Local Government Boundary Commission for England Electoral Review of Cheltenham Borough Council: Response to Boundary Commission

Dear Sirs,

Local Government Boundary Commission for England Electoral Review of Cheltenham Borough Council: Recommendations

I am writing on behalf of the Cheltenham Borough Council in relation to the recommendations issued by the Commission. Following a meeting of Full Council on 9 January 2023, the Council has confirmed that it is content with the suggestion of 40 members across 20 wards. However, it does have some specific and general observations on the proposed warding patterns as set out below.

Proposer	Ward (new)	Proposal	Comments	2028 electorate
Councillor John Payne	Prestbury	Furrow Close is included within the new proposed ward of Prestbury on the map provided for the draft recommendations, it has been omitted from the draft recommendations document. The whole of Furrow Close should be included in Prestbury Ward.		Prestbury 4816
	Prestbury and Pittville	The whole of Pittville campus to be included in Pittville Ward. Boundary to go along the left edge of the field next to the campus, including the access from New Barn Lane and between the grass verge and pavement on New Barn Lane and Albert Road. See map – Appendix A.	Creation of parish ward (Prestbury). Will be in Tewkesbury Constituency for Parliamentary election	Pittville 4584
Councillor Suzanne Williams	Hesters Way and Springbank	Barlow Road, Village Mews, Wentworth Court and the properties between Welch Road and Dill Avenue are retained in Springbank Ward. These properties only have access on to Village Road, so for cohesion, it would make more sense for them to all be part of the same community. See map – Appendix B.		Hesters Way 5138 Springbank 4844

Proposer	Ward (new)	Proposal	Comments	2028 electorate
Councillor Julian Tooke	All Saints and Pittville	I would suggest that the Commission rethinks its position on two key areas: 1) Fairview Street and when reaching the top of Fairview Street from 22-31 Glenfall Street and the north side of Glenfall Street from 21 to the east end of the street could remain in the proposed new All Saints Ward. The remainder of this area to be retained in Pittville Ward. There is a strong logic to keeping these more central areas within Pittville as other areas of Pittville already extend almost into the town centre. See map – Appendix C.		All Saints 4507 Pittville 4850 including changes above and below
	St.Paul's and Pittville	2) Clarence Square is one of Pittville's landmark locations and is clearly one neighbourhood. At present, 3 sides of the square are in Pittville and one side is in St Pauls (the south side coming off Clarence Road). It would be cleaner to have the whole of Clarence Road/Clarence Square within Pittville. See map – Appendix D.		St. Paul's 4768 including changes below (except the addition of area from St. Peter's set out below)

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Councillor David Willingham	St. Peter's and Swindon Village	The part of St Peter's to the north of the A4019 Tewkesbury Road seems to create an isolated community Retain this area in Swindon Village. See map – Appendix E.	Area is currently in Swindon Village Ward (Tewkesbury Constituency). The projected electorate will only apply if all new developments in Swindon Village have been completed by 2028	St. Peter's 5191 Swindon Village 5523
	Lansdown and St. Peter's	2) Disregard the proposed changes to the boundary from St. Peter's to Lansdown in the south west of current boundary for St. Peter's to retain the current boundary with the exception of Malvern Road, to avoid isolated communities such as Pates Avenue. See map – Appendix F.		Lansdown 4408 including changes below
	Pittville and St. Paul's	 Retain the current boundary for Wellesley Road to be in St. Paul's and disregard new proposed boundary to be included in Pittville Ward. See map – Appendix G. 		
Councillor Graham Beale This feedback has been agreed by multiple Councillors representing: Up Hatherley, Warden Hill,	Warden Hill and Park	1) Move 2 houses 58 & 67 Merestones Drive from Warden Hill to Park ward for consistency with surrounding homes – and access to the polling station. See map – Appendix I.	These two properties are within Leckhampton with Warden Hill Parish. The residents were consulted when the Council carried out a CGR in 2017, and opted to remain in the Parish. Could consider suggesting that these two properties along with Highwood Avenue, Kenelm	Leckhampton 4831 including changes set out below Park 4719 Warden Hill 4848

Proposer	Ward (new)	Proposal	Comments	2028 electorate
Benhall & The Reddings and Park and Councillor Tim Harman for proposal No. 1		2) Change the name of 'Warden Hill' ward to 'Warden Hill & Bournside' ward. 3) Move the 'thin strip of land' on the Railway from Warden Hill to Up Hatherley Ward. See map – Appendix J. 4) The new boundary between Benhall & the Reddings and Springbank is far too north in terms of community. The boundary to be drawn due west from the northern end of Telstar way to the borough boundary, this would not move any electors from one ward to another, but doing so becomes important for the future, should more houses be built. See map Appendix K.	Drive and 78 to 106 Shurdington Road from Leckhampton Ward be moved into Park Ward. Area needs to have 100 electors then a parish ward can be created (Leckhampton with Warden Hill). This would move 112 electors from Leckhampton Ward and with the 6 electors from the houses in Warden Hill Ward will add 118 into Park Ward	
Councillor Richard Pineger	St. Mark's	1. Accept the boundary change.		
J	St. Mark's and Warden Hill Ward	2. Move the east side of Cheltenham Spa Station into St Mark's Ward from the proposed Warden Hill Ward. This would mean that the whole station was within one county division, It would		

Proposer	Ward (new)	Proposal	Comments	2028 electorate
		also keep both halves of the station together in one ward for more effective interactions with GWR and other partners. See map – Appendix L.		
Councillor Tim Harman	College and Lansdown	Retain Imperial Square, Montpellier Gardens area in Lansdown Ward. The move to College Ward would isolate the community Montpellier. See map – Appendix M.		College 4191 including below
Councillor Emma Nelson	Leckhampton and College	Move from Leckhampton Ward to College Ward area comprising Naunton Lane up to Churchill Road (including Badminton Close) so effectively taking the funny shaped part out of Leckhampton. This will increase the electorate in College Ward. See map – Appendix N.	This will move over 100 electors from Leckhampton to College A parish ward (Leckhampton with Warden Hill) will need to be created	