Local Government Boundary Commission

Ms Jean Hunter Chief Executive South Cambridgeshire District Council Cambourne Cambridge CB23 6EA

5 September 2014

Dear Ms Hunter,

LGBCE ELECTORAL REVIEW PROGRAMME 2014 - 2016

You may recall that I wrote to you in June to advise you that because of electoral imbalances, the Commission had identified your Council as potentially requiring a Further Electoral Review.

The Commission has now had the opportunity to assess the degree and extent of electoral imbalance in all English principal local authorities. Additionally, the Commission has considered comments made by local authority officers regarding the likelihood that electoral imbalances will be corrected by foreseeable changes to the number and distribution of electors, and other matters related to electoral registration. As a result, the Commission has determined that a review of your Council's electoral arrangements should take place.

Prior to the formal commencement of the review, we will have a preliminary period to assist you, your Council's members, and its staff in the preparations which you would need to make to participate in the review work.

In conducting a review, the Commission will address the issue of council size, the number of members elected to your Council, before it then considers the number and boundaries of wards/divisions. Your Council and its stakeholders will each have the opportunity to contribute information and proposals to assist the Commission's deliberations. We will have regard to such contributions before we publish draft recommendations which will be subject to formal public consultation. Final recommendations then form the basis of an order laid in draft before Parliament leading to electoral changes which would be implemented in whole-council elections in May

2019. The review is scheduled to commence in November 2015 and be completed in September 2016. I would be grateful if you could provide an opportunity in the near future for Max Caller, the Chair of the Commission, and our Chief Executive to visit you and the Leader of your Council in order to discuss the review process, its key stages and timetable.

If you would like to find further information about the electoral review process, you might find our guidance at:

<u>https://www.lgbce.org.uk/</u> <u>data/assets/pdf_file/0006/10410/technical-guidance-2014.pdf</u> helpful; this gives a broad indication of the electoral review process.

I will be in touch with you about a suitable date for a meeting at your offices in due course. Please feel free to contact me on 020 7664 8511 or e-mail: richard.buck@lgbce.org.uk if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely.

Richard Buck Review Manager