

**Copy of e mail from Councillor Smith dated 27<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

**Subject:** RE: Parliamentary Boundary Review Group - Draft Submission

Thank you for your email and the revised submission. I am sorry to say that the Slough Conservative Group cannot give its support to these alternative proposals as we do not see any evidence to suggest that they produce "better outcomes" than the BCE's Chalvey proposal, (paragraphs 7 and 29). I think we have reached a point of fundamental disagreement. The reasons are:

1. The Conservative Group previously stated that it did not consider that the Crowthorne proposal produced an outcome that was "as sustainable", let alone more sustainable than the Chalvey proposal. The same applies to the Bullbrook proposal (that likewise leaves all the Berkshire constituencies in the low end of the target range, except for Slough, which would be at the high end). If the Working Group discussed but chose not to address the impact of the current boundary review on the one that is would follow it 5 years hence, it shows that we are not looking at this from the same perspective.
2. No evidence is presented to support the statement that Bracknell Council has planned "similar housing growth" as Slough, (paragraph 9). It is also worth remembering that housing densities (the numbers actually living in comparable dwellings will be higher in Slough.
3. The close proximity of Chalvey to Windsor (compared to alternatives) is not acknowledged - the Ragstone Road area is in easy walking distance!
4. Likewise, the good transport links between Chalvey and Windsor, including public transport provisions, are still not acknowledged.
5. We agree that Chalvey has many special and challenging characteristics, but addressing these will still remain the responsibility of SBC even if Chalvey is transferred into the Windsor constituency - the implied suggestion that this task will become harder is not supported by any evidence.
6. It continues to be asserted incorrectly that Chalvey and Windsor have "no connections"; the previous existence of the parliamentary constituency of Slough and Eton spanning the area under consideration also remains unacknowledged.

I think the report should be put to the full Council on 29th November before any action on the Council's behalf.