

ANGUS COUNCIL – 16 JUNE 2016

FIFTH STATUTORY REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS – FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

REPORT BY RICHARD STIFF, CHIEF EXECUTIVE & RETURNING OFFICER

Abstract:

The Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland has now published and submitted their reports to Scottish Ministers containing final recommendations in respect of the Fifth Review of Electoral Arrangements for all 32 local government areas.

1. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Council:

- (i) note the final recommendations in the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland report – Fifth Statutory Review of Electoral Arrangements – Final Recommendations
- (ii) request the Returning Officer to undertake the necessary review of current polling arrangements in Wards 5, 6 and 7 once the final recommendations have been approved by Scottish Ministers.

2. BACKGROUND

Reference is made to Item 3 of the minute of meeting of the Special Sub Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee of 2 April 2015 which outlined the Local Boundary Commission for Scotland's recommendations for the Angus local government area.

3. CURRENT POSITION

The Fifth Statutory Review of Electoral Arrangements commenced in February 2014. The review sought to make recommendations to Scottish Ministers on the number of councillors on each of Scotland's 32 councils, the number of councillors in each ward, the boundaries of each ward and the recommended ward name.

In addition to consulting with local authorities, the commission conducted a public consultation on their proposals for councillor numbers between 29 May and 21 August 2014 and a further public consultation exercise was conducted between 30 July 2015 and 22 October 2015 on their proposals for wards

The review has been scheduled so that recommendations are capable of being implemented in time for the local government elections in 2017.

4. PROPOSALS

The Commission have now considered all responses received during the consultation period and have made their final recommendations for the Angus local government area which are as follows:

- 28 councillors based on 4 wards returning 4 members and 4 wards returning 3 members (-1 Ward 7 Arbroath East & Lunan) as per the table below:

Ward no.	Ward name	No of Councillors	Electorate Sept 13	Forecast Electorate	+/-
1	Kirriemuir and Dean	3	8,626	8,550	
2	Brechin and Edzell	3	8,759	9,095	
3	Forfar and District	4	11,528	11,511	
4	Monifieth and Sidlaw	4	13,012	12,813	
5	Carnoustie and District	3	10,447	10,418	
6	Arbroath West, Letham and Friockheim	4	13,379	13,373	
7	Arbroath East and Lunan	3	9,658	9,898	-1
8	Montrose and District	4	11,819	11,928	

- No changes to ward boundaries for Wards 1, 2, 3, 4 and 8
- Changes to ward boundaries by East Haven and Friockheim
- Rename Arbroath West & Letham to Arbroath West, Letham and Friockheim

The Council may make further comment within six weeks of the submission of the report to Scottish Ministers. However, as the recommendations which are contained in the report do not differ from the recommendations noted by the Special Sub Committee on the 2 April 2015, the Returning Officer is recommending that no further submission be made at this time. Copies of the full report are available in the Information Hub or can be downloaded from the Commission's website www.lgbc-scotland.gov.uk.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from the contents of this report, however it is noted that the reduction in councillor numbers by one may result in small savings in councillor remuneration payments.

6. CONSULTATION

The Strategic Director – Resources, Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance and Head of Legal and Democratic Services have been consulted on the terms of this report.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland – Fifth Statutory Review of Electoral Arrangements Final Recommendations.

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