

Andrew Blake-Herbert  
Chief Executive, London Borough of Havering  
Town Hall  
Main Road  
Romford  
RM1 3BB

12 January 2021

Dear Mr Blake-Herbert,

### **ELECTORAL REVIEW OF HAVERING: NEW DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has opened a public consultation on its new draft recommendations for new electoral arrangements for Havering Council.

The consultation opens today (12 January 2021) and closes on 08 March 2021.

Our new draft recommendations propose that Havering's council size should be 55 councillors, an increase of one from the current council size of 54. Those councillors should represent 15 three-councillor wards, and five two-councillors. Havering should have 20 wards, two more than there are now.

Once the Commission has considered all the responses to the consultation, we aim to publish final recommendations in May 2021. We will then lay a draft order in both Houses of Parliament under the negative resolution procedure. Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements are scheduled to come into effect at the council elections in 2022.

All information relating to the new draft recommendations is available on our website. The Commission's report on its new draft recommendations can also be found at: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk). In addition, digital copies of the report and accompanying map have been sent to the council.

Interactive maps of the proposals are also posted on the Commission's consultation portal at: <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>. The portal also allows visitors to submit comments and alternative proposals.

### **Publicising the consultation**

I would be grateful if you could bring the consultation to the attention of elected members.

**Local Government Boundary Commission for England**, 1st Floor, Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0TL

Tel: 0330 500 1525; Fax: 0330 500 1526; [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk); [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

We have also provided information on the new draft recommendations directly to Havering Council and community organisations as well as notifying local press and media.

I would be grateful if you could also take steps to bring the consultation to the attention of the public and interested parties. Please include details of the consultation:

- On your website;
- Promote the consultation through social media and;
- Use any other channels you would normally employ to engage residents in local consultations (newsletters, press releases, publications etc.)

The Commission would be happy to provide information and/or copy to help you promote the consultation locally.

### **New draft recommendations**

The Commission considered all the submissions it received in the previous stages of the review before drawing up the new draft recommendations.

We have sought to balance the criteria we must follow when drawing up recommendations, namely:

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

The Commission will consider all representations made on the new draft recommendations and has an open mind about amending the scheme if an alternative pattern of wards would better meet the statutory criteria above. It is also important for respondents to the consultation to indicate where and why they support the draft recommendations.

Further information on drawing up a pattern of electoral wards and putting forward alternative proposals is available in our guidance document: *Electoral reviews: technical guidance*, which can be found at:

[http://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lgbce/Corporate%20Documents/technical-guidance-2014%20\(reduced\).pdf](http://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lgbce/Corporate%20Documents/technical-guidance-2014%20(reduced).pdf).

We also publish a practical guide for putting forward submissions called *How to propose a pattern of wards* which is available at:

[http://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lgbce/Corporate%20Documents/Guidance/How%20to%20propose%20a%20pattern%20of%20wards%20\(2018\).pdf](http://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lgbce/Corporate%20Documents/Guidance/How%20to%20propose%20a%20pattern%20of%20wards%20(2018).pdf).

Our website includes information about previous electoral reviews of London councils where you can see how the Commission came to its conclusions and how other boroughs, counties, districts and parishes responded to consultations on draft recommendations.

As ever, please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about the consultation.

### **Correspondence and enquiries**

Correspondence relating to the review – and consultation responses - should be addressed to:

Review Officer (Havering)  
LGBCE  
PO Box 133  
Blyth  
NE24 4RP

Email: [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk)

Responses to the consultation can also be made directly through our specialist consultation portal: <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>

Further information on electoral reviews can also be found at our main website at: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

Your direct contacts for the review:

- Sonia Sekhon, Review Officer, with specific responsibility for the day-to-day running of the review.
- Richard Buck, Review Manager, leads the team dealing with this and other electoral reviews.

Yours sincerely



**Jolyon Jackson CBE**  
**Chief Executive**  
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