|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| To: | City Executive Board |
| Date: | Date of the meeting: 20th March 2018 |
| Report of: | Electoral Registration Officer |
| Title of Report:  | City Ward Boundary Review 2018 |

|  |
| --- |
| Summary and recommendations |
| Purpose of report: | To brief the City Executive Board on the ward boundary review and ask it to recommend a ward scheme to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England |
| Key decision: | Yes  |
| Executive Board Member: | Councillor Susan Brown, Leader |
| Corporate Priority: | None |
| Policy Framework: | None |
| Recommendation:That the City Executive Board resolves to: |
|  | Propose a new scheme of wards based on a council size of 48 councillors to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England. |

|  |
| --- |
| Appendices |
| Appendix 1 | City Boundary Working Group Submission on a ward scheme |
| Appendix 2 | Indicative A4 map |
| Appendix 3 | Risk Register |

# Introduction

1. At its meeting on 27th November 2017 the City Executive Board agreed to recommend a council-size of 48 to the Local Government Boundary Commission. The Commission accepted the Council’s recommendation and now invites any interested parties to submit ward schemes based on that total number.

# Stages of the review

1. The review is carried out under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and is split into six stages.
2. After Stage One had started it was discovered that the electorate statistics published on the Commission’s website were not accurate. They had included overseas electors which are not part of this review as they cannot vote in local elections. These have now been corrected and the Commission has decided to extend the timetable by a short period. Below is the revised timetable.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Stage | Timing | Function |
| Preliminary | June–December 2017 | Now complete. |
| Stage One | 9th Jan-2nd April 2018 | The Commission will publish a council size it is minded to recommend and invite ward proposals based on that council size. |
| Stage Two | 5th June-13th August 2018 | The Commission will publish a draft ward scheme for consultation. |
| Stage Three | 2nd October 2018 | The Commission will publish its final recommendations. |
| Stage Four | October-December 2018 | The Commission’s draft order giving effect to its recommendations is laid in both houses of parliament. Parliament can either accept or reject the recommendations. It cannot modify them. |
| Stage Five | May 2020 | The new electoral arrangements will come in to force. |

1. We are now in Stage One.

**Cross-party working group**

As the Board knows a cross-party member working group has been set up in order to make recommendations. The Working Group has met several times and has agreed a recommended ward scheme. The Working Group was not unanimous but the scheme as proposed is supported by the Labour and Liberal Democrat groups.

Below are the new wards electorate figures and suggested names:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Area/Ward** | **Sum of July 17 Electors** | **Target Electors** | **Variation (must be +/-10%)** | **Variation (number)** |
| **North-Eastern** |  |  |  |  |
| Barton | 5018 | 4834 | 103.81% | 184 |
| Churchill | 4990 | 4834 | 103.23% | 156 |
| Headington | 5230 | 4834 | 108.19% | 396 |
| Marston | 4728 | 4834 | 97.81% | -106 |
| Quarry and Risinghurst | 5255 | 4834 | 108.71% | 421 |
| Headington Hill and Northway | 4646 | 4834 | 96.11% | -188 |
| **Area/Ward** | **Sum of July 17 Electors** | **Target Electors** | **Variation (must be +/-10%)** | **Variation (number)** |
| **South-Eastern** |  |  |  |  |
| St Clement's | 4638 | 4834 | 95.95% | -196 |
| Bartlemas | 5100 | 4834 | 105.50% | 266 |
| Donnington | 4538 | 4834 | 93.88% | -296 |
| Rose Hill | 4879 | 4834 | 100.93% | 45 |
| Cowley | 5074 | 4834 | 104.96% | 240 |
| Littlemore | 4967 | 4834 | 102.75% | 133 |
| Northfield Brook | 4729 | 4834 | 97.83% | -105 |
| Blackbird Leys | 4552 | 4834 | 94.17% | -282 |
| Temple Cowley | 4579 | 4834 | 94.72% | -255 |
| Lye Valley | 4718 | 4834 | 97.60% | -116 |
| **Western** |  |  |  |  |
| Wolvercote | 4762 | 4834 | 98.51% | -72 |
| Cutteslowe | 4947 | 4834 | 102.34% | 113 |
| Summertown | 4925 | 4834 | 101.88% | 91 |
| Walton Manor | 4621 | 4834 | 95.59% | -213 |
| Jericho | 5062 | 4834 | 104.72% | 228 |
| Osney and St Thomas | 5078 | 4834 | 105.05% | 244 |
| Holywell | 4546 | 4834 | 94.04% | -288 |
| Hinksey Park | 4441 | 4834 | 91.87% | -393 |
| **Grand Total** | **116023** | 116016 |  |

A textual description of the scheme is described in Appendix 1. An A0 map will be displayed at the Board meeting. An A4 indicative version is attached at Appendix 2.

# Financial implications

1. There are no financial implications.

# Legal issues

1. There are no legal implications.

# Level of risk

A completed Risk Register is attached at Appendix 3.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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 |