

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 28 th September 2021
Report Subject	Boundary Commission for Wales: 2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies - Initial Proposals
Report Author	Chief Executive and Chief Officer (Governance)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Boundary Commission for Wales ('the Commission') has recently published its initial proposals for Parliamentary constituencies in Wales.

At the Council meeting on Thursday 22 July 2021, the Council noted the process to be followed during the Boundary Commission for Wales 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies.

The constituencies of Delyn and Alyn and Deeside are to be retained under these initial proposals.

The Commission proposes that the Alyn and Deeside constituency be created from the existing electoral wards of Alyn and Deeside, the electoral wards of Brymbo and Minera from the existing Clwyd South constituency, and the electoral wards of Argoed, Leeswood and New Brighton from the existing Delyn constituency.

The Commission proposes that the Delyn constituency be created from the existing electoral wards of Delyn (without Argoed, Leeswood and New Brighton electoral wards), the electoral wards of Dyserth, Llandyrnog, Prestatyn Central, Prestatyn East, Prestatyn Meliden, Prestatyn North, Prestatyn South West and Tremeirchion from the existing Vale of Clwyd constituency and the electoral wards of Llanarmon-yn-Ial/Llandegla, Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd/Llangynhafal and Ruthin from the existing Clwyd West constituency.

The Commission are looking forward, to hearing from the people of Wales on how these proposals might be amended and revised. The initial consultation period began on 8 September 2021 and ends on 3 November 2021.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Council notes the initial proposals for the constituencies of Delyn and Alyn and Deeside.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES PARLIAMENTARY CONTITUENCY REVIEW FOR THE CONSTITUENCIES OF DELYN AND ALYN AND DEESIDE
1.01	The Boundary Commission for Wales ('the Commission') is responsible for reviewing Parliamentary constituency boundaries in Wales. According to the formula, the number of constituencies in Wales should be 32 (8 less than currently).
1.02	On 5 January 2021, the Commission announced the start of the 2023 review of Parliamentary constituencies in Wales, in accordance with the provisions of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (as amended).
1.03	At the Council meeting on Thursday 22 July 2021, the Council noted the process to be followed during the Boundary Commission for Wales 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies.
1.04	The Commission has now published its initial proposals for public consultation. These proposals take careful account of the relevant legislation and application of the March 2020 electoral figures. The local government boundaries the Commission may take into account are those that existed in Wales on 1 December 2020 (since there were no 'prospective' boundaries in Wales on that date). As such, the Commission will not consider new local government boundaries that did not exist, and had not been provided for by legislation, on that date.
1.05	Under the proposals, six principal councils would be wholly contained within new constituencies (Blaenau Gwent, Ceredigion, the Isle of Anglesey, Merthyr Tydfil, Monmouthshire and Torfaen). Sixteen existing constituencies would be wholly contained within new constituencies (Aberconwy, Alyn and Deeside, Blaenau Gwent, Brecon and Radnorshire, Cardiff Central, Cardiff North, Cardiff West, Ceredigion, Dwyfor Meirionnydd, Islwyn, Llanelli, Montgomeryshire, Rhondda, Torfaen, Wrexham and Ynys Môn). Eighteen of the existing constituency names would remain the same.
1.06	Alyn and Deeside Constituency The Commission proposes that a county constituency be created from the following electoral wards within the County of Flintshire (which currently make up the existing Alyn and Deeside CC): Aston (2,508), Broughton North East (1,723), Broughton South (3,325), Buckley Bistre East (2,653), Buckley Bistre West (3,182), Buckley Mountain (2,555), Buckley Pentrobin (4,181), Caergwrle (1,225), Connah's

	<p>Quay Central (2,213), Connah's Quay Golftyn (3,688), Connah's Quay South (4,494), Connah's Quay Wepre (1,647), Ewloe (4,327), Hawarden (1,623), Higher Kinnerton (1,373), Hope (2,042), Llanfynydd (1,483), Mancot (2,516), Penyffordd (3,543), Queensferry (1,248), Saltney Mold Junction (1,100), Saltney Stonebridge (2,672), Sealand (2,026), Shotton East (1,219), Shotton Higher (1,669), Shotton West (1,464) and Treuddyn (1,346)</p> <p>and the following electoral wards within the County of Wrexham (which currently form part of the existing Clwyd South CC):</p> <p>Brymbo (3,021) and Minera (1,870)</p> <p>and the following electoral wards within the County of Flintshire (which currently form part of the existing Delyn CC):</p> <p>Argoed (2,167), Leeswood (1,627) and New Brighton (2,414).</p>
1.07	<p>This constituency would have 74,144 electors, which is 1% above the UKEQ of 73,393 electors per constituency. The proposed official name for the constituency is Alyn and Deeside. The proposed official alternative name is Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy.</p>
1.08	<p>The existing Alyn and Deeside constituency is currently below the statutory requirements in respect of the size of the electorate. The Commission has considered several options and proposes to combine the whole of the existing Alyn and Deeside constituency with electoral wards from the existing Clwyd South and Delyn constituencies to meet the statutory electorate range. The Commission is of the view that these areas listed in 1.06 are well connected to the existing Alyn and Deeside constituency by transport links, and are similar in character. The Commission is of the view that the proposed arrangement creates a cohesive constituency.</p>
1.09	<p>Delyn Constituency</p> <p>The Commission proposes that a county constituency be created from the following electoral wards within the County of Flintshire (which currently form part of the existing Delyn CC):</p> <p>Bagillt East (1,413), Bagillt West (1,625), Brynford (1,789), Caerwys (2,050), Cilcain (1,519), Ffynongroyw (1,474), Flint Castle (1,426), Flint Coleshill (2,938), Flint Oakenholt (2,538), Flint Trelawny (2,710), Greenfield (1,983), Gronant (1,257), Gwernaffield (1,646), Gwernymynydd (1,399), Halkyn (1,427), Holywell Central (1,465), Holywell East (1,383) Holywell West (1,762), Mold Broncoed (2,134), Mold East (1,556), Mold South (2,201), Mold West (1,956), Mostyn (1,458), Northop (2,596), Northop Hall (1,398), Trelawnyd and Gwaenysgor (1,496) and Whitford (1,911)</p> <p>and the following electoral wards within the County of Denbighshire (which currently form part of the existing Vale of Clwyd CC):</p>

	<p>Dyserth (1,882), Llandyrnog (1,765), Prestatyn Central (2,829), Prestatyn East (3,162), Prestatyn Meliden (1,529), Prestatyn North (4,729), Prestatyn South West (2,861) and Tremeirchion (1,344).</p> <p>and the following electoral wards within the County of Denbighshire (which currently form part of the existing Clwyd West CC): Llanarmon-yn-Ial/Llandegla (2,033), Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd/Llangynhafal (1,170) and Ruthin (4,260).</p>
1.10	This constituency would have 76,074 electors, which is 3.7% above the UKEQ of 73,393 electors per constituency. The proposed single name for the constituency is Delyn.
1.11	The existing Delyn, Vale of Clwyd and Clwyd West constituencies are currently below the statutory requirements in respect of the size of the electorate. The Commission considered several options, and proposes to combine electoral wards from these existing neighbouring constituencies to meet the statutory electorate range. The Commission has proposed that three of the existing Delyn electoral wards – Argoed, Leeswood and New Brighton – are included within the proposed Alyn and Deeside constituency. The remainder of the existing Delyn constituency is to be combined with electoral wards that form part of the existing Vale of Clwyd and Clwyd West constituencies listed in 1.09. The Commission is of the view that the proposed arrangement creates a cohesive constituency that has good transport and communication links.
1.12	The proposed constituency includes electoral wards that form part of the existing Delyn, Vale of Clwyd and Clwyd West constituencies, and includes areas from the County of Flintshire and the County of Denbighshire principal council areas. The Commission proposes keeping the existing constituency name of Delyn as a single name for this proposed constituency, which the Commission considers to be recognisable and acceptable in both Welsh and English.
1.13	The Commission has now opened consultation on its initial proposals. This consultation period ends on 3 November 2021.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The preparation of any case either for or against the proposals made by Flintshire will require both Member and officer time.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	The proposals have been shared with Group Leaders.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	Not applicable at this stage.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	<p>Appendix 1 – Boundary Commission for Wales: 2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies – Initial Proposals https://bcomm-wales.gov.uk/sites/bcomm/files/review/Initial%20Proposals%20Template%20v8%20Final_2.pdf</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Alyn and Deeside (Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy) Map https://bcomm-wales.gov.uk/sites/bcomm/files/review/Alyn%20and%20Deeside.png</p> <p>Appendix 3 – Delyn Map https://bcomm-wales.gov.uk/sites/bcomm/files/review/Delyn.png</p>

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>Boundary Commission for Wales Review of Parliamentary Constituencies: Guide to the 2023 Review.</p> <p>https://bcomm-wales.gov.uk/sites/bcomm/files/review/Guide%20to%20the%20Review%200E.pdf</p> <p>Report of the Chief Executive and Chief Officer (Governance): Boundary Commission for Wales: 2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies. 22 July 2021.</p> <p>https://committeemeetings.flintshire.gov.uk/documents/g5123/Public%20reports%20pack%2022nd-Jul-2021%2010.00%20Flintshire%20County%20Council.pdf?T=10&LLL=0</p>

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officers: Robert Robins, Head of Democratic Services and Lynn Phillips, Team Leader – Democratic Services Telephone: (01352) 702320/01352 702329 E-mail: robert.robins@flintshire.gov.uk and lyn.phillips@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p>The Boundary Commission for Wales: Is an independent and impartial non-departmental public body which is responsible for conducting periodic reviews of Parliamentary constituency boundaries in Wales.</p> <p>County Constituency - abbreviated to CC: Parliamentary constituency containing a significant rural element.</p> <p>Electoral Ward: The areas into which principal council areas are divided for the purpose of electing county councillors; previously referred to as electoral divisions.</p> <p>Electorate: The number of registered parliamentary electors in a given area.</p> <p>Initial proposals: Initial proposals for public consultation.</p>