

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

DATE: **TUESDAY, 14 APRIL 2015**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF OFFICER (GOVERNANCE)**

SUBJECT: **COMMUNITY REVIEW - FLINT MOUNTAIN**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 For Council to consider a report issued by the Local Democracy & Boundary Commission for Wales (“Boundary Commission”) seeking views on three options for community boundaries for the Flint Mountain area.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 Members will recollect that during 2013/14 the Council undertook a community review and the last report to Council was at its meeting on the 30 April 2014 followed by a report to Cabinet on the 13 May 2014.

2.02 The Flint Mountain area forms part of the Trelawny ward of the Community of Flint. The Council’s review concluded that there should be no change to this arrangement.

2.03 On the 27 June 2014 following publication of the Council’s final proposals representations were made to the Boundary Commission to remove Flint Mountain from the Trelawny ward of Flint Town Council. These representations have led the Boundary Commission to issue the consultation document attached as Appendix 1.

2.04 The Boundary Commission is of the view that the electorate of Flint Mountain is not of sufficient size to form an effective community area by itself but it is consulting on three other options namely:

- A) Flint Mountain is retained within the Trelawny ward of the Community of Flint (the existing arrangement);
- B) Flint Mountain is created as a separate community ward of the Community of Flint; or,
- C) Flint Mountain is created as a new community ward and transferred to the Community of Northop.

The default view of the Boundary Commission is to retain the existing arrangement (Option A) if it does not receive sufficient evidence for either option B or C.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.01 Technically the community review is an Executive function rather than a Council function but throughout the process reports have been submitted to both Council and the Cabinet. Consistent with that practice the Council's view on this matter will form a recommendation to Cabinet.
- 3.02 The last page of Appendix 1 summarises the representations that were made to the Boundary Commission which led it to issue the consultation document. Those representations should be taken into consideration in making a recommendation as to which of the three options should be the Council's response to consultation.
- 3.03 Of the three options, option C would have the most significant effect in that the overall size of Flint Town Council would reduce by one member and the size of Northop Community Council increase by one member. Option A would maintain the existing arrangement and the stance previously taken by Council and Cabinet.
- 3.04 Both Flint Town Council and Northop Community Council and the County Councillors for the areas have been consulted and if their preferred options are known at the time of the meeting they will be reported verbally.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 For Council to recommend to Cabinet Option A as its preferred option as there is insufficient evidence to change the existing arrangements.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 None as a result of this report.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

- 6.01 None as a result of this report.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 7.01 None as a result of this report.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 8.01 None as a result of this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.01 None as a result of this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 The Boundary Commission is required to consult interested parties and consult the public. Flintshire has assisted in publicising the report.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 The Boundary Commission is required to consult interested parties and consult the public. Flintshire has assisted in publicising the report.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1 – Boundary Commission Draft Proposals Report

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Report to and minute of Cabinet meeting of the 13 May 2014

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