

Parliamentary Boundary Review 2023**REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL**

DATE	22/07/2021
PORTFOLIO	Leader
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PURPOSE

1. That Full Council consider the proposed changes to the parliamentary boundaries put forward by the Boundary Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

2. Full Council is recommended to either:
 - a) Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Boundary Commission supporting the changes to the Burnley Parliamentary boundary (with or without amendments), or;
 - b) Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Boundary Commission opposing the changes to the Burnley Parliamentary boundary (with or without amendments), or
 - c) Not respond to the consultation.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. The consultation ends on 2 August 2021. The views of council will be submitted as the council's consultation response.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS**Parliamentary Boundary Review 2023**

4. The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) is an independent and impartial non-departmental public body, which is responsible for reviewing Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England.
5. The BCE has the task of periodically reviewing all the Parliamentary constituencies in England. It is currently conducting a review on the basis of rules most recently updated by Parliament in 2020. These latest rules retain 650 constituencies for the UK Parliament as a whole, and require constituencies that BCE propose or recommend to comply with strict parameters, in particular as far as the number of electors in each constituency is concerned.

6. The review process is informed by public consultation as described at paragraph 10 below. In light of all the views expressed about these initial proposals, the BCE may revise them and then conduct a further round of written consultation on the revised proposals.
7. The BCE is required to make a formal final report to the Speaker of the House of Commons before 1 July 2023, recommending any changes that it believes are appropriate to the distribution, size, shape, name or designation of constituencies in England. The current constituencies review is therefore referred to as 'the 2023 Review'.
8. The Government must turn the recommendations of the BCE (and those of the equivalent Commissions for the other three parts of the UK) into an 'Order in Council' that implements the recommendations. The constituencies set out in the Order will then be implemented for the next General Election after the date on which the legislation is approved.

The initial proposals and review process

9. In its initial proposal, the boundary will no longer be co-terminous with the district council boundary. The proposed boundary is "Burnley and Bacup" and the changes are as follows:
 - a. The wards of Briercliffe and Lanehead form part of the proposed Pendle County parliamentary boundary.
 - b. The wards of Greensclough, Irwell, Stacksteads, Facit and Shawforth, and Healy and Whitworth, which are currently part of the Rossendale and Darwen parliamentary boundary, fall within the Burnley and Bacup proposal.
10. The consultation on initial proposals ends on 2 August. The process is then:
 - Early 2022: Secondary consultation and public hearings.
 - All of the responses to the first consultation are published and there is a six-week period of 'secondary consultation', during which people can give BCE their views on what others have said in the first consultation. There are no new proposals from BCE at this stage. During this six week period, it will also hold a limited number of public hearings in each English region (more details of these hearings will be made available closer to the time).
 - Late 2022: Third and final consultation:
 - After analysing all the responses from the first and second consultations, BCE will make appropriate changes to its initial proposals and publish these 'revised proposals' for a final four-week period of public consultation.
 - By 1 July 2023: Final report and recommendations
 - After analysing all the responses to the third consultation, BCE will make appropriate changes to its revised proposals, and submit its final report and recommendations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION

11. None directly arising from this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

12. None arising directly from this report.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

13. Group Leaders, Member Structures & Support Working Group.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

14. Consultation website: <https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/>

Appendix 1: current Burnley constituency



Appendix 2: initial proposal

