

## Agenda Item 6

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<b>Date</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> December 2012

<b>Ward (s) affected</b>	N/A
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<b>Subject</b>	<b>The 2013 Review of Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
<p>The Council is asked to decide if it wishes to respond to the Boundary Commission's proposals on future Parliamentary Boundaries and, if so, to determine those comments; and if appropriate to give the ERO in consultation with the Leader the authority to finalise the response to the Boundary Commission.</p>	

<b>Council has the authority to determine the Recommendations</b>
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### BACKGROUND

- 1.0 The Boundary Commission for England is an independent and impartial body which reviews all Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England every five years. The current review – which must report to Parliament by October 2013 – is being carried out under new rules laid down in the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011.
- 1.1 The new rules mean that there will be substantial changes to Parliamentary constituencies in England; these include reducing the total number of constituencies from 533 to 502 and making sure that each constituency contains a similar number of registered electors.
- 1.2 The Boundary Commission calculated the electoral quota by dividing the number of registered electors in the UK by the number of constituencies (not including four exempt constituencies). The current quota is 76,641. Every constituency must have a number of registered electors that is no more than 5% lower or higher than that figure. In practice, this means that constituencies must contain between 72,810 and 80,473 electors.
- 1.3 Using the quota, the Boundary Commission allocated constituencies among the nine regions of England; within these regions it was not always possible to allocate whole numbers of constituencies to individual counties. In such cases the Boundary Commission grouped some local authority areas into sub regions and allocated constituencies within them. This means that in some instances, the

Boundary Commission had proposed constituencies that cross county or unitary authority boundaries.

- 1.4 The final shape of the new constituency boundaries will be informed by consultation. Consultation on the final proposals is running until 10<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

## **PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE MOLE VALLEY PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY**

- 2.0 The changes that will affect Mole Valley proposed in the Boundary Commission's report are as follows:

- Change the name of the Mole Valley constituency to Mid Surrey.
- Mole Valley (Mid Surrey) to gain the Ewhurst Ward from Waverley Borough Council which used to be given to Guildford Borough.
- Mole Valley (Mid Surrey) would also gain the 5 wards of 1) Alfold, Cranleigh Rural and Ellen Green 2) Blackheath and Wonersh 3) Cranleigh East 4) Cranleigh West and 5) Shamley Green and Cranleigh North from Waverley Borough which they also used to give to Guildford Borough.
- Mole Valley (Mid Surrey) would lose (no longer take in) the 3 Guildford Wards of 1) Send, 2) Clandon and Horsley and 3) Lovelace.
- Mole Valley (Mid Surrey) would lose the Charlwood Ward to the Reigate constituency.

- 2.1 There would be no change to Ashted being allocated into the Epsom and Ewell constituency.

- 2.2 The Council is asked to decide if it wishes to respond to the Boundary Commission's proposals on future Parliamentary Boundaries and, if so, to determine those comments.

## **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

**Legal Implications** – The Boundary Commission for England is an independent and impartial non –departmental public body, which is required by Parliament to review Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England. The current review is in accordance with the requirements of the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011.

**Financial Implications** – There are no specific financial implications for the Council in approving the recommendation contained in this report.

**Risk Implications** – None for the purposes of this report.

**Equalities Implications** – The rules contained in the legislation state that every constituency in England (except two covering the Isle of Wight) must have an electorate of between 72,810 and 80,473 – that is 5% either side of the electoral quota of 76,641.

The current draft proposals submitted by the Assistant Commissioners for the South East ensure that this electoral equality is achieved.

**Employment Issues** – None for the purposes of this report.

**Sustainability Issues** – None for the purposes of this report.

**Consultation** – This consultation is being undertaken by the Boundary Commission for England

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Report by the Assistant Commissioners on the South East

[http://consultation.boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/2011\\_09\\_09\\_BCE\\_SouthEastIP\\_acc2.pdf](http://consultation.boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/2011_09_09_BCE_SouthEastIP_acc2.pdf)