

KENNET DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL – 18th DECEMBER 2007

REVIEW OF BOUNDARIES AND ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE UNITARY COUNCIL

REPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform members of a likely review of County Council electoral boundaries during 2008 to be effective for elections for the new authority in May 2009.

2. FINANCIAL, RISK, STAFFING AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Councils electoral staff will be required to provide statistical information during the course of the review.

3. INTRODUCTION

The Boundary Committee for England have signalled their intention to carry out reviews of electoral arrangements during 2008 in areas such as Wiltshire that will become unitary in 2009. Reviews will either run from January to September 2008, or February to November 2008. In either case, the outcome of the reviews should be approved in time to be applied to the Register of Electors printed in December 2008.

Electoral staff will be asked to provide current electorate information and forecast electorates for 2012. Any scheme will be based upon the 2012 forecast.

The review will be a four stage process, and this Council will be able to join in the consultation at stage 1 and stage 3. Stage 1 will be seeking to set the parameters of a review, e.g. the number of councillors for the new authority and early draft schemes. Stage 3 will be a detailed consultation upon draft schemes.

4. CONCLUSIONS

The Council is asked to consider whether it wishes to make suggestions for stage 1 of the boundary review, and if so how those suggestions will be formed.

Background Papers: None.