

## 2018 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies Preparation for publication of Initial Proposals

### Action required

1. The Commission is invited to note the preparations being made for publication of its Initial Proposals for constituencies on 20 October 2016 and comment on the draft materials.

### Consultation Portal

2. The consultation portal is currently undergoing user testing in preparation for the consultation. An oral update will be given at the meeting.

### News Release

3. During the previous UK Parliament boundary review the Commission issued a press release when it published its Initial Proposals for consultation in October 2011. It also issued a press release in September 2011, when the Boundary Commission for England published their initial proposals, to provide an update on the situation in Scotland.
4. For the 2018 UK Parliament Review, the Boundary Commissions for England, Northern Ireland and Wales are expected to issue their Initial Proposals on different dates in September 2016. Therefore the Commission may wish to consider issuing a press release at the same time as the other Commissions, to provide an update, or alternatively could request that the other Commissions mention our publication date in their press releases.
5. A draft press release for the publication of the Commission's initial proposals will be available at the Commission's October meeting.

### Publication Material - Booklet

6. The Secretariat have developed a booklet depicting the Initial Proposals, for illustrative purposes only. The draft design only uses a sample of constituencies, as the Initial Proposals have still to be agreed. The Secretariat have prepared two draft versions of the booklet. One version lists the constituencies alphabetically (Appendix A1), the other version of the booklet (Appendix A2) has grouped the constituencies by area, as suggested by the Commission. The two versions of the booklet include different map designs and the Commission are invited to note a preferred design. The booklet will also be available to download from the website and consultation portal.

### Publication Material - Display Posters

7. The Secretariat have developed a draft poster for use at display points. Two versions of the poster have also been developed (Appendix B1 and B2). The Commission is invited to note a preferred map design, as the text is identical. The posters will also be available to download from the website and consultation portal.

### Other publication materials

8. GIS shapefiles of the Initial Proposals will be made available to download from the website.
9. The policies and procedures booklet was made available to political parties in draft form in May and is ready for publication online subject to any final

comments from the Commission. It will be made available at display points in hard copy as well as a download from the website and portal.

10. We will also use social media (Twitter and Facebook) to publicise the initial proposals.
11. The Secretariat are taking advice from political parties on the preferred approach to providing embargoed copies of the Initial Proposals the day before publication. This may involve travelling to Westminster. A request has been made by the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (IPSA) for advance sight of the proposals too and the Commission may wish to consider this. The Secretaries to the other UK commissions have indicated they are willing to agree to this request.

### **Public Hearings**

12. At its meeting of 18 July 2016, the Commission discussed preparation for the Public Hearings to be held during the 12 week consultation period (Paper 2016/24). The Secretariat now have dates for Sheriff Principals availability, see Appendix C.
13. The Commission is invited to consider suitable locations for its Public Hearings. During the previous UK Parliament boundary review, Public Hearings were held at Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Inverness and New Lanark.

### **Recommendations**

14. The Commission is invited to comment on the draft materials and proposed approach to the publication of the initial proposals; and to agree locations for its Public hearings.

Secretariat  
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