

CIPFA and other 'Nearest Neighbours' to Cheshire East

Cheshire East and English unitary authorities of similar size and socioeconomic character: a comparison of electoral arrangements

Shaded rows indicate those councils with a population that is within 20% of the Cheshire East total.

Bold font indicates those authorities identified by CIPFA modelling (<https://www.cipfa.org/services/cipfastats/nearest-neighbour-model>) as most comparable to Cheshire East.

Name	Population (from 2021 Census)	Local government electors as of Dec 2022	Current number of councillors	Ratio of electors to councillors	New number of councillors proposed or recommended by LGBCE, if applicable	New ratio, if applicable
Buckinghamshire	553,100	412,800	147	2,800	97	4,300
Central Bedfordshire	294,200	219,900	63	3,500	N/A	N/A
Cheshire East	398,800	310,600	82	3,800	N/A	N/A
Cheshire West and Chester	357,200	262,600	70	3,800	N/A	N/A
Cornwall	570,300	431,200	87	5,000	N/A	N/A

Dorset	379,600	297,500	82	3,600	N/A	N/A
Durham	522,100	390,300	126	3,100	98	4,000
East Riding of Yorkshire	342,200	270,100	67	4,000	N/A	N/A
North Northamptonshire	359,500	264,500	78	3,400	68	3,900
North Somerset	216,700	165,500	50	3,300	N/A	N/A
Northumberland	320,600	251,600	67	3,800	69	3,600
Shropshire	323,600	250,100	74	3,400	74	3,400
Solihull	216,200	160,800	51	3,200	N/A	N/A
South Gloucestershire	290,400	212,000	61	3,500	N/A	N/A
Stockport	294,800	222,800	63	3,500	N/A	N/A
West Northamptonshire	425,700	298,500	93	3,200	76	3,900
Wiltshire	510,400	382,700	98	3,900	N/A	N/A

Sources:

[1] List of comparable local authorities identified by CIPFA, LGBCE email to Cheshire East Council, 21st July 2023.

[2] 'Population and household estimates for England and Wales: Census 2021' (the first release of results from the 2021 Census of Population for England and Wales), Office for National Statistics (ONS), 28th June 2022. ONS licensed under the Open Government Licence.

[3] December 2022 local government elector data: 'Electoral statistics, UK, December 2022' data file from the Office for National Statistics' 'Electoral statistics for the UK' release, 20th April 2023:

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

[4] Councillor numbers: LGBCE electoral data spreadsheet file, downloaded on 14th April 2023 from

<https://www.lgbce.org.uk/electoral-data>

Notes:

[1] These authorities are ones that were either identified by CIPFA as being comparable to Cheshire East, or which met all the following criteria: English unitary authority; a substantial rural area/ rural population; population (as of 2021) at least half that of Cheshire East, but no more than 50% greater than that of Cheshire East.

[2] Ratios based on local government electorate as of December 2022.

[3] Entries in the final two columns applicable only where a review is currently underway or changes from a concluded review have yet to take effect. These two columns take account of LGBCE review proposals and decisions published up to the end of July 2023.