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 proposed Parliamentary Constituencies for Warwick District as part of the first consultation and provides a suggested submission on behalf of the Council.

## Recommendation(s)

- (1) That 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, and
- (2) That the Committee endorses the comments of the local communities who are opposed to the proposals.

# 1 Background/Information

- 1.1 The 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies is underway, with the first proposals having been published by the Boundary Commission for England (BCE). The initial consultation was undertaken last summer closing on 2 August 2021.
- 1.2 The initial proposals for the West Midlands include revised boundaries for both the Kenilworth & Southam Constituency and the Warwick and Leamington Constituency. 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 Boundary Commission for England 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 at 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.
- 1.5 This Committee previously responded to the consultation on behalf or Warwick District Council as set out at Appendix 3 to this report.
- 1.6 The latest round of consultation has seen no proposed changes to the original proposals from the BCE and therefore retains the inclusion of the current District Wards of Budbrooke and Bishop's Tachbrook within revised Kenilworth & Southam Constituency.
- 1.7 There have been 3902 comments submitted about the proposals for revisions to constituencies in the West Midlands, of which 129 are about the constituencies that represent Warwick District.

- 1.8 There were 96 comments made regarding the Warwick & Leamington Constituency, attached as Appendix 4 to the report, of which 72 comments were specifically about the move of Budbrooke and Bishop's Tachbrook Wards.
- 1.9 There were 33 Comments on the Kenilworth and Southam Constituency, which are attached at Appendix 5 to the report.
- 1.10 Within the responses there are concerns raised about the identification of community, in relation to both constituencies and also the projected electorate growth.
- 1.11 In respect of electorate growth, the law establishing the review does not allow the commission to consider this aspect, which was why this Council carefully developed its response to the initial proposals.

# 2 Alternative Options available to (name of Committee/Cabinet etc.)

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 Council reaffirm its position.

Background papers: None Supporting documents: None

# **Report Information Sheet**

Please complete and submit to Democratic Services with report

Licensing & Regulatory Committee 23 March		
Committee / Date	2022	
Title of report	2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies	
Officer / Councillor Approval *required	Date	Name
Ward Members(s)		
Portfolio Holder		
Financial Services *		
Legal Services (*SDC)		
Other Services		
Chief Executive(s)	11/3/22	Chris Elliott
Head of Services(s)*	11/3/22	Phil Grafton
Section 151 Officer		
Monitoring Officer	11/3/22	Phil Grafton
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	