

## **BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **OFFICER DECISION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS**

#### **Response to Consultation on proposed changes to Parliamentary Constituencies** **30th July 2021**

##### **Background to the Decision**

The Boundary Commission for England launched a consultation on proposed changes to Parliamentary Constituencies on 8th June 2021. This was two days prior to Policy & Resources Committee on 10th June 2021 (the agenda having already been published on 2nd June). The consultation period ends on 2nd August 2021 (prior to the next scheduled meeting of Policy & Resources Committee on 26th August).

Braunstone Town Council accepts the principle of reviewing Parliamentary Constituencies from time to time to ensure fair representation and accepts that areas close to existing boundaries can be moved between constituencies. The main principle the Town Council wishes to convey is the importance of ensuring the Parish, and by extension the Town, is always included as a whole in one Parliamentary Constituency.

##### **Authority for Decision**

Specific Delegation 2 under the Scheme of Delegation, permits the Executive Officer & Town Clerk *“To respond to consultation documents in consultation with the Leader of the Council and/or the relevant Standing Committee Chairperson or in their absence the relevant Deputy, where the consultation deadline is prior to the next meeting of the relevant Standing Committee”*.

##### **Alternative Options Considered and Rejected**

No alternative options were considered.

##### **Decision**

That the following response be submitted online to the Boundary Commission for England’s 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies consultation:

*“Braunstone Town Council notes the proposal to move Braunstone Parish, Leicestershire, from the South Leicestershire Parliamentary Constituency into a Mid-Leicestershire Parliamentary Constituency”*.

*“As suburban area on the South West side of the City of Leicester, Braunstone Town has strong connections with many of the surrounding areas and communities both in the City and County, many of which are currently in separate parliamentary constituencies. Given the need to ensure fair representation, it is recognised that it is always going to be the case that a Parish in the centre of a county, connected to a greater urban area and in an area of growth is likely to be shifted between constituency areas from time to time”*.

*“For Braunstone Town Council and the residents of our Town, the most important thing is that at all times the Parish and by extension, the Town, are always placed in the same Parliamentary Constituency and not split. To that extent the Council is content with the proposals in so far as they affect Braunstone Town. Braunstone Town is a defined community, which shares the same public services, such as schools and parks, has the same relationship with surrounding*

communities, in terms of employment and access to retail, and is affected by the same issues, such as air quality and development”.

“Therefore, whatever shape the Parliamentary Constituencies take in Leicester & Leicestershire, Braunstone Parish must continue to be included as a single parish in a single Parliamentary Constituency”.

Approved By:

  
Darren Tilley

Date: 30th July 2021.

### **Reasons for Decision**

To convey to the Boundary Commission for England the main principle: the importance of ensuring that Braunstone Parish, and by extension Braunstone Town, must always included as a whole in one Parliamentary Constituency.

### **List of Background Documents**

- Consultation correspondence (emails) to and from Leader & Deputy Leader concerning the proposed response (30th July 2021)

#### **NOTE:**

CRIME & DISORDER ACT 1998 (SECTION 17) – The Council has an obligation to consider Crime & Disorder implications of all its activities and to do all that it can to prevent Crime and Disorder in its area.

#### **EQUALITIES ACT 2010**

Braunstone Town Council has a duty in carrying out its functions to have due regard to:-

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and;
- foster good relations between different groups

To ensure that no person receives less favourable treatment on the basis of race, disability, sex, gender re-assignment, sexual orientation, age, religion or belief, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity.

These issues were considered in connection with each of the above decisions. Unless otherwise stated under each item of this report, there were no implications.