



**Extraordinary Full Council 29th April 2025: Local Government Review
– North Yorkshire Council Consultation**

At the Full Council meeting on the 5th of November 2024, the Council’s response to the LGR consultation was agreed.

This was then submitted.

The results of this consultation were shared with Cllrs and can be found here:

The Local Government Review has adopted for their draft our recommendations for Whitby *WHOLESALE*! :D

See <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/sites/default/files/2025-03/whitby.jpg>

The next step is for the Council to send a response to these proposed outcomes.

Therefore, Cllrs are asked to consider the following response drafted by Cllr Harston:

Local Government Boundary Review of North Yorkshire Council.

North Yorkshire Council was set up in 2022 with interim electoral divisions put together from a mixture of the old borough wards and the old county divisions. As interim divisions, many of these are of different sizes. Part of the process of setting up the new council is a review of the county divisions to redraw them to bring electoral equality. This process officially started in December 2023, to be completed by August 2025 in time for the 2027 elections.

The process is in three stages:

December 2023 to June 2024

Determine number of county councillor

1 October to 6 December 2024

Consultation on new division boundaries

1 April 2025 to 9 June 2025	Consultation on draft recommended boundaries
Election Day 6 May 2027	New boundaries implemented

In the first stage Whitby Town Council recommended the County Council have a total number of councillors such that Whitby would be entitled to a whole number of county councillors. This was accepted, with Whitby being entitled to exactly two county councillors.

In the second stage Whitby Town Council recommended an arrangement of two divisions covering Whitby as a slight alteration of the current two divisions, with the split moving slightly from Skinner Street to Argle Road. This was accepted, and formed the Commission's draft recommendation.

The knock-on effect to the Town Council of the draft recommendations is that from 2027 one Town Council councillor is transferred from West Cliff to Town North, and West Cliff and White Leys are joined together. There are no changes to the size or structure of the Town Council. The Local Government Boundary Commission has no powers to make any changes to Town/Parish councils other than the above adjustment of warding arrangements.

It is planned that there will be a Parish Council Governance Review by the County Council once the County Council review is completed, which will be the opportunity to address anomalies in the Town Council's warding arrangements and the number of councillors.

I recommend to Council that Whitby Town Council submits the following response supporting the Commission's draft and recommending that it be adopted; and to copy it to North Yorkshire Council and the two Whitby NYC councillors – Cllr Trumper and Cllr Swannick - to inform their decision-making process.

Submission from Whitby Town Council regarding the
Local Government Boundary Review of North Yorkshire Council.

Response to Draft Recommendations

Whitby Town Council

Whitby Museum, Pannett Park, Whitby, YO21 1RE

Whitby Town Council believes that the Boundary Commission's draft proposals for county electoral divisions covering Whitby are a good fit for the town within the rules the Commission is required to follow and recommend that they be adopted.

The draft recommendations ensure that Whitby is covered by a whole number of county divisions, and minimises the changes from the current divisions where there is no evidence that significant change is needed. They have a clear set of boundaries on the ground and as such will make for effective and efficient local government administration. As such they are a better fit for the town than alternative models proposed.

The draft proposals recognise Whitby's distinct identity within the greater Whitby district, the Esk Valley basin, with minimal knock-on effects to surrounding divisions. We believe that Whitby having a whole number of county councillors with no county division overlapping outside the Town Council area addresses the criteria of *Interests and Identities of Local Communities* and *Effective and Convenient Local Government*, and the proposed boundaries *achieve electoral equality, and follow lines clearly distinct on the ground.*

The proposed adjustment to the Town Council parish warding is also a sensible minor adjustment. As mentioned in our submission at the previous stage, any anomalies at this level are able to be addressed at a future parish governance review.

We strongly recommend that the draft proposals are adopted as the final proposals to be implemented.