

**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**ELECTORAL MATTERS COMMITTEE**

23 February 2024

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**Local Government Boundary Commission for England – Worcestershire  
County Divisions Review**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Relevant Portfolio Holder  | Councillors May, Leader, and Hotham, Cabinet Member for Finance and Enabling  |
| Portfolio Holder Consulted   | Yes   |
| Relevant Head of Service   | Claire Felton   |
| Report Author  | Job Title: Electoral Services Manager, Darren Whitney<br>Contact email:<br>darren.whitney@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk<br>Contact Tel: 01527 881650 |
| Wards Affected   | All   |
| Ward Councillor(s) consulted   | Via Members Newsletter  |
| Relevant Strategic Purpose(s)  | N/A   |
| Non-Key Decision   |   |
| If you have any questions about this report, please contact the report author in advance of the meeting. |   |

**1. RESOLUTIONS**

- 1.1 **Members of the Committee are asked to note the contents of the report; and**
- 1.2 **decide if a submission to the LGBCE be made from the Authority.**

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The report highlights the progress of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England’s (LGBCE) review for Worcestershire County Council Divisions.

**3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 No direct costs from this report.

**4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The LGBCE is a statutory body accountable to Parliament that conducts reviews of local authority electoral arrangements in England. Its statutory obligations are set out in the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

- 4.2 One of the objectives of the LGBCE is to provide electoral arrangements for English principal local authorities that are fair and deliver electoral equality for voters.

**5. STRATEGIC PURPOSES - IMPLICATIONS**

**Relevant Strategic Purpose**

- 5.1 This report deals with statutory functions but relates to the strategic purpose of an effective and sustainable council.

**6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

**Equalities and Diversity Implications**

- 6.1 None in this report.

**Operational Implications**

- 6.2 The LGBCE have published it's draft proposals for the new electoral county divisions in Worcestershire, consultation on these is open until 18 March 2024.

- 6.3 Details of the review can be found on the LGBCE website:.  
<https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/worcestershire>

- 6.4 For the Bromsgrove District area the LGBCE are recommending eight divisions, seven of which are single member and one which will have two members.

- 6.5 Individuals and political parties can make submissions to the consultation. The Authority can also make it's own submission however as the LGBCE is currently reviewing the District Wards officers feel unless there are anomalies to raise such as the change requested by Finstall Parish Council that no submission be made.

- 6.6 The LGBCE will publish their final recommendations on 2 July 2024 and the new arrangements will be in place for the County Elections in May 2025.

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 7.1 None with in this report.

**8. APPENDICES and BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- LGBCE Website: <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/worcestershire>
- Relevant Statutory provisions

**9. REPORT SIGN OFF**

| <b>Department</b>  | <b>Name and Job Title</b> | <b>Date</b>      |
|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| Portfolio Holder   | Cllr Hotham               | 14 February 2024 |
| Head of Service    |                           |                  |
| Financial Services |                           |                  |
| Legal Services     |                           |                  |