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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2004 No. 1704**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENGLAND**

**The Local Authorities (Categorisation) (England) Order 2004**

|                               |         |                       |
|-------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| <i>Made</i>                   | - - - - | <i>5th July 2004</i>  |
| <i>Laid before Parliament</i> |         | <i>8th July 2004</i>  |
| <i>Coming into force</i>      | - -     | <i>29th July 2004</i> |

The First Secretary of State, having received a report from the Audit Commission<sup>(1)</sup> produced under section 99(1) of the Local Government Act 2003<sup>(2)</sup> in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 99(4) of that Act, hereby makes the following Order:

**Citation, commencement and application**

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Local Authorities (Categorisation) (England) Order 2004 and shall come into force on 29th July 2004.

(2) This Order applies in relation to English local authorities<sup>(3)</sup>.

**Categorisation report**

2. The English local authorities, to which the report of the Audit Commission dated 1st July 2004 relates, are by this Order categorised in accordance with their categorisation in that report, as provided below.

**Excellent authorities**

3. The local authorities listed in Schedule 1 to this Order are categorised as excellent.

**Good authorities**

4. The local authorities listed in Schedule 2 to this Order are categorised as good.

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(1) For the definition of “the Audit Commission”, see section 99(7) of the Local Government Act 2003.  
(2) 2003 c. 26. The report of the Audit Commission consists of a letter from the Chief Executive of the Audit Commission to the Director of Local Government Performance and Practice at the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister dated 1st July 2004 with the attached list of local authorities categorised by the Audit Commission as of that date.  
(3) For the definition of “English local authority”, see section 99(7) of the Local Government Act 2003.

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**Fair authorities**

5. The local authorities listed in Schedule 3 to this Order are categorised as fair.

**Weak authorities**

6. The local authorities listed in Schedule 4 to this Order are categorised as weak.

**Poor authorities**

7. The local authorities listed in Schedule 5 to this Order are categorised as poor.

Signed by authority of the First Secretary of State

5th July 2004

*Nick Raynsford*  
Minister of State  
Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

## SCHEDULE 1

Article 3

### Excellent Authorities

Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council  
Bexley London Borough Council  
Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council  
Blyth Valley Borough Council  
Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council  
Cambridge City Council  
Camden London Borough Council  
Canterbury City Council  
Cheshire County Council  
Chester City Council  
Chichester District Council  
Chiltern District Council  
Colchester Borough Council  
Cornwall County Council  
Corporation of London  
Derbyshire County Council  
Derbyshire Dales District Council  
Dorset County Council  
Easington District Council  
East Riding of Yorkshire District Council  
Elmbridge Borough Council  
Exeter City Council  
Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council  
Guildford Borough Council  
Hambleton District Council  
Hammersmith & Fulham London Borough Council  
Hampshire County Council  
Hartlepool Borough Council  
Hertfordshire County Council  
High Peak Borough Council  
Horsham District Council  
Kensington & Chelsea Royal Borough Council  
Kent County Council  
Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council  
New Forest District Council  
Runnymede Borough Council  
South Hams District Council

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Spelthorne Borough Council  
St Helens Metropolitan Borough Council  
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council  
Sunderland City Council  
Tameside Metropolitan District Council  
Telford & Wrekin District Council  
Wandsworth London Borough Council  
Wellingborough Borough Council  
West Sussex County Council  
Westminster City Council  
Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council

SCHEDULE 2

Article 4

Good Authorities

Alnwick District Council  
Arun District Council  
Ashford Borough Council  
Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Bath & North East Somerset District Council  
Bolsover District Council  
Bracknell Forest Borough Council  
Bradford City Council  
Braintree District Council  
Breckland District Council  
Brentwood Borough Council  
Bromley Borough Council  
Buckinghamshire County Council  
Burnley Borough Council  
Cambridgeshire County Council  
Carlisle City Council  
Chelmsford Borough Council  
Cherwell District Council  
Chesterfield Borough Council  
Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council  
Croydon London Borough Council  
Dacorum Borough Council  
Darlington Borough Council  
Derby City Council

Derwentside District Council  
Devon County Council  
Durham County Council  
East Devon District Council  
East Dorset District Council  
East Hertfordshire District Council  
East Sussex County Council  
Eastbourne Borough Council  
Eastleigh Borough Council  
Ellesmere Port & Neston Borough Council  
Epping Forest District Council  
Epsom and Ewell Borough Council  
Essex County Council  
Fareham Borough Council  
Gedling Borough Council  
Gloucestershire County Council  
Gosport Borough Council  
Great Yarmouth Borough Council  
Greenwich London Borough Council  
Halton Borough Council  
Hastings Borough Council  
Havant Borough Council  
Herefordshire District Council  
Ipswich Borough Council  
Kennet District Council  
Kettering Borough Council  
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council  
Kingston Upon Thames Royal Borough Council  
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council  
Lancashire County Council  
Leeds City Council  
Leicester City Council  
Leicestershire County Council  
Lewes District Council  
Lewisham London Borough Council  
Lichfield District Council  
Liverpool City Metropolitan District Council  
Luton Borough Council  
Macclesfield Borough Council  
Manchester City Council

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Medway District Council  
Middlesbrough Borough Council  
Mole Valley District Council  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne City Council  
Newham London Borough Council  
Norfolk County Council  
North Kesteven District Council  
North Lincolnshire District Council  
North Yorkshire County Council  
Northumberland County Council  
Nottinghamshire County Council  
Pendle Borough Council  
Poole Borough Council  
Portsmouth City Council  
Preston Borough Council  
Reading Borough Council  
Reigate and Banstead Borough Council  
Richmond Upon Thames London Borough Council  
Rushcliffe Borough Council  
Rushmoor Borough Council  
Ryedale District Council  
Salisbury District Council  
Scarborough Borough Council  
Sedgefield Borough Council  
Sheffield City Council  
Shropshire County Council  
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council  
South Gloucestershire District Council  
South Norfolk District Council  
South Oxfordshire District Council  
South Ribble Borough Council  
Southampton City Council  
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council  
Stevenage Borough Council  
Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council  
Suffolk County Council  
Surrey County Council  
Sutton London Borough Council  
Tandridge District Council  
Teignbridge District Council

Tendring District Council  
Test Valley Borough Council  
Three Rivers District Council  
Tower Hamlets London Borough Council  
Vale Royal Borough Council  
Warrington Borough Council  
Warwickshire County Council  
Waverley Borough Council  
Wealden District Council  
West Devon Borough Council  
West Lancashire District Council  
West Oxfordshire District Council  
Windsor & Maidenhead Royal Borough Council  
Woking Borough Council  
Wokingham District Council  
Worcestershire County Council  
Wychavon District Council  
York District Council

### SCHEDULE 3

Article 5

#### Fair Authorities

Adur District Council  
Allerdale Borough Council  
Ashfield District Council  
Barking & Dagenham London Borough Council  
Barnet London Borough Council  
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council  
Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council  
Basildon District Council  
Bassetlaw District Council  
Blackpool Borough Council  
Boston Borough Council  
Bournemouth Borough Council  
Brent London Borough Council  
Brighton & Hove District Council  
Bristol City Council  
Broadland District Council  
Broxtowe Borough Council

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Bury Metropolitan Borough Council  
Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council  
Cannock Chase District Council  
Chorley Borough Council  
Christchurch Borough Council  
Copeland Borough Council  
Craven District Council  
Crawley Borough Council  
Daventry District Council  
Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council  
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council  
Durham City Council  
Ealing London Borough Council  
East Northamptonshire District Council  
East Staffordshire Borough Council  
Eden District Council  
Enfield London Borough Council  
Harrogate Borough Council  
Harrow London Borough Council  
Hart District Council  
Hertsmere Borough Council  
Hounslow London Borough Council  
Hyndburn Borough Council  
Isle of Wight County Council  
Isles of Scilly Council  
Lancaster City Council  
Lincoln City Council  
Lincolnshire County Council  
Mid Sussex District Council  
Milton Keynes District Council  
Newark and Sherwood District Council  
Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council  
North Hertfordshire District Council  
North Norfolk District Council  
North Somerset District Council  
Norwich City Council  
Nottingham City Council  
Oxfordshire County Council  
Peterborough City Council  
Purbeck District Council



Redbridge London Borough Council  
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council  
Ribble Valley Borough Council  
Richmondshire District Council  
Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council  
Rother District Council  
Rutland District Council  
Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council  
Slough Borough Council  
Somerset County Council  
South Buckinghamshire District Council  
South Derbyshire District Council  
South Holland District Council  
South Kesteven District Council  
South Northamptonshire District Council  
South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council  
Southend-on-Sea Borough Council  
Southwark London Borough Council  
St. Albans City Council  
Stafford Borough Council  
Staffordshire County Council  
Stoke-on-Trent City Council  
Tamworth Borough Council  
Uttlesford District Council  
Vale of White Horse District Council  
Wakefield Metropolitan District Council  
Wansbeck District Council  
Wear Valley District Council  
Welwyn Hatfield District Council  
West Berkshire District Council  
West Dorset District Council  
West Lindsey District Council  
West Wiltshire District Council  
Wiltshire County Council  
Winchester City Council  
Wirral Metropolitan District Council  
Wolverhampton City Council  
Worthing Borough Council

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## SCHEDULE 4

Article 6

### Weak Authorities

Berwick-upon-Tweed Borough Council  
Birmingham City Council  
Bromley London Borough Council  
Castle Morpeth Borough Council  
Congleton Borough Council  
Coventry City Council  
Cumbria County Council  
East Lindsey District Council  
Fylde Borough Council  
Haringey London Borough Council  
Havering London Borough Council  
Hillingdon London Borough Council  
Islington London Borough Council  
Mansfield District Council  
Merton London Borough Council  
Mid Devon District Council  
North Devon District Council  
North Dorset District Council  
North East Derbyshire District Council  
North East Lincolnshire District Council  
Northamptonshire County Council  
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council  
Oxford City Council  
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council  
Salford City Council  
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council  
Selby District Council  
South Lakeland District Council  
Thurrock Borough Council  
Torbay District Council  
Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council  
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council  
Watford Borough Council  
Weymouth and Portland Borough Council  
Wyre Borough Council

## SCHEDULE 5

Article 7

### Poor authorities

Bedfordshire County Council  
Bromsgrove District Council  
Chester-le-Street District Council  
Hackney London Borough Council  
Kingston-upon-Hull City Council  
Lambeth London Borough Council  
North Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council  
Northampton Borough Council  
Plymouth City Council  
Rossendale Borough Council  
Swindon Borough Council  
Teesdale District Council  
Torridge District Council  
Waltham Forest London Borough Council

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order categorises local authorities in England into five categories according to performance. The categorisation follows a report of the Audit Commission on 1st July 2004. A copy of the report may be obtained free of charge from Andrew Whitehead, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Eland House, Bressenden Place London SW1E 5DU; telephone 020 7944 3846 or email [Andrew.Whitehead@odpm.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.Whitehead@odpm.gsi.gov.uk).

A regulatory impact assessment has not been prepared for this instrument as it has no impact on business, charities or voluntary bodies.