

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of Policy and Governance	Electoral Review of Chorley Council Committee	8 January 2019

## **RESPONSE TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND'S (LGBCE) DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS ON WARDING ARRANGEMENTS**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To consider a response to the LGBCE's draft recommendations; including possible alternative warding arrangements for Heskin.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

2. To formulate a response to the LGBCE on new warding arrangements as part of the electoral review of Chorley Council.
3. To agree the names for each of the 14 wards.
4. That a response to the LGBCE's draft recommendations be prepared for discussion at the next meeting of full council on 22 January 2019.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT**

5. On 6 November, the LGBCE published its' draft recommendations on new warding arrangements for Chorley. Before the council submits a formal response to the draft recommendations, members of the committee wanted to explore alternative options which would allow the area of Heskin to be included in the same ward as Eccleston due to their strong community identities.
6. Altogether six options are proposed and detailed in this report.

<b>Confidential report</b> Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No
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### **CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

7. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all		A strong local economy	
Clean, safe and healthy homes and communities		An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area	<b>X</b>

## BACKGROUND

8. The electoral review of Chorley Council by the LGBCE is now well over half-way through the two stage process which consists of:
  - Stage one – Decision on the Council Size
  - Stage two – new ward patterning arrangements
9. As part of stage 2 of the review, the LGBCE held a public consultation between the 26 June and 3 September which encouraged participants to identify neighbouring areas of the borough that shared common identities and/or linkages. The aim of the consultation was to identifying 14 new borough wards with an average electorate of 6, 439 per ward.
10. After considering the responses received from the first consultation, the LGBCE published its' draft recommendations on new warding arrangements on 6 November. Although the warding arrangements have been based largely on the council's submission, proposals from other consultees have also been incorporated. All 14 wards of the draft recommendations are within the +/- 10% variance tolerance and demonstrated good elector equality for years to come.
11. On 13 November 2018, the Electoral Review of Chorley Council Committee met to discuss the LGBCE's draft recommendations in more detail. The committee considered each of the proposals put forward, and found the following warding arrangements acceptable:
  - Buckshaw and Whittle
  - Clayton East, Brindle and Hoghton
  - Clayton West and Cuerden
  - Adlington and Anderton
  - Chorley East
  - Chorley North East
  - Chorley North
  - Chorley North West
  - Chorley South East
  - Chorley South West
  - Coppull
  - Euxton\*

*\*Euxton ward has been identified below for possible change.*

12. The committee did however, disagreed with the proposal that placed the area of Heskin in the Croston and Mawdesley ward as it did not share a common identity. Members of the committee considered that it would be more appropriate for Heskin to be included in the Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South ward due to its' strong links with Eccleston.
13. Before a response to the LGBCE's draft recommendations is formed, members of the committee wanted to explore alternative warding arrangements that would allow Heskin to be included in the same ward as Eccleston. In finding a solution, the committee felt it appropriate for the proposed ward of Euxton to also be taken into consideration to see if a suitable compromised could be reached.
14. In addition, the committee was asked to consider the ward names proposed in the LGBCE's draft recommendations and to recommend alternative if deemed appropriate.

## ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS

15. The LGBCE's draft recommendations put all three wards well within the +/- 10% variance tolerance it requires and currently stands at:

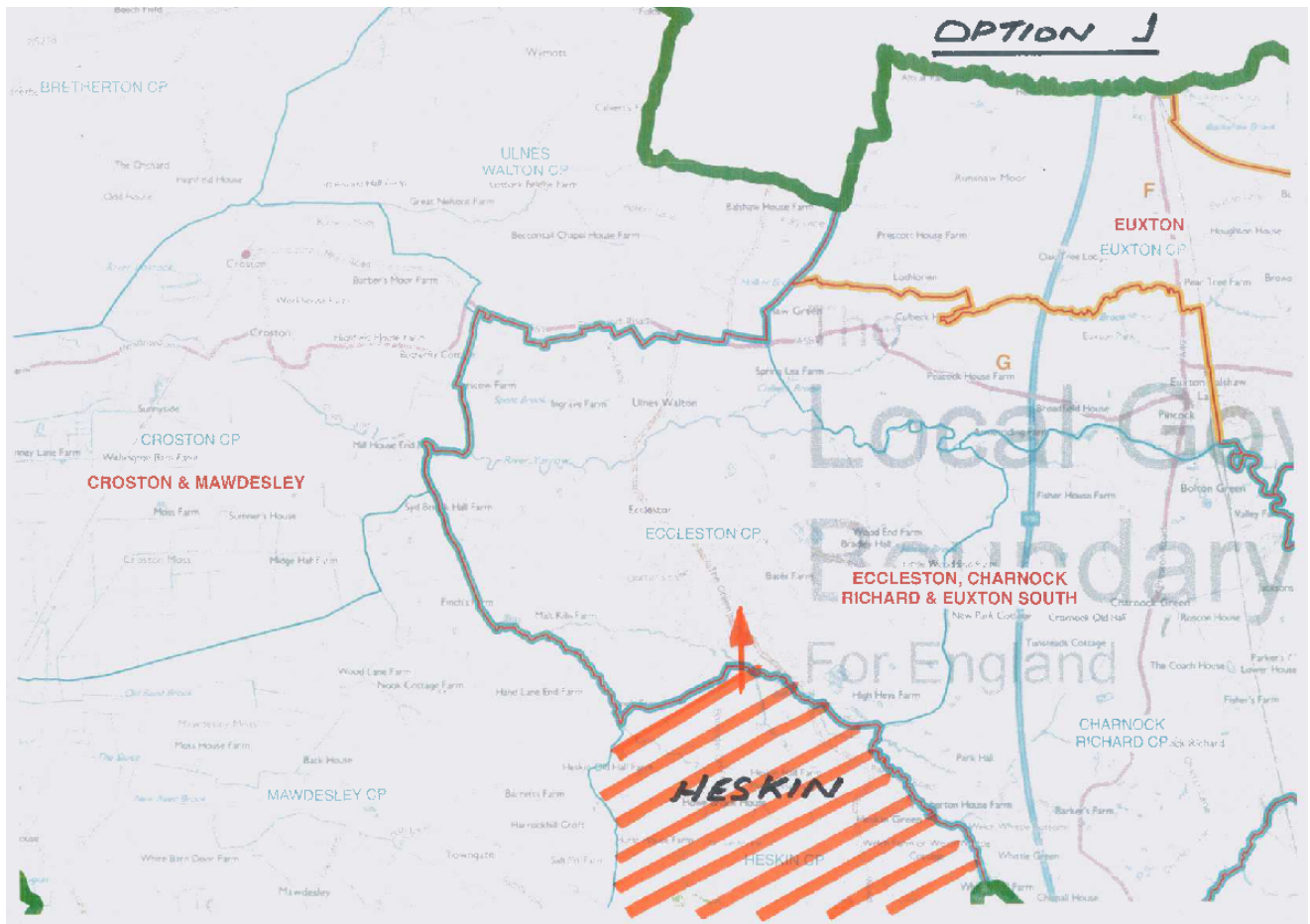
Ward	Electorate	% of the mean (6,439)
Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South	6,567	+2
Croston and Mawdesley	5,924	-8
Euxton	6,181	-4

16. All together six options have been identified which take into account alternative natural boundaries to those proposed by the LGBCE. However, all six options have at least one ward that exceeds the +/- 10% tolerance variance to the mean as required by the LGBCE. If the committee chooses to put forward an alternative proposal for Heskin, a strong case would need to be submitted to persuade the LGBCE to deviate from its tolerance requirement.

**Option 1:**

- Move Heskin (730 electors) from the Croston and Mawdesley ward to the Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South ward.

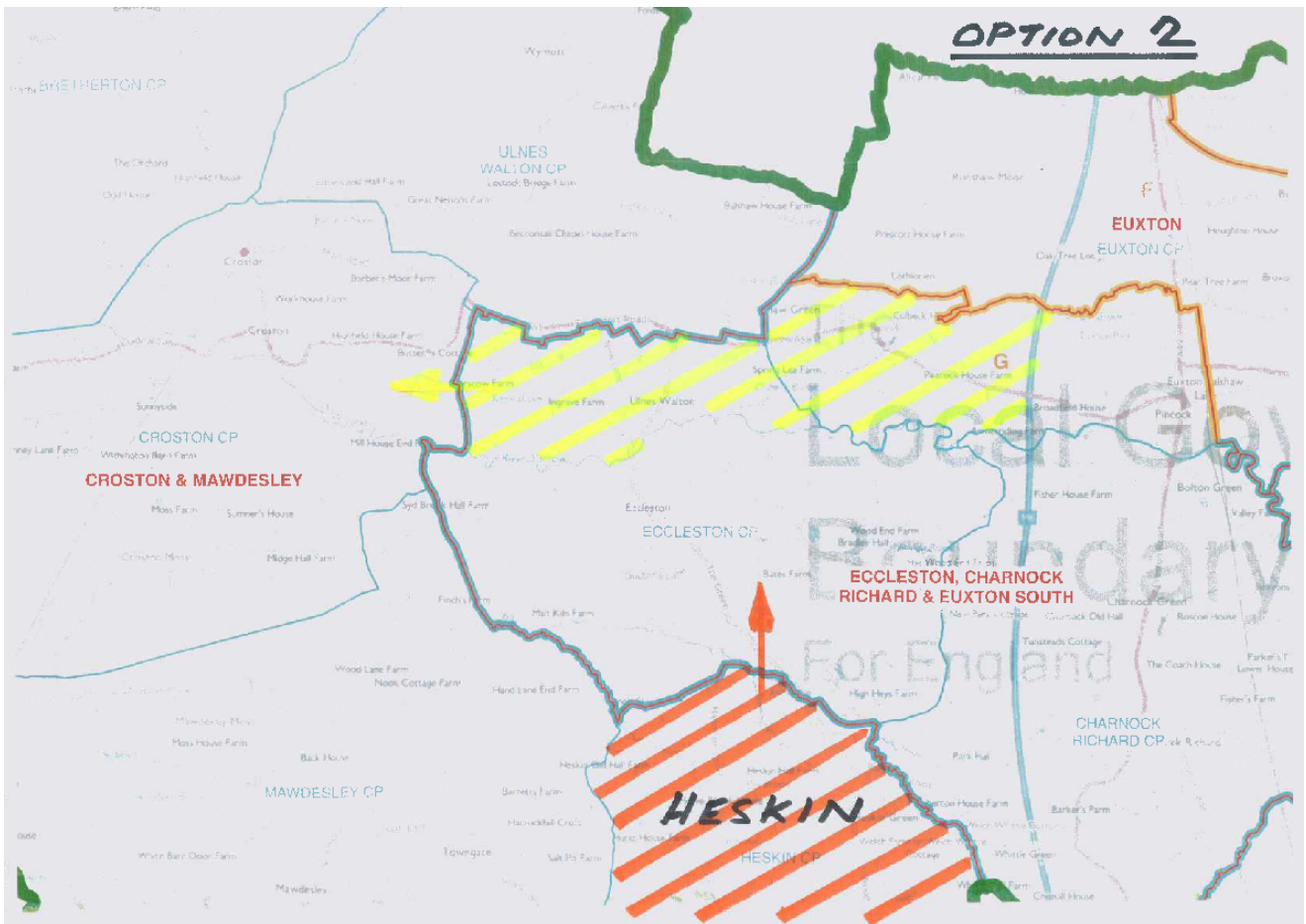
Impact		
Ward	Electorate	% of the mean (6,439)
Croston and Mawdesley	5,194	-19:34
Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South	7,297	+13:33



**Option 2:**

- Move Heskin (730 electors) from the Croston and Mawdesley ward to the Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South ward;
- move part of Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South ward (284 electors) into Croston and Mawdesley ward (north of the River Yarrow to the new Euxton boundary and east of the (Croston and Mawdesley) boundary to the M6).

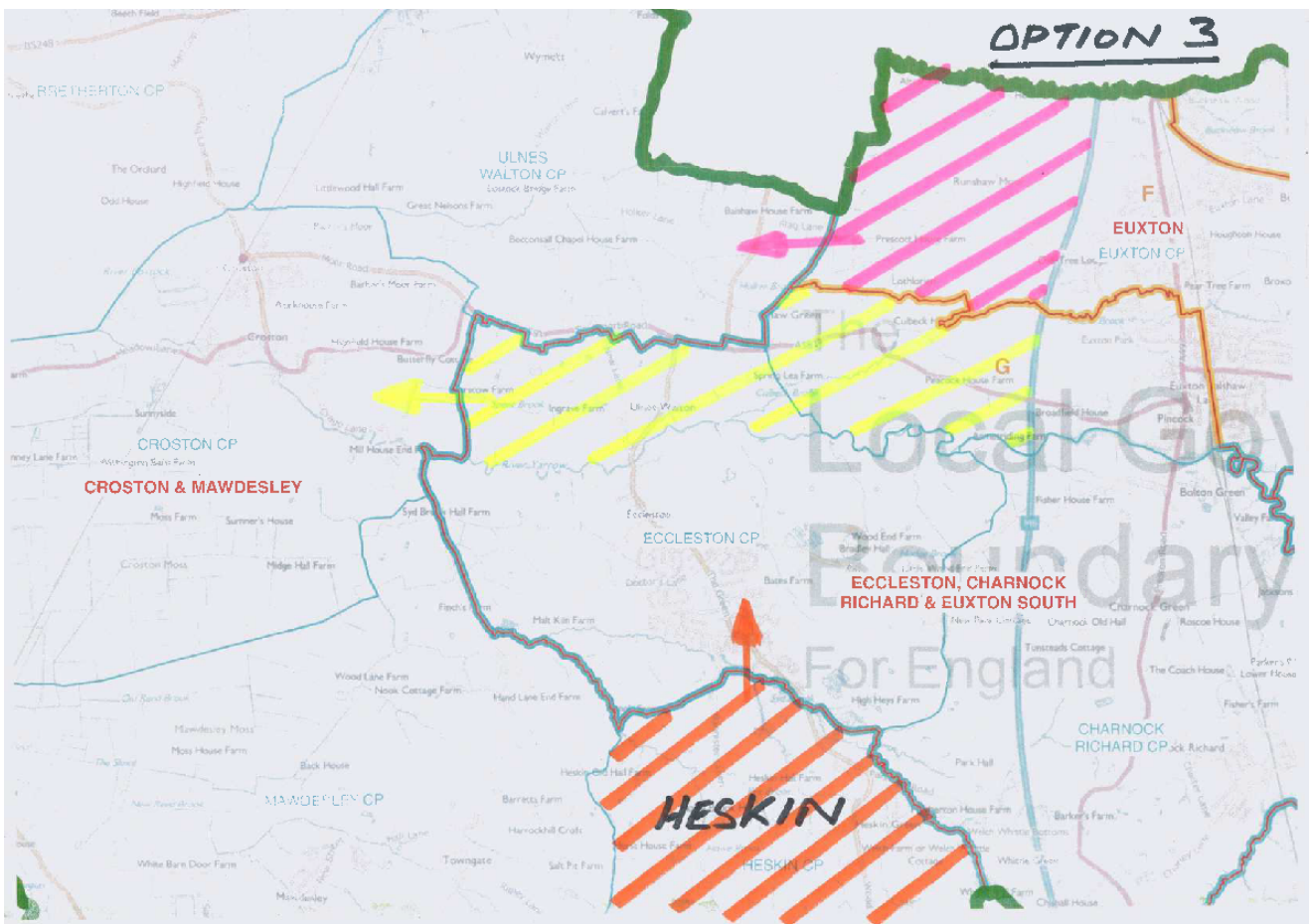
Impact		
Ward	Electorate	% of the mean (6,439)
Croston and Mawdesley	5,478	-14.92
Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South	7,013	+8.92



### Option 3:

- Move Heskin (730 electors) from the Croston and Mawdesley to the Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South ward;
- move a part of Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South (284 electors) into the Croston and Mawdesley ward (north of the River Yarrow to the new Euxton boundary and east of the Croston and Mawdesley boundary to the M6);
- move a part of Euxton (106 electors) into the Croston and Mawdesley ward (north of the proposed Euxton boundary to the boundary with South Ribble and west of the Croston and Mawdesley boundary to the M6).

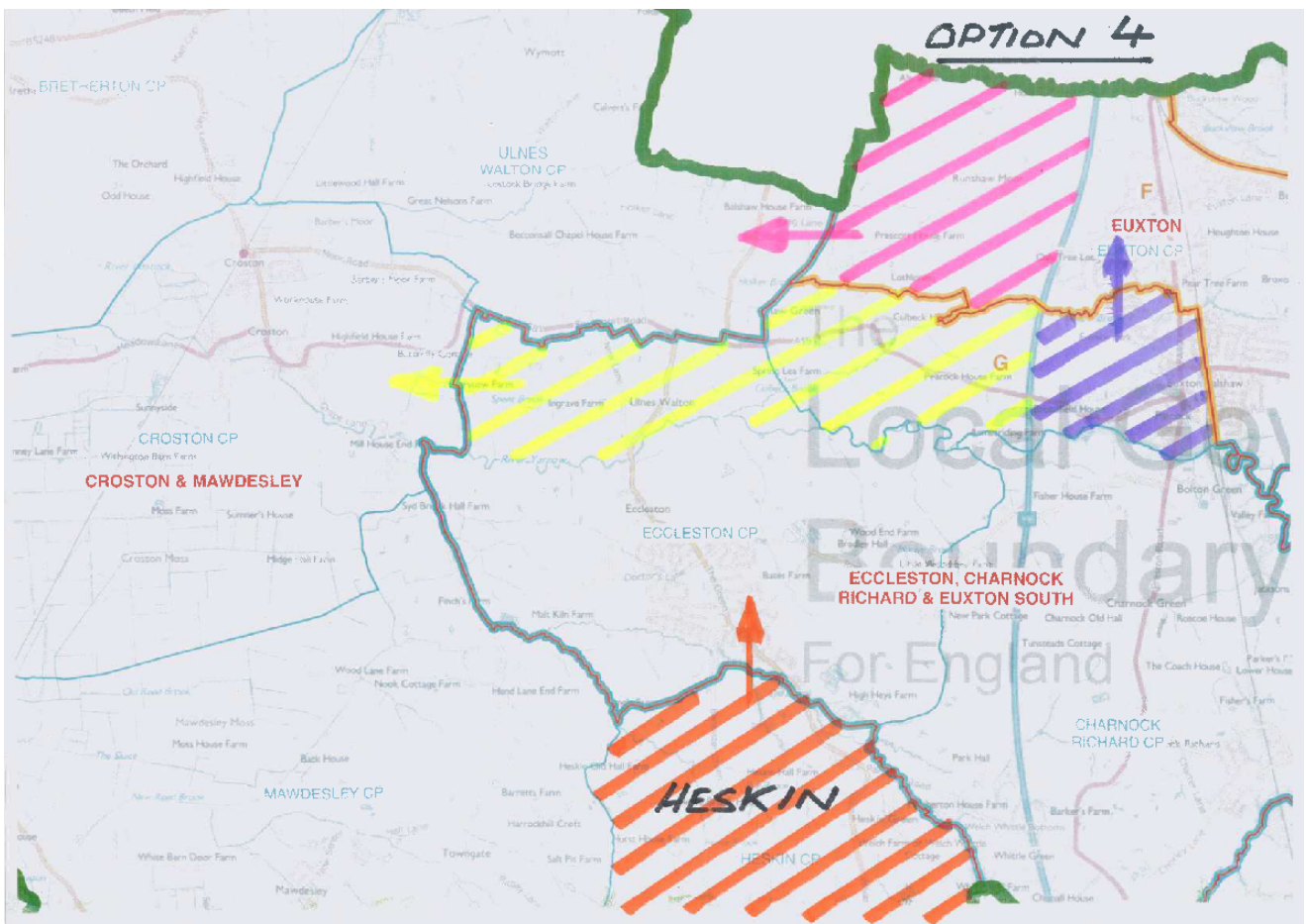
Impact		
Ward	Electorate	% of the mean (6,439)
Croston and Mawdesley	5,584	-13.28
Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South	7,013	+8.91
Euxton	6,075	-5.65



**Option 4:**

- Move Heskin (730 electors) from the Croston and Mawdesley ward into the Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South Ward;
- move a part of Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South (284 electors) into Croston and Mawdesley (North of the River Yarrow to the new Euxton Boundary and east of the Croston and Mawdesley boundary to the M6);
- move a part of Euxton (106 electors) into the Croston and Mawdesley ward (north of proposed Euxton boundary to the boundary with South Ribble and west of the Croston and Mawdesley boundary to the M6);
- move a part of Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South (895 electors) into Euxton north of the River Yarrow to the new Euxton boundary and west of the M6 to the railway line.

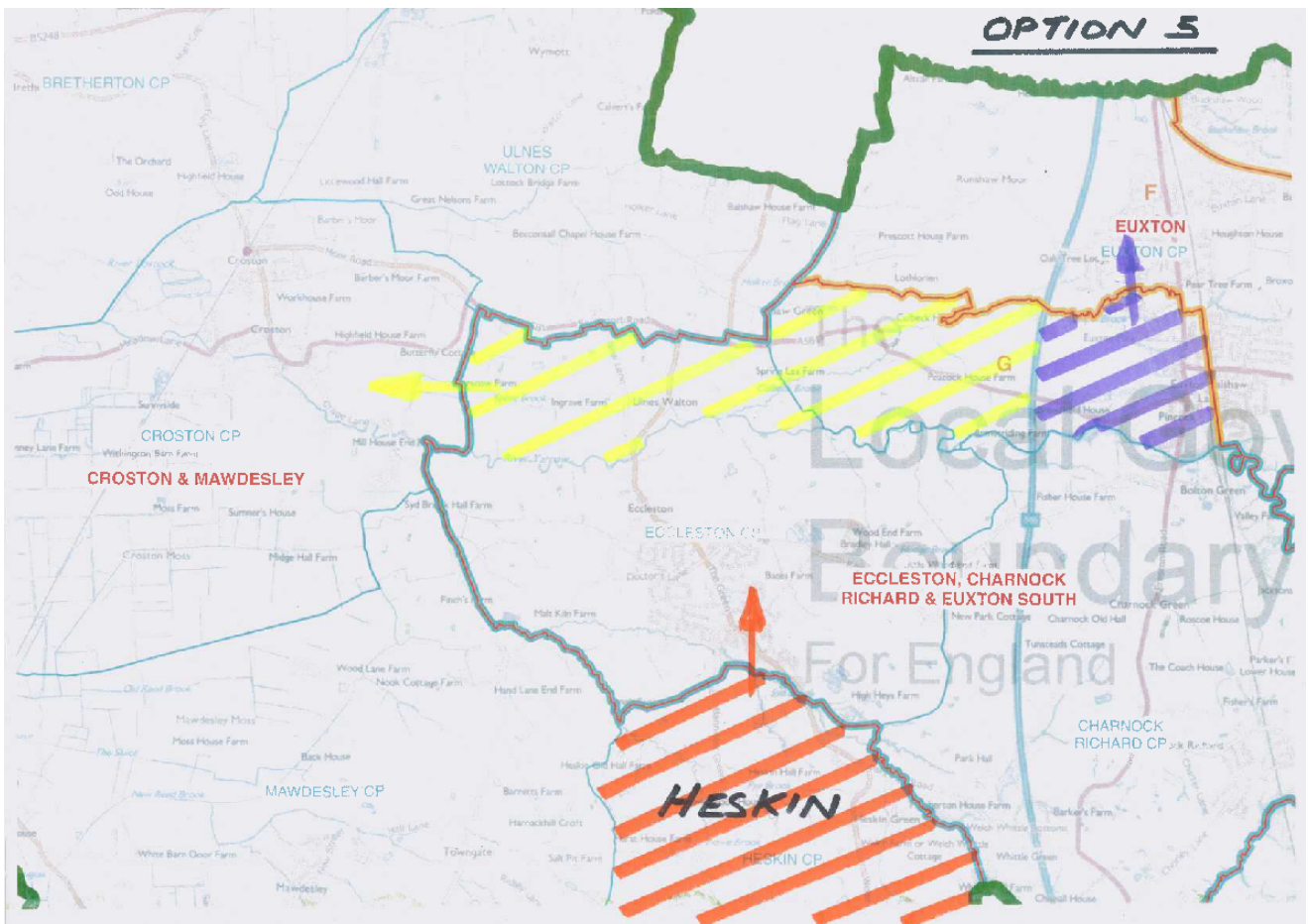
Impact		
Ward	Electorate	% of the mean (6,439)
Croston and Mawdesley	5,5844	-13:28
Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South	6,012	-6.63
Euxton	6,970	-8:25



**Option 5:**

- Move Heskin (730 electors) from the Croston and Mawdesley ward into the Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South Ward;
- move a part of Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South (284 electors) into Croston and Mawdesley (north of the River Yarrow to the new Euxton Boundary and east of the Croston and Mawdesley boundary to the M6);
- move a part of Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South (895 electors) into Euxton (north of the River Yarrow to the new Euxton Boundary and West of the M6 to the railway line).

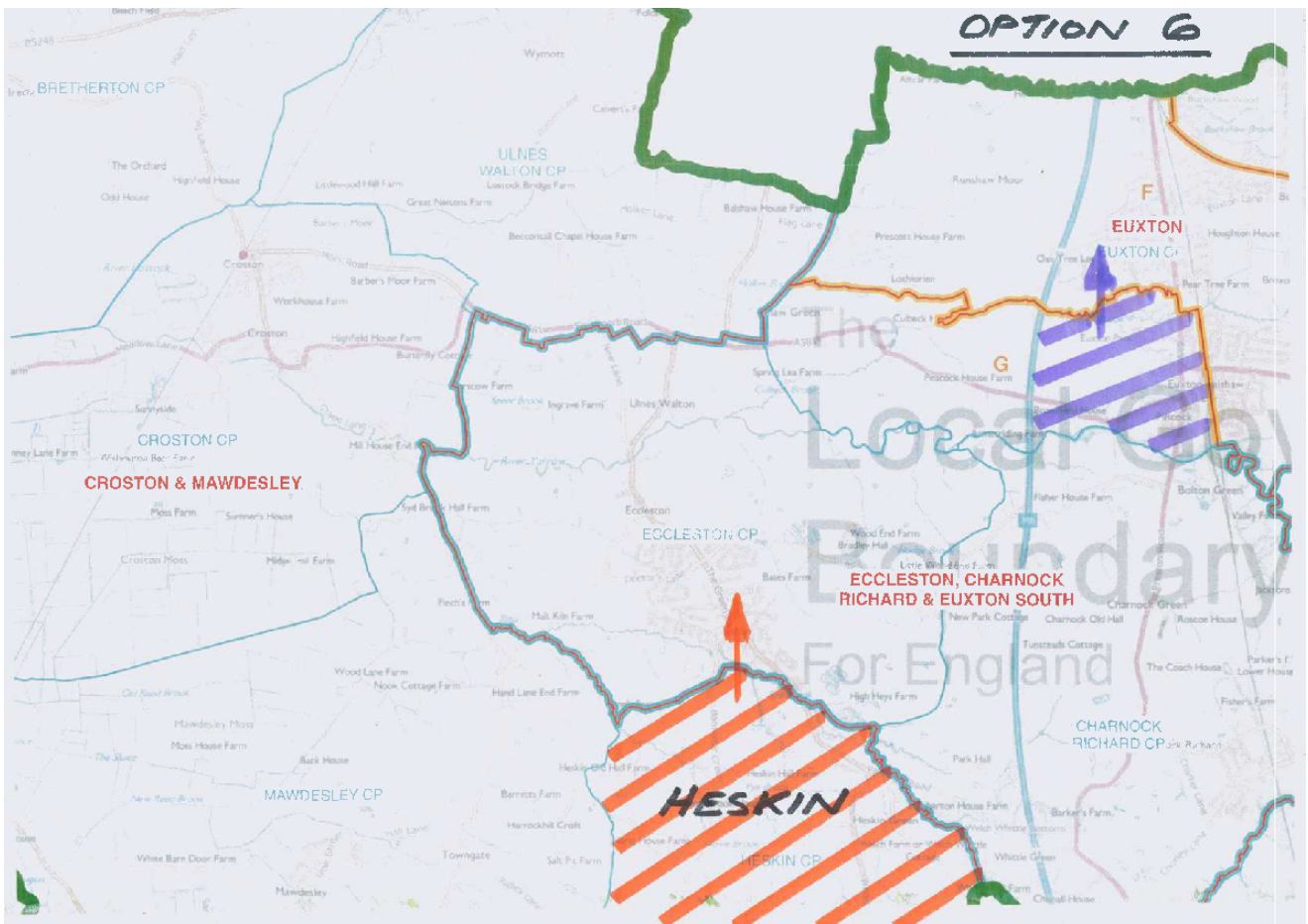
Impact		
Ward	Electorate	% of the mean (6,439)
Croston and Mawdesley	5,478	-14.92
Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South	6,121	-4.94
Euxton	7,076	+9.89



**Option 6:**

- Move Heskin (730 electors) from the Croston and Mawdesley ward into the Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South Ward;
- move a part of Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South(895 electors) into Euxton (north of the River Yarrow to the new Euxton Boundary and west of the M6 to the railway line)

Impact		
Ward	Electorate	% of the mean (6,439)
Croston and Mawdesley	5,194	-19.34
Eccleston, Charnock Richard and Euxton South	6,402	-0.57
Euxton	7,076	+9.89



**IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT**

17. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

Finance	X	Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal	X	Integrated Impact Assessment	



		required?	
No significant implications in this area		Policy and Communications	

18. None of the options listed above fully comply with the LGBCE's requirement of +/- 10% of the mean.

#### COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

19. There are no financial implications of this report or the boundary review at this stage.

#### COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

20. The Boundary Commission invited representations on this particular area as it was recognised that the proposed boundary did not necessarily bring linked communities together. The options provided, whilst bringing the population centres of Heskin and Eccleston together do increase imbalances between the number of electors in each ward. This does not in itself prevent the proposals from being adopted although evidence will be required to demonstrate why this is the best proposed solution in order to seek its adoption.

REBECCA HUDDLESTON  
DIRECTOR OF POLICY & GOVERNANCE

Background Papers			
Document	Date	File	Place of Inspection
Electoral Review	5 October 2017	<a href="https://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/documents/s79211/Electoral%20Review.pdf">https://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/documents/s79211/Electoral%20Review.pdf</a>	Executive Cabinet agenda
Electoral Review Update	23 January 2018	<a href="https://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/documents/s82429/Report.pdf">https://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/documents/s82429/Report.pdf</a>	Council agenda
The Electoral Review of Chorley Council Committee	27 February 2018	<a href="https://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/documents/s83882/Electoral%20Review%20Committee.pdf">https://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/documents/s83882/Electoral%20Review%20Committee.pdf</a>	Council agenda
Electoral Review of Chorley Council – Draft Council Size submission	10 April 2018	<a href="https://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/documents/s85271/Electoral%20Review%20of%20Chorley%20Council%20-%20Draft%20Council%20Size%20Submission.pdf">https://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/documents/s85271/Electoral%20Review%20of%20Chorley%20Council%20-%20Draft%20Council%20Size%20Submission.pdf</a>	Council agenda
Draft minutes	15 August 2018	<a href="https://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=906&amp;Mid=6896&amp;Ver=4">https://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=906&amp;Mid=6896&amp;Ver=4</a>	Electoral Review of Chorley Council Committee meeting
Electoral Review – Ward Arrangements Proposal	18 September 2018	<a href="http://mod/documents/s89709/Electoral%20Review%20-%20Ward%20Arrangements%20Proposal.pdf">http://mod/documents/s89709/Electoral%20Review%20-%20Ward%20Arrangements%20Proposal.pdf</a>	Council agenda

Draft minutes	13 November 2018	<a href="https://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/documents/g7016/Printed%20minutes%2013th-Nov-2018%2018.45%20Electoral%20Review%20of%20Chorley%20Council%20Committee.pdf?T=1">https://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/documents/g7016/Printed%20minutes%2013th-Nov-2018%2018.45%20Electoral%20Review%20of%20Chorley%20Council%20Committee.pdf?T=1</a>	Electoral Review of Chorley Council Committee meeting
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<b>Report Author</b>	<b>Ext</b>	<b>Date</b>
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