

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE	COUNCIL	7 DECEMBER 2020	12
BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

At its meeting on 28 September, the Finance and Democracy Committee established a cross-party working group comprising six members, with four from the leading group together with two opposition members, who would be responsible for producing a council submission incorporating the proposed numbers of councillors going forward to the Boundary Commission. This piece of work to subject to the final approval of the council at its meeting on 7th December.

The following members were subsequently nominated to the Working Group and have participated in the four meetings which have taken place over recent weeks, namely Councillor Buckley (Chairman) and Councillors Green, Nulty, Oades, Singleton and Small.

The Working Group has completed this piece of work and this is attached for review. The Finance and Democracy Committee considered this at its meeting on 23 November and commended the same for approval by the council.

RECOMMENDATION

1. To approve the submission and request it be forwarded to the Local Government Boundary Commission for its consideration in determining the future number of Fylde councillors.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Establishment of a cross-party working group – 28th September 2020 F and D Committee

Commendation of submission to council – 23 November 2020 F and D Committee

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Economy – To create a vibrant and healthy economy	✓
Environment – To deliver services customers expect	✓
Efficiency – By spending money in the most efficient way	✓
Tourism – To create a great place to live and visit	✓

REPORT

1. Members are reminded of the programme of work of the Local Government Boundary Commission on its forthcoming review work. The review timetable is set out below in table one.
2. Members are reminded that the work is dealt with in two distinct phases. The first of which is around the council size going forward in terms of the number of elected members, with the latter part focusing on warding patterns. This first phase of work involves consultation and engagement with the political groups across the council and the second phase a wider consultation programme with both the council and its communities.

Table One – Review Timetable

Draft council size submission	2 December 2020
Final council size submission <i>including checklist document</i>	16 December 2020
Receive electoral forecasts	5 November 2020
Council size Commission meeting	19 January 2021
Warding patterns consultation opens	2 February 2021
Warding patterns consultation closes	12 April 2021
Commission meeting to agree draft recommendations	15 June 2021
Draft recommendations consultation opens	29 June 2021
Draft recommendations consultation closes	6 September 2021
Commission meeting to agree final recommendations	16 November 2021
Final recommendations published	30 November 2021

3. At the meeting of the Finance and Democracy Committee on 28th September, it was agreed to establish a cross-party working group of members in order that a submission could be prepared for the Local Government Boundary Committee with respect to the council size. This was in order to establish the council's position with respect to a proposed number of councillors going forward and to address and provide a range of information being sought by the commission.
4. The following members were subsequently nominated to the Working Group and have participated in the meetings which have taken place over recent weeks 8, 22 October and 6, 13 November namely Councillor Buckley (Chairman) and Councillors Green, Nulty, Oades, Singleton and Small.
5. The draft submission is attached based is based on the template provided by the Boundary Commission comprising the following elements:
 - Overview of the local authority profile
 - Outline of the proposed governance model going forward
 - External partnerships overview
 - Commentary on community leadership role
 - Casework approach/analysis
 - Comparison with others
 - Summary of the council size position
6. The submission is attached for approval. The narrative is also guided in part by the responses provided by elected members to the survey of all members which related to their community leadership role and casework analysis.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	No direct implications at this stage
Legal	No implications
Community Safety	No implications
Human Rights and Equalities	No implications
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	No implications
Health & Safety and Risk Management	No implications

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Draft submission and enclosures		Council office or within committee papers

Attached documents
Appendix 1 – Council Size Submission