

To: City Executive Board
Date: Date of the meeting – Monday 27th November 2017
Report of: Electoral Registration Officer
Title of Report: Parliamentary Boundary Review 2018

Summary and recommendations	
Purpose of report:	To ask the Board to consider the revised proposals of the Boundary Commission for England on parliamentary boundaries as they affect Oxford.
Key decision:	Yes
Executive Board Member:	Councillor Price, Leader of the Council
Corporate Priority:	None
Policy Framework:	None
Recommendation(s): that the City Executive Board resolves to:	
1.	agree to support of the revised proposals of the Boundary Commission for England on parliamentary constituency boundaries, as they affect Oxford;
2.	consider the Commission's proposals on the names of the two new constituencies;

Appendices	
Appendix 1	Risk Register

Introduction and background

1. The Boundary Commission for England has been carrying out a review of parliamentary boundaries for England since 2011. This is alongside other national commissions for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The review will result in parliament's total size being reduced from 650 to 600 seats.
2. At its meeting on 17th November 2016 (minute 89) the Board considered a report detailing the Commission's initial proposals.
3. The Board agreed to recommend to the Commission that it amend its proposals to remove St. Margaret's ward from the suggested Oxford East constituency and to replace it with Jericho and Osney ward. St. Margaret's would then remain in Oxford West and Abingdon.

The Commission's revised proposals

4. The Commission published its revised proposals on the 17th October 2017. The consultation closes on 11th December 2017.
5. The Commission is now proposing to take North and Jericho & Osney wards from the current Oxford West and Abingdon constituency and include them with the newly named Oxford constituency (formerly Oxford East).
6. Wolvercote, Summertown and St. Margaret's wards would remain in a renamed Abingdon and Oxford North constituency.
7. These proposals, constituency names apart, implement the Board's recommendations, agreed in November 2016.
8. The Commission has suggested the names of the two constituencies that cover Oxford be changed to better reflect their constituent areas. Oxford East should become Oxford as it now comprises 87% of the city's electors. Oxford West and Abingdon would be renamed Abingdon and Oxford North.
9. Each proposed constituency must have an electorate of between 71,031 and 78,507
10. The electorates for the amended constituencies are as follows:

Proposed Constituency	Electorate (based on 01/12/15 figures)
Oxford	77,269
Abingdon and Oxford North	72,654

Financial implications

11. There are no financial implications.

Legal issues

12. There are no legal implications.

Level of risk

13. The Risk Register is attached as Appendix 1.

Report author	Martin John
Job title	Electoral Services Manager
Service area or department	Law and Governance
Telephone	01865 252518
e-mail	mjohn@oxford.gov.uk

Background Papers: None

1 BCE Guide to the 2018 Review

Review generally: www.independent.gov.uk/boundarycommissionforengland

The South-east Proposals specifically:

<https://www.bce2018.org.uk/node/6488>

This page is intentionally left blank