

REPORT TO: CITY COUNCIL - 18TH MAY, 2015

REPORT ON: 5TH REVIEW OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY ARRANGEMENTS

REPORT BY: HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC AND LEGAL SERVICES

REPORT NO: 189-2015

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Council of the proposals for wards by the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland (LGBCS) in respect of their 5th review of local government boundaries.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Council's instructions are sought.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

4 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The LGBCS has submitted initial proposals in respect of the wards in the City which would result in there still being a total of 8 wards - 7 four member wards and 1 three member ward, with a total of 31 elected members.

- 4.2 There are currently 5 four member wards and 3 three member wards and a total of 29 elected members.

- 4.3 The LGBCS report that their proposals will:-

- Improve overall forecast parity;
- Address forecast disparities in ward 5;
- Increase the number of Councillors from 3 to 4 in wards 5 and 6;
- Make no changes to ward 1;
- Make no changes to ward names; and
- Amend ward boundaries at Balgay Hill, Craigie, Dudhope Park, Maryfield and West Ferry.

- 4.4 I have considered the LGBCS proposals in my capacity as Electoral Registration Officer of the City and have consulted the Chief Executive in his capacity as Returning Officer. My comments below relate to the 8 Ward proposal made by the LGBCS.

Ward 1 No changes to existing ward boundary - Agreed.

Wards 2 & 3 & 4 It is recommended that existing boundaries between these 3 wards are retained as electors are clearly part of their existing communities of Menzieshill, Lochee and Lawside. The number of electors involved is minimal and the amended proposals would have little effect on parity. Should the LGBCS proposals be adopted, electors in the affected areas would need to travel a considerable distance to a polling station, eg Naughton Place to West Park Centre, Perth Road.

Ward 5 The boundary between wards 4 and 5 is agreed. The boundary between wards 5 and 7 should follow the existing boundary as the number of electors involved is minimal and would necessitate these electors travelling some distance to vote at their allotted polling station (Kingsway/Scott Fyfe roundabout to Glebelands Primary). These

electors are all situated in the heart of the East End Ward and have no affinity with the Maryfield Ward either for community facilities or for services.

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| Wards 6 & 7 | The proposals transfer Linlathen, Mid Craigie and a large part of the Happyhillock area to ward 6 (North East) from ward 7 (East End). It is recommended that the proposed boundary be realigned along Kingsway and Longtown Road to its junction with Douglas Road thereby transferring the remainder of households (210) to ward 6 and retaining the Happyhillock community in one ward. |
| Ward 8 | The proposals transfer polling district EAW and a small number of households in the south east corner of polling district EAN to Ward 7. It is recommended that the boundary between the wards follow the existing boundary of polling districts EAW and EAN. |

The Council may of course wish to propose an alternative to the 8 Wards proposed by the LGBCS.

5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. There are no major issues.

6 CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 The Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Services and Head of Communities have been consulted on the contents of this report.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

Report on the Fifth Review of Electoral Arrangements for Dundee City Council by the LGBCS dated March 2015.

Roger Mennie,
Head of Democratic and Legal Services.

6th May, 2015