



Item

COUNCIL SIZE-SUBMISSION TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

To:

Civic Affairs Committee 28/03/2018

Report by:

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Wards affected:

None directly affected

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report details the conclusions of a Member Working Group tasked with considering the Council Size submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England which will formally begin its work on 29 May 2018.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Council is recommended to approve a submission on Council Size to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England of 42 councillors.
- 2.2 That drafting changes to the report for Council's consideration on 19 April be agreed by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair and spokes.

3. Background

3.1. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) advised the Council last September that a Boundary Review would be undertaken during 2018/19. The Commission met with the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive in November and then held a separate session with the three Group Leaders and also an invitation to all Members of the Council on 27 November. All members of the council received a copy of the Boundary Commission's presentation.

1.2 The Chief Executive agreed with Group Leaders that a working group of 6 members should be set up. This met on 24th January to consider the scope of work and have a preliminary discussion on Council Size. The Terms of Reference of the Group are:

To make recommendations (as appropriate) to the Civic Affairs Committee on- (i) Council Size, (ii) new ward boundaries and (iii) the LGBCE draft recommendations for ward boundaries

The working group reached a consensus that Council Size should be 42 councillors. The case for this is set out in the draft report attached.

1.3 The Commission's work programme including City Council requirements are set out below:

LGBCE	City Council
By 27 April - receive Council Submission on Council Size (number of councillors).	Full Council 19 April to agree
29 May to 6 August -consult on Warding Patterns	Member working group meetings in June Civic Affairs Committee (proposed 27 June) Full Council 19 July to agree

2 October to 10 December-consult on draft recommendations	Member working group* Full Council 18 October to agree* * If required
Final Recommendations February 2019	n/a
n/a	Polling District Review summer/autumn 2019
n/a	All out City Council elections May 2020

- 1.4 The draft report to the Commission is for Committee to comment on. Any changes to the report prior to submission to Council on 19 April will be done by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair and spokes.

2. Implications

(a) Financial Implications *Page: 3*

There is an approved budget of up to £20k for electoral services to utilise during the course of the boundary review.

(b) Staffing Implications

(c) Equality and Poverty Implications

(d) Environmental Implications

(e) Procurement Implications

(f) Community Safety Implications

There are none

3. Consultation and communication considerations

This is not a city council led project. The Commission undertakes formal consultation at both stages of its work. The city council will support the Commission by signposting to its publicity etc. as requested.

4. Background papers

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

Commission presentation to Councillors 27/11/17

Commission-recent/current reviews of Exeter, Runnymede, Warwick, Oxford and Commission guidance <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/>

City Council Peer Review Submission December 17

<http://live.drupal.intranet.ccc.local/sites/default/files/documents/peer-challenge-position-statement.pdf>

Notes of members working group 24.1.18

5. Appendices

Appendix A-draft city council submission on Council Size

6. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact Gary Clift, Democratic Services, tel: 01223 - 457011, email: gary.clift@cambridge.gov.uk.