

| <b>ELECTIONS COMMITTEE</b> |  |                       |          |
|----------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------|
| Report Title               | Parliamentary Boundary Review – consultation final stage |                       |          |
| Key Decision               | n/a  |                       | Item No. |
| Ward                       | n/a  |                       |          |
| Contributors               | Jamie Baker, Electoral Services Manager                  |                       |          |
| Class                      | Part 1   | Date: 7 December 2017 |          |

1. **Summary**

This report outlines the process for the final stages of the 2018 Parliamentary Constituencies Boundary Review from the Boundary Commission for England (BCE). The full proposals can be found at [www.bce2018.org.uk](http://www.bce2018.org.uk)

2. **Purpose**

To inform members of the final stage of the review and to approve Lewisham’s response.

3. **Recommendation**

That the Committee note this report and approve the draft response from Lewisham Council (Appendix D).

4 **Background**

4.1 The Parliamentary Voting Systems and Constituencies Act 2011 (the Act) made provision for a reduction in the number of UK parliamentary constituencies from 650 to 600. To implement this change in England, the Boundary Commission for England (the BCE) must complete a review of parliamentary constituencies by September 2018.

4.2 Initial proposals were published in September 2016 with a consultation period until 5 December 2017. All submissions were made available for inspection on 28 February 2018 and interested stakeholders were invited to make comments with a deadline of 27 March 2017.

- 4.2 The Boundary Committee published updated proposals on **Tuesday 17 October 2017**. There is a consultation period of 8 weeks with a deadline to make submissions of **11 December 2017**.
- 4.3 This deadline represents the final chance for Lewisham Council and residents to express their views on the future parliamentary constituencies.
- 4.4 Lewisham Council's elections committee responded to the initial proposals with a counter proposal. The counter proposal matched the Labour party's counter proposals.
- 4.5 Our response to the second stage of the consultation repeated our initial proposals and gave a short analysis on other submissions.
- 4.6 An analysis has taken place regarding the revised proposals – see Appendix A.
- 4.7 Appendix B lists extracts from the BCE's report the refers to Lewisham constituencies.
- 4.8 Appendix C shows maps of the 3 new proposed Lewisham constituencies.
- 4.9 The main difference between the new proposals and our counter proposals is the fate of the Deptford wards. They have been placed with parts of Greenwich and Blackheath instead of Whitefoot and Grove Park.
- 4.10 The draft response from Lewisham Council can be found in Appendix D.
- 4.11 Local political parties and representatives will be encouraged to submit their own responses, should they wish.

## 6. **Legal implications**

The revised boundaries would require approval from Parliament scheduled for September 2018 and will be effective for all Parliamentary elections thereafter.

## 7. **Equalities implications**

There are no specific equalities implications.

## 8. **Financial implications**

There are no specific financial implications.

9. **Crime and disorder implications**

There are no crime and disorder implications arising.

10. **Environmental implications**

There are no environmental implications arising.

11. **Background documents**

See Appendices A-D

A – Analysis of final proposals

B – Extracts from the BCE reports relating to Lewisham

C – Maps of the new proposed constituencies

D – Response to the final consultation