

Pendle Council Electoral Review

A meeting was held at the Nelson Town Hall 22nd November 2019 attended by Cllr. Stringer and the Clerk where the Boundary Commission gave a presentation regarding the process of change after Pendle Borough Council recently resolved to reduce the number of councillors from the current 49 to 30 as part of their cost savings to meet Government cuts.

The whole process begins with the Commissioners taking submissions from all parties represented on Pendle Borough Council as to the number of councillors each party would wish to see, and looking at the functions carried out by the council then deciding on an appropriate number of councillors.

This part of the process will be completed by February 2019 and then the process moves on to warding patterns to accommodate this preliminary number of councillors. The Commissioners prefers 3 Councillor, wards as this allows one to be re-elected using the current three year out four system with the 4th year holding County Council elections.

A public consultation on the shape and sizes of wards will be held from the 26th February to the 6th May 2019. It is important that the Council either agrees with the recommendations or would like to offer an alternative which would better represent your local community to respond.

After this consultation the Commissioner's will compile a set of draft recommendations which may include slight variations in the number of councillors if this simplifies the ward pattern of elector numbers to each ward, with a public consultation on the draft being held from the 30th July to the 7th October 2019 this is the last opportunity for the Council or individuals to respond.

The final recommendations will be published on the 3rd of December 2019 with the Order being made in March 2020.

This will be followed in May 2020 by an election of all Councillors under the new ward system with County elections in 2021 and the first of the three year cycle starting in 2022.

These boundary changes will not alter the number of Barrowford Parish Councillors but may affect the shape and size of current parish wards which will be altered where necessary to follow the new ward boundaries and may include alterations to the number of parish councillors within each new ward but not the current total of 12 councillors.

For further information go to: www.lgbce.org.uk or email reviews@lgbce.org.uk or contact Pendle Borough Council.