

ALTERATIONS TO COUNTY ELECTORAL DIVISIONS

To: **County Council**

Date: **20th July 2010**

From: **County Returning Officer**

Electoral Division(s) **All**

Forward Plan Ref: **N/A** *Key Decision:* **No**

Purpose: **To note the alterations to the boundaries of the district wards within the area of Huntingdonshire District Council and to approve the related alterations to the boundaries of Cambridgeshire's Electoral divisions lying within the area of Huntingdonshire District Council.**

Recommendation: **It is recommended that the Council:-**

- (I) Note the changes to parish boundaries implemented by the Huntingdon (Parishes) Order 2009 and the related changes effected by the Huntingdonshire (Related Alterations) Order 2010.**
- (II) Approve the alteration of CCC Electoral Division boundaries, identified by the Electoral Commission as being affected by the above Order, in order to ensure the Electoral Division, District Ward and Parish boundaries are coterminous.**
- (III) Instruct the County Returning Officer to formally request the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to implement these changes.**

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1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report sets out the changes to district ward boundaries proposed by Huntingdonshire District Council, (HDC), affecting wards within the area of HDC, and seeks approval for the related changes to County Electoral Division Boundaries within the same area.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A review of parish boundaries and electoral arrangements in Huntingdonshire commenced in March 2006 and involved extensive consultation with a range of interested parties including Councillors, Town and Parish Councils, Political Parties, Members of Parliament and other representative groups and allowed them to submit any proposals for changes to parish arrangements. The representations were considered and final recommendations were formulated, which concluded the review in January 2008 and thereby followed the subsequent issue of the Statutory Instrument – The Huntingdonshire (Parishes) Order 2009.
- 2.2 The Huntingdonshire (Parishes) Order 2009 made changes to Parish boundaries within the District of Huntingdonshire. The implementation of these changes gave rise to the need to adjust the District Ward boundaries to ensure that they are consistent with the Parish boundaries and the Huntingdonshire (Related Alterations) Order 2010¹ was prepared by the Electoral Commission to bring into effect the necessary changes to the District Ward boundaries. This Order came into effect on the 8 March 2010 and has resulted in changes to some of the Ward boundaries which were previously coterminous with parts of the County Electoral Division boundaries.
- 2.3 In order to ensure consistency between the District Ward boundaries and the County Division boundaries, minor adjustments are required to the County Electoral Division boundaries. In order to effect these changes the Electoral Commission must prepare an Order and the approval of Full Council is required in order that the Electoral Commission is formally requested to prepare the order and implement the necessary changes.
- 2.4 The District Ward and parish boundaries are usually coterminous with the County Electoral Division as this assists the administration of elections.

3. Effect of the Proposed Electoral Division Boundary Changes

- 3.1 Appendix 'B' contains a schedule prepared by the Electoral Commission which sets out the changes to the Cambridgeshire County

¹ Attached at Appendix 'A'

Council Electoral Division Boundaries that are required in order to ensure that the boundaries are coterminous with the District Ward and Parish boundaries. Column 1 contains a description of the changes and these are identified by a letter which links to one of the shaded areas on the maps attached as Appendix 'C'. Columns 2 and 3 identify the Cambridgeshire County Council Electoral divisions affected.

- 3.2 The above shows the physical changes to the boundaries and in some cases these will also have a small impact in terms of electors as a result of residences falling within different Electoral Divisions following the re-alignment of the boundaries. It must be stressed that the changes are small in number. The precise changes based on the electoral roll as at April 2010 are as follows:-

Area of Change (Letter Corresponds to Table 1, Column 1)	Impact in terms of electors
A; B; F; G; Q; X; Y; BB; FF.	No changes to electors
C	Approx 12 electors move from Somersham and Earith to St Ives
E	None currently although this change does encompass a planned housing development which is predicted to have approx 180 electors.
H	Approx 74 electors will move from The Hemingfords and Fenstanton to St Ives
P	Approx 650 electors to move from Buckden, Gransden and The Offords.
R	1 elector to move from Little Paxton and St Neots North to Brampton & Kimbolton
U	Approx 6 electors to move from Brampton & Kimbolton to Sawtry and Ellington.
DD & EE	Approx 43 electors move from Warboys & Upwood to Ramsey
HH	Approx 8 electors move from Ramsey to Warboys & Upwood

4. Implementation

- 4.1 The process for the implementation of the proposed changes requires that the County Council confirm that it agrees the changes to the boundaries and if so, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, LGBCE, will draft the necessary Order to be laid before parliament.

<u>Source Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
- Council's Constitution; - Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.	Room 006 Shire Hall Cambridge	Stephen Moir County Returning Officer

Appendix 'A' - Huntingdon (Parishes) Order 2009.

Appendix 'B' - Schedule of related alterations to Electoral Divisions prepared by Electoral Commission.

Appendix 'C' - Maps of Parish Boundaries showing related changes as shaded areas.