

Law & Governance

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The Review Officer (Oxfordshire)
The Local Boundary Commission for
England
Layden House
76-86 Turnmill Street
LONDON
EC1M 5LG

21 October 2010

Our ref:

Your ref:



Dear Mr Gall

Oxfordshire County Council - Electoral Review

Thank you for your letter of 12th October 2010 to Peter Sloman, our Chief Executive on the Oxfordshire electoral review. I have sought the views of the City Council on the matter

The Council is a little surprised that a whole County review is being carried out and not a review restricted to the Witney Divisions. That would seem to have been a better course of action and one that the County Council suggested.

There are eight County Divisions within the area of Oxfordshire covered by Oxford City Council. Each Division is represented by two County members. There is co-terminosity between those Divisions and the City Council's wards. There is no imbalance in electoral representation for the City Divisions. The City Council would not support a departure from the present co-terminosity. Indeed, there is no need for such a departure because there is no electoral imbalance. Neither would the City Council support a departure from the present arrangements of eight two member Divisions in the City. In summary therefore the City Council's view is that the status quo should prevail in Oxford.

Formally, the resolution of the City Council, decided upon at the meeting of full Council on 18th October is as follows:-

- (1) That the City Council commends the status quo of two members per city division, totalling 16, and comments that it would be perverse to change that as a consequence of attempting to put right an anomaly in Witney; and
- (2) That whatever scheme is approved that the co-terminosity between wards and divisions should be maintained.

NOTE: This is an expanded version of my earlier letter, dated 19th October, and should replace it.

Yours sincerely,


Martin John
Principal Electoral Services Officer

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Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer

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Dear Sir

Oxfordshire County Council - Electoral Review

My Council's City Executive Board has considered the issue of the size of Oxfordshire County Council and resolved as follows:

- (1) That the City Council commends the status quo of two members per city division, totalling 16, and comments that it would be perverse to change that as a consequence of attempting to put right an anomaly in Witney; and
- (2) That whatever scheme is approved that the co-terminosity between wards and divisions should be maintained.

Yours faithfully


Martin John
Principal Electoral Services Officer

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