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# Boundary Commission for England

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## News Release

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### **PROPOSALS FOR PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBRIA**

**The Commission will publish provisional recommendations on 6 July 2000 for changes to all six constituencies in the county of Cumbria.**

#### **Provisional Recommendations**

1. The county of Cumbria has six constituencies with a parliamentary electorate in 2000 of 384,332. This number of electors, when divided by the 2000 electoral quota (69,932), gives a theoretical entitlement to 5.50 seats. The Commission have therefore provisionally decided to continue to allocate six seats to Cumbria. The electoral quota is explained in "Background Note" below. With six seats, the average constituency electorate in the county is 64,055. The electorates of the six existing constituencies in the county range from 54,071 in the Copeland seat to 70,303 in the Westmorland and Lonsdale seat, producing a disparity of 16,232.
2. The only changes to local authority boundaries in Cumbria since the last general review have been to district ward boundaries following the Periodical Electoral Reviews by the Local Government Commission. The new wards came into operation at the local government elections on 6 May 1999. Three of the new wards in the county are partly in one of the existing constituencies and partly in another. The Commission do not divide district wards between constituencies. Therefore, at the very least, the Commission need to realign the constituency boundaries with the boundaries of these divided wards.
3. The Commission considered whether they should adopt the minimum change realignment in respect of these divided wards, or whether they should go further in order to address the low electorates of both the Carlisle and Copeland seats and the very large geographical area of Penrith and The Border which they considered was undesirable.
4. The Commission provisionally decided to recommend some changes to existing seats in order to address these problems. In forming their proposals, the Commission have taken into account, as much as possible, Cumbria's geographical features.

5. The Commission were concerned about the low electorate (59,345) of the Carlisle seat which has decreased for each of the last five years. Its electorate is 4,710 below the average for the county, and 10,587 below the electoral quota.

6. The Stanwix Urban ward of the City of Carlisle is currently divided between the Carlisle seat (4,108 electors) and the Penrith and The Border seat (444 electors). The larger part of the ward is already in the Carlisle seat and the Commission propose therefore that the whole ward be included in it.

7. The Commission considered various options for further increasing the electorate of the Carlisle seat. Their provisional conclusion is that it would be more appropriate for an additional City of Carlisle ward to be added to the Carlisle seat, rather than wards from Allerdale Borough or Eden District, which also border it. They also propose that the Wetheral ward be transferred from Penrith and The Border to the Carlisle seat. Although the M6 motorway creates a physical division between the Wetheral ward and Carlisle, the Commission do not feel that the motorway represents a significant barrier as good road links exist between them. The effect of the changes involving the realignment of the Carlisle seat with the Stanwix Urban ward, together with the transfer of the Wetheral ward, would bring the Carlisle electorate to 63,001 (1,054 below the average for the county). It would also reduce the geographical size of the Penrith and The Border seat.

8. The Waver ward of Allerdale Borough is currently divided between the Penrith and The Border (771 electors) and Workington seats (659 electors). The Commission's provisional proposal is that the whole ward be included in the Workington seat. In addition to this change, the Commission also propose the transfer of the Marsh, Wampool and Wigton wards of Allerdale Borough from the Penrith and The Border seat to the Workington seat, transferring 6,890 electors, and the transfer of the Boltons ward (1,485 electors) of Allerdale Borough from Workington to Penrith and The Border. These transfers would reduce the electorate and geographical size of the Penrith and The Border seat and improve its shape.

9. The Commission were concerned about the very low electorate of the Copeland seat, which is 9,984 below the average for the county and 15,861 below the electoral quota. While the Commission recognise that the boundary of the Copeland seat, which is coterminous with the borough boundary, has remained unchanged for many years, they do not feel that this should necessarily preclude them from making changes to it to bring it closer to the electoral quota. They provisionally consider that the Clifton (1,211 electors), Dalton (1,310 electors) and Harrington (2,593 electors) wards of Allerdale Borough, should be transferred from the Workington seat to the Copeland seat and that the Broughton ward (1,863 electors) of South Lakeland District be transferred from the Westmorland and Lonsdale seat to the Copeland seat. Transferring the three Allerdale Borough wards, together with the one South Lakeland ward to the Copeland seat would bring the electorate of the latter up to 61,048 (3,007 below the average for the county and 8,884 below the electoral quota). The Commission consider that because of the physical geography of the area, the transfer of these wards would create less inconvenience to electors than would the transfer of wards from elsewhere to the Copeland seat.

10. The Crake Valley ward of South Lakeland District is currently divided between the Barrow and Furness seat (330 electors) and the Westmorland and Lonsdale seat (1,137 electors). The Commission propose that the whole ward be included in the Barrow and Furness seat. This change,

together with the transfer of the Broughton ward, would bring the electorates of the two seats closer together, and the Westmorland and Lonsdale electorate closer to the county average.

11. The overall effect of these changes is that the Workington seat would have the highest electorate in the county, at 67,398. The Carlisle and Copeland electorates would be brought closer to the county average and the electoral quota. The constituency with the largest geographical area will still be the Penrith and The Border seat, but its area will be reduced, and its electorate will reduce from 68,135 to 58,303. The changes reduce the disparity between the constituencies with the highest and lowest electorates from 16,232 to 9,095.

12. The proposed new constituencies are illustrated in outline on the sketch map which can be found under the section called Outline Maps available on-line (please note the copyright warning). The letters on the map refer to the districts, and the numbers refer to the district wards. The map is to be used in conjunction with the ward listing at the end of this document which shows the letters and districts, the numbers and wards, and the 2000 ward electorates on which the Commission are required by law to work.

13. The composition of the six constituencies provisionally recommended would be (the 2000 electorates are shown in brackets):-

**BARROW AND FURNESS COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (67,279).** The Borough of **Barrow-in-Furness**; and eight wards of the District of **South Lakeland**:- Crake Valley, Low Furness & Swarthmoor, Ulverston Central, Ulverston East, Ulverston North, Ulverston South, Ulverston Town, Ulverston West.

**CARLISLE BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (63,001).** Fifteen wards of the City of **Carlisle**:- Belah, Belle Vue, Botcherby, Burgh, Castle, Currock, Dalston, Denton Holme, Harraby, Morton, St Aidans, Stanwix Urban, Upperby, Wetheral, Yewdale.

**COPELAND COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (61,048).** Three wards of the Borough of **Allerdale**:- Clifton, Dalton, Harrington; the Borough of **Copeland**; and one ward of the District of **South Lakeland**:- Broughton.

**PENRITH AND THE BORDER COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (58,303).** Two wards of the Borough of **Allerdale**:- Boltons, Warnell; seven wards of the City of **Carlisle**:- Brampton, Great Corby and Geltsdale, Hayton, Irthing, Longtown & Rockcliffe, Lyne, Stanwix Rural; and the District of **Eden**.

**WESTMORLAND AND LONSDALE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (67,303).** Thirty-eight wards of the District of **South Lakeland**:- Arnside & Beetham, Burneside, Burton & Holme, Cartmel, Coniston, Crooklands, Grange, Hawkshead, Holker, Kendal Castle, Kendal Far Cross, Kendal Fell, Kendal Glebelands, Kendal Heron Hill, Kendal Highgate, Kendal Kirkland, Kendal Mintsfeet, Kendal Nether, Kendal Oxenholme, Kendal Parks, Kendal Stonecross, Kendal Strickland, Kendal Underley, Kirkby Lonsdale, Lakes Ambleside, Lakes Grasmere, Levens, Lyth Valley, Milnthorpe, Natland, Sedbergh, Staveley-in-Cartmel, Staveley-in-Westmorland, Whinfell, Windermere Applethwaite, Windermere Bowness North, Windermere Bowness South, Windermere Town.

**WORKINGTON COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (67,398).** Twenty-six wards of the Borough of **Allerdale**:- All Saints, Aspatria, Broughton St Bridget's, Christchurch, Crummock, Derwent Valley, Ellen, Ellenborough, Ewanrigg, Flimby, Holme, Keswick, Marsh, Moorclose, Moss Bay, Netherhall, St John's, St Michael's, Seaton, Silloth, Solway, Stainburn, Wampool, Waver, Wharrels, Wigton.

14. Please note that the wards have not been shown for those boroughs and districts (e.g. the Borough of Barrow-in-Furness) where the whole of the borough or district is contained in the proposed constituency. However, as already mentioned, a full ward listing with 2000 ward electorates is given at the end of this document.

15. The wards named in this document are the new wards which were created by the following Orders, all of which came into effect at the local elections on 6 May 1999:-

The Borough of Allerdale (Electoral Changes) Order 1998;  
The Borough of Barrow-in-Furness (Electoral Changes) Order 1998;  
The City of Carlisle (Electoral Changes) Order 1998;  
The Borough of Copeland (Electoral Changes) Order 1998;  
The District of Eden (Electoral Changes) Order 1998; and  
The District of South Lakeland (Electoral Changes) Order 1998.

### **Publication of Provisional Recommendations**

16. The provisional recommendations will be published formally in a notice appearing in local newspapers in Cumbria on 6 July 2000. Local authorities, MPs, the Political Parties' Headquarters, and others will be sent a copy of the recommendations. The notice will also be published on the Commission's web site at:-

[http://www.statistics.gov.uk/other\\_activities/psc.asp](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/other_activities/psc.asp)

### **Places of Inspection**

17. The notice in local newspapers will also give the addresses where a copy of the recommendations and a more detailed map illustrating them have been made available for inspection by the public (please note the copyright warning below concerning the map). Those addresses are:-

<b>ALSTON</b>	Alston Library, Market Street, Alston
<b>AMBLESIDE</b>	District Council Offices, Church Street, Ambleside
<b>APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND</b>	Appleby Library, Low Wiend, Appleby-in-Westmorland
<b>BARROW-IN-FURNESS</b>	Town Hall, Duke Street, Barrow-in-Furness
<b>BRAMPTON</b>	Brampton Branch Library, Front Street, Brampton
<b>CARLISLE</b>	Civic Centre, Carlisle
<b>COCKERMOUTH</b>	Town Hall, Cockermouth
<b>GRANGE-OVER-SANDS</b>	Town Council Offices, Victoria Hall, Grange-over-Sands
<b>KENDAL</b>	South Lakeland House, Lowther Street, Kendal
<b>KESWICK</b>	Council Offices, Keswick
<b>KIRKBY STEPHEN</b>	Library, 15 Market Street, Kirkby Stephen
<b>MILLOM</b>	Millom Council Centre, St Georges Road, Millom

**Boundary Commission for England**

<b>PENRITH</b>	Town Hall, Penrith
<b>SEASCALE</b>	The Public Library, Gosforth Road, Seascale
<b>ULVERSTON</b>	Town Hall, Queen Street, Ulverston
<b>WHITEHAVEN</b>	The Council Offices, Catherine Street, Whitehaven
<b>WIGTON</b>	Council Offices, Wigton
<b>WINDERMERE</b>	Windermere Library, Windermere
<b>WORKINGTON</b>	Allerdale House, Workington

### **Representation Period: 6 July 2000 to 6 August 2000**

18. The Commission are required to consider representations about their provisional recommendations made within one month of local publication on 6 July 2000. Representations should be addressed to the Boundary Commission for England, PO Box 31060, London, SW1V 2FF, or faxed to 020 7533 5176, or emailed to [chris.ault@ons.gov.uk](mailto:chris.ault@ons.gov.uk). All representations received by the Commission will be acknowledged. The representation period will end on 6 August 2000.

19. Please note that the Commission are not statutorily required to consider any representations made after 6 August 2000, but will endeavour to take late representations into account. However, the later the representation is made, the more difficult this will be. The Commission therefore ask that all representations be made within the one month period. In the event that a local inquiry is held into the provisional recommendations, all representations will be made public beforehand so that interested persons may prepare for the local inquiry. Any representation received too late to be issued with the other representations before the local inquiry cannot be given the same weight as the other representations because other interested persons will not have had the same opportunity to consider it.

20. Where representations objecting to the provisional recommendations are made by an interested county or district council or by a body of 100 or more electors, the Commission cannot proceed with their final recommendations to the Home Secretary until a local inquiry has been held. If the Commission decide to alter their recommendations as a result of the inquiry, the revised recommendations must also be published and representations invited, but a further local inquiry is not obligatory.

21. Those who make representations are requested to say whether they approve of, or object to, the Commission's proposals and to give their reasons for their approval or objection. In particular, objectors are advised to say what they propose in place of the Commission's recommendations and should note that an objection accompanied by a counter-proposal is likely to carry more weight than a simple statement of objection.

22. The Commission wish to stress that their provisional recommendations relate solely to parliamentary constituencies and do not affect county, district or parish boundaries, taxes or services. The Commission will therefore not take account of any representation made about those local issues.

### **Background Note**

23. The Commission are constituted under Schedule 1 to the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986. The ex officio Chairman is the Speaker of the House of Commons. The Deputy Chairman, who presides over Commission meetings, is a High Court Judge appointed by the Lord Chancellor. The other two Commissioners are appointed by the Home Secretary and the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions. The two Assessors to the Commission are the Registrar General of England and Wales and the Director General of Ordnance Survey. Assistant Commissioners are lawyers appointed by the Home Secretary to conduct local inquiries.

24. The Commission are required by the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 as amended by the Boundary Commissions Act 1992 to conduct a general review of all the constituencies in England every eight to twelve years. The Commission completed their previous general review on 12 April 1995 and must therefore complete the current review after 11 April 2003 and before 12 April 2007. The Commission wish to complete the current review in sufficient time for new constituency boundaries to be approved by Parliament and take effect at any general election held in 2006 or 2007.

25. The general review started formally with the publication of a notice in the London Gazette on 17 February 2000. The Commission's recommendations throughout the review must by law be based on the numbers of electors on the electoral registers on that date.

## **Rules**

26. In recommending new constituencies, the Commission are required to give effect to the Rules for Redistribution of Seats which are contained in Schedule 2 to the 1986 Act.

27. Rule 1 places a limit on the total number of constituencies. Rule 2 requires single member constituencies. Rule 3 relates to the City of London. Rule 4 states that county and London borough boundaries are to be followed so far as is practicable. Rule 5 states that the electorates of constituencies are to be as nearly equal as practicable. Rule 6 allows the Commission to depart from rules 4 and 5 if special geographical considerations make a departure desirable. Rule 7 allows the Commission to depart from other rules; and requires them to take account of inconveniences caused or local ties broken by changes to constituencies. Rule 8 defines the electoral quota as the total number of parliamentary electors in England (36,994,211) divided by the existing number of seats (529), and requires the Commission to use the electorates as at the start of a review.

## **Procedures**

28. In conducting a general review of constituencies, the Commission are required by the legislation to follow certain procedures, principally to provide for public consultation.

29. The Home Secretary must be given notice of a review and that notice must be published in the London Gazette. Provisional recommendations must be published in newspapers in the affected constituencies and, unless the proposals are for no changes to be made, they must also be deposited for public inspection in at least one place in each affected constituency. Representations may be made within one month of publication of the provisional recommendations and the Commission must take any representations into consideration. Where objections are received from a county or district council or a body of 100 or more electors, a local inquiry must be held. If the Commission revise their recommendations as a result of an inquiry, the revised representations must also be published and

further representations invited and considered. The Commission is not obliged to hold a second local inquiry if there are further representations, but there is discretionary power to hold a second inquiry. Any further modifications, as a result of further representations or a second inquiry, must also be published and representations invited. When the Commission have decided their final recommendations for the whole country, they must submit a report to the Home Secretary.

### **Implementation of the recommendations**

30. The Home Secretary 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. If modifications are proposed, the Home Secretary 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 next following general election.

31. The above information is intended to be a general guide only. For a definitive statement of the law, please refer to the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986, as amended by the Boundary Commissions Act 1992, the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994, the Government of Wales Act 1998, and the Scotland Act 1998, together with the Court of Appeal ruling in *R v Boundary Commission for England Ex parte Foot* [1983] QB 600.

### **Crown Copyright**

32. The outline map which forms part of this document and the maps deposited at the addresses listed above are based on Ordnance Survey data and are subject to ©crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction will infringe crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Any person wishing to reproduce the outline map or the maps placed on deposit should first contact the Copyright Office at Ordnance Survey, Romsey Road, Southampton SO16 4GU (telephone 023 8079 2929).

### **Enquiries**

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

Boundary Commission for England  
PO Box 31060  
London  
SW1V 2FF

or telephone:-

Cumbria enquiries	020 7533 5174 or 020 7533 5159
General enquiries	020 7533 5177
Fax	020 7533 5176

Email address for Cumbria enquiries: [chris.ault@ons.gov.uk](mailto:chris.ault@ons.gov.uk)

Email address for general enquires: [bcomm.england@ons.gov.uk](mailto:bcomm.england@ons.gov.uk)

34. The Internet version of this news release, without the outline map, is now available on:-  
[http://www.statistics.gov.uk/other\\_activities/psc.asp](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/other_activities/psc.asp)

**CUMBRIA 2000 WARD ELECTORATES BY DISTRICT  
TO BE USED THROUGHOUT THE REVIEW**

<b>A. Allerdale Borough</b>	<b>75,611</b>	<b>B. Barrow-in-Furness Borough</b>	<b>53,150</b>
1. All Saints	3,809	1. Barrow Island	2,057
2. Aspatria	2,521	2. Central	3,867
3. Boltons	1,485	3. Dalton North	4,701
4. Broughton St Bridget's	2,995	4. Dalton South	4,606
5. Christchurch	2,783	5. Hawcoat	4,401
6. Clifton	1,211	6. Hindpool	3,882
7. Crummock	1,276	7. Newbarns	4,363
8. Dalton	1,310	8. Ormsgill	4,176
9. Derwent Valley	1,378	9. Parkside	4,203
10. Ellen	2,448	10. Risedale	3,943
11. Ellenborough	2,833	11. Roosecote	4,228
12. Ewanrigg	2,709	12. Walney North	4,272
13. Flimby	1,324	13. Walney South	4,451
14. Harrington	2,593		
15. Holme	1,257		
16. Keswick	4,482		
17. Marsh	1,376	<b>C. City of Carlisle</b>	<b>79,038</b>
18. Moorclose	3,948	1. Belah	4,881
19. Moss Bay	3,650	2. Belle Vue	4,367
20. Netherhall	2,553	3. Botcherby	4,392
21. St John's	4,426	4. Brampton	3,326
22. St Michael's	4,126	5. Burgh	1,563
23. Seaton	4,017	6. Castle	4,349
24. Silloth	2,593	7. Currock	4,362
25. Solway	1,308	8. Dalston	4,016
26. Stainburn	1,363	9. Denton Holme	4,406
27. Wampool	1,332	10. Great Corby and Geltsdale	1,644
28. Warnell	1,614	11. Harraby	4,503
29. Waver	1,430	12. Hayton	1,651
30. Wharrels	1,279	13. Irthing	1,609
31. Wigton	4,182	14. Longtown & Rockcliffe	3,153
		15. Lyne	1,560
		16. Morton	4,952
		17. St Aidans	4,505
		18. Stanwix Rural	3,094
		19. Stanwix Urban	4,552
		20. Upperby	4,205
		21. Wetheral	3,212
		22. Yewdale	4,736

<b>D. Copeland Borough</b>	<b>54,071</b>	<b>E. Eden District</b>	<b>39,167</b>
1. Arlecdon	1,141	1. Alston Moor	1,642
2. Beckermeth	2,214	2. Appleby (Appleby)	1,151
3. Bootle	1,088	3. Appleby (Bongate)	1,139
4. Bransty	3,486	4. Askham	1,113
5. Cleator Moor North	3,185	5. Brough	951
6. Cleator Moor South	2,198	6. Crosby Ravensworth	1,030
7. Distington	3,195	7. Dacre	1,092
8. Egremont North	3,102	8. Eamont	1,014
9. Egremont South	3,064	9. Greystoke	1,166
10. Ennerdale	799	10. Hartsdale	888
11. Frizington	1,971	11. Hesket	2,117
12. Gosforth	1,226	12. Kirkby Stephen	1,962
13. Harbour	3,188	13. Kirkby Thore	1,065
14. Haverigg	1,024	14. Kirkoswald	1,031
15. Hensingham	3,270	15. Langwathby	1,147
16. Hillcrest	2,122	16. Lazonby	1,076
17. Holborn Hill	2,004	17. Long Marton	924
18. Kells	2,009	18. Morland	951
19. Millom Without	1,191	19. Orton with Tebay	1,048
20. Mirehouse	3,474	20. Penrith Carleton	1,033
21. Moresby	1,011	21. Penrith East	2,147
22. Newtown	2,763	22. Penrith North	3,386
23. St Bees	1,208	23. Penrith Pategill	1,097
24. Sandwith	1,855	24. Penrith South	1,890
25. Seascale	2,283	25. Penrith West	2,102
		26. Ravenstonedale	729
		27. Shap	1,059
		28. Skelton	1,110
		29. Ullswater	1,094
		30. Warcop	1,013

**F. South Lakeland District** **83,295**

1. Arnside & Beetham	3,524
2. Broughton	1,863
3. Burneside	1,558
4. Burton & Holme	2,013
5. Cartmel	1,481
6. Coniston	1,513
7. Crake Valley	1,467
8. Crooklands	1,750
9. Grange	3,630
10. Hawkshead	1,498
11. Holker	1,453
12. Kendal Castle	1,523
13. Kendal Far Cross	1,655
14. Kendal Fell	1,430
15. Kendal Glebelands	1,564
16. Kendal Heron Hill	1,583
17. Kendal Highgate	1,504
18. Kendal Kirkland	1,455
19. Kendal Mintsfeet	1,631
20. Kendal Nether	1,495
21. Kendal Oxenholme	1,621
22. Kendal Parks	1,638
23. Kendal Stonecross	1,610
24. Kendal Strickland	1,506
25. Kendal Underley	1,595
26. Kirkby Lonsdale	1,849
27. Lakes Ambleside	3,132
28. Lakes Grasmere	1,354
29. Levens	1,475
30. Low Furness & Swarthmoor	3,333
31. Lyth Valley	1,675
32. Milnthorpe	1,670
33. Natland	1,560
34. Sedbergh	2,842
35. Staveley-in-Cartmel	1,440
36. Staveley-in-Westmorland	1,729
37. Ulverston Central	1,630
38. Ulverston East	1,529
39. Ulverston North	1,564
40. Ulverston South	1,416
41. Ulverston Town	1,557
42. Ulverston West	1,633
43. Whinell	1,713
44. Windermere Applethwaite	1,702
45. Windermere Bowness North	1,701

46. Windermere Bowness South	1,544
47. Windermere Town	1,687