

ELECTORAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE ELECTORAL REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25 JUNE 2018 AT COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, TROWBRIDGE BA14 8JN.

Present:

Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cllr Clare Cape, Cllr Richard Clewer (Chairman), Cllr Gavin Grant, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr Ashley O'Neill, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cllr Graham Wright and Cllr Jacqui Lay (Substitute)

30 **Apologies**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Jonathon Seed, who was substituted by Councillor Jacqui Lay.

31 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2018 were presented and it was,

Resolved:

To approve and sign the minutes as a true and correct record.

32 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations

33 **Chairman's Announcements**

There were no announcements.

34 **Public Participation**

No statements or questions were submitted.

35 **Electoral Review Update**

A report was presented outlining the progression of the Electoral Review since the last meeting.

Following the submission being provided to the Committee on 4 April 2018 the Local Government Boundary Commission for England informed the Council that it was not in a position to make a determination on council size. The

Commission requested a meeting with the Leader of the Council, which took place on 15 May 2018 along with the Chairman of the Committee. A separate meeting took place between the Commission and representatives of the Liberal Democrat Group, who had made a separate submission to the Commission.

Following that meeting a letter was received from the Commission on 31 May 2018 formally requesting supplementary information from the Council in relation to its submission, with a new deadline for the preliminary stage of the Electoral Review of 13 July 2018.

A workshop meeting was held for the Committee on 12 June 2018 at which it considered the letter from the Commission and how the Council should respond to the request for information. Additional evidence relating to the submission was also considered.

Agenda Supplement 1 was then discussed at the meeting, being a draft supplementary submission taking account of the points raised by the Committee at the workshop meeting. Further evidence on committee number assessment, councillor hours and other comparisons were also considered.

The Committee discussed the draft, including whether they considered the evidence still supported a recommended council size of 99, and at the conclusion of discussion, it was,

Resolved:

That on the basis of the evidence to recommend that Full Council continue to support a proposed council size of 99; and

To endorse the draft supplementary submission on council size to Council for recommendation to the LGBCE, subject to any minor drafting and consequential changes to be delegated to the Director of Legal and Democratic Services in consultation with the Chairman of the Electoral Review Committee.

36 Urgent Items

There were no urgent items.

(Duration of meeting: 12.00 - 1.25 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Kieran Elliott, of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 718504, e-mail kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk

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