

To: The Chairman and Members of The Boundary Commission for England

General Review of Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries in Cumbria

1. I have the honour to report that on the 16th, 17th and 18th of January 2001 I held a public local inquiry at the Civic Centre Carlisle into the Commission's provisional recommendations for the boundaries of the constituencies in the County of Cumbria. I was able to visit the areas of Wetheral, Houghton, Kingmoor Park, Broughton, Keswick and Whitehaven.

2. On the enumeration date of 17 February 2000, the electorate for England (as amended) was 36,995,157 producing an electoral quota of 69,934 per parliamentary constituency. On that date the total electorate of Cumbria was 384,332, giving rise to a theoretical entitlement to 5.5 parliamentary seats. I recommend that Cumbria's entitlement should remain at six seats. No evidence or argument has been laid before me to change that position.

3. Previous reviews have been held in 1981 and 1991. It is apparent that the total electorate of Cumbria has changed very little over the last decade, the figure recorded for 1991 being 384,381.

4. A Local Government Boundary review has taken place and orders creating new district wards in Cumbria were made on the 16th October 1998. Three of the new wards Crake Valley, Stanwix Urban and Waver, are now divided between existing parliamentary constituencies. These changes were taken into account in the Commission's provisional proposals.

5. Division of the County's electorate into six seats produces a County average electorate of 64,055. This is 5,879 below the English national electoral quota of 69,934. Within the six seats the existing electorates range from 54,071 (Copeland CC) to 70,303 (Westmorland and Lonsdale CC) giving a disparity of 16,232. The table below shows the existing and the provisional proposals of the Boundary Commission, and my recommendations:

Constituency	Existing	Proposed	Recommended
Barrow and Furness CC	66,142	67,279	69,142
Carlisle BC	59,345	63,001	63,001
Copeland CC	54,071	61,048	62,517
Penrith and The Border CC	68,135	58,303	61,000
Westmorland and Lonsdale CC	70,303	67,303	67,303
Workington CC	66,336	67,398	61,369

6. The Commission's provisional proposals for Cumbria were published on the 6th July 2000. In summary they propose that:

- i. the divided wards of Crake Valley, Stanwix Urban and Waver be respectively included in Barrow and Furness CC, Carlisle BC and Workington CC;
- ii. the City of Carlisle ward of Wetheral be transferred to Carlisle BC;
- iii. the Allerdale Borough wards of Marsh, Wampool and Wigton be transferred to Workington CC;
- iv. the Allerdale Borough wards of Clifton, Dalton and Harrington be transferred to Copeland CC;
- v. the Allerdale Borough ward of Boltons be transferred to Penrith and The Border CC; and
- vi. the South Lakeland District ward of Broughton be transferred to Copeland CC.

7. The Commission's provisional proposals would:

- i. increase the very low electorates in the Carlisle BC and Copeland CC seats;
- ii. reduce the large geographical area of the Penrith and The Border CC seat;
- iii. realign constituency boundaries with new ward boundaries;
- iv. reduce the disparity between the electorates from 16,232 to 9,095; and
- v. bring the electorates of the six seats to within 5,752 of the county average of 64,055.

8. In the statutory one month period following publication of the provisional recommendations 86 representations were received. These included objections from local authorities, political parties and 5 petitions supported by in excess of 100 names.

9. On the 16th November 2000 a local inquiry was announced. Further written representations were received up to and during the public hearing. Appendix A details the written representations received prior to the hearing and Appendix B the details of written and oral submissions presented during the hearing.

10. General Position on representations

i. The written representations covered a very wide range of views. With six constituency seats at issue there was considerable scope for minor adjustments to the provisional proposals and many representations related to just one or two constituencies. There was general

agreement in respect of the need to re-align the wards split as a result of the Local Government Review. Without intending any injustice to the numerous other minority views expressed, the main counterproposals can be summarised as:

ii. From the Labour Party – notwithstanding the existing disparities, to make the minimum and most modest adjustments to deal with the divided wards but otherwise counter proposing no significant changes to the present position. Stress was placed on the undesirability of “change for change sake”.

iii. From the Conservative Party – accepting that the disparity between the constituencies was too great, to make significant changes to bring the disparity to a more acceptable level along the lines of those mostly proposed by the Commission, but with notable and controversial exceptions.

iv. From Mr Steed – to propose a fundamental and radical redrawing of all the boundaries to reduce the disparity and avoid piecemeal boundary changes in the future and similarly from Mr Sexton in respect of two boundaries. Inevitably the main thrust of the representations related to the proposals of the Commission and the main counter proposals put before me. I wish to add that proposals for the creation of two new constituencies were carefully argued before me by Mr Sexton (representation 11) and supported by other written submissions and speakers. He acknowledged these proposals were substantially similar to those put forward at the 4th Review but not adopted. In essence the argument was that there is no affinity between the urban, industrial coastal population and the hinterland within the existing constituencies of Copeland CC and Workington. He therefore proposed the radical redrawing of these existing boundaries to create one urban industrial based constituency and one rural constituency focused on tourism and farming, to be called “Workington and Whitehaven” (electorate 65,970) and “Cumberland” (electorate 63,961) respectively. His over-riding objective was to bring together like communities. Each constituency would have an electorate within reasonable ambit of the average for the county. He acknowledged the geographical difficulties that would present but stressed that the travelling problems were overstated. However the overall effect of these proposals was to create a county disparity of 10,485 and the degree of disruption for the electorate would be substantial. These radical proposals were given serious consideration at the 4th review when I detect that they had much more support. Before me they were very much a minority proposal and for such a radical counter proposal lacked sufficient demonstrative local support to make them viable.

11. For clarity I propose to summarise the representations and my recommendations for each constituency with cross references in the text as appropriate.

12. Barrow and Furness CC

i. The existing seat has an electorate of 66,142 and contains the whole of Barrow in Furness Borough, plus seven wards of South Lakeland District and part of the Crake Valley ward (330) of that district. This constituency has had the greatest decrease of electorate in the County since the last review, and representations were made that it would continue to contract.

The Commission's provisional proposals are that the constituency boundary be realigned so that the whole the Crake Valley ward is included. The electorate would then be 67,279.

ii. The representations in respect of Crake Valley are set out in detail at paragraph 16 hereof. I recommend that the Commission's provisional proposals are accepted and that part of the split ward of Crake Valley currently in Westmorland and Lonsdale CC (1,137) should be reunited with the rest of the ward (330) all within the Barrow and Furness CC.

iii. The Conservative Party accept the Commission's proposals in respect of Crake Valley but also urge the inclusion of the Broughton (1,863), a mainly rural ward. They cite the local transport links to Barrow, which provide Broughton with employment, schooling and emergency services. They cite the natural geographical links of wards such as Broughton in Furness with Broughton Beck. The disadvantage is that it would produce an awkward shape geographically. Including Broughton ward (1,863) would bring the total electorate to 69,142.

iv. The Commission has proposed that Broughton, currently part of Westmorland and Lonsdale CC (the largest constituency in terms of electorate) should be included in the Copeland CC in part to reduce the excessive size of Westmorland and Lonsdale CC. There is significant local opposition and clearly no support for Broughton being included in the Copeland CC with which it seems to have no affinity. There is reluctant local acceptance that if it has to be realigned it should join Barrow and Furness CC with which there are clear links. I therefore recommend that Broughton ward be transferred to Barrow and Furness CC.

v. I conclude the Commission's provisional proposals for Barrow and Furness CC are sound but that the Broughton should also be moved to Barrow and Furness CC. This would give Barrow and Furness CC an electorate of 69,142.

Add:	Crake Valley (part)	1,137
	Broughton	1,863

13. Carlisle BC

i. The present electorate is 59,345 and the current seat contains 13 wards of the City of Carlisle plus part (4,108) of the Stanwix Urban ward of that city. The Commission propose that the constituency boundary be realigned to include the whole of Stanwix Urban ward. Additionally the Commission propose that the Wetheral ward (electorate 3,212) currently in Penrith and The Border CC is also included. This would give an electorate of 63,001.

ii. There is unanimous support for the inclusion of the whole of Stanwix Urban ward into Carlisle BC.

iii. There was generally more support than opposition for the inclusion of Wetheral into the Carlisle BC. Opposition cited the rural nature of Wetheral, which can be fairly described as a rural dormitory village of Carlisle. The representation from Wetheral Parish Council (representation 31) stresses that this is a rural area. Wetheral Parish is a collection of eight villages and three hamlets and they do not appear to feel part of the urban community.

However, this ward comprises a number of dormitory villages within easy reach of the urban area. It has close links with Carlisle. It is separated from the rural communities to the east by the natural boundary of the River Eden which forms a distinct gorge on the eastern side of Wetheral. Good road links exist to Carlisle where there is easy access from the A69 and A6, and Wetheral has its own railway station on the Carlisle to Newcastle railway line. The M6 motorway which lies between Carlisle and Wetheral is not seen by the Local Council to represent a significant barrier in view of the good road and rail links. I am aware that on the 4th Review it was held that “(iv) Wetheral is separated from the City by the considerable barrier of the M6 motorway.” I have visited this area and having heard all the representations I do not agree that this is now the case. The M6 does not create any real geographical or physical barrier. It was also urged that there was expected to be a large increase in student numbers within the next 10 years within the City and therefore any shortfall in electorate numbers in Carlisle BC was likely to adjust in future. This assertion has not assisted me as it remains a matter of speculation.

iv. The Labour Party in opposition to the provisional proposal assert that it would be inappropriate to place Wetheral in Carlisle BC as it would create the maximum disruption, go against the wishes of the parishes and is not necessary as far as the number of electors is concerned. Carlisle BC would, under their counter proposals have an electorate of 59,800, within the tolerance levels.

v. It was suggested that Wetheral has a greater affinity with the Penrith and The Border constituency and that the Wetheral ward comprises the village of Wetheral itself and a number of smaller villages and settlements, bringing together communities under a single parish council. It was put that the Commission's proposal splits the parish of Wetheral between two constituencies and thus causes fragmentation of the previous cohesion which bound a number of smaller settlements together under a single parish council in a single constituency.

vi. Wetheral is in the travel to work area of Carlisle. The people of Wetheral look to Carlisle to provide employment, education, provisions and entertainment. Although more rural by nature the Wetheral ward sits quite naturally with the Carlisle constituency. It has similarities with the Dalston ward, which was included at the last review.

vii. I recommend the Commission's proposal to include Wetheral in the Carlisle BC giving an electorate of 63,001 against the existing 59,345.

viii. I also recommend that the time has been reached when Carlisle BC status should change to that of a CC. There are clear reasons for now doing so, - all six constituencies in Cumbria will be designated county constituencies, which reflects the very large size of the county and the urban and rural mix of all six constituencies following this Review.

ix. There was also a proposal from the Conservative party that the Stanwix rural ward (3,094) presently in Penrith and The Border CC should also be transferred to Carlisle BC. The purpose was to further reduce the electorate of Penrith and The Border CC and increase the electorate of Carlisle BC. I do not support this proposal. Firstly, after implementing the earlier recommendations the electorate of Carlisle BC will be very close to the county average. The

addition of Stanwix Rural will move it further away from the county average without any clear benefit for Carlisle BC. Secondly, while the electorate of Penrith and The Border CC would reduce, other proposals herein address that factor and this particular proposal appears to me to be putting the electorate to disproportionate change for insufficient gain.

Add:	Stanwix Urban (part)	444
	Wetheral	3,212

14. Copeland CC

i. The present electorate of 54,071 is some 15.59% below the county average and 15,863 below the national average. The Commission's provisional proposals are that the Clifton (1,211), Dalton (1,310) and Harrington (2,593) wards of Allerdale Borough (currently in the Workington seat), and the Broughton (1,863) ward of South Lakeland District (currently in the Westmorland and Lonsdale CC seat), should be included in the Copeland seat. The electorate of the Copeland CC seat would then rise to 61,048.

ii. The physical geography of Copeland CC gives rise to unique problems, for which there is no ideal solution. The boundary has remained unchanged for many years during which time the electorate has declined significantly. It was argued that the special geographical features of this area of Cumbria justified the existing disparity in the electorate both in County and National terms. I have reminded myself of the discretion provided by Schedule 2 paragraph 6 of Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986

“A Boundary Commission may depart from the strict application of rules 4 and 5 if special geographical considerations, including in particular the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency appear to them to render a departure desirable.”

and I am very conscious of the effect of recommendations that would break local ties and cause genuine inconvenience to the electorate.

iii. In respect of the proposal for the inclusion of Broughton ward I cannot support the Commission's provisional proposal. There is absolutely no support and considerable opposition locally. My conclusions on the Broughton ward are set out fully at 12.iv above.

iv. There was considerable dispute in respect of the addition of the Allerdale Borough wards of Clifton, Dalton and Harrington to Copeland CC.

v. It was strongly contended that Harrington and Clifton wards have a very close affinity to Workington, evidenced by the fact that Harrington has representatives on, and forms part of, Workington Council, and is part of the parish of Workington. Severing it from Workington CC was very strongly opposed. It was also said that Clifton too has very close links to Workington town, although it is not part of the town council area. It was urged that there was tremendous local objection – evidenced in writing by representations 54 and 64 and several oral representations. Clearly there is a substantial body of local objection.

vi. There is a lot of local hostility in the Clifton ward to the proposal. It is said it looks to Workington for economic and leisure activities. Representation 62 put it rather graphically “moving Clifton to Copeland would be *like telling 5000 Manchester United fans they must watch City from now on because the attendance figures don't match*”. That does catch the sense of the representations I heard from the people of Clifton. At the extreme there were representations from Clifton residents that if the ward is transferred then they will not bother to vote.

vii. There was also considerable opposition to the Dalton ward moving to Copeland CC, representations being received from Eden Parish Council, Greysouthen Parish Council and Lamplugh Parish Council.

viii. I have reminded myself that the Commission in their fourth review commented that any proposal to cross the boundary between Copeland and Allerdale would cause inconvenience and break local ties. This indeed is demonstrated to be the case. There is almost universal opposition from parish councils and individuals in the three wards concerned with the provisional recommendations, and opposition in respect of the Clifton and Harrington wards by the Conservative Party (but not in respect of Dalton), and the Liberal Democrat Group believes that the Allerdale wards of Clifton, Dalton and Harrington are more naturally a part of the Workington constituency and therefore should not be transferred to the Copeland seat.

ix. The Conservative Party have counter-proposed that Copeland CC should be enlarged by the addition of Dalton (1,310) and three other Southern Allerdale wards, namely, Crummock (1,276), Derwent Valley (1,378) and Keswick (4,482). This would produce an electorate of 62,517. They argue this would give the “least worst” geographical constituency boundary which would coincide approximately with the A66 in the north and the A595 in the north west. Further that the resulting boundary while reducing the electoral imbalance would at the same time present a logical solution by treating these four wards as a single, contiguous block, sharing a degree of common interests, already largely acknowledged by the local government Commission. There is force in this argument.

x. Three of the wards – Dalton, Crummock and Derwent Valley – are contiguous with Copeland, sharing common fell land, particularly in Dalton and the north of Crummock, where farming communities intermingle and share common marketing outlets. There are strong connections with the north east Copeland wards and there would be nothing artificial or unnatural in linking them into a single constituency. They would have more in common than they now have with Workington. A significant number of workers throughout all four wards are employed at Sellafield or in professions at Whitehaven, so already many would perceive a viable, visible link with Copeland CC. Additionally, Dalton and Crummock look to Whitehaven for NHS services. It is argued that these wards, (including the Dalton ward,) have more ties with Whitehaven than Workington. They would have plenty in common in business, work and employment, culture and so on, and there is no difficulty in linking them with Copeland. Dalton and Crummock look to Whitehaven for NHS services although it was accepted that Keswick and Derwent look to Carlisle.

xi. It was strongly argued that the nature of the roads and transport problems throughout this area was overplayed: “All our lives we have gone down to Whitehaven for this reason or that reason, mainly recently of course to the hospital, and we do not consider and never have considered that communications with Copeland have been an issue.”

xii. It is suggested that Keswick (4,482), Dalton (1,310), Crummock (1,276) and the Derwent Valley (1,378) have a lot in common with many parts of the Copeland constituency. They have valuable road links, namely the A66, which is the main road from Penrith through to Workington. Travelling along that road, it connects with the A595 which joins Keswick to Whitehaven. There is a large volume of traffic on this road and Keswick and Whitehaven are only about one hour's drive apart. However Dalton is the link to these wards and it's inclusion as part of the same constituency would be essential, a point highlighted by several knowledgeable speakers.

xiii. I have carefully considered the existing substantial disparity in the electorate and the arguments in respect of the special and unique, geographical circumstances. In my opinion balancing the severity of the disparity with the difficulties presented by the special circumstances and asking “can these be better balanced” the answer is yes. The special circumstances are not so extreme as to justify the continuation of such a disparity. The proposals to bring in the four Allerdale wards does not undermined local ties or cause such geographical difficulties so as to make it untenable. The extremely low Copeland CC electorate can be addressed. It is not possible to add an area to the south of the Constituency, but one can look to draw in areas to the north or east of Copeland.

xiv. I conclude that for the reasons set out above Harrington and Clifton are inextricably linked with Workington and they should remain part of that constituency. However Dalton's connections are much weaker and can clearly be linked with the other coterminous Allerdale wards.

xv. I therefore recommend that Dalton, Crummock, Derwent Valley and Keswick be aligned to the Copeland CC, bringing the electorate to 62,517.

Add:	Dalton	1,310
	Keswick	4,482
	Crummock	1,276
	Derwent Valley	1,378

15. Penrith and The Border CC

i. This is the second largest seat (in terms of electorate) in Cumbria with 68,135. It covers an enormous geographical area. It's numbers have grown rapidly and Penrith has been the fastest growing constituency in the county of Cumbria. It does seem that to do nothing is not an option. The Boundary Commission's figures show that Eden District Council is the fastest growing council numerically in the county. The current seat contains the whole of the Eden District plus eight wards of the City of Carlisle, and part of the Stanwix Urban ward of that City, four whole wards and part of the now split Waver ward of Allerdale borough. The

Commission propose that the constituency boundary is realigned so that the whole of Stanwix Urban ward is included in the Carlisle seat, and the whole of Waver is included in Workington seat. The Commission propose that the Wetheral ward of the City of Carlisle, currently in Penrith and The Border CC is transferred to the Carlisle seat. They also propose that the Waver (1,430), Marsh (1,376) and Wampool (1,332) and Wigton (4,182) wards of Allerdale Borough, currently in the Penrith and The Border CC seat are transferred to Workington CC. The Commission further propose that the Boltons (1,485) ward of Allerdale Borough, currently in Workington CC, is included in the Penrith and The Border CC. This would reduce the electorate of Penrith and The Border CC to 58,303.

ii. The removal of part of Stanwix Urban (444) to Carlisle BC thus reuniting the split ward, has support across the representations and I recommend this.

iii. My recommendations in respect of Wetheral (3,212) are set out above at paragraph 13 iii, and I recommend Wetheral be transferred to Carlisle BC.

iv. Transferring the split ward of Waver to Workington CC has substantial support and I recommend this. Although representation 25 indicates that Waver wants to have nothing to do with the Workington constituency “at any price”, the fact is that part of the ward is already in the Workington CC and it is necessary to unite the ward. Reuniting the ward in the Penrith and The Border CC would simply increase the electorate in a constituency that is already too large. Reuniting Waver in Workington CC makes best sense.

v. There is little support for the movement of Boltons ward (1,485) back into Penrith but negligible opposition. Taking into account the other recommendations I am making in respect of the Workington CC and Penrith and The Border CC boundaries, it is unnecessary to move the Boltons ward yet again. There is force in the argument of avoiding change for change sake and I do not support the recommendation that Boltons is moved back to Penrith and The Border CC as it is unnecessary on the numbers.

vi. The plan to move Wigton (4,182) into Workington CC is widely and universally opposed. Penrith and The Border CC is made up of market towns. Two of the largest are Penrith and Wigton which have similar characteristics such as large auction marts. The move is strongly opposed by the Wigton Town Council. All political party representatives oppose it. There was an impressive degree of united opposition. Wigton is tiny geographically, a few square miles in size. It has easy access and has good road links with Penrith and The Border. The A595 and A596 come from Carlisle and go either side of the town and the B5305 from two miles north of Penrith links into Wigton and onto Workington. In my view these routes have helped maintain Wigton as part of Penrith and The Border. Historically, Wigton has been in Penrith and The Border for generations. Balancing the opposition to moving Wigton with the adjustments needed to balance the electorate, I am not persuaded that there is such need for change. As will be seen at paragraph 17 in respect of Workington CC, the need to include Wigton is not made out. I therefore recommend that Wigton ward remains in Penrith and The Border CC.

vii. Although it was argued by the Liberal Party that the wards of Marsh, Wampool, Wigton and Boltons have a stronger cultural association with the Penrith and The Border constituency there was little evidence to support this in the case of Marsh and Wampool. They link naturally together and appear to have much more in common with the rural hinterlands of Silloth, Solway and Holme. They are all part of the Solway coastal plain in the northern part of the Allerdale district and they form a natural geographical group which fits well into the Workington CC. I recommend that Marsh (1,376) and Wampool (1,332) be transferred to Workington CC (as proposed by the Commission).

viii. These recommendations will result in a reduction of the fastest growing constituency from an electorate of 68,135 to 61,000.

Remove:	Stanwix Urban (part)	444
	Wetheral	3,212
	Waver	771
	Marsh	1,376
	Wampool	1,332

16. Westmorland and Lonsdale CC

i. The current electorate is 70,303, making it substantially the largest constituency in Cumbria. The current seat contains 39 wards of South Lakeland District, plus the major part (1,137/1,467) of the Crake Valley ward of that district. The Commission proposes that the boundary is realigned so that the whole of the Crake Valley ward is included in the Barrow and Furness CC where currently the minority part of the ward (330/1,467) is found. The Commission also propose that the Broughton ward (1,863) of South Lakeland District, which is currently in the Westmorland and Lonsdale CC seat, is transferred to the Copeland CC seat. The electorate of the Westmorland and Lonsdale CC would reduce to 67,303.

ii. There is general agreement and understanding that Crake Valley has to be reunited. There is a dispute as to whether this should take place in Westmorland and Lonsdale CC where over 77% of the ward remains, or Barrow and Furness CC. Obviously uniting Crake Valley in Westmorland and Lonsdale CC would cause the least upheaval to the majority of that ward electorate. It was urged that following wide consultation amongst the parish councils over 50% wished to remain in Westmorland and Lonsdale CC. It was said that the electorate looked to Kendal as being the centre of their administration, as it is for local government purposes. There were representations from Lowick Parish Council, (representation 29) and a petition, and also those of Egton-cum-Newland Parish Council, (representation 77). These were supported by members of the public, particularly from Egton, who are strongly against joining Barrow in Furness and also on behalf of the people of Lowick who do not want to be part of the Barrow constituency. Both these groups said they feel they have nothing in common with the urban, town area of Barrow and they would like to remain where they always have been, in the Coniston Valley and part of the Westmorland and Lonsdale constituency.

iii. However there were representations from Barrow Council which supported Crake Valley being included within the Barrow constituency. I was told this was a unanimous decision on a council which included all major party political views.

iv. The now very significant disparity in the Westmorland and Lonsdale CC electorate cannot be justified in terms of special circumstances and has to be addressed. I understand and have seen for myself the remoteness of the area and I have taken into account the thinly scattered areas of population.

v. I have dealt earlier at paragraph 12. iv with the arguments in respect of the transfer of the Broughton ward (1,863) out of the constituency and have recommend that it be transferred to Barrow and Furness CC.

vi. There was general acceptance that the divided ward of Crake Valley has to be united. The Conservative Party support the transfer of the split majority of the ward out, thus reducing the electoral disparity. The Labour Party counter propose that the split minor ward should be brought in – but the effect of this would be to increase the electoral disparity, which is already unacceptable, and in my view makes this latter approach unworkable.

vii. The natural affinity of that part of Crake Valley within Westmorland and Lonsdale CC is very genuine but it is not correct to say that they have nothing in common with Barrow and Furness CC as that constituency also comprises both urban and rural areas. I note that there were no representations from the minority part of the split Crake Valley in Barrow and Furness CC seeking to be reunited with Westmorland and Lonsdale CC. It is necessary to balance the electorate and there are clear gains in uniting Crake Valley within the Barrow and Furness CC, and thereby reducing the electorate of Westmorland and Lonsdale CC. I recommend that all Crake Valley (1,467) be wholly incorporated into Barrow and Furness CC.

viii. These proposals result in an electorate of 67,303 for Westmorland and Lonsdale CC.

Remove:	Crake Valley (part)	1,137
	Broughton	1,863

17. Workington CC

i. The current electorate is 66,336 comprising 26 full wards and part of the Waver ward of Allerdale Borough. The Commission proposes that the constituency boundary is realigned so that the whole of Waver ward is included in the Workington CC. The Commission also proposes that Marsh, Wampool and Wigton wards, currently in Penrith and The Border CC, are brought into the Workington CC seat. The Commission also proposes that the Clifton, Dalton and Harrington wards, currently in Workington CC are transferred to the Copeland seat. The Commission further proposes that the Boltons ward currently in Workington CC is transferred to Penrith and The Border CC. This would produce a slightly increased electorate of 67,398.

ii. The arguments in respect of the split ward of Waver are set out at paragraph 15.iv above. There is general agreement that the split Waver ward should be reunited within the Workington CC and I recommend this.

iii. The arguments in respect of the Boltons ward are set out at paragraph 15. v above and I do not support the removal of Boltons ward from Workington CC.

iv. The arguments in respect of Marsh and Wampool are set out at paragraphs 15. vi above and I recommend their transfer to Workington CC.

v. The arguments in respect of Wigton are set out at paragraph 15 above and I do not support the transfer of Wigton to Workington CC.

vi. These recommendations reduce the electorate to 61,369.

Remove:	Dalton	1,310
	Keswick	4,482
	Crummock	1,276
	Derwent Valley	1,378
Add:	Waver	771
	Marsh	1,376
	Wampool	1,332

18. In conclusion the revised proposals are displayed below:

Constituency	Existing	Proposed	Revised
Barrow and Furness CC	66,142	67,279	69,142
Carlisle BC*	59,345	63,001	63,001
Copeland CC	54,071	61,048	62,517
Penrith and The Border CC	68,135	58,303	61,000
Westmorland and Lonsdale CC	70,303	67,303	67,303
Workington CC	66,336	67,398	61,369

* Carlisle BC to be designated as County Constituency (CC)

19. These recommendations take into account the substantial volume of written and oral representations made and the Parliamentary Constituency Act 1986 and I make the revised recommendations as set out above which are intended to:

- a) increase the low electorates of Carlisle BC and Copeland CC seats;
- b) reduce the very large geographical area of Penrith and The Border CC;
- c) realign constituency boundaries with new ward boundaries;

- d) reduce the disparity between the electorates of the seats from 16,232 to 8,142;
- e) bring the electorates of the six seats to within 5,087 of the county average of 64,055; and
- f) keep all seats within reasonable ambit of the average national constituency electorate of 69,934.

Suzan Matthews QC
(Assistant Commissioner)