

## Item 7 (d) - 2018 Parliamentary boundary review

The attached report was considered by the Governance Committee on 3 November 2016, relevant minute extract below:

### Governance Committee - 3 November 2016 (Minute 5)

Members considered a report which detailed the initial proposals from the Boundary Commission for England (BCE) who were required to conduct a review of the Parliamentary constituencies in the UK and make recommendations, to be published in September 2018, that reduces the number of constituencies in England to 501 from 533. A survey had been sent to all Members requesting their views on the initial proposals and the results were set out at Appendix B.

The Chairman allowed a Member to address the Committee with a counterproposal to the Boundary Commission's for the placement of Ash and New Ash Green to remain within the Sevenoaks Constituency and Borough Green and Long Mill, and Downs and Mereworth remain within Tonbridge & Malling Parliamentary constituency as the character of Ash and New Ash Green were rural rather than the urban character of Gravesham. By suggesting keeping the Tonbridge and Malling Parliamentary constituency, it would not break any local ties that were already established.

Members discussed the proposal and whether Ash cum Ridley and Hartley and Hodsoll Street should be brought back into the Sevenoaks District. Some Members thought there were merits in moving Swanley and Hextable to the Dartford Parliamentary constituency. Members also discussed the moving of some of the District into the Tunbridge Wells Parliamentary constituency.

### Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

The Chairman moved that recommendation b, be amended to include, 'and the additional comments submitted at the meeting'

The motion was put to the vote and it was

**Resolved: That it be recommended to Council that**

- a) the Boundary Commission for England proposals for Parliamentary boundaries for the Sevenoaks District Council area are noted; and
- b) the council submits a consultation response to the Boundary Commission for England based on the views collated from Members as set out at Appendix B and the additional comments submitted at the meeting be agreed with the Chairman of the Governance Committee.