



COUNCIL: 6 APRIL 2022

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**Report of:** Chief Operating Officer

**Relevant Portfolio Holder:** Councillor I Moran

**Contact for further information:** Mr Tom Lynan (Extn.5013)  
(E-mail: [tom.lynan@westlancs.gov.uk](mailto:tom.lynan@westlancs.gov.uk))

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**SUBJECT: WEST LANCASHIRE ELECTORAL REVIEW – LGBCE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

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Wards affected: Borough wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To inform Council of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) Final Recommendations for West Lancashire.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 That the LGBCE Final Recommendations Report, attached at Appendix 2 to the report, be noted.

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## **3.0 BACKGROUND**

3.1 On 2 November 2021 the LGBCE published its Draft Recommendations for West Lancashire. A public consultation on the Draft Recommendations ran until 10 January 2022.

3.2 Submissions to the consultation were received from Officers, the Conservative Group, seven individual Councillors, five Parish Councils and 52 local residents.

## **4.0 CURRENT POSITION**

4.1 On 29 March 2022 the LGBCE published its Final Recommendations for West Lancashire.

4.2 A map of the Final Recommendations is attached as Appendix 1.

4.3 **AUGHTON & HOLBORN** – Unchanged from the Draft Recommendations.

- 4.4 **BURSCOUGH BRIDGE & RUFFORD** – Unchanged from the Draft Recommendations.
- 4.5 **BURSCOUGH TOWN** – Unchanged from the Draft Recommendations.
- 4.6 **NORTH MEOLS & HESKETH BANK** – Boundary unchanged from the Draft Recommendations but renamed to North Meols & Hesketh Bank from Ribble Estuary following comments to the consultation.
- 4.7 **OLD SKELMERSDALE** – Unchanged from the Draft Recommendations.
- 4.8 **ORMSKIRK EAST** – Unchanged from the Draft Recommendations.
- 4.9 **ORMSKIRK WEST** – Unchanged from the Draft Recommendations.
- 4.10 **RURAL NORTH EAST** – Unchanged from the Draft Recommendations.
- 4.11 **RURAL SOUTH** – Boundary unchanged from the Draft Recommendations but renamed to Rural South from Bickerstaffe & Westhead following comments to the consultation.
- 4.12 **RURAL WEST** – Unchanged from the Draft Recommendations.
- 4.13 **SKELMERSDALE NORTH** – The Final Recommendations take in Felstead, Ferndale, Hartland, Heathgate, Helmside and Heversham from the Draft Skelmersdale Central Ward.
- 4.14 **SKELMERSDALE SOUTH** – The Final Recommendations give away Eskbank, Eskbrook, Eskdale and Fenney Court to the new Tanhouse & Skelmersdale Town Centre Ward.
- 4.15 **TANHOUSE & SKELMERSDALE TOWN CENTRE** – Renamed to Tanhouse & Skelmersdale Town Centre from Skelmersdale Central following comments to the consultation. Boundary has changed from the Draft Recommendations taking in Eskbank, Eskbrook, Eskdale and Fenney Court from the draft Skelmersdale South ward and giving away Felstead, Ferndale, Hartland, Heathgate, Helmside and Heversham to the new Skelmersdale North ward.
- 4.16 **TARLETON VILLAGE** – Boundary unchanged from the Draft Recommendations but renamed to Tarleton Village from Tarleton following comments to the consultation.
- 4.17 **UP HOLLAND** – Unchanged from the Draft Recommendations.

## **5.0 PARISH COUNCILS**

- 5.1 The Final Recommendations confirm the consequential effects for the Parishes of Aughton, Burscough, Hesketh-with-Becconsall and Tarleton. Each of these Parishes is to be re-warded, or in the case of Hesketh-with-Becconsall warded for the first time, in order to remain coterminous with borough ward boundaries.

5.2 Changes to Parish electoral arrangements will come into force at the next scheduled elections for that Parish (Aughton 2023, Burscough 2026, Hesketh-with-Becconsall 2024, Tarleton 2023).

5.3 The legal authority to make changes to Parish arrangements (internal boundaries only) as proposed in Aughton and Scarisbrick comes from legislation (Section 56 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, and Schedule 2).

## **6.0 FUTURE TIMESCALES**

6.1 There is no further period of consultation, and the Final Recommendations will be enacted pending Parliamentary approval.

6.2 An Electoral Changes Order will be laid before Parliament in the Autumn of 2022 for a 40-day period of scrutiny, after which it will become law and be in force at the next scheduled elections in 2023 when all out elections will take place before reverting to elections by thirds from 2024.

6.3 A full interim Polling Districts and Places Review will take place from Summer 2022 to ensure that Polling Districts are coterminous with these new boundaries.

## **7.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder.

## **8.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 The full interim Polling Districts and Places Review will be undertaken within existing budgets.

8.2 A budget bid will be submitted to cover the increased costs of holding all out elections in May 2023 on the new boundaries, as well as to allow for promotional work to take place to inform the public of the changes.

## **9.0 RISK ASSESSMENT**

9.1 This item is for information only and makes no recommendations. It therefore does not require a formal risk assessment and no changes have been made to risk registers.

## **10.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.

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## **Background Documents**

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

## **Equality Impact Assessment**

There is a direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders, therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is required. A formal equality impact assessment is attached as an Appendix to this report, the results of which have been taken into account in the Recommendations contained within this report

## **Appendices**

1. LGBCE – Electoral Review of West Lancashire Final Recommendations Fact Sheet and Map
2. LGBCE - West Lancashire Final Recommendations Report March 2022
3. Equality Impact Assessment