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your ref
please ask for James Hehir
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Archie Gall
Head of Boundary Reviews &
Director of the Boundary Committee for England
The Electoral Commission
Trevelyan House
Great Peter Street
London SW1P 2HW

26th September 2008

Dear Archie,

North Haven Unitary Council

Ipswich Borough Council was asked to lead on the business case for setting up a North Haven Unitary Authority. I am pleased to say with the co-operation of all the 5 Councils directly affected by the proposal this was submitted by the due date of 19th September 2008.

In preparing the business case we set up a North Haven Board of Councillors on a politically proportional basis across all the 5 local authorities as follows:

5 Conservatives
3 Labour
3 Liberal Democrat
1 Independent

Ipswich has three representatives which are the Leaders of the three groups on the Council i.e. Labour, Liberal Democrats and Conservatives. The Conservative Leader of the Council Chaired the North Haven Board.

The Council's Executive supports the North Haven and is opposed to the "other pattern" i.e. a Unitary Suffolk Council.

The Labour group on Ipswich Borough Council, who are not represented on the Executive, wish to see a unitary authority based on urban Ipswich. They are also opposed to a Unitary Suffolk Council. I attach our response to the consultation and I would be pleased to provide any further information upon request.

Yours sincerely

James Hehir
Chief Executive