



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Review of Parliamentary Constituencies
Date:	23 rd September, 2011
Reporting Officer:	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager (ext 6314)
Contact Officer:	

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	The Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland published its Provisional Proposals Report for the 6 th Review of Parliamentary Constituencies on 13 th September. The report sets out for public consultation the boundaries and names of the proposed new constituencies.

2	Key Issues
2.1	The Council has in the past when previous reviews were being conducted, agreed to display the report and constituency maps in the Reception area of the City Hall in order to inform the public and to assist those interested to submit responses to the consultation. Accordingly, the map and report were once again displayed in the Reception area on 13 th September.
2.2	The Council's accepted practice when considering consultations on proposed changes to electoral boundaries is not to make a corporate response but rather to leave it to each of the Political Parties to respond. This is due to an acceptance that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to reach a consensus on a matter where there is likely to be different or opposing views taken by the various Parties.

3	Resource Implications
	None

4	Equality and Good Relations Implications
	None

5	Recommendations
5.1	<p>The Committee is recommended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant retrospective authority for the Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland's Provisional Proposals Report for the 6th Review of Parliamentary Constituencies to be displayed in the Reception area of the City Hall with effect from 13th September, and • Refer consideration of responses to the Consultation to each of the Political Parties on the Council.

6	Decision Tracking
<p>Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager</p> <p>September, 2011</p>	