

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO COUNCIL

2 MAY 2012

**REPORT OF DIRECTOR
OF LAW AND
DEMOCRACY**

**OFFICER DECISION TAKEN IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MAYOR – REVIEW OF
PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES**

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to inform members of the following Officer decision, taken under urgency powers, in consultation with the Mayor.

DECISION

The Director of Law and Democracy took the decision, in consultation with the Mayor, to implement Cabinet's recommendations at its meeting on 8 March 2012 to reaffirm the Authority's representations to the Boundary Commission for England ("the Commission") on its initial proposals for new parliamentary constituency boundaries affecting the Stockton-on-Tees Borough area.

REASON

Representations on the Commission's initial proposals were agreed by Council at its meeting on 1 December 2011. The Commission's review entered the secondary consultation phase on 6 March 2012. This ended on 3 April, 2012. The secondary consultation allowed interested parties to submit further comments on the representations submitted to date. Those representations were published on the Commission's website with effect from noon on 6 March.

At its meeting on 8 March, Cabinet agreed that the Council's original representations should be reaffirmed for the purposes of the secondary consultation period. However, there was no Council meeting before the 3 April deadline at which to ratify Cabinet's recommendations.

Action before the 3 April was considered essential in the Council's and the public's interests.

Group Leaders were contacted before the decision was taken to ascertain if they had any comments on what was proposed.

RECOMMENDED that the Director of Law and Democracy's decision, taken in consultation with the Mayor be noted.

