



MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

AGENDA

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 8 August 2017



COUNCIL	
DATE	Tuesday, 8 August 2017
PLACE	Council Chamber, Mid Suffolk District Council Offices, High Street, Needham Market
TIME	5.30 pm

Please ask for: Committee Services

Direct Line: 01449 724673

Email: Committees@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk

NOTES:

- i) Tea /coffee will be available for Members in the Council Chamber at 5:00pm.
- ii) The Council Chamber is situated on the first floor. There is access via a lift as an alternative to stairs.
- iii) The Council, members of the public and the press may record/film/photograph or broadcast this meeting when the public and press are not lawfully excluded. Any member of the public who attends the meeting and wishes to be filmed should advise the Committee Clerk.

A G E N D A

	<u>Page(s)</u>
1 Apologies for absence	
2 To receive any declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests by Members	
3 Chairman's Announcements - Verbal Update	
4 Leaders Report - Verbal Update	
5 To receive notification of petitions in accordance with the Council's Procedure Rule	

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10, The Chief Executive will report the receipt of any petitions. There can be no debate or comment upon these matters at the Council meeting.

6 Questions by the Public

The Chairmen of Committees to answer any questions from the public of which notice has been given no later than midday three clear working days before the day of the meeting in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.

7 Questions by Councillors

The Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of Committees and Sub-Committees and Portfolio Holders to answer any questions on any matters in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affect the District of which due notice has been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.

8 MC/17/14 Boundary Review- Response to Stage One Consultation on Warding Patterns 1 - 8

Please note that the next meeting is scheduled for 24 August 2017 commencing at 5:30pm.

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Agenda Item 8

MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

From: Leader of the Council	Report Number: MC/17/14
To: Mid Suffolk Council	Date of meeting: 8 August 2017

BOUNDARY REVIEW – RESPONSE TO STAGE ONE CONSULTATION ON WARDING PATTERNS

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to agree the Council's response to the stage one consultation on warding patterns, which is part of the further electoral review of the Mid Suffolk district being conducted by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the proposal attached as an appendix to this report be submitted as Mid Suffolk District Council's formal response to the consultation.
- 2.2 That the Chief Executive be authorised to submit the consultation response on behalf of the Council, and to include any relevant information arising from the Council's debate which provides further context and rationale behind the proposal.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 The LGBCE are responsible for conducting the review and for ensuring compliance with all relevant legal provisions.

5. Risk Management

- 5.1 This report is most closely linked with the Council's Corporate / Significant Business Risk No. 5c. Key risks are set out below:

Risk Description	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation Measures
That the LGBCE determine a warding pattern for Mid Suffolk that does not provide equal democratic representation and fails to take into	2 - Unlikely	3 – Bad	The Council is responding to the consultation and all councillors have had the opportunity to contribute to the consultation

account community identity.			response.
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6. Consultations

- 6.1 For the purposes of this stage of the further electoral review the Council is a consultee and is not responsible for conducting the consultation. The Council is supporting the LGBCE with its consultation activities through our communications channels and assisting with parish liaison events.

7. Equality Analysis

- 7.1 There are no equality and diversity implications.

8. Shared Service / Partnership Implications

- 8.1 This report supports the ongoing joint working arrangements of the two Councils.

9. Links to Joint Strategic Plan

- 9.1 This report supports the Enabled and Efficient Organisation programme.

10. Key Information

- 10.1 The LGBCE is currently undertaking a further electoral review of the Mid Suffolk district. This is an intervention review as there is currently electoral inequality within some of the Mid Suffolk wards which surpasses the LGBCE's tolerances. It is running concurrently with a review of the Babergh district. In February 2017 the Council agreed that a council size of 34 councillors would be adequate for the effective operation of the Council and for representing the residents of Mid Suffolk district. The LGBCE was minded to accept this council size and on 13 June 2017 commenced stage one of the consultation on warding patterns.
- 10.2 The consultation will close on 14 August 2017 and the LGBCE, with support from the Council, has undertaken specific activities to engage local communities in the consultation including a briefing event for parish councils. The LGBCE is wholly responsible for conducting the consultation and in that regard the District Council is only a consultee and has a choice about whether or not to respond. However, there is a strong expectation that the District Council will show leadership in this exercise and submit a reasoned and sound response.
- 10.3 It is recommended that the proposal appended to this report is submitted as the Council's response to the consultation. The proposal has been developed through a series of workshops and drop-in sessions that were open to all councillors and further refined by a cross-party task and finish group.
- 10.4 In developing this proposal consideration has been given to achieving electoral equality, having clearly identifiable boundaries and reflecting community interests and identities. The electoral equality figures have been calculated using the projected electorate for 2022 of 82,781. A council size of 34 therefore results in a ratio of 2,435 electors per councillor. The LGBCE recognises that absolute electoral equality is highly improbable so also applies a ten percent threshold either side of the ratio which has resulted in a range of 2,191 to 2,678 electors. The LGBCE will

consider warding patterns which are based on minor variations to the council size if it represents a better fit in terms of logical warding and maintaining community identities.

- 10.5 The proposal represents excellent electoral equality with only one of the multi-member wards being marginally outside of the plus or minus ten percent threshold. Significant attention has been given to maintaining established community identities and creating a warding pattern that provides room for growth in electorates without significantly exceeding the electoral equality thresholds.
- 10.6 At this stage the proposal has given no regard as to how Stowmarket, a warded parish, might be sub-divided. Simply a total number of councillors has been provided.

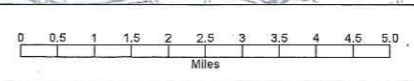
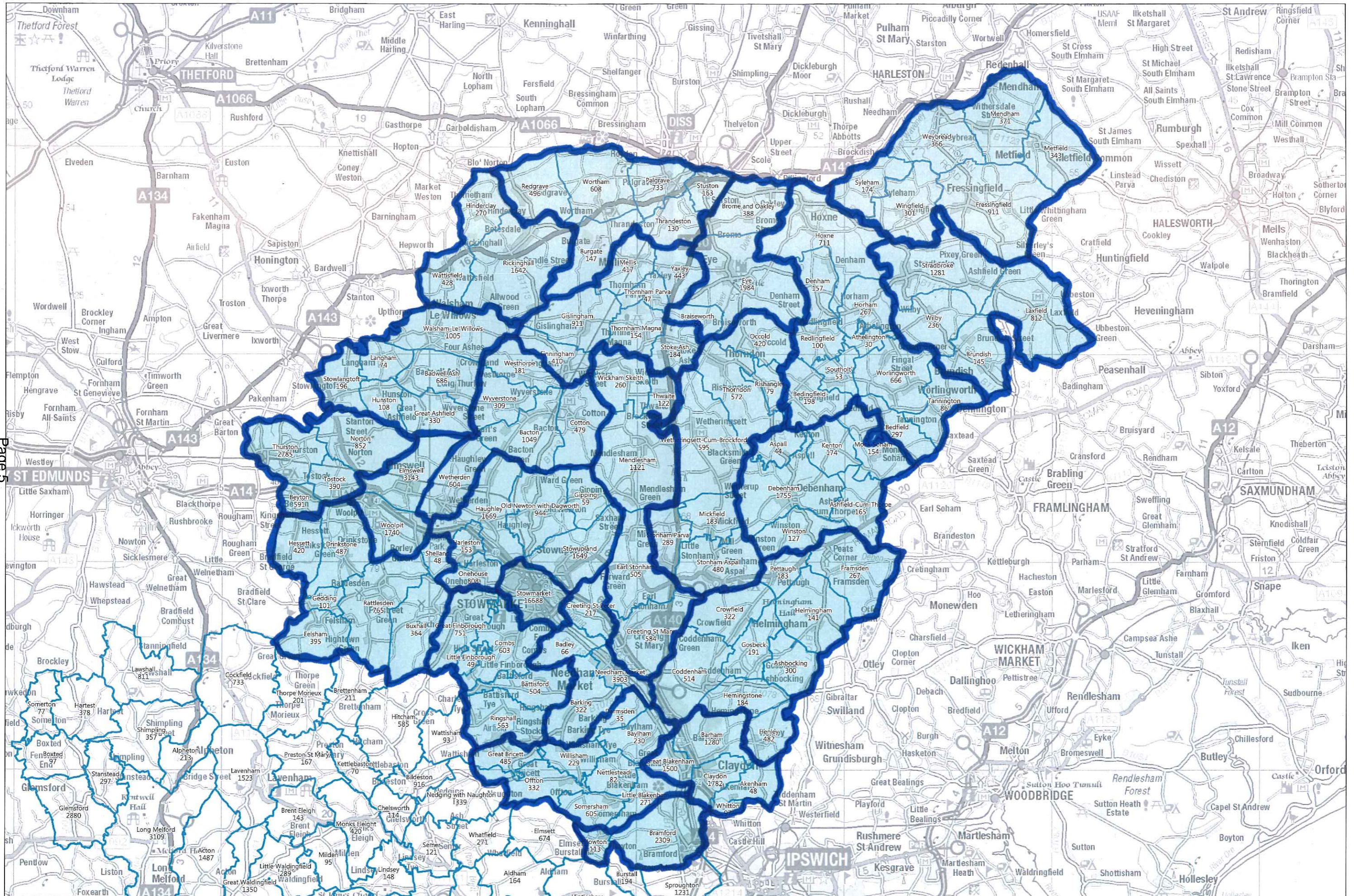
11. Appendices

Title	Location
(a) Proposal Map	Attached
(b) Proposal Electorate Figures	Attached

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MID SUFFOLK WARDING 2019

ELECTORATE FOR 2022: 82,781

RANGE FOR +/-10% is 2,191 to 2,627 (4,382 to 5,254 for 2 member ward)

Bramford	2,309		Little Blakenham	271		Battisford	504		Thurston	2,785	
Flowton	113		Somersham	605		Ringshall	563		Tostock	390	
	<u>2,422</u>	1	Nettlestead	82		Combs	603		Beyton	591	
			Baylham	230		Great Finborough	751		Norton	<u>852</u>	
Claydon	1,782		Willisham	229		Little Finborough	49			<u>4,618</u>	2
Barham	1,280		Darmsden	35			<u>2,470</u>	1			(2 x 2,309)
Great Blakenham	1,500		Offton	332					Elmswell	3,143	
Akenham	48		Great Bricett	<u>485</u>		Buxhall	364		Woolpit	<u>1,740</u>	
Whitton	97			<u>2,269</u>	1	Rattlesden	765			<u>4,883</u>	2
	<u>4,707</u>	2				Felsham	395				(2 x 2,441)
		(2 x 2,354)	Coddenham	514		Gedding	101		Walsham-Le-Willows	1,005	
Stowmarket	16,688	7	Hemingstone	184		Hessett	420		Badwell Ash	686	
		(7 x 2,384)	Henley	482		Drinkstone	487		Great Ashfield	330	
Mendham	371		Crowfield	322		Shelland	48		Langham	74	
Metfield	343		Gosbeck	191			<u>2,580</u>	1	Hunston	108	
Weybread	366		Ashbocking	300					Stowlangtoft	<u>196</u>	
Syleham	174		Helmingham	141		Debenham	1,755			<u>2,399</u>	1
Wingfield	301		Pettaugh	183		Winston	127				
Fressingfield	911		Framsden	<u>267</u>		Aspall	44		Hinderclay	270	
	<u>2,466</u>	1		<u>2,584</u>	1	Kenton	174		Wattisfield	428	
						Monk-Soham	154		Rickinghall	<u>1,642</u>	
Redgrave	496		Worlingworth	666		Ashfield-Cum-Thorpe	165			<u>2,340</u>	1
Wortham	608		Tannington	86			<u>2,419</u>	1			
Burgate	147		Bedfield	297					Eye	1,984	
Palgrave	733		Athelington	30		Wetheringsett	595		Brome & Oakley	388	
Thrandeston	130		Hoxne	711		Occold	420		Braiseworth	<u>60</u>	
Stuston	163		Horham	267		Rishangles	79			<u>2,432</u>	1
	<u>2,277</u>	1	Denham	157		Thorndon	572				
			Redlingfield	100		Mickfield	183		Yaxley	443	
Westhorpe	181		Southolt	53		Stonham Parva	289		Mellis	417	
Wyverstone	309		Bedingfield	<u>198</u>		Stonham Aspel	480		Gislingham	911	
Bacton	1,049			<u>2,565</u>	1		<u>2,618</u>	1	Thornham Magna	154	
Wetherden	604								Thornham Parva	47	
Cotton	479		Harleston	153		Mendlesham	1,121		Finningham	410	
	<u>2,622</u>	1	Onehouse	808		Earl Soham	505		Stoke Ash	<u>184</u>	
			Haughley	1,669		Thwaite	122			<u>2,566</u>	1
Laxfield	812		Stowupland	1,649		Wickham Sketh	260				
Stradbroke	1,281		Old Newton/Dagworth	944		Creeting St Mary	<u>584</u>		Needham Market	3,903	
Wilby	236		Gipping	59			<u>2,592</u>	1	Badley	66	
Brundish	145			<u>5,282</u>	2	(above 2 wards, especially			Barking	322	
	<u>2,474</u>	1			(2 x 2,641)	one based on Mendlesham			Creeting St Peter	<u>217</u>	
						better combine as a 2 member				<u>4,508</u>	2
						ward)					(2 x 2,254)
		<u>14</u>									<u>10</u>
											<u>34</u>
									Grand Total		

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