2002 No. 2892

LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENGLAND

The Borough of Reading (Electoral Changes) Order 2002

Made - - - - - 19th November 2002

Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2)

Whereas the Boundary Committee for England(**a**), acting pursuant to section 15(4) of the Local Government Act 1992(**b**), has submitted to the Electoral Commission(**c**) a report dated June 2002 on its review of the borough(**d**) of Reading together with its recommendations:

And whereas the Electoral Commission have decided to give effect to those recommendations:

And whereas a period of not less than six weeks has expired since the receipt of those recommendations:

Now, therefore, the Electoral Commission, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by sections 17(**e**) and 26(**f**) of the Local Government Act 1992, and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby make the following Order:

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Borough of Reading (Electoral Changes) Order 2002.

(2) This Order shall come into force—

(a) for the purpose of proceedings preliminary or relating to any election to be held on 6th May 2004, on the day after that on which it is made;

(b) for all other purposes, on 6th May 2004.

Interpretation

2. In this Order—

"borough" means the borough of Reading;

"existing", in relation to a ward, means the ward as it exists on the date this Order is made; and

---

(**a**) The Boundary Committee for England is a committee of the Electoral Commission, established by the Electoral Commission in accordance with section 14 of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (c. 41). The Local Government Commission for England (Transfer of Functions) Order 2001 (S.I. 2001/3962) transferred to the Electoral Commission the functions of the Local Government Commission for England.

(**b**) 1992 c. 19. This section has been amended by S.I. 2001/3962.

(**c**) The Electoral Commission was established by the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (c. 41). The functions of the Secretary of State, under sections 13 to 15 and 17 of the Local Government Act 1992, to the extent that they relate to electoral arrangements within the meaning of that Act, were transferred with modifications to the Electoral Commission on 1st April 2002 (S.I. 2001/3962).

(**d**) The non-metropolitan district of Reading has the status of a borough.

(**e**) This section has been amended by S.I. 2001/3962. There are amendments to this section made otherwise than by S.I. 2001/3962 that are not relevant to this Order.

(**f**) This section has been amended by S.I. 2001/3962.

any reference to the map is a reference to the map marked "Map referred to in the Borough of Reading (Electoral Changes) Order 2002", of which prints are available for inspection at—

(a) the principal office of the Electoral Commission; and

(b) the offices of Reading Borough Council.

Wards of the borough of Reading

3.—(1) The existing wards of the borough(**a**) shall be abolished.

(2) The borough shall be divided into sixteen wards which shall bear the names set out in column (1) of Schedule 1.

(3) The wards shall comprise the areas designated on the map by reference to the name of the ward and demarcated by red lines; and the number of councillors to be elected for each ward shall be the number specified in respect of the ward in column (2) of that Schedule.

(4) Where a boundary is shown on the map as running along a road, railway line, footway, watercourse or similar geographical feature, it shall be treated as running along the centre line of the feature.

Elections of the council of Reading

4.—(1) Elections of all councillors for all wards of the borough shall be held simultaneously on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2004(**b**)(**c**).

(2) The councillors holding office for any ward of the borough immediately before 10th May 2004 shall retire on that date and the newly elected councillors for those wards shall come into office on that date.

(3) The order of retirement of councillors shall be set out in Schedule 2.

(4) Where the number of councillors elected in 2004 for any ward of the borough is two or more—

(a) the first to retire shall, subject to paragraphs (6) and (7), be the councillor elected by the smallest number of votes; and

(b) the second to retire shall, subject to those paragraphs, be the councillor elected by the next smallest number of votes.

(5) In the case of an equality of votes between any persons elected which makes it uncertain which of them is to retire in any year, the person to retire in that year shall be determined by lot.

(6) If an election of councillors for any ward is not contested, the person to retire in each year shall be determined by lot.

(7) Where under this article any question is to be determined by lot, the lot shall be drawn at the next practicable meeting of the council after the question has arisen and the drawing shall be conducted under the direction of the person presiding at the meeting.

Maps

5. Reading Borough Council shall make a print of the map marked "Map referred to in the Borough of Reading (Electoral Changes) Order 2002" available for inspection at its offices by any member of the public at any reasonable time.

Electoral registers

6. The Electoral Registration Officer for the borough shall make such rearrangement of, or adaptation of, the register of local government electors as may be necessary for the purposes of, and in consequence of this Order.

(**a**) *See* the Borough of Reading (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1979 (S.I. 1979/1346), as amended by the Berkshire (Structural Change) Order 1996 (S.I. 1996/1879).

(**b**) Article 4 provides for a single election of all the councillors and reversion to the system of elections by thirds, as established by articles 8 and 9 of S.I. 1979/1346, as amended by article 12 of S.I. 1996/1879.

(**c**) For the ordinary day of election of councillors of local government areas, *see* section 37 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (c. 2), amended by section 18(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1985 (c. 50) and section 17 of, and paragraphs 1 and 5 of Schedule 3 to, the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (c. 29).

Revocation

7. The Borough of Reading (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1979(**a**) is revoked, save for articles 8 and 9.

Signed by the members of the Electoral Commission:

28th October 2002 — *Pamela Gordon* Commissioner

14th November 2002 — *Glyn Mathias* Commissioner

14th November 2002 — *Neil McIntosh* Commissioner

19th November 2002 — *Karamjit Singh* Commissioner

19th November 2002 — *Sam Younger* Commissioner

28th October 2002 — *Graham Zellick* Commissioner

(**a**) S.I. 1979/1346, as amended by S.I. 1996/1879.

SCHEDULE 1

Article 3

NAMES OF WARDS AND NUMBERS OF COUNCILLORS

(1) *Name of Ward*	*(2)* *Number of councillors*
Abbey	3
Battle	3
Caversham	3
Church	3
Katesgrove	3
Kentwood	3
Mapledurham	1
Minster	3
Norcot	3
Park	3
Peppard	3
Redlands	3
Southcote	3
Thames	3
Tilehurst	3
Whitley	3

SCHEDULE 2

Article 4

ORDER OF RETIREMENT OF COUNCILLORS

(1) *Name of Ward*	*(2)* *Number of councillors to retire in 2006*	*(3)* *Number of councillors to retire in 2007*	*(4)* *Number of councillors to retire in 2008*
Abbey	1	1	1
Battle	1	1	1
Caversham	1	1	1
Church	1	1	1
Katesgrove	1	1	1
Kentwood	1	1	1
Mapledurham	0	0	1
Minster	1	1	1
Norcot	1	1	1
Park	1	1	1
Peppard	1	1	1
Redlands	1	1	1
Southcote	1	1	1
Thames	1	1	1
Tilehurst	1	1	1
Whitley	1	1	1

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order gives effect to recommendations by the Boundary Committee for England, a committee of the Electoral Commission, for electoral changes in the borough of Reading. The changes have effect in relation to local government elections to be held on and after 6th May 2004.

Article 3 abolishes the existing wards of the borough and provides for the creation of 16 new wards. That article and Schedule 1 also make provision for the names and areas of, and numbers of councillors for, the new wards.

Article 4 makes provision for a whole council election in 2004 and for reversion to the established system of elections by thirds in subsequent years. Schedule 2 provides for the order of retirement of councillors.

Article 6 obliges the Electoral Registration Officer to make any necessary amendments to the electoral register to reflect the new electoral arrangements.

Article 7 revokes the Borough of Reading (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1979 (S.I. 1979/1346).

The areas of the new borough wards are demarcated on the map described in article 2. Prints of the map may be inspected at all reasonable times at the offices of Reading Borough Council and at the principal office of the Electoral Commission at Trevelyan House, Great Peter Street, London SW1P 2HW.

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2002 No. 2892

LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENGLAND

The Borough of Reading (Electoral Changes) Order 2002

ISBN 0-11-043974-0

9 780110 439747

£2.00

© Crown copyright 2002

Printed and published in the UK by The Stationery Office Limited
under the authority and superintendence of Carol Tullo, Controller of
Her Majesty's Stationery Office and Queen's Printer of Acts of Parliament.
E1550 11/2002 121550 19585