REPORT TO: CITY COUNCIL - 10TH MARCH 2008

REPORT ON: FIRST PERIODICAL REVIEW OF SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

**CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES** 

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REPORT NO: 150-2008

# 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To outline the proposals by the Boundary Commission for Scotland and to make any representations to the Commission thereon.

### 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Council support the proposals.

### 3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

### 4.0 MAIN TEXT

- 4.1 The review is taking place as required by the Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Act 2004. The legislation provides that there will be 71 constituencies for Scotland excluding Orkney and Shetland and also details the rules which the Commission follows when proposing constituencies.
- 4.2 These rules include a requirement to have regard to the boundaries of local authority areas and to design constituencies where the electorate is as close to the electoral quota as is practical. The electoral quota is the average electorate per constituency at the start of the review. For the purposes of this review the quota is 54,728.
- 4.3 Dundee City is one of the nine local authority areas where the electorate is such that the entitlement to seats is very close to a whole number and accordingly the Commission has proposed two constituencies as undernoted:-

East Dundee Burgh Constituency - 53,540 electors West Dundee Burgh Constituency - 51,610 electors

- 4.4 An overview plan showing the proposed boundaries is attached and larger scale plans will be on display at the meeting.
- The proposals are that the two constituencies together exactly cover all of the Dundee City Council area. Areas of the city which were formally in Angus constituency will now fall within either the East or West Dundee constituencies as undernoted and referenced by Polling Districts:-

## West Dundee

ACA - Mains of Gray and areas south of Liff Hospital.

ACB - Clattowoods etc

ACE - Camperdown Park

# East Dundee

ACC - South Powrie

ACD - Clearwater Park, Linlathen Estates and other areas north of Arbroath Road

- 4.6 The East and West Dundee boundary is also to be slightly realigned to follow Forfar Road instead of Barns of Claverhouse Road. This means that electors in Mill of Mains (EAA) and Silverbutton Yard and Covenanters Pend etc (EXA) will be in West Dundee.
- 4.7 The proposal should lead to less confusion on the part of the electorate as the electors in the areas of change will now be in the same constituency for both Scottish Parliament and UK Parliament elections.
- 4.8 Existing polling places will be used to accommodate the increased number of electors.

# 5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This Report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management.

There are no major issues.

# 6.0 CONSULTATIONS

The Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance) and Head of Finance have been consulted.

# 7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

Boundary Commission for Scotland First Periodical Review of Scottish Parliament Constituencies descriptive booklet (January 2008).

Alex Stephen (Chief Executive)

Date 21st February, 2008

