

FULL COUNCIL

The 2023 Boundary Review – Initial Proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries

1. Information:

- 1.1 The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) has today published its initial proposals for new constituency boundaries. The proposals and maps for the nine English regions have been published on the website. The eight-week public consultation period has commenced and closes on 02 August 2021.
- 1.2 The BCE is required to make a formal final report to the Speaker of the House of Commons before 1 July 2023, recommending any changes that it believes are appropriate to the distribution, size, shape, name or designation of constituencies in England. The current constituencies review is therefore referred to as ‘the 2023 Review’.
- 1.3 For the 2023 Review, the Commission is promoting use of a specifically-designed consultation website as the primary tool for displaying the proposals, and receiving comments on them. This is available at www.bcereviews.org.uk
- 1.4 Every recommended constituency (except five ‘protected’ constituencies) must have an electorate as at 2 March 2020 that is no smaller than 69,724 and no larger than 77,062.
- 1.5 No changes are proposed for West Swindon, however there are changes proposed to Swindon South Constituency – see **Appendix A**. These propose a new constituency – East Wiltshire which encompasses the existing Devizes constituency and would incorporate Wroughton.
- 1.6 The Parish Council may choose to comment on these changes. Those who respond to the consultation are requested to say whether they approve of, or object to, the BCE’s proposals. In particular, objectors are advised to say what they propose in place of the BCE’s proposals. An objection accompanied by a viable counterproposal is likely to carry more weight than a simple statement of objection.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That Council considers the boundary proposal and any form of representation it wishes to make.