

Appendix R

THE 1949 WARD BOUNDARY REORGANISATION

Although the ward boundaries drawn up for the first District election in 1934 gave wards with approximately equal electorate, the building of large new residential estates in the mid-1930s quickly produced disproportionately large electorates in some wards, especially Kenton, Pinner South, Roxeth and Stanmore South.

The problem of unequal electorates was recognised in June 1937 by the North Stanmore Ratepayers' Association who suggested to the Middlesex County Council that there should be an alteration in the boundary between the Stanmore North and Kenton wards. However, it was decided at this time that no small alterations would be made if it was clear that a more comprehensive revision was required. The Clerk of Harrow Council was authorised to submit a report on the matter. No report had been submitted by June 1939 when the whole question was shelved by the General Purposes Committee of the Council.

Ward boundaries are next mentioned in the Council Minutes in April 1943 when the Reconstruction Committee instructed the General Purposes Committee to give early consideration to the "revision of ward boundaries to secure an approximation of equality of franchise." Another two years passed before the General Purposes Committee reminded the Clerk of the Council "to submit a preliminary report upon the procedure for alterations of ward boundaries."

Delays and disagreements in the post-Second World War period meant that a scheme for new ward boundaries was only adopted in time for the 1949 District election. The Harrow (Wards and Councillors) Order, made in 1948 by the Middlesex County Council, created three new wards: Belmont, Queensbury and Roxbourne. The name of Pinner North ward was changed to Pinner North and Hatch End. The boundaries of most existing wards were altered, some quite radically, but in these cases sitting Councillors were 'assigned' to the new ward, thus avoiding 'all-out' elections except for the three newly-created wards.

The 1949 wards are listed below with the names of the former wards which served their area prior to the reorganisation.

Ward	Comprising areas formerly in
Belmont	Kenton Stanmore North Stanmore South
Harrow-on-the-Hill and Greenhill*	Harrow-on-the-Hill and Greenhill
Harrow Weald	Harrow Weald
Headstone†	Headstone Pinner North
Kenton	Kenton
Pinner North and Hatch End	Harrow Weald Pinner North
Pinner South	Pinner South
Queensbury	Stanmore South
Roxbourne	Pinner South Roxeth
Roxeth	Roxeth
Stanmore North	Harrow Weald Stanmore North
Stanmore South	Stanmore North Stanmore South

Ward

Wealdstone North*

Wealdstone South*

West Harrow*

Comprising areas formerly in

Wealdstone North

Wealdstone South

West Harrow

* indicates no boundary change

† indicates a minor boundary change