

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

ELECTORAL AND BOUNDARY REVIEW COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Electoral and Boundary Review Committee held in the Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Monday, 7 July 2014.

PRESENT: Mr G K Gibbens (Chairman), Mr A J King, MBE (Vice-Chairman), Mr M Baldock, Mr I S Chittenden, Mr P J Oakford (Substitute for Mr A H T Bowles), Mr C P Smith (Substitute for Mr D L Brazier), Mrs P A V Stockell, Mr A Terry and Mr R Truelove

ALSO PRESENT: Mr G Cooke, Mr G Lymer and Mr J N Wedgbury

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms D Fitch (Democratic Services Manager (Council)), Mr R Hallett (Head of Business Intelligence), Mr P Sass (Head of Democratic Services) and Mr G Wild (Director of Governance and Law)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

22. Minutes - 5 June 2014
(Item 3)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 June 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

23. Electoral Review of Kent County Council's Area
(Item 4)

(1) Mr Sass introduced the draft submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) on Council Size. The submission had been produced in accordance with the decision of the Committee at their meeting on 5 June 2014 to propose that Council size remained at 84 Members and noting a preference for single Member divisions where possible. The Committee was invited to comment on, amend as necessary and approve the draft for submission to the County Council on 17 July 2014.

(2) Mr Sass referred to the detailed population forecasts for 2020 which indicated an increased average number of electors per division of 850. He thanked Members for participating in the survey referred to in paragraph 24 of the submission.

(3) A Member reminded the Committee that a number of Districts would have new ward boundaries with effect from May 2015 following Electoral Boundary Reviews.

(4) The Committee discussed the preference for single Member divisions and how this should be worded in the draft submission. There was no amendment agreed to the wording in the draft submission.

(5) RESOLVED that the draft submission to the LGBCE on Council Size, Appendix A to the report, be recommended to the County Council for approval at its meeting on 17 July 2014.