BCE-88540

My response to the Boundary Commission’s proposals remains the same as my written submission to the first round of consultation and as presented when I gave oral evidence on Thursday 24 February.

However, I have serious concerns about a proposal made in the first round of public consultation that Wood Green be removed from Haringey and form part of an Enfield Southgate constituency. This would be a serious mistake as Wood Green is the civic capital of Haringey and it would make no sense from a community point of view to uproot it and put it into an Enfield seat.

Wood Green has always been at the heart of Haringey, with a thriving town centre, strong business community and active voluntary and community sector. It has a strong and proud identity and forms a central part of Haringey Council’s borough regeneration plans. Since 1950 the area has been part of a Haringey constituency and since 1983 it has been one of two very distinct neighbours making up the Hornsey & Wood Green seat. People living and working in the wards that make up the historic borough of Wood Green – Woodside, Noel Park and Bounds Green - feel themselves to be an integral part of Haringey and with the welcome addition of White Hart Lane ward, as currently proposed by the Boundary Commission, this would strengthen the collective voice of the Wood Green community within Parliament. This is particularly important because of the well-reported social needs present in the area.

In contrast, moving the three historic wards into a constituency with six Enfield wards would dilute and reduce the Wood Green voice, which would have a negative impact on the area. I strongly oppose this proposal.

Catherine West MP  
MP for Hornsey & Wood Green