

REPORT TO: CITY COUNCIL - 18 APRIL 2005

REPORT ON: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL AREA
LOCAL GOVERNANCE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2004 - REVIEW OF
ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

REPORT BY: ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (COMMUNITY PLANNING)

REPORT NO: 283-2005

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To outline the initial proposals by the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland for 8 multi-member wards within the Dundee City Council area and to make any representation to the Commission thereon and to provide suggested names for wards as set out in the Commission's intended proposals and for wards where the Council suggests amendments or substantial changes.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Council note the progress and procedures as detailed by the Local Government Boundary Commission.
- 2.2 The Council agrees the minor amendments to the Boundary Commission proposals as outlined in Section 8
- 2.3 The Council's instructions are requested in regard to any alternative proposal and the suggested ward names as laid out in Section 9.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

4 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct sustainability issues arising from this report.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct equal opportunities implications arising from this report.

6 BACKGROUND

A report was submitted to Dundee City Council on 18 October 2004 outlining the process for 2007 Local Government Elections using the Single Transferable Vote. At that meeting it was agreed that an advisory group to the Chief Executive be established which would arrive at 2 possible multi member ward schemes for Dundee to be submitted to the Local Government Boundary Commission. At a subsequent meeting of the Advisory Group on 16 December 2004, the Chief Executive indicated he would submit option 1 a system of 5 x 4 member wards plus 3 x 3 member wards and option 2 consisting of 2 x 4 member wards plus 7 x 3 member wards to the Boundary Commission for consideration.

In arriving at their suggestions, officers of the Council aimed for a parity target between wards of plus or minus 5% and the final submission gave a parity figure of between

2.81% above and 3.3% below for option 1 and 4.42% above and 3.65% below for option 2.

7 LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION PROPOSALS

- 7.1 The Commission has now prepared its initial proposals for 8 multi member wards within the Dundee City Council area. The table at Appendix A shows the ward number, forecast of electorate in each ward at 2009, and the number of elected members. Maps which illustrate the Commission's proposals have been circulated to secretaries of the political groups and posted in the Councillors' Lounge.

The Commission is required by the Act to inform the Council of the reasons for any difference between its initial proposals and proposals that would have been made had it been formulated on the basis that each multi-member ward consisted of a combination of existing electoral wards. As a consequence, the Commission also enclosed an A2 schematic map showing possible multi-member wards created by aggregating the existing wards without reference to the rule set out in Schedule 6 of the 1973 Act and this again has been circulated to group secretaries and placed in the Councillors' Lounge.

The Commission has proposed a combination of 5 x 4 member wards and 3 x 3 member wards and has deviated from parity to the extent that the new ward electorate ranges from plus 7% to minus 8% which far exceeded the parameters which the Council's proposals were based on. The reasons given for the difference between the Commission's initial response on the scheme developed from the aggregation of existing wards was that the Commission has taken account of expected new housing development information provided by the Council and in the absence of any view on community boundaries within the Council area to have regard, where it was possible to do so, to community council area boundaries and to attempt a closer fit with existing neighbourhood service team areas than is possible with the aggregation of existing wards.

The resulting proposals by the Commission arguably forms a better fit in regard to natural boundaries within Dundee City as parity has not been an overriding criteria in formulating the Commission's proposals.

Officers of the Commission have been in touch with officers of the Council in regard to minor amendments around their boundary proposals but there are a number of anomalies that officers feel should be addressed in the Council representation to the Commission which are outlined in Section 8 below.

8 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION PROPOSALS

Officers of the Council have reviewed the new boundary proposals from the Local Government Boundary Commission of Scotland and are suggesting 11 amendments to the proposed boundaries. The adjustments suggested take into account a focus on preserving communities and community cohesion while recognising the natural features of an area.

The proposed adjustments along with the original LGBCS boundary proposals are indicated in the attached figures numbered from 1 to 11 and shown on the larger city-wide map on display in the City Chambers. Justification and description of the amendments are set out in the table in Appendix B.

9. **SUGGESTED WARD NAMES**

The Commission has also asked the Council to provide names for the proposed 8 new multi-member wards. Appendix A below provides suggested names for consideration and agreement. The suggested names have been formulated through an attempt to recognise both historical and geographically prominent features of particular areas as well as establishing a positive community identity.

10. **CONSULTATION**

Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and Director of Planning and Transportation have been consulted.

11. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

Chris Ward
Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning)..... 13/04/05

Appendix A

LGBCS Ward Number	LGBCS Forecast Electorate 2009	No of Members	% deviation from Parity	Suggested Name
1	15,990	4	-1	Downfield
2	14,730	4	-8	Lochee
3	15,515	4	-4	West End
4	16,855	4	5	Lawsid
5	12,890	3	7	Baxter Park
6	11,830	3	-2	North East
7	12,445	3	3	East End
8	16,335	4	2	The Ferry
	116,610 *	29		

* Column b figures rounded

PARITY

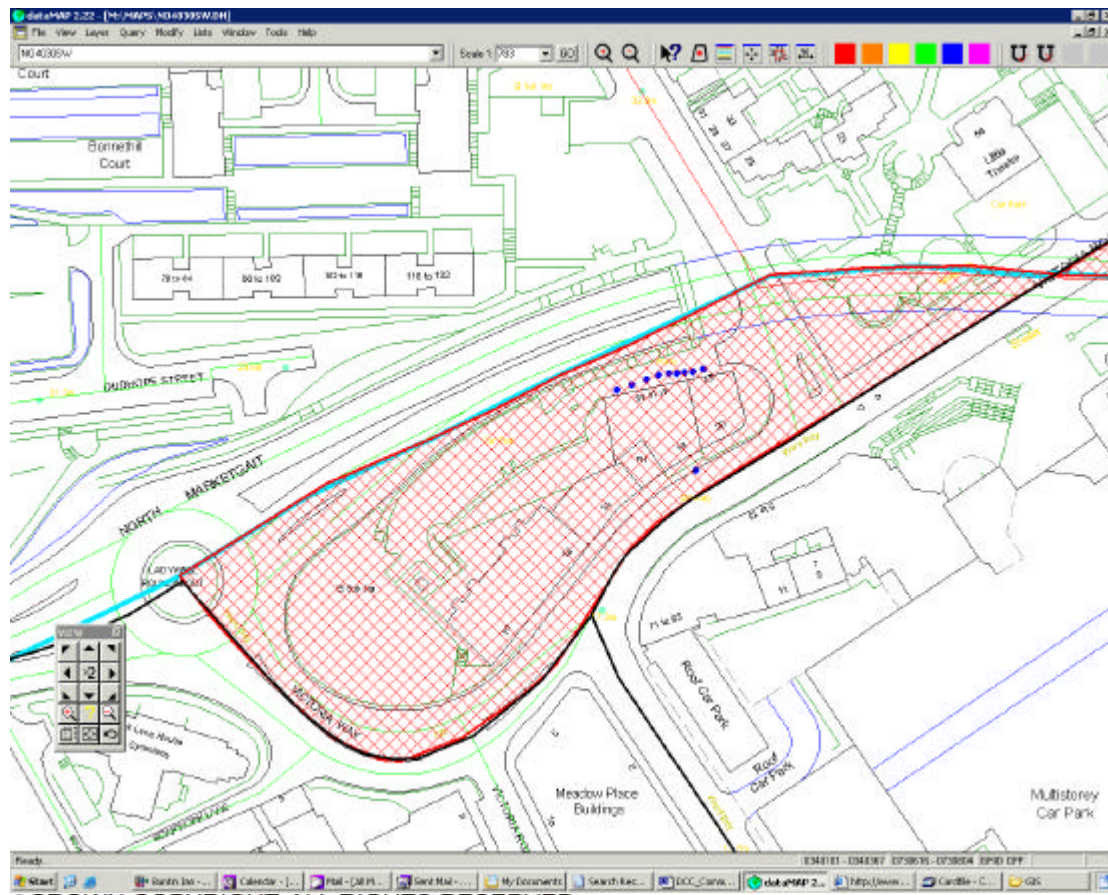
Member	4,021
3-member ward	12,063
4-member ward	16,084

Appendix B

Amend ref	Change to proposed wards	Justification	Adjustment Description
1	Ward 5 to Ward 4	Community cohesion	The adjustment suggested follows the north boundaries of existing wards 21 Tay Bridges and 24 East Port. Starting from point NG 4014 3068 follow the northern boundary of existing Ward 21, Tay Bridges south-eastwards along Victoria Way and then north-westwards along the boundary of Ward 24, East Port and Victoria Road to NG 4035 3076.
2	Ward 4 to Ward 5	Preserve natural community boundary Follow the new Westminster parliamentary boundary	The adjustment suggested follows the northern boundary of the existing Ward 24, East Port. Starting from point NG 4035 3075 on Victoria Road follow Victoria Road northeastward until its junction with William Street at NG 4069 3093.
3	Ward 7 to Ward 5	Preserve natural community boundary	The adjustment suggested follows the eastern boundary of the existing Ward 25, Baxter Park. Starting from point NG 4214 3175 northeastward following the eastern boundary of Ward 25, Baxter Park to NG generally northward to its junction with Kingsway East; then westward along Kingsway East.
4	Ward 5 to Ward 7	Join waterfront with its hinterland	The adjustment suggested follows the eastern boundary of the existing Ward 25, Baxter Park. Starting from point NG 4198 3094 southward following the eastern boundary of existing Ward Port to the water.
5	Warden 7 to Ward 8	Preserve natural community boundary Follow the natural curtilage of the college boundary	Starting from point NG 4407 3094 generally north-eastwards along Margaret Crescent to its junction with Belsize road; then northwards to the junction of Belsize road with Strathern Road.; then north-eastward along Strathern Road to NG 4401 3131.

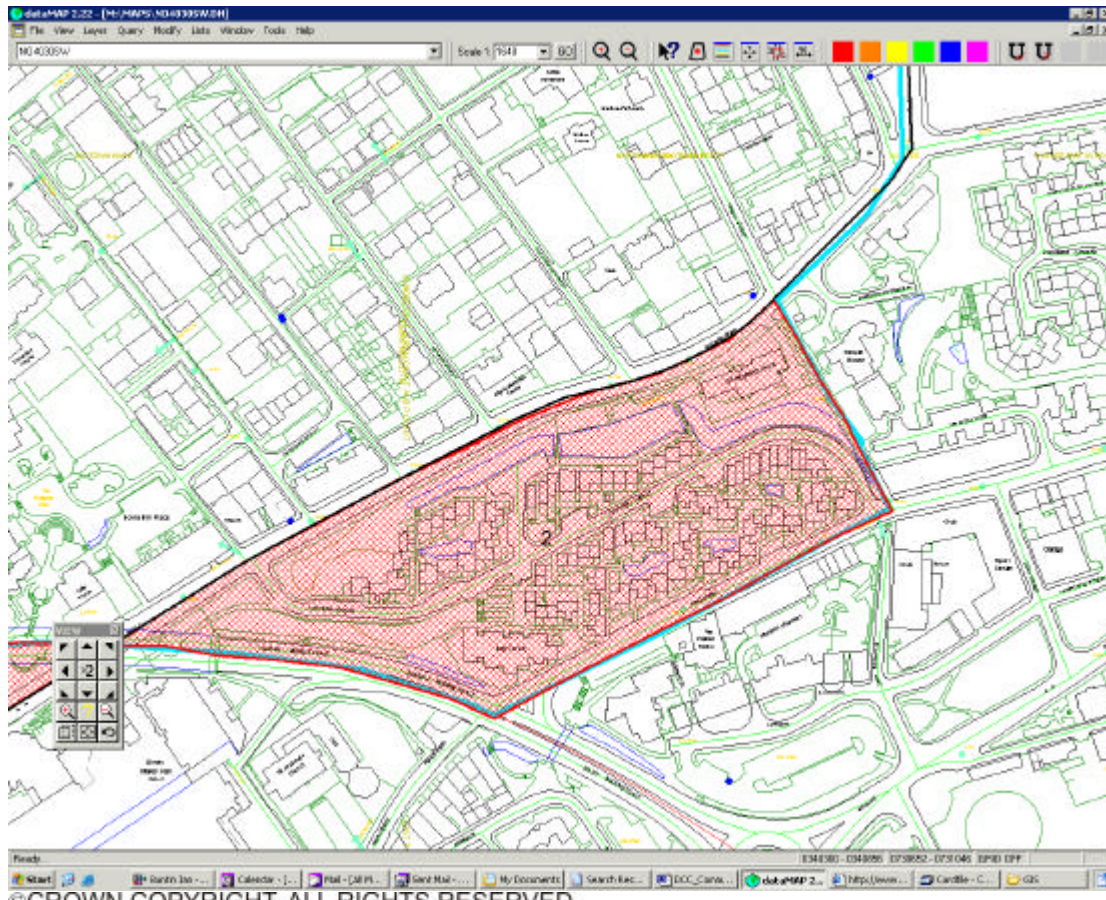
6	Ward 4 to Ward 3	Preserve natural community boundary Follow ward boundary	Starting from point NG 3832 3114 on Logie Street southeastward along Logie Street and onto Lochee Road following the eastern boundary of existing Ward 3 Balgay until its junction with Tulideph Road and then westward along Tulideph Road to the Junction with City Road
7	Ward 4 to Ward 2	Follow natural boundary for community cohesion Follow ward boundary	Starting from point NG 3817 3131 at the junction of High Street, Loons Road and Logie Street northeastward along Loons Road to its junction with Old Kings Cross Road; then northwards along old Kings Cross Road to NG 3840 3150.
8	Ward 3 to Ward 2	Community cohesion Follow ward boundary	The adjustment starts at NG 3770 3116 then eastwards along Ancrum Road to NG 3829 3122 at the junction of Ancrum Road and Logie Street.
9	Ward 3 to Ward 2	Follow natural boundary	The adjustment starts at NG 3695 3067 then south-eastwards to NG 3699 3059 on Glamis Road, then north-eastwards along the road within the cemetery to NG 3710 3066; then continuing north-eastwards until NG 3756 3087 then northwards along the existing boundary of Ward 3, Balgay to NG 3755 3102 on Glamis Road
10		Tidy boundary of road curtilage ensuring that the new Menzieshill House Complex will be within its community	See map
11		Tidy up the boundary behind Gowrie Park	See map

Amendment 1



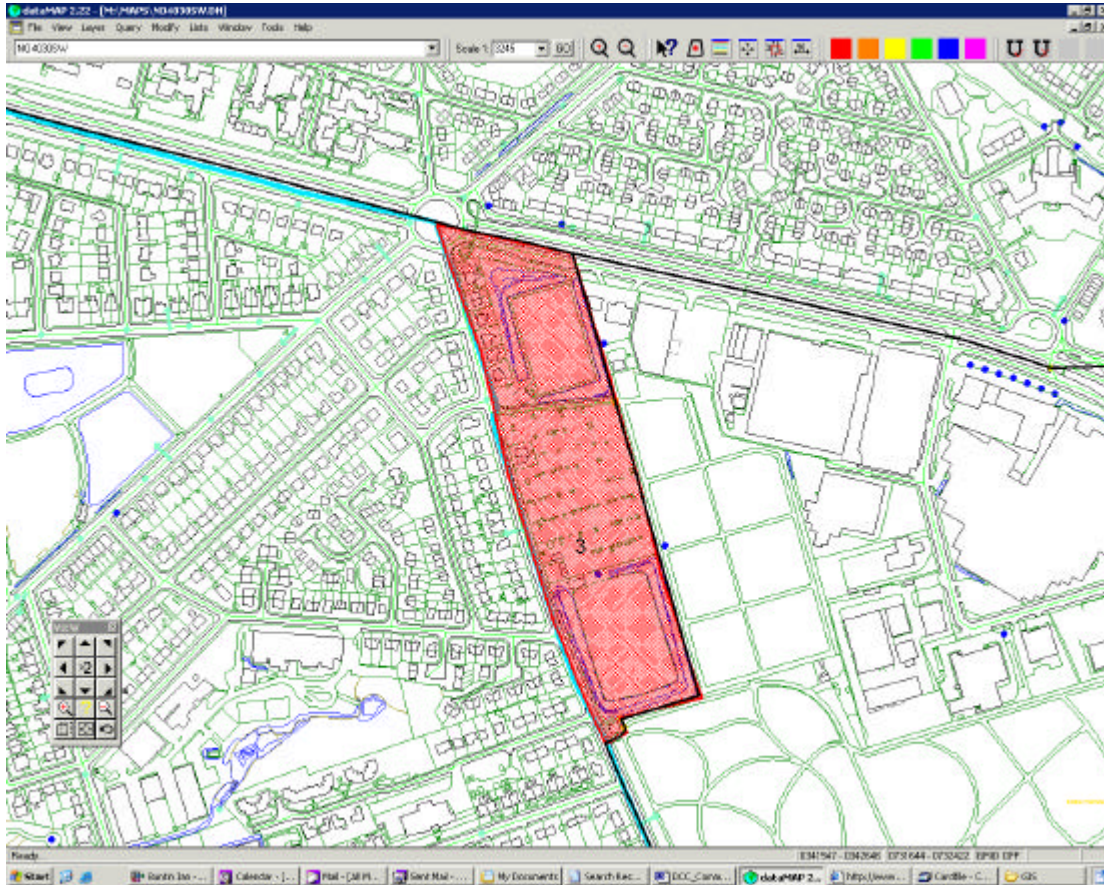
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Amendment 2



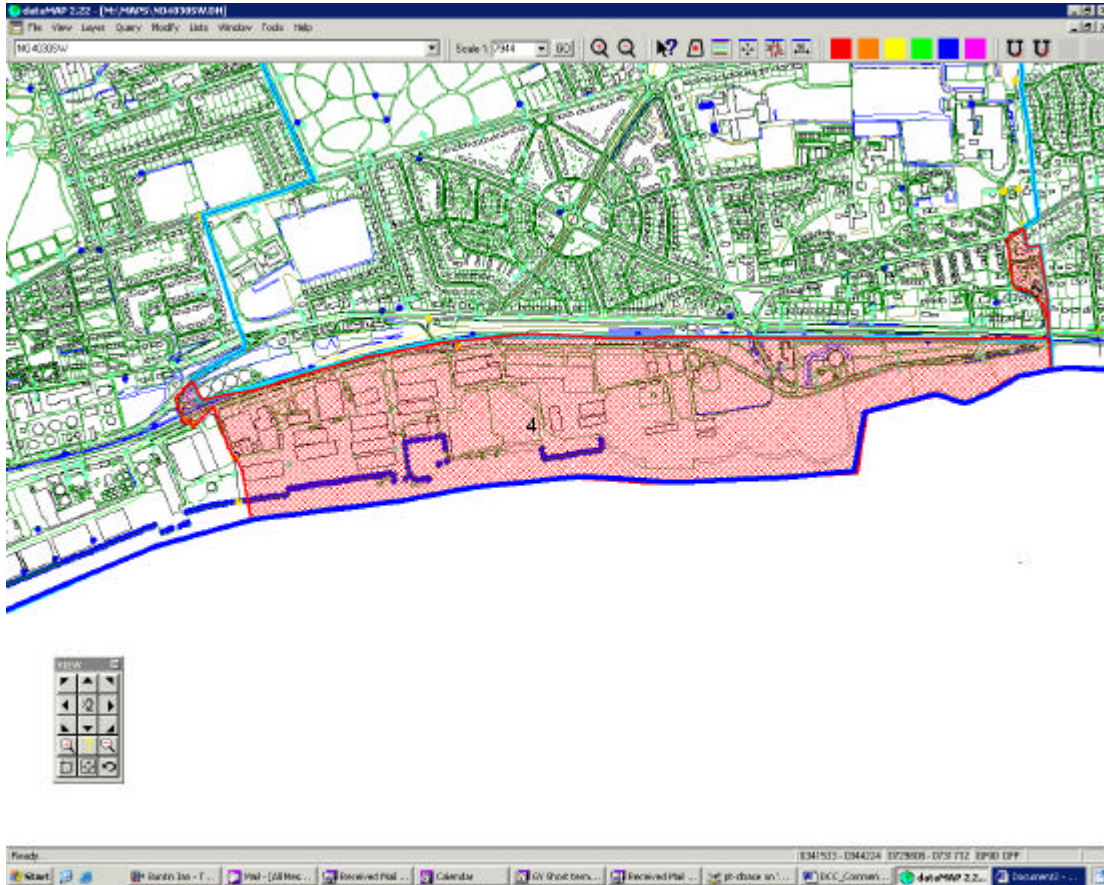
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Amendment 3



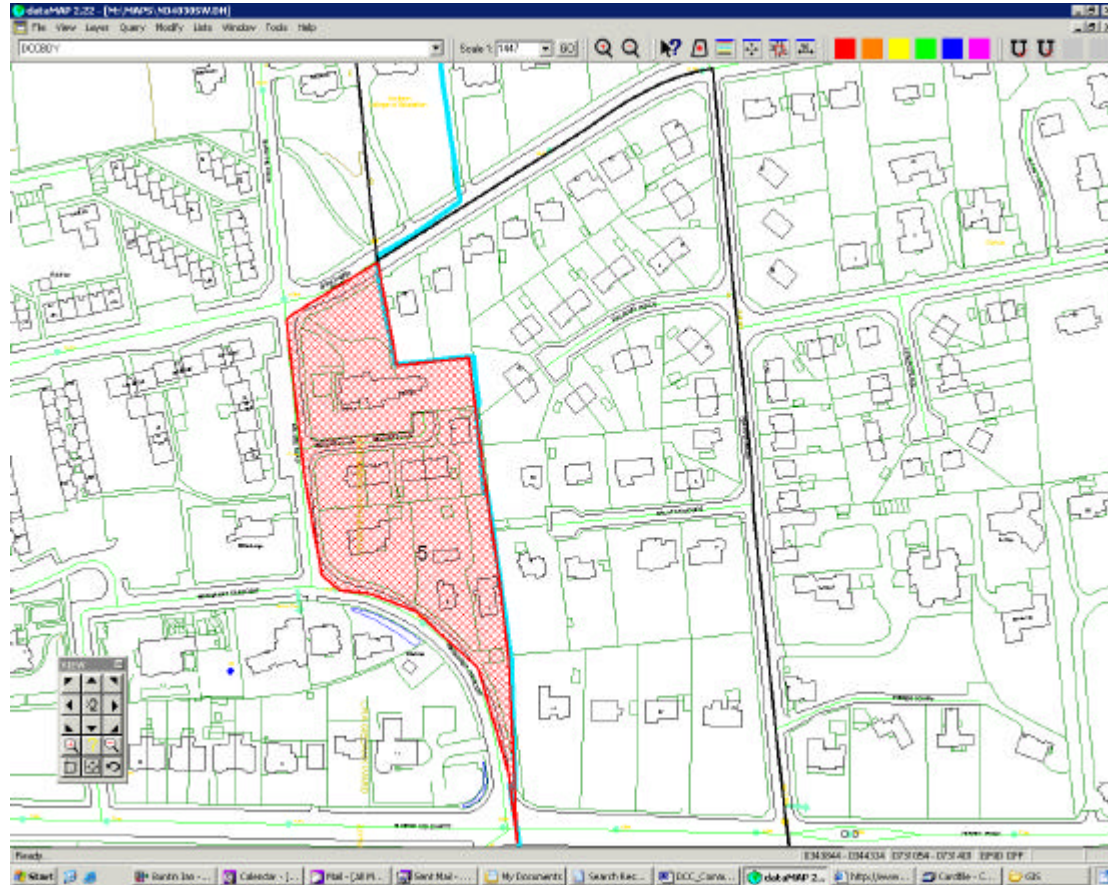
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Amendment 4



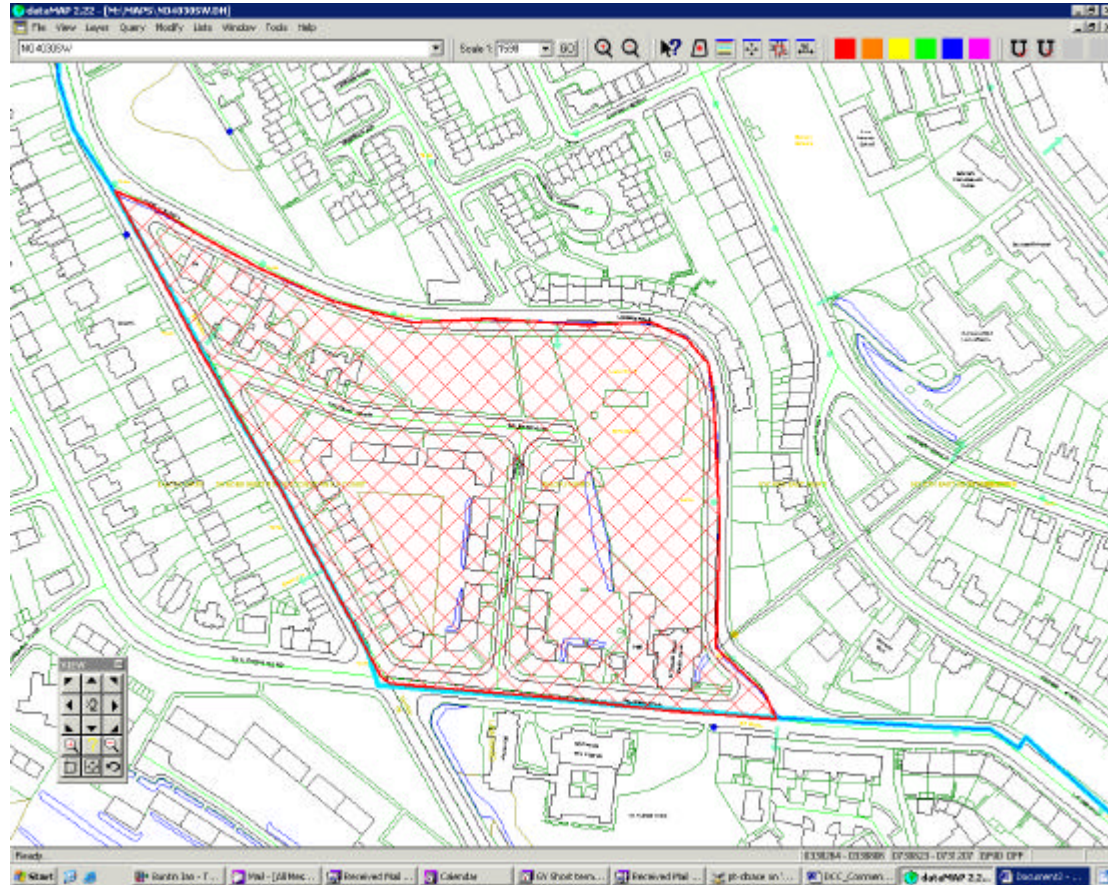
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Amendment 5



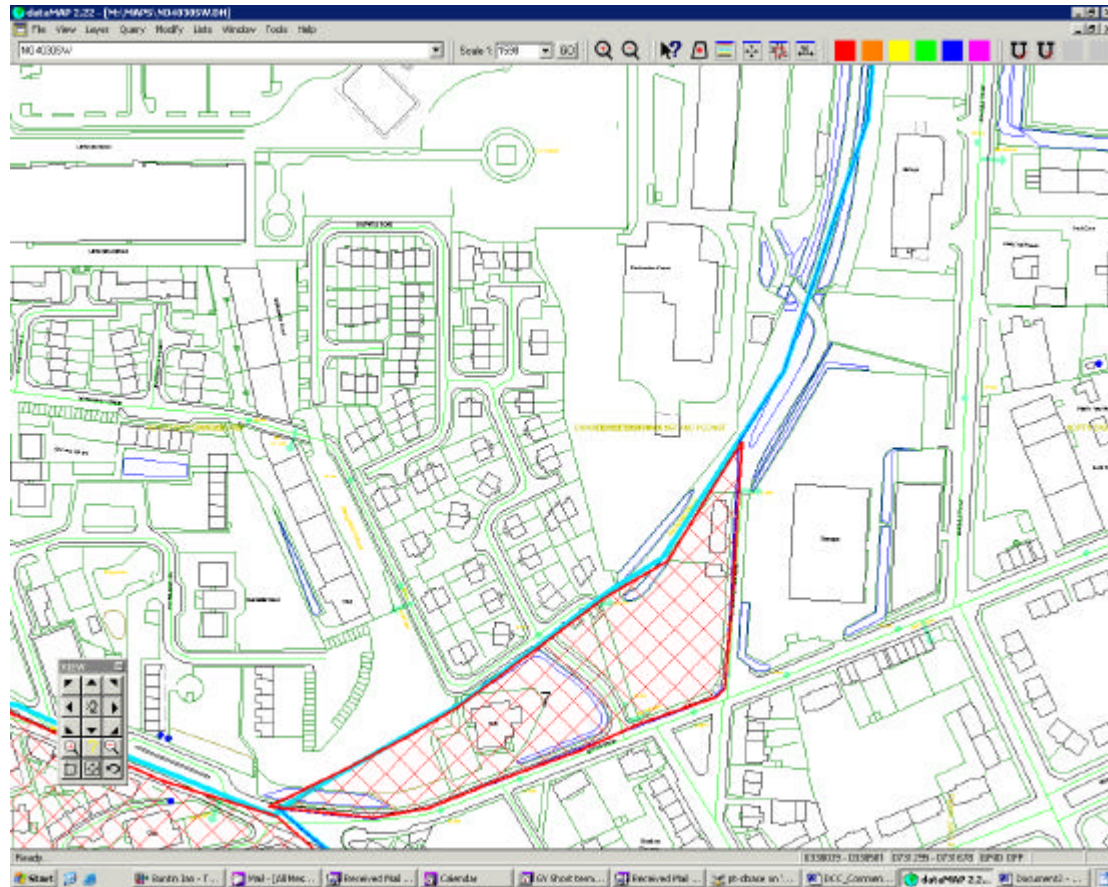
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Amendment 6



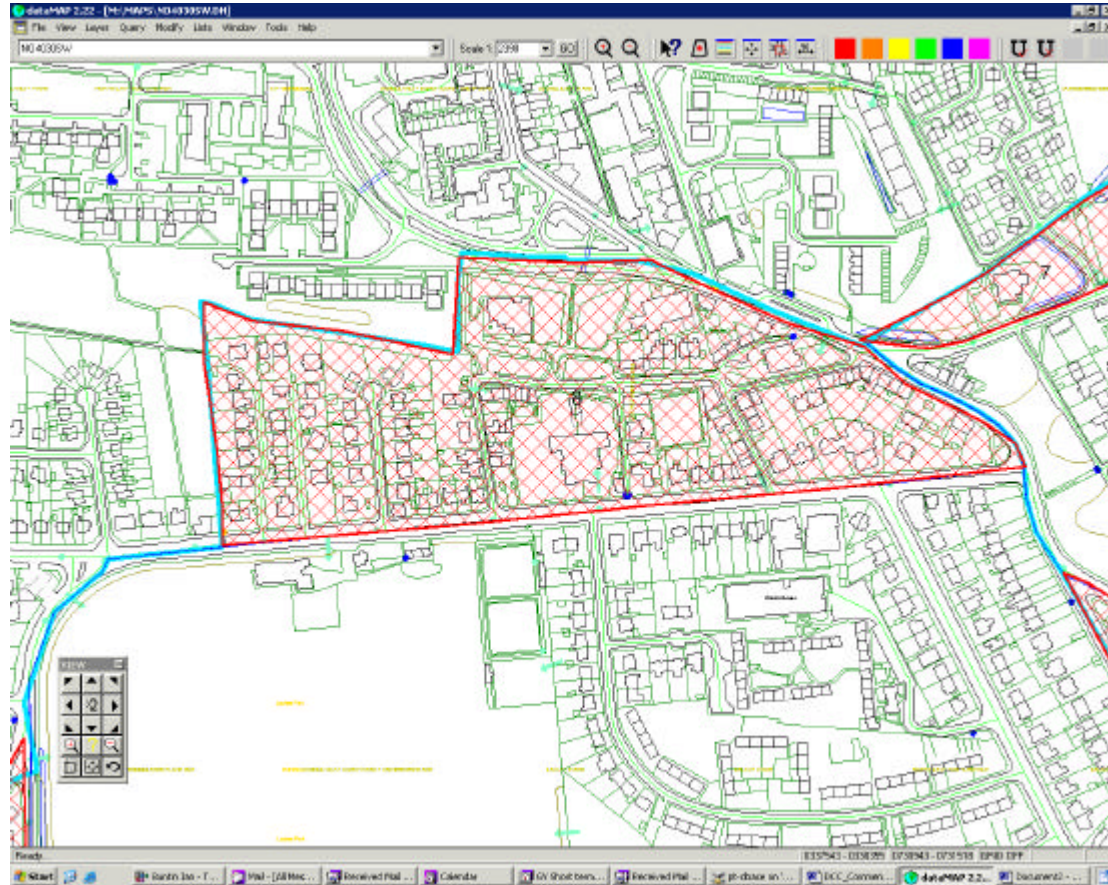
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Amendment 7



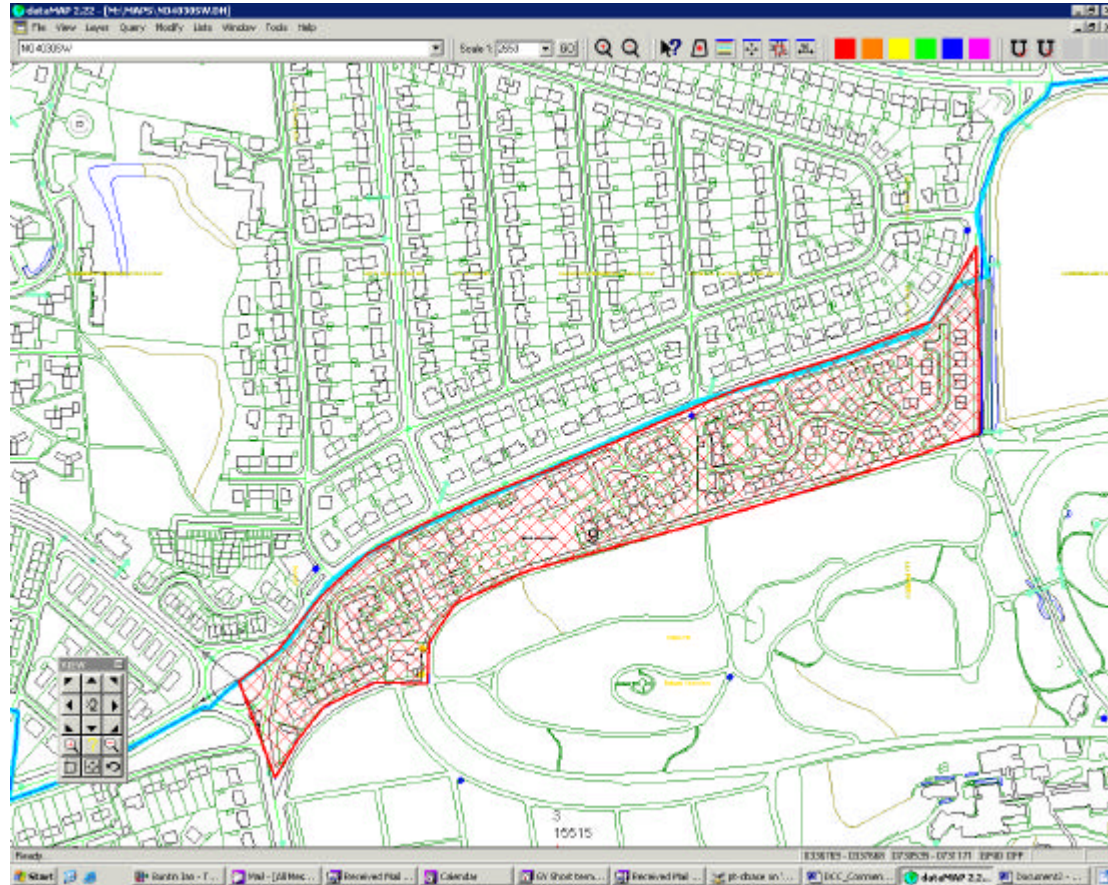
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Amendment 8



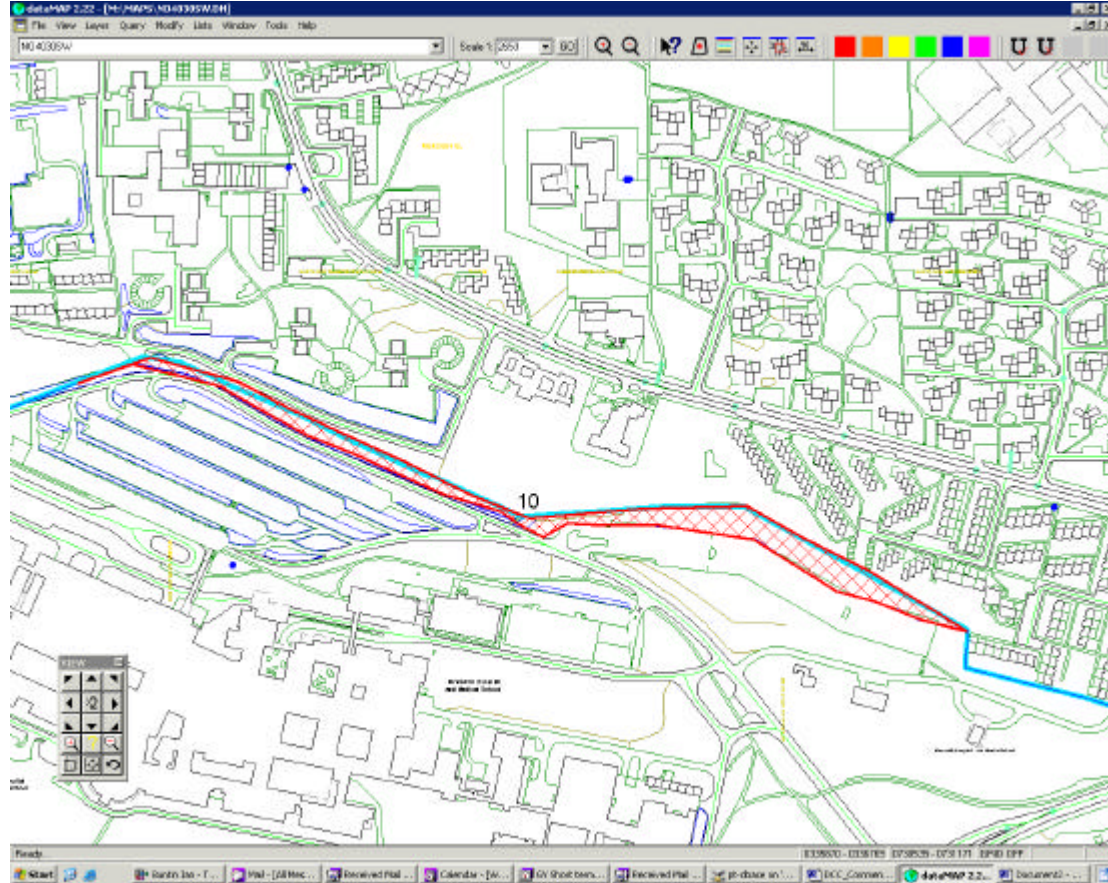
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Amendment 9



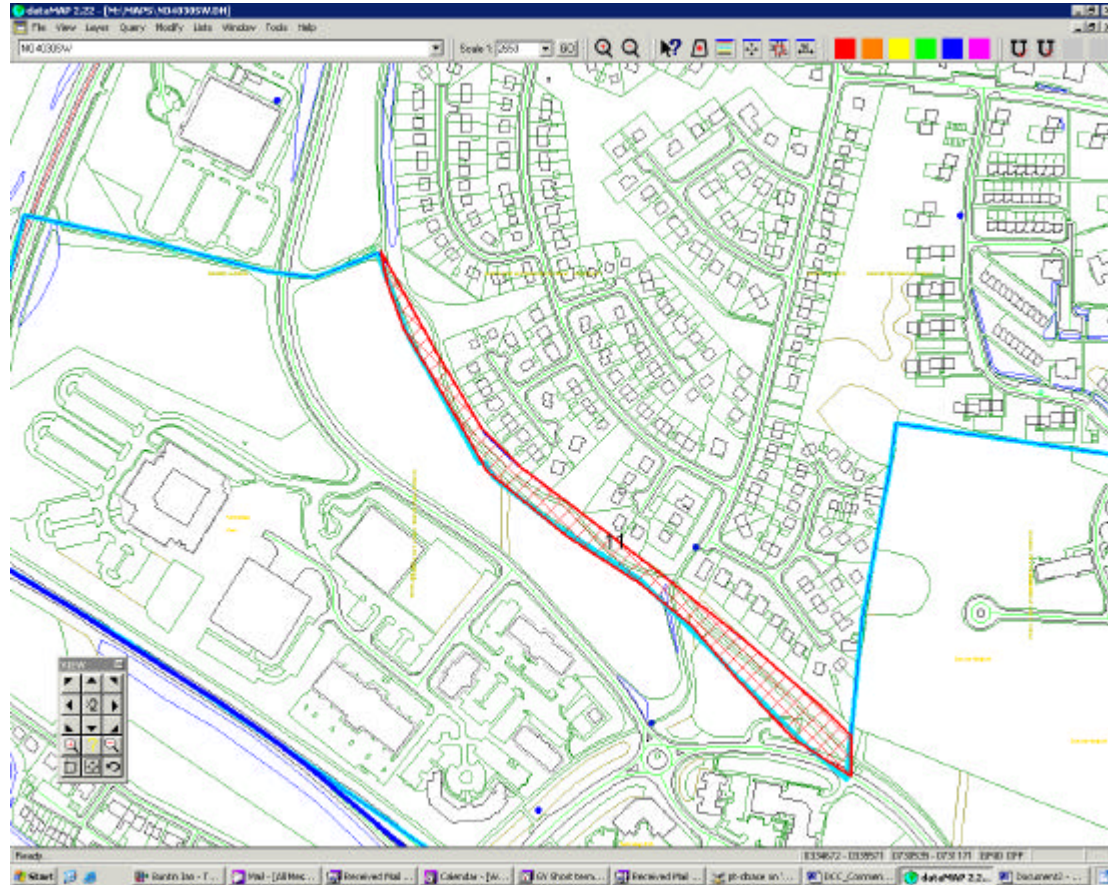
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Amendment 11



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