PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

20 December 2017

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND – 2018 REVIEW OF UK PARLIAMENT CONSTITUENCIES – REVISED PROPOSALS

Report by Head of Democratic Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report advises that on 17 October 2017, the Boundary Commission for Scotland published its revised proposals in respect of boundaries for constituencies for the UK Parliament. This report refers in particular to the proposals as they affect the Perth and Kinross Council area, in relation to the existing UK Parliament constituencies of Perth & North Perthshire and Ochil & South Perthshire.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Boundary Commission for Scotland commenced the 2018 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies on 24 February 2016. The Review is required by the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 and is being conducted simultaneously by the 4 parliamentary Boundary Commissions in Scotland, England, Northern Ireland and Wales. The Review is to report before 1 October 2018.
- 1.2 The Review will see the number of UK Parliament constituencies reduced to 600 from the current 650, with 53 constituencies in Scotland in place of the current 59.
- 1.3 The legislation defines 2 Scottish island constituencies Na h-Eileanan an Iar constituency and Orkney and Shetland constituency. Also, every other constituency in Scotland must be between 71,031 and 78,507 and no constituency may exceed 13,000 square kilometres.
- 1.4 The Commission published its initial proposals on 20 October 2016 and these were considered by the Council on 14 December 2016 (Report 16/566 and Article 878 refer). The Council agreed:
 - 1. to advise the Boundary Commission for Scotland that -
 - (a) the Council supports the geographic proposal for the "Perthshire County Constituency" but requests that the existing name of "Perth and North Perthshire Constituency" be retained.
 - (b) the Council does not support the proposal for the "Kinross-shire and Cowdenbeath County Constituency" and requests that the Boundary Commission considers alternative groupings of the Perth & Kinross, Fife, Clackmannanshire, Stirling and Falkirk Council areas, including the suggested constituencies of "Kinross-shire & West Perthshire", and "Stirling City & Falkirk North".

- 2. to instruct the Head of Democratic Services to respond to the Boundary Commission for Scotland by 11 January 2017.
- 1.5 Following the consultation period on the initial proposals, the Commission published its revised proposals on 17 October 2017 and these, together with other supporting information on the review process, are available on the Commission's website at www.bcs2018.org.uk. The public consultation on the revised proposals runs from 17 October 2017 to 11 December 2017. The Commission has agreed that the Council can submit comments on the revised proposals immediately after the Council meeting on 20 December 2017.

2. PROPOSALS

Perth and Kinross Council Area

Existing Constituencies

- 2.1 At present, there are two UK Parliament constituencies covering the Perth and Kinross Council area:-
 - Perth & North Perthshire December 2015 Electorate 72,143 (Covering Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, part 5, part 6, part 9, 10, 11 and 12)
 - Ochil & South Perthshire North Tayside December 2015 Electorate 77,370
 (Covering Wards part 5, part 6, 7, 8, and part 9)

(Covering Wards part 5, part 6, 7, 8, and part 9)

Proposed Constituencies

- 2.2 In its revised proposals, the Commission has proposed the following county constituencies covering the Perth and Kinross Council area as follows maps showing the proposals are attached as Appendices 1 and 2 to this report:-
 - Stirlingshire & South Perthshire December 2015 Electorate 71,299 (Covering Wards 6, 7, 8 and 9)
 - Perth & North Perthshire December 2015 Electorate 72,831 (Covering Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11 and 12)

Note – For the 2018 review, the Commission has largely based its proposals on the local government boundaries in force as at 3 May 2012, only referring to the new boundaries introduced in May 2017 on the merits of their being better indicators of localities rather than because they were the boundaries in place for the Local Government election on 4 May 2017.

3. CONSULTATION

3.1 The Commission has published its proposals on its interactive consultation portal and sent consultation materials to Loch Leven Community Library, Kinross and North Inch Community Campus, Perth.

3.2 Copies of the maps illustrating the revised proposals were supplied to political group leaders, and all elected members were made aware that the proposals were available to download from the Commission's website at <u>www.bcs2018.org.uk</u>.

4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The Boundary Commission for Scotland commenced the 2018 review of the boundaries for the UK Parliament constituencies in February 2016 and has now published its revised proposals on 17 October 2017. In relation to the Perth and Kinross Council area, these revised proposals are for two constituencies namely Stirlingshire & South Perthshire and Perth & North Perthshire.
- 4.2 It is recommended that the Council:-
 - (a) considers how it wishes to respond to the revised proposals by the Boundary Commission for Scotland in respect of the 2018 review of the boundaries of the UK Parliament constituencies in the Perth and Kinross Council area as outlined in Paragraph 2.2 of this report;
 - (b) instructs the Head of Democratic Services to respond to the Commission immediately after the Council meeting on 20 December 2017.

Author(s)

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Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Jim Valentine	Depute Chief Executive and Chief Operating Officer	11 December 2017

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1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Strategic Implications	Yes / None
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	N/A
Corporate Plan	N/A
Resource Implications	
Financial	N/A
Workforce	N/A
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	N/A
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	N/A
Strategic Environmental Assessment	N/A
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	N/A
Legal and Governance	N/A
Risk	N/A
Consultation	
Internal	N/A
External	N/A
Communication	
Communications Plan	N/A

1. Strategic Implications

Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

1.1 The proposals set out in this report do not relate directly to the achievement of priorities in the Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement.

Corporate Plan

1.2 The proposals set out in this report do not relate directly to the achievement of the Council's Corporate Plan Priorities.

2. **Resource Implications**

<u>Financial</u>

2.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from the proposals set out in this report.

Workforce

2.2 There are no workforce implications arising directly from the proposals set out in this report.

Asset Management (land, property, IT)

2.3 There are no asset management implications arising directly from the proposals set out in this report.

3. Assessments

3.1 No assessments have been undertaken in in relation to the proposals set out in this report.

Legal and Governance

3.2 There are no legal and governance implications arising directly from the proposals set out in this report.

<u>Risk</u>

3.3 No key risks have been identified in relation to the proposals set out in this report.

4. Consultation

<u>Internal</u>

4.1 There has been no internal consultation in relation to the proposals set out in this report.

<u>External</u>

4.2 There has been no external consultation in relation to the proposals set out in this report.

5. Communication

5.1 There is no requirement for the Council to undertake communications activity in relation to the proposals set out in this report.

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers other than those referred to in this report were relied on in preparing the report.

3. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Stirlingshire & South Perthshire Constituency Appendix 2 – Perth & North Perthshire Constituency