

Title: 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies

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Portfolio Holder: Councillor Andrew Day

Wards of the District directly affected: All

Summary

The report informs the Committee of the consultation on the revised proposals for the Parliamentary Constituencies for Warwick District and provides a suggested submission on behalf of the Council.

Recommendations

- (1) That the Committee makes no further comments on the proposals and expresses its disappointment at the view taken by the Commission with the subject to (2) below.
- (2) That following the publication of the Electoral Registers in Warwick District, Rugby Borough and Stratford-on-Avon District on 1 December 2022, the Democratic Services Manager & Deputy Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chair of this Committee, be authorised to highlight to the Commission the electorates for the two proposed Constituencies for Warwick District if either are already outside the proposed tolerances for new Constituencies (no smaller than 69,724 and no larger than 77,062) and ask that the Commission remodel their proposals across the West Midlands to see if they have already created Constituencies outside of their tolerance before any further expected growth in electorates between now and 2031 (the next review).

1 Background/Information

- 1.1 The 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies is now drawing to a conclusion, with the final proposals for consultation having been published by the Boundary Commission for England (BCE).
- 1.2 The proposals for the West Midlands include boundaries for both the Kenilworth & Southam Constituency and the Warwick and Leamington Constituency which remain unchanged from the previous rounds of consultation. These would have electorates of 74,107 and 72,784 respectively, being the two largest electorates of the five in Warwickshire, however these are not the largest in the region; that being over 77,000; nor the smallest, which is just under 70,000.
- 1.3 The remit of the BCE for this review sets the UK electoral quota for the 2023 to the nearest whole number, 73,393. Accordingly, every recommended constituency (except the five 'protected' constituencies) must have an electorate as of 2 March 2020 that is no smaller than 69,724 and no larger than 77,062. There will be a further review of constituency boundaries, but this will not be for another 8 years after the completion of the 2023 review.
- 1.4 For reference at Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 are maps that outline the current Constituency Boundaries and the proposed, overlaid with each other. The

hatched areas illustrating the areas of change between the current and the proposed.

1.5 The Licensing & Regulatory Committee responded to the initial consultation on behalf of Warwick District Council on 19 July 2021 as follows:

- (1) the Boundary Commission for England be asked to consider the following points when setting the boundaries:
 - (i) the Council welcomes the retention of Warwick, Leamington & Whitnash in a single constituency and broadly supports the wider proposed Boundaries as they will address some long-standing issues within the District;
 - (ii) the Council objects to the creation of an island constituency for Warwick & Leamington for the reasons set out above;
 - (iii) the Warwick District Ward of Budbrooke should be moved into the Constituency of Warwick and Leamington for the reasons set out above;
 - (iv) the significant expected growth in the electorate for the Kenilworth & Southam Constituency be noted; and that this could be mitigated by moving the Budbrooke District Council Ward to Leamington & Warwick Constituency for the reasons set out above; without the need for the Commission to recognise growth;
 - (v) the Commission ensures their final proposals follow the final proposed wards of the current LGCE boundary review for Stratford-on-Avon District Council to avoid the current issues of non-aligned boundaries for some Wards in South Warwickshire.

1.6 The Licensing & Regulatory Committee responded to a second round of consultation on 21 March 2022 which resolved that:

Resolved that

- (1) the Committee confirms its original position in respect of the proposed boundaries in the minutes of its meeting from 19 July 2021, as set out in Appendix 3 to the report;
- (2) the Committee endorses the comments of the local community who are opposed to the proposals to move Budbrooke Ward into the Kenilworth & Southam Constituency;
- (3) the Boundary Commission be asked to

consider moving Radford Semele Ward into the Warwick & Leamington Constituency due to its close community ties; and

- (4) the final wording of the submission be delegated to the Democratic Services Manager & Deputy Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee.

- 1.7 The revised proposals for the West Midlands has seen no changes made (for the Two Constituencies that represent Warwick District). This final round of consultation runs until 5 December 2022.
- 1.8 The Committee is reminded that the review, by law is not allowed to consider electorate growth and can only consider the electorate as defined within the Act (March 2020). This said officers believe it is worth highlighting the current electorates for the proposed constituencies and issues this may cause between now and the next planned review 8 years after the 2023 review (2031).
- 1.9 The full report for the West Midlands Region can be reviewed [on line](#) . The summary for the West Midlands and relevant pages from the full report, in respect of Warwickshire, are attached as Appendices 3 and 4 to the report.

2 Alternative Options available

- 2.1 Within the guidelines for such reviews no alternative options have been considered however the Committee could choose to put forward a different submission to the BCE.

3 Consultation and Member's comments

- 3.1 No individual comments from Councillors have been sought on this report.

4 Implications of the proposal

4.1 Legal/Human Rights Implications

- 4.1.1 There are no specific legal or human rights implications from the report or its proposals.

4.2 Financial

- 4.2.1 The report does not impact on the budgetary framework or budget of the Council.

4.3 Council Plan

In respect of Warwick District Council Business Plan, the report brings forward a proposed consultation response that is considered will help build stronger community identities within the District, in line with the theme of People - Health, Homes, Communities.

4.4 Environmental/Climate Change Implications

- 4.4.1 There are no impacts on the Environment or Climate Change arising from this report.

4.5 Analysis of the effects on Equality

- 4.5.1 There are no impacts on Equality matters from this report.

4.6 Data Protection

4.6.1 There are no Data Protection implications from this report.

4.7 Health and Wellbeing

4.7.1 There are no direct impacts in relation to health and wellbeing from these proposals.

5 Risk Assessment

5.1 The report provides a response to a public consultation which do not present any significant risk to the Council.

6 Conclusion/Reasons for the Recommendation

6.1 The provides a summary and as there have been no material changes to the proposals it is considered appropriate for the Committee to express its disappointment.

Background papers: None Supporting documents: None

Report Information Sheet

Please complete and submit to Democratic Services with report

Committee / Date	Audit & Standards Committee 22 November 2022	
Title of report	2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies	
Officer / Councillor Approval	Date	Name
Ward Members(s)		
Portfolio Holder		Andrew Day
Financial Services		
Legal Services		
Other Services		
Chief Executive(s)	14/11/22	Chris Elliott
Head of Services(s)	14/11/22	Andy Jones
Section 151 Officer		
Monitoring Officer	14/11/22	Andy Jones
CMT (WDC)		
Leadership Co-ordination Group (WDC)		
Other organisations		
Final decision by this Committee or rec to another Cttee / Council?	Yes	
Contrary to Policy / Budget framework?	Yes	
Does this report contain exempt info/Confidential? If so, which paragraph(s)?	No	
Does this report relate to a key decision (referred to in the Cabinet Forward Plan)?	No	
Accessibility Checked?	Yes	