

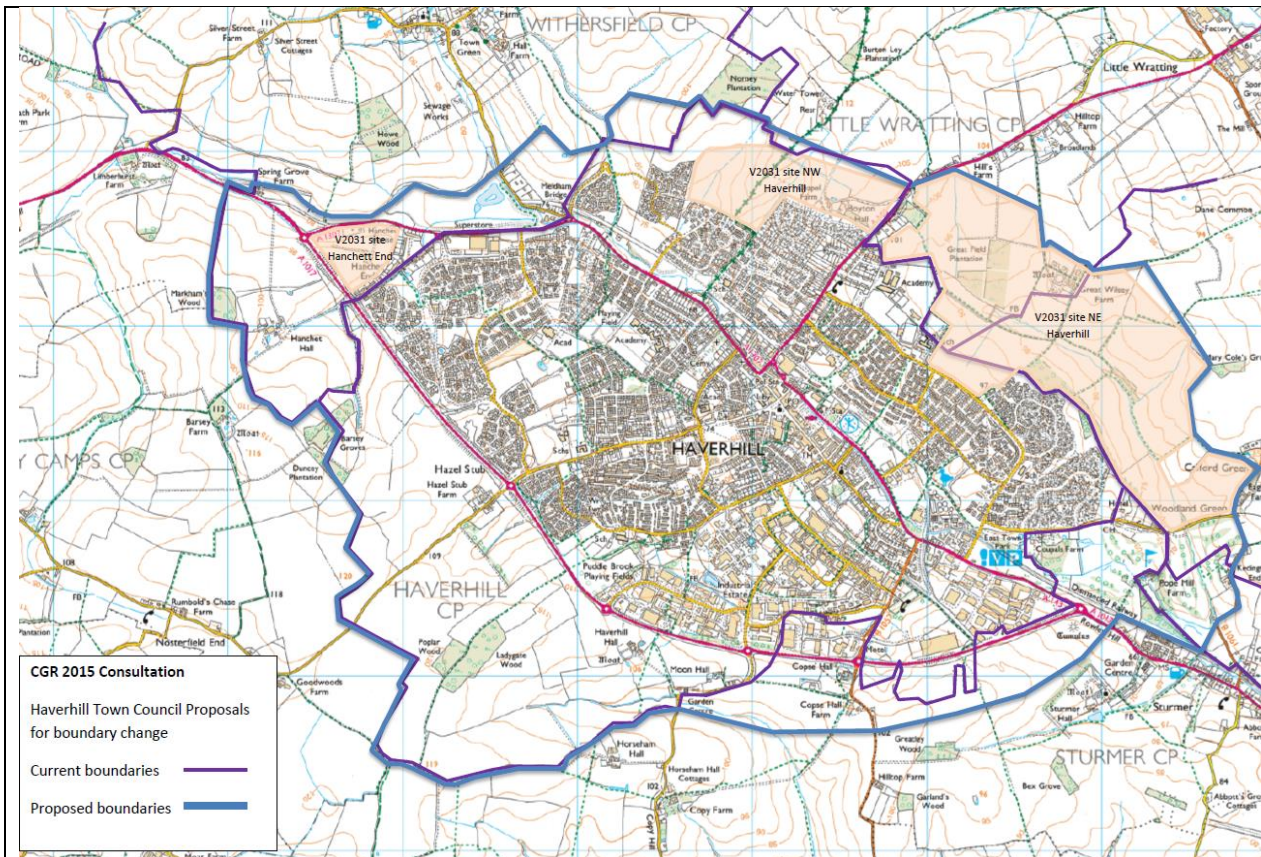
Issue No.	15. County boundary between Suffolk and Essex adjacent to Haverhill
Area or Properties Under Review	The boundary between Essex and Suffolk around Haverhill. The Borough Council does not have the ability to make changes to county boundaries as part of this CGR but can consult on this issue and raise these concerns with the Local Government Boundary Commission and ask them to carry out a Principal Area Boundary Review if necessary.
Parishes	Haverhill Withersfield Kedington Parishes in Essex
Borough Ward	Haverhill East Haverhill South Haverhill West Kedington Withersfield
County Divisions	Clare Haverhill Cangle
Method of Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter to Parish and Town Councils • Emails to elected representatives (Borough, County and MP) • Email to Residents' and Community Associations (if applicable) • Letters to neighbouring authorities • Letters/emails to other stakeholders (see Appendix C)
Projected electorate, warding arrangements and consequential impacts	The Borough Council cannot make changes to its own boundary, so this issue is being consulted upon to inform future submissions to the LGBCE as part of principal area boundary reviews. The current boundary is shown on the map attached at the end of this summary.
Analysis	There is no consensus with neighbouring authorities, but Haverhill Town Council would wish the Borough Council to raise this issue with the LGBCE at the next available opportunity.

Summary of comments received during Phase 1

A. Response of Haverhill Town Council

Haverhill Town Council has submitted one response to all of the issues affecting its parish. As it would be hard to separate out the text between all issues, and to avoid repetition, it is included in full under issue 12 and not reprinted here (other than the map below for ease of reference). However, the Council's submission must be read to gain an understanding of the full evidence base for this issue.

In summary, the Town Council continues to favour a clarification of its boundary with Essex as shown on the map overleaf.



B. Sturmer Parish Council

The Parish Council's members are unanimously opposed to any suggestion that the boundary of both the County of Essex and that of the Parish of Sturmer should be the subject of the changes contained in your communications.

The suggestion that the Essex/Suffolk boundary should coincide with the A1017 Haverhill Bypass from the Spirit of Enterprise Roundabout to the Rowley Hill Roundabout (Sturmer) is completely unacceptable to members who see no merit in making such minor changes to our boundary.

There was particular concern about the suggestion that the LGBCE might look at the triangle to the north of Coupals Road. This piece of land not only contains Woodlands Hotel and Woodlands Cottage but also encompasses Sturmer Common, the only parcel of common land within the Village. The whole Village would vigorously contest any attempt to deprive it of its common land.

Over many years Haverhill has sought to expand in size at the expense of the surrounding countryside and of our Parish. We feel most strongly that this process has reached its limit so far as Sturmer and Essex are concerned and that the Town should look elsewhere to develop.

C. Braintree District Council

The Chief Executive presented your Council's outline proposals to Members of our cross party Cabinet sub Group on 6 October 2015. Following consideration members concluded that Braintree District Council could not support any amendment to the historical Essex/Suffolk border around the South and South East of Haverhill at this time as there is no compelling basis. However should there be a future review by the Local Boundary Review Commission they would consider any proposals.

Map

