



Local Government Boundary Commission for England,
Layden House,
76/78 Turnmill Street,
London EC1 5LG
(By Recorded Delivery).

11th September 2015

Dear Sirs,

**RE: Boundary Review South Lakeland District
Council
Response By Conservative Group**

I am writing on behalf of the above Group with our response on Council size to that proposed by South Lakeland District Council (SLDC).

1. We do not agree with the principal of elections by thirds as requested by The Council, but accept that you have no powers to change the electoral cycle.
2. We support the arguments advanced by the majority of The Council for the retention of single Member Wards.
3. However we consider that the total number of Members should be reduced from 51 to 45.

4. The reasons advanced for this proposition are as follows:

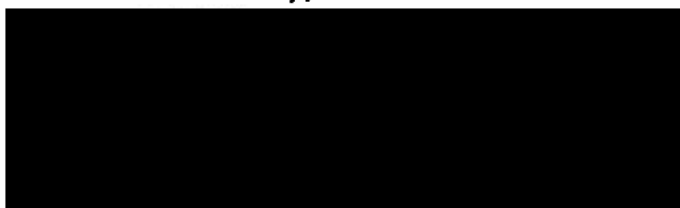
(a) The number of Members per ward at present in many of the wards in figures provided to us by Officers (1632) is substantially less than in wards in six nearest neighbours who have been through review (2290) and also The LGA 2014 Census average per Councillor for two tier District Authorities (1853).

(b) It is accepted that the geography of SLDC is such that the rurality of many wards will make it difficult to increase the amount of electors per ward without substantially increasing the burden of work by Councillors.

(c) However the same arguments cannot apply in the three main towns comprised in SLDC namely Kendal, Ulverston and Windermere. We consider that in Kendal the number of Councillors can be reduced by four Members, in Ulverston by one Member and in Windermere by one Member. We do not propose to delineate the revised boundaries in the towns above, but leave it to yourselves so to do.

We invite you to consider this response as a sensible way of reducing Councillors in your review for SLDC.

Yours faithfully,



Cllr. David L. Williams
Group Leader Conservatives SLDC.