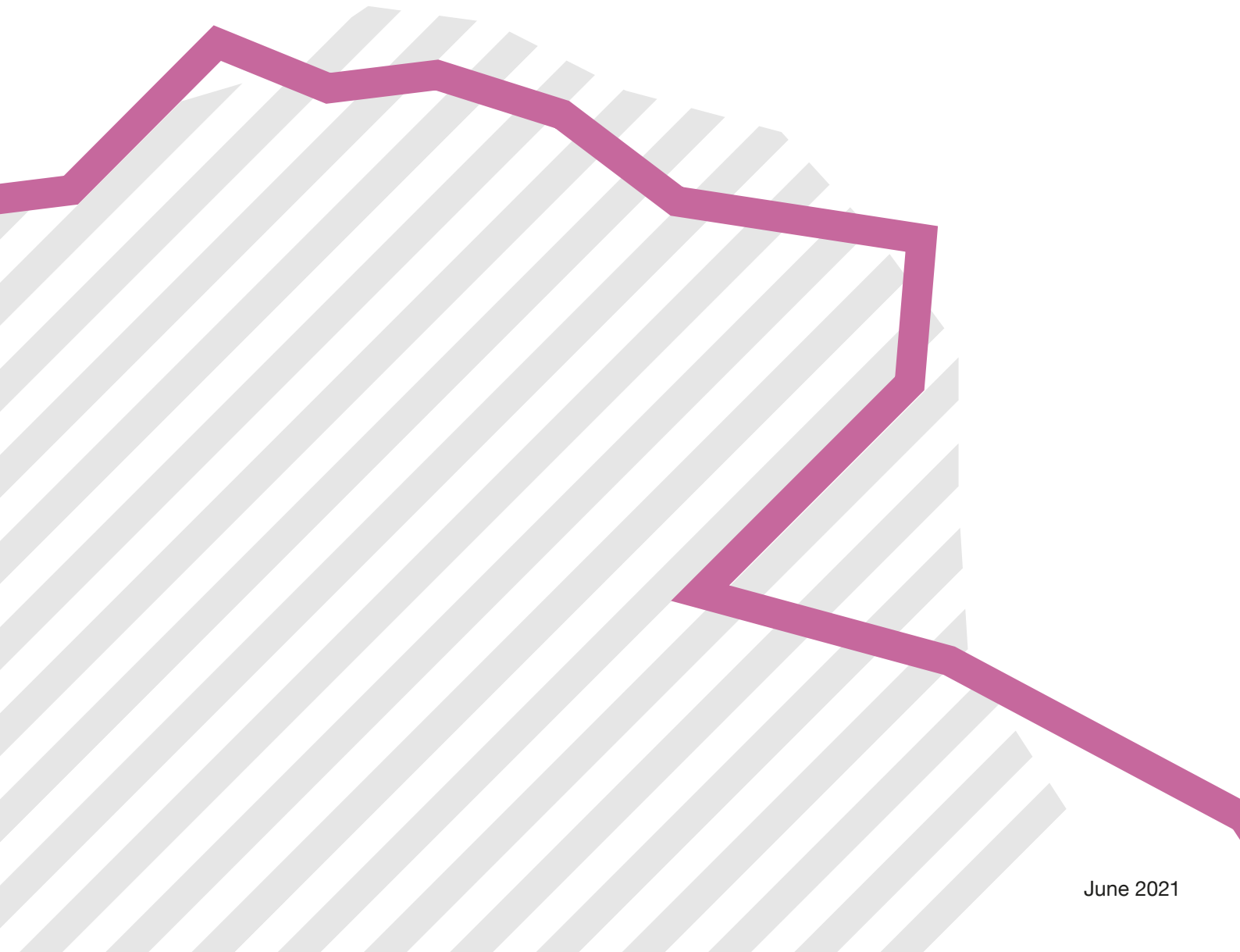


# Initial proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in the **North East** region



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# Summary

## Who we are and what we do

The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) is an independent and impartial non-departmental public body, which is responsible for reviewing Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England.

## The 2023 Review

We have the task of periodically reviewing the boundaries of all the Parliamentary constituencies in England. We are currently conducting a review on the basis of legislative rules most recently updated by Parliament in 2020. Those rules tell us that we must make recommendations for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries by 1 July 2023. While retaining the overall number of constituencies across the UK at 650, the rules apply a distribution formula that results in an increase in the number of constituencies in England (from 533 to 543). The rules also require that every recommended constituency across the UK – apart from five specified exceptions (two of them in England) – must have an electorate that is no smaller than 69,724 and no larger than 77,062.

## Initial proposals

We published our initial proposals for the new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England on 8 June 2021. Information about the proposed constituencies is now available on our website at [www.boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk](http://www.boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk)

## What is changing in the North East region?

The North East region has been allocated 27 constituencies – a reduction of two from the current number.

Our proposals leave two of the existing 29 constituencies wholly unchanged, and 11 with only minor substantive changes of one to two wards.

As it has not always been possible to allocate whole numbers of constituencies to individual counties, we have grouped some county and unitary authority areas into sub-regions, based on the relatively recently created combined authorities, which encompass the entire North East region. The number of constituencies allocated to each sub-region is determined by the combined electorate of the included authorities.

Consequently, it has been necessary to propose some constituencies that cross county or unitary authority boundaries, but none of our proposed constituencies cross any combined authority boundaries.

<b>Sub-region</b>	<b>Existing allocation</b>	<b>Proposed allocation</b>
Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside, and Northumberland	9	8
County Durham, South Tyneside, and Sunderland	11*	10
Gateshead	2	2
Tees Valley	7	7

\* The existing Sedgefield constituency is divided between our proposed County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland, and Tees Valley sub-regions. It has been counted in the County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland sub-region.

In County Durham, Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, and Sunderland it has been necessary to propose four constituencies that cross county boundaries.

We propose one constituency that contains electors from the city of Newcastle upon Tyne and the County of Northumberland. We propose one constituency that contains electors from North Tyneside and Northumberland which combines the towns of Cramlington and Whitley Bay in the Whitley Bay and Cramlington constituency.

We also propose two constituencies that contain electors from County Durham and the metropolitan Borough of Sunderland, including Houghton-le-Spring and Hetton-le-Hole in the City of Durham constituency, and the Doxford Park area of Sunderland in the Seaham and Peterlee constituency.

In Gateshead, Hartlepool and Tees Valley it has been possible to propose a pattern of constituencies that is within the boundaries of each combined or local authority.

## How to have your say

We are consulting on our initial proposals for an eight-week period, from 8 June 2021 to 2 August 2021. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to help us shape the new constituencies – the more responses we receive, the more informed our decisions will be when considering whether to revise our proposals. Our consultation portal at [www.bcereviews.org.uk](http://www.bcereviews.org.uk) has more information about our proposals and how to give us your views on them. You can also follow us on Twitter @BCEReviews or at [facebook.com/BCEReviews](https://facebook.com/BCEReviews).

# 1 What is the Boundary Commission for England?

- 1 As already mentioned, BCE is an independent and impartial non-departmental public body, which is required to review Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England. We must conduct a review of all the constituencies in England every eight years. Our role is to make recommendations to Parliament for new constituency boundaries.
- 2 The Chair of the Commission is the Speaker of the House of Commons, but by convention he does not participate in the review. The Deputy Chair and two further commissioners take decisions on proposals and recommendations for new constituency boundaries. Further information about the commissioners can be found on our regular website.

You can find further information on our regular website at [www.boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk](http://www.boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk), or on our consultation portal at [www.bcereviews.org.uk](http://www.bcereviews.org.uk). You can also contact us with any general enquiries by emailing [information@boundarycommissionengland.gov.uk](mailto:information@boundarycommissionengland.gov.uk), or by calling 020 7276 1102.

## 2 Background to the 2023 Review

- 3 We are currently conducting a review of Parliamentary constituency boundaries on the basis of rules most recently updated by Parliament in 2020.<sup>1</sup> These rules require us to make more equal the number of electors in each constituency. This report covers only the work of the Boundary Commission for England (there are separate commissions for Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales) and, in particular, introduces our initial proposals for the North East region.
- 4 The legislation states that there will be 650 Parliamentary constituencies covering the UK – the same as the current number. England has been allocated 543 constituencies for the 2023 Review, ten more than there are currently. There are also other rules that the Commission has regard to when conducting the review – a full set of the rules can be found in our Guide to the 2023 Review<sup>2</sup> published in May 2021, but they are also summarised later in this chapter. Most significantly, the rules require every constituency we recommend (with the exception of two covering the Isle of Wight) to contain no fewer than 69,724 electors and no more than 77,062.
- 5 This is a significant change to the old rules under which Parliamentary boundary reviews took place, in which achieving as close to the average number of electors in each constituency was an aim, but there was no statutory fixed minimum and maximum number of electors. This, together with the passage of time since constituencies were last updated (based on data from 2000), means that in England, existing constituencies currently range from 54,551 to 111,716 electors. Achieving a more even distribution of electors in every constituency across England, together with the increase in the total number of constituencies, means that a significant amount of change to the existing map of constituencies is inevitable.
- 6 Our Guide to the 2023 Review contains further detailed background information, and explains all of the policies and procedures that we are following in conducting the review. We encourage anyone wishing to respond to the review to read this document, which will give them a greater understanding of the rules and constraints placed on the Commission, especially if they are intending to comment on our initial proposals and/or make their own counter-proposals.

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<sup>1</sup> The Parliamentary Constituencies Act 2020, available at [www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/25/contents](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/25/contents)

<sup>2</sup> Available at [www.bcereviews.org.uk](http://www.bcereviews.org.uk) and at all places of deposit.

## The rules in the legislation

- 7 As well as the primary rule that constituencies must have no fewer than 69,724 electors and no more than 77,062, the legislation also states that, when deciding on boundaries, the Commission may take into account:
  - special geographical considerations, including in particular the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;
  - local government boundaries which existed, or were prospective, on 1 December 2020;
  - boundaries of existing constituencies;
  - any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies; and
  - the inconveniences attendant on such changes.
- 8 In relation to local government boundaries in particular, it should be noted that for a given area, where we choose to take account of local government boundaries, if there are prospective boundaries (as at 1 December 2020), it is those, rather than existing boundaries, of which account may be taken. This is a significant change to the former legislation, which referred only to the local government boundaries as they actually existed on the relevant date.
- 9 Our initial proposals for the North East region (and the accompanying maps) are therefore based on local government boundaries that existed, or – where relevant – were prospective, on 1 December 2020. Our Guide to the 2023 Review outlines further our policy on how, and to what extent, we take into account local government boundaries. We have used the existing and prospective wards as at 1 December 2020 of unitary authorities, and borough and district councils (in areas where there is also a county council) as the basic building blocks for our proposals.
- 10 In a number of existing constituencies, changes to local government wards since those constituencies were last updated (in 2010) have resulted in the new ward effectively being split, between the constituency the old ward was wholly a part of, and at least one other existing constituency. As part of our proposals, we will by default seek to realign the boundaries of constituencies with up-to-date ward boundaries, thus reuniting wards that are currently divided between existing constituencies. In places where there has been only minor change to a ward, this may see an existing constituency boundary change only very slightly to realign with the new ward. However, where wards in an area have been changed more significantly, this may result in the area covered by the new ward becoming part of a different constituency than the one in which the area was previously.

- 11 Although the 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies will inevitably result in significant change, we have also taken into account the boundaries of existing constituencies so far as we can. We have tried to retain existing constituencies as part of our initial proposals wherever possible, as long as the other factors can also be satisfied. This, however, has proved difficult. Our initial proposals retain just under 7%<sup>3</sup> of the existing constituencies in the North East region – the remainder are new constituencies (although in a number of cases the changes to the existing constituencies are fairly minor).
- 12 Our proposals are based on the nine English regions as defined in the legislation: a description of the extent of each region also appears in the Guide to the 2023 Review. This report relates to the North East region. There are eight other separate reports containing our initial proposals for the other regions. You can find more details in our Guide to the 2023 Review and on our website. While our use of the regions does not prevent anyone from making proposals to us that cross regional boundaries (for example, between the North East and North West regions), very compelling reasons would need to be given to persuade the Commission to depart from the region-based approach. The Commission has previously consulted on the use of the English regions as discrete areas, and this was strongly supported.

## Timetable for our review

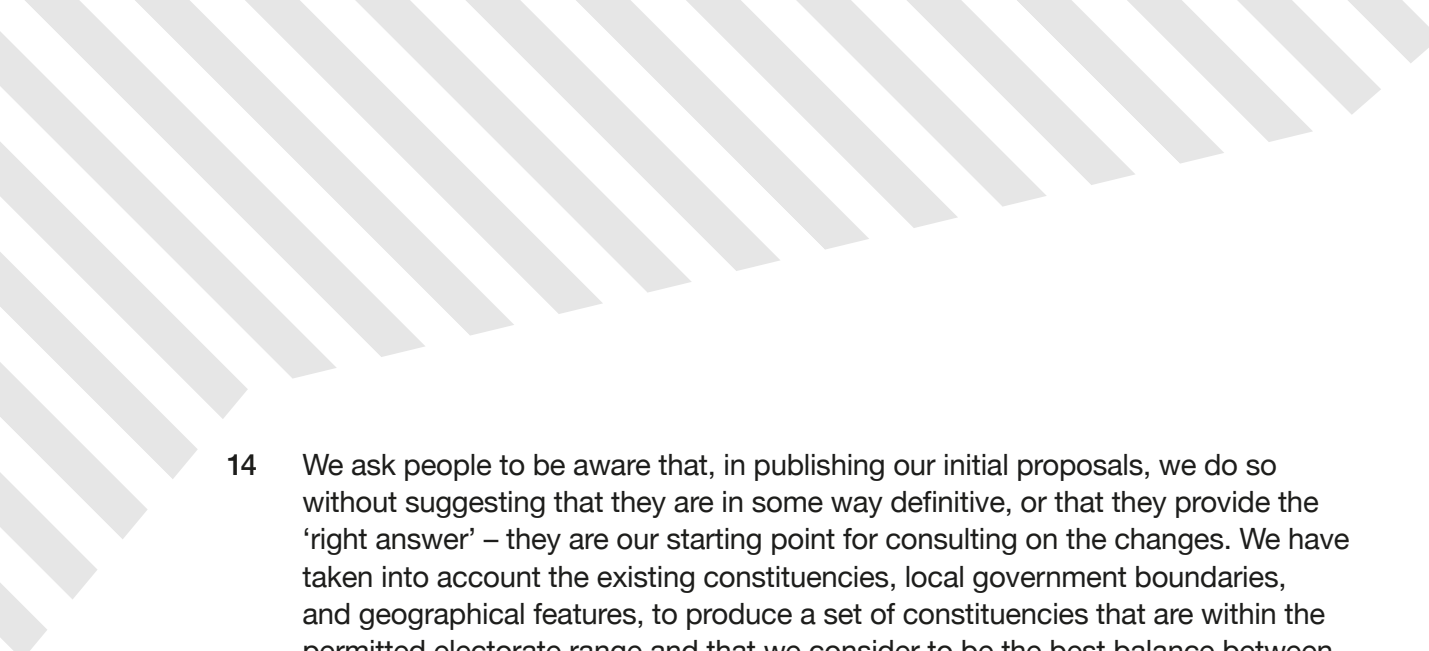
### Stage one – development of initial proposals

- 13 We began this review in January 2021. We published electorate data from 2 March 2020 (the relevant date specified by the legislation) for each local government ward in England, including – where relevant – wards that were prospective on 1 December 2020. The electorate data were provided by local authorities and the Office for National Statistics. These are available on our website and are the data that must be used throughout the remainder of the review process. The Commission has since then considered the statutory factors outlined above and drawn up the initial proposals. We published our initial proposals for consultation for each of England’s nine regions on 8 June 2021.

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<sup>3</sup> This figure excludes constituencies that have been changed only to realign with changed local government boundaries.



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- 14 We ask people to be aware that, in publishing our initial proposals, we do so without suggesting that they are in some way definitive, or that they provide the ‘right answer’ – they are our starting point for consulting on the changes. We have taken into account the existing constituencies, local government boundaries, and geographical features, to produce a set of constituencies that are within the permitted electorate range and that we consider to be the best balance between those factors at this point. What we do not yet have is sufficient evidence of how our proposals reflect or break local community ties, although we have drawn on evidence of such ties provided in previous reviews. One of the most important purposes of the consultation period is to seek up-to-date evidence that will enable us to test the strength of our initial proposals, and revise them where appropriate.

### **Stage two – consultation on initial proposals**

- 15 We are consulting on our initial proposals for eight weeks, from 8 June 2021 until 2 August 2021. Chapter 4 outlines how you can contribute during the consultation period. Once the consultation has closed, the Commission will collate all the responses received.

### **Stage three – consultation on representations received**

- 16 We are required to publish all the responses we receive on our initial proposals. This publication will mark the start of a six-week ‘secondary consultation’ period, which we currently plan to take place in early 2022. The purpose of the secondary consultation is for people to see what others have said in response to our initial proposals, and to make comments on those views, for example by countering an argument, or by supporting and reinforcing what others have said. You will be able to see all the comments on our website, and use the site to give us your views on what others have said. We will also be hosting between two and five public hearings in each region, where you will be able to give your views directly to one of our assistant commissioners. We will publish the exact number, dates and venues for those hearings nearer the time.

## **Stage four – development and publication of revised proposals**

- 17 Once we have all the representations and comments from both the initial and secondary consultation periods, the Commission will analyse those representations and decide whether changes should be made to the initial proposals. If we decide that the evidence presented to us persuades us to change our initial proposals, then we must publish our revised proposals for the areas concerned, and consult on them for a further period of four weeks. This is likely to be towards the end of 2022. When we consult on our revised proposals, there will be no further public hearings. You will be able to see all our revised proposals, and give us your views on them, on our website.

## **Stage five – development and publication of the final report and recommendations**

- 18 Finally, following the consultation on revised proposals, we will consider all the evidence received at this stage, and throughout the review, before determining our final recommendations. The recommendations will be set out in a published report to the Speaker of the House of Commons, who will lay it before Parliament on our behalf, at which time we will also publish the report. The legislation states that we must submit that report to the Speaker by 1 July 2023. Further details about what the Government must then do with our recommendations in order to implement them are contained in our Guide to the 2023 Review.
- 19 Throughout each consultation we will be taking all reasonable steps to publicise our proposals, so that as many people as possible are aware of the consultation and can take the opportunity to contribute to our review of constituencies.

### 3 Initial proposals for the North East region

- 20 The North East region comprises the unitary authorities of County Durham, Darlington, Gateshead, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, Redcar and Cleveland, South Tyneside, Stockton-on-Tees, and Sunderland.
- 21 The North East region currently has 29 constituencies. Of these, six are within the permitted electorate range, 21 constituencies currently fall below the 5% limit and the electorates of just two constituencies are above the 5% limit. The North East region comprises 1,952,999 electors, giving it a mathematical entitlement to 26.61 constituencies.
- 22 Our initial proposals for the North East region are for 27 constituencies, a reduction of two.
- 23 In seeking to produce 27 constituencies within the electorate range, our first step was to consider whether local authorities could be usefully grouped into sub-regions. We were mindful of seeking to respect, where we could, the external boundaries of local authorities. Our approach in attempting to group local authority areas together in sub-regions was based both on trying to respect county boundaries wherever possible and in achieving (where we could) obvious practical groupings such as those dictated in some part by the geography of the area such as the River Tees, River Tyne, River Wear and the Pennines.
- 24 With the creation of three combined authorities encompassing the entire North East region, we consider the previous county boundaries less relevant and we have sought to retain constituencies within combined and unitary authority boundaries. However, where this was not possible we have sought to group local authorities together into sub-regions. The distribution of electors across the combined authorities is such that allocating a whole number of constituencies within each of these combined authorities is possible without crossing from one combined authority to another.
- 25 Beginning in 2014, the unitary authorities in the region have been reorganised and are now grouped into three combined authorities: North East (County Durham, Gateshead, South Tyneside, and Sunderland), North of Tyne (Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside, and Northumberland), and Tees Valley (Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland, and Stockton-on-Tees). Our proposed sub-regions mirror these, with the exception of Gateshead which we chose to consider separately. It is worth noting that both Gateshead and Hartlepool can each have constituencies which are coterminous with their boundaries. None of our proposals cross a combined authority boundary.
- 26 Our division of the North East region into sub-regions is a practical approach. We welcome counter-proposals from respondents to our consultation, based on other groupings of counties and unitary authorities, if the statutory factors can be better reflected in those counter-proposals.

- 27 Neither County Durham nor Northumberland can be allocated a whole number of constituencies on their own. County Durham's electorate of 393,533 gives a mathematical entitlement to 5.36 constituencies, and Northumberland's electorate of 249,414 gives 3.40. However, combining them into a sub-region creates not only a constituency which crosses a local authority boundary between County Durham and Northumberland, but also one that crosses the boundary between the North East, and North of Tyne combined authorities. This is undesirable, given the limited nature of the road links in the area and their susceptibility to closure in the winter months due to snow. It also requires a crossing of the River Tyne, which – although there are many links across the river – has been heavily opposed at previous reviews due to the strong and distinct local community identities on opposite banks of the river.
- 28 Grouping Northumberland with Newcastle upon Tyne and North Tyneside provides a mathematical entitlement to 8.13 constituencies and means we avoid having to create constituencies that cross these contentious boundaries referred to above. This grouping keeps the entire North of Tyne Combined Authority in a single sub-region.
- 29 With an electorate of 144,619, Gateshead is entitled to 1.97 constituencies, which permits us to propose two constituencies without crossing out of the unitary authority area, and are therefore wholly contained within their local authority boundaries.
- 30 Combining County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland into a sub-region with an electorate of 716,893 and a mathematical entitlement to 9.77 constituencies, we are able to propose ten constituencies without crossing out of the North East Combined Authority. Furthermore, this allows us to preserve Sunderland Central wholly unchanged, avoiding unnecessary disruption as its electorate is within range.
- 31 The Tees Valley Combined Authority has an electorate of 494,601 and a mathematical entitlement to 6.74 constituencies. Under our proposals, the relatively recently created combined authority can be allocated seven constituencies without having to cross the combined authority boundary. However, due to the particular distribution of electorates in certain parts of the sub-region, the majority of the constituencies will have to be reconfigured to bring them within the permitted electorate range. With that being said, we noted that Hartlepool has an electorate of 71,228, resulting in a mathematical entitlement to 0.97 of a constituency. It is therefore possible to propose a Hartlepool constituency that is wholly contained within its local authority boundary similar to that of Gateshead mentioned above.

## Initial proposals for the Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland sub-region

- 32 There are currently nine constituencies in the Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland sub-region, none of which are within the permitted electorate range. With an electorate of 596,886, the sub-region is entitled to 8.13 constituencies, and has been allocated eight constituencies, a reduction of one. We consider that this change would encompass all constituencies and would have to be significant to bring them all within range. When developing our proposals we noted that, despite the large geographical extent of the region, our options would be limited, due to the physical geography of the mountain range, rivers, coast, and the national and regional boundaries that shape this part of the country.
- 33 The electorate of the existing Berwick-upon-Tweed constituency at 59,968 means that it must gain additional electors. We propose that the three wards making up the town of Morpeth be included in the existing Berwick-upon-Tweed constituency, which better reflects its north/south links due to its proximity to the A1 road. We propose to name this constituency Berwick and Morpeth to reflect both population centres north and south. The Hexham constituency also needs to gain electors, although to avoid having a constituency that crosses the combined authority boundary between County Durham and Northumberland we have chosen to cross the Newcastle upon Tyne local authority boundary to include the Callerton & Throckley ward in our Hexham constituency, albeit as an orphan ward.<sup>4</sup>
- 34 There is a complete reconfiguration of the remainder of the sub-region, with the reduction of one constituency overall, and the creation of a Whitley Bay and Cramlington constituency that crosses the Northumberland boundary into North Tyneside. We propose a Blyth and Ashington constituency that maintains coastal ties between the two towns. The existing Tynemouth constituency is one of two constituencies in the North East region that is above the permitted electorate range, requiring us to reconfigure the constituency. Using the River Tyne as a boundary to preserve local ties north of the river, we propose a constituency facing west, recognising the strong road links towards the city of Newcastle upon Tyne. The North Tyneside constituency is the other constituency in the region that has an electorate above the permitted electorate range. We propose that the North Tyneside constituency is divided up and its wards are allocated between our proposed Tynemouth and Newcastle upon Tyne North constituencies.

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<sup>4</sup> 'Orphan ward' refers to a ward from one local authority, in a constituency where the remaining wards are from at least one other local authority.

- 35 In this configuration, Newcastle upon Tyne East constituency, with an electorate of 63,723, must gain electors to come within the permitted electorate range – which is managed in part through realigning the constituency to reflect changes to local government ward boundaries, and the addition of Arthur’s Hill ward to the west. The electorate of the existing Newcastle upon Tyne Central constituency at 58,302 is the lowest in the region. In order to increase the electorate, we propose that it should be extended westwards and will include Chapel, Denton & Westerhope, Kingston Park South & Newbiggin Hall, and Lemington wards. We propose renaming the Newcastle upon Tyne Central constituency to Newcastle upon Tyne West, as this reflects the geography and local ties in the area.

**Initial proposals for the County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland sub-region**

- 36 The County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland sub-region has an electorate of 716,893 and is entitled to 9.77 constituencies. We propose an allocation of ten constituencies for this sub-region, a reduction of one. Only three constituencies have electorates that are within the permitted electorate range (City of Durham, North West Durham and Sunderland Central), and the electorates of many of the remaining constituencies are significantly below the permitted electorate range (such as Easington at 61,335 and South Shields at 62,796).
- 37 We propose no changes to the Sunderland Central constituency, but some changes to the other nine constituencies in the sub-region. Treating Gateshead as its own sub-region including the Blaydon and Gateshead constituencies means that Jarrow, with an electorate of 65,232, in our proposed configuration will have to gain electors from the south, including the wards of Castle, Redhill and St. Anne’s from Sunderland West and the transfer of Cleadon and East Boldon ward to the South Shields constituency. We propose that Jarrow is renamed Jarrow and Sunderland West, to better reflect the new composition of the constituency. Although we appreciate this is not an ideal arrangement, we noted Jarrow’s links to Sunderland via the A19 road which runs north/south, and that this proposal presented greater advantages than the alternatives of crossing the River Tyne, or taking wards from South Shields, due to the unique local identities of the Jarrow and South Shields communities. A possible alternative option was considered for Jarrow which instead gains three Washington wards: Washington North, Washington South and Washington West. However we consider the links in this configuration were comparably weaker: for instance, the A194(M) road connecting Jarrow and Washington must cross through our proposed Gateshead constituency. Our proposed Jarrow and Sunderland West constituency allows for a relatively unchanged South Shields constituency and the retention of all the Washington wards in a single constituency.

- 38 In this pattern we propose that the existing Washington and Sunderland West constituency is reoriented to face south-east, gaining the wards of Sandhill, Shiney Row, Silksworth and St. Chad's in place of the wards of Castle, Redhill and St. Anne's. We propose that the constituency name is changed to Washington and Sunderland South West to better reflect its geography. We do acknowledge that this constituency crosses the River Wear, however we feel that it is well connected to the east via the Washington Highway (A183). Furthermore, we consider the importance of keeping the Washington wards together in order to maintain the strong local ties in the town, and we were able to achieve this while keeping a wholly unchanged Sunderland Central constituency.
- 39 We propose minimal change for the North Durham constituency, with the addition of the single electoral division of Burnopfield and Dipton from North West Durham to bring it within the permitted electorate range, at 73,327 electors. The remainder of North West Durham is relatively unchanged, other than to realign its boundaries with changes to local government ward boundaries, the result of which is a constituency with an electorate of 70,300. Our proposed City of Durham constituency is extended into the Borough of Sunderland as far as Houghton-le-Spring, which has good connections to Durham via the A690 road.
- 40 The existing Easington constituency is considerably below the permitted electorate range at 61,335; its constricted position on the coast between Sunderland to the north and a coterminous Hartlepool constituency to the south limits our options. We propose to extend the constituency slightly westwards, and also include Doxford ward as an orphan ward from the Borough of Sunderland. We also propose changing the constituency name from Easington to Seaham and Peterlee as this better reflects both main population centres.
- 41 We propose the constituencies of Bishop Auckland and Sedgefield include wards from the City of Durham to bring them into the permitted electorate range. Our Bishop Auckland constituency will include the Brandon ward, and the Sedgefield constituency will include the Coxhoe ward. In this pattern, Sedgefield avoids crossing the local authority boundary from County Durham into the Tees Valley Combined Authority, as it does currently. We propose that the existing Sedgefield constituency be renamed to Newton Aycliffe and Sedgefield to better represent the main population centres of the constituency.

### Initial proposals for the Gateshead sub-region

- 42 The metropolitan Borough of Gateshead unitary authority has a mathematical entitlement to 1.97 constituencies from an electorate of 144,619. However, in their current configuration both Blaydon and Gateshead are below the permitted electorate range. We propose that the Blaydon constituency includes the Dunston and Teams ward from Gateshead, and the Gateshead constituency includes the two eastern wards of Pelaw and Heworth, and Wardley and Leam Lane from the existing Jarrow constituency. We feel this configuration better adheres to the statutory factors, as both resulting constituencies will be wholly contained within the boundary of Gateshead.



### Initial proposals for the Tees Valley sub-region

- 43 The Tees Valley Combined Authority has an electorate of 494,601, giving a mathematical entitlement to 6.74 constituencies. Therefore we concluded that the Tees Valley sub-region can be allocated seven constituencies, the same as currently. However, in its current configuration only three constituencies are within the permitted electorate range, (Hartlepool, Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland, and Stockton South) and we were only able to maintain one existing constituency wholly unchanged in our proposals. As Darlington has a current electorate of 66,729, we propose adding a single ward from its rural hinterland in the west, Heighington & Coniscliffe ward, to bring it within the permitted electorate range, extending the Darlington constituency to the boundary with County Durham.
- 44 The existing Stockton South constituency is just within the permitted electorate range at 77,001. However, as a result of changes elsewhere in Tees Valley there needs to be a considerable degree of change to the existing Stockton South constituency. We therefore propose that Stockton South includes the rural wards of Hurworth, Sadberge & Middleton St. George, and Western Parishes, while it transfers the urban Parkfield and Oxbridge ward to Stockton North, and transfers two of the three Thornaby wards to our proposed Middlesbrough constituency, to bring it within the permitted electorate range. Under this configuration, Stockton South would be renamed as Stockton West constituency to better reflect its new orientation.
- 45 The Middlesbrough constituency is considerably below the permitted electorate range, at 61,630, and has the geographical boundary of the River Tees to its north, with relatively few crossing points linking it to Stockton-on-Tees. In proposing our Middlesbrough constituency we chose to avoid crossing the River Tees and instead opted to include two of the three Thornaby wards, thereby dividing the town between the Stockton West and Middlesbrough constituencies. We considered an alternative option whereby all three Thornaby wards are included in the same constituency, however this option would have the 'domino' effect of creating a Middlesbrough constituency which crosses the River Tees to include both Billingham and an incongruous Northern Parishes rural ward, and thereby breaking local ties between these areas and Stockton-on-Tees. On this basis, we discounted this option.

- 46 Forming the south-east tip of the region, the existing Redcar, and Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland constituencies are constrained by the coast, the Yorkshire and Humber region boundary to the south and also the River Tees. At 66,423, the electorate of Redcar is too small, and we propose that it now includes additional wards (Ladgate, Marton East, and Park End & Beckfield) from the Borough of Middlesbrough. We propose that the Redcar constituency is renamed Redcar and Eston as recognition of the enlargement of the constituency. We are also proposing that electors from the villages of Marske-by-the-Sea and New Marske (specifically the wards of Longbeck and St. Germain's) would be included in the Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland constituency to bring both constituencies within the permitted electorate range.
- 47 The Hartlepool constituency is retained unchanged from the current configuration, and remains coterminous with the Borough of Hartlepool, with an electorate of 71,228 producing a mathematical entitlement to 0.97.

# 4 How to have your say

- 48 We are consulting on our initial proposals for an eight-week period, from 8 June 2021 to 2 August 2021. We encourage everyone to give us their views on our proposals for their area – the more public responses we receive and the more local information that is provided, the more informed our decisions will be when analysing all the responses we have received.
- 49 On our interactive consultation website, at [www.bcereviews.org.uk](http://www.bcereviews.org.uk), you can see what constituency you will be in under our proposals, and compare it with your existing constituency and local government boundaries. You can also easily submit your views on our proposals through that consultation website.
- 50 When making comments on our initial proposals, we ask people to bear in mind the tight constraints placed on the Commission by the rules set by Parliament, discussed in chapter 2 and in our Guide to the 2023 Review. Most importantly, in the North East region:
- we cannot recommend constituencies that have electorates that contain more than 77,062 or fewer than 69,724 electors
  - we are basing our initial proposals on local government ward boundaries (existing or – where relevant – prospective) as at 1 December 2020 as the building blocks of constituencies – although where there is strong justification for doing so, we will consider dividing a ward between constituencies (see the Guide to the 2023 Review for more detailed information)
  - we have constructed constituencies within regions, so as not to cross regional boundaries – very compelling reasons would need to be given to persuade us that we should depart from this approach.

- 51 These issues mean that we encourage people who are making a comment about their local area to bear in mind any consequential effects for neighbouring areas that might result from their suggestions. The Commission must look at the recommendations for new constituencies across the whole region (and, indeed, across England). What may be a better solution for one location may have undesirable consequences for others. We therefore ask everyone wishing to respond to our consultation to bear in mind the impact of their counter-proposals on neighbouring constituencies, and on those further afield across the region.

## How can you give us your views?

- 52 Views on our initial proposals should be given to the Commission initially in writing. We encourage everyone who wishes to comment on our proposals in writing to do so through our interactive consultation website<sup>5</sup> at [www.bcereviews.org.uk](http://www.bcereviews.org.uk) – you will find all the details you need and be able to comment directly through the website. The website allows you to explore the map of our proposals and get further data, including the electorate sizes of every ward. You can also upload text or data files you may have previously prepared setting out your views.
- 53 We encourage everyone, before submitting a representation, to read our approach to protecting and using your personal details (available at [www.bcereviews.org.uk](http://www.bcereviews.org.uk)). As these consultations are very much concerned with a respondent's sense of place and community, when publishing responses (which the law requires us to do), we will associate the response with the general locality of the respondent's address, but we will not publish a respondent's name or detailed address with their response, unless they specifically ask us to do so.
- 54 It is important to stress that all representations, whether they have been made through our website or sent to us in writing, will be given equal consideration by the Commission.
- 55 As noted above, there will be an opportunity to make an oral response to our initial proposals – and comment on the responses of others – during the secondary consultation stage. We will therefore publish further details about these public hearings, and how you can make a contribution to one, closer to the dates of the secondary consultation period.

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<sup>5</sup> Our website has been designed to maximise accessibility for all users, in line with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No.2) Accessibility Regulations 2018.

## What do we want views on?

- 56 We would particularly like to ask two things of people responding to our consultation. Firstly, if you support our proposals, please tell us so. Past experience suggests that too often people who are happy with our proposals do not respond in support, while those who object to them do respond to make their points. That can give a distorted view of the balance of public support or objection to proposals, and those who, in fact, support our initial proposals may then be disappointed if those proposals are subsequently revised in light of the consultation responses. Secondly, if you are considering objecting to our proposals, do please use the resources (such as maps and electorate figures) available on our website and at the places of deposit<sup>6</sup> to put forward counter-proposals that are in accordance with the rules to which we are working.
- 57 Above all, however, we encourage everyone to have their say on our initial proposals and, in doing so, to become involved in drawing the map of new Parliamentary constituencies. The more views and information we receive as a result of our initial proposals and through the subsequent consultation phases, the more informed our consideration in developing those proposals will be, and the better we will be able to reflect the public's views in the final recommendations that we present in 2023.

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<sup>6</sup> The legislation requires our proposals to be made available in at least one 'place of deposit' open to the public in each proposed constituency. A list of these places of deposit is published on our website.

# Appendix: Initial proposals for constituencies, including wards and electorates

Constituency	Ward	Local authority	Electorate
<b>Berwick and Morpeth CC</b>			<b>72,541</b>
	Alnwick	Northumberland	8,072
	Amble	Northumberland	4,017
	Amble West with Warkworth	Northumberland	3,506
	Bamburgh	Northumberland	3,587
	Berwick East	Northumberland	3,398
	Berwick North	Northumberland	3,442
	Berwick West with Ord	Northumberland	3,171
	Druridge Bay	Northumberland	4,268
	Longhoughton	Northumberland	3,547
	Lynemouth	Northumberland	3,442
	Morpeth Kirkhill	Northumberland	4,413
	Morpeth North	Northumberland	4,025
	Morpeth Stobhill	Northumberland	3,619
	Norham and Islandshires	Northumberland	3,649
	Pegswood	Northumberland	4,263
	Rothbury	Northumberland	4,128
	Shilbottle	Northumberland	4,435
	Wooler	Northumberland	3,559
<b>Bishop Auckland CC</b>			<b>72,307</b>
	Barnard Castle East	County Durham	6,979
	Barnard Castle West	County Durham	6,656
	Bishop Auckland Town	County Durham	6,057
	Brandon	County Durham	7,635
	Coundon	County Durham	3,177
	Evenwood	County Durham	6,458
	Spennymoor	County Durham	8,848
	Tudhoe	County Durham	7,044
	West Auckland	County Durham	6,545
	Willington and Hunwick	County Durham	6,861
	Woodhouse Close	County Durham	6,047
<b>Blaydon CC</b>			<b>74,066</b>
	Birtley	Gateshead	6,127
	Blaydon	Gateshead	7,197

Constituency	Ward	Local authority	Electorate
	Chopwell and Rowlands Gill	Gateshead	6,884
	Crawcrook and Greenside	Gateshead	6,917
	Dunston and Teams	Gateshead	6,259
	Dunston Hill and Whickham East	Gateshead	6,755
	Lamesley	Gateshead	7,229
	Ryton, Crookhill and Stella	Gateshead	6,957
	Whickham North	Gateshead	6,349
	Whickham South and Sunniside	Gateshead	6,539
	Winlaton and High Spen	Gateshead	6,853
<b>Blyth and Ashington CC</b>			<b>75,452</b>
	Ashington Central	Northumberland	3,375
	Bedlington Central	Northumberland	3,831
	Bedlington East	Northumberland	3,269
	Bedlington West	Northumberland	3,792
	Bothal	Northumberland	3,835
	Choppington	Northumberland	3,530
	College	Northumberland	3,578
	Cowpen	Northumberland	3,159
	Croft	Northumberland	3,128
	Haydon	Northumberland	3,484
	Hirst	Northumberland	3,313
	Isabella	Northumberland	3,136
	Kitty Brewster	Northumberland	4,871
	Newbiggin Central and East	Northumberland	3,611
	Newsham	Northumberland	3,573
	Plessey	Northumberland	3,305
	Seaton with Newbiggin West	Northumberland	4,063
	Sleekburn	Northumberland	3,365
	South Blyth	Northumberland	3,733
	Stakeford	Northumberland	3,544
	Wensleydale	Northumberland	3,957
<b>City of Durham CC</b>			<b>70,603</b>
	Belmont	County Durham	10,129
	Durham South	County Durham	2,204
	Elvet and Gilesgate	County Durham	5,740
	Framwellgate and Newton Hall	County Durham	10,315

<b>Constituency</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Local authority</b>	<b>Electorate</b>
	Neville's Cross	County Durham	7,409
	Sherburn	County Durham	6,722
	Copt Hill	Sunderland	9,027
	Hetton	Sunderland	9,171
	Houghton	Sunderland	9,886
<b>Darlington CC</b>			<b>70,446</b>
	Bank Top & Lascelles	Darlington	4,590
	Brinkburn & Faverdale	Darlington	4,875
	Cockerton	Darlington	4,775
	College	Darlington	3,425
	Eastbourne	Darlington	4,697
	Harrowgate Hill	Darlington	4,843
	Haughton & Springfield	Darlington	4,842
	Heighington & Coniscliffe	Darlington	3,531
	Hummersknott	Darlington	3,145
	Mowden	Darlington	3,192
	North Road	Darlington	4,323
	Northgate	Darlington	2,509
	Park East	Darlington	4,685
	Park West	Darlington	3,500
	Pierremont	Darlington	4,249
	Red Hall & Lingfield	Darlington	3,163
	Stephenson	Darlington	2,984
	Whinfield	Darlington	3,118
<b>Gateshead BC</b>			<b>70,553</b>
	Bridges	Gateshead	5,968
	Chowdene	Gateshead	6,867
	Deckham	Gateshead	6,336
	Felling	Gateshead	5,653
	High Fell	Gateshead	6,041
	Lobley Hill and Bensham	Gateshead	6,880
	Low Fell	Gateshead	7,064
	Pelaw and Heworth	Gateshead	6,520
	Saltwell	Gateshead	5,936
	Wardley and Leam Lane	Gateshead	6,138
	Windy Nook and Whitehills	Gateshead	7,150
<b>Hartlepool CC</b>			<b>71,228</b>
	Burn Valley	Hartlepool	5,982
	De Bruce	Hartlepool	5,885



<b>Constituency</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Local authority</b>	<b>Electorate</b>
	Fens & Greatham	Hartlepool	5,583
	Foggy Furze	Hartlepool	6,445
	Hart	Hartlepool	6,035
	Headland & Harbour	Hartlepool	6,390
	Manor House	Hartlepool	6,218
	Rossmere	Hartlepool	5,533
	Rural West	Hartlepool	5,491
	Seaton	Hartlepool	5,647
	Throston	Hartlepool	6,302
	Victoria	Hartlepool	5,717
<b>Hexham CC</b>			<b>72,738</b>
	Callerton & Throckley	Newcastle upon Tyne	7,048
	Bellingham	Northumberland	3,105
	Bywell	Northumberland	3,724
	Corbridge	Northumberland	3,398
	Haltwhistle	Northumberland	3,756
	Haydon and Hadrian	Northumberland	3,645
	Hexham Central with Acomb	Northumberland	3,428
	Hexham East	Northumberland	3,519
	Hexham West	Northumberland	3,270
	Humshaugh	Northumberland	3,452
	Longhorsley	Northumberland	3,732
	Ponteland East and Stannington	Northumberland	3,796
	Ponteland North	Northumberland	3,901
	Ponteland South with Heddon	Northumberland	3,387
	Ponteland West	Northumberland	3,480
	Prudhoe North	Northumberland	4,240
	Prudhoe South	Northumberland	3,984
	South Tynedale	Northumberland	3,980
	Stocksfield and Broomhaugh	Northumberland	3,893
<b>Jarrow and Sunderland West BC</b>			<b>69,762</b>
	Bede	South Tyneside	5,839
	Boldon Colliery	South Tyneside	7,313
	Fellgate and Hedworth	South Tyneside	5,717
	Hebburn North	South Tyneside	7,175
	Hebburn South	South Tyneside	7,026
	Monkton	South Tyneside	6,350
	Primrose	South Tyneside	6,225

<b>Constituency</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Local authority</b>	<b>Electorate</b>
	Castle	Sunderland	8,210
	Redhill	Sunderland	7,987
	St. Anne's	Sunderland	7,920
<b>Middlesbrough BC</b>			<b>71,742</b>
	Acklam	Middlesbrough	4,491
	Ayresome	Middlesbrough	4,191
	Berwick Hills & Pallister	Middlesbrough	5,865
	Brambles & Thortree	Middlesbrough	5,812
	Central	Middlesbrough	5,887
	Kader	Middlesbrough	4,432
	Linthorpe	Middlesbrough	4,517
	Longlands & Beechwood	Middlesbrough	6,462
	Newport	Middlesbrough	5,197
	North Ormesby	Middlesbrough	1,734
	Park	Middlesbrough	6,780
	Trimdon	Middlesbrough	4,428
	Mandale and Victoria	Stockton-on-Tees	7,175
	Stainsby Hill	Stockton-on-Tees	4,771
<b>Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC</b>			<b>70,063</b>
	Coulby Newham	Middlesbrough	6,530
	Hemlington	Middlesbrough	4,480
	Marton West	Middlesbrough	4,402
	Nunthorpe	Middlesbrough	4,227
	Stainton & Thornton	Middlesbrough	2,654
	Belmont	Redcar and Cleveland	3,733
	Brotton	Redcar and Cleveland	5,205
	Guisborough	Redcar and Cleveland	5,727
	Hutton	Redcar and Cleveland	5,463
	Lockwood	Redcar and Cleveland	1,862
	Loftus	Redcar and Cleveland	4,765
	Longbeck	Redcar and Cleveland	3,469
	Saltburn	Redcar and Cleveland	5,075

Constituency	Ward	Local authority	Electorate
	Skelton East	Redcar and Cleveland	3,482
	Skelton West	Redcar and Cleveland	3,311
	St. Germain's	Redcar and Cleveland	5,678
<b>Newcastle upon Tyne East BC</b>			<b>77,038</b>
	Arthur's Hill	Newcastle upon Tyne	5,994
	Byker	Newcastle upon Tyne	6,406
	Dene & South Gosforth	Newcastle upon Tyne	7,663
	Heaton	Newcastle upon Tyne	8,106
	Manor Park	Newcastle upon Tyne	7,201
	Monument	Newcastle upon Tyne	5,594
	North Jesmond	Newcastle upon Tyne	6,990
	Ouseburn	Newcastle upon Tyne	6,819
	South Jesmond	Newcastle upon Tyne	6,878
	Walker	Newcastle upon Tyne	6,970
	Walkergate	Newcastle upon Tyne	8,417
<b>Newcastle upon Tyne North BC</b>			<b>74,087</b>
	Castle	Newcastle upon Tyne	9,313
	Fawdon & West Gosforth	Newcastle upon Tyne	7,309
	Gosforth	Newcastle upon Tyne	7,889
	Parklands	Newcastle upon Tyne	8,924
	Benton	North Tyneside	7,869
	Camperdown	North Tyneside	7,787
	Killingworth	North Tyneside	8,823
	Longbenton	North Tyneside	8,194
	Weetslade	North Tyneside	7,979

Constituency	Ward	Local authority	Electorate
<b>Newcastle upon Tyne West BC</b>			<b>73,536</b>
	Benwell & Scotswood	Newcastle upon Tyne	7,770
	Blakelaw	Newcastle upon Tyne	6,630
	Chapel	Newcastle upon Tyne	7,524
	Denton & Westerhope	Newcastle upon Tyne	8,693
	Elswick	Newcastle upon Tyne	6,757
	Kenton	Newcastle upon Tyne	7,336
	Kingston Park South & Newbiggin Hall	Newcastle upon Tyne	7,055
	Lemington	Newcastle upon Tyne	7,298
	West Fenham	Newcastle upon Tyne	7,129
	Wingrove	Newcastle upon Tyne	7,344
<b>Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield CC</b>			<b>70,149</b>
	Aycliffe East	County Durham	6,420
	Aycliffe North and Middridge	County Durham	8,406
	Aycliffe West	County Durham	5,358
	Bishop Middleham and Cornforth	County Durham	2,884
	Chilton	County Durham	3,429
	Coxhoe	County Durham	9,779
	Ferryhill	County Durham	8,125
	Sedgfield	County Durham	6,370
	Shildon and Dene Valley	County Durham	9,630
	Trimdon and Thornley	County Durham	9,748
<b>North Durham CC</b>			<b>73,327</b>
	Annfield Plain	County Durham	5,891
	Burnopfield and Dipton	County Durham	6,333
	Chester-le-Street East	County Durham	3,006
	Chester-le-Street North	County Durham	3,071
	Chester-le-Street South	County Durham	5,991
	Chester-le-Street West Central	County Durham	5,811

Constituency	Ward	Local authority	Electorate
	Craghead and South Moor	County Durham	5,737
	Lumley	County Durham	5,727
	North Lodge	County Durham	3,020
	Pelton	County Durham	10,227
	Sacriston	County Durham	5,638
	Stanley	County Durham	6,361
	Tanfield	County Durham	6,514
<b>North West Durham CC</b>			<b>70,300</b>
	Benfieldside	County Durham	6,488
	Consett North	County Durham	5,874
	Consett South	County Durham	3,598
	Crook	County Durham	9,277
	Deerness	County Durham	9,479
	Delves Lane	County Durham	6,232
	Esh and Witton Gilbert	County Durham	6,384
	Lanchester	County Durham	6,085
	Leadgate and Medomsley	County Durham	6,830
	Tow Law	County Durham	3,435
	Weardale	County Durham	6,618
<b>Redcar and Eston BC</b>			<b>71,235</b>
	Ladgate	Middlesbrough	3,984
	Marton East	Middlesbrough	4,498
	Park End & Beckfield	Middlesbrough	5,644
	Coatham	Redcar and Cleveland	3,567
	Dormanstown	Redcar and Cleveland	3,463
	Eston	Redcar and Cleveland	5,669
	Grangetown	Redcar and Cleveland	3,800
	Kirkleatham	Redcar and Cleveland	5,517
	Newcomen	Redcar and Cleveland	3,840
	Normanby	Redcar and Cleveland	5,440
	Ormesby	Redcar and Cleveland	4,933
	South Bank	Redcar and Cleveland	3,432

Constituency	Ward	Local authority	Electorate
	Teesville	Redcar and Cleveland	5,074
	West Dyke	Redcar and Cleveland	4,987
	Wheatlands	Redcar and Cleveland	3,908
	Zetland	Redcar and Cleveland	3,479
<b>Seaham and Peterlee CC</b>			<b>72,787</b>
	Blackhalls	County Durham	6,245
	Dawdon	County Durham	6,098
	Deneside	County Durham	5,435
	Easington	County Durham	5,710
	Horden	County Durham	5,393
	Murton	County Durham	5,817
	Passfield	County Durham	3,426
	Peterlee East	County Durham	5,415
	Peterlee West	County Durham	6,131
	Seaham	County Durham	5,365
	Shotton and South Hetton	County Durham	6,802
	Wingate	County Durham	3,094
	Doxford	Sunderland	7,856
<b>South Shields BC</b>			<b>69,725</b>
	Beacon and Bents	South Tyneside	6,753
	Biddick and All Saints	South Tyneside	6,453
	Cleadon and East Boldon	South Tyneside	6,929
	Cleadon Park	South Tyneside	5,889
	Harton	South Tyneside	6,680
	Horsley Hill	South Tyneside	6,898
	Simonside and Rekendyke	South Tyneside	6,325
	West Park	South Tyneside	5,481
	Westoe	South Tyneside	6,122
	Whitburn and Marsden	South Tyneside	5,831
	Whiteleas	South Tyneside	6,364
<b>Stockton North CC</b>			<b>69,779</b>
	Billingham Central	Stockton-on-Tees	5,323
	Billingham East	Stockton-on-Tees	4,938
	Billingham North	Stockton-on-Tees	6,987
	Billingham South	Stockton-on-Tees	4,678
	Billingham West	Stockton-on-Tees	4,506

Constituency	Ward	Local authority	Electorate
	Hardwick and Salters Lane	Stockton-on-Tees	5,196
	Newtown	Stockton-on-Tees	4,651
	Northern Parishes	Stockton-on-Tees	3,529
	Norton North	Stockton-on-Tees	4,889
	Norton South	Stockton-on-Tees	4,795
	Norton West	Stockton-on-Tees	5,042
	Parkfield and Oxbridge	Stockton-on-Tees	5,861
	Roseworth	Stockton-on-Tees	4,978
	Stockton Town Centre	Stockton-on-Tees	4,406
<b>Stockton West CC</b>			<b>70,108</b>
	Hurworth	Darlington	2,978
	Sadberge & Middleton St. George	Darlington	5,074
	Bishopsgarth and Elm Tree	Stockton-on-Tees	5,024
	Eaglescliffe	Stockton-on-Tees	8,305
	Fairfield	Stockton-on-Tees	4,549
	Grangefield	Stockton-on-Tees	5,163
	Hartburn	Stockton-on-Tees	5,269
	Ingleby Barwick East	Stockton-on-Tees	7,833
	Ingleby Barwick West	Stockton-on-Tees	9,479
	Village	Stockton-on-Tees	5,115
	Western Parishes	Stockton-on-Tees	2,862
	Yarm	Stockton-on-Tees	8,457
<b>Sunderland Central BC</b>			<b>72,688</b>
	Barnes	Sunderland	8,435
	Fulwell	Sunderland	8,987
	Hendon	Sunderland	7,759
	Millfield	Sunderland	7,109
	Pallion	Sunderland	7,631
	Ryhope	Sunderland	8,497
	Southwick	Sunderland	7,881
	St. Michael's	Sunderland	8,335
	St. Peter's	Sunderland	8,054
<b>Tynemouth BC</b>			<b>76,984</b>
	Battle Hill	North Tyneside	8,002
	Chirton	North Tyneside	7,672
	Collingwood	North Tyneside	8,360
	Cullercoats	North Tyneside	7,551
	Howdon	North Tyneside	7,798
	Northumberland	North Tyneside	7,019

<b>Constituency</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Local authority</b>	<b>Electorate</b>
	Preston	North Tyneside	6,646
	Riverside	North Tyneside	8,120
	Tynemouth	North Tyneside	8,374
	Wallsend	North Tyneside	7,442
<b>Washington and Sunderland South West BC</b>			<b>75,245</b>
	Sandhill	Sunderland	7,790
	Shiney Row	Sunderland	9,697
	Silksworth	Sunderland	8,035
	St. Chad's	Sunderland	7,501
	Washington Central	Sunderland	8,550
	Washington East	Sunderland	9,090
	Washington North	Sunderland	7,935
	Washington South	Sunderland	7,837
	Washington West	Sunderland	8,810
<b>Whitley Bay and Cramlington CC</b>			<b>74,510</b>
	Monkseaton North	North Tyneside	6,989
	Monkseaton South	North Tyneside	7,593
	St. Mary's	North Tyneside	7,162
	Valley	North Tyneside	9,785
	Whitley Bay	North Tyneside	7,250
	Cramlington East	Northumberland	3,150
	Cramlington Eastfield	Northumberland	3,940
	Cramlington North	Northumberland	4,069
	Cramlington South East	Northumberland	3,767
	Cramlington Village	Northumberland	3,610
	Cramlington West	Northumberland	4,480
	Hartley	Northumberland	3,929
	Holywell	Northumberland	4,038
	Seghill with Seaton Delaval	Northumberland	4,748



# Glossary

Assessor	Statutorily appointed technical adviser to the BCE, being either the Registrar General for England and Wales or the Director General of Ordnance Survey.	Public hearing	Formal opportunity in a given area for people to make oral representations, chaired by an Assistant Commissioner. In each region of England there may be no fewer than two and no more than five hearings, and each may last a maximum of two days.
Assistant Commissioner	Independent person appointed at the request of the BCE to assist it with the discharge of its functions.	Representations	The views provided by an individual, group or organisation to the BCE on its initial or revised proposals (or on the representations of others), either for or against, including counter-proposals and petitions.
Borough constituency (abbreviated to BC)	Parliamentary constituency containing a predominantly urban area.	Review date	The 'effective date' at which electorate and local government boundary data is fixed so that we can then work with it on a stable basis. Defined by the 2020 Act for the 2023 Review as 2 March 2020 for the electorate numbers, and 1 December 2020 for local government boundaries.
County constituency (abbreviated to CC)	Parliamentary constituency containing more than a small rural element.	Revised proposals	The initial proposals as subsequently revised.
Designation	Classification as either a borough constituency or as a county constituency.	Rules	The statutory criteria for Parliamentary constituencies under Schedule 2 to the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (as amended by Acts up to and including the 2020 Act).
Electorate	The number of registered Parliamentary electors in a given area.	UK electoral quota	The average number of electors in a constituency, found by dividing the total electorate of the UK (less that of the five specific 'protected' constituencies) by 645.
(Statutory/ Permitted) Electorate range	The statutory rule that requires the electorate of every recommended constituency to be – for the 2023 Review – between 69,724 and 77,062.	Unitary authority	An area where there is only one tier of local council (above any parish or town council). Contrasted with those 'shire district' areas that have two tiers (i.e. both a non-metropolitan county council and a district/ borough/city council).
Final recommendations	The recommendations submitted in a formal final report to Parliament at the end of a review. They may – or may not – have been revised since the initial proposals in any given area.		
Initial proposals	First formal proposals published by the BCE during the review for public consultation.		
Periodical report	Report to Parliament following a general review of Parliamentary constituencies.		
Places of deposit	In each constituency the Commission will make available hard copies of its initial proposals (including report and maps). The places of deposit where the public may inspect the proposals are usually the offices of the relevant local authority, although other public places such as libraries may be used. The Commission will publish a full list of places of deposit on its website.		

