

Public Document Pack



SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA 2

Dear Councillor

ORDINARY COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 19TH OCTOBER, 2016

I am now able to enclose, for consideration on Wednesday, 19th October, 2016 meeting of the Ordinary Council, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda No	Item
-----------	------

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 12. | <u>Boundary Commission - Proposed Changes</u> (Pages 3 - 8) |
|-----|--|

Yours sincerely

Chief Executive

Encs

17/10/16

19th October 2016

Ordinary Council

Draft Proposals of the 2018 Review of the Boundary Commission for England.

Report of: *Philip Ruck – Head of Paid Service*

Wards Affected: *All*

This report is: *Public*

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Boundary Commission is an independent and impartial advisory public body, which reviews the boundaries of Parliamentary constituencies in England.
- 1.2 On 13 September 2016, the Boundary Commission published the first set of proposals which was a full map of the new parliamentary constituencies for its first consultation which ends on the 5 December 2016.
- 1.3 It was agreed in-principle by all the Political Group Leaders to a Cross Party representation to the Boundary Commission draft proposals. Both the Conservative and Labour Groups have agreed to the wording of the draft letter. The Liberal Democrat Group have yet to agree the wording, although it is anticipated that any proposed amendment may be considered with this report.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 Agree that the draft letter as set out as Appendix A be sent as a Council response to the first Boundary Commission consultation.**

3. Introduction and Background

- 3.1 The Government Parliament has asked the Boundary Commission, as an independent and impartial public organisation, to conduct a review of all the constituency boundaries in England.

4. Issue, Options and Analysis of Options

- 4.1 The task is twofold: to reduce the number of constituencies (from 650 to 600); and to make more equal the number of electors in each constituency, no fewer than 71,031 and no more than 78,507.
- 4.2 The proposals include various changes to the existing seat of Brentwood & Ongar which currently includes the entire Borough of Brentwood.
- 4.3 The proposals would remove the electoral wards of Warley and Herongate, Ingrave and West Horndon out of the Brentwood & Ongar constituency into an enlarged South Basildon & East Thurrock seat, dividing the Borough of Brentwood into two Parliamentary Constituencies.
- 4.4 In addition to this consultation there will be two further consultations held in 2017.
- 4.5 The Boundary Commission are required to submit their final report and recommendations to Parliament in September 2018.

5. Reasons for Recommendation

- 5.1 To ensure that Council provides the views of our communities.

6. Consultation

- 6.1 None.

7. References to Corporate Plan

- 7.1 This report relates to the Vision for Brentwood 2016-19 purpose to represent the views of our communities.

8. Implications

Financial Implications

Name & Title: Ramesh Prashar, Interim S151 Officer

Tel & Email: 01277 312 542 ramesh.prashar@brentwood.gov.uk

- 8.1 There are no financial implications at this stage.

Legal Implications

Name & Title: Daniel Toohey, Monitoring Officer

Tel & Email: 01277 312 860 daniel.toohey@brentwood.gov.uk

8.2 There are no legal implications at this stage.

Other Implications (where significant) – i.e. Health and Safety, Asset Management, Equality and Diversity, Risk Management, Section 17 – Crime & Disorder, Sustainability, ICT.

8.3 No other implications are identified.

9. Background Papers (include their location and identify whether any are exempt or protected by copyright)

9.1 There are no background papers.

10. Appendices to this report

Draft letter – Appendix A

Report Author Contact Details:

Name: Philip Ruck –Head of Paid Service

Telephone: 01277 31

E-mail: philip.ruck@brentwood.gov.uk



Dear Sirs,

Boundary Commission Consultation

At its meeting on the 19th October 2016 the Council formally agreed to provide this letter as a representation to the current consultation on the draft proposals for the Brentwood area.

The Council notes the draft plans, which include various changes to the existing parliamentary seat of the Brentwood & Ongar constituency.

The proposals would move the electoral wards of Warley and Herongate, Ingrave and West Horndon from the Brentwood & Ongar Constituency into an enlarged South Basildon & East Thurrock seat, dividing the Borough of Brentwood into two Parliamentary Constituencies. This would also see the key local landmark of Brentwood Station be split between the two constituencies of Brentwood and Ongar and SBET.

Whilst the Council understands there are proposals for boundary changes to reduce the number of constituencies in the UK from 650 to 600, we are concerned that the current proposals potentially threaten the borough's boundaries, causing issues of identity that have been raised by the residents of Warley, Herongate, Ingrave and West Horndon. Although this boundary review focuses on the parliamentary seat, we wish to take the opportunity to formally place on record the importance of keeping the borough boundaries as they are; under the remit of Brentwood Borough Council.

The Council therefore calls upon the Boundary Commission to confirm that any changes will consider issues of identity and will not affect the borough boundaries of Brentwood Council

This page is intentionally left blank