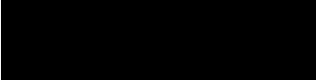
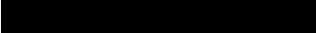


Cambridgeshire County

Personal Details:

Name: Mark Argent

E-mail: 

Postcode: 

Organisation Name: Cambridge Liberal Democrats

Comment text:

See the attached, text pasted here: The Local Government Boundary Commissioners: Cambridgeshire Consultation On behalf of Cambridge Liberal Democrats local party, I wish to makes some comments about the boundaries of the Cambridge divisions for Cambridgeshire County Council. 1. Those proposed in February are much better than the ones proposed earlier in the process in that they respect natural boundaries and keep settled communities together much better. In particular, the centre of the City, which has very special characteristics and problems, is kept as one entity and the boundary between Romsey and Abbey remains on the natural division of Coldhams Common and the railway line. 2. The suggested boundary between Abbey and Petersfield would be improved if Edward Street, Upper Gwydir Street, Norfolk Street and St Matthew's Street south of Vicarage Terrace remained in Petersfield as this would be markedly less divisive of the community. The numbers concerned are not great enough to go outside the commissions' margins. 3. In accepting the need to divide the Castle/Newnham two-member division proposed earlier the proposed boundary in the vicinity of the east-west section of Storey's Way was placed at the rear of the gardens of the houses on the south side of that road. As many of them are now owned by Churchill College and occupied by its members, for reasons of community coherence, that part of the boundary should run along the centre of the east-west section of Storey's Way. It has no houses on the north side. 4. Along with colleagues across the county, we have a fundamental objection to double member divisions and believe they break one of the criteria of the commission. One of the questions consultees are encouraged to ask themselves is "are any of the proposed divisions too large or too small to be represented effectively?" In our judgement and experience, the answer to double member divisions is always "yes, too large". We therefore have a fundamental objection to the two member ward of Queen Ediths and Trumpington. As a review of the City Council ward boundaries will undoubtedly follow this review, it would be better to deal with the matter now. 5. We note the commission's conclusion "we were not persuaded by the evidence for two single member divisions for Trumpington and Queen Edith's. This would require either accepting a Trumpington division with an 18% variance or a Trumpington division which takes in adjoining areas where we have received support for our draft recommendations". We propose a revised boundary line which avoids dividing the new Ninewells development from its neighbours. The county council estimates that this is possible without other adjustments but we suspect it may have miscalculated the number of electors within the Addenbrooke's campus. By including in Trumpington an additional area in the north of the current Queen Edith's ward comprising Homerton College and the adjacent new Magna development this error, if established, can be overcome. We cannot stress strongly enough that this question will come back to the commission if it avoids it now. There is no possibility of a six-member ward being allowed within the city by Commission rules. We suggest this is a reasonable division between Queen Edith's and Trumpington, largely following the boundary that existed between 1976 and 2005, which should be accepted in this review. Mark Argent Chair, Cambridge Liberal Democrats

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The Local Government Boundary Commissioners: Cambridgeshire Consultation

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