



The Boundary Commission has approved a new Council size of 37 Members.

The forecast electorate for 2026 is 69,001 - this results in an optimum councillor:elector ratio of 1:1,865.

In terms of a 10% variance above or below this optimum figure:

- 1 Councillor ward (1865 optimum): 1679 to 2051 electors
- 2 Councillor ward (3730 optimum): 3357 to 4103 electors
- 3 Councillor ward (5595 optimum): 5036 to 6154 electors

The suggested pattern of wards that follows has been considered in accordance with the three statutory criteria;

- To achieve electoral equality
- To reflect community interests and identities
- To promote effective and convenient local government.

### **To achieve electoral equality**

The warding pattern put forward by the cross-party working group achieves the optimum electoral equality in all wards save one, which has a strong community identity in its own right.

Freckleton (village of music and flowers) is served by a parish council, the boundary of which has been kept intact in this exercise. It is a tight-knit community with a common bond having suffered an air disaster in 1944 when a B-24 bomber aircraft crashed into the village school. The electorate predicted in 2026 is 4847 which serves 3 councillors although the variance is -13.4%.

To the north, HMP Kirkham separates the communities of Kirkham and Freckleton as does the A583, the main road through Warton to Preston. To the west of Freckleton is Warton which has experienced a great deal of housing development of late bringing the community closer to Wrea Green in terms of house building. To the east of Freckleton is Newton and Clifton, which together with Elswick, forms a rural ward within variance. It is proposed that the benefits in terms of community identity for Freckleton and surrounding areas justify the variance in electoral variance.

### **To reflect community interests and identities**

Much of Fylde is parished. St Annes has the largest town council, which serves an electorate of 23,325. As such, it is necessary to divide the town into wards which can be achieved within variance and the ward boundaries are formed by main roads, the railway line or the perimeter of the Royal Lytham and St Annes Open Championship golf course. The other town councils in Fylde are Wesham and Kirkham and their boundaries are also respected to reflect community identity. There are numerous parish councils in the Fylde rural areas who frequently work together and whose parish councillors join with Fylde Borough Council in a quarterly liaison committee. This strengthens working relationships and representation at rural parish level. For this reason, it was felt important to respect town and parish boundaries, using these as building blocks for the new wards.

### **To promote effective and convenient local government.**

This exercise provided the opportunity to move away from single member wards which would result in more effective local government. When a councillor in a single member ward is taken ill or



incapacitated for some reason then representation is lost. Two or three councillors in a ward are able to share the load, work together in the community despite political affiliations and have more opportunity to represent their area on the committees. It should be remembered that a councillor's work is both in the ward and also on council committees making decisions that affect the community they represent. Two or three member wards increases the committee seats available for residents' views to be represented.

The new pattern of wards will mean that each councillor represents roughly the same number of voters as elected members elsewhere in the authority. The ward patterns, based as they are largely around strong physical features or well-understood patterns of community identity, are coherent and comprehensible.

The proposed warding pattern is illustrated on an [interactive map](#) and is explained further in the remainder of this document.

The map below shows the suggested new ward pattern. The numbers on the map are a key to the further ward details laid out in Table 1 below.



**Table 1:** The suggested wards, number of councillors and the electoral variances

Reference number on map	Name of new ward	Number of Councillors per ward	Electorate 2026	Variance 2026
1	North Beach	3	5370	-4.0%
2	Queensway	3	5346	-4.4%
3	Central	2	3582	-4.0%
4	Promenade	3	5439	-2.8%
5	Waddington	2	3588	-3.8%
6	Westby Park	3	5661	1.2%
7	Woodlands	2	4002	7.3%
8	Lytham West	2	3622	-2.9%
9	Lytham East	2	3822	2.5%
10	Fylde Rural North West	2	3971	6.5%
11	Wesham and Greenhalgh	2	3774	1.2%
12	Kirkham	3	6094	8.9%
13	Ribby with Warton	3	5792	3.5%
14	Freckleton	3	4847	-13.4%
15	Fylde Rural East	2	4090	9.7%

The link to the detailed map: nyoddwx4jo&usp=sharingblank"

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1VQk46JYXYNXdjgTiXWrCvnyOdDWX4jo&usp=sharing>.





### **Ward 1 - suggested name North Beach**

**Number of Councillors – 3**

Number of electorate per councillor – 1790

Number of electors within the ward – 5370

**Variance: -4.0%**

**Ward is bounded by - Sandgate - St Leonard's Road West - Railway Line - Lord Street - Mayfield Road - Headroomgate Road - Leach Lane**

The natural boundaries of the sea, borough boundary and the airport dominate this part of St Annes. St Annes residents closer to Blackpool were once effectively cut off from the rest of St Annes by the airport and the former holiday camp at the sand dunes. However, recent development on the former holiday camp site has made this community much more coherent. The boundary along the centre of Leach Lane/Headroomgate Road is a locally recognised boundary, with this wide bus route/main thoroughfare creating a natural buffer between wards. Similarly, the school grounds at Mayfield Primary create another natural boundary between proposed wards. Residents of this area use the doctor's surgery on Highbury Road East predominantly and many children within the ward attend Mayfield Primary school. The name of North Beach defines this stretch of coast where, historically, sand yachting competitions took place and now kite surfing is popular. It is one of two bathing beaches for St Annes and is where the coastguard station is located. The council's car park within this area is also named after North Beach.

### **Ward 2 - suggested name Queensway**

**Number of councillors – 3**

**Number of electorate per councillor – 1782**

**Number of electors within the ward – 5346**

**Variance: -4.4%**

**Ward is bounded by - Leach Lane - Headroomgate Road - Church Road - Moorland Road - Shepherd Road - Singleton Avenue - Heyhouses Lane - Wildings Lane**

Abutting the borough boundary and the airport, the ward is also bounded by the locally recognised boundary of Leach Lane/Headroomgate Road, and similarly Church Road. Wildings Lane demarcates the urban edge of St Annes and the rural hinterland. This ward encompasses the historical heart of the settlement that became St Annes, with Heyhouses Primary school being at the centre. However, this ward also encompasses one of the newest developments in the borough 'Queensway', which is adjacent to already established residential housing. It is the gateway into St Annes and Lytham using the well known avenues of Queensway and Kilnhouse Lane. A large housing development of around 1,000 dwelling is underway directly to the east of Queensway, hence the choice of name for this ward as one which will be easily recognised.

### **Ward 3 - suggested name Central**

**Number of councillors – 2**

**Number of electorate per councillor – 1791**

**Number of electors within the ward – 3582**

**Variance: -4.0%**

**Ward is bounded by – Lord Street - Mayfield Road - Headroomgate Road - Church Road - Lima Road - Beauclerk Road - Links Gate - Railway Line**

The railway line and the golf course provide natural boundaries to this ward, with the busy main road of Church Road separating the ward from Queensway ward.

A large part of the ward has a distinct identity of higher density housing, as it lies immediately behind the main town centre and tourist areas. Whilst many residents here will cross the railway line to the main shopping area of St Annes town centre, residents will also utilise the shops on St Albans Road. Residents in this area access the health centre on Durham Avenue.

### **Ward 4 - suggested name Promenade**

**Number of councillors – 3**

**Number of electorate per councillor – 1813**

**Number of electors within the ward – 5439**

**Variance: -2.8%**

**Ward is bounded by – the Sea - Sandgate - St Leonard's Road West - Railway Line – St Paul's Avenue – Rosebery Avenue – Royal Lytham St Annes Golf Course**

This ward is dominated by the main shopping and tourist areas of St Annes. Residents in this area predominately live in either the large homes or apartments that feature along the Inner Promenade and Clifton Drive South. Sandwiched between the railway line and the sea, residents benefit from easy access to all the amenities which attract millions of visitors to St Annes. Equally, residents have a shared experience of their daily lives being affected by visitors in terms of noise, traffic and litter nuisance.

### **Ward 5 - suggested name Waddington**

**Number of councillors – 2**

**Number of electorate per councillor – 1794**

**Number of electors within the ward – 3588**

**Variance: -3.8%**

**Ward is bounded by - Wildings Lane - Heyhouses Lane - Singleton Avenue - Shepherd Road - Moorland Road - Church Road - Lima Road - Beauclerk Road - Links Gate - Railway Line – Royal Lytham St Annes Golf Course – Albany Road – Smithy Lane – North Houses Lane**

This ward encompasses the Royal Lytham St Annes Golf Course and uses this, the railway line, and the local thoroughfares of Singleton Avenue and Smithy Lane as its boundaries. The ward incorporates the new development adjacent to the new Booths supermarket and has a number of local shops which are well-used by the community. Residents of this area will access Clifton Primary school, the parks at Waddington Place, and Hope Street Park, just over the ward boundary in Central ward.

Waddington Park sits in the centre of this ward and is a popular place for dog walkers and children from the surrounding area, hence the proposed name.

#### **Ward 6 - suggested name Westby Park**

**Number of councillors – 3**

**Number of electorate per councillor – 1887**

**Number of electors within the ward – 5661**

**Variance: 1.2%**

**Ward is bounded by –Smithy Lane – North Heyhouses Lane – Moss House Lane – Fairhaven Golf Club – Oakwood Drive – Forest Drive – Blackpool Road – Albany Road and Westby with Plumpton parish council**

This ward is dominated by the development at Cypress Point and bounded by the natural boundary of Fairhaven Golf Club and Lytham Park Cemetery and Crematorium. The new planned link-road to the M55 motorway, which sits on the northern boundary of Westby will join the new communities at Whitehills and Cropper Road, which have similar characteristics to the community at Cypress Point, to the rest of the ward. Many residents within the Westby Parish already use Peel Road, Ballam Road and School Road to access the communities of St Annes and Lytham for work, school, shopping and leisure activities. There is also shared farmland in the current warding pattern naturally joining this area together.

#### **Ward 7 - suggested name Woodlands**

**Number of councillors – 2**

**Number of electorate per councillor – 2001**

**Number of electors within the ward – 4002**

**Variance: 7.3%**

**Ward is bounded by - St Pauls Avenue – Rosebery Avenue – Arundel Road – Royal Lytham St Annes Golf Course – Rossall Road – Lytham St Annes High School – Albany Road – Blackpool Road – Cambridge Road – Ansdell Road South**

This ward encompasses the historical planned communities of Fairhaven and Ansdell, with the thriving shopping centre of Woodlands Road at its heart. This is a community with a strong and distinct character with active community groups such as Ansdell in Bloom. Together with the shopping area of Woodlands Road, the community utilise the library, post office and Institute in Ansdell. Residents' leisure pursuits are very much focused around the Lake to the edge of the ward, with its walks, sea views, water activities, golf and playground.

**Ward 8 - suggested name Lytham West**

**Number of councillors – 2**

**Number of electorate per councillor – 1811**

**Number of electors within the ward – 3622**

**Variance: -2.9%**

**Ward is bounded by - Forest Drive – Fairhaven Golf Club – Green Drive – Ballam Road – Park View Road – The estuary – Ansdell Road South – Cambridge Road – Blackpool Road**

Encompassing Lowther Gardens, Park View playing fields, the historic Lytham Hall, Lytham town centre, and the Hall Park estate; the community utilises Lytham Hall Park and Lytham CE Primary school, as well as the many amenities that Lytham offers. Here the railway does not create a division in the ward, instead a locally popular walk through Witch Wood (which runs alongside the railway) creates a link between the northern and southern ends of the ward as well as access across the eastern and western sides of the ward.

**Ward 9 - suggested name Lytham East**

**Number of councillors – 2**

**Number of electorate per councillor – 1911**

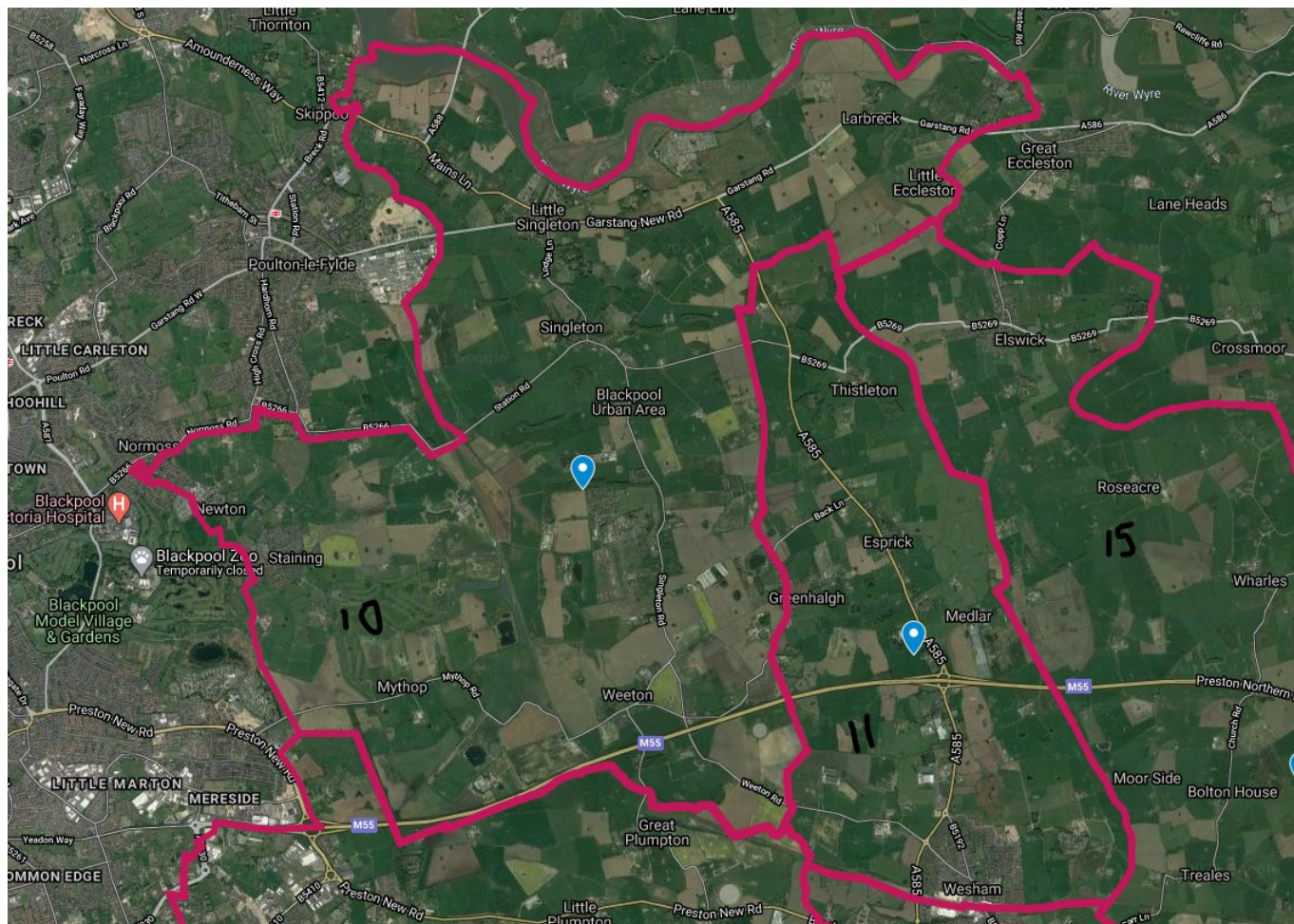
**Number of electors within the ward – 3822**

**Variance: 2.5%**

**Ward is bounded by Ballam Road - Park View Road – the estuary – Main Drain**

The ward is characterised as the suburban, less historic part of Lytham, and bounded by the estuary to the south and the locally recognised boundary between Lytham and Warton, Main Drain. Residents enjoy good transport links both via car and public transport, and utilise community facilities such as Lytham Health Centre and the YMCA sports centre.





### **Ward 10 - suggested name Fylde Rural North West**

**Number of councillors – 2**

**Number of electorate per councillor – 1986**

**Number of electors within the ward – 3971**

**Variance: 6.5%**

**The ward comprises the civil parishes of Singleton, Staining, Weeton and, Little Eccleston with Larbreck**

The villages of Singleton, Staining and Weeton are all within a 3.5 mile radius of each other and form a rural/semi-rural setting on the outskirts of Blackpool and Poulton-Le-Fylde.

Little Eccleston with Larbreck is a smaller rural community at a mere distance of 5 miles from the three larger villages,

Singleton, Staining and Weeton Villages have recently had improvements to their Village Halls and, until recently, shared the use of a speed indicator. Each of these villages maintain its own unique identity with its own Village pub, Village Hall, Church, School and Parish Council.

The four farming communities enjoy the annual In Bloom competition and have their own Grade II listed buildings.

With so much in common it makes sense, therefore, that these villages are encompassed in one ward.

### **Ward 11 - suggested name Wesham and Greenhalgh**

**Number of councillors – 2**

**Number of electorate per councillor – 1887**

**Number of electors within the ward – 3774**

**Variance: 1.2%**



## **The ward comprises the civil parishes of Greenhalgh with Thistleton and Meldar with Wesham**

Medlar with Wesham (which is correctly pronounced as “Wessam”) has a strong community identity different to that of its near neighbour Kirkham. Wesham is a smaller community than its neighbour and only become established in the main by the introduction of the railway in 1840. Wesham has smaller neighbouring communities to the north covering Esprick 2miles away, Greenhalgh 2.8 miles away and Thistleton 3.5 miles away. These villages to the north of Wesham are represented by their own Parish Council, Greenhalgh and Thistleton Parish Council. Part of Greenhalgh is located south of the M55 whose residents associate closely with Wesham especially as Greenhalgh has lost both its pub and school which provided a focal point to the parish. It makes sense therefore joining Greenhalgh and Wesham which will respect both parish and town council at the lowest tier of local government and will ensure the borough ward has electoral equality.

The ward has a number of new developments, the community also enjoys good transport links, and community amenities such as a shopping area, pubs, health centre, community centre and outdoor play parks.



### **Ward 12 - Kirkham**

**Number of councillors – 3**

**Number of electorate per councillor – 2031**

**Number of electors within the ward – 6094**

**Variance: 8.9%**

**The ward comprises the civil parish of Kirkham**

The town of Kirkham has been a market town since the 15<sup>th</sup> century and prides itself as a self-contained community with history of cotton and flax mills providing employment for its residents. It has seen many developments over the years but remains a vibrant and coherent community. Kirkham is bisected by the A583 which was the main Preston to Blackpool road prior to the building of the M55. However there is relatively little development south of the A road where HMP Kirkham is located. This proudly self-contained community has a good shopping area, schools, doctors, and local community amenities such as the library and community centre. Its strong sense of community is reflected in the annual gala and recent successful bid for funding to regenerate the high street.

#### **Ward 13 - suggested name Ribby with Warton**

**Number of councillors – 3**

**Number of electorate per councillor – 1931**

**Number of electors within the ward – 5792**

**Variance: 3.5%**

**The ward comprises the civil parishes of Ribby with Wrea and Bryning with Warton**

This ward contains the two settlements of Wrea Green and Warton. The demarcation between the two settlements has been eroded over recent years with new large-scale housing settlements, but both still maintain strong individual identities, with active community groups in both. The movement between the two settlements for shopping, work, education, and the community library in Warton is increasing. Wrea Green leads naturally into Warton along Bryning Lane and indeed through Bryning which sits between the two. Residents in this area, whilst falling into Warton Parish, are quite often more likely to use facilities in Wrea Green.

#### **Ward 14 - Freckleton**

**Number of councillors – 3**

**Number of electorate per councillor – 1616**

**Number of electors within the ward – 4848**

**Variance: -13.4%**

**The ward comprises the civil parish of Freckleton.**

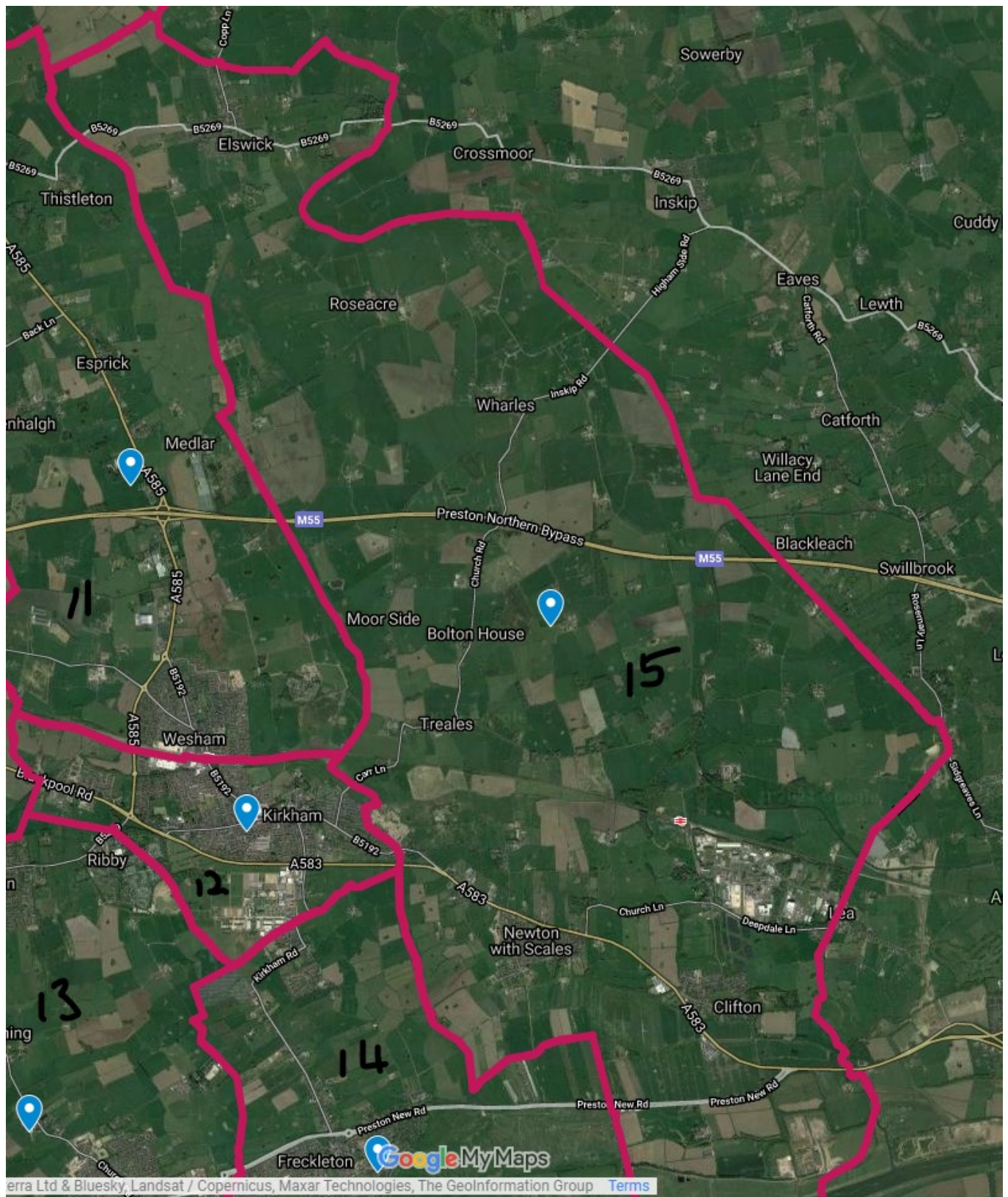
The large village of Freckleton lies to the south of Kirkham and the community around HMP Kirkham. It is a separate community from the neighbouring village of Warton.

The council believes that the need to maintain the coherence and identity of this distinct community outweighs the fact that the electoral size would be slightly outside the tolerance that the Commission normally expects.

In the Second World War the neighbouring village at Warton hosted the American Liberator Bombers undergoing repair at the aerodrome. One day in bad weather one Liberator bomber crashed on the Freckleton Holy Trinity School, killing 34 children and 1 teacher. The airmen at the Warton base raised money to build a memorial garden and play areas dedicated to the children who died as a result of the crash.

Freckleton has a strong community identity which justifies a ward within its present parish boundary despite the variance in electoral equality. It is a well-served community, with a good variety of shops, pubs, churches, and a post office. The community holds an annual gala and run the local sports facilities as a community.





### **Ward 15 - suggested name Fylde Rural East**

**Number of councillors – 2**

**Number of electorate per councillor – 2045**

**Number of electors within the ward – 4090**

**Variance: 9.7%**

**The Ward comprises the parishes of Newton with Scales, Treales Roseacre and Wharles, and Elswick**



This ward's is characterised principally by scattered hamlets and farmsteads. the sense of community comes from pride in its rural identity and settlements that collectively provide the community with its post office, school, shops and pubs. Individually the communities have a many active groups such as In Bloom and Gala committees. When faced with issues that affect this area the residents of these rural parishes already work together.



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