

## **Meeting of the Council – 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2024**

### **Report of the Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer)**

#### **The Dudley (Electoral Changes) Order 2024**

##### **Purpose of report**

1. To report on the provisions of The Dudley (Electoral Changes) Order 2024. It is envisaged that the Order will be made by Parliament on or around 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2024.

##### **Recommendation**

2. That the report be noted.

##### **Background**

3. The Local Boundary Commission for England's (LGBCE) has conducted a review of the electoral arrangements for Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council. This review was undertaken as the last review was completed in 2003. The review started in April 2023 and was completed on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023. On completion of the review, the final recommendations were laid in Parliament on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023.
4. The Statutory Instrument laid in Parliament, states that the existing wards of the borough of Dudley are abolished and that the Borough be divided into the 24 wards listed below:
  1. Amblecote
  2. Belle Vale
  3. Brierley Hill & Wordsley South
  4. Brockmoor & Pensnett
  5. Castle & Priory

6. Coseley
7. Cradley North & Wollescote
8. Gornal
9. Halesowen North
10. Halesowen South
11. Hayley Green & Cradley South
12. Kingswinford North & Wall Heath
13. Kingswinford South
14. Lye & Stourbridge North
15. Netherton & Holly Hall
16. Norton
17. Pedmore & Stourbridge East
18. Quarry Bank & Dudley Wood
19. Sedgley
20. St. James's
21. St. Thomas's
22. Upper Gornal & Woodsetton
23. Wollaston & Stourbridge Town
24. Wordsley North

5. In accordance with the statutory provisions, elections for the Borough of Dudley will be as follows:

- (a) All 72 seats will be up for election in May, 2024 (3 seats per ward).
- (b) Of the Councillors elected in 2024:
  - one will retire on the fourth day after the ordinary day of election of Councillors in England in 2026; this will be the Councillor elected with the third highest number of votes in 2024.
  - one will retire on the fourth day after the ordinary day of election of Councillors in England in 2027, this will be the Councillor elected with the second highest number of votes in 2024.

- one will retire on the fourth day after the ordinary day of election of Councillors in England in 2028, this will be the Councillor elected with the highest number of votes in 2024.

6. More details on the changes to ward boundaries and the movement of any properties and roads into adjacent wards can be found in the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's New Electoral Arrangements for Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council Final Recommendations Report. This can be found on the LGBCE website. Background information is available at the links below:

<https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/dudley#45266>

[https://www.lgbce.org.uk/sites/default/files/2023-11/dudley\\_final\\_recommendations\\_long\\_report\\_0.pdf](https://www.lgbce.org.uk/sites/default/files/2023-11/dudley_final_recommendations_long_report_0.pdf)

<https://statutoryinstruments.parliament.uk/instrument/OThZO HAR>

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2024/9780348255706>

### **Finance**

7. The financial implications will be met from existing resources.

### **Law**

8. The Council has a responsibility to implement these statutory provisions.

### **Risk Management**

9. There are no implications for the Council's Risk Management Framework.

### **Equality Impact**

10. There are no implications relating to the Council's commitment to equality and diversity.

### **Human Resources/Organisational Development**

11. There are no additional human resources or organisational development implications.

## **Commercial/Procurement**

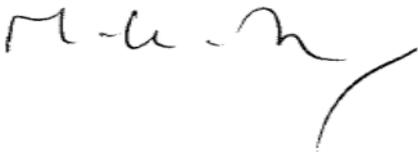
12. There are no procurement or commercial implications.

## **Environment/Climate Change**

13. There are no environmental implications affecting the Council's decision to declare a Climate Emergency or in relation to the impact on the Council's work to address Climate Change and achieve the Net Zero target.

## **Council Priorities and Projects**

14. There are no implications affecting the Council's key priorities including the Borough Vision, Council Plan and Future Council Programme.



**Mohammed Farooq**  
**Lead for Law and Governance**  
**(Monitoring Officer)**