

[REDACTED]

From: Knag, Daniel
Sent: 11 June 2012 16:25
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: t 05/12
Attachments: Online Submission 1_Redacted.pdf; Online Submission 2_Redacted.pdf

Dear [REDACTED],

Our ref: 05/12

Thank you for your request for information, dated 20 April, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested:

Details of discussions (phone, email, faxes, letters, etc) between LGBCE and Bristol City Council since April 2010 to date about a possible electoral review of Bristol, such as possible Boundary changes for wards within the City of Bristol.

The Commission does hold information relevant to your request. Please find attached PDFs of two online submissions and our responses.

I hope this has been of assistance. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me, quoting the reference number above in any correspondence.

If you are unhappy with the response or the way in which your request was dealt with and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to:

Daniel Knag
Freedom of Information Officer
Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Layden House
76-86 Turnmill Street
London
EC1M 5LG

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision; Details of this procedure can be found on the ICO website: <http://www.ico.gov.uk>.

Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Local Boundary Commission for England.

Yours sincerely,

**Daniel Knag
Implementation Officer**

Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Implementation Team
Layden House
76-86 Turnmill Street
London EC1M 5LG
Tel: 020 7664 8521
Fax: 020 7296 6227
www.lgbce.org.uk



Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: Knag, Daniel
Sent: 21 May 2012 09:28
To: [REDACTED]
Sub [REDACTED] uest 05/12

Hello again [REDACTED]

Thanks for the clarification. Please expect a response by 11 June.

Regards,

Daniel

From: [REDACTED]
Sent:
To: Knag, Daniel
Subject: RE: Response to FOI request 01/12

Hello Daniel,

To clarify; please could you provide me with any details of discussions (phone, email, faxes, letters, etc) between LGBCE and Bristol City Council since April 2010 to date about a possible electoral review of Bristol, such as possible Boundary changes for wards within the City of Bristol.

I look forward to your reply.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Hello [REDACTED]

FOI Ref: 05/12

You requested:

Discussions between the Local Government Boundary Commission for England and Bristol City Council on possible Boundary Changes. I would once again be requesting any correspondence (including emails, faxes, telephone notes, letters, etc) from any Officer, Councillors or Consultants at the City Council since 1 January 2003.

Your request is rather broad. Could I clarify whether you would like correspondence arising from discussions purely relating to any potential electoral review of Bristol City Council?

It may also have a bearing on your request to know that the LGBCE has been in existence only since April 2010. For the rest of the period (01/01/2003 - 01/04/10), the body responsible for directing electoral reviews was the Electoral Commission.

Please note that the statutory timeframe of twenty working days will not commence until we receive your clarification.

If you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me on the details provided below. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications. Sorry this acknowledgment is a little delayed.

Regards,

Daniel Knag
Implementation Officer
Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Implementation Team
Layden House
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Tel: 020 7664 8521
Fax: 020 7296 6227
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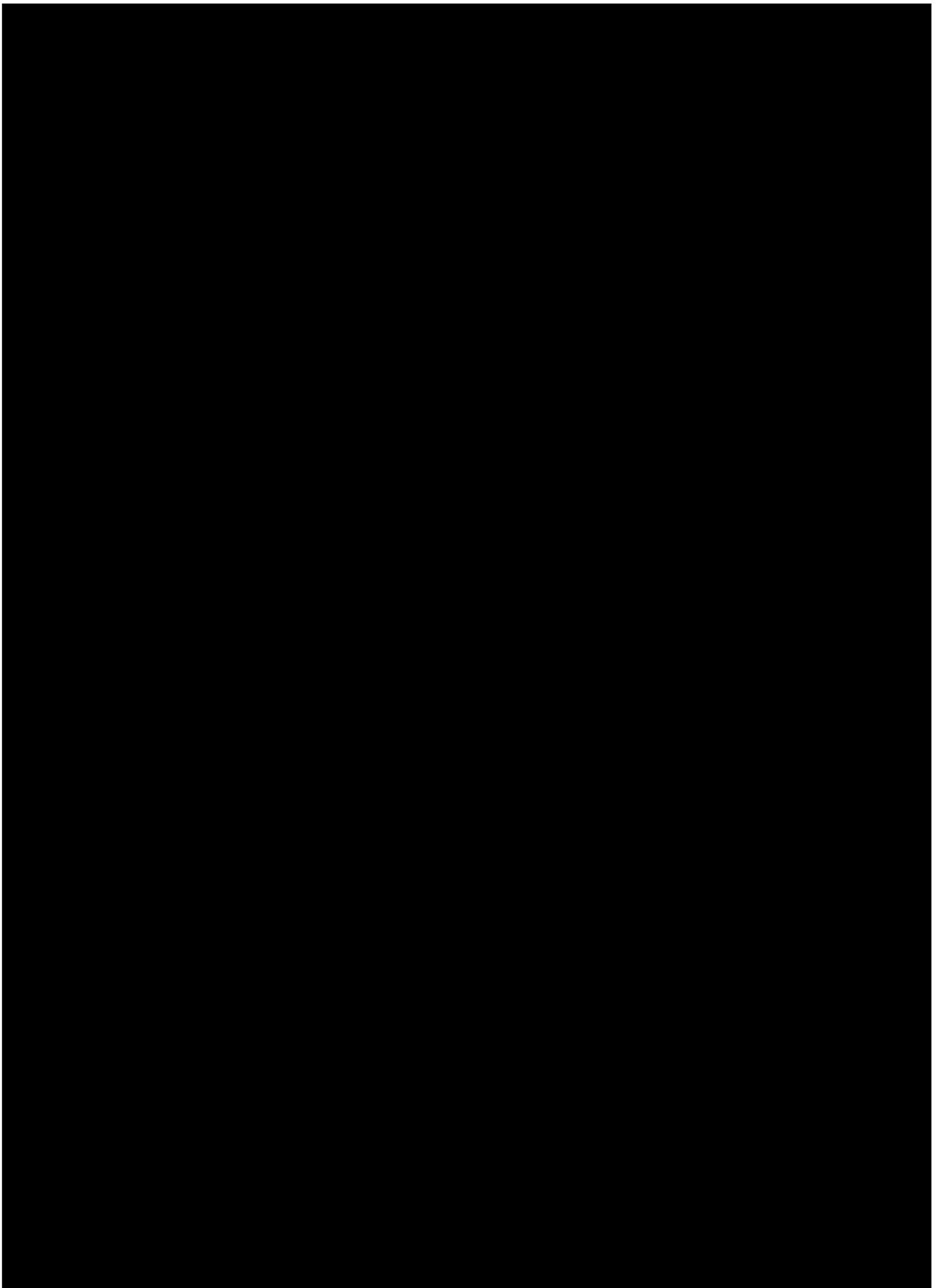
Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent:
To: Knag, Daniel
Subject: RE: Response to FOI request 01/12

Daniel,
Thank you for your reply to my FOI.
Would it be possible to submit another one requesting any information about discussions between the Local Government Boundary Commission for England and Bristol City Council on possible Boundary Changes. I would once again be requesting any correspondence (including emails, faxes, telephone notes, letters, etc) from any Officer, Councillors or Consultants at the City Council since 1 January 2003.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]



Knag, Daniel

From: Gregory, Eleanor
Sent: 27 May 2010 10:46
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Bristol ward boundaries

Dear [REDACTED],

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England does not presently have any plans to conduct an electoral review of Bristol as we have a full programme of work for 2010-2011. To initiate a Review, your Council could submit a request that the LGBCE undertake a review by writing to the address below.

If your authority decides to request a review it will be considered alongside the other requests we have received when we come to determining our longer term work programme. When conducting boundary reviews, the Commission is required to take into account community identity and the provision of convenient and effective local government, rather than outright historic factors, so any request to the Commission should bear these issues in mind.

An electoral review lasts approximately 15 months. Its worth noting that any review conducted will be of the whole authority, rather than adjusting councillor numbers between existing wards. Furthermore, the Commission must follow its *Guidance* in order to conduct the review. The current *Guidance* is available on our website (at <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/guidance-policy-and-publications/guidance>) and dictates that an electoral review begins by looking specifically at the number of members who serve on the council, before looking at the wider electoral arrangements including the number and boundaries of wards, as well as the number of councillors representing each ward. Once council size is agreed, we hold public consultation on electoral arrangements following which we publish draft recommendations. Then there is another round of local consultation before the Commission formulates its final recommendations. As part of an electoral review, the Commission has regard to its statutory criteria of electoral equality, community identity and convenient and effective local government.

You can find a typical review timetable on our website at <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/documents/lgbce-documents/guidance/electoral-review-technical-guidance-v4-2010-03-30.pdf>. This document will also provide more detailed information on the review and implementation processes.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Kind regards.

Eleanor Gregory

Eleanor Gregory
Review Assistant
Local Government Boundary Commission for England
3rd Floor, Layden House
76-86 Turnmill Street
London EC1M 5LG
Tel: 020 7664 8518
Fax: 0207 296 6768

www.lgbce.org.uk

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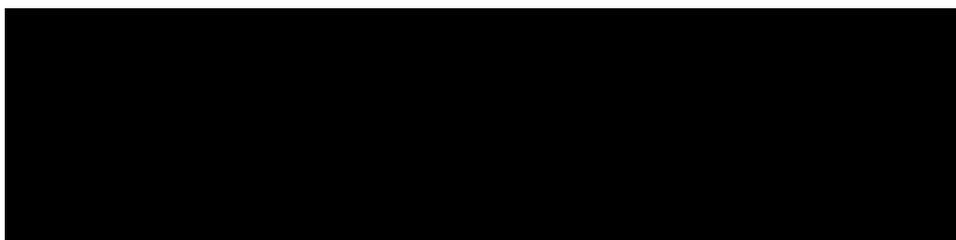
- Custom Form Submission Notification

Custom Form Submission Received

Contact us Email,

A new custom form submission has been received. The details of the form submission are as follows:

Submission Information



Form Answers

Your name: 

Your email: 

I am: 

Comment/enquiry type: your local boundaries

Comments: I live in Bristol and following the recent increase in registration in the run up to the general election and as a result of major house building in the area we have a varitation in ward electorates of between 7,400 and 11,400. I wonder when a review of Bristol's ward boundaries is due.

Yours



This communication is from **LGBCE** (<http://www.lgbce.org.uk>) - Sent to **Contact us Email**

Knag, Daniel

From: Gregory, Eleanor
Sent: 01 September 2010 11:24
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Electoral review process and timescales

Dear Mr [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email regarding the process and timescale of carrying out an electoral review.

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England presently does not have any plans to conduct an electoral review of Bristol City Council as we have a full programme of work for 2010-2011. To determine our future programme of work we monitor levels of electoral inequality within local authority areas and based on these figures initiate reviews in areas where the electoral imbalances meet our criteria. Most of our work is based around monitoring imbalances and responding, however we are open to requests for reviews. I have outlined how to request a review below.

To initiate a review, your Council could submit a request that the Local Government Boundary Commission for England undertake a review by writing to the address below. If your authority decides to request a review it will be considered alongside the other requests we have received when we come to determining our longer term work programme. The Commission would need to know the reasons for wanting a review and the Council would need to provide strong justification to support this.

The Council may also request a single-member ward review (Under the Local Government Act 2007). The aim of this is to secure a uniform pattern of single-member wards where a multi-member pattern currently exists. Under such a review there is a presumption to secure single-member wards although there is no absolute guarantee if it does not meet our statutory criteria (See the guidance link below).

An electoral review lasts approximately 15 months. It is worth noting that any review conducted will be of the whole authority, rather than adjusting councillor numbers between existing wards. Furthermore, the Commission must follow its *Guidance* in order to conduct the review. The current *Guidance* is available on our website (at <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/guidance-policy-and-publications/guidance>) and dictates that an electoral review begins by looking specifically at the number of members who serve on the council, before looking at the wider electoral arrangements including the number and boundaries of wards, as well as the number of councillors representing each ward. Once council size is agreed, we hold public consultation on electoral arrangements following which we publish draft recommendations. Then there is a further round of local consultation before the Commission formulates its final recommendations. As part of an electoral review, the Commission has regard to its statutory criteria of electoral equality, community identity and effective and convenient local government.

You can find a typical review timetable on our website at <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/documents/lgbce-documents/guidance/electoral-review-technical-guidance-v4-2010-03-30.pdf>. This document will also provide more detailed information on the review and implementation processes.

For your information, we have received a number of enquiries regarding a potential review in Bristol. Should the council submit a formal request to the Commission, all of

these submissions will be taken into consideration as they show community interest in starting a review.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Kind regards.

Eleanor Gregory

**Eleanor Gregory
Review Assistant**

Local Government Boundary Commission for England
3rd Floor, Layden House
76-86 Turnmill Street
London EC1M 5LG
Tel: 020 7664 8518
Fax: 0207 296 6768

www.lgbce.org.uk



Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: reviews@lgbce.org.uk [mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk]
Sent: 31 August 2010 10:54
To: Reviews@
Subject: Custom Form Submission Received



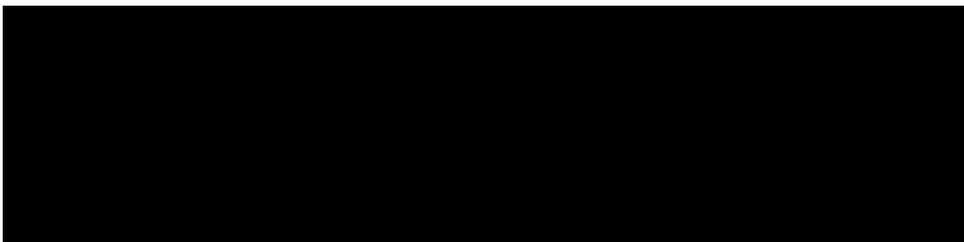
- Custom Form Submission Notification

Custom Form Submission Received

Contact us Email,

A new custom form submission has been received. The details of the form submission are as follows:

Submission Information



Form Answers

Your name:



Your email:



I am:



Comment/enquiry
type:

your local boundaries

Comments:

[REDACTED] We have just commenced a citywide polling district, places and station review. One Councillor immediately asked me if we would be reviewing ward boundaries at the same time. When I emailed him back telling him that it was the not the business of the Council but of the Boundary Commission his next question was how does the Council request the Boundary Commission to conduct a review of Bristol's ward boundaries. Can you help - and also give me some idea of timescales?

Many thanks.

This communication is from **LGBCE** (<http://www.lgbce.org.uk>) - Sent to **Contact us Email**