



From the Area Director of
Beds, Essex & Herts and Cambs, Norfolk & Suffolk Areas
Mike Littlewood OBE

21 January 2010

Dear Sir / Madam

Consultation Paper – Proposed merger of the Cambridge and East Cambridgeshire benches

I write to invite you to respond to the formal consultation on the proposal to merge the Cambridge and East Cambridgeshire benches. This consultation is in line with the code of practice on consultation issued by the Cabinet Office.

It is proposed to create a single bench, to be known as the South Cambridgeshire Bench enabling magistrates to maintain and utilise their experience and competence and to sit where they are most needed by the business.

The enclosed consultation paper outlines the proposal and gives some background information. I would welcome your (authority/agency's) view of the proposal by Thursday 15 April 2010 which is the closing date for all responses, so that I can then prepare a summary of responses and views expressed. Once all the information has been collated and analysed a final recommendation will then be made to Ministers for consideration.

There is a questionnaire within the consultation paper on pages 10 and 11 for responses or alternatively you can e-mail or write to me at the above address. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours

Mike Littlewood

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