

# Public Document Pack

## Elections Committee Members

Members of the committee, listed below, are summoned to attend the meeting to be held on Thursday, 7 December 2017 AT 6.30PM

Janet Senior, (Acting) Chief Executive  
29 November 2017

Councillor John Paschoud	
Councillor Bill Brown	
Councillor Stella Jeffrey	
Councillor Jacq Paschoud	
Councillor Jonathan Slater	
Councillor Paul Upex	

# Elections Committee Agenda

Thursday, 7 December 2017

**6.30 pm**, Civic Suite, Lewisham Town Hall, London SE6 4RU

Civic Suite

Lewisham Town Hall

London SE6 4RU

For more information contact: Kevin Flaherty (Tel 0208 314 8975)

## Part 1

<b>Item</b>	<b>Pages</b>
1. Declarations of Interest	1 - 4
2. Minutes	5 - 9
3. Changes to polling places for elections in 2018	10 - 13
4. Review of parliamentary constituencies boundaries	14 - 29
5. Results of the annual electoral registration canvass	
6. Initial plans for Mayoral & Local elections on 3.5.18 (verbal briefing)	

# Agenda Item 1

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE		
Report Title	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
Key Decision	No	Item No. 1
Ward	n/a	
Contributors	Chief Executive	
Class	Part 1	Date: 7 December 2017

Members are asked to declare any personal interest they have in any item on the agenda.

## 1 Personal interests

There are three types of personal interest referred to in the Council's Member Code of Conduct :-

- (1) Disclosable pecuniary interests
- (2) Other registerable interests
- (3) Non-registerable interests

## 2 Disclosable pecuniary interests are defined by regulation as:-

- (a) Employment, trade, profession or vocation of a relevant person\* for profit or gain
- (b) Sponsorship –payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than by the Council) within the 12 months prior to giving notice for inclusion in the register in respect of expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member or towards your election expenses (including payment or financial benefit from a Trade Union).
- (c) Undischarged contracts between a relevant person\* (or a firm in which they are a partner or a body corporate in which they are a director, or in the securities of which they have a beneficial interest) and the Council for goods, services or works.
- (d) Beneficial interests in land in the borough.
- (e) Licence to occupy land in the borough for one month or more.
- (f) Corporate tenancies – any tenancy, where to the member's knowledge, the Council is landlord and the tenant is a firm in which the relevant person\* is a

partner, a body corporate in which they are a director, or in the securities of which they have a beneficial interest.

- (g) Beneficial interest in securities of a body where:-
- (a) that body to the member's knowledge has a place of business or land in the borough; and
  - (b) either
    - (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or 1/100 of the total issued share capital of that body; or
    - (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person\* has a beneficial interest exceeds 1/100 of the total issued share capital of that class.

\*A relevant person is the member, their spouse or civil partner, or a person with whom they live as spouse or civil partner.

### **(3) Other registerable interests**

The Lewisham Member Code of Conduct requires members also to register the following interests:-

- (a) Membership or position of control or management in a body to which you were appointed or nominated by the Council
- (b) Any body exercising functions of a public nature or directed to charitable purposes, or whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy, including any political party
- (c) Any person from whom you have received a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £25

### **(4) Non registerable interests**

Occasions may arise when a matter under consideration would or would be likely to affect the wellbeing of a member, their family, friend or close associate more than it would affect the wellbeing of those in the local area generally, but which is not required to be registered in the Register of Members' Interests (for example a matter concerning the closure of a school at which a Member's child attends).

### **(5) Declaration and Impact of interest on member's participation**

- (a) Where a member has any registerable interest in a matter and they are present at a meeting at which that matter is to be discussed, they must declare the nature of the interest at the earliest opportunity and in any

event before the matter is considered. The declaration will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. If the matter is a disclosable pecuniary interest the member must take no part in consideration of the matter and withdraw from the room before it is considered. They must not seek improperly to influence the decision in any way. **Failure to declare such an interest which has not already been entered in the Register of Members' Interests, or participation where such an interest exists, is liable to prosecution and on conviction carries a fine of up to £5000**

- (b) Where a member has a registerable interest which falls short of a disclosable pecuniary interest they must still declare the nature of the interest to the meeting at the earliest opportunity and in any event before the matter is considered, but they may stay in the room, participate in consideration of the matter and vote on it unless paragraph (c) below applies.
- (c) Where a member has a registerable interest which falls short of a disclosable pecuniary interest, the member must consider whether a reasonable member of the public in possession of the facts would think that their interest is so significant that it would be likely to impair the member's judgement of the public interest. If so, the member must withdraw and take no part in consideration of the matter nor seek to influence the outcome improperly.
- (d) If a non-registerable interest arises which affects the wellbeing of a member, their, family, friend or close associate more than it would affect those in the local area generally, then the provisions relating to the declarations of interest and withdrawal apply as if it were a registerable interest.
- (e) Decisions relating to declarations of interests are for the member's personal judgement, though in cases of doubt they may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer.

**(6) Sensitive information**

There are special provisions relating to sensitive interests. These are interests the disclosure of which would be likely to expose the member to risk of violence or intimidation where the Monitoring Officer has agreed that such interest need not be registered. Members with such an interest are referred to the Code and advised to seek advice from the Monitoring Officer in advance.

**(7) Exempt categories**

There are exemptions to these provisions allowing members to participate in decisions notwithstanding interests that would otherwise prevent them doing so. These include:-

- (a) Housing – holding a tenancy or lease with the Council unless the matter relates to your particular tenancy or lease; (subject to arrears exception)
- (b) School meals, school transport and travelling expenses; if you are a parent or guardian of a child in full time education, or a school governor unless the matter relates particularly to the school your child attends or of which you are a governor;
- (c) Statutory sick pay; if you are in receipt
- (d) Allowances, payment or indemnity for members
- (e) Ceremonial honours for members
- (f) Setting Council Tax or precept (subject to arrears exception)

# Agenda Item 2

<b>ELECTIONS COMMITTEE</b>		
<b>Report Title</b>	<b>MINUTES</b>	
<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Item No. 2</b>
<b>Ward</b>	<b>n/a</b>	
<b>Contributors</b>	<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE</b>	
<b>Class</b>	<b>Part 1</b>	<b>Date: 7 December 2017</b>

## **Recommendation**

To agree the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee, which was open to the press and public, held on 18 July 2017.

# MINUTES OF THE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday 18 July 2017 at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillors John Paschoud (Chair), Stella Jeffrey (Vice Chair), Jacq Paschoud and Bill Brown.

Also Present: Kath Nicholson (Head of Law), Jamie Baker (Electoral Services Manager), Sarah Assibey (Clerk)

Apologies: Councillor John Slater

## 1. Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared

## 2. Review of the 8 June UK Parliamentary Election

The Chair expressed himself and the Committee were pleased with the conduct of the Electoral Services manager, Jamie Baker, and his work over the recent elections period. He also stated he was impressed with the brevity of the reports Jamie presented on the agenda.

Jamie Baker gave a presentation on the recent election, detailing the work leading up to Election Day, during and after. He gave the following points alongside his presentation.

- 2.1. The running of the elections was administered to a high standard in Lewisham. He felt that the high standard was maintained from previous elections, after changes were made from the last elections to improve the standard, although there were a few things that could have been improved which were the rise of postal votes and a couple of issues with the polling stations.
- 2.2. There was a lot of positive feedback.
- 2.3. The approach to planning was to create a large timetable plan for the entire period. More detailed plans were produced for specific work streams. Team roles were also changed. Overall, planning was more centralised and election expertise was more spread.
- 2.4. The Project Board is a board of 15 members which were behind the planning of the running of the election for LBL. It included key people involved in the elections i.e. DROs, communications team, election team etc. the board were due to meet 4 times, but only managed to meet twice

because of the tight time-frame and engagement/work load of individual members. This was, however, a minor issue but felt very rushed as it was a very busy time period. Also, the fact that it was a snap-election and management was centralised, this might not have been administered as preferred.

- 2.5. General changes were made for the better: - changes were made to emails, processing, staffing, equipment, planning, team responsibilities and the count. Most of these changes worked well however the recruitment of polling staff was a change that did not perform as well. The new process did not work as efficiently- the established way would have worked better.
- 2.6. Also, the record number of people who were not on poll was very low. Every ward represented at the polling station needed 2 or 3 more staff to manage the queues. However, the polling staff were happy with how things went.
- 2.7. In terms of printing and posting, performance was strong in all areas apart from postal voting. Of 35,000 postal votes, 371 were reissued which is 100 more than there was for the referendum election. Most complaints came from overseas with Australia being the worst affected. The outcome was similar to that of other London boroughs, although Lewisham's postal vote count is higher.
- 2.8. There were over 26,000 applications over the election period, with over 2000 on the deadline day alone. There were 8000 duplicates this year, which was a lower figure than most local authorities. Almost 4000 emails were received over this period, of which 100% were responded to. In Lewisham alone, there were over 50,000 letters generated.
- 2.9. 821 jobs were created for the election. The team recruited, allocated and trained all staff. 600 staff were trained over 22 sessions. The polling staff performed excellently, as did the count staff and feedback was very positive. Next year's election will be more complex so more recruitment and training will be needed, particularly of count staff. 50% of count staff were new to Lewisham.
- 2.10. Joanne Banks from the elections team at Lewisham managed the process of postal votes and was brilliant. There were no IT issues this year. Sharing an IT system with Brent, meant that at the last election a system that was unfamiliar to Lewisham was used. Their response rates from Lewisham at the last election were poor. The software issues were resolved this year so everything ran a lot smoother. No machines were used at the postal vote opening as they were not considered worth the risk of a miscount. The opening was difficult to observe because of the

management of it. Over 30,000 postal votes were sent to the count- 1% were rejected and 1600 were handed in at the polling station.

2.11. In regards to the count, the date meant that other venues for the count were unsuitable (e.g. schools). Parking and access was slightly difficult but with the venue itself, the teams made the space work. The colours separating the constituents worked very well- it will be difficult to replicate that at local elections but colour will be used to identify staff. There was an increase in staff numbers- counting could have been completed 30 minutes quicker, but there was some recounting that needed to be done. Overall 90% of the feedback regarding the count and staff was positive.

RESOLVED that the Committee note this report.

### **3. Parliamentary Boundaries**

Jamie Baker gave a brief update from the Cabinet office:

A final public consultation on revised proposals will be conducted by the Boundary Commission for England towards the end of 2017. Those will be submitted to Parliament to approve prior to the next scheduled parliamentary election in May 2022.

Non-parliamentary constituents will be notified of any revisions, likely in by the end of summer 2018 in line with their deadline to report to Parliament. A bill will then be acceded by September 2019.

RESOLVED that the Committee note this report.

### **4. Electoral Registration Plans for the Annual Canvass**

Jamie Baker gave an update on future canvassing plans:

Annual Canvassing has become a heavily prescribed process. HEF (Household Enquiry Form) responses have decreased significantly since IER was introduced. Electoral services want to use the canvass to maximise registration prior to a local and mayoral election year.

Lewisham are aiming for an 85% HEF response- a 10% increase from last year.

Online response for HEFs, however, is much higher than other similar authorities. Emailing people their HEFs will mean people are more likely to fill out the forms and they will be easier to follow up this way. All electors on the register with an email address will receive regular email reminders until their household responds.

The door knocking stage will be changing with canvassers being asked to chase non-responding properties at least once per week for 6 weeks, rather than the previous 2-3 visits.

A Household Notification Letter will go out early in the New Year. This confirmation letter will help residents to update the register before the election period starts.

RESOLVED that the Committee note this report.

## **5. Engagement Opportunities to Promote Participation in 2018**

Jamie Baker presented this report and added the following points:

The engagement plan details the policies and approach of Lewisham.

The most successful element was the pan-London digital campaign. Social media advertising saw massive click-through rates and subsequent registrations for very low cost.

The campaign will take place upon registration until the deadline and then on participation

The restrictions on communications due to 'purdah' will mean the second stage of the campaign will need to be approved at the highest level and will not be able to go through the Elections Committee.

RESOLVED that the Committee note this report.

## **6. Plans for Snap-Elections, By-elections and Neighbourhood Planning Referendums**

There is a standard plan for a council by-election which is largely unchanged from the last 2 by-elections. As a result of our election evaluation the plans for a snap parliamentary election will be revised.

The Elections Team will be seeking Council's approval for changes to several polling station within the next few months.

The Committee were asked to consider the implications of holding the neighbourhood planning referendums on the same day as the Mayoral and Local Elections on May 2018. The Committee discussed its convenience, but also noted that this may be overwhelming at the polling stations in particular.

RESOLVED that the Committee note this report.

The meeting finished at 8.53pm

# Agenda Item 3

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE			
Report Title	Audit of Polling Places pending the Mayoral and Local Elections on 3 May 2018		
Key Decision	n/a		Item No.
Ward	Various		
Contributors	Jamie Baker, Electoral Services Manager		
Class	Part 1	Date: 7 December 2017	

## 1. Summary

This report identifies the proposed changes to polling places for the elections scheduled for 3 May 2018.

## 2. Purpose

Changes to specific polling places are proposed in order to make them more accessible to voters and to enable a more cost effective solution to portacabins.

## 3. Recommendation

That the Committee approve the preferred options identified in Appendix X and to agree the fallback position for any proposals where the preferred option is not available.

## 4 Background

- 4.1 Lewisham has 109 polling districts. Each polling district has an allocated polling place.
- 4.2 For various reasons it has become necessary for electoral services to review the allocated polling place in 11 polling districts.
- 4.3 In some cases the review is triggered because the previous venue is no longer available. In other cases the building has been deemed unfit for purpose.
- 4.4 In 5 polling districts the polling place is an area of land upon which we place a portacabin. These are a considerable challenge to install and are high risk items. They require temporary electricity and additional security

due to the high risk of fire and vandalism. Portacabins are also very expensive.

4.5 Efforts have been made to find suitable alternative venues for each of the 5 portacabins.

4.6 All proposals are covered in detail on Appendix X.

## 6. **Legal implications**

6.1 It is a legal requirement for the local authority to specify a polling place for every polling district. The polling place must be inside the polling district unless there are exceptional circumstances.

## 7. **Equalities implications**

7.1 Polling places must be accessible to the voters and the Council must have due regard to the public sector equality duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act. which In summary, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

7.2 Of particular relevance is the need , to ensure that polling places are accessible to all. This means clear wheelchair access, facilities for the visually impaired, guidance for the learning disabled, staff trained to assist voters who need assistance, access for companions of voters with disabilities, etc.

## 8. **Financial implications**

8.1 Each portacabin costs electoral services approximately £5,000 per election. Where alternative polling places are identified, a rental may be payable for use on election day, but such rentals depend on the ownership of the facility. In any event the fee for use of the facility is likely to be much smaller than the cost of a portacabin, and carry fewer risks.

8.2 In the case of DLA4, it is proposed to replace the portacabin with the bowling green clubhouse. Although renovation work on the clubhouse

would cost approximately £5,000, this would be a one-off cost and the hire charge for the venue would be zero. After 2 elections the venue would effectively pay for itself and save Lewisham money.

9. **Crime and disorder implications**

There are no crime and disorder implications arising.

10. **Environmental implications**

There are no environmental implications arising.

11. **Background documents**

See Appendix X

District	Electorate	Current Polling Place	Issue	Recommendation
EDO6	951	Ten Em Bee Sports Development Centre	Long walk for voters in the dark. Not safe and could be off-putting	Move to the New Studio Club. This is next door, involves far less walking and can be brightly lit. They have yet to agree. If we cannot secure this new venue then we will investigate lighting solutions for the Ten Em Bee route.
ECA5	1,426	Sandhurst Infants School	The old venue has now been refurbished and we are able to return	Move to St Andrew's Church on Sandhurst Road. This venue has been used in the past and has had a very nice refurbishment
DLA2	1,877	Roseview, (Roseview Lounge), 122 Marsala Road	The disruption to some of our most vulnerable residents is too great. We need a new solution	Move to Prendergast Vale School which is on the ward boundary and currently used as a polling place for DLC3 in Lewisham Central. We could use different entrances and rooms for the different polling stations. There are no other alternative venues in the ward and no convenient place for a portacabin.
DLA4	1,017	Portacabin on entrance to Hilly Fields, via Hilly Fields Crescent	Portacabins are expensive and involve a lot of preparation. Accessibility is a problem. They are also high risk items which we should take steps to mitigate	The Francis Drake Bowls Club is immediately adjacent to where the portacabin is placed. The club is council-owned and requires some improvement works to make it fully accessible and workable as a polling place. We estimate the works to cost around £5k, which is the same cost of a portacabin. After the works have been completed there would be no annual cost of using this polling place.
ELG2	1,710	St. Winifred's Infants School, (Hall), entrance in Manor Lane	The buildings are being demolished in early 2018	Move to Brindishe Lee School (who are not keen at all) or share the Church of the Good Shepherd with ELG4.
ELG6	1,155	Portacabin on Hither Green Railway Station approach, Staplehurst Road	Portacabins are expensive and involve a lot of preparation. Accessibility is a problem. They are also high risk items which we should take steps to mitigate. In addition, this is outside of the polling district and right next to the station (convenient for some voters but causes a problem for others who use the station but are not from that district)	Trinity Primary School, Leahurst Road, has excellent facilities. The school are extremely keen not to be used. There are no other options in this district. Sharing a station with another district wouldn't work due to the road layout and distances electors would have to travel.
DNE6	2,789 * double	Community Centre, (Fusion Table Tennis Area), Unit 2B	Poor quality venue, poor accessibility, and a better venue is available	Move to Scotney Hall, Winslade Estate. We have used this venue in the past and it is much better, more accessible and will improve the service for voters in this district
WPE3	1,424	Our Lady and St. Philip Neri Primary School, (Nursery), Mayow Road Site	This venue is scheduled for demolition in early 2018	Move to the Fusion Sports Centre at Forest Hill School. This can be cordoned off from the school so that it causes no disruption. It is a very short walk from the old venue.
WSY3	1,134	Portacabin on High Level Drive, (In front of shop), High Level Drive	Portacabins are expensive and involve a lot of preparation. Accessibility is a problem. They are also high risk items which we should take steps to mitigate. In addition, this site only allows for a small portacabin meaning voters have to queue outside which is a problem during bad weather	Consider moving to Sydenham High Junior School. This is an independent school who have yet to agree to this proposal, but it appears the only possible alternative
WSY5	1,696	Silverdale Hall, 8 Silverdale	The building is in poor repair and is scheduled for significant development works. We have to find a new venue, although there is no alternative within the district	Use the Sydenham Centre, which is already a station for WSY7. It has excellent facilities and is in a good location for all voters in this district
EWH2	961	Portacabin adjacent to allotments on Hafton Road, London	Portacabins are expensive and involve a lot of preparation. Accessibility is a problem. They are also high risk items which we should take steps to mitigate. This portacabin site is outside of the ward and a long walk for most voters	Move to St Andrew's Church on Sandhurst Road and share with ECA5. The walk is similar but the facilities would be much improved. Or find another location within Cumberland Place where a portacabin might fit

# Agenda Item 4

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE			
Report Title	Parliamentary Boundary Review – consultation final stage		
Key Decision	n/a		Item No.
Ward	n/a		
Contributors	Jamie Baker, Electoral Services Manager		
Class	Part 1	Date: 7 December 2017	

## 1. **Summary**

This report outlines the process for the final stages of the 2018 Parliamentary Constituencies Boundary Review from the Boundary Commission for England (BCE). The full proposals can be found at [www.bce2018.org.uk](http://www.bce2018.org.uk)

## 2. **Purpose**

To inform members of the final stage of the review and to approve Lewisham's response.

## 3. **Recommendation**

That the Committee note this report and approve the draft response from Lewisham Council (Appendix D).

## 4 **Background**

4.1 The Parliamentary Voting Systems and Constituencies Act 2011 (the Act) made provision for a reduction in the number of UK parliamentary constituencies from 650 to 600. To implement this change in England, the Boundary Commission for England (the BCE) must complete a review of parliamentary constituencies by September 2018.

4.2 Initial proposals were published in September 2016 with a consultation period until 5 December 2017. All submissions were made available for inspection on 28 February 2018 and interested stakeholders were invited to make comments with a deadline of 27 March 2017.

- 4.2 The Boundary Committee published updated proposals on **Tuesday 17 October 2017**. There is a consultation period of 8 weeks with a deadline to make submissions of **11 December 2017**.
- 4.3 This deadline represents the final chance for Lewisham Council and residents to express their views on the future parliamentary constituencies.
- 4.4 Lewisham Council's elections committee responded to the initial proposals with a counter proposal. The counter proposal matched the Labour party's counter proposals.
- 4.5 Our response to the second stage of the consultation repeated our initial proposals and gave a short analysis on other submissions.
- 4.6 An analysis has taken place regarding the revised proposals – see Appendix A.
- 4.7 Appendix B lists extracts from the BCE's report the refers to Lewisham constituencies.
- 4.8 Appendix C shows maps of the 3 new proposed Lewisham constituencies.
- 4.9 The main difference between the new proposals and our counter proposals is the fate of the Deptford wards. They have been placed with parts of Greenwich and Blackheath instead of Whitefoot and Grove Park.
- 4.10 The draft response from Lewisham Council can be found in Appendix D.
- 4.11 Local political parties and representatives will be encouraged to submit their own responses, should they wish.

## 6. **Legal implications**

The revised boundaries would require approval from Parliament scheduled for September 2018 and will be effective for all Parliamentary elections thereafter.

## 7. **Equalities implications**

There are no specific equalities implications.

## 8. **Financial implications**

There are no specific financial implications.

9. **Crime and disorder implications**

There are no crime and disorder implications arising.

10. **Environmental implications**

There are no environmental implications arising.

11. **Background documents**

See Appendices A-D

A – Analysis of final proposals

B – Extracts from the BCE reports relating to Lewisham

C – Maps of the new proposed constituencies

D – Response to the final consultation

	<b>From</b>	<b>Lead</b>
46. Lewisham and Catford BC 72,781		Lewisham
Bellingham Lewisham 9,019	Lewisham West & Penge	
Catford South Lewisham 9,413	Lewisham East	
Downham Lewisham 9,072	Lewisham East	
Grove Park Lewisham 9,249	Lewisham East	
Ladywell Lewisham 8,688	Lewisham Deptford	
Lewisham Central Lewisham 10,532	Lewisham Deptford	
Rushey Green Lewisham 8,053	Lewisham East	
Whitefoot Lewisham 8,755	Lewisham East	
28. Greenwich and Deptford BC 76,793		Lewisham
Blackheath Westcombe Greenwich 9,103		
Greenwich West Greenwich 11,499		
Blackheath Lewisham 8,642	Lewisham East	
Brockley Lewisham 10,337	Lewisham Deptford	
Evelyn Lewisham 9,129	Lewisham Deptford	
Lee Green Lewisham 9,182	Lewisham East	
New Cross Lewisham 9,077	Lewisham Deptford	
Telegraph Hill Lewisham 9,824	Lewisham Deptford	
17. Dulwich and Sydenham BC 73,744		Lewisham
Crofton Park Lewisham 9,579	Lewisham Deptford	
Forest Hill Lewisham 9,201	Lewisham West & Penge	
Perry Vale Lewisham 9,807	Lewisham West & Penge	
Sydenham Lewisham 9,663	Lewisham West & Penge	
College Southwark 8,312		
East Dulwich Southwark 9,127		
Peckham Rye Southwark 9,463		
Village Southwark 8,592		
2. Battersea and Clapham BC 75,056		Wandsworth
Clapham Common Lambeth 8,296		
Clapham Town Lambeth 9,187		
Thornton Lambeth 8,078		
Latchmere Wandsworth 9,569		
Northcote Wandsworth 9,292		
Queenstown Wandsworth 9,948		
Shaftesbury Wandsworth 9,921		
St. Mary's Park Wandsworth 10,765		
3. Beckenham BC 72,004		Bromley
Clock House Bromley 10,932		
Copers Cope Bromley 11,254		
Crystal Palace Bromley 7,783		
Kelsey and Eden Park Bromley 11,872		
Penge and Cator Bromley 11,248		
Shortlands Bromley 7,221		
West Wickham Bromley 11,694		

4. Bermondsey and Old Southwark BC 77,623	Southwark
Cathedrals Southwark 9,551	
Chaucer Southwark 9,361	
East Walworth Southwark 7,317	
Faraday Southwark 6,882	
Grange Southwark 10,308	
Riverside Southwark 9,177	
Rotherhithe Southwark 8,634	
South Bermondsey Southwark 8,148	
Surrey Docks Southwark 8,245	
5. Bexley and Sidcup BC 72,341	Bexley
Barnehurst Bexley 8,017	
Blackfen and Lamorbey Bexley 7,845	
Blendon and Penhill Bexley 8,100	
Christchurch Bexley 8,117	
Cray Meadows Bexley 8,012	
Danson Park Bexley 7,845	
Longlands Bexley 7,828	
Sidcup Bexley 8,348	
St. Mary's Bexley 8,229	
6. Brixton and Vauxhall BC 72,272	Lambeth
Bishop's Lambeth 6,094	
Coldharbour Lambeth 10,101	
Ferndale Lambeth 9,382	
Larkhall Lambeth 10,139	
Oval Lambeth 8,870	
Prince's Lambeth 9,813	
Stockwell Lambeth 8,434	
Vassall Lambeth 9,439	
7. Bromley and Chislehurst BC 75,812	Bromley
Bickley Bromley 11,129	
Bromley Common and Keston Bromley 11,891	
Bromley Town Bromley 11,671	
Chislehurst Bromley 11,512	
Hayes and Coney Hall Bromley 12,135	
Mottingham and Chislehurst North Bromley 6,701	
Plaiestow and Sundridge Bromley 10,773	
8. Camberwell and Peckham BC 73,463	Southwark
Brunswick Park Southwark 8,656	
Camberwell Green Southwark 9,134	
Livesey Southwark 8,669	
Newington Southwark 9,433	
Nunhead Southwark 9,269	
Peckham Southwark 9,281	
South Camberwell Southwark 8,471	
The Lane Southwark 10,550	

10. Carshalton and Wallington BC 75,579 Sutton  
Beddington North Sutton 7,636  
Beddington South Sutton 7,734  
Belmont Sutton 7,275  
Carshalton Central Sutton 7,529  
Carshalton South and Clockhouse Sutton 7,523  
St. Helier Sutton 7,544  
The Wrythe Sutton 7,439  
Wallington North Sutton 7,749  
Wallington South Sutton 7,496  
Wandle Valley Sutton 7,654

14. Croydon South East BC 72,473 Croydon  
Addiscombe Croydon 10,130  
Ashburton Croydon 10,117  
Fieldway Croydon 6,787  
Heathfield Croydon 9,497  
New Addington Croydon 6,923  
Sanderstead Croydon 9,617  
Selsdon and Ballards Croydon 9,085  
Shirley Croydon 10,317

15. Croydon South West BC 71,080 Croydon  
Coulsdon East Croydon 9,211  
Coulsdon West Croydon 9,900  
Croham Croydon 10,122  
Fairfield Croydon 10,688  
Kenley Croydon 10,381  
Purley Croydon 10,251  
Waddon Croydon 10,527

21. Eltham and Welling BC 77,628 Greenwich  
East Wickham Bexley 7,868  
Falconwood and Welling Bexley 7,966  
Coldharbour and New Eltham Greenwich 9,407  
Eltham North Greenwich 9,306  
Eltham South Greenwich 8,252  
Eltham West Greenwich 7,750  
Kidbrooke with Hornfair Greenwich 9,180  
Middle Park and Sutcliffe Greenwich 8,920  
Shooters Hill Greenwich 8,979

45. Kingston and Surbiton BC 77,995 Kingston  
Alexandra Kingston upon Thames 6,494  
Berrylands Kingston upon Thames 6,287  
Beverley Kingston upon Thames 6,671  
Chessington North and Hook Kingston upon Thames 6,254  
Chessington South Kingston upon Thames 7,335  
Grove Kingston upon Thames 6,303

Norbiton Kingston upon Thames 5,942  
Old Malden Kingston upon Thames 6,694  
St. James Kingston upon Thames 6,232  
St. Mark's Kingston upon Thames 6,136  
Surbiton Hill Kingston upon Thames 7,026  
Tolworth and Hook Rise Kingston upon Thames 6,621

48. Mitcham and Norbury BC 77,160  
Broad Green Croydon 10,859  
Norbury Croydon 9,766  
West Thornton Croydon 10,159  
Cricket Green Merton 7,142  
Figge's Marsh Merton 6,997  
Graveney Merton 5,860  
Lavender Fields Merton 6,198  
Longthornton Merton 6,583  
Pollards Hill Merton 7,185  
Ravensbury Merton 6,411

Merton

49. Norwood and Thornton Heath BC 77,544  
Bensham Manor Croydon 9,553  
Selhurst Croydon 10,293  
South Norwood Croydon 10,268  
Thornton Heath Croydon 9,557  
Upper Norwood Croydon 10,068  
Woodside Croydon 10,112  
Gipsy Hill Lambeth 9,064  
Knight's Hill Lambeth 8,629

Croydon

50. Orpington BC 78,277  
Biggin Hill Bromley 7,747  
Chelsfield and Pratts Bottom Bromley 10,957  
Cray Valley East Bromley 10,685  
Cray Valley West Bromley 11,553  
Darwin Bromley 4,041  
Farnborough and Crofton Bromley 11,388  
Orpington Bromley 11,479  
Petts Wood and Knoll Bromley 10,427

Bromley

52. Richmond Park BC 74,740  
Canbury Kingston upon Thames 7,844  
Coombe Hill Kingston upon Thames 5,953  
Coombe Vale Kingston upon Thames 6,365  
Tudor Kingston upon Thames 6,301  
Barnes Richmond upon Thames 6,460  
East Sheen Richmond upon Thames 6,812  
Ham, Petersham and Richmond Riverside Richmond upon Thames 6,409  
Kew Richmond upon Thames 7,373  
Mortlake and Barnes Common Richmond upon Thames 7,255  
North Richmond Richmond upon Thames 7,120

Richmond

South Richmond Richmond upon Thames 6,848

58. Streatham and Brixton South BC 72,663

Lambeth

Brixton Hill Lambeth 9,625

Herne Hill Lambeth 9,975

St. Leonard's Lambeth 8,684

Streatham Hill Lambeth 9,010

Streatham South Lambeth 8,241

Streatham Wells Lambeth 8,830

Thurlow Park Lambeth 8,776

Tulse Hill Lambeth 9,522

59. Sutton and Cheam BC 73,858

Sutton

Lower Morden Merton 6,491

St. Helier Merton 6,942

Cheam Sutton 7,852

Nonsuch Sutton 7,922

Stonecot Sutton 8,007

Sutton Central Sutton 7,145

Sutton North Sutton 7,189

Sutton South Sutton 6,664

Sutton West Sutton 7,322

Worcester Park Sutton 8,324

60. Tooting BC 71,051

Wandsworth

Balham Wandsworth 10,443

Bedford Wandsworth 10,234

Furzedown Wandsworth 9,791

Graveney Wandsworth 9,892

Nightingale Wandsworth 10,555

Tooting Wandsworth 10,498

Wandsworth Common Wandsworth 9,638

62. Twickenham BC 78,247

Richmond

Fulwell and Hampton Hill Richmond upon Thames 7,304

Hampton Richmond upon Thames 7,332

Hampton North Richmond upon Thames 6,727

Hampton Wick Richmond upon Thames 7,401

Heathfield Richmond upon Thames 7,062

South Twickenham Richmond upon Thames 6,780

St. Margarets and North Twickenham Richmond upon Thames 7,509

Teddington Richmond upon Thames 7,346

Twickenham Riverside Richmond upon Thames 6,720

West Twickenham Richmond upon Thames 7,267

Whitton Richmond upon Thames 6,799

64. Wandsworth and Putney BC 72,359

Wandsworth

Earlsfield Wandsworth 10,820

East Putney Wandsworth 10,060

Fairfield Wandsworth 9,986

Southfields Wandsworth 11,168  
Thamesfield Wandsworth 10,761  
West Hill Wandsworth 9,704  
West Putney Wandsworth 9,860

67. Wimbledon BC 78,285  
Abbey Merton 6,376  
Cannon Hill Merton 6,559  
Colliers Wood Merton 6,511  
Dundonald Merton 6,046  
Hillside Merton 5,666  
Merton Park Merton 6,329  
Raynes Park Merton 6,607  
Trinity Merton 6,424  
Village Merton 5,633  
West Barnes Merton 6,831  
Wimbledon Park Merton 7,034  
Roehampton and Putney Heath Wandsworth 8,269

Merton

Difference to "Lewisham Deptford & Catford" counter proposal from Lewisham Council / Labour Party. Evelyn, New Cross and Telegraph Hill are out with Bellingham, Downham, Grove Park and Whitefoot in. Note the number of former Lewisham East wards. There are 2 Lewisham Deptford wards which could be swapped with the 2 Lewisham East wards in the new Greenwich & Deptford constituency.

Difference to "Lewisham East & Greenwich" counter proposal from Lewisham Council / Labour Party. Instead of Downham, Grove Park and Whitefoot, they've put in Brockley, Evelyn, New Cross and Telegraph Hill. The majority of wards are from the old Lewisham Deptford constituency. The 2 Lewisham East wards could be swapped with the 2 Lewisham Deptford wards from the new Lewisham & Catford constituency.

Very similar to "Lewisham West & Dulwich" counter proposal from Lewisham Council / Labour Party. But Bellingham has been dropped with Peckham Rye in its place. Lewisham would be the lead borough for this constituency as we would account for over half of the electors.

## **BCE Report – statements referring to Lewisham constituencies**

3.163 Having made their recommendations for the Woolwich, and Eltham and Welling constituencies, our assistant commissioners then considered the representations with regard to the proposed Greenwich and Deptford constituency. They noted that there was a significant degree of opposition to our initial proposals. For example Tahsin Khan (BCE-25807) said, ‘this is a ridiculous division that will put me into a constituency that has no connections to where I live: I am nowhere near Greenwich or Deptford. This will make access to an MP difficult, and makes it very likely that the responsible MP will feel able to overlook our area with impunity. The changes are illogical and unnecessary, not to mention being detrimental to the community culture that characterises London regions.’

3.164 In his counter-proposal John Bryant (BCE-28349) supported our initial proposals but with the inclusion of the Telegraph Hill ward and the exclusion of the Peninsula ward. His rationale for suggesting this was to avoid the division of New Cross and Hatcham in our proposals. His arrangement retained the inclusion of Ladywell in the Lewisham and Catford constituency and Lee Green in the Greenwich and Deptford constituency.

3.165 Our assistant commissioners considered the evidence and, while they were mindful of the opposition to, and strength of feeling with regard to our proposals for Greenwich and Deptford, they considered that a degree of change was inevitable in the context of constructing constituencies in the area. They considered that John Bryant’s counter-proposals had merit in that he did avoid the division of New Cross between constituencies and recommended to us that we adopt Mr Bryant’s counterproposal for the Greenwich and Deptford constituency. We agree.

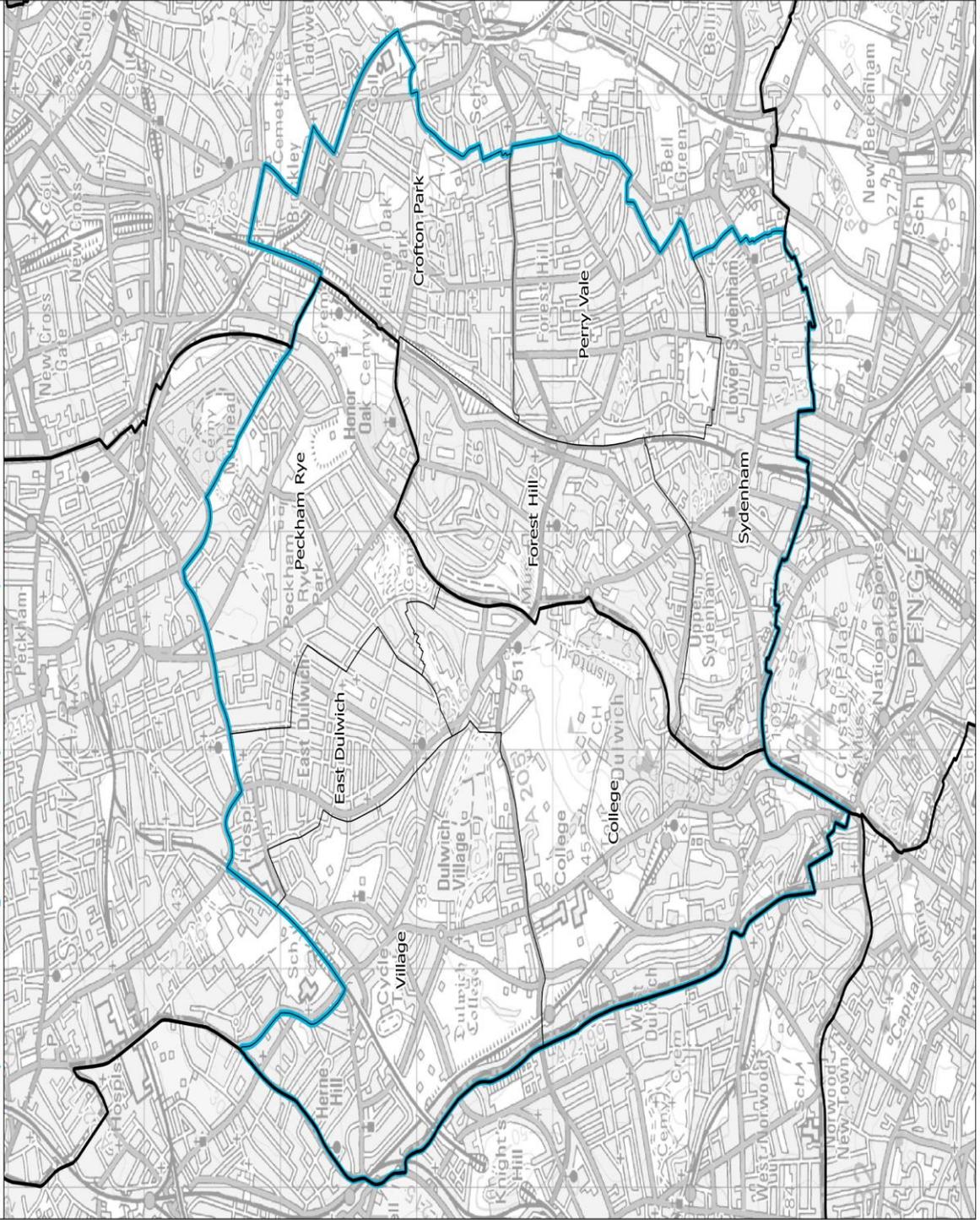
3.166 We received few representations from local responders with regard to our proposed Lewisham and Catford constituency, with some limited support for, and opposition to, our proposals, for example from Gordon Cowie (BCE-29911).

3.167 Both the Liberal Democrat Party (BCE-28274) and John Bryant (BCE-28349) supported our initial proposals for the proposed constituency. The Conservative Party (BCE-33279) largely supported the constituency but suggested the swapping of four wards. They said, ‘The Commission has, we believe, used the correct wards for the two seats of Greenwich and Deptford and Lewisham and Catford. We propose however that by swapping four wards the Commission could better meet Rule 5 (1) c. A direct swap of Blackheath and Lee Green wards for Ladywell and Lewisham Central would result in the existing Lewisham East seat being retained in full and much more of the existing Deptford constituency would also remain in a new, single seat.’ The Labour Party (BCE-33244) proposed a substantially revised Lewisham, Deptford and Catford constituency.

3.168 However, given some support for our initial proposals and the limited opposition, and the fact that our assistant commissioners had made their recommendations for the Greenwich and Deptford constituency, they recommended that we should not adopt any of the counter-proposals that made alternative suggestions and that we should make no further changes to our initial proposals for the Lewisham and Catford constituency. We agree.

Boundary Commission for England - London Region  
 Revised Proposal

Dulwich and Sydenham Borough Constituency - Electorate 73,744



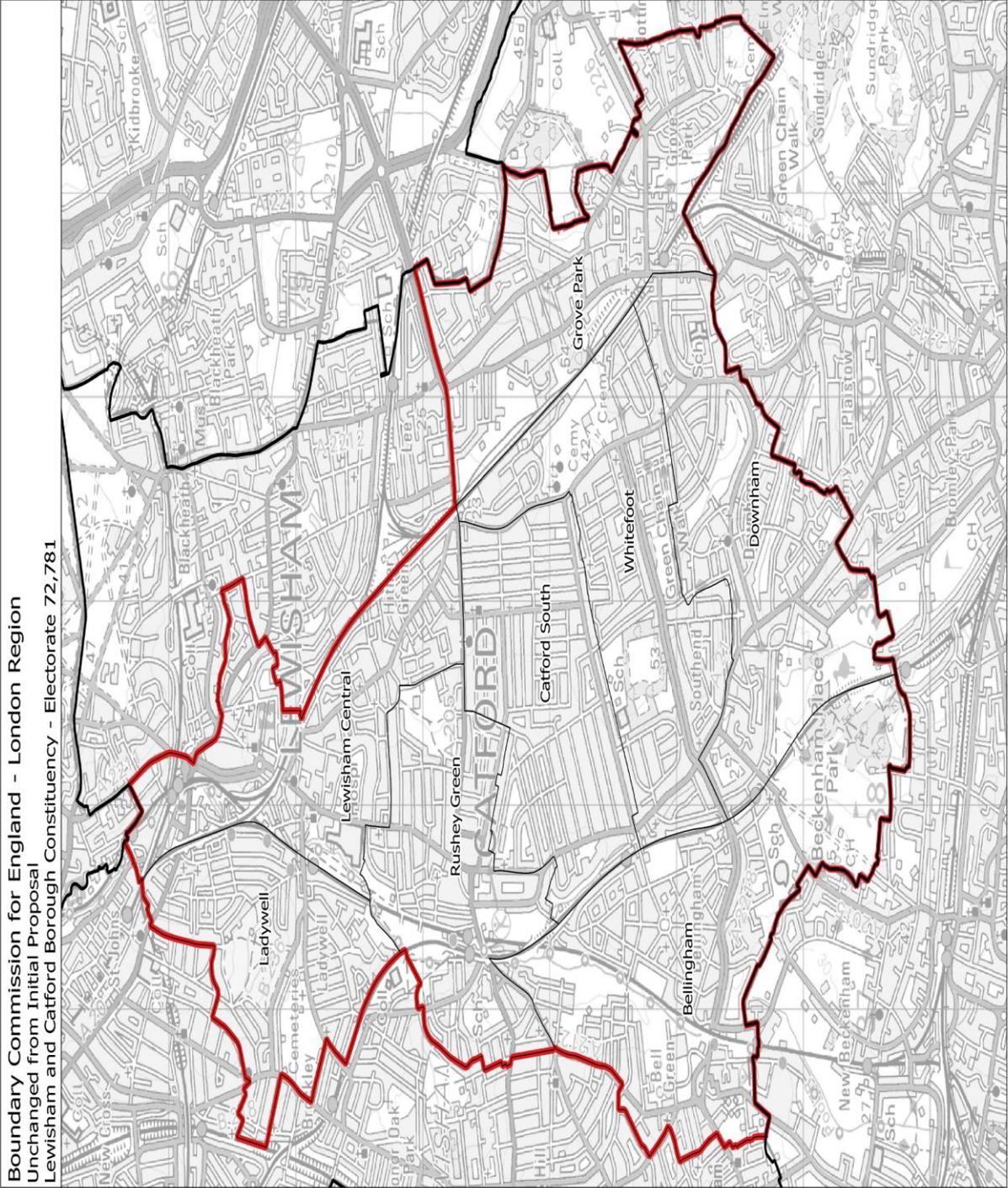
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— Constituency — Local authorities - - - Wards

Dulwich and Sydenham BC



Boundary Commission for England - London Region  
 Unchanged from Initial Proposal  
 Lewisham and Catford Borough Constituency - Electorate 72,781



— Constituency — Local authorities — Wards

Lewisham and Catford BC

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# Parliamentary Boundary Review 2018

## Final Consultation Stage

### Response from Lewisham Council

On behalf of Lewisham Council the election committee would like to thank the BCE for their proposals and the opportunities to submit our response. We have the following comments:

1. There doesn't appear to be any response or consideration made to comments from local authorities in the BCE report. There are no references to local authorities or returning officers at any point.
2. We are broadly in support of the final proposals and agree that they meet the relevant criteria for the review.
3. Greenwich and Deptford BC. We repeat our comments from the previous consultation phase that this constituency places together 2 areas that are not natural partners. Deptford is a more natural partner to Catford, with the 2 Greenwich wards fitting better with the areas of Blackheath down to Grove Park, Whitefoot and Downham.
4. Dulwich and Sydenham BC. This constituency is a significant improvement from the initial proposals. It is unfortunate that Crofton Park cannot be placed with Ladywell, Brockley and Telegraph Hill but this still represents a good solution for Lewisham residents.
5. Lewisham and Catford BC. The majority of this constituency is from the old Lewisham East constituency. If both Blackheath and Lee Green wards were placed in this constituency instead of Ladywell and Lewisham Central then the whole of the old Lewisham East constituency would be in one single new constituency. This was referenced in the BCE report but it is not clear why this solution was not chosen.

Finally, on the issue on the use of the 1.12.15 register statistics. We are aware that this was not the choice of the BCE but part of the legislation. We would like to again raise our objections to the use of these figures as the basis for the review on the following grounds:

- A. 1.12.15 was the starting date for the new system of registration, which saw many thousands of people removed from the register due to a failure to register under the old system. This reduction was seen more keenly in inner city areas, and especially so in Lewisham
- B. Clearly this means the figures were inaccurate. Lewisham has historically seen a low electoral registration rate in December and had particular challenges with introducing the new system of electoral registration – the evidence shows our registration figures on 1.12.15 were significantly low
- C. The Electoral Commission recommended the transition be delayed until 1.12.16 for these reasons – the government ignored that advice
- D. Registrations to vote in Lewisham increased by 18.6% after 1.12.15, which was top of the league table in elector growth. London saw the largest regional growth with 7%. This is a clear illustration that the figures used for the review have already led to a unequal distribution of new constituencies throughout the regions – *the very problem this review is trying to solve*
- E. The electoral figures for London published on 1.12.16 show the London-wide parliamentary electorate has increased by over 250,000 since 1.12.15 – more than 3 times the electorate quota used in this review for maximum constituency size

- F. Further development and population growth continues apace in Lewisham, as in many other parts of London. London Councils and ONS estimates for population growth show that London's population, and electorate, will increase faster than anywhere else in the UK
- G. The disparity with other regions in the UK will be significantly higher when the new constituencies come into force in May 2020, and will continue to grow thereafter

Thank you once again for the opportunities to contribute to the review.

Barry Quirk  
ARO/RO/ERO  
On behalf of the London Borough of Lewisham