



**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22**

**2023 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES IN WALES –  
BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES' INITIAL PROPOSALS**

**SPECIAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES &  
COMMUNICATIONS.**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 Pursuant to the recommendation of Full Council on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021, that the initial proposals of the Boundary Commission for Wales, in respect of the proposed new parliamentary constituencies in Wales, are referred to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for its consideration; seek the Committee's views, comments and recommendations in respect of the proposals.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that: -

- 2.1 The Overview & Scrutiny Committee considers the initial proposals of the Boundary Commission for Wales, as referred from Full Council on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021, and formulates recommendations for Council's consideration at its meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 in order that a response can be made by the deadline of the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021; and
- 2.2 To propose to Council for adoption as the formal response of the local authority to consult upon the proposed new parliamentary constituency arrangements.

**3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 To engage scrutiny in the process of responding to the Boundary Commission for Wales' proposals and to meet the deadline set by the Commission of 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021.

#### **4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 4.1 At [Full Council on the 29<sup>th</sup> September](#), Members were presented with the initial proposals of the Boundary Commission for Wales, which were published on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021, in respect of the proposed new parliamentary constituencies in Wales.
- 4.2 Members resolved to refer the initial proposals to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to formulate a response back to Full Council at its meeting to be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 and in advance of the response deadline of the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021.
- 4.3 Members were clear in their intention for the meeting to include all members of the Council in order that a council wide response is formulated. In view of this, an invitation to attend the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021 was extended to all members of the Council.
- 4.4 To assist Members in their consideration, the following documents are attached:
- Appendix 1 – Report to Council on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021;
  - Appendix 1a -Copy of the initial proposals report of the Boundary Commission for Wales, which was published on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021;
  - Appendices 1b-1e - Proposed new constituency boundary maps for Merthyr Tydfil and Aberdare, Pontypridd, Rhondda, Cardiff North and Cardiff West.
  - Appendix 2 – Guide to the 2023 Review
- 4.5 Members are also asked to note the timetable for the review at 5.1 of the report, Appendix 1, which informs the delivery of future consultations in advance of the submission and publication of the final report and recommendations by June 2023.

#### **5. SCRUTINY INVOLVEMENT**

- 5.1 Members are now asked to consider and scrutinise the initial proposals of the Boundary Commission for Wales in relation to the constituencies in Rhondda Cynon Taf.
- 5.2 It is proposed that the recommendations of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and wider membership are reported to Full Council on the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 which will ensure that engagement on this matter has been fully promoted by Scrutiny.

#### **6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Equality and diversity implications will be considered as part of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's feedback and comments and any subsequent implementation arrangements.

## **7. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 Financial and resource implications will be considered as part of any feedback and subsequent implementation arrangements.

## **8. CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 The process of engagement will steer the scrutiny consideration and methodology going forward and enable it to formulate well balanced and objective recommendations.

## **9. CONCLUSION**

- 9.1 This is an opportunity for scrutiny to consider and respond to the initial proposals of the Boundary Commission for Wales in respect of the proposed new parliamentary constituencies in Wales for consideration by Full Council. In doing so, the proposed approach will provide the opportunity for all Elected Members to contribute to the review and inform the formal response of the Council.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**as amended by**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

**OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021**

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