

To: Chairman and members of Glinton Parish Council

Boundary Commission of England: Consultation

As you may be aware, the Boundary Commission of England (BCE) is reviewing constituency boundaries with a view to having all constituencies of similar size, approx 73,000 (+/- 5%). Several constituencies, including North West Cambridgeshire, are well above this size. This has led to BCE proposing the creation of a new constituency for St Neots.

To accommodate this, the Commission proposes NW Cambridgeshire will lose several southern villages (Warboys, Somersham, Sawtry and Holywell-cum-Needingworth) with approximately 19,000 electors. This will enable Huntingdon constituency to move north and create space for the new St Neots constituency. NW Cambridgeshire will remain a largely rural constituency with approx. 73,000 voters.

We are minded to support this BCE proposal and would ask our parish councils and Association members to do the same. To add your support as part of this important consultation please go to www.bcereviews.org.uk

Our neighbouring Peterborough constituency is the only one where BCE has recommended very little change (*see Para 40 below*). However, the Peterborough Conservative Association has put forward an alternative option under which they would like to absorb our rural wards of Glinton and Castor, Wittering and Barnack. In return, they propose their inner city wards Central and West come into NW Cambridgeshire. We strongly object as we believe this is not in the best interests of those residents.

BCE statement:

'Paragraph 40: The existing Peterborough constituency is the only constituency in Cambridgeshire currently within the electorate range, and in our proposals, it remains unchanged, other than to re-align with local government ward boundaries. We identified that it is possible to create a Peterborough constituency that is more compact around the city centre, crossing the River Nene. However, we consider that the constituency remaining unchanged more closely reflects the statutory criteria, especially given the knock-on impacts such a reconfiguration would have on North West Cambridgeshire and Huntingdon constituencies.'

It is paramount that as many people as possible feed into this consultation to support your residents and protect our rural wards. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards

GAVIN ELSEY

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