

Report

Report to: **Executive Committee**
Date of Meeting: **3 November 2021**
Report by: **Chief Executive**

Subject: **2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies –
Publication of Initial Proposals**

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ provide an update on the Boundary Commission for Scotland's 2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies and the Publication of Initial Proposals.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) to note that the Boundary Commission for Scotland published its Initial Proposals for the UK Parliament Constituencies on Thursday 14 October 2021;
- (2) to note that the Initial Proposals are displayed at Rutherglen, East Kilbride, and Lanark libraries, at the Cambuslang Institute, at the main entrance to the Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton and detailed on the Council's website;
- (3) to note that the statutory consultation period is 8 weeks lasting until 8 December 2021; and
- (4) to note that comments on the Initial Proposals can be made on the Boundary Commission's consultation portal at www.bcs2023review.com or by email to bcsc@scottishboundaries.gov.uk or by letter to Boundary Commission for Scotland, Thistle House, 91 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD

3. Background

- 3.1. The Boundary Commission for Scotland is responsible for reviewing Constituencies in Scotland for the UK Parliament.
- 3.2. Full reviews of UK Parliament Constituencies are carried out every 5 years. The next review will take place in 2023 and consultation has commenced as of 14 October 2021 on the Initial Proposals for the constituency boundaries.
- 3.3. The Boundary Commission for Scotland must consult and arrange Public Hearings to explain their proposals and give an opportunity to those who wish to make comments on those proposals.

4. Current Position

- 4.1. The Boundary Commission for Scotland published its Initial Proposals for a new map of UK Parliamentary Constituencies in Scotland on Thursday 14 October 2021. This

date marks the start of an 8 week consultation period which runs until Wednesday 8 December 2021.

- 4.2 The UK Parliament has retained 650 constituencies for the review in 2023. In Scotland the 59 existing Constituencies will be reduced to 57. England has been allocated 543 (+10), Northern Ireland 18 (no change) and Wales 32 (-8). Two of the Constituencies within Scotland (Na h-Eileanan an Iar (Western Isles) and Orkney and Shetland) have their boundaries defined in the legislation and will not be subject to review.
- 4.3 The remaining 55 Constituencies in Scotland must
- not be greater than 13,000 square kilometres; and
 - contain between 69,724 and 77,062 electors, unless its area is greater than 12,000 square kilometres and a constituency with between 69,724 and 77,062 electors is not reasonably possible.
- 4.4 The proposed Constituencies which cover the South Lanarkshire Council area are as follows:-
- ♦ Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale (South Lanarkshire / Dumfries and Galloway)
 - ♦ East Kilbride and Strathaven (entirely within South Lanarkshire)
 - ♦ Hamilton and Clyde Valley (entirely within South Lanarkshire)
 - ♦ Motherwell and Clydesdale North (South Lanarkshire/ North Lanarkshire)
 - ♦ Rutherglen (entirely within South Lanarkshire)

Appendix 1 provides details of the relationship between current and proposed Constituencies and South Lanarkshire Electoral Wards.

- 4.5 The proposals with a particular impact upon existing boundaries within the South Lanarkshire area are noted to be as follows:-
- ♦ Kirkmuirhill, Blackwood and Lesmahagow moved from the existing East Kilbride, Strathaven and Lesmahagow Constituency to the proposed Hamilton and Clyde Valley Constituency
 - ♦ Bothwell and Uddingston moved from the existing Lanark and Hamilton East Constituency to the proposed Rutherglen Constituency
 - ♦ Western part of Hamilton moved from existing Rutherglen and Hamilton West Constituency to the proposed Hamilton and Clyde Valley Constituency
 - ♦ Carluke and Forth moved from existing Lanark and Hamilton East Constituency to proposed Motherwell and Clydesdale North Constituency
- 4.6 Maps of the Initial Proposals are displayed at Rutherglen, East Kilbride and Lanark Libraries, Cambuslang Institute and also at the main entrance to the Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton ML3 0AA and detailed on the Council's website. They can also be found on the Boundary Commission for Scotland's website at <https://www.bcomm-scotland.independent.gov.uk/>
- 4.7 Comments on the Initial Proposals can be made on the Boundary Commission's consultation portal at www.bcs2023review.com or by email to bcsc@scottishboundaries.gov.uk or by letter to the Boundary Commission for Scotland, Thistle House, 91 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD. The statutory consultation period ends on 8 December 2021.

- 4.8 In early 2022, the Commission will publish all of the comments received during the initial consultation and will invite further comments on these. At that time, they will also hold between 2 to 5 public hearings around Scotland.
- 4.9 In late 2022, they may publish revised proposals for consultation and will submit their final recommendations before 1 July 2023.
- 5. Employee Implications**
- 5.1 None.
- 6. Financial Implications**
- 6.1 None.
- 7. Other Implications**
- 7.1 There are no implications in relation to risk or sustainability.
- 8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**
- 8.1 This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.
- 8.2 As part of the review, consultation will be undertaken with a wide range of stakeholders.

Cleland Sneddon
Chief Executive/Returning Officer

14 October 2021

Link(s) to Council Objectives/Values/Ambitions

- ◆ People Focused
- ◆ Fair and Open
- ◆ Working with and Respecting Others
- ◆ Accountable, Effective and Efficient
- ◆ Governance and accountability

Previous References

- ◆ None

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Letter of 13 October 2021 from the Boundary Commission for Scotland

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Gordon Stewart, Depute Returning Officer

Ext: 4872 (Tel: 01698 454872)

E-mail: gordon.stewart@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Current and proposed UK Parliamentary Constituencies and Electoral Wards

The **current** UK Parliamentary Constituencies relate to current South Lanarkshire Electoral Wards as detailed in the table below.

Current Constituency	Electoral Wards
Rutherglen & Hamilton West	11 – Rutherglen South; 12 – Rutherglen Central & North; 13 – Cambuslang West; 14 – Cambuslang East; 15 – Blantyre; 17 – Hamilton North & East (part); 18 – Hamilton West & Earnock (largest part); 19 – Hamilton South (part)
Lanark & Hamilton East	1 – Clydesdale West; 2 – Clydesdale North; 3 – Clydesdale East (part); 4 – Clydesdale South (part); 5 – Avondale & Stonehouse (part); 16 – Bothwell & Uddingston; 17 – Hamilton North & East (largest part); 18 – Hamilton West & Earnock (part); 19 – Hamilton South (largest part); 20 – Larkhall
East Kilbride, Strathaven & Lesmahagow	4 – Clydesdale South (part); 5 – Avondale & Stonehouse (largest part); 6 – East Kilbride South; 7 – East Kilbride Central South; 8 – East Kilbride Central North; 9 – East Kilbride West; 10 – East Kilbride East
Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale & Tweeddale	3 – Clydesdale East (largest part); 4 – Clydesdale South (part) [plus 6 Wards/part-Wards in Dumfries & Galloway and 2 Wards/part-Wards in Scottish Borders]

The **proposed** UK Parliamentary Constituencies relate to South Lanarkshire Electoral Wards as detailed in the table below.

Proposed Constituency	Electoral Wards (2017)
Rutherglen	11 – Rutherglen South; 12 – Rutherglen Central & North; 13 – Cambuslang West; 14 – Cambuslang East; 15 – Blantyre; 16 – Bothwell & Uddingston
Hamilton & Clyde Valley	1 – Clydesdale West (part); 2 – Clydesdale North (part); 4 – Clydesdale South (part); 17 – Hamilton North & East (part); 18 – Hamilton West and Earnock; 19 – Hamilton South; 20 – Larkhall
East Kilbride, Strathaven & Lesmahagow	5 – Avondale & Stonehouse; 6 – East Kilbride South; 7 – East Kilbride Central South; 8 – East Kilbride Central North; 9 – East Kilbride West; 10 – East Kilbride East
Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale & Eskdale	3 – Clydesdale East; 4 – Clydesdale South (part) [plus 6 Wards/part-Wards in Dumfries & Galloway & 2 Wards/ Part Wards in Scottish Borders]
Motherwell and Clydesdale North	1 – Clydesdale West (part); 2 – Clydesdale North (part); [plus 5 Wards/part-Wards in North Lanarkshire]