

19 March 2009

Dear Colleague

STRUCTURAL REVIEW OF SUFFOLK: FURTHER DRAFT PROPOSALS

The Boundary Committee for England today publishes further draft proposals for unitary local government in Suffolk. This report can be accessed via our web page, from midday today, at <http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/boundary-reviews/all-reviews/eastern/suffolk/suffolk-structural-review>.

We welcome views on our further draft proposals by **14 May 2009**.

Since starting the review our process has been subject to legal challenge in the High Court and judicial review judgments were handed down in November 2008 and January 2009. Although both judgments were in the Committee's favour, the effect of the High Court judgments is that we are now able to consult and advise on more than one 'draft proposal'. We have adapted our process and now publish those patterns which the Committee consider are likely to have the capacity to meet the Secretary of State's criteria.

The Committee has not finalised its conclusions and, in light of further evidence, may put forward advice to the Secretary of State which is different to what is in our further draft proposals report. The Secretary of State has now extended the date by which we must provide advice to 15 July 2009.

Hard copies of reports, summaries and posters

Paper copies of the report will be sent to your authority during the week commencing 30 March 2009. We will also send you CD-Roms of the reports at that time. I would ask that, on receipt, hard copies of the reports are put on display for public viewing in appropriate locations, such as libraries, council offices and other public information points in the county.

We have sent our contacts at each authority today, via Royal Mail, a number of posters and summaries of the report. Please arrange for these to be distributed to appropriate locations within your area. We have also sent the county association of parish and town councils posters to distribute to each parish and town council within the county. Further copies are available to be downloaded from the Committee's web page.

We are also writing to all those who submitted representations to the Committee during the summer 2008 consultation, to MPs with constituency interests and to MEPs for the region drawing their attention to these further draft proposals.

If you have any queries on the content of this letter, please contact Kalim Anwer, 020 7271 0680, KAnwer@electoralcommission.org.uk.

Copies of all representations received during this stage of the process will be posted on the Boundary Committee's web page at the end of the consultation period and made available for inspection at the Committee's offices.

Yours sincerely

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