

Electoral Review

Closing date for submissions 7 August 2017

4 July 2017

The (Cornwall) Council's Electoral Review Panel held a workshop this morning to help inform the formal meeting of the Panel next week when it will consider a draft response to the Local Government Boundary Commission's consultation on its proposed council size of 87 members.

Apart from Cornwall Councillors the meeting was attended by Sarah Mason and Paul O'Brien, respectively the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of CALC. We recognise the important link they provide to local councils and we're grateful for their continued support to the electoral review.

The workshop considered a set of questions designed to help inform the response to the current consultation on a proposed council size of 87. These are slightly different to the three questions the Local Government Boundary Commission proposed which are set out in the Commission's consultation document. The questions the workshop considered capture what is asked by the Commission's questions.

The questions the workshop considered are:

- 1, Do you think 87 is the right number of councillors to be able to take decisions effectively? Why or why not?
- 2, Will fewer councillors, as the Boundary Commission contends, help the council improve the way it takes decisions and sets priorities for Cornwall? Why or why not?
- 3, Would fewer councillors reflect Cornwall Council's ambition to transfer responsibilities to parish and town councils and for all levels of local government in Cornwall to work together effectively? Why or why not?
- 4, Would a council size of 87 enable the council to represent the interests of all Cornwall's communities? In other words, will Councillors be able to effectively represent larger electorates?
- 5, How important do you think it is for new electoral divisions to fit with existing community network and parish boundaries as far as practicable and why?
- 6, Do you think Cornwall Council should accept the Boundary Commission's proposal for 87 councillors or submit an alternative proposal? If an alternative proposal, what is it and why?
- 7, If neither 87 nor 99, approximately what council size do you think there should be in 2021 and why?

It was suggested this morning that it might be helpful for parishes to have sight of the questions Cornwall Councillors have been asked to consider in developing your responses to the Commission's consultation. It's not proposed that you need to answer the questions directly but it is hoped that they will direct your consideration to

the key issues. As requested in the Bulletin circulated on Friday, please send your consultation responses direct to the Local Government Boundary Commission but copy them to this Council (at electoralreview2018@cornwall.gov.uk) so we can have a good understanding of the responses that are being made. We are not collating responses to send to the Commission so it's important that you respond direct.

Although they've been circulated previously these links to the [Council's previous submission](#), the [electoral review page](#) on the Council's website and the [electorate forecast information](#) might be helpful.

You can respond to the Commission using the following methods:

Email: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

Consultation portal: <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/> (where you can directly type your submission or upload documents)

Post: Review Officer (Cornwall), Local Government Boundary Commission for England, 14th floor, Millbank Tower, London SW1P 4QP

Kind regards,

Matthew Stokes

Assistant Head of Service (Corporate Governance & Audit)

Cornwall Council Assurance Service

Floor 4 North Wing

New County Hall

TRURO

External phone 01872 324482

Internal phone 494482

Mobile 07875654227

Fax 01872 323833

DX122620 TRURO 4