

ANGUS COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 26 OCTOBER 2021

2023 REVIEW OF UK PARLIAMENT CONSTITUENCIES

REPORT BY MARGO WILLIAMSON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE

**ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this report is to note that the Boundary Commission for Scotland (Commission) have carried out an initial review of the UK Parliament Constituencies in Scotland and to ask Committee to re-establish a special Sub-Committee of P & R to respond to the Commission's consultation on this review with delegated powers to submit a response to the Commission by the deadline of 8 December 2021.

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) note that that the Commission have carried out an initial review of the UK Parliament Constituencies in Scotland;
- (ii) note the details provided in this report on the Initial Proposals for UK Parliamentary Boundaries from 2023 (Initial Proposals) including the impact on the Angus area as provided by Commission following the review of UK Parliament Constituencies; and
- (ii) re-establish the special Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee with the membership being made up of the Leader, Depute Leader as Convener and Vice-Convener *ex officio*, one further member of the Administration, 2 members of the SNP and 1 member from the Non-Aligned Group in order to respond to the consultation on this initial review with delegated powers to submit a response to the Commission by the deadline of 8 December 2021.

**2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN**

**Place:** We want our communities to be strong, resilient and led by citizens.

**3. BACKGROUND**

The Boundary Commission for Scotland is an independent, non-political body whose statutory purpose is to make recommendations for UK Parliament constituencies in Scotland. It is tasked to undertake a review of UK Parliament constituencies in Scotland, and it must submit to the Speaker a report containing its recommendations before 1 July 2023. The 2023 Review is being conducted simultaneously and independently by the four UK Parliamentary Boundary Commissions. It will result in a UK Parliament elected from 650 constituencies. The Boundary Commission for Scotland began its 2023 Review of UK Parliament constituencies in Scotland in January 2021.

For each constituency, the Commission must recommend a name and its designation as a burgh constituency or a county constituency. The review does not affect Scottish Parliament boundaries, council area or ward boundaries or any services within them.

The Commission's Initial Proposals for an 8-week consultation were published on 14 October 2021. The Initial Proposals can be found here <https://www.bcs2023review.com/>. The Commission welcomes all comments in opposition or support of the proposals via its consultation. The public consultations will inform any Revised Proposals in 2022.

In early 2022 it will publish all of the comments received during the initial consultation and will invite any further comments on these. At this time it will also hold between 2 and 5 public hearings. In late 2022 the Commission may publish revised proposals for consultation. The final recommendations will be submitted before 1 July 2023. The public consultation on the Initial Proposals runs from 14 October 2021 until 8 December 2021. Comments can be made in the following ways:

- On Consultation site: <https://www.bcs2023review.com/>
- in writing to: Boundary Commission for Scotland, Thistle House, 91 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD
- by email to: [comments@scottishboundaries.gov.uk](mailto:comments@scottishboundaries.gov.uk)

#### **4. INITIAL PROPOSALS FOR 2023 REVIEW OF UK PARLIAMENT CONSTITUENCIES IN SCOTLAND**

4.1 Scotland has been allocated 57 constituencies for the 2023 Review, two less than at present.

4.2 **Appendix 1** of this report show as at March 2020 the total electorate for each Council area together with the break down in terms of wards. **Appendix 2A** shows as at March 2020 each constituency within Scotland together with total number of constituents and **Appendix 2B** shows this on a map.

In terms of the current Angus constituency, the Initial proposals are:-

- a larger “Angus and Strathmore” constituency which will see Angus administering part of the Perth & Kinross Local Government Area. (See map at **Appendix 3** of this report).
- a new “Dundee East and Arbroath” to be administered by Dundee City (See map at **Appendix 4** of this report).

There is also to be a new Dundee West and Gowrie constituency (See map at **Appendix 5**)

In terms of Angus existing wards, Angus and Strathmore will comprise all of Wards 1-3 part of Ward 4, part of Ward 5, part of Ward 6 and all of Ward 8. It will also include all of Wards 1-2 and part of Ward 3 of Perth and Kinross existing wards.

In terms of Angus existing wards, the new “Dundee East and Arbroath” will include part of Ward 4, part of Ward 5, part of Ward 6 and all of Ward 7. It will also include all of Wards 6-8 of Dundee City existing wards. Please see **Appendix 6** for confirmation of changes to existing wards.

#### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

#### **6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required as there is no differential impact on persons with protected characteristics.

#### **7. CONSULTATION**

7.1 Consultation has taken place with the Council's Leadership Team.

**NOTE:** No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

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List of Appendices:-

- Appendix 1 – BCS -2023 Review Council Area Electorate by Ward
- Appendix 2a – BCS -2023 Review Existing Constituencies Electorate
- Appendix 2b – Map of Existing Constituencies
- Appendix 3 – Initial Proposal Angus and Strathmore
- Appendix 4 – Initial Proposal Dundee East and Arbroath
- Appendix 5 – Initial Proposal Dundee West and Gowrie
- Appendix 6 – BCS – 2023 Review Initial Proposals Council Area Wards