town Councils or parish arrangements. Where that work is now commencing it is likely that the new Shadow Unitary Authority will have a role in the approval of the arrangements.

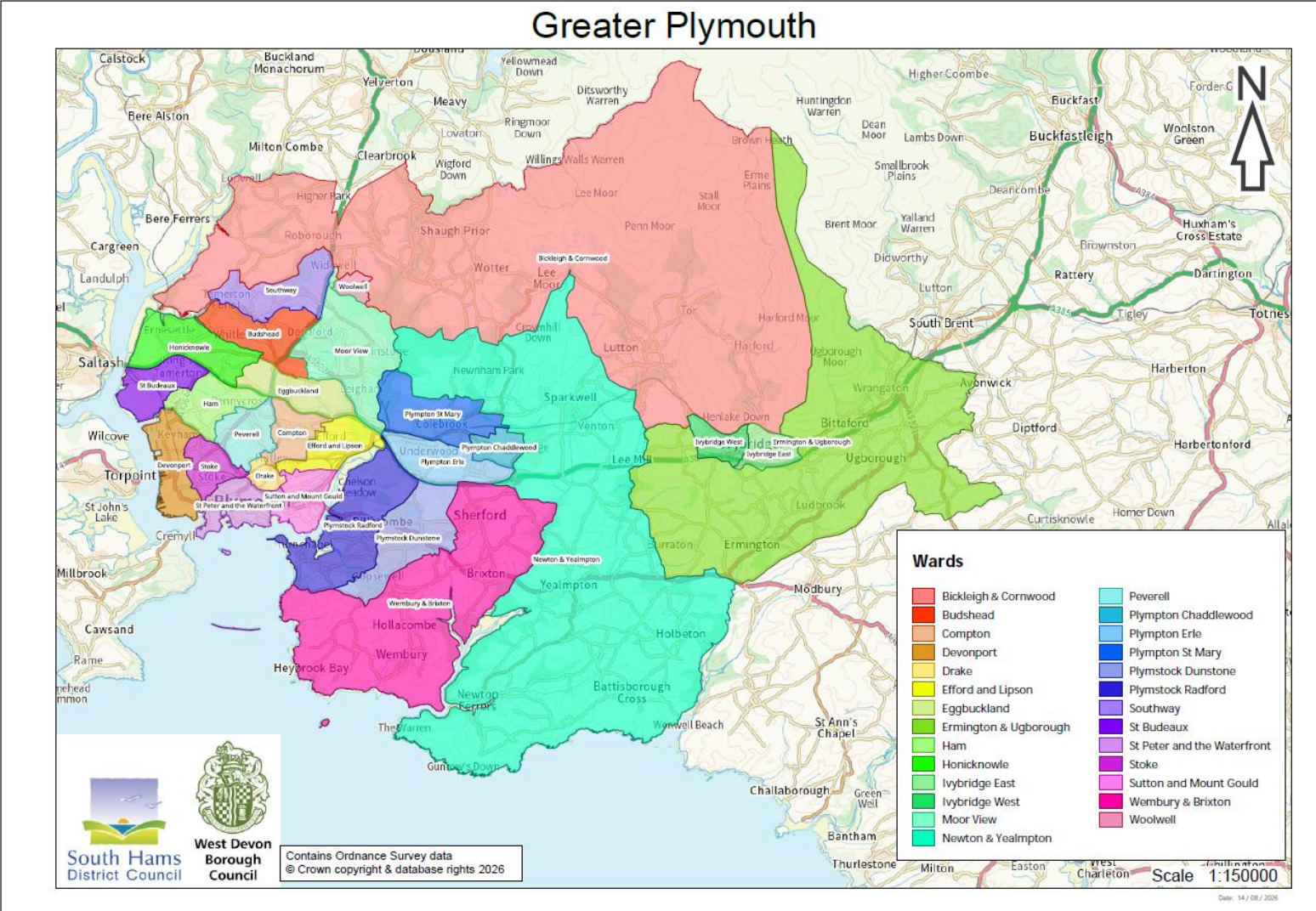
Interim Warding Arrangements for the current South Hams District area



Interim Warding Arrangements for the current South Hams District area

Ward Name	Number of Councillors
Central South Hams	1
Dartmouth	1
Kingsbridge North	1
Kingsbridge Rural	1
Salcombe & Thurlestone	1
South Hams East	1
South Hams North	1
South Hams West	1
Start Bay	1
Totnes & Dartington	2
Totals	11

Interim Warding Arrangements for the new Greater Plymouth Council area



Interim Warding Arrangements for the new Greater Plymouth Council area

Wards of Plymouth		
Name of ward	current electoral areas that comprise it (county divisions, district wards or parishes/parish wards)	Number of councillors
Bickleigh and Cornwood	The existing district ward of Bickleigh and Cornwood	1
Ermington and Ugborough	The existing district ward of Ermington and Ugborough	1
Ivybridge East	The existing district ward of Ivybridge East	2
Ivybridge West	The existing district ward of Ivybridge West	2
Newton and Yealmpton	The existing district ward of Newton and Yealmpton	2
Wembury and Brixton	The existing district ward of Wembury and Brixton	2
Woolwell	The existing district ward of Woolwell	1

Interim Warding Arrangements for the new Torbay & South Devon District area

