

BCFE (08) 2nd Meeting

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 31 January
2008 at 2.30pm at Trevelyan House

Present:

Max Caller CBE (Chair)
Robin Gray
Joan Jones CBE
Ann Kelly
Professor Colin Mellors
Dr Peter Knight

Also present:

Andrew Scallan	Director, Electoral Administration & Boundaries
Archie Gall	Director, Boundary Committee
Alison Wildig	Review Manager
Sam Hartley	Review Manager
Tim Kershaw	Review Manager
Tim Atkinson	Review Adviser (minutes)
Louise Footner	Lawyer

1. Minutes of the last meeting: 8 January 2008 BCFE (08) 1st Meeting

1.1 The minutes of the meeting were approved.

2. Matters arising

- 2.1 The Committee discussed the revised draft of the request for advice received from the Minister for Local Government on 28 January 2008 in relation to the structure of local government in Devon, Norfolk and Suffolk.
- 2.2 The Committee welcomed receipt of the revised draft request for advice. It agreed that the Chair should write to the Minister to inform him the Committee was minded to accept the request for advice and guidance on the basis of the text contained in the draft and within the time-frame proposed.
- 2.3 The Committee also agreed that the letter to the Minister should raise the following issues
 - delays to the process may adversely affect the timescale for the completion of the structural reviews
 - there appears to be insufficient time to complete electoral reviews for any new authorities in time for elections in 2010
 - the need for the Speaker's Committee to provide the necessary resources for the structural reviews in the 08/09 financial year

3. Structural review and advice update – oral report

- 3.1 The Review Manager (AW) updated the Committee on the planning of the potential structural reviews of Devon, Norfolk and Suffolk.
- 3.2 The Committee considered the matters arising from the oral report and commented on the issues raised.

4. Next meeting

- 4.1 The next scheduled meeting of the Committee will be on 11 February 2008 and will be held at the Accord Rooms, 20 Great Peter Street, at 2:30pm

**The Boundary Committee for England
January 2008**