

WENDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL  
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## **Wendlebury Parish Council Response to the Consultation Paper by the Boundary Commission**

Initial proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in the South East region.

In 2016 Wendlebury became part of the new Cherwell District Council Ward - Launton and Otmoor - following a review of wards in the area.

The Parish of Wendlebury is approximately two miles from the centre of Bicester which provides a full range of services as there are none locally. The Parish is directly affected by the growth of Bicester and is currently faced with the impact of a south East Boundary Road, a business park and potentially new housing. All of these developments do have a significant impact on this small community.

To suggest that these key issues should be addressed by an MP based in Henley is a manifest nonsense. This community struggles to make its voice heard now, and the Boundary Commission proposals remove proper local *representation* by an MP who will have little or no feeling or concept of the changes.

The data in the report is from May 2015. This is out of date and devalues the work of the Boundary Commission in creating the new wards.

You will be aware that Bicester growth will be greater than the national average, and is projected to be larger than Banbury in the time frame of the local plan. This growth projection means that the whole ward and county boundary approaches are not viable taking into account the current situation.

We believe that the best way forward is to create a new parliamentary constituency of Bicester and combine Banbury with South Northamptonshire. This will enable villages with strong local ties to have access to proper representation.

The wards that could form the basis of the new constituency are Bicester East, Bicester North, Bicester South, Bicester West, Ambrosden and Chesterton, Fringford, Kirtlington, Launton, Otmoor, Kidlington North, Kidlington South and Yarnton, Gosforth and Water Eaton. Taking into account Bicester's projected expansion of 17,000 homes (including Oxford Overspill) would create a constituency of 73589 on the basis of 2 voters per household.

The Parish trusts that this information is of help to the consultation process.