

# HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

Full Council

16 November 2022

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## Boundary Review

### TO NOTE

**Portfolio Holder:** Cllr Tony Denton

**Key Decision:** No

**Report number:** HBC/096/2022

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### 1. Purpose

- 1.1 This paper is submitted to Full Council to note the final recommendations of a review by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, which sets out the new electoral arrangements for Havant Borough Council.

### 2. Recommendation

- 2.1. Full Council to note the final recommendations from the Local Government Boundary Commission review for the new electoral arrangements for Havant Borough Council. These propose that:

- a. Havant should have 36 councillors, a decrease of 2;
- b. Havant should have 12 wards. The boundaries of all but 3 of the existing wards should change; and
- c. 36 councillors should represent 12 three-councillor wards across the Borough.

### 3. Executive Summary

- 3.1. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament. The Commission is accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons. The main role of the Commission is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

3.2. An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority including the total number of councillors representing the council's electors, the names, numbers and boundaries of wards and the number of councillors for each ward.

3.3. The Commission has a legal duty to carry out an electoral review of each Council in England 'from time to time'. Havant Borough Council has not been reviewed since 2000 and the Commission therefore decided that it should review Havant in advance of the elections in 2024. This exercise was conducted between September 2021 and November 2022.

3.4. Havant Borough Council currently has 38 councillors. Based on the evidence reviewed by the Commission, the final proposal is that 36 councillors should serve the council in the future. The recommendations are designed to meet the statutory criteria of the Commission to:

- a. deliver electoral equality for electors,
- b. reflect community interests and identities,
- c. promote effective and convenient local government.

The recommendations only become law once they have received parliamentary approval.

## **4. Additional Budgetary Implications**

4.1 None associated with this report, which is to note. In due course, implementation planning will be completed once this proposal is confirmed in statute. This will confirm both any set up costs and annual savings arising.

## **5. Background and relationship to Corporate Strategy and supporting strategies and policies**

5.1. The Local Government Boundary Commission of England has published final recommendations setting out new electoral arrangements for Havant Borough Council.

5.2. Details of the recommended changes are contained in a report which explains how they have been developed, including how local views have been taken into account. The report and boundary map are included as appendices within this report.

5.3. The recommendations only become law once they have received parliamentary approval. The formal document (a draft Order) to start the process will be laid in Parliament shortly. The draft Order provides for the new electoral arrangements for Havant to come into effect for the local elections in 2024.

## **6. Options considered**

6.1 Not applicable.

## **7. Resource implications**

### **7.1 Financial implications**

- a. None to note at this time. These will be considered and reporting, during any implementation phase.

#### **Section 151 Officer comments**

The report is only for noting– no direct resource implications to table at this stage.

### **7.2. Human resources implications**

- a. None.

### **7.3. Information governance implications**

- a. None

### **7.4. Climate and environment implications**

- a. None.

### **7.5. Other resources implications**

- a. None

## 8. Legal implications

8.1 The final recommendation of the Local Government Boundary Commission review setting out the new electoral arrangements for Havant Borough Council are for noting. Once the necessary law has been passed by Parliament it will be the responsibility of Havant Borough Council to implement the required changes in time for the elections in 2024.

### Monitoring Officer comments

Nothing to add in relation to the above comments save that the changes proposed may well lead to a review of polling station locations by the council's Democratic & Electoral Services Team as boundary lines change

## 9. Risks and mitigations

9.1 None

## 10. Consultation

10.1. The Commission has informed all relevant MPs, the policy authority, the national headquarters of the main political parties and all those who took part in the consultations of the recommendations.

10.2. The following public consultations have been completed as part of the review by the Boundary Commission:

Stage of review	Description
28 September 2021 – 6 December 2021	Public consultation on warding arrangements
10 May 2022 – 18 July 2022	Public consultation on draft recommendations
1 November 2022	Publication of final recommendations
May 2024	Implementation (subject to Parliamentary approval)

## **11. Communications**

11.1 The report and interactive mapping are available on the website of the Boundary Review Commission consultation site and the full library of information relating to the review is available on the main website of the Commission. The Authority has also issued a press release, noting the determination of the Commission.

11.2 During the implementation phase, it is recognised that effective communications will be necessary to support affected residents and ensure they are fully enabled in moving to new arrangements.

## **12. Appendices**

12.1 Appendix 1 – New electoral arrangements for Havant Borough Council – Final recommendations (November 2022)

12.2 Appendix 2 - Final recommendations for ward boundaries in the Borough of Havant (November 2022) map

## **13. Background papers**

None

### **Agreed and signed off by:**

**Portfolio Holder:** Cllr Tony Denton, 8 Nov 2022

**Executive Head:** Matt Goodwin, Executive Head, Internal Services, 7 Nov 2022

**Monitoring Officer:** Mark Watkins, 8 Nov 2022

**Section 151 Officer:** Malcolm Coe, 7 Nov 2022