

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL

PERIODIC ELECTORAL REVIEW

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To update Council on progress of the periodic electoral review of North Lincolnshire being undertaken by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE).
- 1.2 To consider the recommendation of the Electoral Review Working Group on the proposed Phase 2 'Warding Arrangements' submission to be made by Council to the LGBCE.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 At its meeting on 25 February 2021, the Council approved the phase 1 submission to the LGBCE on 'council size' which concluded that the appropriate size council continued to be 43 councillors for North Lincolnshire. Subsequently, the LGBCE informed the council on 19 March that they agreed to commence the next phase 2 on 'warding arrangements' based on the proposed council size of 43 members, although they reserved the right to change the council size up and down by one (possibly two) in the event that it concludes that it facilitates a better warding pattern.
- 2.2 The LGBCE from 18 May to 26 July 2021 have been consulting on phase 2 'warding arrangements' across North Lincolnshire inviting residents, key stakeholder groups and organisations, town and parish councils and North Lincolnshire Council to make submissions on warding arrangements in terms of numbers, names, boundaries and the number of councillors to be elected in each ward. Submissions on warding arrangements should address 'electoral quality', 'community identities and interests', and 'effective and convenient local government' in accordance with LGBCE criteria.
- 2.3 The Electoral Review Working Group met on 16 July 2021 and considered a proposed phase 2 submission on 'warding arrangements' and by majority recommended it be submitted to council for it to consider and approve as the council's submission to the LGBCE. Appendix 1 refers. Submissions had to be submitted to the LGBCE by 26 July 2021.

- 2.4 The LGBCE is intending to consult on its draft 'warding arrangements' proposals from 5 October to 13 December 2021 and will confirm these to the Council in due course.
- 2.5 Further reports will be presented to Council as the review progresses in accordance with the review timetable detailed in Appendix 2.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 The Council is under a duty to respond to the electoral review and through full Council determine a submission to the LGBCE on 'warding arrangements' under the second phase of the review process. The Electoral Review Working Group was established by Council to recommend a submission for Council to consider.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 The Electoral Review Working Group, as authorised by Council, has by majority recommended a submission at Appendix 1, and it is now for Council to consider and approve its submission on 'warding arrangements' to the LGBCE by 26 July 2021.

5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)

- 5.1 There are no direct resource implications associated with consideration of this report.

6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)

- 6.1 There are no other relevant implications.

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

- 7.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment is not required for this report.

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

- 8.1 No conflicts of interest have been identified or declared.
- 8.2 The LGBCE is responsible for leading on the public consultation aspects of the electoral review process.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That council considers the recommendation of the Electoral Review Working Group to consider and approve the proposed 'warding arrangements' (as at Appendix 1 of the report) as the Council's phase 2 submission to the LGBCE.

DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIPS

Church Square House
30-40 Church Square
SCUNTHORPE
North Lincolnshire
DN15 6NL

Author: RAMell
Date: 20 July 2021

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:
LGBCE Electoral Reviews Technical Guidance April 2014.
Reports to full Council, 25 January and 25 February 2021.