Submission to the Boundary Commission for England third period of consultation: **South West**

The Liberal Democrats welcome a number of the changes included in the revised proposals, but remain critical of the proposals in other areas where few adjustments have been made.

In particular we welcome the adoption of revised proposals for the county of Somerset and the unitary council area of Bath & North-East Somerset with the creation of a Burnham & Glastonbury seat, a Wells & North-East Somerset seat, and the retention of a Somerton & Frome seat.

In the county of Wiltshire, we welcome the modifications to what is now proposed as the new West Wiltshire seat, in terms of the inclusion of the whole of Corsham and the reallocation of the Ethandune ward to the proposed Warminster & Shaftesbury seat. We also welcome the inclusion of the Lyneham area in the re-named North Wiltshire seat, and the other related adjustments to North Wiltshire and the Devizes, Salisbury and Warminster & Shaftesbury seats.

In Gloucestershire, we are pleased that the Commission has agreed to a 'split-ward' solution in order to retain key parts of the centre of the city in the revised Gloucester constituency.

However, we regret the decision of the Commission to reject our proposals for the rest of the county of Dorset.

We also regret the decision to persist with an approach to the South Gloucestershire unitary council area which revolves around an artificial 'East/West' divide rather than a 'North/South' solution which recognises the different characters of those areas close to Bristol as opposed to those further removed. We believe the case put forward by the current Member of Parliament for Thornbury & Yate, who previously represented some of the other parts of South Gloucestershire between 1997 and 2010, to be particularly informed and compelling.

We would ask the commission to give further consideration to this counter-proposal, which could be implemented without wider disruption to the sub-region in question.