

Item 7 (b) - 2023 Parliamentary Boundary Review

The attached report was considered by the Governance Committee, and the relevant minute extract is below:

Governance Committee (22 June 2021, Minute 7)

Members considered a report which detailed the initial proposals from the Boundary Commission for England (BCE), which was in the process of a review of all the Parliamentary constituencies in England. BCE's final recommendations would be taken to parliament by 1 July 2023, increasing the number of English constituencies from 533 to 543. The initial proposals were set out in Appendix A.

Members of the Committee spoke about the changes which would impact their own wards. Members noted that it was proposed a survey would be carried out and requested a 'free text' box be included in any survey, so as to enable the capture of as many varied comments as possible. It was noted that it would be helpful to know whether the BCE proposals would increase or decrease the aggregate number of electors in the Sevenoaks Parliamentary constituency.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That it be recommended to Council that

- a) the initial proposals from the Boundary Commission for England for Parliamentary boundaries for Sevenoaks District Council area from 2023, be noted; and
- b) the submission of a consultation response to the Boundary Commission for England based on the views collate from Members and following consultation with the Chairman of the Governance Committee, be approved.