

**Justifications ward by ward**

**BARKING:**

**Abbey:**

**Proposed electorate post 2026 – 10,757**

Abbey sits on the north west corner of the borough boarded by A13 Trunk Road and encompasses Barking Town Centre. It is predicted to contain around 30% of overall developments in the Borough by 2026, and currently is imbalanced by 16.5%, which will only grow larger by the end of the review period.

Polling district AA (south of Longbridge Road and east of the railway line) was moved into Longbridge as this helped to rebalance the electoral forecast in Abbey and had the railway line as a natural boundary between the two wards.

Polling district DD (St Erkenwald Road, Cranborne Road and Westbury Road) was created in Abbey with Ripple Road as the boundary between Abbey and Gascoigne. This makes sense both as a natural barrier being a main road, and to rebalance the electoral forecast in Abbey ward.

**Roding (new ward) & Gascoigne:**

**Proposed electorate post 2026 – 6886 (Roding) and 7077 (Gascoigne)**

It is proposed to create a new Roding ward in 2022, as the electoral forecast for the Gascoigne Estate indicates that 4 councillors need to represent it. Had the LGBCE accepted 4 member wards, a single Gascoigne ward would have been proposed given that the estate has a distinct identity to other areas in the Borough and has clear natural boundaries with the A13 to the south, and the railway line to the east. There is only one location to cross the railway line, so this acts as a clear boundary for the ward.

A natural boundary along Gascoigne Road separates the proposed two 2-member wards.

The name for the new ward derives from the River Roding, which geographically marks the southernmost part of the boundary between Barking and Dagenham and the London Borough of Newham.

**Longbridge**

**Proposed electorate post 2026 – 10,482**

This ward takes in east of the Fishes roundabout from Abbey, moving the boundary from Wilmington Gardens to the railway line by Salisbury Avenue. Although there is a crossing over the line and into Essex Road, it is felt that this railway line forms a boundary between wider Barking area and the Town Centre located in Abbey ward. Whilst moving these roads into Longbridge has helped to rebalance Abbey ward, this would have made Longbridge ward too large and therefore part of the Lefley Estate (roads north of Woodbridge Road) have been moved into Mayesbrook ward.

It was helpful to work from these areas outwards given the large-scale development taking place in the West and South of the Borough.

## **BECONTREE ESTATE:**

### **Mayesbrook:**

#### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 10,082**

This ward contains all Mayesbrook Park and the beginning of the Becontree Estate, which comprises about 60% of the borough and means that there aren't easily identifiable boundaries. However, this ward does sit between two parks which form a sensible boundary. The existing Mayesbrook ward takes in a third of Parsloes Park, which does not make much sense.

### **Eastbury:**

#### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 9,763**

Eastbury has the natural boundary of the railway line to the north and west, as well as the A13 to the south. Castle Green has been added into the ward for electoral balance as well as community cohesion, as this area is north of the A13 and therefore is more connected to the Goresbrook/Eastbury area.

### **Goresbrook:**

#### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 10,395**

The railway line that runs through the centre of the Borough forms a natural boundary for many of the wards including Goresbrook. This ward is one of eight that covers part of the Becontree Estate, and as such it was difficult to identify clear community boundaries. The area west of the River Gores and up to the Heathway into Goresbrook has been added as the river does not form a substantial natural or community boundary. The Heathway as a major shopping area divides the Becontree Estate and the area of Dagenham Village, and as such it is felt these ward boundaries would reflect these communities. For the sake of electoral balance, the boundary to the south as Goresbrook Road has been moved.

### **Parsloes:**

#### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 6,947**

Electorally this is the smallest existing ward, with a predicted variance of -23.7% by 2026. With the growth in the Borough taking place largely in the Barking Town Centre and Riverside areas, this ward can only justify being a 2-member ward. The borders to Gale Street on the west, down to the railway line and along Parsloes Avenue have been moved so that the ward covers the whole of Parsloes Park, and ensures all of Ivyhouse Road and surrounding streets fall into Parsloes ward, as these are accessed from Gale Street.

### **Becontree:**

#### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 10,116**

In order to achieve an electoral balance, polling district ND has been moved from Parsloes into Becontree ward, following the boundary for Becontree ward along the largest roads of Valence Avenue and Becontree Avenue. As previously stated, Becontree ward forms a part of the Becontree Estate, which has a distinct community feel and makes up a large proportion of the Borough.

In order to balance Valence and Becontree wards the boundary from the neighbouring Borough of Redbridge down to Becontree Avenue, has been moved, and in so doing VC polling district has been moved into Valence ward. Additionally, Becontree Avenue as a main road forms an ideal boundary.

#### **Valence:**

##### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 10,304**

This ward centres around Valence House and Valence Park and forms a part of the Becontree Estate. The border to the north of Green Lane has been retained, being a main road that divides the more industrial areas to the north. Wood Lane acts as the border along the east, providing a barrier between the Becontree Estate and Becontree Heath areas.

#### **CHADWELL HEATH AND MARKSGATE:**

##### **Chadwell Heath:**

##### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 10,302**

This ward is formed largely of boundaries to the borough and includes the Marks Gate and Chadwell Heath communities. Marks Gate is the most remote area in the borough, and therefore potentially cutting this off into a single member ward would mean residents were less able to integrate into the wider Chadwell Heath community and be represented effectively. The border for this ward is along Chadwell Heath High Road, both for electoral balance and to act as a natural boundary.

#### **Whalebone:**

##### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 10,718**

Whalebone ward takes in parts of Valence of Heath wards so as to achieve electoral balance. The existing boundary between Valence and Whalebone on Ager Avenue does not reflect the Lymington Fields Estate built since the last review, and therefore the proposed boundaries aim to incorporate the entire Estate as one community into a single ward.

#### **DAGENHAM:**

##### **Heath:**

##### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 7010**

This ward forms the border between the Becontree Estate and the Eastbrook area. The proposed ward follows the boundary of Rainham Road North as opposed to the original ward which incorporated the Dagenham Civic Centre (CUC) and Central Park. With no clear divide between the park and Eastbrookend Country Park, residents often raise casework regarding the Civic Centre and park with Eastbrook Councillors, and so it was felt these areas would be better represented within the Eastbrook ward.

Heath is proposed as a 2-member ward with a variance of +2.5%, and as such the Butlers Court Estate has been moved to Whalebone for electoral balance.

## **Alibon:**

### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 10,355**

The existing boundaries of Alibon ward fall along Wantz Road and the edges of the recreation ground along Reede Road, cutting the road in half and splitting one community up. In addition, the existing ward straddles the Becontree Estate and Dagenham, which has been addressed by moving all of Parsloes Park into Parsloes ward. The boundaries have been redrawn to include the whole of Rainham Road South including the London East site encompassing the Film Studios, as this feels like one community, and is predominantly accessed from the main road. By creating this boundary, it ensures a divide between the London East and former May and Bakers site, both of which have distinctly separate identities, and whilst they are geographically close, the May and Bakers site is accessed directly from Dagenham Road in the Eastbrook ward. Kingsley Close, Robinson Road and Sterry Road have been moved into Alibon ward as these are accessible from Oxlow Lane which is located in that ward.

## **Eastbrook:**

### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 7,323**

Eastbrookend Country Park takes up a significant part of the ward which has borough boundaries to the north and east. It contains 2 distinct communities – Rush Green and Eastbrook. Having moved the ward boundaries for Alibon, it became apparent that Eastbrook was in electoral terms significantly smaller than the other 3-member wards, and with the natural boundary of the railway line to the south it is proposed that this becomes a 2-member ward. For electoral balance, Rainham Road North moves into Eastbrook, also incorporating Panyers Gardens, Ashbrook Gardens and Webscroft Road. Whilst the proposed changes to Eastbrook ward creates a + 7.1% variance, it is not envisaged that there will be any more significant development in this area during the review period up to 2026.

## **Village:**

### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 9,809**

As Dagenham Village has a distinct identity from the rest of the borough, where possible the boundaries have been kept as similar to the existing community structures. The boundary to the north remains as the railway line, which has few crossing points and so forms a barrier between communities. The boundary to the south remains as Dagenham Old Park, as the roads to the south form the Rylands Estate.

## **DAGENHAM DOCK:**

### **River:**

### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 9,827**

The proposed changes in River reflect the huge amount of development which will be coming through over the next 10 years in this area, particularly around Beam Park and the old Ford stamping plant. The Heathway forms the ward boundaries for River, Goresbrook and Village to the south of the railway line – this being a main shopping parade and separates the different communities.

The A13 acts as the divider between River and Thames wards as this is a major dual carriageway that is not easily crossed. South of the A13 in River is purely industrial.

## **THAMES VIEW AND RIVERSIDE**

### **Thames:**

#### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 9,325**

The existing ward of Thames is the biggest area of development within the borough, with the ongoing Barking Riverside project aiming to deliver large scale residential development by 2026 and beyond. This means the ward would be 59% over electoral balance if left untouched.

The ward has borough boundaries to the west and south, and the A13 forms a natural barrier between the communities north and south as it is a major dual carriageway with few crossing points. Thames ward has the largest electoral variance of -9.1%, as it is expected that at least another 5 to 6,000 residential units will be built in the Barking Riverside project in the 10 years following the review. These boundaries will thereby give Thames more capacity to grow.

For electoral balance, the area north of the A13 and South of Goresbrook Road in Thames have been included. Whilst it is recognised that this area would be better linked to Goresbrook ward, this would have resulted in Thames being around - 20% electoral variance which would have fallen outside the criteria set down by the LGBCE of +/- 10%.

### **Creekmouth: (new ward)**

#### **Proposed electorate post 2026 – 6,844**

Creekmouth is formed largely of the Thames View Estate, as well as industrial land leading down to the Thames. The river has been used as a boundary as this creates an electoral balance in the ward. The Council has established a masterplan for the area which aims to regenerate the area with large scale residential development along with light industrial and significant environmental improvements. It will be a 2-member ward.

The name derives from the Creekmouth Village as it was known, which was built not far from the Thames riverbank in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century and consisted of two rows of small houses, approximately fifty in total, and had its own school.