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Dear Mr Harlock

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT BOUNDARY REVIEW - HOUSING TARGETS

I acknowledged receipt of your letter of 2 April to Tim Freathy and said that I would consult colleagues in the department for Communities and Local Government on the issues you raised about possible boundary changes. I am now able to reply more fully, with apologies for the delay.

The particular issue you raised is whether changes to the boundaries between the administrative areas of South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City Councils, as a result of city fringe development sites being taken wholly into the City Council's area, would result in formal revisions by Government of South Cambridgeshire's strategic housing requirements.

In terms of the impact on your Council's strategic housing requirement, there is no statutory or other mechanism for reviewing planned housing numbers as a result of district boundary changes, other than through a review of the Regional Spatial Strategy. Such a review is the appropriate means by which to assess properly and comprehensively the issues relating to current and future housing numbers, including those which might arise from boundary changes.

An important consideration is of course timing. We assume from the fact that you have raised this issue now, that the Councils propose to apply for these boundary changes quite soon and in some instances before development has been started on the relevant sites. Clearly, the Boundary Commission's views on the overall approach to and timing of what is proposed will be important particularly, in the

context of the issue raised in your letter, to understand the relationship with the next review of the East of England Plan, which provides an opportunity for these issues to be raised.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. L. Williamson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John Williamson
Team Leader, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk,
Norfolk & Peterborough



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