

ANGUS COUNCIL

SPECIAL SUB COMMITTEE OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 9 FEBRUARY 2022

2023 REVIEW OF UK PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES

REPORT BY MARGO WILLIAMSON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE

ABSTRACT

This report advises members of the Sub Committee of the Boundary Commission for Scotland of the Boundary Commission for Scotland's intention to hold Public Hearings across Scotland as part of the secondary consultation period for the 2023 Review of UK Parliament constituencies.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Sub-Committee:

- (i) Note the Commission's intention to hold Public Hearings.
- (ii) Agree any representation at the Public Hearing in Perth on behalf of Angus Council.

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 responsible for keeping UK Parliament constituencies in Scotland under review and submitting recommendations to the Speaker, under the Parliamentary constituencies Act 1986.

The Boundary Commission published their initial proposals for the 2023 Review of UK Parliamentary Constituencies on 14 October 2021. Under this review the total number of constituencies in Scotland will reduce from 59 to 57 with each constituency to have an electorate of no less than 69,724 and no more than 77,062.

4. CURRENT POSITION

The Commission has advised that they will be holding Public Hearings as part of the secondary consultation which runs until 23 March 2022. This is an opportunity for those who made representations to share their views on the Commission's initial proposals for the new UK Parliament constituencies in person.

The hearing timetable is as follows:

16 February 2022	Edinburgh
18 February 2022	Perth
23 February 2022	Glasgow
25 February 2022	Inverness
1 March 2022	Oban

Each hearing will have speaking slots between 10am to 12noon, 2pm to 4pm, 6pm to 8pm. Due to the limited availability of slots, a provisional request has been made for a speaking slot at the Perth hearing between 10am and 12noon. Speaking slots will be limited to 10 minutes. As the Commission cannot guarantee a speaking slot at our preferred time or venue, we may be requested to choose another slot or resubmit our representation in writing.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this Report.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An Equality Impact Assessment is not required.

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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Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment Form

(To be completed with reference to Guidance Notes)

Step 1

Name of Proposal (includes e. g. budget savings, committee reports, strategies, policies, procedures, service reviews, functions):

Review of 2023 UK Parliamentary Constituencies – Public Hearings

Step 2

Is this only a **screening** Equality Impact Assessment

Yes

(A) If Yes, please choose from the following options **all** reasons why a full EIA/FSD is not required:

(i) It does not impact on people

No

(ii) It is a percentage increase in fees which has no differential impact on protected characteristics

No

(iii) It is for information only

Yes

(iv) It is reflective e.g. of budget spend over a financial year

No

(v) It is technical

Yes

If you have answered yes to any of points above, please go to **Step 16**, and sign off the Assessment.

(B) If you have answered No to the above, please indicate the following:

Is this a full Equality Impact Assessment

Yes/No

Is this a Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment

Yes/No

If you have answered Yes to either or both of the above, continue with Step 3.

If your proposal is a **strategy** please ensure you complete Step 13 which is the Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment.

Step 3

(i)Lead Directorate/Service:

(ii)Are there any **relevant** statutory requirements affecting this proposal? If so, please describe.

(iii)What is the aim of the proposal? Please give full details.

(iv)Is it a new proposal? Yes/No Please indicate OR

Is it a review of e.g. an existing budget saving, report, strategy, policy, service review, procedure or function? Yes/No Please indicate

Step 4: Which people does your proposal involve or have consequences for?

Please indicate all which apply:

Employees Yes/No

Job Applicants Yes/No

Service users Yes/No

Members of the public Yes/No

Step 5: List the evidence/data/research that has been used in this assessment (links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance). This could include:

Internal data (e.g. customer satisfaction surveys; equality monitoring data; customer complaints).

Internal consultation (e.g. with staff, trade unions and any other services affected).

External data (e.g. Census, equality reports, equality evidence finder, performance reports, research, available statistics)

External consultation (e.g. partner organisations, national organisations, community groups, other councils).

Other (general information as appropriate).

Step 6: Evidence Gaps.

Are there any gaps in the equality information you currently hold? Yes/No

If yes, please state what they are, and what measures you will take to obtain the evidence you need.

Step 7: Are there potential differential impacts on protected characteristic groups? Please complete for each group, including details of the potential impact on those affected. Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from **Covid-19**.

Please state if there is a potentially positive, negative, neutral or unknown impact for each group. Please state the reason(s) why.

Age

Impact

Disability

Impact

Gender reassignment

Impact

Marriage and Civil Partnership

Impact

Pregnancy/Maternity

Impact

Race - (includes Gypsy Travellers)

Impact

Religion or Belief

Impact

Sex

Impact

Sexual orientation

Impact

Step 8: Consultation with any of the groups potentially affected

If you have consulted with any group potentially affected, please give details of how this was done and what the results were.

If you have not consulted with any group potentially affected, how have you ensured that you can make an informed decision about mitigating action of any negative impact (Step 9)?

Step 9: What mitigating steps will be taken to remove or reduce potentially negative impacts?

Step 10: If a potentially negative impact has been identified, please state below the justification.

Step 11: In what way does this proposal contribute to any or all of the public sector equality duty to: eliminate unlawful discrimination; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations between people of different protected characteristics?

Step 12: Is there any action which could be taken to advance equalities in relation to this proposal?

Step 13: FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

This step is only applicable to **strategies** which are key, high level decisions. If your proposal is **not** a strategy, please leave this Step blank, and go to Step 14.

Links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance.

Step 13(A) What evidence do you have about any socio-economic disadvantage/inequalities of outcome in relation to this strategic issue?

Step 13(B) Please state if there are any gaps in socio-economic evidence for this strategy and how you will take measures to gather the evidence you need.

Step 13(C) Are there any potential impacts this strategy may have specifically on the undernoted groupings? Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from **Covid-19**.

Please state if there is a potentially positive, negative, neutral or unknown impact for each grouping.

Low and/or No Wealth (e.g. those with enough money to meet basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future).

Impact

Material Deprivation (i.e. those unable to access basic goods and services e.g. repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure and hobbies).

Impact

Area Deprivation (i.e. where people live (e.g. rural areas), or where they work (e.g. accessibility of transport)).

Impact

Socio-economic Background i.e. social class including parents' education, people's employment and income.

Impact

Other – please indicate

Step 13(D) Please state below if there are measures which could be taken to reduce socio-economic disadvantage/inequalities of outcome.

Step 14: What arrangements will be put in place to monitor and review the Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment?

Step 15: Where will this Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment be published?

Step 16: Sign off and Authorisation. Please state name, post, and date for each:

Prepared by: Shona Cameron, Manager – Elections, Commercialisation & Facilities

Reviewed by: Margo Williamson, Chief Executive

Approved by: Margo Williamson, Chief Executive

NB. There are several worked examples of separate EIA and FSD Assessments in the Guidance which may be of use to you.
