
Boundary Commission for England

News Release

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REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES IN THE COUNTIES OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH

The Commission are to publish revised recommendations on 23 September 2004 for the following parliamentary constituencies:-

**East Cambridgeshire CC (the name to revert to South East Cambridgeshire CC)
South Cambridgeshire CC**

The revised recommendations take account of the report submitted to the Commission by the Assistant Commissioner, Mr William Clegg QC, who considered the written representations made to the Commission and the views expressed at the recent public inquiry.

The Commission are proposing no further changes to the following constituencies and confirm their provisional recommendations as their final recommendations for:-

**Cambridge BC
Huntingdon CC
North East Cambridgeshire CC
North West Cambridgeshire CC
Peterborough BC**

1. The Commission are to publish revised recommendations on 23 September 2004. Provisional recommendations for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough were published on 18 September 2003. Objections to the provisional recommendations led to a public inquiry, which was held on 24 and 25 February 2004 in Cambridge.

2. The Assistant Commissioner has recommended changes to the Commission's provisional recommendations in respect of East Cambridgeshire CC and South Cambridgeshire CC. He has also recommended that the provisional recommendations in respect of the other five constituencies be accepted. Having considered his report, recommendations, and the evidence submitted, the Commission have decided to adopt the Assistant Commissioner's recommendations in full with the exception of his recommendation that South Cambridgeshire CC should be renamed as South West Cambridgeshire CC.

Assistant Commissioner's Report

3. The Assistant Commissioner reported that there was unanimous support for the retention of seven constituencies for the combined area of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

The City of Peterborough

4. The Assistant Commissioner reported that it was widely accepted that the City of Peterborough should have one whole constituency and part of another constituency, rather than being divided between three constituencies as is currently the situation. He reported that he considered the merits of the provisional recommendations which kept the River Nene and the railway line as a constituency boundary, and the counter-proposals which placed five wards to the south of the river with eleven wards to the north, in the City centre, in one constituency.

5. Whilst the Assistant Commissioner accepted that the wards to the south of the river do have close ties with the City, he considered that the counter-proposals would break ties between Werrington and Peterborough and he noted that the Orton Waterville ward would be separated from the Orton Longueville and Orton with Hampton wards. The Assistant Commissioner also considered that such a constituency would be hard to identify on the ground and its creation would be disruptive, as it would transfer a much larger number of electors than the Commission's proposals (37,432 as opposed to 5,747). He accordingly rejected the counter-proposals and approved the Commission's proposals for Peterborough BC.

North East Cambridgeshire CC

6. The Assistant Commissioner reported that the provisional recommendations reduced the electorate of North East Cambridgeshire CC from 79,651 to 74,165. He reported that no counter-proposals were made for this constituency and he accordingly approved the Commission's proposals for it.

Huntingdon CC and North West Cambridgeshire CC

7. The Assistant Commissioner considered counter-proposals affecting the boundary between Huntingdon CC and North West Cambridgeshire CC. These transferred the Huntingdonshire District ward of Alconbury and The Stukeleys from Huntingdon CC to North West Cambridgeshire CC and the Huntingdonshire District ward of Ellington in the opposite direction. He reported that the counter-proposals would divide the Parish of Stukeley between constituencies and break local ties. He reported strong opposition to the counter-proposals for this area and considered that there was nothing to commend them. He rejected them and approved the Commission's proposals for both Huntingdon CC and North West Cambridgeshire CC.

The City of Cambridge

8. The Assistant Commissioner was called upon to consider whether the City of Cambridge wards of Cherry Hinton, Queen Edith's and Trumpington should be included in Cambridge BC. He considered that, ideally, the whole of the City of Cambridge should form one whole constituency, but he accepted that the number of electors in the City (83,118) prevented this.

9. The Assistant Commissioner reported that a counter-proposal, to remove the Cherry Hinton ward from Cambridge BC, received widespread opposition and he found nothing to commend it. Another counter-proposal removed the Trumpington ward from Cambridge BC. He reported that Trumpington is clearly part of Cambridge. It is located within the ring road where much of the ward is linked to the centre of the City by a continuous line of development. He noted that it forms part of the City's conservation area and is very close to the Guildhall and main railway station.

10. The Assistant Commissioner reported that, whilst Queen Edith's ward has close ties with the rest of the City, it should not be included in Cambridge BC at the expense of the Cherry Hinton or Trumpington wards. He considered that Trumpington's close ties with the city centre were of greater significance. He confirmed the Commission's proposals in respect of Cambridge BC, which would result in the Queen Edith's ward being located in South Cambridgeshire CC and the Cherry Hinton and Trumpington wards being located in Cambridge BC.

East Cambridgeshire CC and South Cambridgeshire CC

11. The Assistant Commissioner considered one counter-proposal that retained the South Cambridgeshire District wards of Balsham and Linton in East Cambridgeshire CC and transferred the Cottenham ward of that District to South Cambridgeshire CC. The Cottenham ward is currently divided between constituencies whilst Balsham and Linton are currently located wholly within the existing South East Cambridgeshire CC.

12. The Assistant Commissioner heard persuasive evidence that Balsham and Linton should be in the same constituency, and that Cottenham has strong links with the Longstanton ward of South Cambridgeshire CC. Whilst he accepted that the transfer of the Cottenham ward would result in poorly shaped constituencies, he considered that this disadvantage was outweighed by the advantages of including the ward in South Cambridgeshire CC. He accordingly recommended that the Commission's provisional recommendations be revised with the Balsham and Linton wards being located in East Cambridgeshire CC, and the Cottenham ward being located in South Cambridgeshire CC. He rejected the other counter-proposals for this area.

Constituency names

13. The Assistant Commissioner reported that the existing name of South Cambridgeshire CC had caused confusion and that there was considerable support for it to be renamed South West Cambridgeshire CC. He also considered that the Commission's provisionally recommended name of East Cambridgeshire CC would cause confusion and reported support for the retention of the existing name of South East Cambridgeshire CC. He recommended that the Commission's provisional recommendations in respect of these two constituency names should be revised accordingly. He reported that proposals to alter other constituency names received little support and recommended no change in respect of them.

Revised Recommendations

14. The Commission considered the Assistant Commissioner's report, the transcript of the inquiry and the written representations. They accept the Assistant Commissioner's recommendation in respect of the boundary between their provisionally recommended East Cambridgeshire CC and South Cambridgeshire CC (i.e. in respect of the Balsham, Cottenham and Linton wards). They noted that, whilst the inclusion of the Cottenham ward in South

Cambridgeshire CC would result in two poorly shaped constituencies, it is currently divided between those constituencies and its inclusion in South Cambridgeshire CC would allow for the Balsham and Linton wards to remain in their existing constituency.

15. The Commission considered, that with the retention of the Balsham and Linton wards in their existing constituency, it would allow the existing constituency name to be retained as the boundary changes made to the constituency would be very minor (only those for the realignment with the new ward boundaries). The Commission therefore accept the Assistant Commissioner's recommendation for the retention of the name of South East Cambridgeshire CC in place of their provisionally recommended name of East Cambridgeshire CC.

16. Whilst the Commission considered that there was some merit in the Assistant Commissioner's recommendation for South Cambridgeshire CC to be renamed South West Cambridgeshire CC, they decided that the existing name should be retained. They noted that their policy in respect of the naming of constituencies was that the existing name should be retained if the composition of the constituency remained largely unchanged. They also noted that no changes had been proposed to the western boundary of the constituency to warrant change of the kind proposed. They concluded that, as the constituency would contain 65,385 electors or 67% of the electorate of the South Cambridgeshire District, the existing name was not an inaccurate description of the constituency. They therefore rejected the Assistant Commissioner's recommendation.

Composition and Names of Constituencies

17. No change is proposed to the names or composition of the following five provisionally recommended constituencies (2000 electorates in brackets) and no further representations will be considered in respect of them:-

CAMBRIDGE BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (76,906)
HUNTINGDON COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (74,724)
NORTH EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (74,165)
NORTH WEST CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (73,648)
PETERBOROUGH BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (70,640)

18. The composition of the two constituencies in Cambridgeshire where the provisional recommendations have been revised, would be (2000 electorates in brackets):-

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (71,597). One ward of the City of **Cambridge**:- Queen Edith's; and twenty-five wards of the District of **South Cambridgeshire**:- Bar Hill, Barton, Bassingbourn, Bourn, Caldecote, Comberton, Cottenham, Duxford, Fowlmere and Foxton, Gamlingay, Girton, Hardwick, Harston and Hauxton, Haslingfield and The Eversdens, Longstanton, Melbourn, Meldreth, Orwell and Barrington, Papworth and Elsworth, Sawston, Swavesey, The Abingtons, The Mordens, The Shelfords and Stapleford, Whittlesford.

SOUTH EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (73,941). Fifteen wards of the District of **East Cambridgeshire**:- Bottisham, Burwell, Cheveley, Dullingham Villages, Ely East, Ely North, Ely South, Ely West, Fordham Villages, Haddenham, Isleham, Soham North, Soham South, Stretham, The Swaffhams; and nine wards of the District of **South Cambridgeshire**:- Balsham, Fulbourn, Histon and Impington, Linton, Milton, Teversham, The Wilbrahams, Waterbeach, Willingham and Over.

19. An outline map (please note the Crown Copyright warning below) showing the Commission's revised recommendations is contained within this news release together with a list of all the wards in the area and their 2000 electorates which the Commission are required to use. The letters and numbers on the map relate to the districts and wards in the list.

Publication of the Revised Recommendations

20. The revised recommendations will be published formally in a notice appearing in local newspapers in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough on 23 September 2004. 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/pbc/>

Places of Inspection

21. A copy of the revised recommendations and maps illustrating them together with the Assistant Commissioner's report may be inspected, once the notice has been published in local newspapers on 23 September 2004, at the following places:-

CAMBRIDGE	The Guildhall, Cambridge South Cambridgeshire District Council, South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, Cambridge
ELY	Cherry Hinton Library, High Street, Cambridge Council Offices, The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely
HUNTINGDON	Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon
MARCH	Fenland Hall, County Road, March
PETERBOROUGH	Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough Orton Library, Orton Centre, Peterborough

Representation Period: 23 September 2004 to 29 October 2004

22. No further representations can be considered for those five constituencies where the Commission are announcing their final recommendations. However, as with their provisional recommendations, the Commission are statutorily required to consider representations made about their revised recommendations within one month of local publication on 23 September 2004. The normal one-month representation period has been extended to 29 October 2004 to allow for the conferences of the Parliamentary political parties.

23. Representations about the revised recommendations for the two constituencies affected 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.

24. All representations received by the Commission will be acknowledged. It should be noted that the Commission are not statutorily required to hold second inquiries into representations about their revised recommendations.

25. Please note that the Commission are also not statutorily required to consider any representations made after 29 October 2004, 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 period stated above. Those

who make representations are requested to say whether they approve of, or object to, the Commission's revised recommendations and to give their reasons for approval or objection.

26. The Commission wish to stress that their recommendations relate solely to parliamentary constituencies and do not affect county, district or parish boundaries, local taxes, or the administration of local services, or result in changes to postcodes. Nor is there any evidence that the recommendations have an adverse effect on house prices, or car and house insurance premiums. The Commission will not, therefore, take account of any representation made about these issues.

Background Note

27. 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 Commissioners are appointed by the Secretary of State. 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 Secretary of State to conduct local inquiries.

28. 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.

29. 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

30. 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. 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.

31. 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.

32. 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 (69,935) as the total number of parliamentary electors in England (36,995,495) divided by the existing number of constituencies (529), and requires the Commission to use the electorates as at the start of a review.

Procedures

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

34. 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 from 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 recommendations must also be published and further representations invited and considered. A second local inquiry cannot be forced by these 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 Secretary of State.

Implementation of the recommendations

35. 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. 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.

36. 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

37. 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

38. Should you require further information about the Commission's review of the constituencies in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, or about other aspects of the Commission's work, please write to:-

The Boundary Commission for England,
PO Box 31060,
London,
SW1V 2FF

or telephone:-

Boundary Commission for England

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough enquiries: 020 7533 5174 or 020 7533 5135
General enquiries: 020 7533 5177
Fax: 020 7533 5176

E-mail address for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough enquiries: chris.ault@ons.gov.uk
E-mail address for general enquiries: bcomm.england@ons.gov.uk

39. The Internet version of this news release is now available on:-

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

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH 2000 WARD ELECTORATES BY DISTRICT TO BE USED THROUGHOUT THE REVIEW

A. City of Peterborough	105,582	B. City of Cambridge	83,118
1. Barnack	1,987	1. Abbey	6,150
2. Bretton North	6,357	2. Arbury	6,713
3. Bretton South	2,216	3. Castle	6,127

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4. Central	5,301	4. Cherry Hinton	6,317
5. Dogsthorpe	5,720	5. Coleridge	5,565
6. East	5,442	6. East Chesterton	5,379
7. Eye and Thorney	3,933	7. King's Hedges	6,123
8. Fletton	5,159	8. Market	6,281
9. Glinton and Wittering	4,031	9. Newnham	5,876
10. Newborough	1,664	10. Petersfield	5,128
11. North	3,509	11. Queen Edith's	6,212
12. Northborough	2,000	12. Romsey	6,102
13. Orton Longueville	6,253	13. Trumpington	5,150
14. Orton Waterville	5,789	14. West Chesterton	5,995
15. Orton with Hampton	1,937		
16. Park	5,904	D. Fenland District	63,413
17. Paston	5,407	1. Bassenhally	1,311
18. Ravensthorpe	4,151	2. Benwick, Coates and Eastrea	2,992
19. Stanground Central	5,778	3. Birch	1,613
20. Stanground East	2,008	4. Clarkson	1,484
21. Walton	3,867	5. Delph	1,273
22. Werrington North	5,333	6. Doddington	1,581
23. Werrington South	5,478	7. Elm and Christchurch	3,271
24. West	6,358	8. Hill	3,291
C. East Cambridgeshire District	52,229	9. Kingsmoor	1,280
1. Bottisham	2,788	10. Kirkgate	1,638
2. Burwell	4,279	11. Lattersey	1,799
3. Cheveley	2,986	12. Manea	1,165
4. Downham Villages	3,008	13. March East	4,704
5. Dullingham Villages	1,502	14. March North	4,524
6. Ely East	2,754	15. March West	5,185
7. Ely North	3,511	16. Medworth	1,720
8. Ely South	1,552	17. Parson Drove and Wisbech St Mary	3,045
9. Ely West	2,563	18. Peckover	1,547
10. Fordham Villages	2,587	19. Roman Bank	4,596
11. Haddenham	4,073	20. St Andrews	1,937
12. Isleham	1,582	21. St Marys	1,943
13. Littleport East	1,651	22. Slade Lode	1,547
14. Littleport West	3,550	23. Staithe	1,855
15. Soham North	2,731	24. The Mills	1,894
16. Soham South	4,410	25. Waterlees	3,221
17. Stretham	2,669	26. Wenneye	1,661
18. Sutton	2,543	27. Wimblington	1,336
19. The Swaffhams	1,490		
E. Huntingdonshire District	113,430	F. South Cambridgeshire District	97,849
1. Alconbury and The Stukeleys	2,458	1. Balsham	3,465
2. Brampton	4,525	2. Bar Hill	3,972
3. Buckden	2,430	3. Barton	1,857
4. Earith	4,642	4. Bassingbourn	3,433
5. Ellington	2,144	5. Bourn	1,539
6. Elton and Folksworth	2,111	6. Caldecote	1,189
7. Fenstanton	2,223	7. Comberton	1,788
8. Godmanchester	4,483	8. Cottenham	5,381

9. Gransden and The Offords	3,409	9. Duxford	1,947
10. Huntingdon East	6,286	10. Fowlmere and Foxton	1,797
11. Huntingdon North	3,776	11. Fulbourn	3,579
12. Huntingdon West	3,763	12. Gamlingay	3,739
13. Kimbolton and Staughton	2,447	13. Girton	2,859
14. Little Paxton	2,442	14. Hardwick	1,824
15. Ramsey	5,867	15. Harston and Hauxton	1,895
16. St Ives East	4,933	16. Haslingfield and The Eversdens	2,061
17. St Ives South	4,697	17. Histon and Impington	6,286
18. St Ives West	2,273	18. Linton	3,583
19. St Neots Eaton Ford	5,212	19. Longstanton	1,074
20. St Neots Eaton Socon	4,199	20. Melbourn	4,092
21. St Neots Eynesbury	6,169	21. Meldreth	1,843
22. St Neots Priory Park	4,431	22. Milton	3,082
23. Sawtry	4,946	23. Orwell and Barrington	1,807
24. Somersham	4,341	24. Papworth and Elsworth	2,933
25. Stilton	2,279	25. Sawston	5,611
26. The Hemingfords	4,568	26. Swavesey	1,793
27. Upwood and The Raveleys	1,928	27. Teversham	1,894
28. Warboys and Bury	4,179	28. The Abingtons	1,749
29. Yaxley and Farcet	6,269	29. The Mordens	1,848
		30. The Shelfords and Stapleford	5,546
		31. The Wilbrahams	2,006
		32. Waterbeach	3,909
		33. Whittlesford	1,808
		34. Willingham and Over	4,660