

**BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND (BCE) 2023 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES - EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION ON INITIAL PROPOSALS FOR NEW PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES**

Committee: Council

Date: 15 July 2021

Author: Infrastructure and Strategy Manager

[W40]

1.0 ISSUE

1.1 To agree the submission to the Boundary Commission for England (BCE) consultation on the initial proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 It is recommended that the Council agrees the submission to the BCE attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

3.0 BACKGROUND/OPTIONS

3.1 The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) is reviewing the boundaries of all the Parliamentary constituencies in England. On 8 June 2021 the BCE published its initial proposals for new parliamentary constituency boundaries.

3.2 The BCE proposals recommend that the three East Cambridgeshire district wards of Sutton, Downham Villages, and Littleport, currently included in the existing North East Cambridgeshire constituency, are included in a proposed East Cambridgeshire constituency with the rest of the district wards.

3.3 Further changes are required to bring the East Cambridgeshire constituency within the permitted electorate range, with a number of South Cambridgeshire district wards no longer included. This allows the constituency to become coterminous with East Cambridgeshire district, other than the inclusion of the two South Cambridgeshire district wards of Milton & Waterbeach, and Cottenham, both of which have road connections with Ely via the A10.

3.4 These changes mean that the existing name of South East Cambridgeshire becomes less appropriate, and the BCE therefore propose it be called East Cambridgeshire to better reflect the configuration of the constituency.

3.5 The purpose of the consultation is to give local people and groups the opportunity to comment on the initial proposals and the deadline for comments

is 2 August 2021. There will be a further two rounds of consultation in 2022, which will include a number of public hearings. The final report and recommendations are due to be presented to Parliament by July 2023 for approval, with the new constituencies taking effect at the next General Election.

#### 4.0 ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS

4.1 The consultation response at Appendix 1 states that the Council supports the proposed parliamentary boundary arrangement and the reasons why. The key advantage is that proposed East Cambridgeshire Constituency allows the whole of the district to be in the same constituency.

4.2 All Councillors have had the opportunity to contribute to the consultation response.

#### 5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT/CARBON IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 There are no additional financial implications arising from this report.

5.2 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required.

5.3 Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA) not required.

#### 6.0 APPENDICES

6.1 Appendix 1 - East Cambridgeshire District Council response to the Boundary Commission for England (BCE) consultation on initial proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries.

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**Background Documents**

The BCE website provides comprehensive details of the review – [BCE Consultation Portal](https://www.bce.org.uk/consultation-portal) ([bcereviews.org.uk](https://bcereviews.org.uk))

**Location**

Room 13  
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