

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No. 12

meeting date: 12th SEPTEMBER 2017
title: LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND REVIEW
– FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
principal author: MICHELLE HAWORTH – PRINCIPAL POLICY AND PERFORMANCE
OFFICER

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide committee with updated information on the ward boundary review being carried out by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's (LGBCE).
- 1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:
 - Community Objectives – A main consideration for Council size is our Governance and decision making arrangements. The distribution of the 40
 - Corporate Priorities – Councillors ensures electoral equality and community
 - Other Considerations - representation.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The LGBCE is carrying out an electoral review of Ribble Valley Borough Council.
- 2.2 The aim of the electoral review is to recommend ward boundaries that mean each councillor represents approximately the same number of voters.
- 2.3 The LGBCE launched a consultation process on 22nd November which ran until 30th January to which we submitted a response with our warding proposals.
- 2.4 Based on the proposals received the LGBCE put forward their recommendations on 11th April and launched a consultation on these.
- 2.5 The LGBCE's recommendations, summary report and link to full report, have previously been circulated to all members.
- 2.6 The summary report, maps and packs were also made available to Parish Councils and members of the public both online and as hard copies.
- 2.7 The Council submitted a response to the draft recommendations by the closing date of 19th June.
- 2.8 The LGBCE published their final recommendations on 29th August, which have been based on our views and all the other responses received. The final recommendations can be found at - <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/north-west/lancashire/ribble-valley> . Paper copies of the summary of the final recommendations will be circulated.

3 NEXT STEPS

- 3.1 A draft order will be laid in Parliament – date tbc.
- 3.2 The draft order, if made, would give effect to the final recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's review of electoral arrangements in Ribble Valley.
- 3.3 The draft order will be laid in Parliament for a period of 40 sitting days. Parliament can either accept or reject the LGBCE's recommendations.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications

- Resources - None
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – None
- Political - None
- Reputation – None
- Equality & Diversity - None

5 CONCLUSION

5.1 If accepted, the draft Order will provide for new electoral arrangements for Ribble Valley BC to be implemented at the local elections in 2018.

Michelle Haworth
PRINCIPAL POLICY AND
PERFORMANCE OFFICER

Jane Pearson
DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

REF: MH/P&F/

For further information please ask for Michelle Haworth, extension 4421