

Peter Horley
Melbourn Parish Council
Melbourn Community Hub
30 High Street
Melbourn
Royston
Hertfordshire SG8 6DZ

6 September 2016

Dear Parish or Town Clerk,

#### **ELECTORAL REVIEW OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE: FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Commission has now completed its review of Cambridgeshire County Council. I am pleased to enclose a summary of the Commission's report setting out our final recommendations for Cambridgeshire County Council, which is published today. A full copy of the report is available on our website, <a href="www.lgbce.org.uk">www.lgbce.org.uk</a>. An interactive map of final recommendations is available at <a href="www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk">www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk</a>

The changes proposed for Cambridgeshire County Council must now be implemented by order subject to Parliamentary scrutiny. A draft Order – the legal document which brings into force the recommendations – will be laid in Parliament. The draft Order will provide for new electoral arrangements for Cambridgeshire County Council to be implemented at the local elections in 2017.

We would also like to invite you to participate in our online opinion survey. This survey seeks feedback on the review processes and procedures, in order to identify improvements that can be made. We would be grateful if you could spare some time to visit our website, at <a href="http://www.lgbce.org.uk/about-us/lgbce-opinion-survey">http://www.lgbce.org.uk/about-us/lgbce-opinion-survey</a> to complete the survey.

If you require a paper copy of the opinion survey, please contact us on 0330 500 1525 or email us on reviews@lgbce.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Alex Hinds Review Officer reviews@lgbce.org.uk

0330 500 1525

The Local Government Boundary Commission

# Final recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Cambridgeshire County Council

Summary report

Read the full report and view detailed maps at: www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk
Find out more at: www.lgbce.org.uk
Follow us on Twitter at: @LGBCE

#### Who we are

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament. We are not part of government or any political party. We are accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

#### **Electoral review**

An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority. A local authority's electoral arrangements are:

- The total number of councillors representing the council's voters ('council size').
- The names, number and boundaries of wards or electoral divisions.
- The number of councillors representing each ward or division.

## Why Cambridgeshire?

We are conducting an electoral review of Cambridgeshire County Council to deliver improved levels of electoral equality for local voters.

Cambridgeshire currently has high levels of electoral inequality where some councillors represent many more - or many fewer - voters than others. This means that the value of your vote - in county council elections - varies depending on where you live in Cambridgeshire.

### **Our proposals**

Cambridgeshire County Council currently has 69 county councillors. Based on the evidence we received during previous phases of the review, the Commission recommends that 61 county councillors should serve Cambridgeshire in future.

## **Electoral arrangements**

Our final recommendations propose that Cambridgeshire's 61 county councillors should represent 57 single-member electoral divisions and two two-member electoral divisions across the county.

Stage of review	Description
28 Oct 2014 - 19 Jan 2015	Public consultation on new division pattern
12 May - 6 Jul 2015	Public consultation on draft recommendations
3 Nov - 30 Nov 2015	Further limited consultation on draft recommendations
9 Feb 2016	Publication of intital final recommendations
10 May - 20 Jun 2016	Public consultation on new draft recommendations
6 Sep 2016	Publication of new final recommendations
May 2017	Subject to parliamentary approval - implementation of new arrangements at county elections

#### **Summary of our recommendations**

In response to representations made to it during consultation, the Commission has made changes to the draft proposals it put forward for consultation in May. For example, in Cambridge city, the Commission has changed its boundary between Abbey and Petersfield divisions to reflect local views on community ties in that part of the city. Roads adjoining Abbey Walk, St Matthew's Gardens and part of Sturton Street will be part of the Petersfield division and not Abbey division as previously proposed.

In Cambridge, the Commission had also previously proposed a Trumpington & Queen Edith's electoral division to be represented by two county councillors. In light of local feedback, the Commission has amended its proposals so that the area will be represented by two divisions represented by one county councillor each.

In East Cambridgeshire, the Commission has altered its proposals throughout the district. In response to local views, it has amended its previous recommendation to divide Littleport between electoral divisions. Instead, the Commission's final recommendations propose to include the parish, in its entirety, in a Littleport division.

The Commission has also amended its proposals for Ely. Its previous recommendations had included part of Ely and its rural hinterland in a division with Soham and Littleport. The Commission's final recommendations ensure that Ely is represented by two electoral divisions which match the parish boundary and therefore do not include other parts of the district as had been put forward under the previous recommendations.

For Soham, the Commission's final recommendations propose a Soham North & Isleham division alongside a Soham South & Haddenham division which includes the south of the town and parishes to its west. After considering all the evidence presented to it, the Commission believes its recommendations better reflect local community ties and identities.

In Huntingdonshire district, the Commission has amended its recommendations so that the Eaton Ford area is not divided between electoral divisions. Eaton Ford will now be wholly contained within the St Neots The Eatons electoral division. Local representations about community ties around St Neots has persuaded the Commission to amend its proposed boundaries.

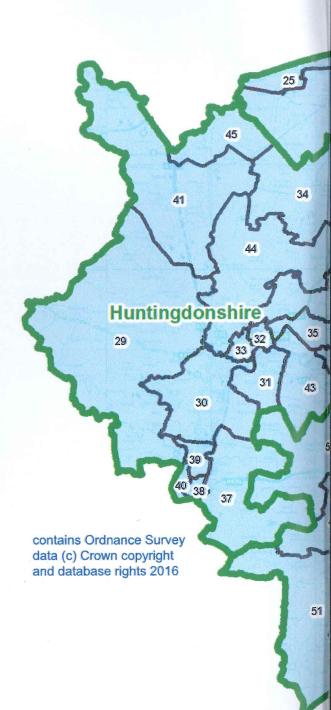
An outline of the proposals is shown in the map to the right of this box. A detailed report on the recommendations and interactive mapping is available on our website at: www.lgbce.org.uk.

# Overview of final recommendations

View this map online and explore it in more detail at: www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk

Follow the Commission on Twitter: @LGBCE

If you are viewing this page online, click on the map to straight to our interactive mapping area



#### Map key: s for Cambridgeshire County Council 1. Abbey Arbury 2 3. Castle 4. **Cherry Hinton** 5. Chesterton 6. King's Hedges 7. Market 8. Newnham 9. Petersfield 10. Queen Edith's 11. Romsey 12. Trumpington Burwell 13. Ely North 14. 15. Ely South Littleport 16. 22 17. Soham North & Isleham Fenland Soham South & Haddenham 18. 19. Sutton 20. Woodditton 21. Chatteris 22. March North & Waldersey 23. March South & Rural 23 16 24 Roman Bank & Peckover 25. Whittlesey North Whittlesey South 21 26. 14 27. Wisbech East 28. Wisbech West 29. Alconbury & Kimbolton 15 30. Brampton & Buckden 31. Godmanchester & Huntingdon North Huntingdon North & Hartford 32. East Cambridgeshire 33. **Huntingdon West** 34. Ramsey & Bury St Ives North & Wyton 35. 48 13 36. St Ives South & Needingworth 37. St Neots East & Gransden 59 38. St Neots Eynesbury St Neots Priory Park & Little Paxton 39. 32 6 Cambridge St Neots The Eatons 40. 41. Sawtry & Stilton 42. Somersham & Earith 20 50 43. The Hemingfords & Fenstanton 12 10 44. Warboys & The Stukeleys 45. Yaxley & Farcet 58 46. Bar Hill 47. Cambourne 54 oridgeshire 48. Cottenham & Willingham 49. Duxford 50. Fulbourn 51. Gamlingay 52. Hardwick 53. Histon & Impington Linton 54. 55. Longstanton, Northstowe & Over Melbourn & Bassingbourn 56. Single-member divisions Papworth & Swavesey 57. 58. Sawston & Shelford Two-member divisions 59. Waterbeach

#### Map key: s for Cambridgeshire County Council 1. Abbey 2. Arbury 3. Castle 4. **Cherry Hinton** 5. Chesterton 6. King's Hedges 7. Market 8. Newnham o go 24 9. Petersfield 10. Queen Edith's 11. Romsey 12. Trumpington 13. Burwell 14. Ely North 15. Ely South 22 16. Littleport Fenland 17. Soham North & Isleham Soham South & Haddenham 18. 19. Sutton 20. Woodditton Chatteris 21. 22. March North & Waldersey 23. March South & Rural 23 16 24. Roman Bank & Peckover 25. Whittlesey North 21 26. Whittlesey South 27. Wisbech East 19 28. Wisbech West 29. Alconbury & Kimbolton 30. Brampton & Buckden 42 31. Godmanchester & Huntingdon North 32. Huntingdon North & Hartford East Cambridgeshire 33. **Huntingdon West** 34. Ramsey & Bury 35. St Ives North & Wyton 48 36. St Ives South & Needingworth 55 37. St Neots East & Gransden 38. St Neots Eynesbury 3)2 6 **Cambridge** 8 7 5 1 St Neots Priory Park & Little Paxton 39. 46 St Neots The Eatons 40. 41. Sawtry & Stilton 8 7 9 42. Somersham & Earith 20 50 43. The Hemingfords & Fenstanton 52 12 10 44. Warboys & The Stukeleys 45. Yaxley & Farcet 46. Bar Hill Cambourne 54 47. South Cambridgeshire 48. Cottenham & Willingham 49. Duxford 50. **Fulbourn** 56 51. Gamlingay 52. Hardwick 53. Histon & Impington 54. 55. Longstanton, Northstowe & Over 56. Melbourn & Bassingbourn Papworth & Swavesey 57. Single-member divisions 58. Sawston & Shelford Waterbeach 59. Two-member divisions

The table lists all the divisions we are proposing as part of our final recommendations along with the number of voters per county councillor. The table also shows the electoral variances for each of the proposed divisions which tells you how we have delivered electoral equality.

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# What happens next?

We have now completed our review of Cambridgeshire County Council.

The recommendations must now be approved by Parliament. A draft order - the legal document which brings into force our recommendations - will be laid in Parliament. Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements will come into force at the county elections in 2017.