

North Yorkshire County Council

Informal meeting of the Executive Members

21 September 2021

Report to Leader of the Council

County Council's response to proposed Warding arrangements for the new Unitary Council

**Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)
and Assistant Director - Policy, Partnerships and Communities**

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To provide the Leader of the Council with the relevant information to provide a response to Government so that the Secretary of State can consider views before the SoS makes the final decision with regard to interim Ward Boundaries for the first elections of the new unitary Council and other issues that will be contained in the Structural Changes Order (SCO).
2.0	Executive Summary
2.1	<p>This report seeks to inform the Executive Members and asks the Leader to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) approve the submission of interim Ward boundaries for the new North Yorkshire Council for consideration by the Secretary of State.(b) approve a response to questions that are being asked prior to the drafting of the Structural Changes Order.
2.2	Following on from the expiry of the legislation permitting committee meetings to be held remotely, all remote live-broadcast committee meetings are informal meetings of the Committee Members, with any formal decisions required being taken under delegated decision making powers. It is proposed that the Leader takes these decisions, in consultation with Executive Members, under the delegated power to all Executive Members in paragraph 5 of the Executive Members' Delegation Scheme "To make a formal response on behalf of the County Council, following appropriate consultation, to any White Papers, Green Papers, Government Consultation Papers or other consultative document where it is appropriate that the response should be a member response."
2.3	The Chairman agreed, on 1 September 2021, that these decisions should be treated under the Council's special urgency and call in exemption procedures given the urgency of the timescales involved to meet the Government deadline of 21 September 2021 for responding to the consultation on warding arrangements.
3.0	Background
3.1	The Secretary of State, Robert Jenrick MP, has announced that Government will proceed with a single unitary authority for North Yorkshire. The Government had invited proposals in July 2020 to streamline and transfer Local Government in North Yorkshire, replacing the current

two-tier system with a new unitary council. This would pave the way for powers and resources that would accompany devolution under a future agreement.

- 3.2 In February, Government undertook an eight week consultation on proposals submitted for reorganisation and the Government has now proposed to implement a single unitary authority for North Yorkshire.

4.0 **Structural Changes Order**

- 4.1 An important element in the process of creating a unitary authority is the drafting and making of the Structural Changes Order (SCO). The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the transition from the existing councils in North Yorkshire to create a single unitary council. The Order will define the basic governance and operating principles in the lead-up to the new North Yorkshire unitary authority, including the number of Councillors for the unitary authority and the warding arrangements.
- 4.2 The SCO is made by the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government in the exercise of his powers within the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. It is anticipated that the Order will be laid before parliament in January/February 2022 and come into effect by March 2022 at the latest.
- 4.3 The Elections that are due in May 2022 will be to elect Councillors who will run the County Council for the first year and will then sit on the new unitary authority for the following four years. Civil servants have given a clear steer that the maximum number of councillors for the new authority would be 90. In order to deliver this the SCO would need to include proposed Wards for the new council. It is understood from the Boundary Commission that it could not carry out a full boundary review prior to the Elections in 2022, however it would be able to carry out a full boundary review prior to the next Elections in 2027. Therefore it is proposed to submit proposed Wards for the first term of the unitary councillors that equates to 89 and that the new council would commit to submitting itself for a boundary review prior to the next set of Elections.
- 4.4 Civil servants from MHCLG have written to the County Council and Districts Councils within North Yorkshire to state that:

“Elections/warding/parish councils

The order will specify the number of councillors for the first elections in 2022 and the warding arrangements based on groupings of county divisions/district wards to achieve best fit with LGBCE guidelines.

We are happy to look at any ideas you wish to share very informally now or in early September, and we'd like you to share any ideas with political sign off/endorsement by mid-September. We understand that you plan to let us have this information on 21 September. We are happy to consider one idea that all councils agree on, or for several ideas to be put forward for the Secretary of State to consider. The LGBCE will be providing us with informal advice but have no formal role at this stage.

Alignment of parish council elections is also something we can consider making provision for – please let us know your thoughts on this.”

- 4.5 Therefore the Secretary of State will determine the actual warding arrangements for the new unitary authority that will be particularised in the Structural Changes Order and the department has asked for views from each Council to be submitted by the 21st September 2021.

- 4.6 A cross-party informal working group of members has met from the County Council to consider making a recommendation to the Leader on how to respond to MHCLG with regard to a potential proposal for warding within North Yorkshire. A copy of the terms of reference of the working group is attached at Appendix A. In addition the cross party member working group has considered comments from district councils that have been sent to them.
- 4.7 Each Council is considering this individually and an informal meeting of Council Leaders has taken place to discuss this, and a further meeting of relevant members is due to take place at the time of writing this report.

Principles Considered by the Member Group on Warding Arrangements

- 4.8 The following was taken into account when consider the potential warding arrangements for the unitary council:
- The County Council's submitted proposal for a unitary council suggested about 90 councillors and six area committees based on parliamentary constituencies. The steer from the civil servants was that this 90 should be seen as a maximum number if possible.
 - The Boundary Commission's guidance on boundary reviews.
 - The Councils were advised that the electoral wards for the new council must be made of existing whole district council wards or county council divisions and, except in exceptional circumstances, the variance from the average of number of registered electors per councillor should not exceed +/-25% to +/-30%. When a future boundary commission review is undertaken for the elections in 2027, then a full review would be undertaken.
 - The proposed wards have been developed using the latest published dataset of registered local government electors (March 2020). This gives the total number of registered local government electors as 479,635.
 - Existing district council wards are not uniform in size across the county. The number of registered local government electors per ward varies significantly (smallest is 1162, largest is 8164). Although most district council wards elect one councillor, some elect two or three councillors.
 - The following steps were taken to create the proposed wards:
 - a. The county was divided into six areas using the boundaries of the six parliamentary constituencies.
 - b. Six district council wards cut across parliamentary constituency boundaries, so these wards were each allocated to one area based on where the majority of registered electors live.
 - c. District council wards were grouped together within the six areas into proposed wards for the unitary council using the criteria that the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is required by law to use:
 - (i) the pattern of wards should mean that each councillor represents roughly the same number of electors as elected
 - (ii) ward patterns should - as far as possible - reflect community interests and identities and boundaries should be identifiable..

- d. The aim was, as far as possible, to create proposed wards for the unitary council which each elect one councillor. In some places it was necessary to create proposed wards that will elect two councillors in order to achieve electoral equality.

5.0 Recommendations from the Members Warding Group

- 5.1 The Members Warding Group has made the recommendation contained in Appendix B which complies with the advice provided by MHCLG.
- 5.2 This recommendation has 89 councillors for the geography of North Yorkshire, making the average number of registered local government electors per councillor 5,389. It results in 85 proposed wards with 81 electing one councillor and 4 electing two councillors.
- 5.3 Whilst the formulating the new area committees for the unitary Council will be a matter for those Councillors who are elected in the May 2022 elections, it should be noted that if the constituency committees were to be implemented along the existing boundaries, then one proposed ward, namely Washburn & Spofforth with Lower Wharfedale, would cover the potential two constituency area committees and it may mean that member would sit on both area constituency committees.
- 5.4 The Working Group also looked at alternative options if the advice provided by MHCLG did not have to be followed, namely the direction that the new wards did not have to follow the existing County Divisions and District Ward boundaries. Therefore the Working Group have recommending sending in two additional supplementary proposals, along with the main proposal, namely:
 - (a) A main supplementary proposal relating to Bedale and Tanfield, and to Whitby (Appendix C)
 - (b) A secondary supplementary proposal that would resolve the issue of having a ward that straddles Selby and Ainsty Constituency and Skipton and Ripon Constituency at identified in paragraph 5.3 above (Appendix D).

6.0 Additional Contents of the Structural Change Order

- 6.1 In addition the department has asked the following questions to see if each Council has a view on the matters which will need to be covered by the SCO, namely:
 - Should the unitary authority be a Continuing authority or a new council, and therefore have an Implementation Executive or Shadow Council
 - How many members from each council and the balance of county vs district members on the Implementation Executive/joint committee
 - Should particular individuals e.g. County Leader to Chair, Deputy Chair be specified?
 - Should there be any requirements for political balance?
 - Membership of Implementation Team and consider specifying particular roles – chair/deputy chair.
- 6.2 Appendix E sets out the proposed position with regard to the issues within the SCO and the matters are due to be discussed by members of the Executive and representatives from the District Council after the drafting of this report to see what matters can be collectively agreed across the Councils.
- 6.3 The Leader is requested to consider how to respond to the specific questions asked in paragraph 6.1 and to approve the response to Government on the 21st September.

7.0 Three Stages Prior to the Creation of the Unitary Authority

- 7.1 As background to this item, it is helpful to set out the three stages that will need to be progressed to create the operation of a new Unitary Council on 1st April 2023, namely:

(a) Stage 1 - From decision to the creation of a Structural Change Order

- 7.2 This is an informal stage whereby the County Council and the District Councils will seek to work together to implement the new unitary council for April 2023. The Councils are currently working on setting out the arrangements for members and officers to work collaboratively across all the Council to do the preliminary work necessary to create a new unitary Council within the timescales.

(b) Stage 2 - Implementation of Structural Change Order to Elections in May 2022

- 7.3 As stated earlier in the report, it is expected that the SCO will be in effect in March 2022 and will create an implementation Executive consisting of County and District Councillors to provide political oversight of the transitional arrangements. It is envisaged that the informal stage described above will mirror these formal arrangements so there is consistency during the period prior to vesting date.

(c) Stage 3 - After Elections prior to Vesting Date of 1 April 2023

- 7.4 The newly elected Councillors will be responsible for the political oversight of the County Council for the first year and then will be responsible for North Yorkshire Council for the next four years. The first Executive after the Elections will take over the responsibility of the Implementation Executive to provide political oversight of the Implementation Strategy.
- 7.5 A diagram to show a suggested way of working across the Councils for each stage is shown at appendix F and this will be discussed with representatives from the District Councils to consider an agreed way forward.

8.0 Legal Implications

- 8.1 As the Secretary of State has announced the decision to proceed with a unitary authority for North Yorkshire, it is necessary to consider the stages that are needed to implement the decision prior to the creation of the SCO as identified in the report. Ultimately it will be for the Secretary of State to determine the contents of the SCO.

8.0 Equalities Implications

- 8.1 As identified in the attached Equality Impact Screening Form, there is not an adverse impact on any protected characteristics.

9.0 Environmental Implications

- 9.1 There are no significant environmental implications arising from this report.

10.0 Recommendations

The Leader is recommended to approve:

- (a) The submission of interim Ward boundaries for the new North Yorkshire Council.
- (b) The response to MHCLG with regard to the contents of the Structural Change Order.

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13 September 2021

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Background Documents:

¹ [Electoral statistics for the UK - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/elections/electoralregistration/datasets/electoralstatisticsforuk)
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/elections/electoralregistration/datasets/electoralstatisticsforuk>

¹ [How Reviews Work | LGBCE Site](https://www.lgbce.org.uk/how-reviews-work) <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/how-reviews-work>

Appendices:

Appendix A : Terms of Reference of members working group.
Appendix B : Compliant proposal from the Warding Working Group
Appendix C : Main supplementary proposal relating to Bedale and Tanfield, and to Whitby
Appendix D : Secondary supplementary proposal
Appendix E : proposed responses to additional questions regarding the SCO
Appendix F : Draft diagram for 3 stages of governance
Appendix G : Equality Impact Screening form

WARDING WORKING GROUP - TERMS OF REFERENCE AND ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Purpose: The purpose of the Warding Working Group is to provide a cross party working group to look at the potential options for Warding arrangements for the new unitary North Yorkshire Council. The Working Group will seek to make representations to the Executive who will then formally submit its views on behalf of the Council to MHCLG. It will then be for the Secretary of State to determine the actual warding arrangements for the unitary authority that will be particularised in the Structural Changes Order.

Role: The role of the working Group is to:

- (i) review the criteria that will be used by the Secretary of State in determining the warding arrangements for the Elections in May 2022
- (ii) Using the aforementioned criteria to recommend to the Executive a proposal for warding for the new Unitary Authority

It is noted that each political party can make any recommendations it wishes to make directly to the Secretary of State, who is the ultimate decision taker.

This Member Working Group is to provide a cross party forum to discuss the options for the Warding of North Yorkshire Council and to make a recommendation to the Executive. The Executive may then consider making representations to the Secretary of State.

Membership (and Chair): Membership of the Working Group will consist of :

- (1) 4 members of the Conservative Group
- (2) Councillor Stuart Parsons (North Yorkshire Independents Group Leader)
- (3) Councillor Eric Broadbent (Labour Group Leader)
- (4) Councillor Bryn Griffiths (Liberal Democrats Group Leader)

This group is a Member's Working Group and is not a formal committee of the Council and therefore does not need to be politically balanced. It is a time limited task and finish Group which will have the sole purpose of making its recommendations to the Executive.

The Group will try and make recommendations through consensus but if a vote needs to be taken at the working group, it will be one member, one vote with the Chair having a casting vote.

Objectives: To present a cross-party proposal to the Executive for consideration of the County Council's suggestion for warding arrangements for North Yorkshire Council within time for the Secretary of State to consider the proposals.

Background:

On the 21st July 2021, Robert Jenrick, the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, approved the County Council's proposal for a North Yorkshire Unitary Council. Within the County's Council's proposal was the provision that there would be circa 90 Councillors in the new unitary Council.

The Secretary of State will determine the number of Councillors for the new Council and the drawing of the Boundaries for the Wards. It is understood that during the first term of the new Council, the Boundary Commission would then undertake a full Boundary Review to establish the more permanent warding arrangements for the elections in 2027. In order to inform the Secretary of State of the County Council's views with regard to the potential new warding arrangements, it

is proposed to have a cross party working group of Councillors to review the potential warding structure and to make recommendations suggestions to the Executive on what those arrangements should be. The Executive would then determine how they wish to respond to the Secretary of State on what the views are on what a potential warding arrangement could look like.

It will be up to the Secretary of State to determine what the actual number of Councillors and the boundaries of the wards will be.

Frequency of meetings: It is envisaged that this work will be time critical to meet the governments timetable in drafting the Structural Changes Order and therefore the group will meet as necessary to complete its work.

Responsibilities:

- Members of the working group will be responsible for feeding the views of their own groups into the meeting.
- Officers will present a proposal on the warding arrangements as an initial officer view on the potential of a warding structure which seeks to comply with the criteria that will be considered by the Secretary of State. Members will then be able to comment on that initial draft and propose changes or draft their own proposals afresh.
- Members of the Group will be free to share the information of the working group as widely as they wish to ensure that all members can input into the discussion and to encourage transparency.

Appendix B : Compliant proposal from the Warding Working Group

proposed unitary ward	proposed name unitary ward	existing district council wards	voters in district ward	voters in proposed unitary ward	councillors in proposed unitary ward	variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)
Harrogate and Knaresborough						
1	Harrogate Coppice Valley & Duchy	Harrogate Coppice Valley Harrogate Duchy	3,229 2,564	5,793	1	7.50%
2	Harrogate Valley Gardens & Central	Harrogate Central Harrogate Valley Gardens	3,168 3,189	6,357	1	18.00%
3	Harrogate Bilton Grange & New Park	Harrogate Bilton Grange Harrogate New Park	3,160 2,992	6,152	1	14.20%
4	Harrogate St Georges & Harlow	Harrogate Harlow Harrogate St Georges	3,001 3,379	6,380	1	18.40%
5	Harrogate Stray & Hookside	Harrogate Hookstone Harrogate Stray	2,947 3,376	6,323	1	17.30%
6	Harrogate Fairfax & Starbeck	Harrogate Fairfax Harrogate Starbeck	3,331 2,912	6,243	1	15.80%

proposed unitary ward	proposed name unitary ward	existing district council wards	voters in district ward	voters in proposed unitary ward	councillors in proposed unitary ward	variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)
7	Harrogate Bilton Woodfield & Old Bilton	Harrogate Bilton Woodfield Harrogate Old Bilton	3,225 2,939	6,164	1	14.40%
8	High Harrogate & Kingsley	Harrogate High Harrogate Harrogate Kingsley	3,371 3,052	6,423	1	19.20%
9	Knaresborough Castle & Aspin	Knaresborough Aspin & Calcutt Knaresborough Castle	3,164 3,526	6,690	1	24.10%
10	Knaresborough Scriven Park & Eastfield	Knaresborough Eastfield Knaresborough Scriven Park	2,534 3,509	6,043	1	12.10%
11	Killinghall, Hampsthwaite & Saltergate	Harrogate Saltergate Killinghall & Hampsthwaite	3,328 2,525	5,853	1	8.60%
12	Harrogate Oatlands & Pannal	Harrogate Oatlands Harrogate Pannal	3,404 2,801	6,205	1	15.10%
13	Boroughbridge & Claro	Boroughbridge Claro	2,936 2,955	5,891	1	9.30%

proposed unitary ward	proposed name unitary ward	existing district council wards	voters in district ward	voters in proposed unitary ward	councillors in proposed unitary ward	variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)
Richmond (Yorks)						
1	North Richmondshire	Croft & Middleton Tyas Gilling West Melsonby	2,945 1,769 1,632	6,346	1	17.80%
2	Richmond	Richmond East Richmond North Richmond West	1,666 1,627 3,313	6,606	1	22.60%
3	Scotton & Lower Wensleydale	Lower Wensleydale Scotton	1,526 2,901	4,427	1	-17.90%
4	Hipswell & Colburn	Colburn Hipswell	2,859 3,190	6,049	1	12.20%
5	Leyburn & Middleham	Leyburn Middleham	3,137 1,523	4,660	1	-13.50%
6	Morton-on-Swale & Appleton Wiske	Appleton Wiske & Smeatons Morton-on-Swale	2,496 2,848	5,344	1	-0.80%
7	Romanby	Romanby	5,017	5,017	1	-6.90%
8	Northallerton South	Northallerton South	5,224	5,224	1	-3.10%

proposed unitary ward	proposed name unitary ward	existing district council wards	voters in district ward	voters in proposed unitary ward	councillors in proposed unitary ward	variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)
9	Catterick Village & Brompton-on-Swale	Catterick & Brompton-on-Swale	4,975	4,975	1	-7.70%
10	Hutton Rudby & Osmotherley	Hutton Rudby Osmotherley & Swainby	2,627 2,511	5,138	1	-4.70%
11	Great Ayton	Great Ayton	4,613	4,613	1	-14.40%
12	Stokesley	Stokesley	5,049	5,049	1	-6.30%
13	Bedale & Tanfield	Bedale Tanfield	7,265 2,413	9,678	2	-10.20%
14	Upper Dales	Hawes, High Abbotside & Upper Swaledale Lower Swaledale & Arkengarthdale Yoredale	1,550 1,470 1,573	4,593	1	-14.80%
15	Northallerton North & Brompton	Northallerton North & Brompton	4,982	4,982	1	-7.60%
Scarborough and Whitby						
1	Newby	Newby	5,035	5,035	1	-6.60%

proposed unitary ward	proposed name unitary ward	existing district council wards	voters in district ward	voters in proposed unitary ward	councillors in proposed unitary ward	variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)
2	Scalby & Burniston	Burniston & Cloughton	1,785	4,750	1	-11.90%
		Scalby	2,965			
3	Esk Valley & Coast	Esk Valley	3,748	5,648	1	4.80%
		Fylingdales & Ravenscar	1,900			
4	Danby & Mulgrave	Danby & Mulgrave	4,110	4,110	1	-23.70%
5	Derwent Valley & Moor	Derwent Valley & Moor	4,142	4,142	1	-23.10%
6	Whitby	Mayfield	3,600	10,468	2	-2.90%
		Streonshalh	3,522			
		Whitby West Cliff	3,346			
7	Seamer	Seamer	3,723	3,723	1	-30.90%
8	Cayton	Cayton	3,680	3,680	1	-31.70%

proposed unitary ward	proposed name unitary ward	existing district council wards	voters in district ward	voters in proposed unitary ward	councillors in proposed unitary ward	variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)
9	Eastfield	Eastfield	4,581	4,581	1	-15.00%
10	Weaponness & Ramshill	Weaponness & Ramshill	5,915	5,915	1	9.80%
11	Woodlands	Woodlands	5,339	5,339	1	-0.90%
12	Falsgrave & Stepney	Falsgrave & Stepney	6,328	6,328	1	17.40%
13	Castle	Castle	5,629	5,629	1	4.50%
14	Northstead	Northstead	5,734	5,734	1	6.40%
Selby and Ainsty						
1	Barlby & Riccall	Barlby Village	2,576	4,599	1	-14.70%
		Riccall	2,023			
2	Selby	Selby East	5,654	13,293	2	23.30%

proposed unitary ward	proposed name unitary ward	existing district council wards	voters in district ward	voters in proposed unitary ward	councillors in proposed unitary ward	variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)
		Selby West	7,639			
3	Brayton	Brayton	4,986	4,986	1	-7.50%
4	Thorpe Willoughby & Hambleton	Hambleton	2,188	4,777	1	-11.40%
		Thorpe Willoughby	2,589			
5	Monk Fryston & South Milford	Byram & Brotherton	2,314	6,816	1	26.50%
		Monk Fryston	2,421			
		South Milford	2,081			
6	Cawood & Escrick	Cawood & Wistow	2,521	4,491	1	-16.70%
		Escrick	1,970			
7	Camblesforth & Carlton	Camblesforth & Carlton	4,750	4,750	1	-11.90%
8	Derwent (Selby)	Derwent	4,428	4,428	1	-17.80%

proposed unitary ward	proposed name unitary ward	existing district council wards	voters in district ward	voters in proposed unitary ward	councillors in proposed unitary ward	variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)
9	Eggborough & Whitely	Eggborough	2,451	4,857	1	-9.90%
		Whitley	2,406			
10	Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton	Appleton Roebuck & Church Fenton	4,743	4,743	1	-12.00%
11	Tadcaster	Tadcaster	5,980	5,980	1	11.00%
12	Sherburn in Elmet	Sherburn in Elmet	6,156	6,156	1	14.20%
13	Ainsty	Marston Moor	3,158	6,410	1	18.90%
		Ouseburn	3,252			
14	Washburn & Spofforth with Lower Wharfedale	Spofforth with Lower Wharfedale (grouped with Washburn in Skipton and Ripon)	3,059	3,059	0.5	13.50%
Skipton and Ripon						
1	Wharfedale	Upper Wharfedale	1,577	4,198	1	-22.10%

proposed unitary ward	proposed name unitary ward	existing district council wards	voters in district ward	voters in proposed unitary ward	councillors in proposed unitary ward	variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)
2	Skipton North & Embsay-with-Eastby	Barden Fell	1,318	4,586	1	-14.90%
		Grassington	1,303			
		Embsay-with-Eastby	1,566			
		Skipton North	3,020			
3	Wathvale & Bishop Monkton	Bishop Monkton & Newby	3,044	6,382	1	18.40%
		Wathvale	3,338			
4	Ripon Minster & Moorside	Ripon Minster	3,256	6,424	1	19.20%
		Ripon Moorside	3,168			
5	Ripon Ure Bank & Spa	Ripon Spa	3,093	6,205	1	15.10%
		Ripon Ure Bank	3,112			
6	Skipton West & West Craven	Skipton West	3,127	4,744	1	-12.00%
		West Craven	1,617			

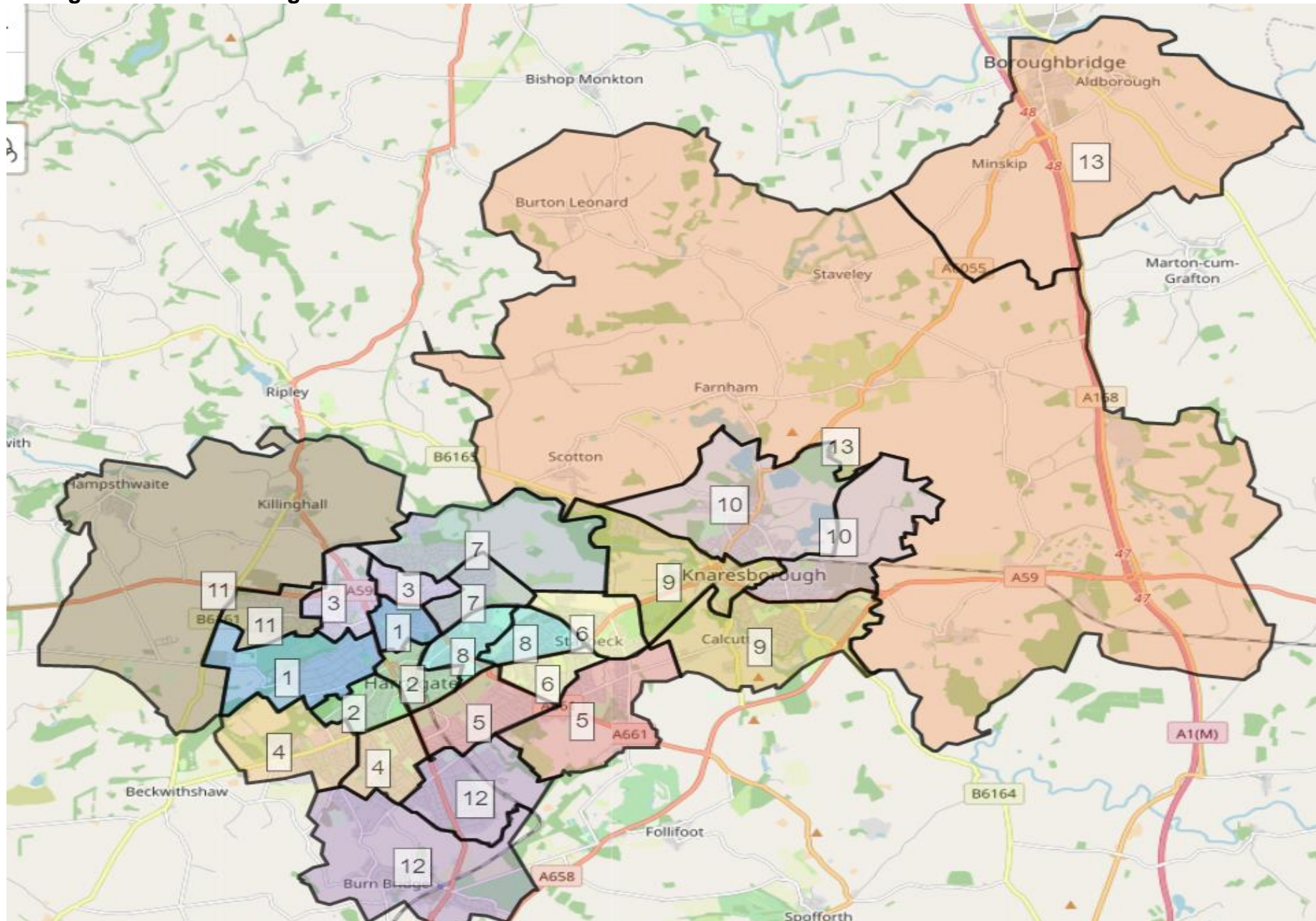
proposed unitary ward	proposed name unitary ward	existing district council wards	voters in district ward	voters in proposed unitary ward	councillors in proposed unitary ward	variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)
7	Aire Valley	Aire Valley with Lothersdale	3,003	4,875	1	-9.50%
		Cowling	1,872			
8	Skipton East & South	Skipton South	2,747	5,700	1	5.80%
		Skipton East	2,953			
9	Glusburn & Sutton-in-Craven	Glusburn	3,248	6,192	1	14.90%
		Sutton-in-Craven	2,944			
10	Gargrave & Malhamdale	Gargrave and Malhamdale	2,594	4,414	1	-18.10%
		Hellifield and Long Preston	1,820			
11	Settle & Penyghent	Penyghent	1,536	4,717	1	-12.50%
		Settle and Ribblesbanks	3,181			
12	Bentham & Ingleton	Bentham	2,933	6,132	1	13.80%
		Ingleton and Clapham	3,199			

proposed unitary ward	proposed name unitary ward	existing district council wards	voters in district ward	voters in proposed unitary ward	councillors in proposed unitary ward	variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)
13	Masham & Fountains	Fountains & Ripley	3,256	6,150	1	14.10%
		Masham & Kirkby Malzeard	2,894			
14	Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale	Nidd Valley Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale Moors	3,242 2,956	6,198	1	15.00%
15	Washburn & Spofforth with Lower Wharfedale	Washburn (grouped with Spofforth with Lower Wharfedale in Selby and Ainsty)	3,497	3,497	0.5	29.80%
Thirsk and Malton						
1	Huby & Sheriff Hutton	Sheriff Hutton	1,486	4,428	1	-17.80%
		Huby	2,942			
2	Helmsley & Sinnington	Helmsley	2,746	4,233	1	-21.50%
		Sinnington	1,487			

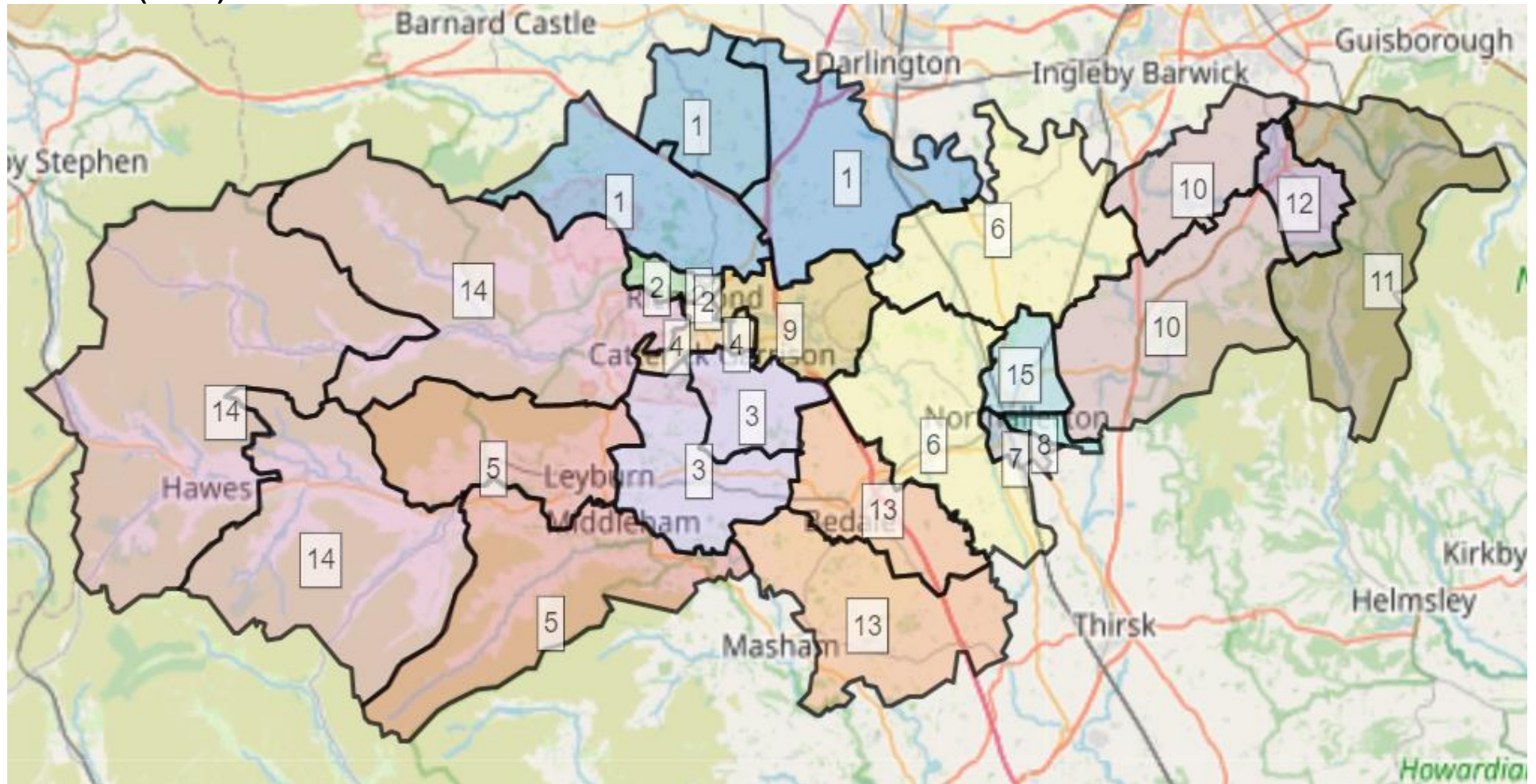
proposed unitary ward	proposed name unitary ward	existing district council wards	voters in district ward	voters in proposed unitary ward	councillors in proposed unitary ward	variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)
3	Kirkbymoorside & Dales	Cropton	1,394	5,409	1	0.40%
		Dales	1,162			
		Kirkbymoorside	2,853			
4	Pickering	Pickering East	3,089	6,028	1	11.90%
		Pickering West	2,939			
5	Hillside and Raskelf	Bagby & Thorntons	2,841	5,557	1	3.10%
		Raskelf & White Horse	2,716			
6	Sowerby & Topcliffe	Sowerby & Topcliffe	5,693	5,693	1	5.60%
7	Amotherby & Ampleforth	Amotherby	1,575	4,460	1	-17.20%
		Ampleforth	1,402			
		Hovingham	1,483			
8	Easingwold	Easingwold	8,164	8,164	2	-24.30%

proposed unitary ward	proposed name unitary ward	existing district council wards	voters in district ward	voters in proposed unitary ward	councillors in proposed unitary ward	variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)
9	Thirsk	Thirsk	5,454	5,454	1	1.20%
10	Derwent & Ryedale	Derwent	2,837	4,261	1	-20.90%
		Ryedale South West	1,424			
11	Norton	Norton East	3,504	6,204	1	15.10%
		Norton West	2,700			
12	Malton	Malton	4,689	4,689	1	-13.00%
13	Hunmanby & Sherburn	Sherburn	1,630	5,333	1	-1.00%
		Hunmanby	3,703			
14	Thornton Dales & Wolds	Rillington	1,484	5,873	1	9.00%
		Thornton Dale	2,873			
		Wolds	1,516			
15	Filey	Filey	5,790	5,790	1	7.40%

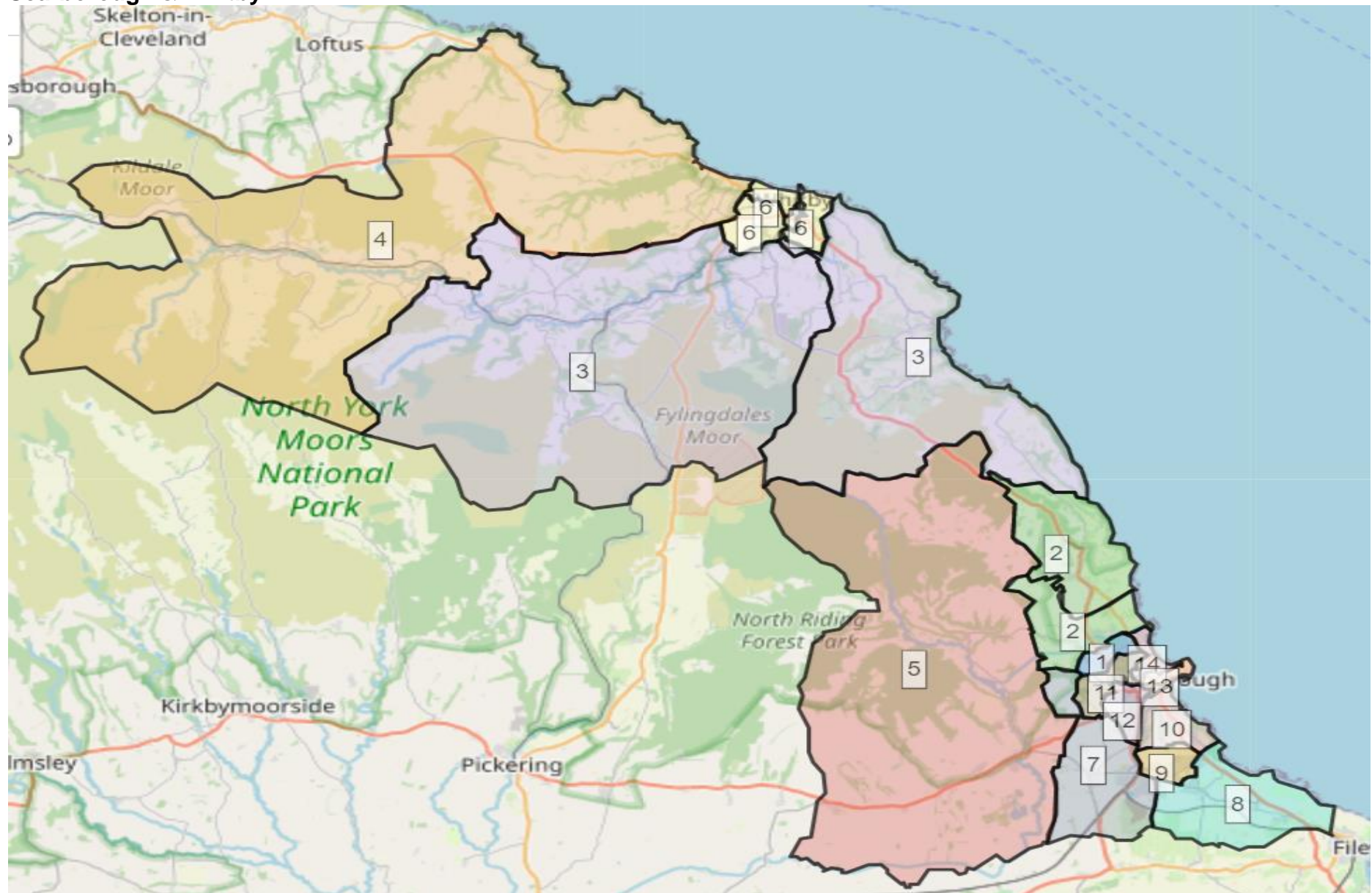
Harrogate & Knaresborough



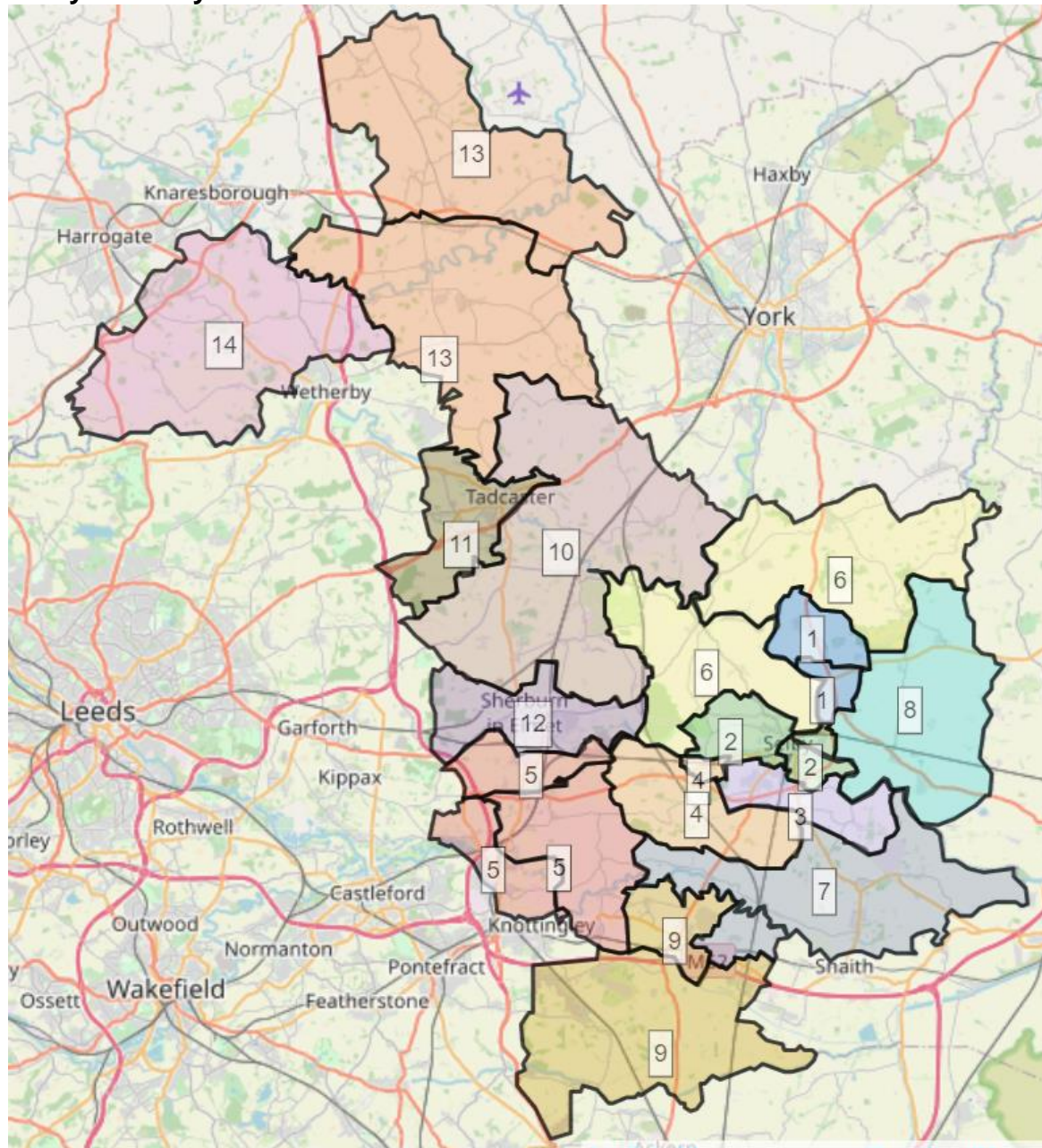
Richmond (Yorks)



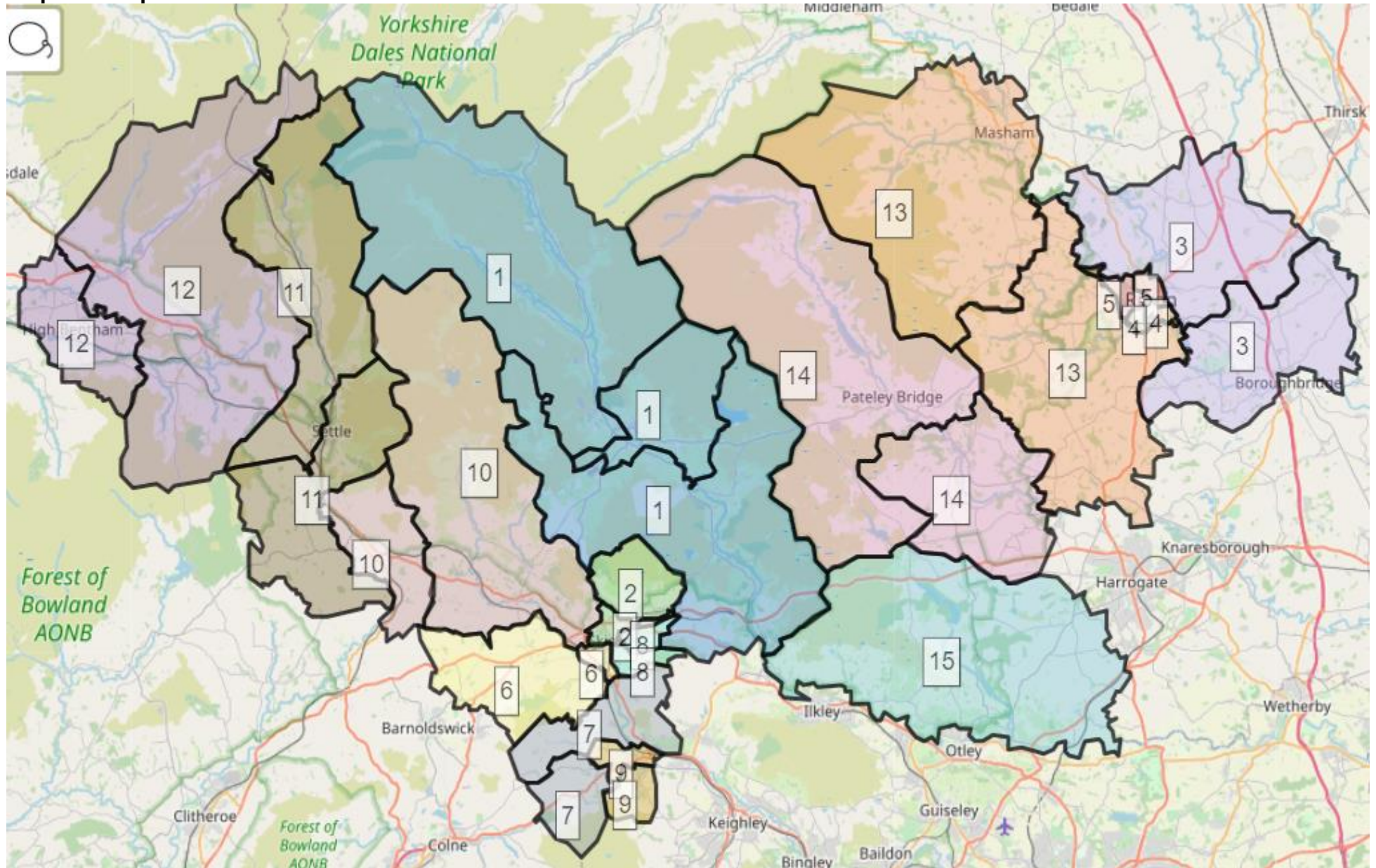
Scarborough & Whitby



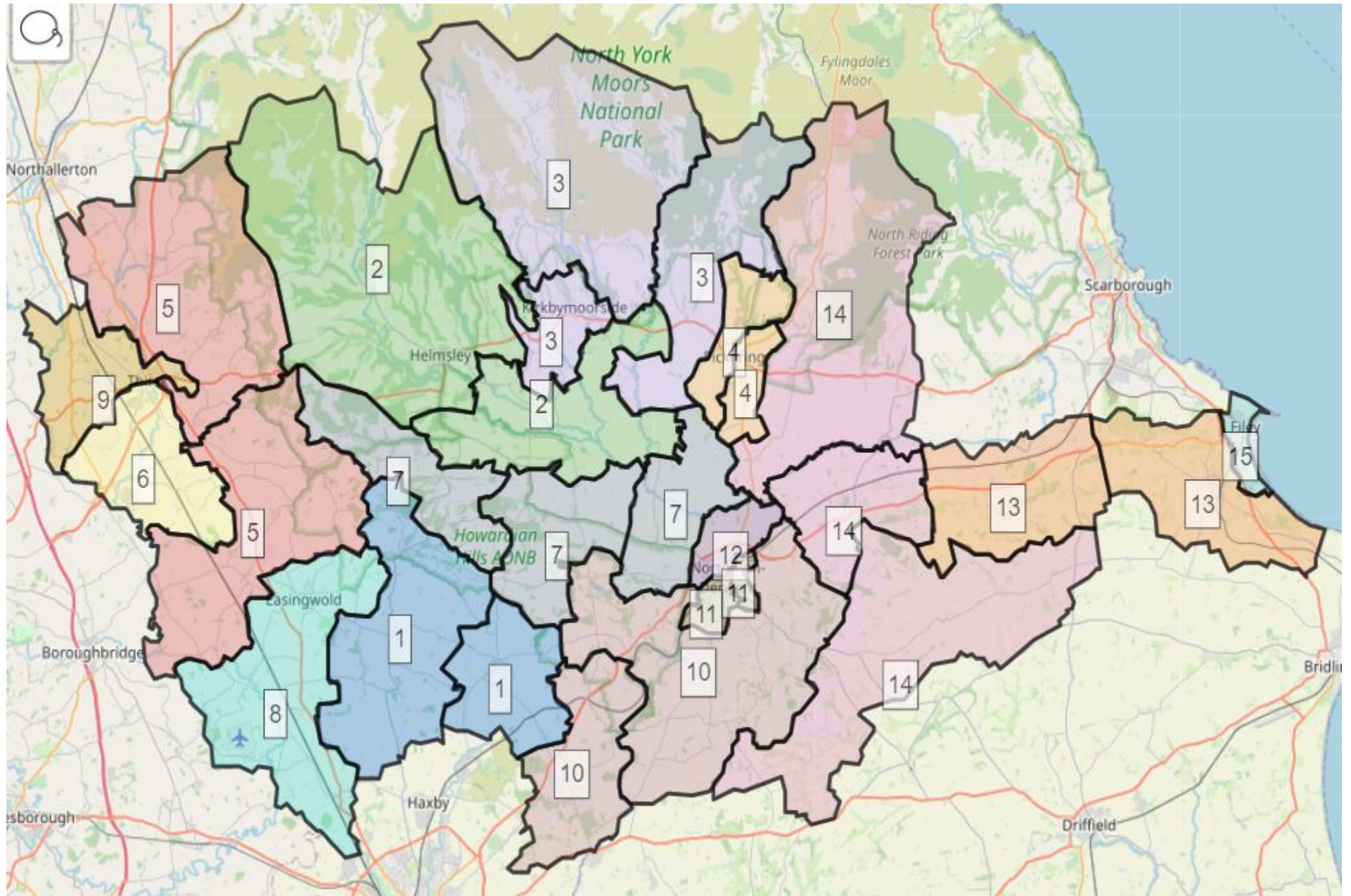
Selby & Ainsty



Skipton & Ripon



Thirsk & Malton



Allocation of district council wards to constituency

Most district councils wards are wholly within a single parliamentary constituency and have been allocated to the appropriate constituency area for the purposes of this exercise. However six district council wards are mostly within one constituency but have small parts in one or two other constituencies. These district council wards have been allocated for this exercise to one constituency area based on majority population numbers. The actual decision of Constituency Area Committees will be determined by the future Councillors of the unitary council.

District council ward	Number of constituencies	Constituencies	Assigned constituency area (for these purposes)
Bagby & Thorntons	2	Richmond (Yorks) Thirsk & Malton	Thirsk & Malton
Claro	3	Harrogate & Knaresborough Selby & Ainsty Skipton & Ripon	Harrogate & Knaresborough
Fountains & Ripley	2	Harrogate & Knaresborough Skipton & Ripon	Skipton & Ripon
Morton-on-Swale	2	Richmond (Yorks) Thirsk & Malton	Richmond (Yorks)
Ouseburn	2	Harrogate & Knaresborough Selby & Ainsty	Selby & Ainsty
Washburn	2	Selby & Ainsty Skipton & Ripon	Skipton & Ripon

Electorate and proposed number of councillors and wards by constituency area

Constituency areas ¹	Number of registered electors	Proposed number of councillors ²	Number of registered electors per councillor	Variance from ideal (5,389 registered electors per councillor)	Number of wards
Harrogate & Knaresborough	80,517	13	6194	14.9%	13
Richmond (Yorks)	82,701	16	5169	-4.1%	15
Scarborough & Whitby	75,082	15	5005	-9.1%	14
Selby & Ainsty	79,345	14.5	5472	1.5%	13.5
Skipton & Ripon	80,414	14.5	5546	2.9%	14.5
Thirsk & Malton	81,576	16	5099	-5.4%	15
North Yorkshire	479,635	89	5329	0.0%	85

¹ Adjusted as set out above

² One proposed ward covers parts of two constituency areas and in this table the number of councillors is divided between the areas

Electorate and number of councillors by existing district council areas

District council area	Number of registered electors	Existing number of district councillors	Number of registered electors per existing district councillor	Existing number of county councillors	Number of registered electors per existing county councillor	Proposed number of unitary councillors ³	Number of registered electors per unitary councillor	Variance from ideal (5,389 registered electors per councillor)
Craven	45,558	30	1519	7	6508	9	5062	-6.1%
Hambleton	72,855	28	2602	12	6071	14.5	5024	-6.8%
Harrogate	124,842	40	3121	18	6936	20	6242	15.8%
Richmondshire	37,656	24	1569	6	6276	7	5379	-0.2%
Ryedale	44,273	30	1476	6	7379	9	4919	-8.7%
Scarborough	84,575	46	1839	14	6041	16.5	5126	-4.9%
Selby	69,876	31	2254	9	7764	13	5375	-0.3%
North Yorkshire	479,635			72	479,635	89	5389	

Number of registered electors per existing county councillor = 6662

³ Some proposed wards covers part of more than one district and in this table the number of councillors is divided between the relevant districts

Data sources

Published data on number of local government electors (March 2020) - Electoral statistics for the UK - Office for National Statistics

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/elections/electoralregistration/datasets/electoralstatisticsforuk>

Local Government Boundary Commission for England - How Reviews Work

<https://www.lgbce.org.uk/how-reviews-work>

Map of current electoral areas - Election Maps - Ordnance Survey

<https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/election-maps/gb/>

Appendix C : Main supplementary proposal relating to Bedale and Tanfield, and to Whitby

Main Supplementary Proposal

1. In addition to the main proposal, the members working group identified a supplementary proposal that could be put to MHCLG that would better meet the aim of creating proposed wards for the unitary council that each elect one councillor. This does not comply with the advice given by MHCLG but we are aware that the Structural Changes Order creating Dorset as a unitary council did include a small number of instances where parishes and parish wards were used as building blocks.
2. In the main proposal there are four unitary wards with two councillors. In two of these (Bedale and Tanfield, and Whitby) the working group agreed a way in which the ward could be split into two wards.
3. These are set out below. The relevant district councils supplied the numbers of registered voters for parishes and parish wards.
4. It was not possible to identify a similar proposal for Selby due to the current configuration of parish wards. The working group did not agree away a proposal for Easingwold.

Aiskew and Leeming Bar unitary ward	
<i>parishes</i>	<i>voters</i>
Aiskew and Leeming Bar	2234
Burneston	320
Crakehall with Langthorne	565
Exelby, Leeming & Londonderry	1267
Gatenby Parish Meeting	38
Hackforth Combined	169
Rand Grange Parish Meeting	5
total	4598
variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)	- 14.70%

Bedale & Tanfield unitary ward	
<i>parishes</i>	<i>voters</i>
Bedale	2610
Ainderby Quernhow Parish Meeting	44
Carthorpe	228
Firby Parish Meeting	29
Holme Parish Meeting	38
Howe Parish Meeting	14
Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave	254
Pickhill with Roxby & Sinderby	436
Snape with Thorp	329
Tanfield	496

Thornton Watlass, Burrill with Cowling, Thirn, Clifton on Yore & Rookwith	365
Well	210
total	5053
variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)	-6.20%

Whitby Streonshalh unitary ward	
<i>parish wards (district ward)</i>	<i>voters</i>
Abbey (Streonshalh)	2897
Town North (Whitby West Cliff)	968
Town South (Whitby West Cliff)	629
total	4494
variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)	- 16.60%

Whitby West unitary ward	
<i>parish wards (district ward)</i>	<i>voters</i>
West Cliff (Whitby West Cliff)	2076
White Leys (Whitby West Cliff)	310
Ruswarp (Mayfield)	1230
Stakesby (Mayfield)	2379
total	5995
variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)	11.20%

Appendix D : Secondary supplementary proposal

Additional Supplementary Proposal

1. In addition to the main proposal, the members working group identified an additional supplementary proposal that could be put to MHCLG that would better meet the aim of creating proposed wards for the unitary council that each elect one councillor. This does not comply with the advice given by MHCLG but we are aware that the Structural Changes Order creating Dorset as a unitary council did include a small number of instances where parishes and parish wards were used as building blocks.
2. In the main proposal there is a unitary ward (Washburn & Spofforth with Lower Wharfedale) that is split between two constituency areas (roughly half in Selby and Ainsty and roughly half in Skipton and Ripon). This avoids the need for two additional wards each with two councillors (one in each constituency area).
3. This additional supplementary proposals would do away with the need for Washburn & Spofforth with Lower Wharfedale to be split between two constituency areas. This would be achieved by splitting the Nidd Valley district council ward by parishes between Washburn and Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale Moors to create two one councillor wards; and by splitting the Marston Moor district council ward by parishes between Spofforth with Lower Wharfedale and Ouseburn to create two one councillor wards.
4. These are set out below. Harrogate Borough Council supplied the numbers of registered voters for parishes.

Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale	
<i>ward / parishes</i>	<i>voters</i>
Pateley Bridge & Nidderdale Moors ward	2956
Dacre	644
Darley & Menwith	935
Total	4535
variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)	-15.8%

Washburn	
<i>ward / parishes</i>	<i>voters</i>
Washburn	3497
Birstwith	644
Felliscliffe	283
Hartwith Cum Winsley	842
total	5266
variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)	-2.3%

Spofforth with Lower Wharfdale and Tockwith	
<i>ward / parishes</i>	<i>voters</i>
Spofforth with Lower Wharfdale ward	3059
Ribston Great with Walshford	59
Tockwith	1503

Bilton In Ainsty W Bickerton	350
Wighill	161
total	5132
variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)	-4.80%

Ouseburn	
<i>ward / parishes</i>	<i>voters</i>
Ouseburn ward	3252
Cattal	103
Hunsingore	127
Kirk Hammerton	461
Long Marston	474
Thornville	14
Wilstrop	44
total	4475
variance from ideal (i.e. 5389 per councillor)	- 16.90%

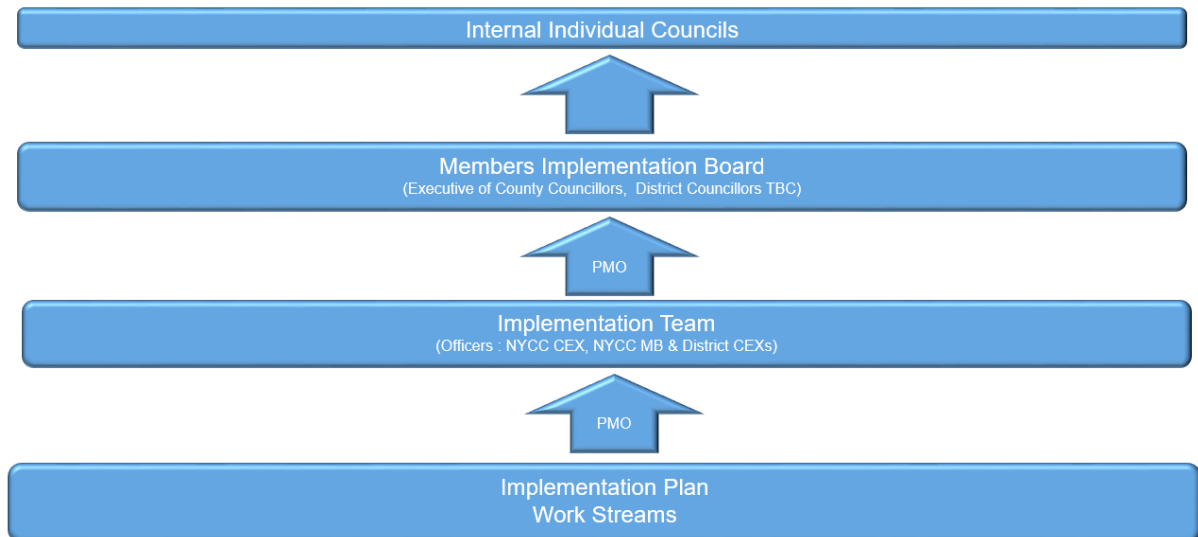
Appendix E: Proposed responses to additional questions regarding the SCO

Issues for the SCO	Current proposed response to MHCLG from the Leader on behalf of North Yorkshire County Council	Notes: All of these decisions will be for the Secretary of State to determine, after considering the views of any responses.
Name of the new authority	North Yorkshire Council	
Form of Unitary Council	Continuing Authority	This is proposed in the initial County Council proposal that was accepted as it would be the cheapest and most efficient way of implementing a new unitary authority. This will allow officers and members to concentrate on progressing a potential devolution deal and potentially creating a Mayoral Combined Authority (or other appropriately approved governance arrangement)
Form of Governance for Interim	When the Order is in effect in March 2022, a formal Implementation Executive will be created. After the Elections in May 2022 the newly elected Members will create the Executive which will carry out the Implementation Executive functions.	Member conversations are due to take place with representatives from the Districts to see if proposals can be agreed where possible as Councils work collaboratively to implement the changes.
Composition of Implementation Executive prior to Elections	County Council suggested proposal is to have ten Members from the County Council (i.e. the Executive Members) and one Member from each District Council	Member conversations are due to take place with representatives from each of the District Councils to see if proposals can be agreed where possible as Councils work collaboratively to implement the changes.
Composition of Implementation Team of Officers	It is suggested that the Implementation Team will be chaired by the Chief Executive of the County Council. It is further suggested that it will have representatives from all District Councils and relevant Statutory Officers of the County Council	Member conversations are due to take place with representatives from each of the District Councils to see if proposals can be agreed where possible as Councils work collaboratively to implement the changes. A verbal update on any suggestions from the Districts will be provided at the informal meeting of the 21 st September if relevant.
Electoral Cycle for new Council	Next Elections for unitary and county in May 2022 and then in 2027 and subsequently every four years. It may be helpful to ensure that the SCO makes provision to align Town & Parish Council elections in North Yorkshire to same cycle to reduce costs of Parish elections.	Member conversations are due to take place with representatives from the Districts to see if proposals can be agreed where possible as Councils work collaboratively to implement the changes.

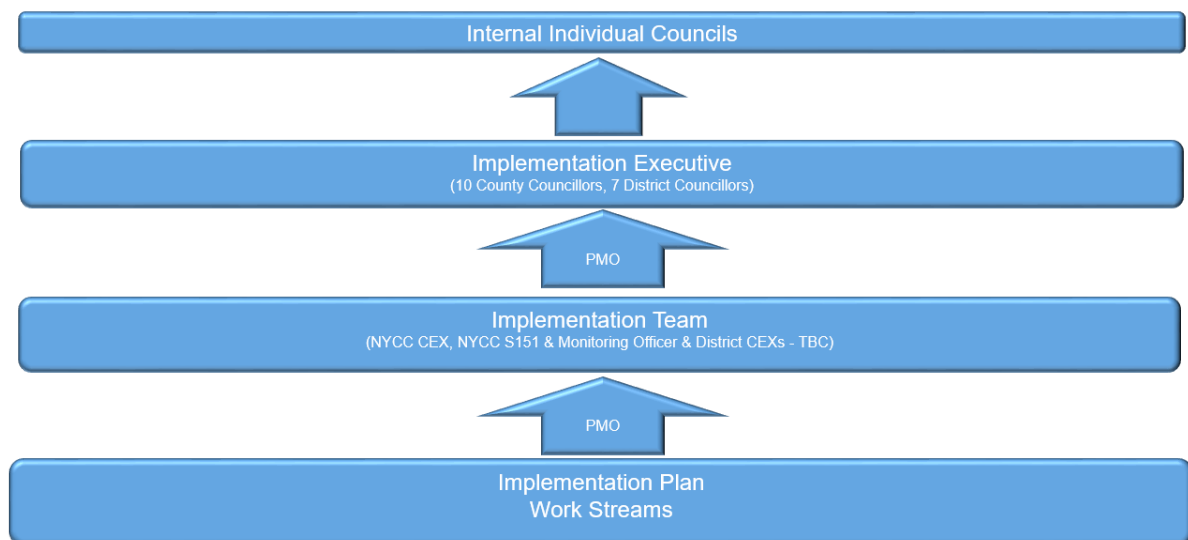
Issues for the SCO	Current proposed response to MHCLG from the Leader on behalf of North Yorkshire County Council	Notes: All of these decisions will be for the Secretary of State to determine, after considering the views of any responses.
Potential request to create a combined authority	Request for the Order to allow the Implementation Executive and the subsequent Executive of newly elected members in 2022 to create a combined authority	This request has not been implemented in previous SCOs but it is suggested to be considered if it provides a quicker avenue to promote a devolution deal.
Power to create Town Councils	Request to undertake preparations for the establishment of potential new Town Councils for Scarborough and Harrogate if this is not progressed prior to vesting date by the District Councils.	This request is to see if government will allow the interim arrangements prior to vesting date to progress governance reviews for the creation of town councils where appropriate. Government may state that this has to be done either by the existing district councils or by the new Unitary Council (the County Council does not have the legal power to create town councils).

DIAGRAM TO SHOW THE THREE STAGES OF GOVERNANCE

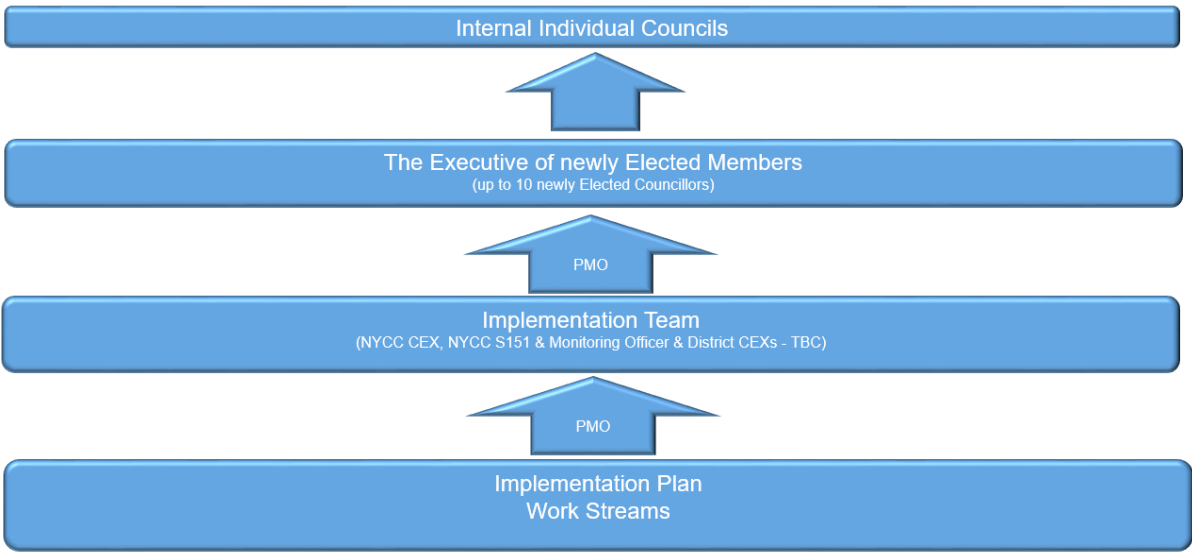
Governance – Until March 2022 - **INFORMAL**



Governance – March 2022 to 5 May 2022 – **FORMAL (SCO)**



Governance – 5 May 2022 to 1 April 2023 – **FORMAL** (elected)



APPENDIX G

Initial equality impact assessment screening form	
<p>This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.</p>	
Directorate	Central Services
Service area	Legal and Democratic Services
Proposal being screened	County Council's response to proposed Warding arrangements for the new Unitary Council
Officer(s) carrying out screening	Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)
What are you proposing to do?	Write to MHCLG with regard to comments on what should be included in the Structural Change Order to create a unitary authority for North Yorkshire.
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	<p>The Secretary of State has made the decision to create a new unitary authority in North Yorkshire. MHCLG have asked the County Council and the District Councils on their views about what should go in the Structural Change Order.</p> <p>The decision of what goes in the Order will be ultimately a matter for the Secretary of State who will have to take into account appropriate matters for decision-making. As a consultee, the County Council is responding to a request for views about what should be in the Order including the warding arrangements for the first set of Elections for the new authority. It is understood that the Local Government Boundary Commission for England will carry out a full boundary review prior to the next set of Elections in 2027.</p> <p>The desired outcome is to feed into the decision-making process by the Secretary of State by sharing the views of the County Council.</p>
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.	No.
Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYCC's additional agreed characteristics As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important? Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to? 	

If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be an adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your [Equality rep](#) for advice if you are in any doubt.

Protected characteristic	Potential for adverse impact		Don't know/No info available
	Yes	No	
Age		✓	
Disability		✓	
Sex		✓	
Race		✓	
Sexual orientation		✓	
Gender reassignment		✓	
Religion or belief		✓	
Pregnancy or maternity		✓	
Marriage or civil partnership		✓	
NYCC additional characteristics			
People in rural areas		✓	
People on a low income		✓	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		✓	
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.	The decision of the Secretary of State will have an impact on all areas of the County Council in determining the warding arrangements of their elected representatives.		
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	The decision to create a new unitary authority has already been made and this decision relates to specific parts of the Structural Change Order and therefore will not have a direct impact on how other organisations operate.		
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	✓	Continue to full EIA:
Reason for decision	The decision on what should be included in the Structural Change Order is a matter for the Secretary of State and the responses that are submitted on behalf of the County Council do not have a direct adverse impact on any individual with protected characteristics.		
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)	<i>Barry Khan</i>		
Date	13 th September 2021		