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# Boundary Commission for England

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## News Release

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### **FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES IN THE LONDON BOROUGHS OF BROMLEY AND LEWISHAM**

**The Commission propose to make no further changes to their revised recommendations for parliamentary constituencies in the London boroughs of Bromley and Lewisham.**

1. Provisional recommendations for parliamentary constituencies in Bromley and Lewisham were published on 1 February 2001. Objections to these proposals led to a public inquiry, which was held in the Civic Centre, Bromley on 26 July 2001. The Assistant Commissioner who conducted the inquiry recommended alterations to three of the six seats proposed by the Commission.
2. Having considered the Assistant Commissioner's report and recommendations, and the evidence, the Commission decided to revise their original proposals for the Biggin Hill and Darwin wards and to place them in the Orpington seat instead of in the Beckenham and Biggin Hill seat. They also decided that with the transfer of these wards the revised Beckenham and Biggin Hill seat should be named Beckenham, this being the existing name.
3. In order to balance the electorates of the seats, the Commission also accepted the Assistant Commissioner's recommendations and recommended that the Cray Valley West ward be included in the Bromley and Chislehurst seat instead of in the Orpington seat, and that the Bromley Common and Keston ward be included in the Beckenham seat instead of in the Bromley and Chislehurst seat. At the same time, the Commission made final their proposals for the other three seats in the boroughs.
4. The revised recommendations were published on 20 December 2001. As with their provisional recommendations, the Commission were required to consider representations about their revised recommendations made during the representation period. However, the Commission were not obliged to hold a further inquiry into the representations about their revised recommendations.

### **Representations**

5. The Commission received twelve representations following publication of their revised recommendations. Nine representations approved of some or all aspects of the revised recommendations. Two representations objected to the inclusion of the Bromley Common and

Keston ward in the Beckenham seat. One counter-proposed that the Copers Cope ward, instead of the Clock House ward, should be included in the Lewisham West and Penge seat, and that the seat name be re-considered.

6. The Commission noted that the inclusion of the Bromley Common and Keston ward had been fully discussed at the inquiry. They had accepted the Assistant Commissioner's conclusion that the ward is an area of relative independence and could probably be included in any of the three seats within Bromley. Their decision to locate it in the Beckenham seat allowed for the Biggin Hill, and Darwin wards to remain in the Orpington seat and, together with the change affecting the Cray Valley West ward, ensured that the electorates of all the seats were reasonably close together.

7. The Commission also noted that the counter-proposal that the Copers Cope and Clock House wards should be exchanged between the Beckenham, and Lewisham West and Penge seats had not been an issue raised before, or discussed at, the local inquiry. It was the only representation that had been made at any stage of the review process that had proposed such an exchange. The Commission considered that such a representation could have been made in respect of their provisional recommendations, so that it could have been fully discussed at the inquiry and that it was not possible, at this stage, to gauge the level of support for, or objection to, it. They therefore decided to make no further change to either seat.

8. The counter-proposal also submitted that the Lewisham West and Penge seat name should be changed. The Commission considered that the name of the seat had been fully discussed at the inquiry and they decided that this one representation did not warrant that further change should be made to the name.

9. After considering the representations made in respect of their revised recommendations, the Commission have decided not to make any further changes to their recommendations for constituencies in both boroughs.

### **Final recommendations**

10. The Commission confirm their revised recommendations for the three seats wholly contained in the Borough of Bromley as their final recommendations. No further representations will be considered.

11. The Commission's final recommendations for Bromley and Lewisham, which will be embodied in their report to be submitted to the Secretary of State at the end of the general review and which are shown on the attached map, are for constituencies to be as follows (2000 electorates in brackets):-

**BECKENHAM BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (63,405).** Six wards of the London Borough of **Bromley**:- Bromley Common and Keston, Copers Cope, Hayes and Coney Hall, Kelsey and Eden Park, Shortlands, West Wickham.

**BROMLEY AND CHISLEHURST BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (63,489).** Six wards of the London Borough of **Bromley**:- Bickley, Bromley Town, Chislehurst, Cray Valley West, Mottingham and Chislehurst North, Plaistow and Sundridge.

**LEWISHAM, DEPTFORD BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (67,682).** Seven wards of the London Borough of **Lewisham**:- Brockley, Crofton Park, Evelyn, Ladywell, Lewisham Central, New Cross, Telegraph Hill.

**LEWISHAM EAST BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (67,833).** Seven wards of the London Borough of **Lewisham**:- Blackheath, Catford South, Downham, Grove Park, Lee Green, Rushey Green, Whitefoot.

**LEWISHAM WEST AND PENGE BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (68,411).** Three wards of the London Borough of **Bromley**:- Clock House, Crystal Palace, Penge and Cator; and four wards of the London Borough of **Lewisham**:- Bellingham, Forest Hill, Perry Vale, Sydenham.

**ORPINGTON BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (66,974).** Seven wards of the London Borough of **Bromley**:- Biggin Hill, Chelsfield and Pratts Bottom, Cray Valley East, Darwin, Farnborough and Crofton, Orpington, Petts Wood and Knoll.

### **Implementation of the recommendations**

12. The Commission are required to submit their report on the general review for the whole of England to the Secretary of State after 11 April 2003 and before 12 April 2007. The Secretary of State has a statutory duty to lay the Commission's report before Parliament together with a draft Order in Council giving effect to the Commission's recommendations with or without modifications.

13. If modifications are proposed, the Secretary of State must also lay a statement of reasons for the modifications. The draft Order in Council is submitted to both Houses of Parliament for approval and, after it is made by Her Majesty in Council, it cannot be called into question in any legal proceedings. The new constituencies take effect at the general election following the making of the Order in Council.

### **Outline map**

14. The recommended constituencies are illustrated in outline on the map which forms part of this document (please note the following copyright warning concerning the map). The wards on the map are numbered, and the boroughs are lettered. These numbers, together with the names of the wards and boroughs, are listed on the next page. The list also contains the 2000 borough and ward electorate figures on which the Commission are required by law to work.

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## **Enquiries**

Should you require further information about these final recommendations or information about other aspects of the Commission's work please write to:-

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The Internet version of this news release and the outline map (please note the Crown Copyright warning above) is now available on:-

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/psc/>