

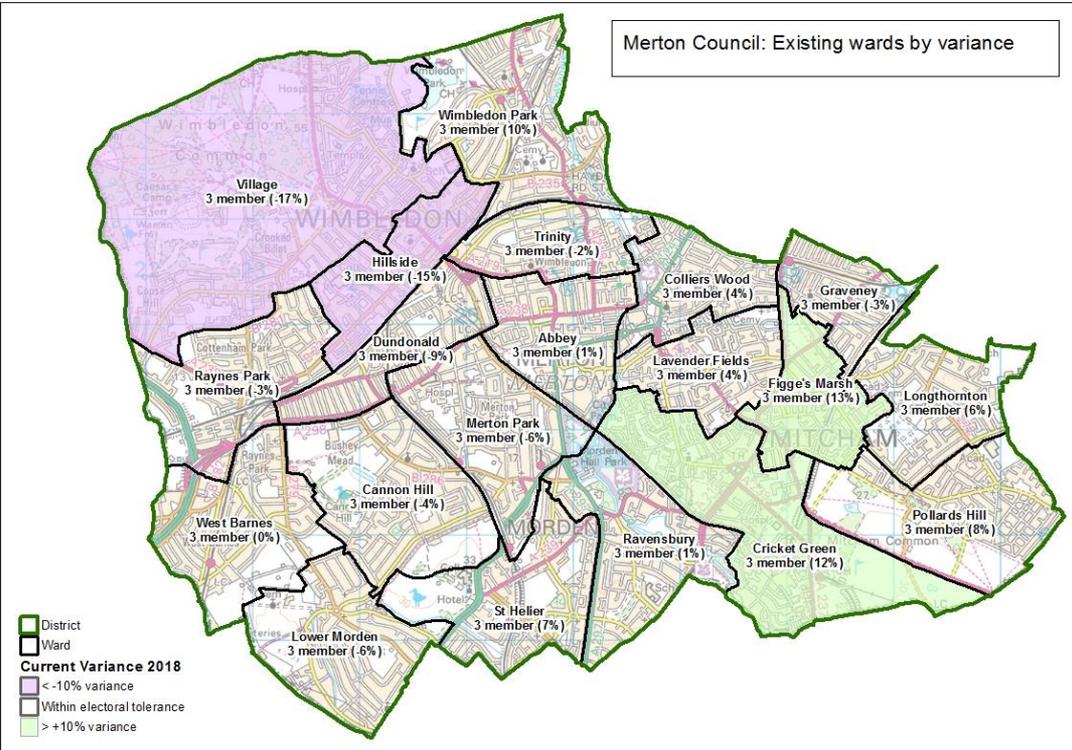
# London Borough of Merton



Electoral review briefing for community groups  
2 April 2019

# Why

Merton's boundaries have not been reviewed since 1999



- District
- Ward
- Current Variance 2018**
- < -10% variance
- Within electoral tolerance
- > +10% variance

## The review so far

- Initial meetings with group leaders / full Council / officers
- Council size dialogue with the Council

# Review process



**Website:** [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)  
**Have your say:** [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk)  
**Follow us:** @lgbce  
**Contact us:** [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk)

# How?

## Ward Boundaries:

Effective representations will address:

Electoral equality for  
voters

Community interests  
and identities

Effective and  
convenient local  
government

### Effective representations at every stage:

- Tell us why you are putting forward your view: your rationale.
- Put forward an alternative, not just registering an objection.
- Provide evidence to support your argument.
- Consider the future.

# The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

## How to get involved

The collage features several screenshots from the LGBCE website:

- Top Left:** A screenshot of the 'Draw on map' tool interface for York. It includes a legend with three tools: Marker Tool, Line tool, and Polygon tool, each with a brief description and a link to a guidance video. Below the legend is a map of York with three colored regions: 1. My proposed... (orange), 2. My proposed... (green), and 3. My proposed Mick... (purple).
- Top Right:** A screenshot of the LGBCE website's navigation bar, including links for Home, Glossary, FOI requests, FAQs, Web feeds (RSS), and Accessibility. Below this is the 'Current consultations' section, which highlights 'All reviews' and 'About us'. A sub-section titled 'In your area' lists 'Have your say on new ward boundaries in Darlington and Wyre Forest'.
- Middle Right:** A screenshot of the 'Electoral review of East Dorset' consultation page. It features the heading 'Tell us what you think' and a sub-heading 'Our draft recommendations'. The text explains that the Commission is asking people across East Dorset to comment on proposed new electoral arrangements. It lists three questions: 'Do the proposed wards reflect local communities?', 'How do you think the proposals can be improved?', and 'Are the names of the proposed wards right?'. It also provides contact information for the Review Officer (East Dorset) and states that the consultation closes on 8 July 2013.
- Bottom Left:** A screenshot of the 'Draw on map' tool interface for Suffolk Coastal District. It shows a map with three proposed boundaries labeled 1, 2, and 3.

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## Residents' input

- Tell us what you think
  - Explain how the proposed warding pattern reflects community identity
  - Consider ward names and patterns
  - Give evidence of how recommendations would impact your communities
  - We don't expect a borough-wide scheme but remember there may be knock-on effects to proposals
  - Talk to residents and publicise the review
  - We can provide posters if you'd like them

## What counts as evidence?

Historical associations are useful, but we need to know how communities interact now. Practical examples are important:

- Shared community events
- Shared amenities and facilities
- Public facilities such as doctors' surgeries, hospitals, libraries or schools
- What defines it and marks it out as a distinct community or communities
- Show how facilities provide a focus for community interaction

## What is effective representation?

### What we want:

- Rationale not assertion.
- What you DO & don't like.
- Alternatives.
- Practical community examples.
- Consideration of all 3 statutory criteria.

### We cannot consider:

- Political consequences.
- “It ain't broke don't fix it” arguments.
- Parliamentary boundaries.
- Postcodes or addresses.
- House prices & council tax.

## Contact details

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