DECISION

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Item No. 11

meeting date: TUESDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 2016 title: LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND REVIEW – COUNCIL SIZE submitted by: MICHELLE HAWORTH – PRINCIPAL POLICY AND PERFORMANCE OFFICER principal author: JANE PEARSON – DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 As you are aware the Boundary Commission has commenced a review of the Borough Council. As part of the first stage of the review, the Council needs to agree on the future Council size. This report seeks approval for submitting the size proposal.
- 1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:
 - Community Objectives }
 - Corporate Priorities -
 - Other Considerations -
- One of the main considerations for Council size is our Governance and decision making arrangements – what is the right number of Councillors to take decisions and manage the business in an effective way?

- 2 BACKGROUND
- 2.1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has confirmed that Ribble Valley Borough Council is in its ward boundary review programme for 2016/17.

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- 2.2 The first stage of the review is to decide how many Councillors, in total, should make up the Council in future. This submission document (Appendix 1) is, essentially, the first of two parts to the 2016 Boundary Review. As required by the process put in place by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, this first submission document is in respect of proposals for the size of the Council. A second document in respect of proposals on ward numbers, boundaries and names, will be submitted in due course and in accordance with the timetable set out by the Commission (Appendix 2).
- 2.3 Having considered the future arrangements for Council size, it is recommended that retaining 40 Councillors would provide efficient and effective representation to the public.
- 2.4 It is strongly emphasised that in view of the rural nature of the district and the significant number of communities that make up Ribble Valley, the level of attendance at Parish Council meetings, representation on outside bodies and the committee structure, that any number below this would reduce democratic representation to the district's residents.
- 2.5 In developing the submission, the existing number of Members was used as a starting point and then the questions within the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's guidance document on Council size were deliberated and answered to understand whether the evidence supported a variation from that figure. Our nearest neighbours were also considered, which have anywhere between 28 and 44 members.

- 2.6 In considering Council size the Commission considers the following four parts:
 - 1. Governance and decision making what is the right number of Councillors to take decisions and manage the business in an effective way?
 - 2. Scrutiny functions what is the right number of Councillors to administer Ribble Valley's scrutiny responsibilities in a convenient and effective way?
 - 3. Representational role of Councillors what is the right number of Councillors to represent and provide leadership to local communities in Ribble Valley?
 - 4. The future what governance changes are being considered and how do these impact on the number of Councillors needed in the future?
- 2.7 The attached document represents the Council's submission on Council size after consideration of these four factors.
- 3 NEXT STAGES
- 3.1 Following the submission of the Council Size proposal the Local Government Boundary Commission will consider our views and reach a decision on councillor numbers. This will be conveyed to us mid-November.
- 3.2 The Council needs to submit its response to the consultation on the warding of Ribble Valley. That must be done between 22 November 2016 – 30 January 2017. We are currently working on the electorate forecast which we anticipate being available by 30 September. Once we have agreement on
 - 1. Council size
 - 2. Forecast Electorate

we can then begin to work on warding proposals. We need to be in a position to submit the Council's views by 30 January 2017.

- 4 RISK ASSESSMENT
- 4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:
 - Resources None
 - Technical, Environmental and Legal None
 - Political None
 - Reputation None
 - Equality & Diversity None

5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

5.1 Consider the Size Proposal document and recommend to Council that they approve the submission of this proposal to retain 40 Elected Members to the Boundary Commission. 5.2 Form a Working Group to work on the response to the warding consultation.

MICHELLE HAWORTH PRINCIPAL POLICY AND PERFORMANCE OFFICER JANE PEARSON DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

BACKGROUND PAPERS (if any)

For further information please ask for Michelle Haworth, extension 4421.

MH/P&F/ 6 SEPT 16

Boundary Review

Review of

The Borough of Ribble Valley

Ribble Valley Borough Council - Size Proposal

To the Local Government Boundary Commission for England



October 2016

Executive Summary

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has confirmed that Ribble Valley Borough Council is in its ward boundary review programme for 2016/2017.

The first stage of the review is to decide how many Councillors, in total, should make up the Council in future.

Having considered the future arrangements for Council size, the Council is recommending that 40 Councillors would provide efficient and effective representation to the public, although it strongly emphasises that, in view of the rural nature of the district and the significant number of communities that make up Ribble Valley, the level of attendance at Parish Council meetings, representation on outside bodies, and the committee structure that any number below this would not provide adequate democratic representation to the district's residents.

In developing this submission the Council took as its starting point the existing number of Members and then deliberated whether the evidence supported a variation of that figure. The Council considered the Council size of our nearest neighbours, which have anywhere between 28 and 44 members and also the fact that the Borough's population is expected to continue to grow, indeed quite significantly over the next 10 years.

The 'Fourth Option' governance model means that the majority of decisions are taken by committee. The Council's decision-making and committee structure is set out in more detail in the body of this submission document.

Ribble Valley Borough Councillors have a high profile within their local communities and there is an expectation from the majority of Parish Councils in the borough for Borough Councillors to attend most, if not all, of their meetings. Initial modelling has suggested that, a reduction in Council size will make meeting this expectation more challenging.

As further justification for consideration, the Council has answered the questions within the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's guidance document on Council size as part of this submission.

Introduction

This submission document is, essentially, the first of two parts to the 2016 Boundary Review. As required by the process put in place by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, this first submission document is in respect of proposals for the size of the Council. A second document in respect of proposals on ward numbers, boundaries and names, will be submitted in due course and in accordance with the timetable set out by the Commission.

In considering Council Size the Commission considers the following four parts:

- 1. Governance and decision making what is the right number of councillors to take decisions and manage the business in an effective way?
- 2. Scrutiny functions what is the right number of councillors to administer Ribble Valley's scrutiny responsibilities in a convenient and effective way?
- 3. Representational role of councillors what is the right number of councillors to represent and provide leadership to local communities in Ribble Valley?
- 4. The future what governance changes are being considered and how to these impact on the number of councillors needed in the future?

This document represents the Council's submission on Council Size after consideration of these four factors.

Ribble Valley - Profile

Ribble Valley is located in the county of Lancashire bordering neighbouring district councils in East Lancashire on three sides and Craven District Council in North Yorkshire to the east. The administrative centre for the district is the historic market town of Clitheroe. The industrial and commercial centre for the west of the borough is the town of Longridge. The borough's third key service centre is Whalley. The remaining area is mainly rural, ranging from large villages to small hamlets. The district is officially classified as 'Rural 80', with at least 80 per cent of the population living in rural settlements and larger market towns. Some settlements are accessible along the A59 corridor and others more remote from services and public transport. Along with ancient woodland, biological heritage sites, conservation areas and sites of special scientific interest, two thirds of Ribble Valley is designated as part of the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

The mid-year population estimate 2015 shows a population of 58,400 (2011 57,100). Ribble Valley has the largest geographical area within Lancashire, covering 226 square miles (583 square kilometres), but the smallest population. Sparsity of population is, therefore, a key feature – on average 1 person per hectare, compared with 4.1 nationally. There has been an increase of 7.1 per cent in the overall population of the district since 2001, and it is predicted to continue to rise over the next ten years. A relatively small proportion of the population, less than 2 per cent, is from ethnic minority backgrounds. The resident population is relatively old with a greater than average number of residents over the age of 65 (over 17 per cent compared with a national average of 16 per cent) and consequently a lower than average number of young people aged 24 and under. Population projections suggest that this imbalance will increase in future.

Ribble Valley Borough Council – Current Structural and Governance Position

The Commission aims to ensure that Councils have the right number of Councillors to take decisions and manage their business in an effective way. We therefore look at how decisions are taken across the authority to assess the volume and distribution of responsibility amongst elected members and staff.

Leadership: What kind of governance arrangements are in place for your authority?

Ribble Valley Borough Council operates under the 'fourth option' model of governance.

Ribble Valley Borough Council currently has 40 Councillors who are elected every four years with the last elections being held in May 2015.

The Groups within the Council currently consist of:

- Conservative 35 Councillors
- Liberal Democrats 4 Councillors
- Labour 1 Councillor

<u>Regulatory: In relation to licensing, planning and other regulatory responsibilities to what</u> <u>extent are decisions delegated to officers?</u>

With the exception of the Licensing Act, which states that if an objection is received to an application it must go to a Committee or Sub-Committee, all licensing matters are determined by officers.

In accordance with the Act, decisions affecting licensing conditions or policy making are all made at Committee level. Meetings of the Committee are held as part of the Committee cycle.

A significant number of decisions are delegated to officers in respect of development control and planning (93.24% in 2015/2016), as per a detailed scheme of delegation. The Planning and Development Committee still meets on a monthly basis and on average will consider six applications at each meeting, which themselves can last up to three hours.

How many members are involved in committees?

- Community Services Committee consists of 15 Members.
- Planning and Development Committee consists of 15 Members.
- Health and Housing Committee consists of 15 Members.
- Personnel Committee consists of 9 Members
- Policy and Finance Committee consists of 15 Members
- Parish Councils' Liaison Committee consists of 13 Members
- Licensing Committee consists of 15 Members
- Accounts and Audit Committee consists of 11 Members

In addition to involvement in committees, Council members are involved in Committee Working Groups which provide detailed consideration of issues outside the formal committee structure:

- Car Park Working Group (4 Members)
- Grants Working Group (4 Members)
- Open Space Working group (4 Members)
- Public Convenience Working Group (4 Members)
- Strategic Housing Working Group (4 Members plus Chairman of Planning and Development Committee)
- Health and Wellbeing Partnership (6 Members).
- Local Development Plan Working Group (6 Members).
- Budget Working Group (6 + 1)
- Economic Development Working Group (6 + 1)
- Market Re-development Working Group (3 + 1)
- Combined Authority Working Group (6 + 1)

Is committee membership standing or rotating?

Committee membership is standing.

Are meetings ad hoc, frequent and/or area based?

Accounts and Audit Committee usually meets a minimum of 4 times a year.

Policy and Finance Committee meets 5 times a year with an extra Special Policy and Finance Committee meeting in February to agree the budget.

Planning and Development Committee meets on a monthly basis.

All other committees meet 5 times a year.

The Licensing Sub-Committee meets on an ad hoc basis as and when required to deal with hearings.

What level of attendance is achieved? Are meeting always quorate?

Attendance levels for all meetings that Members were summoned to attend in 2015/16 are set out in Annex A. Meetings of committees are always quorate.

Does the council believe that changes to legislation, national or local policy will have influence over the workload of committees and their members which would have an impact on council size?

This would most likely impact the training that Members on certain committees would need to attend, rather than have influence over the workload of Members and the committees or bodies that they sit on.

Demands on time

Is there a formal role description for councillors in your authority?

The Council has adopted a role description for its elected Members as part of its Constitution (Article 2). These role descriptions are set out at Annex B.

Do councillors receive formal training for all or any roles at the council?

The Council is committed to providing opportunities for its elected Members to undertake training and development on a wide range of topics and subjects.

Formal chairmanship training is offered to Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of committees.

Members are encouraged to ensure that they keep themselves up to date when changes occur, such as the introduction of new legislation, regulations or guidance.

Do councillors generally find that the time they spend on council business is what they expected?

Newly elected Councillors are often surprised by the amount of time spent on Council business particularly the formal committee meetings.

How much time do members generally spend on the business of your council?

In 2015 a survey was carried out as part of an Independent Remuneration Panel Review of Members Allowances.

Of those Members who answered this question in the survey (25 Members) 4 indicated that they generally spend over 20 hours a week, and 14 indicated they spend over 10 hours per week on Council business.

Further analysis was carried out.

| Up to 5 hours | 3 (12.0%) |
|---------------|-----------|
| 5 - 10 hours | 8 (32.0%) |
| 10 - 15 hours | 6 (24.0%) |
| 15 - 20 hours | 4 (16.0%) |
| 20+ hours | 4 (16.0%) |



| Average no. of hours | No. of Cllrs doing hrs | Total number of hours | Average hrs per Cllr |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 5 | 3 | 15 | |
| 7.5 | 8 | 60 | |
| 12.5 | 6 | 75 | |
| 17.5 | 4 | 70 | |
| 20 | 4 | 80 | |
| Total | | 300 | 12 |

Q2 - What percentage of this time is spent on the following roles and activities?

| | less than 10% | 10-25% | 25-50% | 50-75% | more than 75% |
|---|------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------------|
| a) as a Ward Councillor/ representing constituents/dealing with local issues | 3 (12.0%) | 12 (48.0%) | 5 (20.0%) | 5 (20.0%) | 0 (0.0%) |
| b) attending council, committee meetings, working groups | 1 (4.0%) | 9 (36.0%) | 11 (44.0%) | 2 (8.0%) | 2 (8.0%) |
| c) in the community | 7 (33.3%) | 9 (42.9%) | 2 (9.5%) | 3 (14.3%) | 0 (0.0%) |
| d) in meetings with individual constituents or local groups | 5 (21.7%) | 15 (65.2%) | 3 (13.0%) | 0 (0.0%) | 0 (0.0%) |
| e) meetings/liaising with Council officers | 9 (40.9%) | 11 (50.0%) | 2 (9.1%) | 0 (0.0%) | 0 (0.0%) |
| f) other (eg correspondence, phone calls, informal meetings etc) | 8 (34.8%) | 8 (34.8%) | 7 (30.4%) | 0 (0.0%) | 0 (0.0%) |

Does the council appoint members to outside bodies? If so, how many councillors are involved in this activity and what is their expected workload?

Yes, there are 45 representations made by members on outside bodies - a list of outside bodies and the number of nominees is attached at Annex C. Members are expected to attend meetings and provide reports back to the Council on any areas of relevant interest in respect of the outside body they are appointed onto. The frequency of meetings for each Outside Body will be different in each case, so the expected workload will vary depending on which body the Member sits on.

Does the council attract and retain members?

The average number of candidates that stood for each contested seat at the Council's 2015 elections was 2, which suggests that the Council continues to attract Members to stand for election and subsequently become Borough Councillors.

There have been uncontested at Ribble Valley Borough Council. In the 2015 elections there was 1 uncontested seat.

Nine Members stood down in the 2015 elections. The majority of Members in the last three elections have stood again to contest their seats.

Have there been any instances where the council has been unable to discharge its duties due to a lack of councillors?

No.

Do councillors have an individual or ward budget for allocation in their area? If so, how is such a system administered?

No.

Scrutiny functions

How do scrutiny arrangements operate in the authority? How many committees are there and what is their membership?

In April 2008 the Council took the decision to amalgamate the two Overview and Scrutiny Committees (Services and Resources) and then following the reform of legislation allowing 'Committee based' Councils to remove the requirement to establish Scrutiny Committees, the Council in May 2012 deleted the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This had the effect of reducing the number of Committee places by 24. The Council introduced a revised 'call-in' procedure with full Council acting as the appropriate scrutiny body.

Representational role of councillors

In general terms, how do councillors carry out their representational roles with electors? Do members mainly respond to casework from constituents or do they have a more active role in the community?

Councillors can opt to carry out their representational role within communities in any way which suits them. Generally this would consist of attending meetings of Parish Councils and responding to casework from residents. The majority of Members are very active in their communities and will spend time attending Parish Council meetings and a range of local forums and interest groups in their capacity as local Borough Councillor.

How do councillors generally deal with casework? Do they pass on issues directly to staff or do they take a more in depth approach to resolving issues?

Members operate in different ways depending on the individual; however, generally casework would initially be dealt with by a Member once a query is received by a resident. They would normally contact Council officers for assistance if they required technical advice or if the issue was an operational matter.

What support do councillors receive in discharging their duties in relation to casework and representational role in their ward?

Members receive no direct support in discharging these duties, although the advice of professional officers at the Borough Council is always available to Councillors and issues are often referred to officers as and when necessary in order to seek resolution.

How do councillors engage with constituents? Do they hold surgeries, distribute newsletters, hold public meetings, write blogs etc?

Councillors engage with their residents using all of the above methods, depending on the individual. Social media, such as Facebook and Twitter, is becoming a very popular way of Members engaging with their residents.

How has the role of councillors changed since the council last considered how many elected members it should have?

Social media and improved technology has meant that Members are more able to communicate with their communities, which has changed the way in which some Members operate as a Borough Councillor.

Has the council put in place any mechanisms for councillors to interact with young people, those not on the electoral register or minority groups or their representative bodies?

No formal mechanisms are in place to interact with young people or those not on the electoral register or minority groups, other than appointments to outside bodies that may provide links into representatives of these groups.

<u>Are councillors expected to attend meetings of community bodies such as parish councils or residents associations? If so, what is the level of their involvement and what role are they expected to play?</u>

Evidence suggests that there is an expectation for Borough Councillors to attend meetings of Parish Councils.

Most Borough Councillors make an effort to attend all, if not the majority, of meetings of the Parish Councils within their respective electoral wards. Their main role at these meetings is to ensure that Parish Councils are accurately informed of Borough Council issues. Some Councillors are expected to attend more than one Parish Council meeting if their ward includes more than one Parish Council. For example, the Gisburn, Rimington ward includes 7 Parishes.

The future

Localism and policy development

What impact do you think the localism agenda might have on the scope and conduct of council business and how do you think this might affect the role of councillors?

The Council already has effective working arrangements in place with localities and communities, specifically through Parish Councils and other community groups.

Members and officers meet regularly with representatives of Parish Councils formally through Parish Councils Liaison Committee meetings. Parishes are also consulted on specific proposals and informal liaison takes place frequently with Parishes on local issues.

Does the Council have any plans to devolve responsibilities and/or assets to community organisations? Or does the council expect to take on more responsibilities in the medium to long term?

The Council has actively empowered communities and Parish Councils by encouraging and enabling them to own and be responsible for facilities in their areas that are considered to be community assets, through a range of methods including advice from officers and community grant funding. This support and way of working with Parish Councils and community groups has long been an integral part of the culture of Ribble Valley Borough Council.

The Borough Council's only significant assets are those buildings it operates from.

Service delivery

Have changes to the arrangements for local delivery of services led to significant changes to councillors' workloads? (For example control of housing stock or sharing services with neighbouring authorities)

The Council has joint working and shared services arrangements in place with partner Councils for a limited number of services such as research and consultation. Members of Ribble Valley Borough Council still take the decisions. This has not, therefore, impacted the workload of Councillors.

The Council sold its housing stock in 2008.

Are there any developments in policy ongoing that might significantly affect the role of elected members in the future?

Increasingly members are becoming involved in the Health Agenda. They are also responding to the impact of reductions in public expenditure by other agencies such as the County Council and the impact this is having on their constituents and rural communities.

Finance

What has been the impact of recent financial constraints on the council's activities? Would a reduction in the scope and/or scale of council business warrant a reduction in the number of councillors?

The Council has consistently had a Medium Term Financial Strategy in place which reflects the need to make significant efficiency savings. Savings targets have continually been met year on year, but this is an ongoing challenge.

The Council is seeking alternative and sustainable income streams and a number have already been identified.

There is no suggestion of a reduction in the scope and/or scale of Council business.

If you are proposing a reduction in the number of councillors for your authority to what extent is this a reflection of reduced activity of the council overall, an anticipation of efficiency plans or a statement to local people? Or none of these things?

The Council, in considering its Council size as part of the Boundary Commission's review, has agreed that a reduction in Councillors is not required.

It does have concerns that the rurality of the borough will put pressure on Councillors' ability to provide sufficient democratic representation for the rurally isolated residents and communities. The Council therefore recommends maintaining a Council size of 40 and strongly advises against any reduction below this figure.

| Name of ward | Number of clirs per ward | Electorate 2016 | Variance 2016 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Aighton, Bailey and Chaigley | 1 | 1,118 | -2% |
| Alston and Hothersall | 2 | 2,108 | -7% |
| Billington and Old Langho | 2 | 2,366 | 4% |
| Bowland, Newton and Slaidburn | 1 | 1,071 | -6% |
| Chatburn | 1 | 1,051 | -7% |
| Chipping | 1 | 1,110 | -2% |
| Clayton-le-Dale with Ramsgreave | 2 | 2,065 | -9% |
| Derby and Thornley | 2 | 2,325 | 2% |
| Dilworth | 2 | 2,004 | -12% |
| Edisford and Low Moor | 2 | 2,568 | 13% |
| Gisburn, Rimington | 1 | 1,099 | -3% |
| Langho | 2 | 1,852 | -18% |
| Littlemoor | 2 | 2,302 | 1% |
| Mellor | 2 | 2,194 | -3% |
| Primrose | 2 | 2,523 | 11% |
| Read and Simonstone | 2 | 2,046 | -10% |
| Ribchester | 1 | 1,241 | 9% |
| Sabden | 1 | 1,183 | 4% |
| Salthill | 2 | 2,269 | 0% |
| St. Mary's | 2 | | |
| Waddington and West Bradford | 2 | 2,469 | 9% |
| Whalley | 2 | 2,970 | 31% |
| Wilpshire | 2 | 2,067 | -9% |
| Wiswell and Pendleton | 1 | 1,280 | 13% |

Appendix A

Attendance from May 2015 to May 2016

| Invited | Attended | Average |
|---------|----------|---------|
| | | |
| 40 | 38 | 95.00% |
| 40 | 31 | 77.50% |
| 40 | 35 | 87.50% |
| 40 | 38 | 95.00% |
| 40 | 33 | 82.50% |
| 40 | 37 | 92.50% |
| 15 | 13 | 86.67% |
| 15 | 14 | 93.33% |
| 15 | 13 | 86.67% |
| 15 | 14 | 93.33% |
| 15 | 12 | 80.00% |
| 15 | 15 | 100.00% |
| 15 | 14 | 93.33% |
| 15 | 13 | 86.67% |
| 15 | 12 | 80.00% |
| 15 | 14 | 93.33% |
| 15 | 14 | 100.00% |
| 15 | 15 | 93.33% |
| | | |
| 15 | 13 | 86.67% |
| 15 | 13 | 86.67% |
| 15 | 13 | 86.67% |
| 15 | 13 | 86.67% |
| 9 | 8 | 88.89% |
| 9 | 8 | 88.89% |
| 9 | 7 | 77.78% |
| 9 | 6 | 66.67% |
| 9 | 6 | 66.67% |
| 15 | 14 | 93.33% |
| 15 | 14 | 93.33% |
| 15 | 12 | 80.00% |
| 15 | 14 | 93.33% |
| 15 | 9 | 60.00% |
| 15 | 13 | 86.67% |
| 15 | 11 | 73.33% |
| 15 | 13 | 86.67% |
| 15 | 11 | 73.33% |
| 15 | 12 | 80.00% |
| 15 | 14 | 93.33% |
| 15 | 13 | 86.67% |
| 15 | 13 | 80.00% |
| 15 | 12 | 80.00% |
| | | |
| 15 | 11 | 73.33% |
| 15 | 10 | 66.67% |
| 11 | 9 | 81.82% |
| 11 | 9 | 81.82% |
| 11 | 8 | 72.73% |
| 11 | 7 | 63.64% |
| 13 | 11 | 84.62% |
| 13 | 9 | 69.23% |
| 13 | 10 | 76.92% |
| 13 | 10 | 76.92% |
| 13 | 10 | 76.92% |
| | | 81.92% |

Average attendance

Appendix B

Parts 1 and 2 of the Constitution, May 2016

Article 2 - Members of the Council

2.1 Composition and Eligibility

- (a) Composition. The Council will comprise 40 members, otherwise called councillors. One or more councillors will be elected by the voters of each ward in accordance with a scheme drawn up by the Local Government Commission and approved by the Secretary of State.
- (b) Eligibility. Only registered voters of the district or those living or working there will be eligible to hold the office of councillor.

2.2 Election and Terms of Councillors

The regular election of councillors will be held on the first Thursday in May every four years beginning in 2003. The terms of office of councillors will start on the fourth day after being elected and will finish on the fourth day after the date of the next regular election.

2.3 Roles and Functions of all Councillors

- (a) <u>Key roles.</u> All councillors will:
 - collectively be the ultimate policy-makers and carry out a number of strategic and corporate management functions;
 - represent their communities and bring their views into the Council's decision making process i.e. become the advocate of and for their communities;
 - deal with individual casework and act as an advocate for constituents in resolving particular concerns or grievances;
 - (iv) balance different interests identified within the ward or electoral division and represent the ward or electoral division as a whole;
 - (v) be involved in decision-making;
 - (vi) be available to represent the Council on other bodies; and
 - (vii) maintain the highest standards of conduct and ethics.
- (b) <u>Rights and Duties</u>
 - (i) Councillors will have such rights or access to such documents, information, land and buildings of the Council as are necessary for the proper discharge of their functions and in accordance with the law.
 - (ii) Councillors will not make public information which is confidential or exempt without the consent of the Council or divulge information given in confidence to anyone other than a councillor or officer entitled to know it.
 - (iii) For these purposes "confidential" and "exempt" information are defined in the "Rules with regard to access to meetings and related documents of the Council, its committees and subcommittees" in Part -5 of this Constitution.

Appendix C

Representatives on Outside Bodies

| Armed Forces Champion | 1 Member |
|---|-----------|
| Calderstones NHS Partnership | 1 Member |
| Carer's Link | 1 Member |
| Hanson Cement Liaison Committee | 5 Members |
| Citizens' Advice Bureau | 3 Members |
| Clitheroe Royal Grammar School Foundation Trust | 1 Member |
| Forest of Bowland (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Advisory Committee) | 1 Member |
| Hyndburn and Ribble Valley Council for Voluntary Services | 1 Member |
| LGA General Assembly | 2 Members |
| Health Scrutiny Committee (LCC) | 1 Member |
| Health & Wellbeing Board (LCC) | 1 Member |
| Lancashire Tourism Forum | 1 Member |
| Lancashire Waste Partnership | 1 Member |
| Langho Football Club | 1 Member |
| Longridge Social Enterprise Group | 1 Member |
| North West Employers' Organisation | 2 Members |
| North West Regional Older Peoples Champion Network | 1 Member |
| Pendle Club | 2 Members |
| Police and Crime Panel | 2 Members |
| Ribble Valley Community Transport | 1 Member |
| Ribble Valley Community Safety Partnership | 1 Member |
| Ribble Valley Homes | 3 Members |
| Ribble Valley Sports & Recreation Association (Roefield Leisure Centre) | 2 Members |
| Salesbury & Copster Green Commons Management Committee | 3 Members |
| SPARSE – Sparsely Populated Authorities Group | 1 Member |
| Tarmac Liaison Membership | 4 Members |
| Whalley Educational Foundation Trust | 1 Member |

APPENDIX 2

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Review process

| Review Timetable | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Stage | Date |
| Council size LGBCE meeting | 15 November 2016 |
| Warding patterns consultation start | 22 November 2016 – 30 January 2017 |
| LGBCE meeting on draft recommendations | 21 March 2017 |
| Draft recommendations consultation | 11 April – 19 June 2017 |
| LGBCE meeting on final recommendations | 15 August 2017 |
| Final recommendations published | 5 September 2017 |
| Order laid | October 2017 |
| Implementation at ordinary elections (full council) | May-2019 |