

Area Board Boundary Review 2020

Summary

To consider the Final Recommendations of the Electoral Review Committee in respect of the Area Board Boundary Review.

Proposals

That Council,

1) Approve the composition of each Area Board from May 2021 set out below as recommended and detailed by the Electoral Review Committee in the Final Recommendations:

- i. Recommendation 1 – Amesbury**
- ii. Recommendation 2 – Bradford-on-Avon**
- iii. Recommendation 3 – Calne**
- iv. Recommendation 4 – Chippenham and Villages**
- v. Recommendation 5 – Corsham**
- vi. Recommendation 6 – Devizes**
- vii. Recommendation 7 – Malmesbury**
- viii. Recommendation 8 – Marlborough**
- ix. Recommendation 9 – Melksham**
- x. Recommendation 10 – Pewsey**
- xi. Recommendation 11 – Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade**
- xii. Recommendation 12 – Salisbury**
- xiii. Recommendation 13 – Southern**
- xiv. Recommendation 14 – South West Wiltshire**
- xv. Recommendation 15 – Tidworth**
- xvi. Recommendation 16 – Trowbridge**
- xvii. Recommendation 17 – Warminster**
- xviii. Recommendation 18 – Westbury**

2) To authorise the Monitoring Officer to amend the Constitution accordingly for May 2021 when the proposed Area Boards come into effect.

Reason for Proposals

To ensure Area Boards align to the Electoral Divisions that will apply from May 2021 onwards, and so ensure effective and convenient local governance.

Ian Gibbons - Director of Legal and Governance

Wiltshire Council

Full Council

24 November 2020

Area Board Boundary Review 2020

Purpose

1. To consider the Final Recommendations of the Electoral Review Committee.

Background

2. Following an Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) proposed revised Electoral Divisions for the Council on 1 October 2019. On 17 March 2020 Parliament approved the revisions in *The Wiltshire (Electoral Changes) Order 2020*, to take effect at the local elections scheduled for May 2021.
3. Area Boards are appointed by the Council under S.102 of the Local Government Act 1972 and are constituted as area committees with the meaning of S.9E of Part 1A of the Local Government Act 2000 as amended by the Localism Act 2011.
4. Schedule 1 of Part 3B of the Constitution sets out the Electoral Divisions, and therefore any parishes, which comprise each of the 18 existing Area Boards. Pewsey and Tidworth comprise a single area committee, which appoints the individual Area Boards. South West Wiltshire Area Board comprises three community areas.
5. In accordance with the Constitution Area Boards consist of entire Electoral Divisions and each Division may only be in one Area Board.
6. Under Paragraph 2.10.10 of Part 3B of the Constitution the Electoral Review Committee has responsibility to make recommendations to Full Council on the composition of Area Boards.

Main Considerations

Pre-consultation

7. Sessions were arranged in July 2020 between members of the Electoral Review Committee and each existing Area Board to discuss the changes in Electoral Divisions and potential options and implications for any future Area Board arrangement. Notes from those sessions were provided to all members of each Area Board.
8. The Electoral Review Committee at its meeting on 13 August 2020 then agreed proposals for revised Area Board Boundaries. Although not a legal requirement, a consultation on those proposals was agreed.
9. A briefing note was circulated for Members on 9 September 2020, and for discussion at Area Board meetings where requested.

Consultation

10. The Draft Recommendations were published for a consultation which ran from 10 September 2020 – 31 October 2020. A press release was also published.
11. All parishes in Wiltshire were contacted by email with details of the consultation including a briefing note and online surveys, on 9 September, 23 September and 13 October 2020.
12. All Unitary Members received emails with details of the consultation on 9 September and 14 October 2020.
13. A further email was sent to the parishes of the current Amesbury and Southern Wiltshire Area Boards, as well as the Unitary Members for those Boards, on 21 October 2020.
14. There were 108 responses to the consultation, with 95 responses to the online surveys, with a further 13 responses received by email.
15. The Committee considered all responses at its meeting on 12 November 2020, and prepared Final Recommendations for presentation at this meeting. The proposed Area Board Map for May 2021 is set out at **Appendix A**. The full Final Recommendations are set out at **Appendix B**.
16. If approved, the proposals would take effect following the next elections, scheduled for May 2021.

Safeguarding Implications

17. There are no safeguarding implications.

Public Health Implications

18. There are no public health implications.

Procurement Implications

19. There are no procurement implications.

Risk Assessment

20. There are no risk issues arising from this report.

Equalities Implications

21. There are no equalities implications.

Environmental and Climate Change Implications

22. There are no environmental implications.

Workforce Implications

23. There are no workforce implications.

Financial Implications

24. There are no financial implications.

Legal Implications

25. There are no legal implications arising from this report. Composition of Area Boards is an administrative arrangement of Wiltshire Council.

Proposal

26. That Council,

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- a) Recommendation 1 – Amesbury
- b) Recommendation 2 – Bradford-on-Avon
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- d) Recommendation 4 – Chippenham and Villages
- e) Recommendation 5 – Corsham
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- g) Recommendation 7 – Malmesbury
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2) To authorise the Monitoring Officer to amend the Constitution accordingly for May 2021 when the proposed Area Boards come into effect.

Ian Gibbons - Director of Legal and Governance

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16 November 2020

Appendices

Appendix A – Proposed Area Board Map

Appendix B - Final Recommendations of the Electoral Review Committee

Background Papers

[Summary report of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England](#)

[Local Government Boundary Commission for England Electoral Division Map](#)

[Draft Recommendations of the Electoral Review Committee](#)

[Responses to the Consultation on the Draft Recommendations \(Surveys\)](#)

[Responses to the Consultation on the Draft Recommendations \(Additional\)](#)