

DRAFT FOR BOUNDARY REVIEW COMMITTEE

**Essex County Council's submission to the Local Government
Boundary Commission for England to the consultation on proposals
for the future Division boundaries of Essex County Council**

Basildon

The Council's position will be discussed and agreed at the Committee – see Appendix 2.

Braintree

The Council's submission will not be raising any objection to the Commission's proposals.

Brentwood

The Council's position will be discussed and agreed at the Committee – see Appendix 3.

Castle Point

ECC support the boundaries proposed by the Commission and the maintenance of the existing division names.

Chelmsford

ECC are supportive of the boundaries proposed by the Commission.

Margaretting and Writtle do have close ties, Margaretting village is close to the southern edge of Writtle parish and is linked by two roads: (a) Margaretting Road, Writtle becomes Writtle Road, Margaretting at the parish boundary (running north-south), and (b) the A414 also links the two parishes – being Greenbury Way and Three Mile Hill.

Additionally, Margaretting was in the Broomfield and Writtle division until the 2005 boundary changes. Margaretting and Stock have been in the same Chelmsford Council ward since the 1980s.

Colchester

ECC are supportive of the proposal by the Commission.

The Council requests that the proposed Lexden Division is named Lexden and Braiswick. This is because these two places are geographically distinct.

The Council requests that the proposed City Division, which includes many places which are not in the City Centre and excludes many parts of the City Centre, is named 'Colchester North'.

There are many historical community ties between Highwoods and St Johns – so the St Johns division is a logical alignment of wards.

The City division brings the logical communities of Mile End and the majority of Castle ward together.

The Constable division including Myland East polling district is a logical coalescence of rural communities. Considering the difficulties in dealing with the growing urban area of Colchester City, this is the best arrangement that can be achieved.

The inclusion of the roads in Holt Drive in the Maypole Division will ensure that the residents who live on the estate feel part of Colchester, as the last urban area of the City before the rural areas begin. Residents there have a strong community link with other estates in the Berechurch area.

Inclusion of the village of Rowhedge in the Abbey Division would mean that the communities on the west bank of the river Colne would be united, so we support this.

Epping Forest

The Council's position will be discussed and agreed at the Committee – see Appendix 4.

Harlow

ECC are supportive of the boundaries proposed by the Commission.

Maldon

Essex County Council supports the draft proposals made by the Commission.

The Council noted the Commission's separate question about a possible alternative suggestion of a two member division covering Maldon and Maldon Rural North. ECC requested a single member review and does not support this possible alternative suggestion.

ECC believes that the draft proposals meet the statutory tests well and they have requested a single member division. It would be anomalous and unnecessary to have a two-member division in here.

Rochford

ECC are happy with the proposal from the Commission.

They noted the Commission's separate question about the boundary between the two proposed Rayleigh Divisions, and whether or not this should be alternative named roads. ECC believe that the boundary between the two Rayleigh Divisions should be the High Street as it gives a good electoral equality and the Commission's possible alternative suggestion would still leave the southern part of the High St as the boundary between the two divisions.

Tendring

ECC are happy with the proposal from the Commission for Tendring.

Uttlesford

ECC are happy with the boundary proposals but ask that the division of Walden is named 'Saffron Walden'.

There is one small further change that ECC would like to see. Uttlesford District Council have received a request for a parish boundary to be re-aligned between Saffron Walden Town Council and Swards End Parish Council to accommodate a large housing development where no existing properties exist. Both Parish Councils support the change and Essex County Council supports the suggestion that the proposed County Division boundary is varied to accommodate this.

The area shown edged red below would move from Swards End to Saffron Walden and therefore from Thaxted to Saffron Walden electoral division.

