

Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

Report

15th Meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee
October 8, 2024

PRESENT: Councillors S. Lewis (Chair), H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, Mayor J. Morgan

ALSO PRESENT: S. Datars Bere, A. Abraham, A. Barbon, S. Corman, K. Dickins, D. Escobar, S. Mathers, J. Paradis, T. Pollitt, K. Scherr, M. Schulthess, E. Skalski, C. Smith

Remote Attendance: E. Hunt, K. Murray, A. Rammeloo, J. Raycroft

The meeting is called to order at 1:00 PM; it being noted that Councillors S. Trosow, P. Van Meerbergen and S. Hillier were in remote attendance.

1. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

2. Consent

Moved by: P. Cuddy

Seconded by: C. Rahman

That Consent items 2.1 and 2.2 BE APPROVED.

Yeas: (14): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, and J. Morgan

Absent: (1): S. Hillier

Motion Passed (14 to 0)

2.1 8th Report of the Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Oppression Community Advisory Committee

Moved by: P. Cuddy

Seconded by: C. Rahman

That the 8th Report of the Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Oppression Community Advisory Committee from its meeting held on September 12, 2024, BE RECEIVED.

Motion Passed

2.2 13th Report of the Governance Working Group

Moved by: P. Cuddy

Seconded by: C. Rahman

That the following actions be taken with respect to the 13th Report of the Governance Working Group from its meeting held on September 23, 2024:

a) the report dated September 23, 2024 with respect to the updated General Policy for Community Advisory Committees BE DEFERRED to the November 25, 2024 meeting of the Governance Working Group for consideration; and

b) clauses 1.1, 3.2 and 4.1 BE RECEIVED.

Motion Passed

3. Scheduled Items

3.1 Delegation - Kapil Lakhotia, President and Chief Executive Officer - London Economic Development Corporation

Moved by: P. Cuddy

Seconded by: H. McAlister

That it BE NOTED that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received the Annual Update from K. Lakhotia, President and Chief Executive Officer, London Economic Development Corporation.

Yeas: (14): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Nays: (1): S. Stevenson

Motion Passed (14 to 1)

3.2 Delegation - Steve Pellarin, Executive Director - Small Business Centre

Moved by: D. Ferreira

Seconded by: S. Franke

That it BE NOTED that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received the Annual Update from S. Pellarin, Executive Director, Small Business Centre, London.

Yeas: (15): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Motion Passed (15 to 0)

3.3 Delegation - Christina Fox, Chief Executive Officer - TechAlliance

Moved by: S. Hillier

Seconded by: A. Hopkins

That it BE NOTED that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received the Annual Update from C. Fox, Chief Executive Officer, TechAlliance;

it being noted that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received a communication, dated October 8, 2024 from TechAlliance with respect to funding to support and grow the innovation and entrepreneurship sector through the London Innovation Challenge program.

Yeas: (15): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Motion Passed (15 to 0)

- 3.4 Not to be heard before 1:05 PM - Public Participation Meeting - 2025 Amendments to Consolidated Fees and Charges By-law

Moved by: P. Cuddy
Seconded by: S. Lehman

That, on the recommendation of the City Clerk, with the concurrence of the Deputy City Manager, Finance Supports, the proposed by-law as appended to the staff report dated October 8, 2024 as Appendix "B", BE INTRODUCED at the Municipal Council meeting to be held on October 15, 2024, for the purpose of repealing By-law No. A-59, as amended, being "A by-law to provide for Various Fees and Charges" and replacing it with a new 2025-2027 Consolidated Fees and Charges By-law that lists various fees and charges for services or activities provided by the City of London; it being further noted that no individuals spoke at the public participation meeting associated with this matter.

Yeas: (15): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Motion Passed (15 to 0)

ADDITIONAL VOTES:

Moved by: A. Hopkins
Seconded by: E. Pelozza

Motion to open the public participation meeting.

Yeas: (15): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Motion Passed (15 to 0)

Moved by: S. Lehman
Seconded by: S. Franke

Motion to close the public participation meeting.

Yeas: (15): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Motion Passed (15 to 0)

- 3.5 Not to be heard before 1:30 PM - Public Participation Meeting - Phase One Options Report, London Ward Boundary Review Project

Moved by: J. Pribil
Seconded by: P. Cuddy

That on the recommendation of the City Clerk, with respect to the London Ward Boundary Review project, the revised attached, Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. Ward Boundary Review Phase One Report, dated September 27, 2024, BE RECEIVED for information; it being noted that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received the revised

attached presentation from Watson & Associates Economist Ltd. with respect to this matter;

it being noted that at the public participation meeting associated with this matter, the following individuals made oral submissions regarding this matter:

- G. Warren

Yeas: (15): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Motion Passed (15 to 0)

ADDITIONAL VOTES:

Moved by: D. Ferreira
Seconded by: H. McAlister

Motion to open the public participation meeting.

Yeas: (15): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Motion Passed (15 to 0)

Moved by: S. Franke
Seconded by: D. Ferreira

Motion to close the public participation meeting.

Yeas: (15): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Motion Passed (15 to 0)

3.6 Not to be heard before 1:45 PM - Public Participation Meeting - 2025
Water and Wastewater Rates

Moved by: S. Franke
Seconded by: E. Pelozza

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Environment & Infrastructure and the Deputy City Manager, Finance Supports, the following actions be taken with respect to the 2025 Water and Wastewater rates and charges:

- a) the proposed by-law as appended to the staff report dated October 8, 2024 as Appendix "A" to amend By-law WM-28 being "A by-law for regulation of wastewater and stormwater drainage systems in the City of London" BE INTRODUCED at the Municipal Council meeting to be held on October 15, 2024, to effect rates and charges increases of 5.4 percent effective January 1, 2025; and
- b) the proposed by-law as appended to the staff report as Appendix "B" to amend By-law W-8 being "A by-law to provide for the Regulation of Water Supply in the City of London" BE INTRODUCED at the Municipal Council meeting to be held on October 15, 2024, to effect rates and charges increases of 1.5 percent effective January 1, 2025;

it being further noted that no individuals spoke at the public participation meeting associated with this matter.

Yeas: (15): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Motion Passed (15 to 0)

ADDITIONAL VOTES:

Moved by: C. Rahman
Seconded by: P. Cuddy

Motion to open the public participation meeting.

Yeas: (14): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (1): S. Trosow

Motion Passed (14 to 0)

Moved by: S. Lehman
Seconded by: A. Hopkins

Motion to close the public participation meeting.

Yeas: (15): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Motion Passed (15 to 0)

3.7 Delegation - Chief T. Truong, Chief of Police

Moved by: E. Pelozza
Seconded by: D. Ferreira

That it BE NOTED that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received the attached presentation, attached community policing statistics, and heard a verbal delegation from Chief T. Truong, Chief of Police.

ADDITIONAL VOTES:

Moved by: E. Pelozza
Seconded by: D. Ferreira

That pursuant to section 36.3 of the Council Procedure By-law, Chief T. Truong, Chief of Police, London Police Services BE PERMITTED to speak an additional five (5) minutes with respect to this matter.

Yeas: (15): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Motion Passed (15 to 0)

Moved by: E. Pelozo
Seconded by: D. Ferreira

That the motion BE AMENDED to include "attached community policing statistics".

Yeas: (15): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozo, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Motion Passed (15 to 0)

Moved by: E. Pelozo
Seconded by: D. Ferreira

That the motion, as amended, BE APPROVED.

Yeas: (15): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozo, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Motion Passed (15 to 0)

Moved by: E. Pelozo
Seconded by: D. Ferreira

That the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee recess at this time, for 15 minutes.

Motion Passed

The Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee recesses at 5:24 PM and reconvenes at 5:42 PM.

Moved by: A. Hopkins
Seconded by: C. Rahman

That pursuant to section 33.8 of the Council Procedure By-law, the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee BE PERMITTED to proceed beyond 6:00 PM.

Yeas: (13): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, S. Franke, E. Pelozo, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (2): S. Trosow, and P. Van Meerbergen

Motion Passed (13 to 0)

4. Items for Direction

4.1 Whole of Community System Response - Evaluation Framework Reporting Template

Moved by: S. Franke
Seconded by: P. Cuddy

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development, the Whole of Community System Response – Evaluation Framework Reporting Template BE RECEIVED for information; it being noted that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received a

presentation from M. Kunze, Manager, Forensic and Supportive Housing Programs - St. Leonard's Community Services with respect to this matter.

Yeas: (13): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (2): S. Trosow, and P. Van Meerbergen

Motion Passed (13 to 0)

ADDITIONAL VOTES:

Moved by: E. Pelozza
Seconded by: A. Hopkins

That pursuant to section 36.3 of the Council Procedure By-law, M. Kunze, Manager, Forensic and Supportive Housing Programs - St. Leonard's Community Services BE PERMITTED to speak an additional five (5) minutes with respect to this matter.

Motion Passed

4.2 Consideration of Appointment to the Greater London International Airport Authority Board

Moved by: D. Ferreira
Seconded by: S. Lehman

That Larry Weir BE APPOINTED to the Greater London International Airport Authority Board of Directors for the term ending July 31, 2027; it being noted that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received a communication dated September 10, 2024 from G. Kotsiomitis, Chair and M. Campbell, Chair – Governance Committee, Board of Directors, London International Airport with respect to this matter.

Yeas: (13): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (2): S. Trosow, and P. Van Meerbergen

Motion Passed (13 to 0)

4.3 RBC Place London Board Appointment Recommendations

Moved by: P. Cuddy
Seconded by: A. Hopkins

That the request from the Board of Directors RBC Place London BE REFERRED to Civic Administration to draft a revised London Convention Centre Corporation by-law and report back to the November 19, 2024 meeting of Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee.

it being noted that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received a communication dated September 27, 2024 from D. Pollard, CEO, RBC Place London with respect to this matter.

Yeas: (13): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (2): S. Trosow, and P. Van Meerbergen

Motion Passed (13 to 0)

- 4.4 Consideration of Appointment to the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee (Requires up to 5 New Members)

Moved by: S. Stevenson
Seconded by: A. Hopkins

That N. Lippay and L. Heffernan BE APPOINTED to the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee for the term ending March 31, 2025.

Yeas: (13): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (2): S. Trosow, and P. Van Meerbergen

Motion Passed (13 to 0)

5. Deferred Matters/Additional Business

- 5.1 (ADDED) Standing Committees and Realignment to Committee Mandates

Moved by: J. Morgan
Seconded by: S. Lewis

That it BE NOTED that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received a communication dated October 3, 2024 from Mayor J. Morgan, Deputy Mayor S. Lewis and Councillor C. Rahman with respect to the Standing Committees and realignment of committee mandates.

Yeas: (13): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (2): S. Trosow, and P. Van Meerbergen

Motion Passed (13 to 0)

6. Confidential (Enclosed for Members only.)

Moved by: A. Hopkins
Seconded by: D. Ferreira

That the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee convenes In Closed session to consider the following:

6.1 Personal Matter/Identifiable Individual

A personal matter pertaining to identifiable individuals, including municipal employees, with respect to the 2025 Mayor's New Year's Honour List.

6.2 Personal Matter/Identifiable Individual

A personal matter pertaining to identifiable individuals, including municipal employees, with respect to the 2025 Mayor's New Year's Honour List.

Yeas: (11): P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (4): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, S. Trosow, and P. Van Meerbergen

Motion Passed (11 to 0)

The Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee convenes In Closed Session from 6:29 PM to 6:34 PM.

7. Adjournment

Moved by: S. Stevenson

Seconded by: P. Cuddy

That the meeting BE ADJOURNED.

Motion Passed

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 PM.



2024 Ward Boundary Review

City of London

Preliminary Options Report - Amended

October 08, 2024

Watson & Associates Economists Ltd.
905-272-3600
info@watsonecon.ca

In association with:
Dr. Robert J. Williams and Dr. Zachary Spicer

Foreword

This report has been amended on October 8, 2024 to account for a calculation error present in the total population calculations within Preliminary Option 1 (Table 9-1) and has been revised. This correction updated the student distribution counts between Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8. Small adjustments (less than 250 population) were made between Wards 1, 2, 3 and 4 while larger population counts were updated for Wards 5, 6 and 8.

The revisions made within Table 9-1 did not change the overall evaluation of Preliminary Option 1 as the changes did not account for any significant changes in population parity, but over-time does increase the parity within Ward 6 as presented below.

Revised Table 9-1

Ward	2021			2025			2030			2035		
	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	36,325	1.10	O+	38,092	1.07	O+	39,418	1.03	O	40,399	0.99	O
Ward 2	32,454	0.98	O	34,305	0.97	O	36,310	0.95	O-	38,976	0.95	O
Ward 3	29,167	0.88	O-	31,253	0.88	O-	34,205	0.89	O-	37,508	0.92	O-
Ward 4	32,447	0.98	O	34,109	0.96	O	35,850	0.94	O-	38,096	0.93	O-
Ward 5	33,808	1.03	O	37,140	1.05	O	40,047	1.04	O	43,213	1.06	O+
Ward 6	42,164	1.28	OR+	43,145	1.21	OR+	44,320	1.16	OR+	46,001	1.13	O+
Ward 7	31,795	0.96	O	35,955	1.01	O	40,689	1.06	O+	42,317	1.04	O
Ward 8	30,619	0.93	O-	31,724	0.89	O-	32,201	0.84	OR-	32,763	0.80	OR-
Ward 9	33,803	1.03	O	39,786	1.12	O+	46,386	1.21	OR+	51,771	1.27	OR+
Ward 10	31,681	0.96	O	33,338	0.94	O-	35,909	0.94	O-	37,990	0.93	O-
Ward 11	30,248	0.92	O-	31,960	0.90	O-	32,604	0.85	O-	32,892	0.80	OR-
Ward 12	33,161	1.01	O	35,529	1.00	O	38,309	1.00	O	41,857	1.02	O
Ward 13	31,071	0.94	O-	35,194	0.99	O	40,356	1.05	O+	44,794	1.10	O+
Ward 14	32,763	0.99	O	35,802	1.01	O	40,124	1.05	O	43,652	1.07	O+
Total/Average	461,506	32,965		497,331	35,524		536,731	38,338		572,231	40,874	



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1. Background

The City of London has retained Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., Dr. Robert J. Williams, and Dr. Zachary Spicer, hereinafter referred to as the Consultant Team, to conduct a comprehensive and independent Ward Boundary Review (W.B.R.).

The primary purpose of the study is to prepare the City of London Council to make decisions on whether to maintain the existing electoral structure or to make changes. This report provides a set of alternative ward boundary designs that have been created based upon preliminary research and the first round of public consultation with the residents of London.

The review is premised on the democratic expectation that municipal representation in London would be effective, equitable, and an accurate reflection of the contemporary distribution of communities and people across the City.

2. Study Objective

The project has several key objectives:

- Develop a clear understanding of the present electoral system, including its origins and operations as a system of representation;
- Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the present electoral system based on guiding principles adopted for the study;
- Develop and conduct an appropriate consultation process in accordance with London's public engagement practices to ensure community support for the review and its outcome;
- Prepare population projections for the development and evaluation of alternative electoral structures for the 2026, 2030, and 2034 municipal elections; and
- Deliver a report that will set out recommended alternative council ward boundaries to ensure effective and equitable electoral arrangements for London, based on the principles identified.

In June 2024, the Consultant Team prepared a series of Discussion Papers that set out:

- The parameters and purpose for the review;
- The basic electoral arrangements in London;



- Council’s legislative authority to modify electoral arrangements in the City; and
- An initial assessment of the City’s current ward boundary system.

The Discussion Papers also provided a set of guiding principles that will inform the study and the work of the Consultant Team, as follows:

- Balancing the current population distribution among the wards (referred to as the “population parity principle”);
- Balancing the future population distribution among the wards based on projections (referred to as the “population growth principle”);
- Respecting established neighbourhoods and communities (referred to as the “community of interest principle”); and
- Respecting geographical features and the defining natural and infrastructure boundaries (referred to as the “natural boundaries principle”).

Taken together, these principles will contribute to achieving the over-arching principle of effective representation.

Each principle is described in detail in Discussion Paper C and can be found on the City’s web page.^[1]

The purpose of this Preliminary Options Report is to provide:

- A summary of the work completed to date;
- A summary of the information received from the public engagement sessions and tools, such as the survey and website; and
- A series of preliminary ward boundary options for consideration.

3. Project Structure and Timeline

Council adopted the terms of reference for the W.B.R. in the spring of 2024. Work completed to date includes:

- Research and data compilation;
- Interviews with councillors, the mayor and municipal staff; and
- Public consultation on the existing ward structure.

[1] <https://getinvolved.london.ca/ward-boundary-review>



Interviews with staff, Council, and meetings with the clerk's office and other staff concerning this study were conducted both virtually and in person. The Consultant Team also conducted a virtual workshop with Council in May and an initial round of public consultation in June 2024 (four live sessions at four locations around the City and one hybrid session that is available on the project webpage).

4. Existing Electoral Structure

London City Council comprises 15 members, including the mayor (elected at-large) and 14 councillors, elected in 14 wards. The deputy mayor is selected by the mayor, from among the current councillors, and confirmed by a majority vote of council and appointed via by-law. The mayor may determine which powers and duties are allocated to the deputy mayor.

The City has used a 14-ward system since 2006, when the previous seven-ward system (with two councillors elected per ward) was abandoned. London's Board of Control was eliminated in 2010. The existing wards have been in place since a 2017 review, which resulted in Council approving an adjustment to Wards 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, and 13.

The *Municipal Act, 2001*, establishes that the council of a "local municipality" must consist of "a minimum of five members, one of whom shall be the head of council" (s. 217 (1) 1) and that the head of council (the mayor) "shall be elected by general vote (s. 217 (1) 3). Furthermore, the "members, other than the head of council, shall be elected by general vote or wards or by any combination of general vote and wards" (s. 217 (1) 4).

With 15 members, London has 10 council members more than the legislatively allotted minimum of 5. Based on its analysis and public feedback, the Consultant Team is working from the assumption that 15 members is the preferred size for London's Council. This number, as described further in Discussion Paper B, is also in line with municipalities of a comparable size.



5. Existing Population and Forecast Growth in the City of London

As previously discussed, a basic premise of representative democracy in Canada is the notion that the geographic areas used to elect a representative should be reasonably balanced with one another in terms of population. Accordingly, a detailed population estimate for the City of London, including its constituent wards and communities, was prepared to allow for evaluation of the existing ward structure and subsequent alternatives in terms of representation by population beginning with the most recent Census (2021). This estimate includes the population not captured by Census (Census undercount estimated at approximately +3%) and the post-secondary student population (estimated at approximately 24,430).

The City of London is forecast to experience significant population growth over the next decade and beyond. For this reason, it is important that this study assess representation by population for both existing and future year populations. In accordance with the study terms of reference, the analysis considered representation of population over the next three municipal elections through to 2034. A population and housing forecast for the City for the 2021 to 2035 period, consistent with the City's Growth Management Implementation Strategy (GMIS), was utilized at a sub-municipal level. The results of this analysis are discussed below.

5.1 Existing Population and Structure

As mentioned, this study needs to look at both the existing and future population distribution. Total population figures were derived for 2021, 2025, 2030 and 2035 utilizing the 2021 Census and included the 2022 GMIS reference forecast (including a 3% Census Undercount) with an additional 24,340 post-secondary students. London's 2021 Census population was reported at 437,075 for a total population of 461,506 (including post-secondary and Census undercount). The City's 2025 total population estimate is presented by existing ward structure in Table 5-1 with an optimal population of 35,524. As shown below, Ward 7, which covers the northwest corner of London, has the highest population of all the wards at 49,914, while Ward 2, which is located in the east along the Dundas Street corridor has the smallest population at 27,299, for a difference of over 22,600 between the smallest and largest wards. This review does not consider expansion to the City of London urban boundary, as the expected growth



required to meet the 2035 population target of 572,230 would be accommodated through the existing land supply.^[2] The City is currently reviewing the need for future land needs required to accommodate long-term growth beyond the time horizon and scope of this study.

Table 5-1
City of London
2025 Population by Ward

Ward	Area (sq. km)	Total Population ^[1]	Population variance
Ward 1	16.98	28,798	0.81
Ward 2	18.01	27,299	0.77
Ward 3	44.71	34,362	0.97
Ward 4	10.27	33,649	0.95
Ward 5	17.63	40,749	1.15
Ward 6	12.48	44,241	1.25
Ward 7	27.13	49,914	1.41
Ward 8	15.39	30,887	0.87
Ward 9	81.16	40,243	1.13
Ward 10	12.62	32,940	0.93
Ward 11	10.40	31,960	0.90
Ward 12	52.92	35,846	1.01
Ward 13	8.77	35,194	0.99
Ward 14	94.61	31,251	0.88
Total/Average	30.22	497,331	35,524

^[1] Population includes a net Census undercount of approximately 3.0% and the post-secondary student population estimated at 24,340.

Note: Numbers may not add precisely due to rounding.

^[2] [City of London Population, Housing and Employment Growth Study \(2022\)](#), Watson & Associates Economists Ltd.



5.2 Forecast Population Growth, 2021 to 2035

The City of London is one of the fastest growing municipalities across the country, growing by over 10% between 2016 and 2021, a population growth of approximately 38,500. This rapid growth is expected to continue over the coming years.

In accordance with the City's GMIS, London's population is expected to increase to 536,740 by 2030 and 572,230 by 2035 (including both the net Census undercount and student populations). Anticipated population growth to 2035 period was identified on a sub-geographic unit (S.G.U.) level and presented by the existing ward structure in Table 5-2.

Table 5-2
City of London
2035 Population by Ward

Ward	Area (sq. km)	Total Population ^[1]	Population variance
Ward 1	16.98	29,605	0.72
Ward 2	18.01	27,390	0.67
Ward 3	44.71	45,477	1.11
Ward 4	10.27	35,177	0.86
Ward 5	17.63	49,057	1.20
Ward 6	12.48	47,097	1.15
Ward 7	27.13	57,788	1.41
Ward 8	15.39	31,911	0.78
Ward 9	81.16	55,084	1.35
Ward 10	12.62	34,735	0.85
Ward 11	10.40	32,892	0.80
Ward 12	52.92	42,171	1.03
Ward 13	8.77	44,794	1.10
Ward 14	94.61	39,053	0.96
Total/Average	30.22	572,231	40,874

^[1] Population includes a net Census undercount of approximately 3.0% and the post-secondary student population estimated at 24,340.



6. Public Consultation

The first phase of the W.B.R. incorporated a public engagement component that was delivered virtually and designed to:

- Inform residents of London about the reasons for the W.B.R. and the key factors that were considered in the review; and
- Engage the residents in a manner that provides valuable input to the evaluation of the existing ward structure and the development of alternative ward boundaries.

Two in-person consultation sessions were conducted on June 19 and two more on June 20, 2024; one hybrid public consultation session was conducted on July 9, 2024. The Consultant Team's presentation and other information about the review, including the audio recording of the Hybrid Public Open House, are available on the City's website: <https://getinvolved.london.ca/ward-boundary-review> (see Appendix B for more details).

Through the public consultation sessions, a survey, and the project website's online comment/feedback form, participants were invited to provide their input/opinions with respect to the following:

- Existing ward structure – What are the strengths and weaknesses of the current ward structure?
- Guiding principles – Which guiding principles should be given the greatest priority in the development of ward boundaries?

The feedback and comments collected through the public consultation process are reflected in the analysis presented below and have helped inform the preliminary set of ward options. While public input from consultation provides valuable insight into the review, it is not relied on exclusively. The Consultant Team utilized the public input in conjunction with its professional expertise and experience in W.B.R.s, along with best practices, to develop the preliminary options presented herein.



7. What We Heard

To promote public engagement in the W.B.R., the City of London created a project web page for all documents necessary to give residents an informed voice. All subsequent communications could then direct people to that page, through social media and other forms of outreach. Members of the public were able to visit the site, read up on context, download a background report and, most importantly, they were urged to complete a survey. The Consultant Team also prepared a whiteboard-style explainer video describing the overall process of the W.B.R.

The public survey was a key tool for collecting input from as many residents as possible and gave some of the best high-level insight into the views and perspectives of London's residents. The level of participation in the survey was high, with 555 people responding to some or all questions; the detailed summary of these results can be found in Appendix A. The survey results tended to confirm what earlier research had begun to indicate:

- A little over half the survey respondents (55%) thought having 14 local councillors, with one elected from each ward, was adequate for their needs. Of those who felt that the size of council is inappropriate, approximately 24% indicated they would prefer a smaller council and 21% of the respondents felt it was too small.
- Approximately 58% of respondents believe that the current ward system adequately represents the residents of London, while 42% believe that it does not.
- Most importantly for the next phase of the project, people prioritized respecting established neighbourhoods and communities (45%). A significant percentage of respondents, however, thought that balancing the future population distribution among the wards based on projections should be the top priority (27%), and 21% believe that balancing the current population distribution among the wards is most important. Geographic representation was prioritized by the fewest number of people (7%).

The survey also included several questions that were not multiple choice and, instead, were open-ended, giving respondents the opportunity to submit longer, written responses about issues they considered important. In total, 295 respondents gave their views on what they regard as the strengths of the existing ward system, and 350



respondents shared views on its weaknesses. There were three major recurrent themes that arose in these responses. First, many of the respondents gave further support to the prioritization of respecting established neighbourhoods and communities over the other guiding principles. Second, many respondents voiced the importance of the balancing the future population distribution principle, with some highlighting Wards 5, 6, and 7 as unbalanced. Third, some respondents mentioned that 14 wards are too many for the City of London and that there should be fewer.

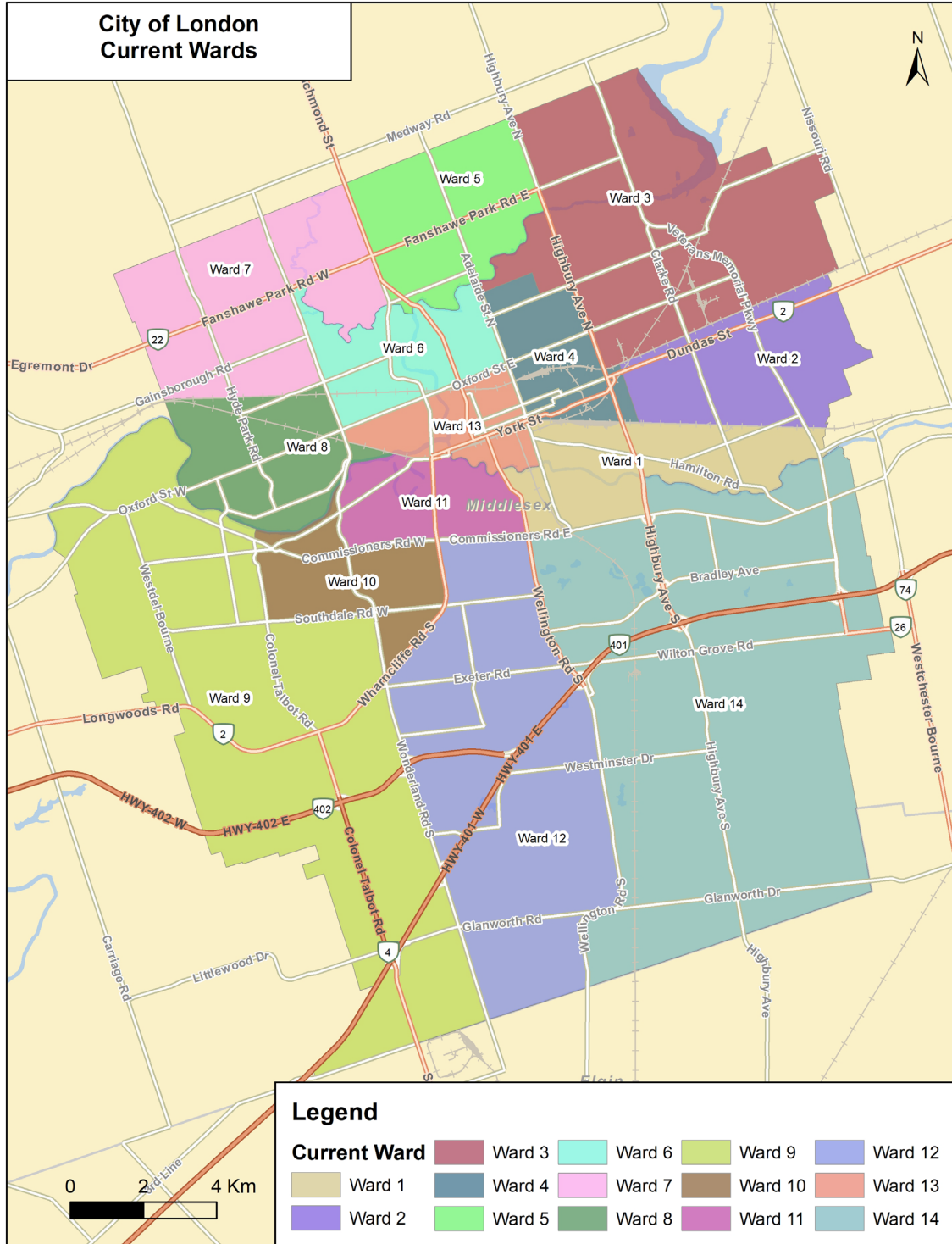
8. Evaluation of the Existing Ward Structure

A preliminary evaluation of the existing ward structure included in Discussion Paper D addressed the wards in terms of the guiding principles. For reference, the current wards are presented in Figure 8-1. The survey conducted as part of the initial phase of public consultation asked respondents to assess the current wards in terms of their strengths and weaknesses. These responses add depth to that initial assessment.

This section revisits that evaluation, integrating information received during consultation and addressing certain challenges identified in parts of the existing ward system.



Figure 8-1
City of London
Existing Ward Structure





In Discussion Paper E, the Consultant Team provided an evaluation of the ward boundary system. It was determined that the current system was successful in respecting established neighbourhoods and generally successful in respecting geographical features and infrastructure boundaries – two of the guiding principles. It was concluded, however, that there were some challenges related to population. The population of certain wards was determined to be outside the optimal/average range ($\pm 15\%$) using 2021 Census population data. The trends experienced in certain wards continued as the Consultant Team forecasted towards the 2030 municipal election and beyond. The population disparity, in this scenario, will worsen in certain wards.

Overall, it was argued that the ward system did not fully provide effective representation for the residents of London, concluding that a W.B.R. was necessary. While the conclusion reached was that the system had considerable challenges when reviewed as a whole, there are several wards that individually meet the guiding principles. For instance, Ward 14 was just under the population average using both 2021 and 2030 population metrics. The ward also comfortably contains identifiable communities of interest and uses natural boundaries – waterways in the north, major roads in the west, and the external boundaries of the municipality in the east and south. While several wards largely meet the guiding principles individually, there are several that do not and, therefore, require attention as the W.B.R. proceeds. We present an evaluation of each ward below, classifying each ward as those that *need adjustment* (identification of a major problem that requires intervention), *may need adjustment* (identification of a concern that might require intervention) or *do not need adjustment*. While those wards not needing adjustment present significant strengths, it does not mean that they will not experience adjustment, given adjustments to their boundaries may be required to target concerns elsewhere.



Table 8-1
City of London
Evaluation of Wards

Ward	Evaluation
Ward 1	<p>The population for Ward 1 is under the average using 2025 population estimates (6,725 residents below average). This disparity worsens in population projections, growing to over 9,000 residents below the average by 2030. By this point, the gap between Ward 1 and the most heavily populated ward (Ward 7) will be 26,201 residents.</p> <p><i>Given the current and future population disparity, Ward 1 requires adjustment.</i></p>
Ward 2	<p>The population for Ward 2 is the lowest among all wards and is well below the average 2025 population estimates (8,224 residents below the average). Using these population figures, the disparity between the most heavily populated ward (currently Ward 7) and Ward 2 is over 22,600 residents. This disparity increases in population projects, with Ward 2 falling significantly below the average population per ward by 2030 without any intervention.</p> <p><i>Given the current and future population disparity, Ward 2 requires adjustment.</i></p>
Ward 3	<p>Ward 3 provides adequate population parity using 2025 population estimates, falling only slightly below the average population for wards within London. By 2030, the population of Ward 3 is expected to grow by over 4,900 residents. Despite this growth, the ward still achieves parity and is only slightly over the average.</p> <p><i>Given the current and future population parity, Ward 3 does not require adjustment.</i></p>



Ward	Evaluation
Ward 4	<p>Ward 4 provides for adequate population parity, currently falling within 5% variance of the average. Looking towards 2030, Ward 4 is expected to grow to over 34,500. This, however, places it under the average, but only slightly. By 2030, this ward falls beyond the 5% variance range but is within 10% variance.</p> <p><i>Given the current slight disparity now and in the future, Ward 4 may require adjustment.</i></p>
Ward 5	<p>London's most significant population growth has occurred in the northwest portion of the city. Ward 5 has been impacted by this growth and while currently within the 15% population variance, it falls out of range by 2030. At this time, it is projected that Ward 5 will have 17,300 more residents than the lowest populated ward by 2030 (Ward 2).</p> <p><i>Given the current and future population disparities, Ward 5 will require adjustment.</i></p>
Ward 6	<p>Ward 6 has experienced tremendous growth, currently placing it outside the +15% variance range. This growth is expected to continue. By 2030, Ward 6 will still be outside of the acceptable range of variation.</p> <p><i>Given the current and future population disparities, Ward 6 will require adjustment.</i></p>
Ward 7	<p>Ward 7 is currently the most populated ward of any in London with 49,914 residents (2025). As a result, it is significantly outside the 15% variance range. Without intervention, this population figure will grow to over 55,400 residents by 2030, again making it the most populated.</p> <p><i>Given the current and future population disparities, Ward 7 will require adjustment.</i></p>
Ward 8	<p>Ward 8 is currently just inside the 15% variance range (2025). Over time, growth within the ward will not keep up with the city. As a result, it falls outside the 15% variance range by 2030 (0.82 variance) and further by 2035 (0.78 variance).</p> <p><i>Given future population disparity, Ward 8 require adjustment.</i></p>



Ward	Evaluation
Ward 9	<p>Ward 9 is currently within the 15% variance range. The ward encompasses a large territory, running along much of the City's western boundary. This ward is expected to experience significant growth pressures, especially in the north. Moving towards 2030, it becomes the second most populated ward in the City with more than 48,000 residents – 21,050 more than the least populated ward at that time (Ward 2). Ward 9 is also the second largest ward by geographic size (81 SqKm), covering approximately 19% of the geographic territory of London.</p> <p><i>Given future population disparity and geographic size, Ward 9 will require adjustment.</i></p>
Ward 10	<p>Ward 10 is only slightly under the average not expected to receive a significant amount of future growth by 2035. By 2030, however, it falls below the average and just outside the 10% variance range. The borders are well recognizable but major roadways, such as Commissioners Road West, are used as one part of the border but then intersect the ward in other parts.</p> <p><i>Given the future population disparities and inconsistencies in border placement, Ward 10 may require adjustment.</i></p>
Ward 11	<p>Ward 11 is within an acceptable population range – only slightly below average – in 2025. As population remains stable, the ward further dips slightly below the average by 2030 falling to the 15% threshold.</p> <p><i>Given the slight current and future population disparities, Ward 11 may require adjustment.</i></p>



Ward	Evaluation
Ward 12	Using 2025 population estimates data, Ward 12 is slightly over the average by only a few hundred people. Without intervention, population is expected to grow alongside the municipality totals and remain within the 5% population variance, performing exceptionally well both now and in the future. Ward 12 is however, one of the largest wards by geographic size (53 SqKm), covering approximately 13% of the geographic territory of London. <i>Given its geographic size, and future population growth, Ward 12 may require adjustment.</i>
Ward 13	Ward 13 is currently only very slightly below the average, providing excellent balance. This figure increases in the future and population within the ward increases significantly by 2030, eventually entering 10% variation by 2035. The ward still performs well, however, but given projected population increases throughout the downtown core, <i>this ward may require adjustment.</i>
Ward 14	Ward 14 encapsulates much of rural London. It also has significant geography north of the 401, making it the largest ward by geographic size at 94 SqKm and accounting for over 20% of the entire City of London. Some of these areas are expected to experience moderate growth over the next decade. The population is currently under the average but within the 10% variance range. This variance is expected to improve towards 2030, leaving the ward just slightly below the average. <i>Given the slight disparity now and the improvements expected moving towards 2030, Ward 14 does not require adjustment.</i>

Current Population Disparities (2025) – While the Consultant Team found that the current ward system largely provided for adequate and acceptable population variations, two wards – Wards 6 and 7 – fell well beyond the 15% threshold. Ward 7 has close to 22,000 more residents than lowest populated ward (Ward 2). Additionally, seven other wards were above or below a 5% variation but within 15%. The trends (as shown below) get worse over time as these areas continue to develop. Many wards, however, were within an acceptable level of variation.



Future Population Disparities – Projecting forward to 2030, the Consultant Team identified several wards that would fall above or below the 15% variance standard. These include Wards 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. More substantially, the disparity between certain wards could grow considerably. For instance, by 2030 Ward 7 was projected to have over 28,000 more residents than the smallest ward, Ward 2, which would fall more than 10,000 residents below the average. Such disparities cannot be justified as providing effective representation.

Inconsistencies with Natural Boundaries and Infrastructure – In the Discussion Papers, the Consultant Team identified several instances where natural boundaries were used in inconsistent ways. For instance, the Thames River and its tributaries are used as boundaries for Wards 5 and 8, while Wards 1, 3, 7, 9, 12, and 14 cross rivers. Interviews with Council members and initial public engagement have demonstrated some consistency and connection between areas on either side of the river, indicating some logic for not using it as a boundary in certain areas. In some cases, however, major roadways separate wards and then conclude at the beginning of a waterway. Wards 1 and 14 are examples where waterways provide one boundary line before alternating to a road. Overall, the Consultant Team argued (and does so again below) that the boundary configurations meet principles associated with geography. Moving forward, the Consultant Team, however, will look to correct inconsistencies where needed.

Insufficiently Capturing Some Communities of Interest – In Discussion Paper E, the Consultant Team agreed that the current ward system largely captures most communities of interest. London is a city with many established neighbourhoods; most are comfortably contained within wards. This is a significant strength. Throughout the first round of engagement, however, the Consultant Team heard from those living in the rural parts of southern London who expressed a desire for a single ward stemming from a feeling that they lack representation at City Hall. This, however, is the only identifiable group that expressed this concern to some degree.

The current ward boundary system in London is successful on several fronts. The population is relatively balanced, with minimal variance in many wards. Only two wards currently stand out as being significantly above and below the average population per ward. Compared to many municipalities across Ontario, this is quite remarkable. The vast majority of identifiable communities of interest are comfortably contained within the



existing wards. Again, a relatively remarkable accomplishment considering the size and population of the city.

Even with such success, the ward system in London does have some acute current challenges, namely the sizable population disparity between some wards (i.e., Wards 6 and 7) and some inconsistency in bordering throughout London. Many of the current population disparities grow over time, meaning that significant challenges could await the city if changes are not made.

The Consultant Team is therefore provided with a unique challenge in maintaining the existing strengths of the system, while targeting revision to areas of concern now and in the future. As a result, the team has three main goals as the project proceeds:

- Correct population disparities between certain wards now and into the future, while making minimal changes to those that are providing for parity and strong representation;
- Rationalize boundary lines where needed, ensuring that they follow natural and identifiable infrastructure;
- Explore options to provide better representation for all communities of interest within the City, while not disrupting current communities of interest that are comfortably housed within the same wards.

If completed successfully, targeting attention in certain areas of concern may produce a familiar configuration of wards, but also one that provides more insurance for effective representation as the City moves towards the 2030 and 2034 electoral cycles. The following sections expand on this analysis and evaluate the ward system using the guiding principles.

8.1 Representation by Population

One of the basic premises of representative democracy in Canada is the belief that the geographic areas used to elect a representative should be reasonably balanced with one another in terms of population. This is the concept of representation by population (“rep by pop”) or “one person, one vote” – where the vote of any one person carries roughly the same weight as that of any other person. In some places (such as parts of the United States) this principle of population parity is enforced rigorously – almost to



the exclusion of any other factor – so that there is no noticeable variation in the population of electoral units within a particular jurisdiction.

In the Carter decision,^[3] however, the majority of the Supreme Court understood that Canadian electoral law has never been driven by the need to achieve “full parity” in the population of electoral divisions. The Court concluded that some degree of variation from parity (“relative parity”) may be justified and, at times, even necessary “on the grounds of practical impossibility or the provision of more effective representation.”

Since there are variations in the densities and character of communities and neighbourhoods across London, the guiding principles make clear that some flexibility in applying the principle of representation by population is acceptable. That is, the concept of “equitable” (that is, fair) representation – not necessarily “equal” representation – is legitimate, although the closer the population of the wards is to parity, the more the entire design can be assessed as successful.

As a working premise, a range of variation of 15% above or below the optimal ward population will be considered acceptable in this review. This is a generous range of tolerance from parity, and more restrictive than long-standing parameters for the federal redistribution process, but in the absence of any guidance in the *Municipal Act, 2001* or provincial regulations, it is a reasonable range of variation for a largely urban municipality like London.

The goal in any case will be to reduce the range of variation among the wards as much as possible. In the Consultant Team’s experience, however, developing wards within a narrower range of population variation can make the successful achievement of the other recognized guiding principles more difficult.

The degree of parity in each ward will be determined through the calculation of what will be called an “optimal” ward population in London, a figure computed by dividing the population by the number of wards in the City. The population of a ward will be considered “optimal” when it falls within 5% above or below that number (noted in green). A ward population would be considered within the acceptable population range if it is between 5% and 15% of the “optimum” population (noted in pink). Populations that are above or below 15% of the “optimal” population are considered outside the

[3] Reference re: Provincial Electoral Boundaries (Saskatchewan) [1991] 2 S.C.R.



acceptable range (noted in red). It is important to remember that, as the overall population of the City changes, the “optimal” population size of a ward will also change.

An example of these ranges is provided for London’s current 14-ward system for the 2025 and 2035 populations and shown below in Table 8-2 and Table 8-3. **Error! Reference source not found..** Based upon the figure calculated for the City’s overall 2025 population (497,331) and a 14-ward system, the optimal population would be 35,524. By 2035, the City’s forecast population will be approximately 572,231 and the optimal ward population would be 40,874.

Table 8-2
City of London
Estimated Population by Existing Ward, 2025

Ward	Total Population ^[1]	2025 Population Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	28,798	0.81	OR-
Ward 2	27,299	0.77	OR-
Ward 3	34,362	0.97	O
Ward 4	33,649	0.95	O-
Ward 5	40,749	1.15	O+
Ward 6	44,241	1.25	OR+
Ward 7	49,914	1.41	OR+
Ward 8	30,887	0.87	O-
Ward 9	40,243	1.13	O+
Ward 10	32,940	0.93	O-
Ward 11	31,960	0.90	O-
Ward 12	35,846	1.01	O
Ward 13	35,194	0.99	O
Ward 14	31,251	0.88	O-
Total	497,331	-	-
Optimal Population	35,524	-	-

^[1] Population includes a net Census undercount of approximately 3.0% and the post-secondary student population estimated at 24,340.

Note: Numbers may not add precisely due to rounding.



Population data suggests that by the 2026 municipal election, four of the present wards will be outside the optimal range of variance ($\pm 15\%$), two above and two below. The remaining 10 wards are clustered at or within 15% of the optimal figure for wards in London.

Based upon this empirical evidence, the present wards largely follow the representation by population principle with some conspicuous exceptions.

8.2 Balancing the Future Population Distribution Among the Wards Based on Projections

As noted in section 5.2, population growth over the next decade within London will be substantial but concentrated in certain parts of the urban settlement area. A large rural territory in the City's southern area (largely south of Highways 401 and 402) will remain lightly populated over the period considered for this review.

The population growth principle is directed towards maintaining a balance through subsequent municipal elections. It is generally not practical to change electoral boundaries for every election; hence, the wards designed in 2024 will seek to accommodate anticipated changes in the size and distribution of the population and electors over the next three elections in 2026, 2030, and 2034.

As in the previous population principle, the goal is to design a system that will comprise wards that are generally in equilibrium to one another as growth takes place. The concept of an optimal ward size (with an associated range of variation) will be used to assess the success of the individual wards and the overall configuration, making use of a population and housing forecast for London and its communities for the 2021 to 2035 period.



Table 8-3
City of London
Existing Wards' 2025 and 2035 Population Distribution

Ward Number	2025 Total Population ^[1]	Variance	Optimal Range	2035 Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	28,798	0.81	OR-	29,605	0.72	OR-
Ward 2	27,299	0.77	OR-	27,390	0.67	OR-
Ward 3	34,362	0.97	O	45,477	1.11	O+
Ward 4	33,649	0.95	O-	35,177	0.86	O-
Ward 5	40,749	1.15	O+	49,057	1.20	OR+
Ward 6	44,241	1.25	OR+	47,097	1.15	OR+
Ward 7	49,914	1.41	OR+	57,788	1.41	OR+
Ward 8	30,887	0.87	O-	31,911	0.78	OR-
Ward 9	40,243	1.13	O+	55,084	1.35	OR+
Ward 10	32,940	0.93	O-	34,735	0.85	OR-
Ward 11	31,960	0.90	O-	32,892	0.80	OR-
Ward 12	35,846	1.01	O	42,171	1.03	O
Ward 13	35,194	0.99	O	44,794	1.10	O+
Ward 14	31,251	0.88	O-	39,053	0.96	O
Total	497,331	-	-	535,740	-	-
Average	35,524	-	-	38,339	-	-

^[1] Population includes a net Census undercount of approximately 3.0% and the post-secondary student population estimated at 24,340.

Note: Numbers may not add precisely due to rounding.

These forecasts show that the pattern of population imbalance present in 2025 is maintained and worsened by 2035, and only two wards (the existing Ward 12 and Ward 14) that are considered “optimal” remain in that category. All other wards move further away from the optimal population figure (38,339) with nine of the 14 considered “outside the range.” Based upon the empirical evidence, the present wards are unlikely to ensure that the population growth principle can be met over the next decade.



8.3 Respecting Established Neighbourhoods and Communities

The community of interest principle addresses two perspectives: what is divided by ward boundaries and what is joined together? The premise is that a municipality like London is home to numerous residential neighbourhoods that may have deep historical roots, but they can also be social, economic, or religious in nature, depending on the history and composition of the municipality in question.

The first priority is that communities ought not to be divided internally; as a rule, lines are drawn around communities, not through them. Secondly, as far as possible, wards should be cohesive units composed of areas with common interests related to representation, not just contrived arithmetical divisions of the City.

Wards should have a “natural” feel to those who live within them, meaning that they should have established internal communication and transportation linkages and boundaries should be drawn taking existing connections into consideration. This is done to avoid creating wards that combine communities with dissimilar interests and no obvious patterns of interaction.

London has traditionally been composed of several identifiable communities of interest of varying sizes and types, some based on the historic City centre, others on twentieth century suburban expansion, and others of more recent vintage, almost all of which have recognizable names and well-defined geographic areas.

At present, most ward boundaries respect these communities within London, but in a few cases the existing boundaries divide neighbourhoods that are similar into two wards (such as along Commissioners Road) and in others a major thoroughfare (like Oxford Street) bisects a ward.

Given the complexity of the entire urban community it would be unlikely that all the current wards consist of coherent collections of communities of interest, but the configuration can be considered largely successful in meeting the principle.



8.4 Respecting Geographical Features and the Defining Natural and Infrastructure Boundaries

Ward boundaries should be easily recognizable and take advantage of natural and built geographic features such as arterial roads, waterways, and railway lines. Often these features already tend to separate communities within the City anyway, which usually explains their historical use as boundary lines between existing wards and communities.

Ward boundaries in London are a mix of transportation routes, some more prominent than others (such as Highbury Avenue and the CN Railway corridor), and natural features such as the Thames River and Medway Creek. There are some inconsistencies in the features used as boundaries (Adelaide Street and the Thames River are used to demarcate some wards but cross within the present Ward 1).

On the whole, the present London wards adhere to natural boundaries that are identifiable and appropriate markers and can be said to meet this principle.

8.5 Effective Representation

As stated in Discussion Paper C, the guiding principles are subject to the overarching principle of “effective representation,” meaning that, to the extent possible, each resident should have comparable access to an elected representative and each councillor should speak on behalf of an equal number of residents. Deviations from population parity can be justified if they contribute to more effective representation.

Effective representation is not based on the performance of incumbent councillors. It is, rather, a concept that is premised on serving the on-going relationship between residents and elected officials, not just on the way the resident is “counted” on election day, although that is an important component of a fair system of representation. The expectation should be that the wards support the capacity of councillors to represent their constituents, rather than hinder councillors performing those responsibilities. Are the individual wards plausible and coherent units of representation? Are they drawn in such a way that representatives can readily play the role expected of them? Do they provide equitable (that is, fair) access to councillors for all residents of the municipality?

On the whole, London’s present wards come close to achieving effective representation in 2024. Primarily, population imbalances undermine the achievement of this principle



over the next decade and in a few cases have an impact on the capacity of some councillors to serve residents today.

It is possible to meet all these shortcomings by redividing the municipality to provide better, more effective representation through the application of the entire set of guiding principles, as will be demonstrated below.

The Discussion Paper and this report provide an initial evaluation of the current ward system and the analysis has revealed aspects that fall short in some regard to meet the ward boundary principles set out for the W.B.R. The Consultant Team has since taken the feedback received through the various engagement activities and again, for the most part, members of the public have confirmed many of the initial perceptions. On the whole, the present wards constitute a plausible system for the 2026 municipal election but the same cannot be said about its capacity in the future as evaluated in Figure 8-2.



Figure 8-2
City of London
Present London Ward Configuration Evaluation Summary

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Largely Successful	Four wards are outside the acceptable range of variation but the other 10 meet this principle.
Population Growth	No	The City's population is forecast to continue to grow significantly over the next decade, further contributing to uneven population distributions and unequitable representation.
Community of Interest	Largely Successful	Most but not all the wards are coherent electoral units.
Natural Boundaries	Largely Successful	Most markers used as boundaries of the wards are straightforward, with a few exceptions.
Effective Representation	Partially Successful	Effective representation is hindered by uneven population distribution in 2024 that is expected to worsen over time.

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as “**Yes**” (fully satisfied), “**Largely Successful**,” “**Partially Successful**,” or “**No**” (not satisfied).

9. Alternative Ward Boundary Options

The evaluation of the current ward system in London suggests that there are some identifiable shortcomings when evaluated against the guiding principles for this W.B.R. Council could still choose to retain the status quo by turning down all recommended options for an alternative ward configuration. That decision, however, could result in a petition submitted under section 223 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*. The analysis presented herein suggests that, while the current system works reasonably well, there



are some areas (i.e., some wards' population disparity, future growth) that could benefit from a change in ward boundaries.

If Council decides to change the ward boundary system, what would alternatives look like? The Consultant Team has prepared preliminary options for consideration at this stage of the W.B.R. The preliminary options attempt to keep the identifiable communities of interest intact, creating wards with roughly equal populations, and providing for effective representation throughout London. Balancing all the guiding principles can pose a challenge, however, given the large geography and uneven population distribution in some areas across the City.

9.1 Preliminary Option 1

This first option can be considered a “minimal disruption” option since it preserves much of the existing ward map, targeting certain challenges around current and future population disparities identified above. The most notable change occurs in the northern parts of the City, adjusting Wards 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7. These changes not only account for the significant growth and development currently taking place (and expected to increase in the future) but also align the boundaries of each ward with major transportation corridors. Another major change comes to the south, where Ward 14 is extended significantly into the rural part of the City and aligned with portions of Highway 401, providing for increased population parity and increased rural representation.

This option provides familiarity to residents and retains some of the existing ward characteristics that work well, while addressing some of the issues raised in the evaluation. Population distribution is adequate but not perfect, with some wards (namely Ward 6) continuing to remain on the high or low side of the acceptable population ranges. While the population parity of some wards gets better with future population growth accounted, by 2035, the population of three wards lies outside the acceptable range.



Table 9-1
City of London
Preliminary Option 1 – Population by Proposed Ward

Ward	2021			2025			2030			2035		
	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	36,325	1.10	O+	38,092	1.07	O+	39,418	1.03	O	40,399	0.99	O
Ward 2	32,454	0.98	O	34,305	0.97	O	36,310	0.95	O-	38,976	0.95	O
Ward 3	29,167	0.88	O-	31,253	0.88	O-	34,205	0.89	O-	37,508	0.92	O-
Ward 4	32,447	0.98	O	34,109	0.96	O	35,850	0.94	O-	38,096	0.93	O-
Ward 5	33,808	1.03	O	37,140	1.05	O	40,047	1.04	O	43,213	1.06	O+
Ward 6	42,164	1.28	OR+	43,145	1.21	OR+	44,320	1.16	OR+	46,001	1.13	O+
Ward 7	31,795	0.96	O	35,955	1.01	O	40,689	1.06	O+	42,317	1.04	O
Ward 8	30,619	0.93	O-	31,724	0.89	O-	32,201	0.84	OR-	32,763	0.80	OR-
Ward 9	33,803	1.03	O	39,786	1.12	O+	46,386	1.21	OR+	51,771	1.27	OR+
Ward 10	31,681	0.96	O	33,338	0.94	O-	35,909	0.94	O-	37,990	0.93	O-
Ward 11	30,248	0.92	O-	31,960	0.90	O-	32,604	0.85	O-	32,892	0.80	OR-
Ward 12	33,161	1.01	O	35,529	1.00	O	38,309	1.00	O	41,857	1.02	O
Ward 13	31,071	0.94	O-	35,194	0.99	O	40,356	1.05	O+	44,794	1.10	O+
Ward 14	32,763	0.99	O	35,802	1.01	O	40,124	1.05	O	43,652	1.07	O+
Total/Average	461,506	32,965		497,331	35,524		536,731	38,338		572,231	40,874	

Total Population includes 24,430 student population not captured in Census.

Note: Total Population includes the 24,430 post-secondary student population not captured in the Census.

Source: Derived by Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. from the City of London Growth Management Implementation Strategy, 2023.



Figure 9-1
City of London
Preliminary Option 1

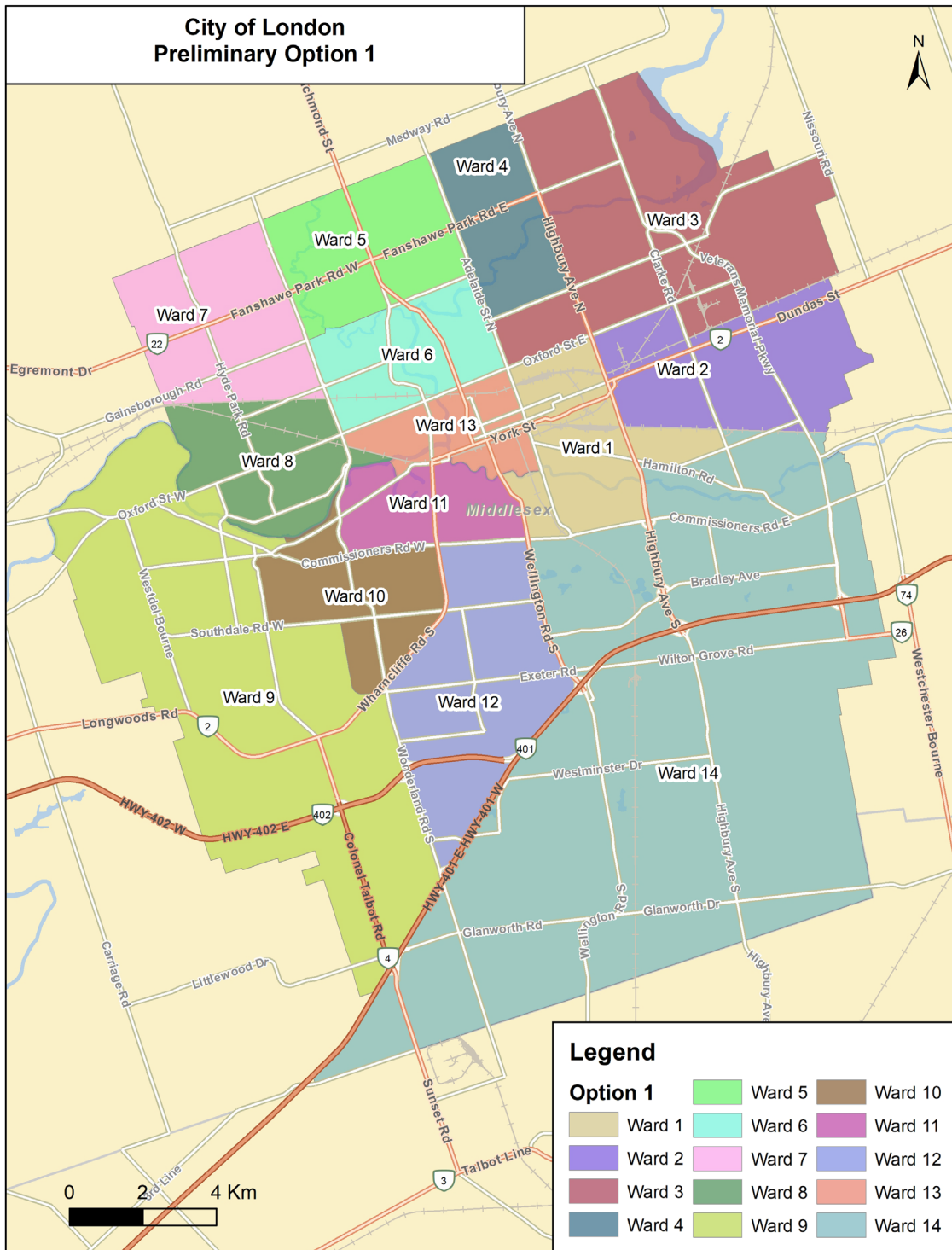




Figure 9-2
City of London
Preliminary Option 1 – Evaluation Summary

Principle	Does the Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Largely Successful	Population distribution is largely even (with some exceptions).
Population Growth	Partially Successful/ Largely Successful	Population disparities in certain wards grow over time, with three wards being outside the acceptable range of variation.
Communities of Interest	Partially Successful/ Largely Successful	Most communities of interest are comfortably contained in single wards, including much of rural London.
Natural Boundaries	Yes	Most markers used as boundaries of the wards are straightforward, with a few exceptions.
Effective Representation	Largely Successful	This option provides a somewhat familiar design that largely balances the various guiding principles.

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as “**Yes**” (fully satisfied), “**Largely Successful**,” “**Partially Successful**,” or “**No**” (not satisfied).



9.2 Preliminary Option 2

The second preliminary option privileges population parity in 2025. This option provides for relatively equal population distribution currently, with only one ward falling outside the acceptable range of variation. This parity largely holds outwards to the 2030 election cycle, with only one additional ward then falling outside the accepted variation range.

Privileging population parity, however, does create some additional challenges, especially when considering communities of interest. Certain wards split communities of interest and provide for odd configurations that do not align to natural boundaries within the City – namely Wards 4, 5, and 12. Notably, a large southern ward has been created. While this new ward encompasses most of London’s rural population, it also takes in considerable amounts of the urban population, indicating how challenging it is to comfortably fit the rural portions of the City into a single ward without significantly disrupting population parity.

Table 9-2
City of London
Preliminary Option 2 – Population by Proposed Ward

Ward	2021			2025			2030			2035		
	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	31,438	0.95	O	35,346	0.99	O	41,057	1.07	O+	47,997	1.17	OR+
Ward 2	37,058	1.12	O+	38,687	1.09	O+	40,051	1.04	O	40,869	1.00	O
Ward 3	33,901	1.03	O	35,517	1.00	O	37,111	0.97	O	38,322	0.94	O-
Ward 4	29,422	0.89	O-	31,128	0.88	O-	33,125	0.86	O-	35,780	0.88	O-
Ward 5	30,661	0.93	O-	32,889	0.93	O-	35,899	0.94	O-	39,561	0.97	O
Ward 6	32,495	0.99	O	35,107	0.99	O	37,534	0.98	O	39,209	0.96	O
Ward 7	41,009	1.24	OR+	41,908	1.18	OR+	43,084	1.12	O+	44,779	1.10	O+
Ward 8	37,375	1.13	O+	40,774	1.15	O+	44,593	1.16	OR+	48,972	1.20	OR+
Ward 9	27,706	0.84	OR-	32,169	0.91	O-	37,324	0.97	O	39,549	0.97	O
Ward 10	34,522	1.05	O	36,186	1.02	O	37,064	0.97	O	37,417	0.92	O-
Ward 11	30,093	0.91	O-	36,147	1.02	O	44,105	1.15	OR+	50,080	1.23	OR+
Ward 12	33,575	1.02	O	34,669	0.98	O	35,606	0.93	O-	36,811	0.90	O-
Ward 13	30,398	0.92	O-	32,298	0.91	O-	32,913	0.86	O-	33,441	0.82	OR-
Ward 14	31,852	0.97	O	34,505	0.97	O	37,264	0.97	O	39,444	0.97	O
Total/Average	461,506	32,965		497,331	35,524		536,731	38,338		572,231	40,874	

Note: Total Population includes the 24,430 post-secondary student population not captured in the Census.

Source: Derived by Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. from the City of London Growth Management Implementation Strategy, 2023.



Figure 9-3
City of London
Preliminary Option 2

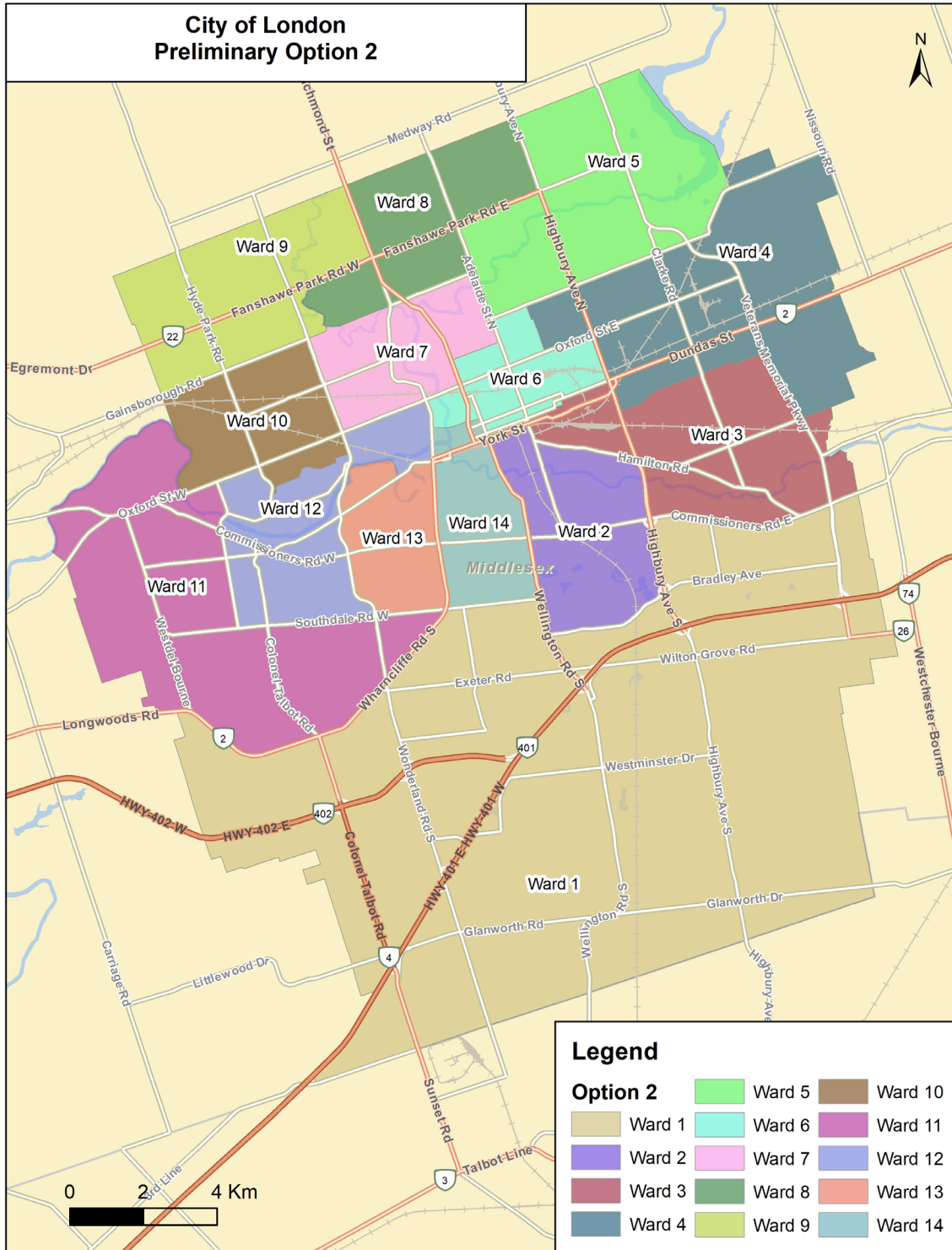




Figure 9-4
City of London
Preliminary Option 2 – Evaluation Summary

Principle	Does the Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Largely Successful	Population parity is largely achieved, with few notable exceptions.
Population Growth	Partially Successful	Population disparities in four wards grow over time; however, parity is largely achieved until the 2028 election cycle.
Communities of Interest	Partially Successful	While some communities of interest remain intact, there are some that are split between wards.
Natural Boundaries	No	Markers used as boundaries of the wards are not straightforward.
Effective Representation	Partially Successful	While this options favours representation by existing population, it has limitations meeting the other principles.

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as “**Yes**” (fully satisfied), “**Largely Successful**,” “**Partially Successful**,” or “**No**” (not satisfied).



9.3 Preliminary Option 3

Option 3 builds from Option 1 and again looks familiar in comparison to the current ward boundary map. Like Option 1, much of the adjustment is in the north to account for substantial growth pressures. This map also utilizes a larger Ward 14 to account for the City’s rural population. Population parity is largely achieved with nine wards fully in the optimal variance range and none above or below 15% variance. Improved parity is achieved moving towards the 2034 election cycle as well. While five additional wards fall out of the optional variance range, none are more or less than 15%.

This option provides better population parity than that found in Option 1, while still adhering to and balancing the remaining guiding principles.

Table 9-3
City of London
Preliminary Option 3 – Population by Proposed Ward

Ward	2021			2025			2030			2035		
	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	36,325	1.10	O+	38,092	1.07	O+	39,418	1.03	O	40,399	0.99	O
Ward 2	32,454	0.98	O	34,305	0.97	O	36,310	0.95	O-	38,976	0.95	O
Ward 3	29,167	0.88	O-	31,253	0.88	O-	34,205	0.89	O-	37,508	0.92	O-
Ward 4	32,447	0.98	O	34,109	0.96	O	35,850	0.94	O-	38,096	0.93	O-
Ward 5	33,808	1.03	O	37,140	1.05	O	40,047	1.04	O	43,213	1.06	O+
Ward 6	36,358	1.10	O+	36,959	1.04	O	37,093	0.97	O	37,369	0.91	O-
Ward 7	31,795	0.96	O	35,955	1.01	O	40,689	1.06	O+	42,317	1.04	O
Ward 8	36,425	1.10	O+	37,910	1.07	O+	39,428	1.03	O	41,395	1.01	O
Ward 9	29,425	0.89	O-	32,774	0.92	O-	35,821	0.93	O-	37,832	0.93	O-
Ward 10	31,728	0.96	O	35,533	1.00	O	41,052	1.07	O+	45,741	1.12	O+
Ward 11	32,220	0.98	O	33,978	0.96	O	34,835	0.91	O-	35,110	0.86	O-
Ward 12	35,521	1.08	O+	38,327	1.08	O+	41,501	1.08	O+	45,828	1.12	O+
Ward 13	31,071	0.94	O-	35,194	0.99	O	40,356	1.05	O+	44,794	1.10	O+
Ward 14	32,763	0.99	O	35,802	1.01	O	40,124	1.05	O	43,652	1.07	O+
Total/Average	461,506	32,965		497,331	35,524		536,731	38,338		572,231	40,874	

Note: Total Population includes the 24,430 post-secondary student population not captured in the Census.

Source: Derived by Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. from the City of London Growth Management Implementation Strategy, 2023.



Figure 9-5
City of London
Preliminary Option 3

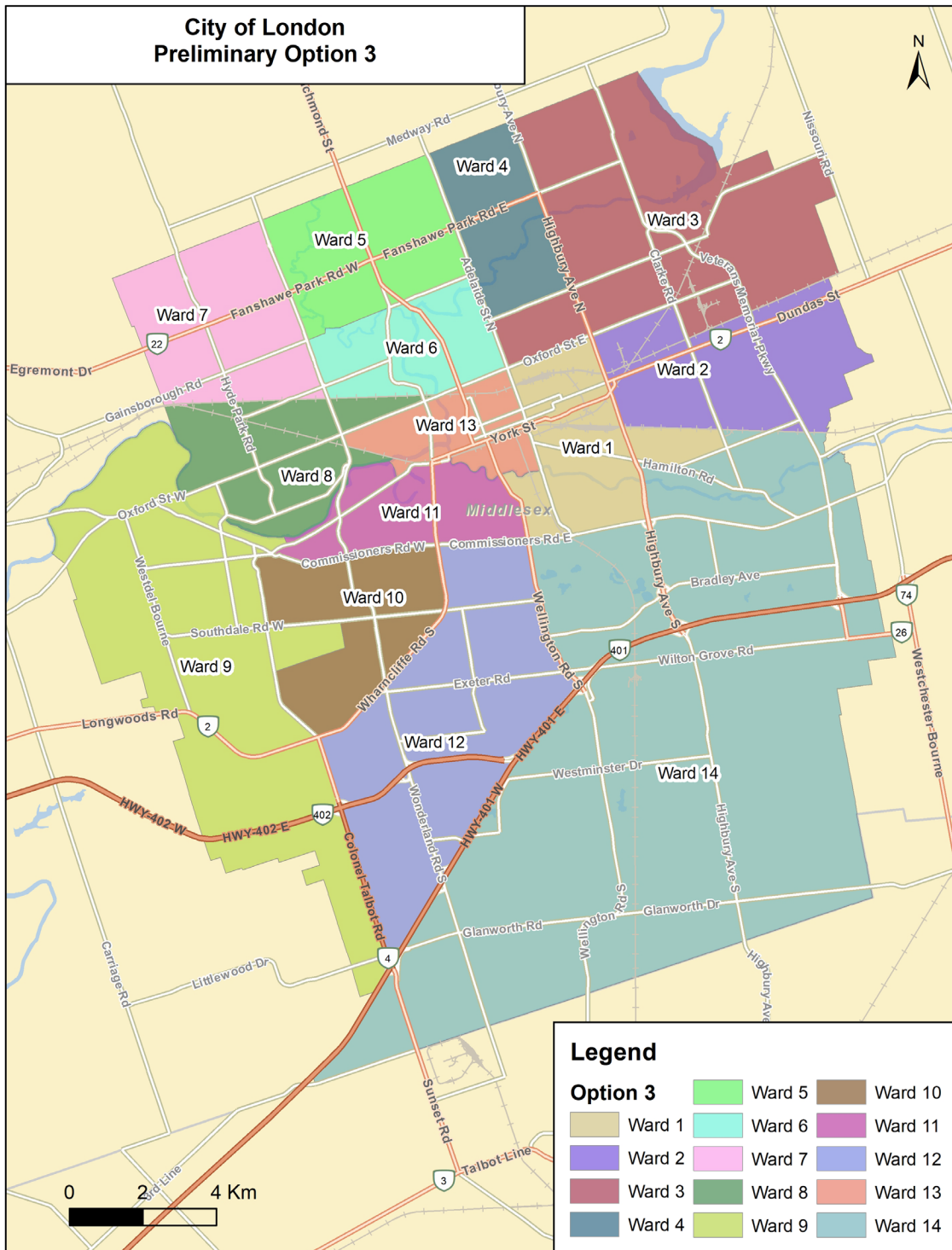




Figure 9-6
City of London
Preliminary Option 3 – Evaluation Summary

Principle	Does the Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Yes	Population parity is largely achieved.
Population Growth	Yes	Population disparities grow over time, but no wards are expected to be outside the 15% variation range by the 2034 election cycle.
Communities of Interest	Largely Successful	Most communities of interest are comfortably contained in single wards, including much of rural London.
Natural Boundaries	Largely Successful	Markers used as boundaries of the wards are straightforward. The notable exception is the eastern boundary between Wards 9 and 10.
Effective Representation	Yes	While this option favours representation by population, it fails to achieve other principles.

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as “Yes” (fully satisfied), “Largely Successful,” “Partially Successful,” or “No” (not satisfied).



9.4 Preliminary Option 4

The fourth option builds from Option 2, but where Option 2 favours existing population, Option 4 favours population parity as the City grows. While one ward (Ward 14) is outside the accepted range of variation in 2025, most wards are in the optimal range by 2030. In this model, only three wards are outside the optimal range, and none are beyond the 15% variation range in 2030. In 2035, most wards remain in the optimal population range and only ward falls outside the acceptable range (Ward 14) and only by 1%. This is an option that provides for optimal parity as London grows. As with Option 2, favouring parity does present challenges around communities of interest and natural boundaries.

Table 9-4
City of London
Preliminary Option 4 – Population by Proposed Ward

Ward	2021			2025			2030			2035		
	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	28,933	0.88	O-	33,088	0.93	O-	37,696	0.98	O	39,332	0.96	O
Ward 2	33,027	1.00	O	35,838	1.01	O	38,372	1.00	O	40,164	0.98	O
Ward 3	32,361	0.98	O	34,226	0.96	O	36,527	0.95	O	39,442	0.96	O
Ward 4	32,577	0.99	O	35,737	1.01	O	38,892	1.01	O	42,631	1.04	O
Ward 5	36,842	1.12	O+	38,422	1.08	O+	39,835	1.04	O	41,562	1.02	O
Ward 6	32,741	0.99	O	36,862	1.04	O	41,443	1.08	O+	44,856	1.10	O+
Ward 7	34,388	1.04	O	35,958	1.01	O	38,076	0.99	O	40,539	0.99	O
Ward 8	37,687	1.14	O+	39,454	1.11	O+	41,502	1.08	O+	43,860	1.07	O+
Ward 9	34,385	1.04	O	35,579	1.00	O	36,586	0.95	O	37,510	0.92	O-
Ward 10	36,939	1.12	O+	38,752	1.09	O+	39,585	1.03	O	39,829	0.97	O
Ward 11	35,112	1.07	O+	36,823	1.04	O	38,291	1.00	O	39,236	0.96	O
Ward 12	27,283	0.83	OR-	30,242	0.85	O-	34,253	0.89	O-	37,691	0.92	O-
Ward 13	36,002	1.09	O+	37,523	1.06	O+	37,891	0.99	O	38,350	0.94	O-
Ward 14	23,231	0.70	OR-	28,827	0.81	OR-	37,783	0.99	O	47,230	1.16	OR+
Total/Average	461,506	32,965		497,331	35,524		536,731	38,338		572,231	40,874	

Note: Total Population includes the 24,430 post-secondary student population not captured in the Census.

Source: Derived by Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. from the City of London Growth Management Implementation Strategy, 2023.



Figure 9-7
City of London
Preliminary Option 4

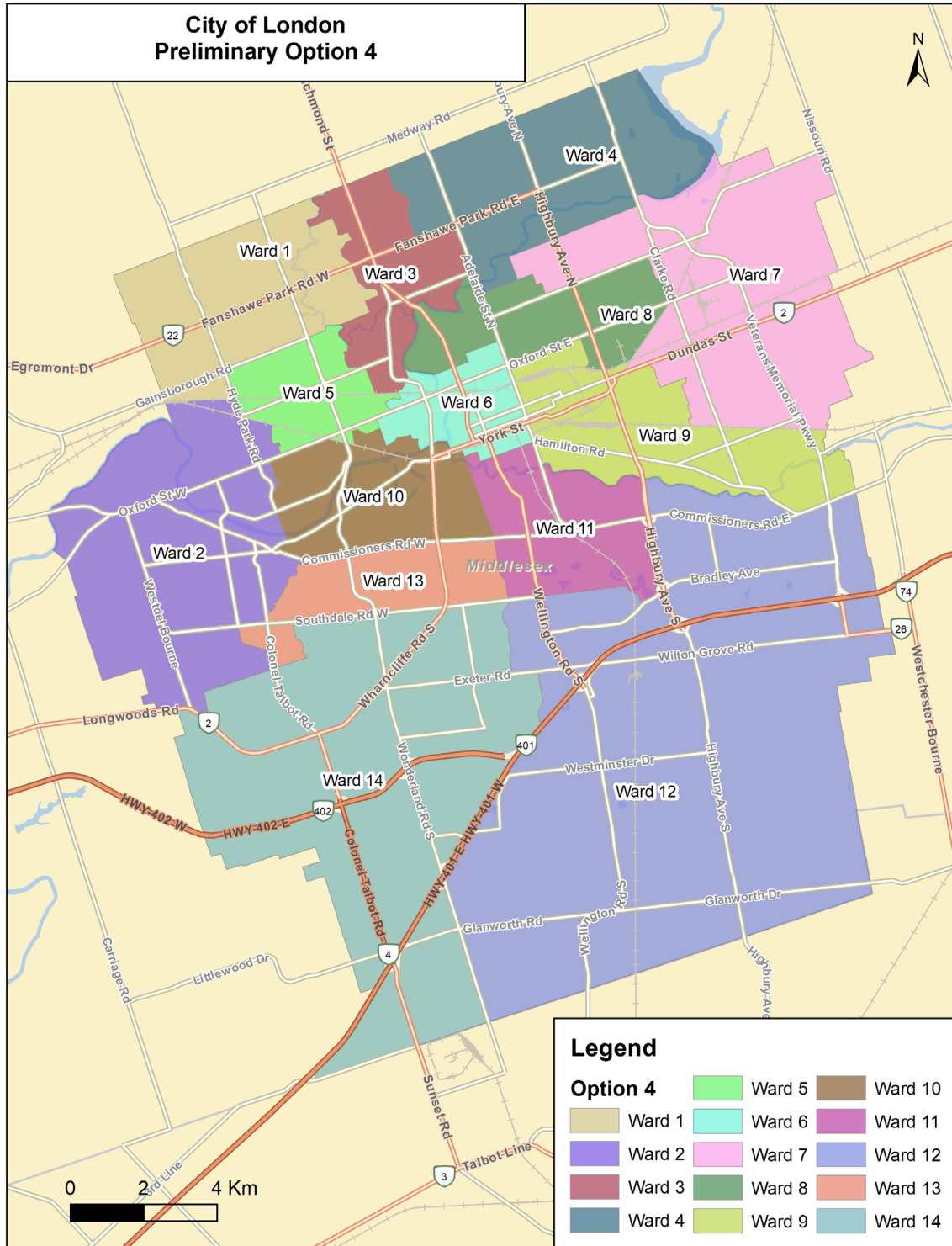




Figure 9-8
City of London
Preliminary Option 4 – Evaluation Summary

Principle	Does the Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Yes	Population parity is largely achieved, with one notable exceptions.
Population Growth	Yes	Parity is largely achieved for the 2030 election cycle.
Communities of Interest	No	Most communities of interest are not comfortably contained in single wards
Natural Boundaries	Partially Successful	Some markers used as boundaries of the wards are not straightforward.
Effective Representation	Partially Successful	While this options favours representation by population, it fails to achieve the other principles.

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as “**Yes**” (fully satisfied), “**Largely Successful**,” “**Partially Successful**,” or “**No**” (not satisfied).

9.5 Evaluation Summary

In the Discussion Papers and earlier in this report, it has been established that the current ward boundary system in London does not provide for effective representation. The Consultant Team, therefore, recommends that changes would better accommodate growth within the City and protect communities of interest.

The four options provided in this report provide a spectrum of potential alternatives. Recognizing the strengths of the existing system, the first option provides minimal changes but better accommodates for growth in the north of London, while exploring the potential of an enlarged ward covering much of the rural portions of the City. This



option also provides for decent population parity now and partially in the future. The second option privileges population parity in 2025, providing a map with substantial changes but a relatively equal distribution of population throughout the wards. This parity largely holds towards the 2030 and 2034 election cycles. Emphasizing parity in Options 2 and 4, however, does create some challenges in maintaining communities of interest. The third option builds from Option 1, providing for excellent population parity while largely maintaining communities of interests throughout the City. The final option builds from Option 2, providing for population parity in the future. Like Option 2, this does create some challenges around maintaining communities of interest.

A summary evaluation of the options is provided in Figure 9-9.

Figure 9-9
City of London
Preliminary Options – Evaluation Summary

Preliminary Option	Representation by Population	Population Growth	Communities of Interest	Natural Boundaries	Effective Representation
1	Largely Successful	Partially Successful/ Largely Successful	Partially Successful/ Largely Successful	Yes	Largely Successful
2	Largely Successful	Partially Successful	Partially Successful	No	Partially Successful
3	Yes	Yes	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Yes
4	Yes	Yes	No	Partially Successful	Partially Successful

Levels of evaluation for how the Guiding Principles are met





9.6 Further Considerations

The options presented herein are preliminary; they reflect the application of the core principles for this review to the distribution of population and communities within London.

Designing an electoral system that will deliver effective representation to such a diverse and growing community requires some accommodation: designs that put an emphasis on representation by population today can hinder fair representation for residents who will locate in growing parts of the City in the coming decade. Designs that place a priority on grouping selected urban neighbourhoods can result in the over- or under-representation of those same communities around the council table. Grouping several distinctive communities in the same ward may systematically reduce the voice of minorities, whether they be geographic, economic, or social.

The purpose of this report is to stimulate discussions in London and encourage residents to consider their preferred ward boundary configurations for the City. The options included are deliberately called “preliminary” since much of the next phase of this review involves gathering the perspectives of residents on these alternatives.



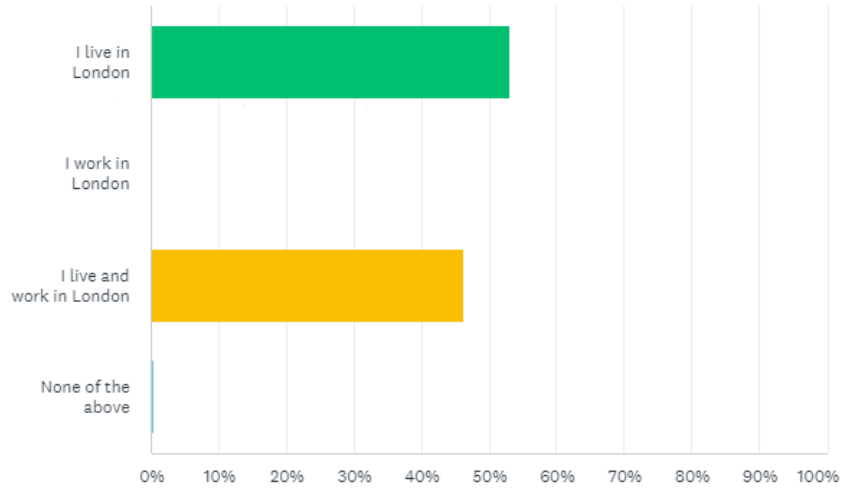
Appendix A

Survey Results



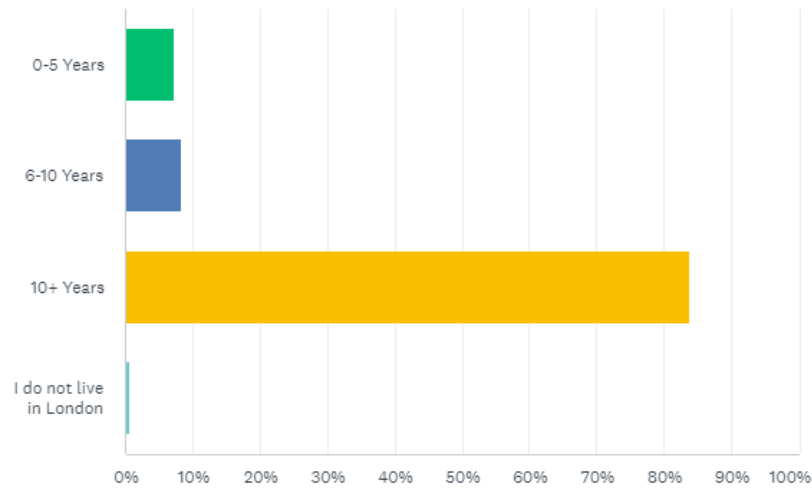
What best describes you?

Answered: 549 Skipped: 6



How long have you lived in London?

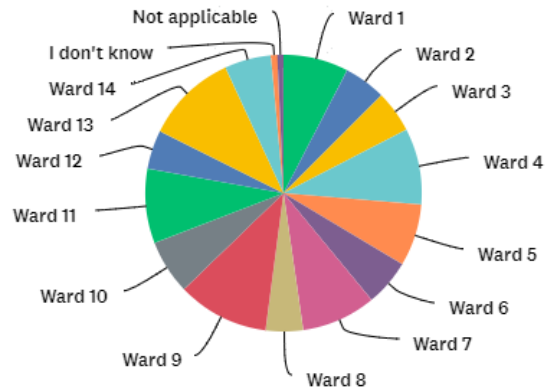
Answered: 549 Skipped: 6





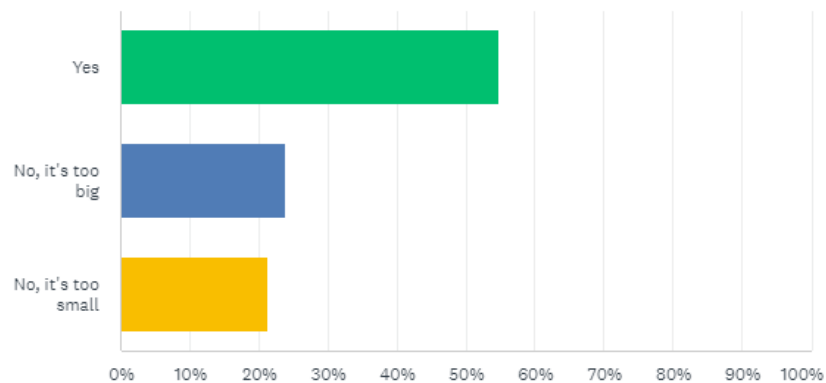
Which ward do you live in?

Answered: 551 Skipped: 4



Is the City's Council the right size?

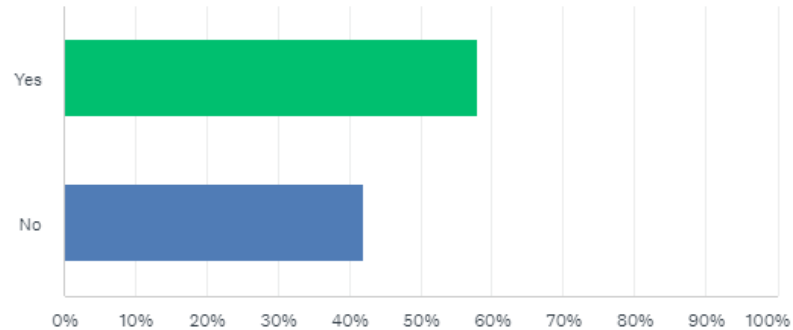
Answered: 542 Skipped: 13





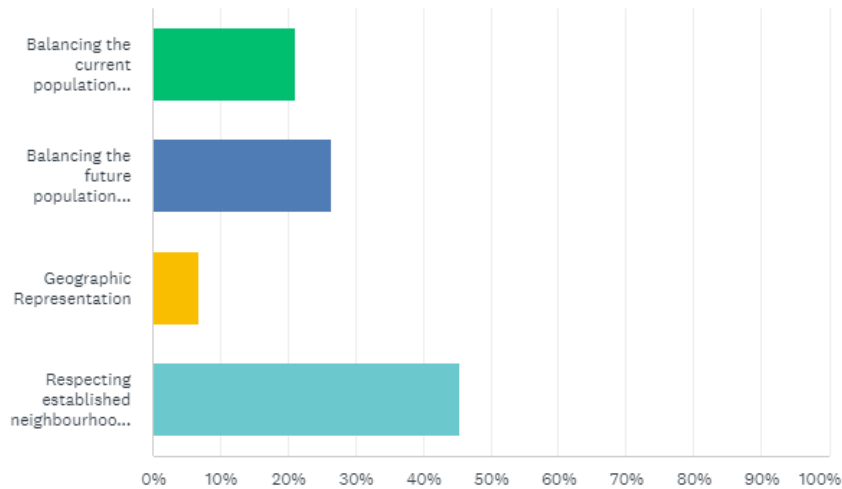
Does the current ward system represent you fairly?

Answered: 541 Skipped: 14



Please indicate the ONE guiding principle that should be given the greatest priority to ensure effective voter representation as we assess the current ward makeup in London:

Answered: 539 Skipped: 16



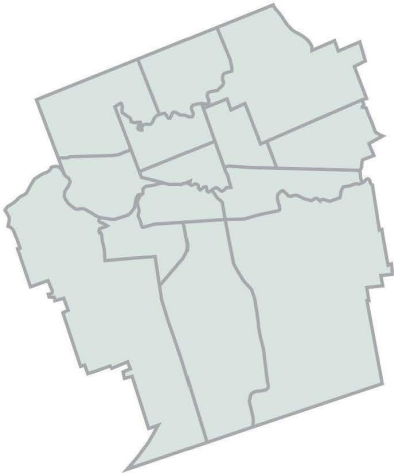


Appendix B

Public Consultation



London
CANADA



WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW

Public Engagement Session #1

June 2024



Dr. Robert Williams

Public Affairs Consultant
Municipal Electoral Systems Expert

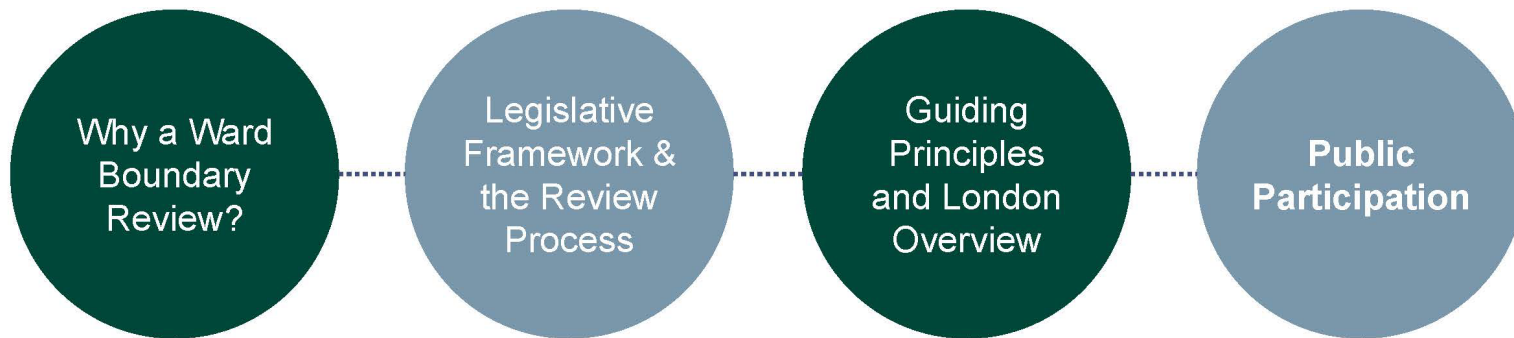
Dr. Zachary Spicer

Public Affairs Consultant
Municipal Electoral Systems Expert

Introduction



What Will Be Covered At This Open House?



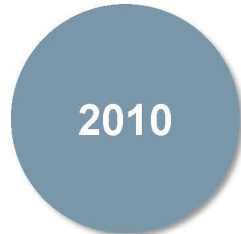
getinvolved.london.ca/ward-boundary-review

2

Context



Ontario Municipal Board imposes changes to London's ward boundaries



Elimination of the Board of Control
Minor adjustments to ward boundaries and governance model



Internal Reviews of Ward Boundaries
Reviews by Civic Administration in advance of municipal elections based on population data and guiding principles



2024 Ward Boundary Review

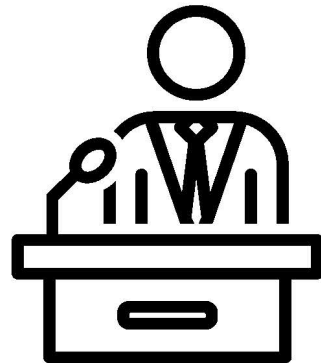
getinvolved.london.ca/ward-boundary-review

Composition of Council

15-Member Council

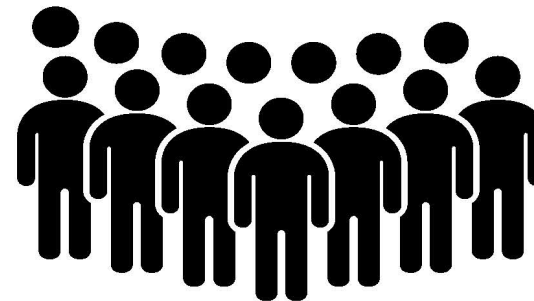


Mayor



1 Councillor for Each Ward (x14)

+



The Mayor is elected at-large.

14 Local Councillors are elected, each into a single ward.
One of the 14 are appointed to serve as Deputy Mayor.

getinvolved.london.ca/ward-boundary-review



Context

Composition of Council

- The minimum size for the council of a local municipality in Ontario is five, “one of whom shall be the head of council”
- No clear principles at play, no “standards” and no formulas to apply in determining the appropriate size of Council
- City of London council is composed of 15 members, 10 above the minimum
- The composition of local councils in Ontario varies widely.

getinvolved.london.ca/ward-boundary-review

Context

Council Size



Municipality	2021 Population	Area (sq.km)	Council Members	Avg. Population per Member
Brantford	104,688	98.65	11	9,517
Cambridge	129,920	112.99	9	14,436
Chatham-Kent	103,988	42.4	18	5,777
Guelph	143,740	87.43	13	11,056
Kitchener	256,885	136.81	11	23,353
London	422,324	420.50	15	28,154
St. Catharines	133,113	96.20	13	10,239
Waterloo	121,436	64.06	8	15,179
Windsor	229,660	146.02	11	20,878
Average	182,862	134	12	15,099

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Legislative Framework



Ontario's *Municipal Act, 2001* authorizes a local municipality to:

- define the size of the Council
- determine how Council (other than the Mayor) will be elected
- “divide or re-divide the municipality into wards or dissolve the existing wards”

No stipulated schedule, standardized process or established criteria exist for electoral reviews in Ontario

- Each municipality must set its own terms, parameters, guiding principles, etc.
- A review is typically framed by established procedures and principles applied in several Ontario municipalities (and by the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT)) and judicial rulings on representation

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System Attributes: Wards or No Wards (At-Large)



The two systems offer alternative attributes:

- **Wards:** Councillors elected in specific areas, choices and responsibility clearer for electors, should reflect population distribution and community identities across the municipality as outlined through the '*Guiding Principles*'
- **No wards:** all officials elected on the same basis
 - Must campaign across and represent all parts of London – but no designated voices for particular parts of the municipality
 - Electors get to choose from among all candidates

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Guiding Principles to Design Wards



A **ward-based** electoral system should address these core principles/guidelines:



BALANCING THE CURRENT POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AMONG THE WARDS

Ensure that residents are equitably represented, have comparable access to their elected representative, and the wards have reasonably equal population totals [$\pm 15\%$ from the optimal size].



BALANCING THE FUTURE POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AMONG THE WARDS BASED ON PROJECTIONS

Take account of anticipated population growth in the City of London, specifically over a two-election cycle (2026, 2030) and beyond.



GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION

Ward boundaries will be drawn impartially and with consideration for natural and man-made features within the City of London that may serve as effective internal boundaries.



COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

Consider residential and commercial clusters but also geographic, social, historical, economic, and/or cultural factors, including the identifiable rural and agricultural component of the City of London.



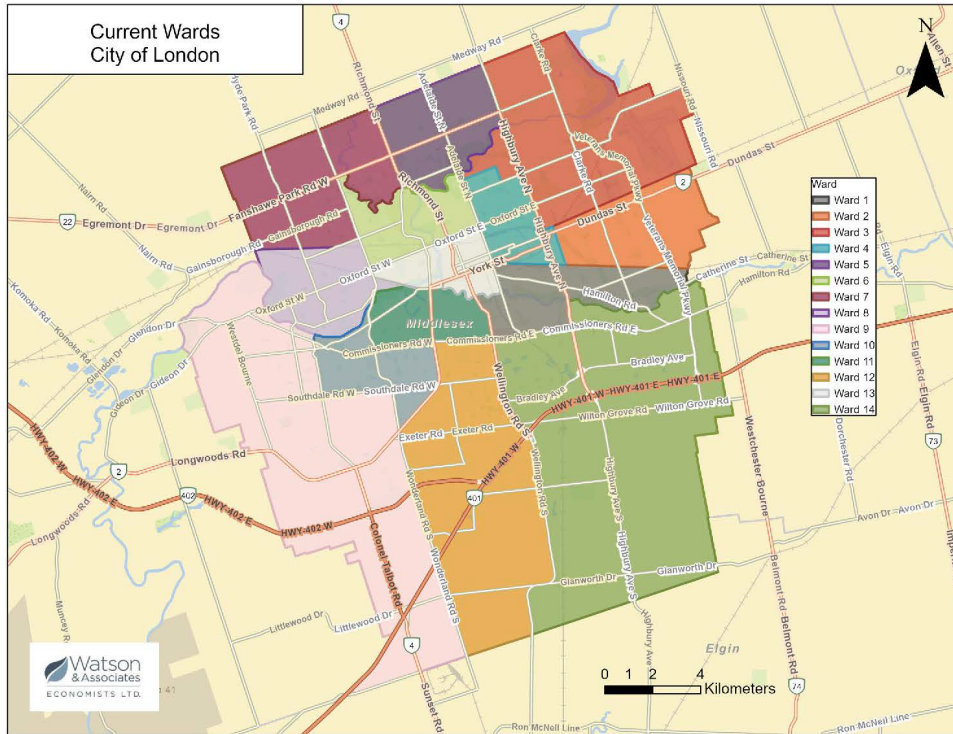
ENSURING EFFECTIVE VOTER REPRESENTATION

The four articulated principles contribute to achieving the over-arching principle of effective representation.

9

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Existing Ward System



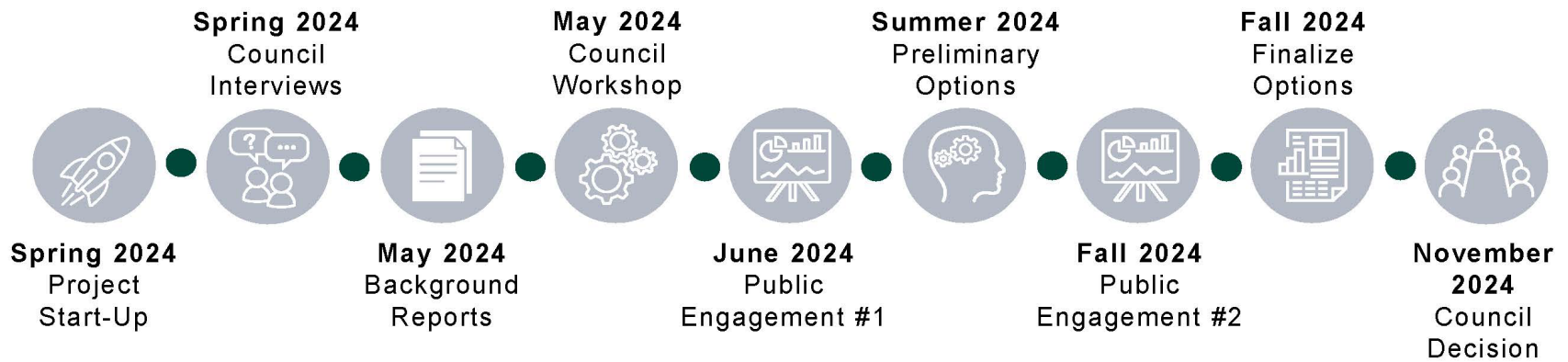
2021 Population by Ward

Ward	Area (SqKm)	2021 Population		
		Population (Including Undercount)	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	16.98	27,469	0.88	O-
Ward 2	18.01	26,465	0.85	OR-
Ward 3	44.71	29,891	0.96	O
Ward 4	10.27	32,370	1.04	O
Ward 5	17.63	35,387	1.13	O+
Ward 6	12.48	23,738	0.76	OR-
Ward 7	27.13	43,351	1.39	OR+
Ward 8	15.39	29,757	0.95	O
Ward 9	81.16	33,861	1.08	O+
Ward 10	12.62	31,682	1.01	O
Ward 11	10.40	30,248	0.97	O
Ward 12	52.92	33,472	1.07	O+
Ward 13	8.77	31,071	1.00	O
Ward 14	94.61	28,318	0.91	O-
Total/Average	30.22	437,080		31,220

O	±5% of the Optimal (Average) Population
O-	±5%-15% of the Optimal (Average) Population
OR-	>±15% of the Optimal (Average) Population

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Review Process



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Objectives of the Review



-  Develop a clear understanding of the present ward system, including its origins and operations as a system of representation;
-  Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the present ward system on the basis of identified guiding principles;
-  Conduct an appropriate consultation process to ensure community support for the review and its outcome;
-  Identify plausible modifications to the present ward structure; and
-  Deliver a report that will set out recommended alternative ward boundaries to ensure effective and equitable electoral arrangements for the City of London, based on the principles identified.

A Public Consultation Process



A municipal electoral system should be subject to a public consultation process to ensure the legitimacy of the recommendations placed before Council

Public engagement activities will be conducted aimed at both informing residents about the review and gathering informed evaluations about the existing system and (later) alternative designs. Several outlets have been designed for residents to safely participate in the review process

- ✓ Online & Print Engagement (website, social media, etc.)
- ✓ Survey
- ✓ In-Person & Virtual Open House Sessions
- ✓ Public Feedback Analysis
- ✓ Reporting

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Your Contribution to This Review: Background Materials

WBR Webpage



Ward Boundary Review

The City of London is undertaking a **ward boundary review** to prepare City Council to consider and discuss whether to maintain the existing ward boundaries or pursue an alternative arrangement.

[Take the Survey](#)

Upcoming public engagement sessions

Wednesday, June 19, 2024 - 5 to 7 p.m.

- Byron Optimist Community Centre - Full Multipurpose Room
- Sherwood Forest Library - Meeting Room B


Thursday, June 20, 2024 - 5 to 7 p.m.

- East Lions Community Centre - Full Multipurpose Room
- Earl Nickolls Recreation Centre - Earl Nickolls Hall

What is a ward boundary review?

Process where local electoral boundaries (wards) and/or electoral systems (wards versus at-large) are considered and reviewed against a set of accepted criteria (guiding principles). The purpose is to ensure that residents have equitable access to their elected representatives.

Not sure which ward you're in? Find out using our [interactive map](#).



Watch on [YouTube](#)

Who's Listening

Jzannie Raycroft
Manager, Elections, Strategic Integration & Policy
City of London

Sarah Coman
Deputy City Clerk
City of London

Timeline

- Task 1**
Project Initiation, Information Gathering and Research
Spring 2024
- Task 2**
Interviews with the Mayor, Members of Council and the Ward Boundary Review Committee
Spring 2024
- Task 3**
Background Reports
May 2024
- Task 4**
Council and Committee Workshop
May 2024
- Task 5**
Public Engagement (Round 1)
June 2024

City of London 2024-25 Ward Boundary Review Background

Discussion Paper A: London's Electoral System

Background

The City of London has retained Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. and Drs. Robert J. Williams and Zuzanyka Spoor, hereinafter referred to as the Consultant Team, to conduct a comprehensive and independent Ward Boundary Review.

The primary purpose of the study is to prepare City Council to make decisions on whether to maintain the existing ward configuration or to adopt an alternative structure. Matters that are integral to a comprehensive review include the balancing of population among the wards for the 2026 municipal election and beyond, while respecting established neighbourhoods and communities within the municipality. These considerations and others form the guiding principles that together will be used to assess the present wards and will be applied in possible alternative options to be presented to the community and Council.

This Ward Boundary Review is premised on the legitimate democratic expectation that municipal representation in London on election day and throughout the term of Council will be effective, equitable, and an accurate reflection of the contemporary distribution of communities and people across the municipality.

Setting

London was incorporated as a Town in 1840 and formally separated from the County of Middlesex in 1855. The Town grew slowly in its early history, eventually undergoing 15 boundary expansions – the first being the annexation of the Town of London East in 1000. Throughout the early 1900s, London would eventually annex the adjoining communities of Canning, Putneybank, Kewwood, Park, and Chelsea Green, leading to its eventual achievement of City status. Such expansion continued with three annexations in the 1950s and 1960s. Through the 1993 London/Middlesex Act, the Town of Westminster was dissolved, with most of its territory being accreted by the City of London. Many of these formerly independent municipalities now identify as neighbourhoods or communities within the City of London.

As the City of London grew, changes to the electoral system were necessitated to account for and to adjust to new populations. London currently uses a 14 ward system, with the mayor elected at-large. The deputy mayor is selected by the mayor from

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Your Contribution to This Review

- Read the materials on the City of London's website to better understand the issues under consideration
- Be willing to ask questions at the Open Houses and through the City's website
- Complete the survey on the website:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/London_PIC1

getinvolved.london.ca/ward-boundary-review



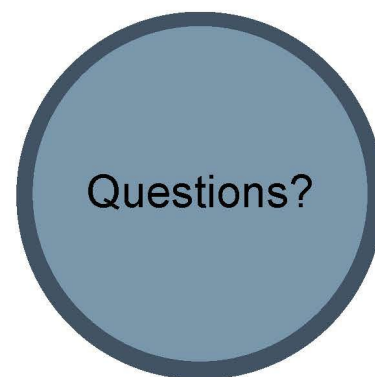
Project Next Steps



Based on feedback from this public consultation, next steps will include:

- Preparing **alternative ward designs that** will be brought to a public consultation in **Fall of 2024**;
- Making **recommendations for a ward structure** that will accommodate growth and population for the next **two Municipal elections (2026 & 2030) and beyond**, if feasible (If existing ward configuration is determined to not meet the guiding principles);
- A **by-law to enact the new boundaries** would be brought to a later Council meeting for adoption (If Council approves a recommendation for a change to the present ward boundaries).

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London
CANADA



WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW

City of London Ward Boundary Review Council Workshop

October 8, 2024

Context



Composition of Council

- The minimum size for the council of a local municipality in Ontario is five,
“one of whom shall be the head of council”
- No clear principles at play, no “standards” and no formulas to apply in determining the appropriate size of Council
- City of London council is composed of 15 members, 10 above the minimum
- The composition of local councils in Ontario varies widely.

Context

Council Size



Municipality	2021 Population	Area (sq.km)	Council Members	Avg. Population per Member
Brantford	104,688	98.65	11	9,517
Cambridge	129,920	112.99	9	14,436
Chatham-Kent	103,988	42.4	18	5,777
Guelph	143,740	87.43	13	11,056
Kitchener	256,885	136.81	11	23,353
London	422,324	420.50	15	28,154
St. Catharines	133,113	96.20	13	10,239
Waterloo	121,436	64.06	8	15,179
Windsor	229,660	146.02	11	20,878
Average	182,862	134	12	15,099

Guiding Principles to Design Wards



A **ward-based** electoral system should address these core principles/guidelines:

BALANCING THE CURRENT POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AMONG THE WARDS



Ensure that residents are equitably represented, have comparable access to their elected representative, and the wards have reasonably equal population totals [$\pm 15\%$ from the optimal size].

BALANCING THE FUTURE POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AMONG THE WARDS BASED ON PROJECTIONS



Take account of anticipated population growth in the City of London, specifically over a two-election cycle (2026, 2030) and beyond.

GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION



Ward boundaries will be drawn impartially and with consideration for natural and man-made features within the City of London that may serve as effective internal boundaries.

COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST



Consider residential and commercial clusters but also geographic, social, historical, economic, and/or cultural factors, including the identifiable rural and agricultural component of the City of London.

ENSURING EFFECTIVE VOTER REPRESENTATION



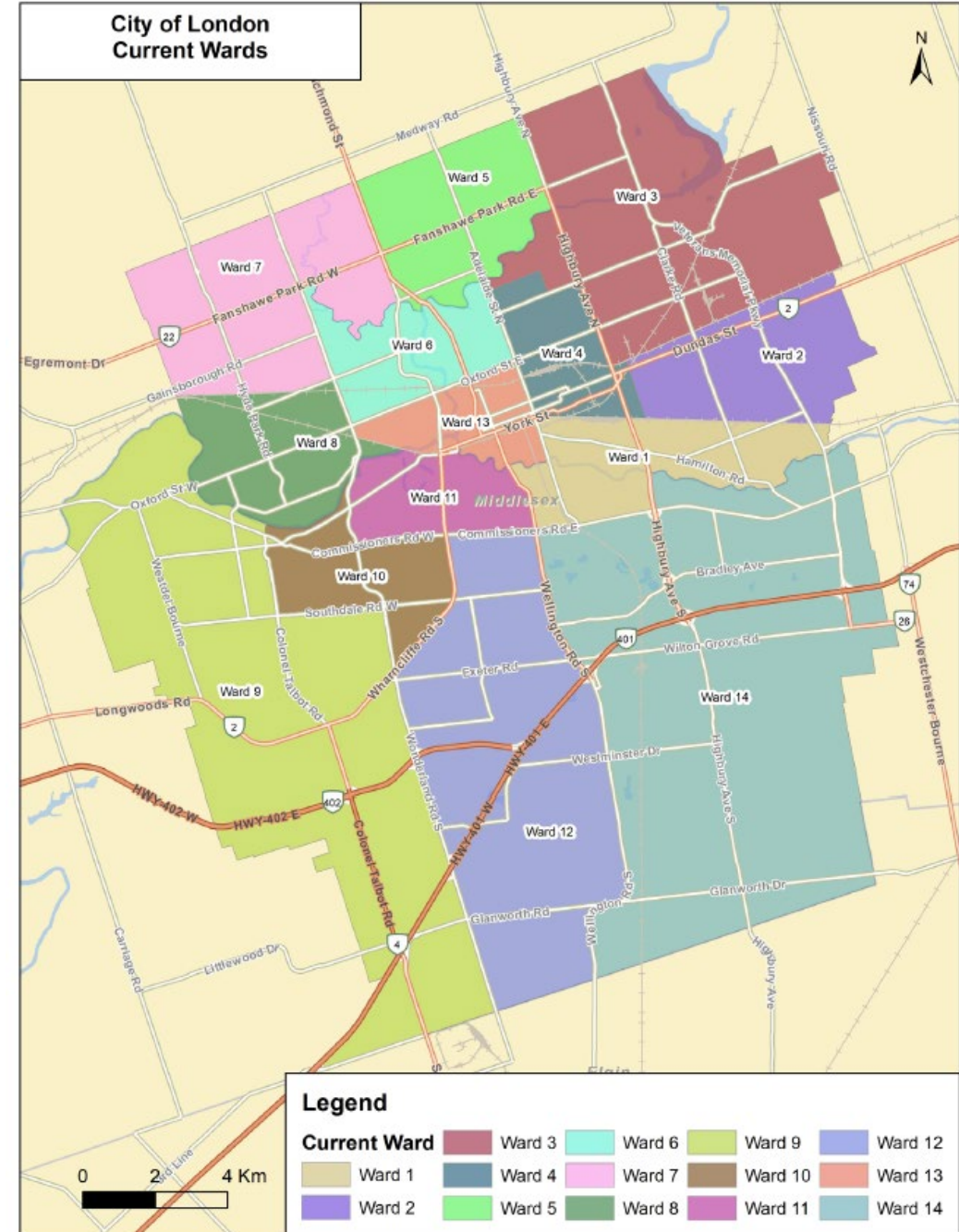
The four articulated principles contribute to achieving the over-arching principle of effective representation.

Existing Ward System – Evaluation

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Largely Successful	Four wards are outside the acceptable range of variation but the other 10 meet this principle.
Population Growth	No	The City's population is forecast to continue to grow significantly over the next decade, further contributing to uneven population distributions and unequitable representation.
Community of Interest	Largely Successful	Most but not all the wards are coherent electoral units.
Natural Boundaries	Largely Successful	Most markers used as boundaries of the wards are straightforward, with a few exceptions.
Effective Representation	Partially Successful	Effective representation is hindered by uneven population distribution in 2024 that is expected to worsen over time.

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as:

- “Yes” (fully satisfied);
- “Largely Successful”;
- “Partially Successful”;
- OR
- “No” (not satisfied)



Ward	2021			2025			2030			2035		
	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	27,469	0.83	OR-	28,798	0.81	OR-	29,285	0.76	OR-	29,605	0.72	OR-
Ward 2	26,562	0.81	OR-	27,299	0.77	OR-	27,290	0.71	OR-	27,390	0.67	OR-
Ward 3	31,296	0.95	O-	34,362	0.97	O	39,310	1.03	O	45,477	1.11	O+
Ward 4	32,575	0.99	O	33,649	0.95	O-	34,531	0.90	O-	35,177	0.86	O-
Ward 5	37,302	1.13	O+	40,749	1.15	O+	44,629	1.16	OR+	49,057	1.20	OR+
Ward 6	43,277	1.31	OR+	44,241	1.25	OR+	45,420	1.18	OR+	47,097	1.15	OR+
Ward 7	44,623	1.35	OR+	49,914	1.41	OR+	55,466	1.45	OR+	57,788	1.41	OR+
Ward 8	29,757	0.90	O-	30,887	0.87	O-	31,361	0.82	OR-	31,911	0.78	OR-
Ward 9	33,861	1.03	O	40,243	1.13	O+	48,347	1.26	OR+	55,084	1.35	OR+
Ward 10	31,682	0.96	O	32,940	0.93	O-	34,008	0.89	O-	34,735	0.85	OR-
Ward 11	30,248	0.92	O-	31,960	0.90	O-	32,604	0.85	O-	32,892	0.80	OR-
Ward 12	33,472	1.02	O	35,846	1.01	O	38,626	1.01	O	42,171	1.03	O
Ward 13	31,071	0.94	O-	35,194	0.99	O	40,357	1.05	O+	44,794	1.10	O+
Ward 14	28,318	0.86	O-	31,251	0.88	O-	35,528	0.93	O-	39,053	0.96	O
Total/Average	461,511	32.965			35,524			38,339			40,874	

Note: Total population includes undercount of approximately 3% and includes 24,430 student population not captured in Census.

O	±5% of the Optimal (Average) Population
O-	±5%-15% of the Optimal (Average) Population
OR-	>±15% of the Optimal (Average) Population

Preliminary Options

Preliminary Option 1

Principle	Does the Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Largely Successful	Population distribution is largely even (with some exceptions).
Population Growth	Partially Successful/ Largely Successful	Population disparities in certain wards grow over time, with three wards being outside the acceptable range of variation.
Communities of Interest	Partially Successful/ Largely Successful	Most communities of interest are comfortably contained in single wards, including much of rural London.
Natural Boundaries	Yes	Most markers used as boundaries of the wards are straightforward, with a few exceptions.
Effective Representation	Largely Successful	This option provides a somewhat familiar design that largely balances the various guiding principles.

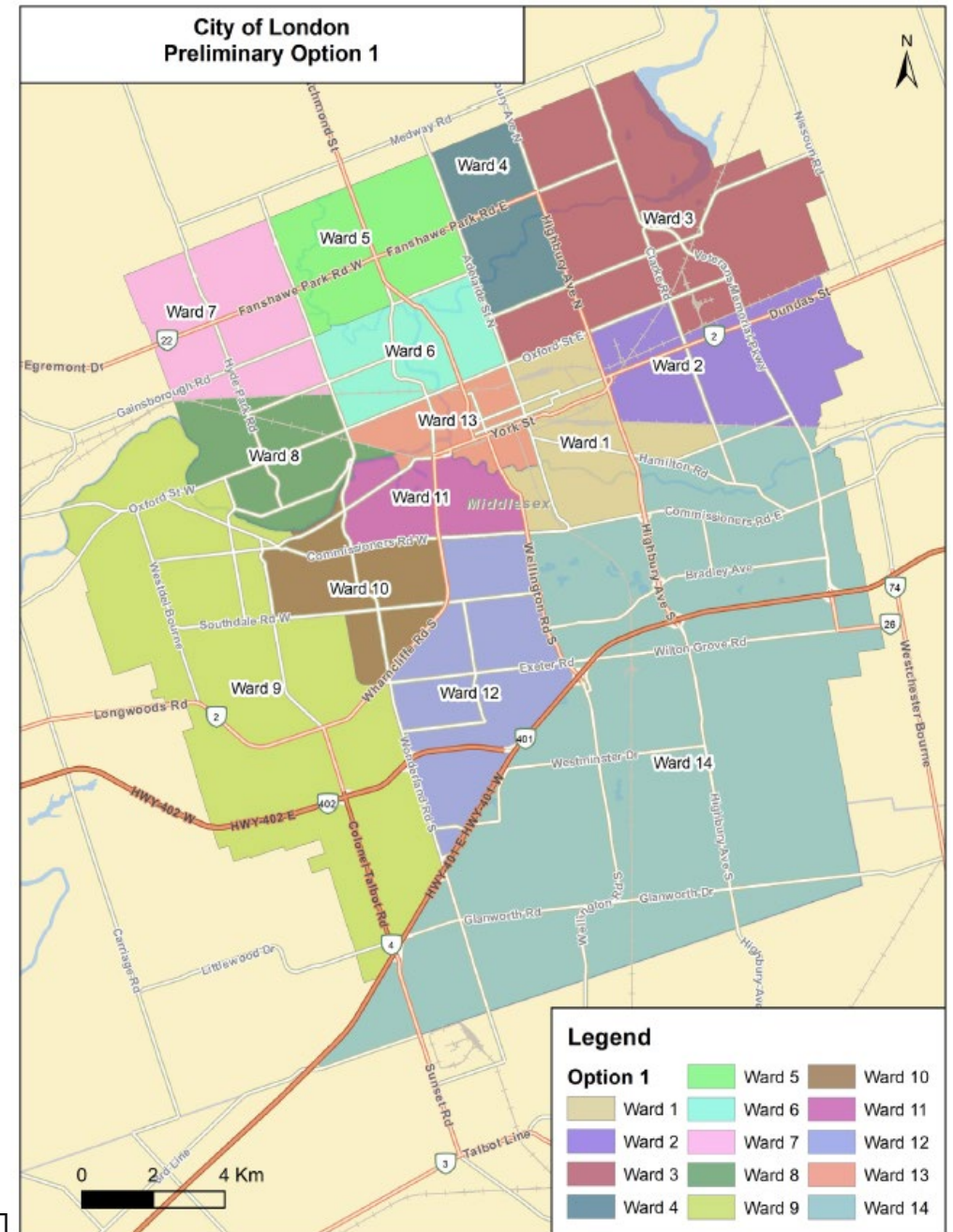
The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as:

- “Yes” (fully satisfied);
- “Largely Successful”;
- “Partially Successful”;
- or
- “No” (not satisfied)

Ward	2021			2025			2030			2035		
	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	36,325	1.10	O+	38,092	1.07	O+	39,418	1.03	O	40,399	0.99	O
Ward 2	32,454	0.98	O	34,305	0.97	O	36,310	0.95	O-	38,976	0.95	O
Ward 3	29,167	0.88	O-	31,253	0.88	O-	34,205	0.89	O-	37,508	0.92	O-
Ward 4	32,447	0.98	O	34,109	0.96	O	35,850	0.94	O-	38,096	0.93	O-
Ward 5	33,808	1.03	O	37,140	1.05	O	40,047	1.04	O	43,213	1.06	O+
Ward 6	42,164	1.28	OR+	43,145	1.21	OR+	44,320	1.16	OR+	46,001	1.13	O+
Ward 7	31,795	0.96	O	35,955	1.01	O	40,689	1.06	O+	42,317	1.04	O
Ward 8	30,619	0.93	O-	31,724	0.89	O-	32,201	0.84	OR-	32,763	0.80	OR-
Ward 9	33,803	1.03	O	39,786	1.12	O+	46,386	1.21	OR+	51,771	1.27	OR+
Ward 10	31,681	0.96	O	33,338	0.94	O-	35,909	0.94	O-	37,990	0.93	O-
Ward 11	30,248	0.92	O-	31,960	0.90	O-	32,604	0.85	O-	32,892	0.80	OR-
Ward 12	33,161	1.01	O	35,529	1.00	O	38,309	1.00	O	41,857	1.02	O
Ward 13	31,071	0.94	O-	35,194	0.99	O	40,356	1.05	O+	44,794	1.10	O+
Ward 14	32,763	0.99	O	35,802	1.01	O	40,124	1.05	O	43,652	1.07	O+
Total/Average	461,506	32,965		497,331	35,524		536,731	38,338		572,231	40,874	

Note: Total population includes undercount of approximately 3% and includes 24,430 student population not captured in Census.

O	±5% of the Optimal (Average) Population
O-	±5%-15% of the Optimal (Average) Population
OR-	>±15% of the Optimal (Average) Population



Preliminary Option 2

Principle	Does the Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Largely Successful	Population parity is largely achieved, with few notable exceptions.
Population Growth	Partially Successful	Population disparities in four wards grow over time; however, parity is largely achieved until the 2028 election cycle.
Communities of Interest	Partially Successful	While some communities of interest remain intact, there are some that are split between wards.
Natural Boundaries	No	Markers used as boundaries of the wards are not straightforward.
Effective Representation	Partially Successful	While this options favours representation by existing population, it has limitations meeting the other principles.

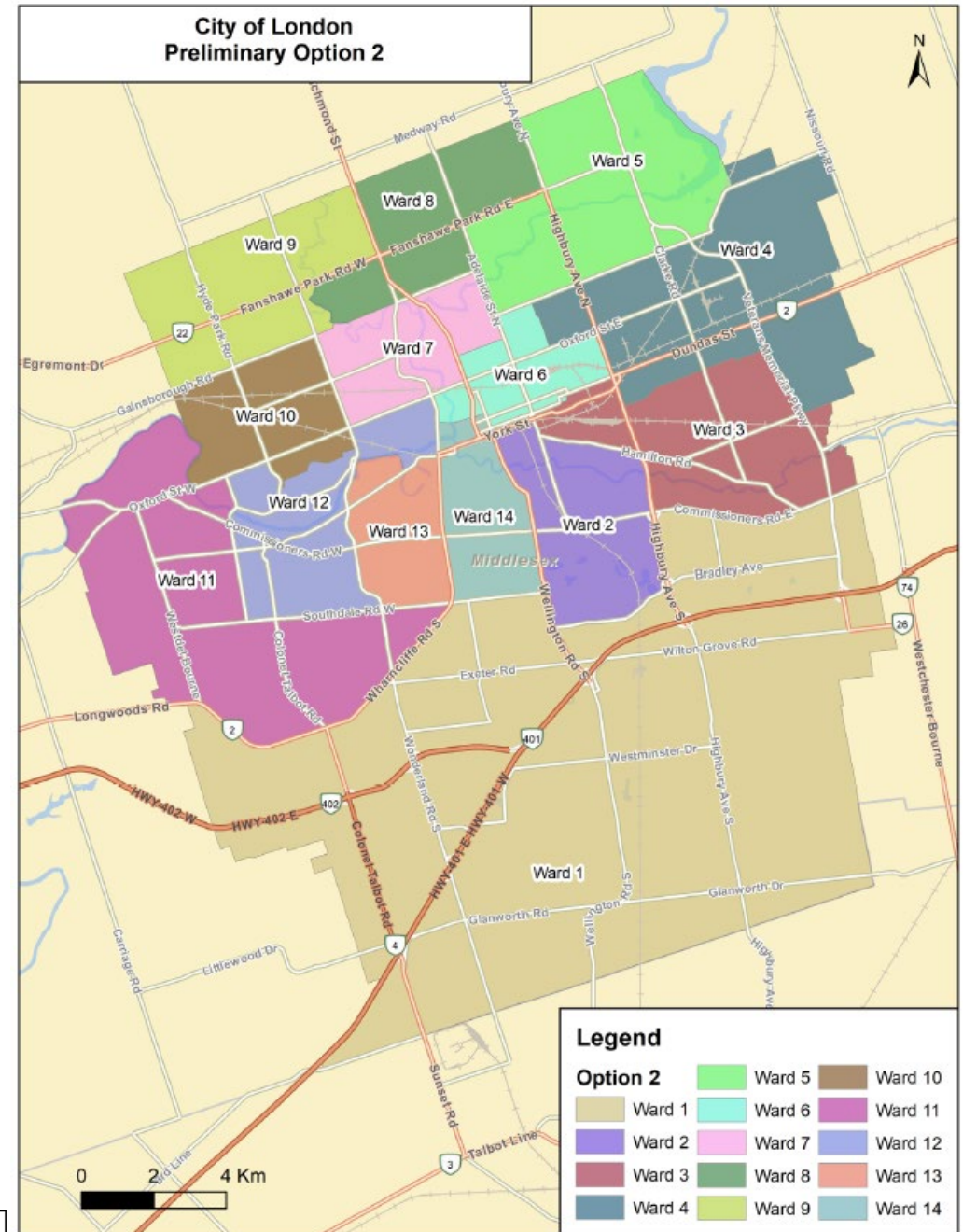
The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as:

- “Yes” (fully satisfied);
- “Largely Successful”;
- “Partially Successful”;
- or
- “No” (not satisfied)

Ward	2021			2025			2030			2035		
	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	31,438	0.95	O	35,346	0.99	O	41,057	1.07	O+	47,997	1.17	OR+
Ward 2	37,058	1.12	O+	38,687	1.09	O+	40,051	1.04	O	40,868	1.00	O
Ward 3	33,901	1.03	O	35,517	1.00	O	37,111	0.97	O	38,322	0.94	O-
Ward 4	29,422	0.89	O-	31,128	0.88	O-	33,125	0.86	O-	35,780	0.88	O-
Ward 5	30,661	0.93	O-	32,889	0.93	O-	35,899	0.94	O-	39,561	0.97	O
Ward 6	32,495	0.99	O	35,107	0.99	O	37,534	0.98	O	39,209	0.96	O
Ward 7	41,009	1.24	OR+	41,908	1.18	OR+	43,084	1.12	O+	44,779	1.10	O+
Ward 8	37,375	1.13	O+	40,774	1.15	O+	44,593	1.18	OR+	48,972	1.20	OR+
Ward 9	27,706	0.84	OR-	32,169	0.91	O-	37,324	0.97	O	39,549	0.97	O
Ward 10	34,522	1.05	O	36,186	1.02	O	37,064	0.97	O	37,417	0.92	O-
Ward 11	30,093	0.91	O-	36,147	1.02	O	44,105	1.15	OR+	50,080	1.23	OR+
Ward 12	33,575	1.02	O	34,669	0.98	O	35,606	0.93	O-	36,811	0.90	O-
Ward 13	30,398	0.92	O-	32,298	0.91	O-	32,913	0.86	O-	33,441	0.82	OR-
Ward 14	31,852	0.97	O	34,505	0.97	O	37,264	0.97	O	39,444	0.97	O
Total/Average	461,506	32,965		497,331	35,524		536,731	38,338		572,231	40,874	

Note: Total population includes undercount of approximately 3% and includes 24,430 student population not captured in Census.

O	±5% of the Optimal (Average) Population
O-	±5%-15% of the Optimal (Average) Population
OR-	>±15% of the Optimal (Average) Population



Preliminary Option 3

Principle	Does the Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Yes	Population parity is largely achieved.
Population Growth	Yes	Population disparities grow over time, but no wards are expected to be outside the 15% variation range by the 2034 election cycle.
Communities of Interest	Largely Successful	Most communities of interest are comfortably contained in single wards, including much of rural London.
Natural Boundaries	Largely Successful	Markers used as boundaries of the wards are straightforward. The notable exception is the eastern boundary between Wards 9 and 10.
Effective Representation	Yes	While this option favours representation by population, it fails to achieve other principles.

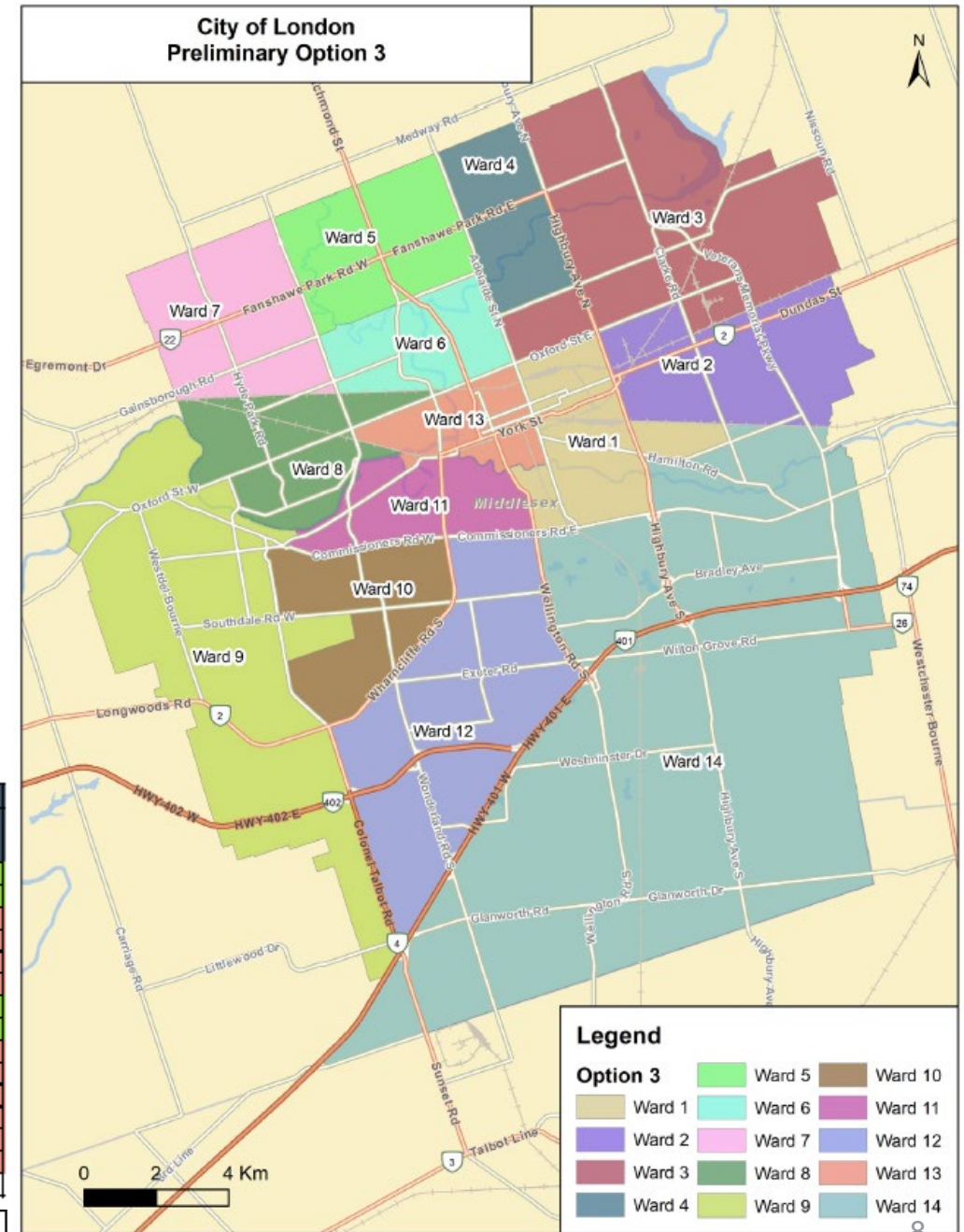
The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as:

- “Yes” (fully satisfied);
- “Largely Successful”;
- “Partially Successful”;
- or
- “No” (not satisfied)

Ward	2021			2025			2030			2035		
	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	36,326	1.10	O+	38,092	1.07	O+	39,418	1.03	O	40,399	0.99	O
Ward 2	32,454	0.98	O	34,305	0.97	O	36,310	0.95	O-	38,978	0.95	O
Ward 3	29,167	0.88	O-	31,253	0.88	O-	34,205	0.89	O-	37,508	0.92	O-
Ward 4	32,447	0.98	O	34,109	0.98	O	35,850	0.94	O-	38,098	0.93	O-
Ward 5	33,808	1.03	O	37,140	1.05	O	40,047	1.04	O	43,213	1.08	O+
Ward 6	36,358	1.10	O+	38,959	1.04	O	37,093	0.97	O	37,369	0.91	O-
Ward 7	31,795	0.98	O	35,955	1.01	O	40,689	1.08	O+	42,317	1.04	O
Ward 8	36,425	1.10	O+	37,910	1.07	O+	39,428	1.03	O	41,395	1.01	O
Ward 9	29,425	0.89	O-	32,774	0.92	O-	35,821	0.93	O-	37,832	0.93	O-
Ward 10	31,728	0.98	O	35,533	1.00	O	41,052	1.07	O+	45,741	1.12	O+
Ward 11	32,220	0.98	O	33,978	0.98	O	34,835	0.91	O-	35,110	0.88	O-
Ward 12	35,521	1.08	O+	38,327	1.08	O+	41,501	1.08	O+	45,828	1.12	O+
Ward 13	31,071	0.94	O-	35,194	0.99	O	40,356	1.05	O+	44,794	1.10	O+
Ward 14	32,783	0.99	O	35,802	1.01	O	40,124	1.05	O	43,852	1.07	O+
Total/Average	461,506	32,965		497,331	35,524		536,731	38,338		572,231	40,874	

Note: Total population includes undercount of approximately 3% and includes 24,430 student population not captured in Census.

O	±5% of the Optimal (Average) Population
O-	±5%-15% of the Optimal (Average) Population
OR-	>±15% of the Optimal (Average) Population



Preliminary Option 4

Principle	Does the Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Yes	Population parity is largely achieved, with one notable exceptions.
Population Growth	Yes	Parity is largely achieved for the 2030 election cycle.
Communities of Interest	No	Most communities of interest are not comfortably contained in single wards
Natural Boundaries	Partially Successful	Some markers used as boundaries of the wards are not straightforward.
Effective Representation	Partially Successful	While this options favours representation by population, it fails to achieve the other principles.

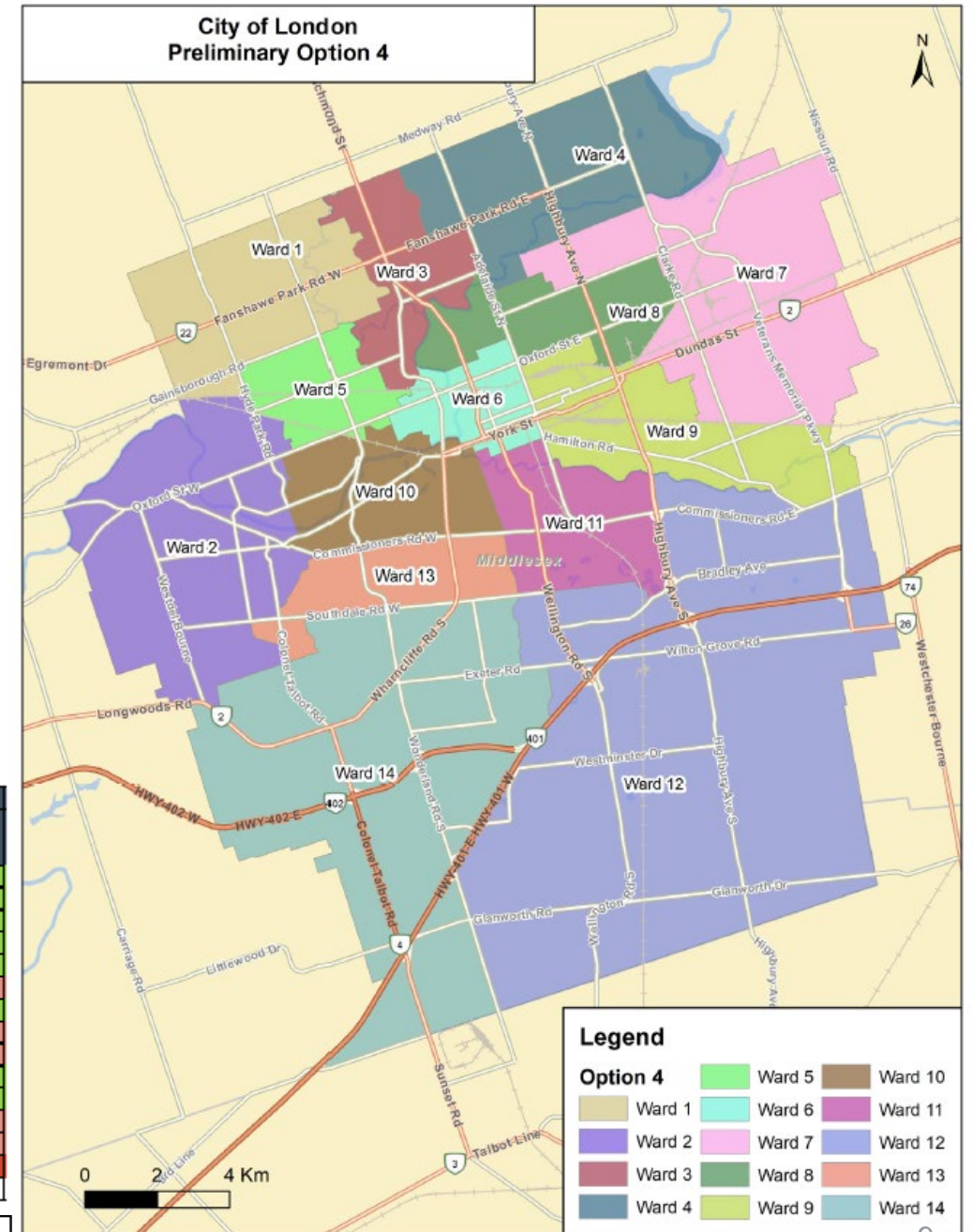
The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as:

- “Yes” (fully satisfied);
- “Largely Successful”;
- “Partially Successful”;
- OR
- “No” (not satisfied)

Ward	2021			2025			2030			2035		
	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	28,933	0.88	O-	33,088	0.93	O-	37,098	0.98	O	39,332	0.96	O
Ward 2	33,027	1.00	O	35,838	1.01	O	38,372	1.00	O	40,164	0.98	O
Ward 3	32,361	0.98	O	34,226	0.96	O	36,527	0.95	O	39,442	0.96	O
Ward 4	32,577	0.99	O	35,737	1.01	O	38,892	1.01	O	42,631	1.04	O
Ward 5	36,842	1.12	O+	38,422	1.08	O+	39,835	1.04	O	41,562	1.02	O
Ward 6	32,741	0.99	O	36,862	1.04	O	41,443	1.08	O+	44,856	1.10	O+
Ward 7	34,388	1.04	O	35,958	1.01	O	38,076	0.99	O	40,539	0.99	O
Ward 8	37,687	1.14	O+	39,454	1.11	O+	41,502	1.08	O+	43,860	1.07	O+
Ward 9	34,385	1.04	O	35,579	1.00	O	36,588	0.95	O	37,510	0.92	O-
Ward 10	36,939	1.12	O+	38,752	1.09	O+	39,585	1.03	O	39,829	0.97	O
Ward 11	35,112	1.07	O+	36,823	1.04	O	38,291	1.00	O	39,236	0.96	O
Ward 12	27,283	0.83	OR-	30,242	0.85	O-	34,253	0.89	O-	37,691	0.92	O-
Ward 13	36,002	1.09	O+	37,523	1.06	O+	37,891	0.99	O	38,350	0.94	O-
Ward 14	23,231	0.70	OR-	28,827	0.81	OR-	37,783	0.99	O	47,230	1.16	OR+
Total/Average	461,506	32,965		497,331	35,524		536,731	38,338		572,231	40,874	

Note: Total population includes undercount of approximately 3% and includes 24,430 student population not captured in Census.

O	±5% of the Optimal (Average) Population
O-	±5%-15% of the Optimal (Average) Population
OR-	>±15% of the Optimal (Average) Population



Evaluation Summary



Preliminary Option	Representation by Population	Population Growth	Communities of Interest	Natural Boundaries	Effective Representation
1	Largely Successful	Partially Successful/ Largely Successful	Partially Successful/ Largely Successful	Yes	Largely Successful
2	Largely Successful	Partially Successful	Partially Successful	No	Partially Successful
3	Yes	Yes	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Yes
4	Yes	Yes	No	Partially Successful	Partially Successful

Levels of evaluation for how the Guiding Principles are met

Yes	Largely Successful	Partially Successful	No
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Higher Rating

Lower Rating

Public Engagement



**Virtual Public
Engagement
Session**
October 16,
2024
5pm - 7pm





LONDON POLICE SERVICE BOARD

“Deeds Not Words”

To: Chair and Members of the London Police Service Board
Date: September 19, 2024
Subject: Metrics
Report: 24-85

Board Action:

- Update / Information Purposes Only
- Seeking Input
- Seeking Decision
- Evaluation

I am pleased to present an update on the progress of the London Police Service (LPS) in 2024, with a focus on key performance metrics and outcomes that highlight our commitment to community safety, community trust, and the effective use of resources invested by City Council. This report provides evidence of the positive impact of our efforts, demonstrating how the LPS is trending in the right direction and delivering results that enhance the safety and well-being of our community.

Since taking office in June 2023, my priority has been to ensure that the community witnesses measurable progress in all aspects of policing. Below, I have outlined key areas of improvement, supported by metrics and trends, showcasing the positive momentum we are building as a result of the hard work and dedication of every member of the London Police Service.

1. Community Trust: Increased Police Visibility and Engagement

Goal: Strengthen trust through increased police visibility in high-harm areas and enhanced community engagement.

Police Visibility in High-Harm Areas

We have focused efforts on ensuring a strong police presence in high-risk areas, where it matters most. As of July 2024, officers have spent a total of 2,599 hours in high-harm, community-based, and property crime hotspots. This strategic deployment not only deters crime but also builds confidence among residents.

Hotspot Category	March	April	May	June	July	2024 YTD (Hours)
Community Based	0	0	30	234	217	481
High-Harm	11	20	20	149	398	598
Property Crime	280	314	339	232	355	1520
Total	291	334	589	615	970	2599

Conclusion: The investment in proactive policing is effective, with crime rates in high-risk areas showing signs of stabilization. We will continue to optimize our officer deployment based on data to maintain and improve these results.

Community Engagement Events

LPS has made significant strides in connecting with the community. As of July 2024, we have participated in over 100 community events, engaging with over 13,031 residents. This data-driven approach to community interaction ensures that we are reaching a broad spectrum of London’s diverse population.

Conclusion: Community engagement is at the heart of our policing efforts, and the data shows that our efforts are building trust and ensuring that LPS remains accessible and responsive to the needs of all citizens.

2. Organizational Wellness: Decrease in Service Complaints

Goal: Reduce service complaints to reflect improvements in service delivery and community satisfaction.

LPS has successfully reduced service complaints by 57% year-over-year. In 2023, we averaged 5.4 complaints per month. In 2024, this figure has dropped to 2.3 complaints per month.

	2021	2022	2023	2024 YTD
# of Service Complaints	53	44	65	16

Conclusion: This substantial reduction in complaints reflects our focus on improving response times, enhancing community trust, and maintaining high standards of professionalism. We are on track to achieve the lowest number of service complaints in four years, demonstrating the effectiveness of our operational improvements.

3. Community Safety: Reduction in Crime Severity Index

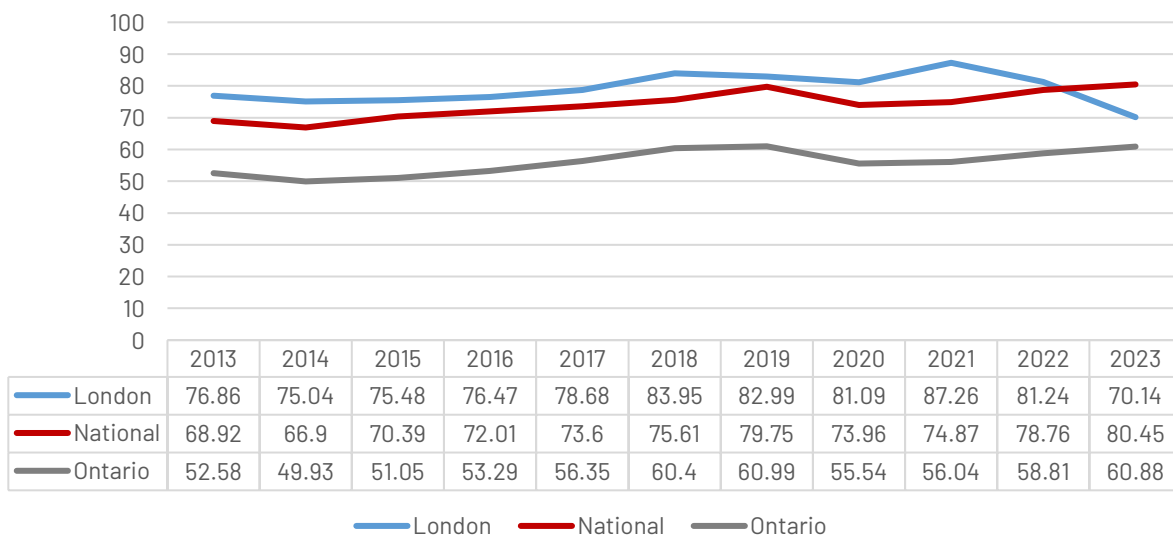
Goal: Achieve a reduction in the Crime Severity Index (CSI).

The Crime Severity Index, which measures both the volume and severity of crime, provides a clear picture of crime trends in London and how they compare both provincially and nationally. In 2023, London saw a 14% reduction in its Crime Severity Index, bringing it to 70.14, compared to 81.24 in 2022. This marks the first time in over a decade that London’s CSI has fallen below the national average.

London’s 14% reduction in the Crime Severity Index stands out as a significant achievement, outperforming several major Ontario cities. While Toronto experienced an 11% increase,

Hamilton saw a 5% rise, and both Ottawa and Windsor recorded a 4% increase in their CSI. Additionally, London outpaced regions such as York, which saw a 15% increase, and Peel with an 8% rise. Even Niagara, with a modest 2% decrease, did not match London’s substantial progress. This demonstrates the effectiveness of our strategies of strengthening community trust and increasing community safety.

2013 to 2023 CSI Comparisons
London, Ontario, National
 Source: Statistics Canada Tables: 35-10-0188-01 and 35-10-0026-01



Conclusion: London’s 14% decrease in CSI stands in stark contrast to both provincial and national trends, which saw increases. This success can be attributed to our targeted crime prevention strategies and community policing initiatives, proving that the investment in our police service is making a tangible difference.

4. Response Times: Improving Efficiency

Goal: Reduce response times for urgent (Priority 1) and non-urgent (Priority 2 and 3) calls. We have made notable improvements in response times, especially for Priority 1 calls, which are the most urgent. Year-to-date data for 2024 shows an improvement in Priority 1 response times, down to 9 minutes and 34 seconds from 10 minutes and 2 seconds in 2023.

Initial Dispatch Priority	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 Jan - Jul
1	0:09:14	0:09:02	0:09:12	0:09:30	0:10:02	0:09:34
2	1:57:35	2:36:23	4:32:10	6:48:13	9:45:56	9:11:11
3	9:53:16	12:52:18	16:53:49	107:54:34	132:28:47	100:28:41

Conclusion: We are making significant strides in improving our response to critical incidents, particularly for the most urgent cases. To build on this progress, we have planned further enhancements to our long-standing service delivery model. These changes will ensure continued improvements in response times, especially for lower-priority calls, allowing us to deliver more efficient and effective services across all incident categories.

5. New and Continuing Initiatives

Goal: Increase the number of new initiatives that address violence against women and girls, combat hate crimes, and implement alternative police responses to mental health-related calls for service.

The LPS has long been committed to addressing these critical areas. While numerous initiatives have been in place for years, the following updates highlight new initiatives launched in 2023 and 2024:

- Violence Against Women and Girls:
 - Partnership with Atlohsa Family Healing Services (2023)
 - Rights and Responsibilities Awareness Initiative (2023)
 - LPS Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and Femicide Strategy (2024)
- Hate Crimes:
 - Wortley Pride Parade Committee (2023)
 - Prime Minister’s Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia Committee (2023)
 - Mayoral Muslim Advisory Circle (2024)
 - LPS Multi-Faith Committee (2024)
- Alternative Responses to Mental Health Calls for Service:
 - Organization-wide completion of mandatory mental health and de-escalation training (2024)

Conclusion: The LPS remains dedicated in its commitment to addressing violence against women and girls, hate crimes, and mental health-related incidents. We will continue to expand upon these new initiatives, ensuring that our efforts reflect the needs of our community. Ongoing training and the development of innovative approaches will further strengthen our responses in these areas, helping to build a safer and more inclusive community.

6. Road Safety: Traffic Enforcement and Reduction in Fatal Collisions

Goal: Increase traffic enforcement and reduce road-related incidents.

As of July 2024, LPS has issued a total of 9,083 traffic tickets and warnings, already almost matching the total number for all 2023. This reflects our continued commitment to ensuring road safety and reducing dangerous driving behaviors.

Year	Warn/CNs	Tickets	Total
2019	11210	10212	21422
2020	5955	9622	15577
2021	3417	6887	10304
2022	1497	4542	6039
2023	2800	6746	9546
2024 (YTD)	3091	5992	9083

Conclusion: Our increased focus on traffic enforcement demonstrates our proactive approach to road safety. With more stops and warnings issued, we are committed to ensuring the safety of everyone on our roads.

Goal: Decrease fatal motor vehicle collisions (MVC).

The number of fatal motor vehicle collisions in 2024 shows a decline from 2023, with eight fatalities recorded by July. This reflects our focus on road safety campaigns and enforcement, though we acknowledge that each fatality is a tragic event that we are working diligently to prevent.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (YTD)
# of Fatal MVC	8	12	20	11	22	8

Conclusion: While fatalities remain a concern, we are on track to reduce the number compared to last year, signaling the effectiveness of our ongoing commitment to road safety.

7. Decreasing Shootings: Reducing Gun Violence

Goal: Achieve a reduction in shootings across the city.

Gun violence is a key concern for public safety. Between 2019 and 2023, shootings fluctuated, peaking at 28 incidents in 2021. However, in 2024, we have made significant progress, with only 4 shootings reported year-to-date, a dramatic 85% reduction compared to the previous year.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (YTD)
# of Shootings	12	14	28	24	27	4

Conclusion: This significant reduction in shootings in 2024 is a clear indicator of the success of our targeted strategies, including increased police visibility, community partnerships, and focused enforcement efforts.

Conclusion and Outlook

The data and metrics presented in this report clearly demonstrate that the London Police Service is making substantial progress in enhancing public safety and community trust. The investment from city council into the police budget is yielding measurable, positive results, and our service is trending in the right direction across key performance areas.

As we continue to prioritize community engagement, proactive policing, strategic initiatives and partnerships, I am confident that we will build on these successes and ensure that London remains a safe and thriving community for all its residents.

SUBMITTED BY: Thai Truong, Chief of Police



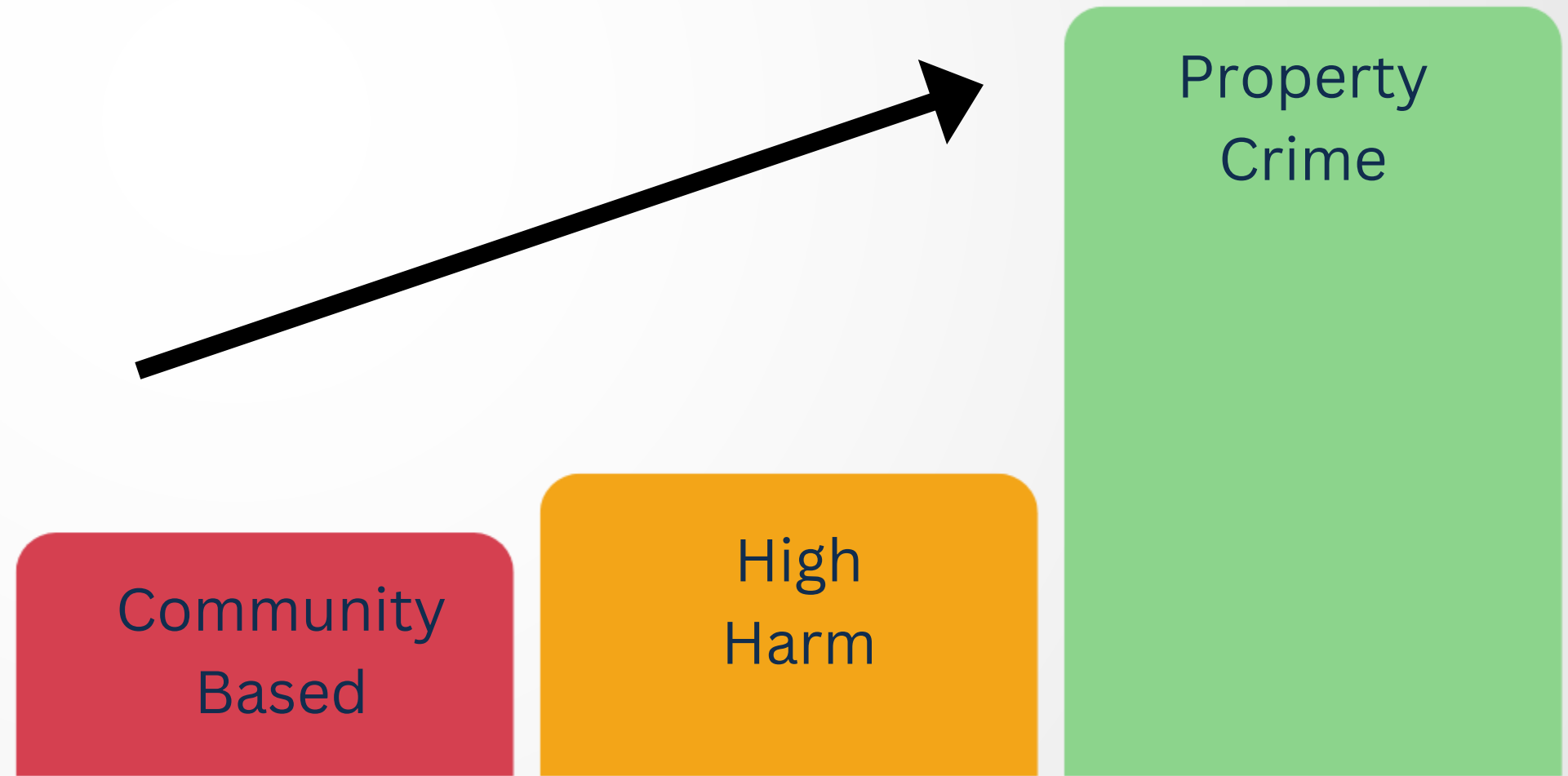
LONDON POLICE SERVICE

ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE METRICS

OCTOBER 8, 2024

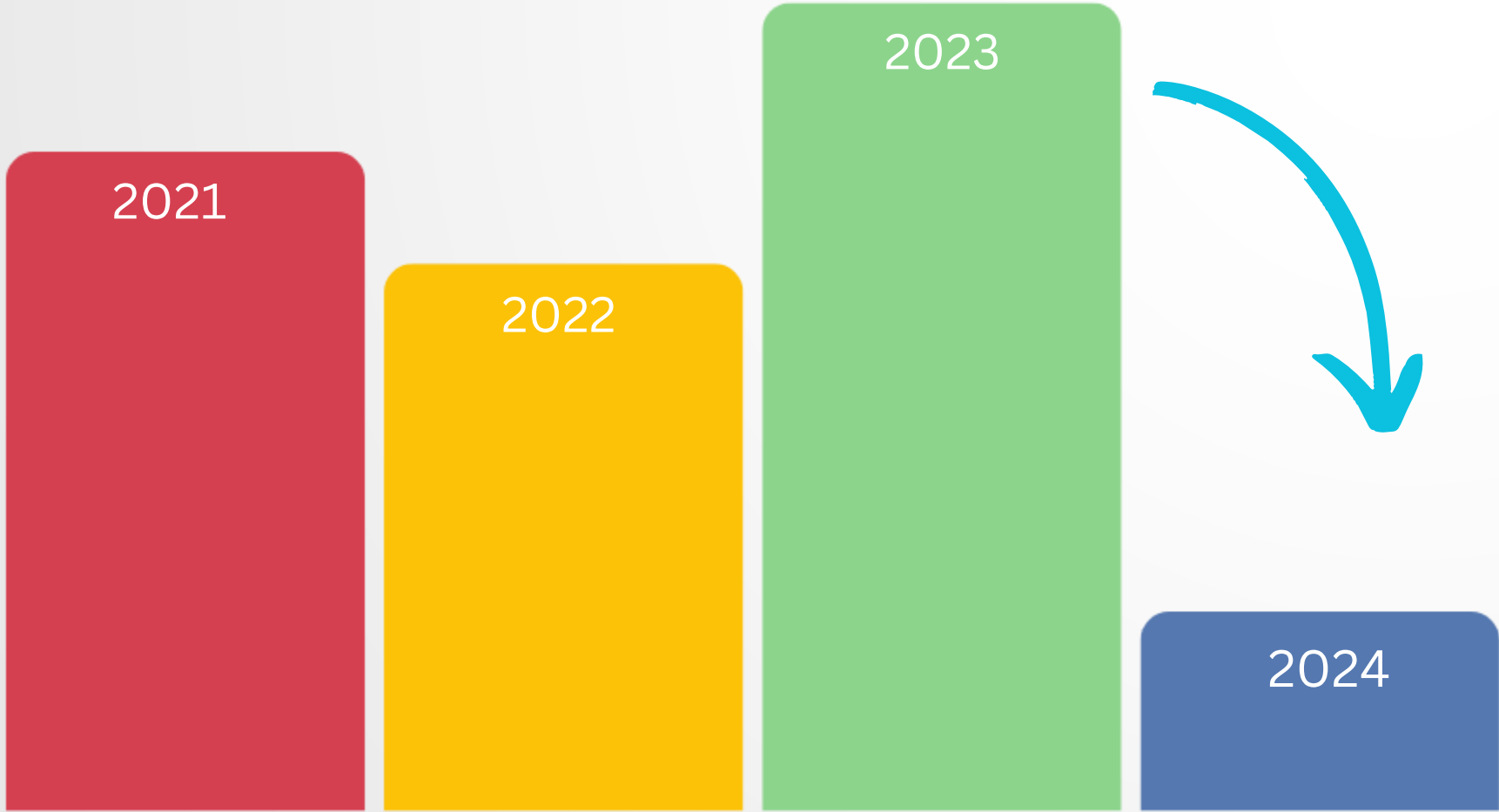


COMMUNITY TRUST



INCREASED VISIBILITY IN HOTSPOTS
2024 YTD (HRS.)

ORGANIZATIONAL WELLNESS



SERVICE COMPLAINTS

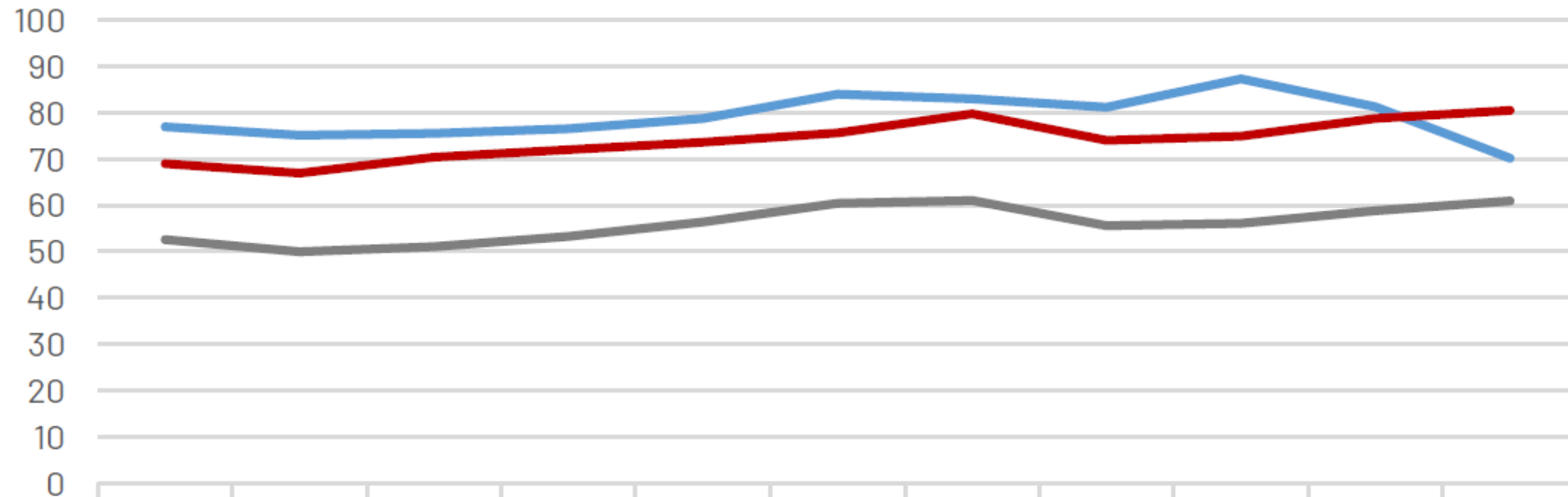


COMMUNITY SAFETY



2013 to 2023 CSI Comparisons
London, Ontario, National

Source: Statistics Canada Tables: 35-10-0188-01 and 35-10-0026-01



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
London	76.86	75.04	75.48	76.47	78.68	83.95	82.99	81.09	87.26	81.24	70.14
National	68.92	66.9	70.39	72.01	73.6	75.61	79.75	73.96	74.87	78.76	80.45
Ontario	52.58	49.93	51.05	53.29	56.35	60.4	60.99	55.54	56.04	58.81	60.88

— London — National — Ontario



RESPONSE TIMES

2019

Priority 1

0:09:14

Priority 2

1:57:35

Priority 3

9:53:16

2020

Priority 1

0:09:02

Priority 2

2:36:23

Priority 3

12:52:18

2021

Priority 1

0:09:12

Priority 2

4:32:10

Priority 3

16:53:49

2022

Priority 1

0:09:30

Priority 2

6:48:13

Priority 3

107:54:34

2023

Priority 1

0:10:02

Priority 2

9:45:56

Priority 3

132:28:47

2024

(Jan-Jul)

Priority 1

0:09:34

Priority 2

9:11:11

Priority 3

100:28:41

NEW AND CONTINUING INITIATIVES



VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN/GIRLS

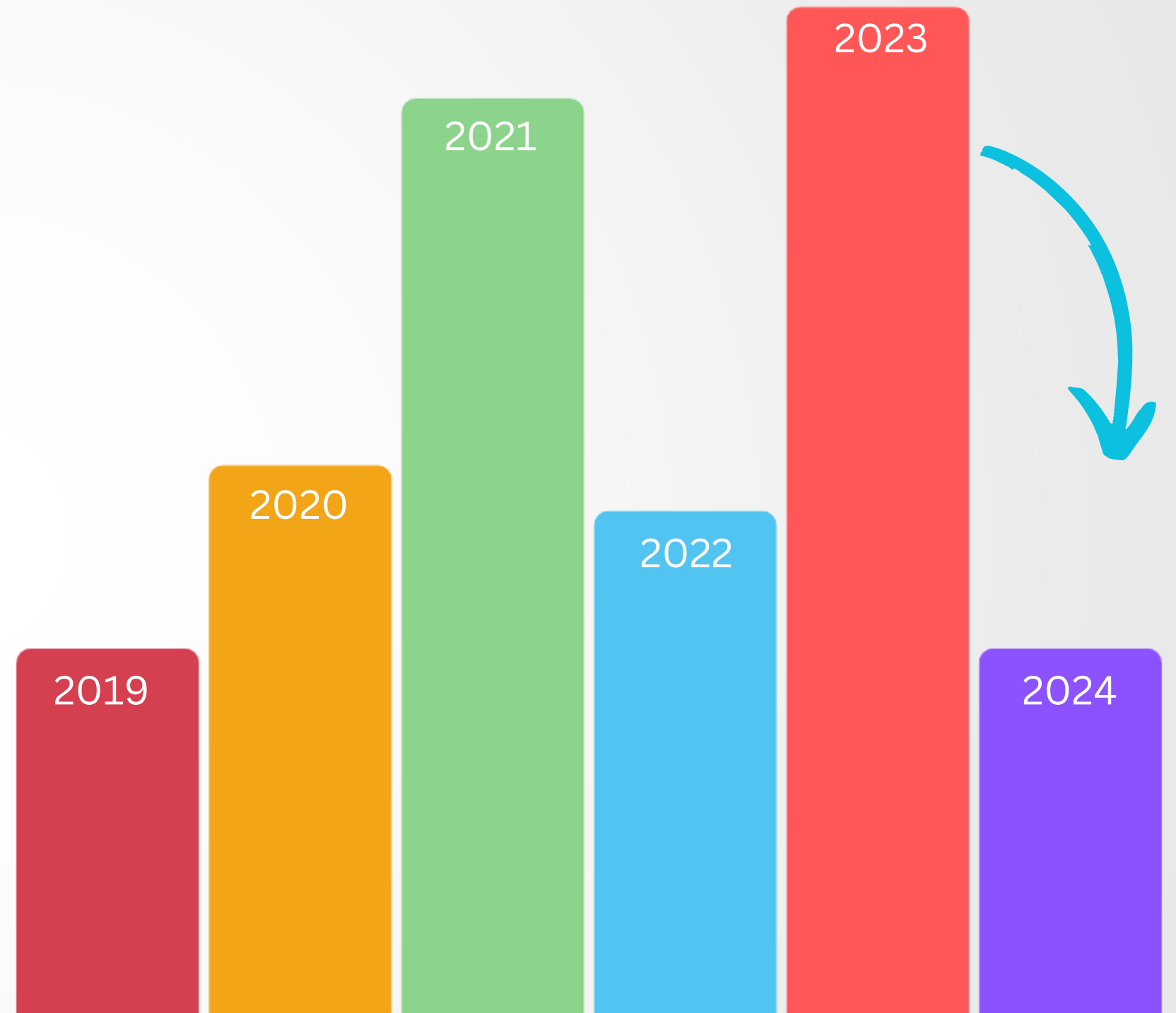


HATE CRIMES



**ALTERNATIVE RESPONSES -
MENTAL HEALTH CALLS**

ROAD SAFETY



FATAL COLLISIONS

DECREASED SHOOTINGS

