FURTHER LIMITED CONSULTATION PERIOD ON THE KCC BOUNDARY REVIEW

Governance Committee – 20 October 2015

Report of	Chief Officer Legal and Governance
Status:	For Consideration
Also considered by:	Legal & Democratic Services Advisory Committee – 8 October 2015
Key Decision:	No
Portfolio Holder	Cllr. Firth
Contact Officer	Christian Everett, Ext.7243

Recommendation to Legal & Democratic Advisory Committee:

To note the further information from the Local Government Boundary Commission which accords with the recommendations made by Full Council on 21 July 2015.

Recommendation to Governance Committee:

To note the further information from the Local Government Boundary Commission which accords with the recommendations made by Full Council on 21 July 2015.

Introduction and Background

- 1 Electoral representation across the County Electoral Divisions in Kent remain imbalanced, therefore the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC) implemented a review in 2015 which sought views on alternative boundary schemes, with the view to reducing the number of Divisions in the Sevenoaks District by one.
- 2 The LGBC's aim is for an average number of electors per councillor of 14,288 for each County member in total. It is this figure that any division proposal must look to in order to achieve consistent electoral equality. The LGBC also invited comments on any revision of County Division names.
- 3 Members discussed several alternative schemes as devised by The Electoral Services section. The final recommendation was approved at Full Council on 21 July 2015 and it is represented under Appendix A.

Further Limited Consultation

4 The LGBC has identified a scheme which accords with the recommendations made by Full Council on 21 July 2015. This scheme had not been made publicly available during the previous consultation period, therefore the LGBC are implementing a further limited consultation period which extends from 29 September 2015 to 26 October 2015. Final recommendations will be published on 19 January 2016.

5 The scheme is represented under Appendix B. This shows a letter from the LGBC to KCC explaining the further consultation, a news release from the LGBC on the further consultation and the relevant map for the scheme.

Key Implications

Financial

There are no financial implications

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

There are no legal or risk implications to this further consultation

Equality Assessment

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Conclusions

Members are recommended to note the further information contained in Appendix B. Final recommendations will be made available in January 2016.

Appendi	ces
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Appendix A – Proposed scheme approved by Full Council

Appendix B – Viable alternative scheme supplied by the LGBC

Background Papers:

Legal & Democratic Advisory Committee. 2 July 2015. Item 6.

Governance Committee. 13 July 2015. Item 6.

Christine Nuttall Chief Officer for Legal and Governance