

2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies Final Recommendations Meeting Papers and Final Report

Action required

1. The Commission is invited to consider the style of its final recommendations meeting papers and note the preparations for drafting its 2023 Review Final Report.

Meeting Papers – 2023 Review Final Recommendations

2. The Commission may recall that the design of its final recommendations meeting papers for the 2018 Review followed a style that could be easily replicated for the 2018 Review Final Report. This approach avoided a lot of repetition when drafting the Final Report. The Secretariat expect to follow a similar approach for the 2023 Review.
3. A draft template final recommendations meeting paper for Aberdeen City Council area is at Appendix A. The paper includes the draft constituency map style for the 2023 Review Final Report as well.

2023 Review Final Report

4. The Final Report for the 2023 Review must be submitted to Parliament before 1 July 2023.
5. The four UK Commissions' Secretariats are to meet with HH Global, who are contracted to produce the Final Reports, in mid-January to discuss the statutory requirements, format and style of the Final Reports. It is anticipated that the Final Reports will follow a similar style to the 2018 Review Reports, but the Secretariat will provide an update from the meeting with HH Global.
6. For reference, the 2018 Review Reports submitted to Parliament by all four Boundary Commissions can be viewed on the UK Government website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-boundary-commissions-boundary-review-2018>. Paper copies of the 2018 Review Final Reports can be printed on request.
7. The four UK Commissions' Secretariats have suggested adding a paragraph to the Final Report with recommendations for future reviews. For example, the Commission may wish to add comments regarding conduct of a hybrid Public Hearing. The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) added a section in their 2018 Final Report with several suggestions, such as: use of modern technology to promote the consultation and engage the public; difficulty of creating a consistent and high-quality sub-ward layer of electoral boundary data; attendance at public hearings; the 'fallow' years between reviews; sponsorship of the Parliamentary Boundary Commissions; and timely refreshing of constituencies. The BCE 2018 Final Report can viewed here https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/739177/Boundary_Commission_England_Report_Volume_1.pdf
8. None of the Commissions is expecting to print copies of their Final Reports for MPs.

Recommendation

9. The Commission is invited to

- suggest any changes or additions to the draft meeting paper, including the map style for Final Report in Appendix A; and
- provide any suggestions for the Final Report.

Secretariat
December 2022