

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM 12(ii)
14 DECEMBER 2016	PUBLIC REPORT

2018 PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY REVIEW

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S
FROM : COUNCILLOR PETER HILLER, CHAIR OF THE PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY REVIEW WORKING GROUP
It is recommended that Council agree the proposed response at Appendix 1 to the Boundary Commission for England consultation in respect of the 2018 Parliamentary Constituency Boundary Review

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 On 12 October 2016, Full Council resolved that a cross party working group should be established to review the initial proposals for the new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in the Eastern region as published for consultation on 13 September 2016 for a 12 week period to 5 December 2016.
- 1.2 The terms of reference of the 2018 Parliamentary Constituency Boundary Review was approved by Full Council on the same date.

2. BACKGROUND (& CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 On 30 November 2016 , the cross party Parliamentary Constituency Boundary Review Working Group met and considered under their terms of reference to review the proposed parliamentary constituency boundaries within the Eastern region and to ensure that the proposals reflected effective parliamentary constituencies for the residents of Peterborough.
- 2.2 The working group considered the following proposed changes:
 - 2.2.1 The significant reduction in the number of constituencies in England from 533 to 501;
 - 2.2.2 The requirement that every constituency, apart from two specified exceptions, must have an electorate that is no smaller than 71,031 and no larger than 78,507;
 - 2.2.3 The changes to the constituencies within the Eastern region, namely the reduction from 58 to 57; and
 - 2.2.4 The specific impact on the Peterborough and North West Cambridgeshire constituencies.
- 2.3 It is proposed to add the District of Huntingdonshire ward of Earith from the existing North West Cambridgeshire constituency to the South East Cambridgeshire constituency in order to bring the North West Cambridgeshire electorate to 78,279 within 5% of the electorate quota.
- 2.4 The figure originally identified by the working group as the subsequent North West Cambridgeshire electorate was 89,991. Taking into account updated figures, this figure is now 78,279, as referred to above.

- 2.5 It was found that the main consideration for Peterborough was the proposal to add the ward of Fletton and Woodston (from the existing North West Cambridgeshire constituency) to the Peterborough constituency.
- 2.6 Having discussed the proposals at length, Members unanimously agreed to the proposals on the basis that the inclusion of Fletton and Woodston were historically viewed as part of Peterborough City Council. The other proposals did not have any significant impact upon Peterborough.
- 2.7 A draft response was prepared and attached as Appendix 1. Following Full Council's resolution and the terms of reference of the Working Group, the response is required to be approved by Council on 14 December 2016.
- 2.8 As Members are aware, Peterborough City Council had all out elections in May 2016. Members will find at Appendix 2, the latest electoral figures for the new wards in 2016.

3. IMPLICATIONS

Legal Implications

- 3.1 There are no legal implications at this time.

Finance Implications

- 3.2 There are no financial implications

Equalities Implications

- 3.3 The consultation is being conducted by the Boundary Commission and therefore there is no requirement for an equality impact assessment by the Council.

4. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985)

- 4.1 'Initial proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in the Eastern region'
www.bce2018.org.uk