

From: Graham Gibbens, Chairman of the Electoral and Boundary Review Committee  
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To: Electoral and Boundary Review Committee – 22 May 2015

Subject: Electoral Review of Kent County Council – Proposed Electoral Division boundaries

Classification: Unrestricted

**Summary:** This report advises the Committee of the recommendations made by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE), which were published for consultation on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015, upon which this Committee is invited to discuss and agree how to respond to the consultation.

## 1. Introduction

- (1) At its meeting on 16 December 2014, this Committee was advised that the LGBCE had confirmed its decision for a Council size of 81 and undertook a consultation exercise for proposed division patterns, which closed on 2 March 2015.
- (3) The LGBCE has now published its draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Kent County Council (the recommendations), on 12<sup>th</sup> May, which outline proposals for 65 single member divisions and 8 two member divisions. The report from the LGBCE indicates that the proposals have taken into account 59 Stage 1 Consultation submissions from relevant local authorities, organisations, individual councillors and members of the public.

## 2. Consultation timetable

- (1) The revised timetable for Kent's review, as supplied by the LGBCE on 5 December, 2014 remains as follows:

Stage 1 consultation start	Stage 1 consultation end	LGBCE mtg	Draft recs consultation start	Draft recs consultation end	LGBCE mtg	End of review (final recs published)	Order Laying date
09/12/14	02/03/15	21/04/15	12/05/15	06/07/15	08/09/15	29/09/15	November 2015

- (2) The closing date for responses to the current draft recommendations consultation is **6<sup>th</sup> July 2015**.

## 3. Conclusions

- (1) The draft recommendations report provides information on each proposed county division, with comments on the justification for relevant

changes. The County Council and other consultees now have a further opportunity to comment formally to the LGBCE on their division recommendations.

**Recommendation:** The Committee is invited to consider and comment on the draft recommendations published by the LGBCE in May 2015.

**Background Documents:**

Previous update reports to the Electoral Boundary Committee and the County Council

**Appendices:**

Appendix A – Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Kent County Council

Appendix B – LGBCE Press Release

Appendix C – Kent Boundaries Map

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