

Mr Andy O'Brien  
East Staffordshire Borough Council  
PO Box 8045  
Burton upon Trent  
DE14 9JG

1 December 2020

Dear Mr O'Brien,

### **ELECTORAL REVIEW OF EAST STAFFORDSHIRE: FURTHER DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

The consultation opens today (Tuesday 1 December 2020) and closes on Monday 11 January 2021.

The further draft recommendations propose that 37 borough councillors should be elected to East Staffordshire Borough Council in future – one more than in our draft recommendations. The recommendations also propose three new electoral ward boundaries in the south and west of the borough. The public consultation is limited to submissions on these three proposed wards.

Once the Commission has considered all the responses to the consultation, we aim to publish final recommendations in March 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 borough elections in 2023.

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

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

The Commission will shortly dispatch hard copies of the recommendations to the council for distribution to local information points. In the meantime, I would be grateful if you could bring the consultation to the attention of elected members.

We have also provided information on the further draft recommendations directly to local councils 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.

## Further draft recommendations

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

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

- To deliver electoral equality where each borough 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 further 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 further 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 borough councils where you can see how the Commission came to its conclusions and how other 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 (East Staffordshire)  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
PO Box 133  
Blyth  
NE24 9FE

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

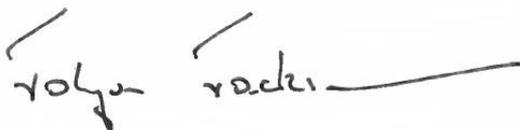
Responses to the consultation can also be made directly through our specialist consultation portal: <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>.

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:

- Paul Nizinskyj, 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



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)

**Jolyon Jackson CBE**  
**Chief Executive**  
[reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk)  
0330 500 1525

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