

REPORT OF THE
Cabinet / Leader
PART II

**248. FURTHER ELECTORAL REVIEW OF HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL –
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY
COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND**

1. At its meeting on 19 September 2016 (following the publication of this report) Cabinet will receive a report containing the final recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) on its electoral review of the County Council. Cabinet is asked to note the recommendations and the next steps to their implementation

2. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is a body corporate established by Parliament under the provisions of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (the 2009 Act). The LGBCE is an independent body directly accountable to Parliament.

3. On 29 August 2014, the LGBCE advised the County Council that the LGBCE had determined that a further Electoral Review of the County Council's Electoral Arrangements should take place. So far as the County Council is concerned, Electoral Arrangements means:

- The total number of County Councillors of the County Council
- The number and boundaries of electoral divisions in the County Council
- The number of County Councillors in respect of any electoral division
- The names of electoral divisions of the County Council

4. The LGBCE has determined that the number of County Councillors should remain at 78, being a number that "will ensure the Council can perform its roles and responsibilities effectively". This recommendation is in accordance with the County Council's submission that the County Council should retain its existing Council Size.

5. The LGBCE has determined that the 78 County Councillors should represent 74 single-Member divisions and two two-Member divisions. None of the 76 divisions will have an electoral variance of greater than 10 percent of the average for Hampshire by 2021. In this regard the LGBCE has used electoral forecasts provided by the County Council as the basis for its final recommendations.

6. The outcomes of the review affect most County Council divisions through boundary changes; a number of divisions have been re-named. The LGBCE has determined that the number of divisions in the Eastleigh Borough Council area should increase by one and that the number of divisions in the New Forest District Council area should reduce by one. The formerly two-Member division of Bedhampton & Leigh Park in the Havant District Council area has been divided into two single Member divisions in accordance with the County Council's submission on Electoral Division patterns. The existing two-Member divisions of Fareham Town and Leesland & Town in the Fareham and Gosport District Council areas have also been retained in accordance with the County Council's submission.

7. There is no statutory provision for appeal or challenge to the final recommendations. As the review by the LGBCE is complete, it must now be approved by Parliament. The draft Order needs to be laid before each House of Parliament for 40 days. There is no provision for Parliament to modify the proposed Order, which will come into law unless Parliament objects. The new electoral arrangements will come into effect from the local government elections in 2017.

Further details can be found at www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm by typing in the relevant reference number:

- Electoral Review of Hampshire County Council – Local Government Boundary Commission for England Final Recommendations (search item reference 7793)

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