

# REPORT TO ENGAGEMENT P.D.G.

**REPORT OF: Principal Democracy Officer**

**REPORT NO: LDS165**

**DATE: 15 January 2016**

<b>TITLE:</b>	Lincolnshire County Council – Electoral Review	
<b>KEY DECISION OR POLICY FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL:</b>	N/A	
<b>PORTFOLIO HOLDER: NAME AND DESIGNATION:</b>	Councillor Kelham Cooke Portfolio: Governance & Communication	
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<b>INITIAL IMPACT ANALYSIS:</b>	Carried out and Referred to in paragraph (7) below  N/A	Full impact assessment Required:
<b>Equality and Diversity</b>		
<b>FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT:</b>	This report is publicly available via the Your Council and Democracy link on the Council’s website: <a href="http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk">www.southkesteven.gov.uk</a>	
<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>	Local Government Boundary Commission for England: Lincolnshire County Council review page - <a href="http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/east-midlands/lincolnshire/lincolnshire-county-council">http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/east-midlands/lincolnshire/lincolnshire-county-council</a>  Local Government Boundary Commission for England: How to propose a pattern of wards - <a href="http://www.lgbce.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0010/25201/proposing-new-wards-guidance.pdf">http://www.lgbce.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0010/25201/proposing-new-wards-guidance.pdf</a>	

## 1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That the PDG considers the electoral division arrangements proposed by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to feed into a response to be submitted on behalf of the Council**

## **2. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 2.1 To update members of the Council about the arrangements for the review of electoral arrangements for Lincolnshire County Council and invite members to provide feedback on the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's draft proposals for county divisions.

## **3. DETAILS OF REPORT**

- 3.1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) began an electoral review of Lincolnshire County Council in the summer of 2014. The review will recommend new electoral arrangements for Lincolnshire County Council, in particular:

- The total number of councillors elected to the council in the future
- The number of electoral divisions
- The number of councillors representing each division
- Electoral division boundaries
- Names of divisions

- 3.2 The key objectives of the review are:

- To deliver electoral equality where each county councillor represents roughly the same number of electors as others across the county
- The pattern of divisions should, as far as possible, reflect the interests and identities of local communities
- The electoral arrangements should provide for effective and convenient local government

- 3.3 Lincolnshire County Council has also asked the Commission to conduct a single-member division review, which means it will seek to deliver electoral arrangements for Lincolnshire where each division is represented by one councillor.

- 3.4 For the first stage in the process, Lincolnshire County Council submitted a proposed Council size of 71, a reduction of 6 Councillors. The figure was determined through analysis of Councillors' workloads, the Council's decision-making structure, the county's geography and electorate growth projections.

- 3.5 The LGBCE then asked local people and organisations for their views as to the best pattern of divisions for the county that met the requirements set out above. All submissions were judged on their merits and against the statutory criteria.

- 3.6 The new divisions should be based on the electorate projections and within a variance of +/-10% of the average number of electors per Councillor in 2021. The average number of electors per Councillor was calculated as 7,978 in 2015 and 8,292 in 2021 taking account of growth projections. Currently the South Kesteven is split into 15 divisions. Based on the projected number of electors for South Kesteven in 2021 the district would need to be split into 14 divisions.

- 3.7 In developing new division arrangements the Local Government Boundary Commission for England determined that a council size of 70 would allow for a better allocation of members across the county and provide for a better pattern of divisions without adversely affecting the governance arrangements of the Council.
- 3.7 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England published draft Division patterns on 15 December 2015. These are now subject to public consultation, which closes on 8 February 2016. The proposed new divisions for South Kesteven are detailed below:

<b>Division name</b>	<b>Variance 2021</b>	<b>Description</b>
Ancaster & Manthorpe	0%	<p>Includes the parishes of Ancaster, Barkston, Syston, Belton and Manthorpe and the Gonerby Hill Ward of Great Gonerby parish.</p> <p>It also includes the Gonerby Hill Foot area of Grantham, the Manthorpe Road Estate and parts of Grantham town centre with the western boundary running along the railway line, along North Parade and up Watergate with the southern boundary running along Vine Street and Bluegate to the river Witham, which forms the Eastern boundary until it reaches Belton.</p>
Barrowby	-1%	<p>Includes the parishes of Barrowby, Sedgebrook, Allington and Woolsthorpe-by-Belvoir.</p> <p>The proposed division also includes part of Grantham. It is bordered by the boundaries of Harlaxton and Little Ponton and Stroxton parishes to the south and Londonthorpe and Harrowby Without to the east, then runs a short distance along the railway line. It comprises Gorse Lane, the Wyville Road area, the western end of Harlaxton Road. The boundary runs along the middle of the eastern end of Harlaxton Road, along the railway line and up the centre of Dysart Road until it reaches the Barrowby parish boundary.</p>
Baston & Barholm	-8%	<p>Includes the parishes of Uffington, Tallington, West Deeping, Greatford, Barholm and Stowe, Braceborough and Wilsthorpe, Baston and Langtoft.</p> <p>It is also proposed that the western part</p>

Division name	Variance 2021	Description
		of the town of Market Deeping is included within this division. The Boundary would run along Car Dyke, behind the properties on Towngate West, Prestland and Hall Farm then down the centre of Church Street to the district border.
Belton Park	-10%	<p>The River Witham forms the western boundary of this proposed division, the northern boundary runs through Belton Park along the boundary for Belton parish. The eastern boundary runs along the High Dyke to the parish boundary with Little Ponton and Stroxton where it heads west to the border with Harlaxton parish. The western boundary follows the boundary for Londonthorpe and Harrowby Without and includes all of the Harrowby and Spitalgate Ward of the parish.</p> <p>The division would also cover the Harrowby Estate part of Grantham with the boundary running behind the properties on Gorse Road and Uplands Drive, behind the properties on Harrowby Lane and down to the river Witham. The river forms the eastern boundary until it reaches Belton. It also includes Prince William of Gloucester Barracks and the southern quadrant development area.</p>
Bourne Croft & Twenty	3%	<p>This covers the east and south areas of Bourne town and the village of Twenty.</p> <p>The boundary follows the parish boundary along the south and west until it reaches West Road. The proposed boundary runs along West Street and then north along North Road. The northern boundary runs behind the properties on Stephenson Way and its offshoots then heads south behind the properties on Wingate Way and Rangoon Way until it meets Mill Drove, where it heads east.</p>
Bourne Woodview & Morton	-7%	This proposed division covers the north-western part of Bourne town. It covers the area to the north of West Road and West Street and the western side of

Division name	Variance 2021	Description
		<p>North Road. The western-most border follows the boundary of Bourne and Morton and Hanthorpe parishes and along the northernmost boundary of Morton and Hanthorpe parish.</p> <p>It also includes Dyke, Morton and Hanthorpe.</p>
Colsterworth Rural	8%	Covers the parishes of Thurlby, Toft with Lound and Manthorpe, Witham on the Hill, Carlby, Careby, Aunby and Holywell, Little Bytham, Couthorpe and Creeton, Castle Bytham, South Witham, North Witham, Colsterworth, Gunby and Stainby, Skillington, Stoke Rochford, Easton, Great Ponton, Little Ponton and Stroxton, Boothby Pagnell, Bitchfield and Bassingthorpe, Burton Coggles, Wyville cum Hungerton, Harlaxton and Denton
Deeping St. James	-1%	This proposed division covers the whole of Deeping St. James parish. It also includes the eastern part of Market Deeping. The proposed boundary runs from the district boundary in the south, along Church Street, behind the properties on Chestnut Way and Black Prince Avenue and then along Car Dyke until it reaches the northern boundary of the parish.
Green Hill	4%	The proposed western boundary matches the western boundary of Grantham. The southern boundary runs along Dysart Road to the Railway line where it then runs along Wharf Road and the eastern end of St. Catherine's Road. It runs along Welham Street to the West of the Waterfront then along the river where it cuts east and runs along Bluegate and Vine Street, along Watergate and North Parade where it once again joins the railway line until it reaches the town boundary.
Hough	-8%	Covers the parishes of Claypole, Long Bennington, Stubton, Foston, Hougham, Marston, Fenton, Hough on the Hill, Westborough and Dry Doddington, Fulbeck, Caythorpe, Nomanton-on-Cliffe and Carlton Scroop

Division name	Variance 2021	Description
		It also includes Gonerby Ward of Great Gonerby parish.
Spittlegate	3%	<p>The proposed Spittlegate division covers the Bridge End Ward of the parish of Loundthorpe and Harrowby Without.</p> <p>The boundary follows the town boundary and runs behind the housing developments on Springfield Road before cutting between the properties on Denton Avenue and Buckminster Gardens. The boundary follows along Harlaxton Road, then Wharf Road, down St. Catherine's Road to Welham Street then along the river Witham until it meets with Belton Lane. It then runs behind the properties on Hill Avenue, Gorse Rise, Signal Road, Sharpe Road, New Beacon Road and Gorse Road before following a path running from behind Brittain Drive to Lady's Walk, which it follows until it reaches the Grantham town boundary.</p>
Stamford East	2%	The western boundary runs down Little Casterton Road, along Scotgate, down St. John's Street, east along St. Mary's Street to High Street St. Martin's and down to the town boundary. The southern, eastern and northern division boundaries follow the boundaries of Stamford civil parish.
Stamford West	-9%	The eastern boundary runs down Little Casterton Road, along Scotgate, down St. John's Street, east along St. Mary's Street to High Street St. Martin's and down to the town boundary. The southern, western and northern division boundaries follow the boundaries of Stamford civil parish.
Upper Glens	-6%	Covers Heydour, Oasby, Aisby, Welby, Hacey, Braceby, Sapperton, Ropsley and Humby, Old Somerby, Ingoldsby, Lenton, Keisby and Osgodby, Braceby and Sapperton, Pickworth, Irnham, Corby Glen, Swayfield, Swinstead, Edenham, Grimsthorpe, Stainfield, Kirkby Underwood, Aslackby and Laughton, Pointon, Dowsby, Rippingale, Dunsby, Haconby, Pointon and

Division name	Variance 2021	Description
		Sempringham, Folkingham, Billingborough, Horbling

3.8 The changes proposed by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England would necessitate changes in parish warding in Bourne, Stamford and Market Deeping.

3.9 Under the proposals Bourne would retain 15 councillors, who would represent four parish wards:

- North Fen, returning 4 members
- South Fen, returning 5 members
- Dyke Fen, returning 1 member
- Cawthorpe, returning 5 members

3.10 Under the proposals Market Deeping would retain 13 councillors, who would represent two parish wards

- Mill Field, returning 7 members
- Swine's Meadow, returning 6 members

3.11 Under the proposals Stamford would retain 21 councillors, representing six parish wards

- All Saints North, returning 3 members
- All Saints South, returning 3 members
- St. George's, returning 4 members
- St. John's, returning 5 members
- St. Mary's, returning 4 members
- St. Peter's returning 2 members

#### **4. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

4.1 The Council could choose not to put forward a submission.

#### **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no resource implications arising from this report

#### **6. RISK AND MITIGATION**

6.1 Risk has been considered as part of this report and no exceptional / high risks have been identified.

#### **7. ISSUES ARISING FROM IMPACT ANALYSIS**

7.1 Not applicable

## **8. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 There are no crime and disorder implications arising as a result of this report.

## **9. COMMENTS OF FINANCIAL SERVICES**

9.1 This report has no financial implications.

## **10. COMMENTS OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

10.1 Local authority boundary reviews are carried out to review the number of councillors, the names, number and boundaries of wards and electoral divisions and the number of councillors to be elected to each. Electoral reviews are initiated primarily to improve electoral equality. This means ensuring, so far as is reasonable, that each councillor elected to the authority represents the same number of electors. The Local Government Boundary Commission is responsible for putting any changes to electoral arrangements into effect and does this by making an Order. The local authority then conducts local elections on the basis of the new arrangements set out in that Order.

10.2 The Boundary Commission and provision for review was introduced by the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

## **11. COMMENTS OF OTHER RELEVANT SERVICES**

11.1 Not applicable