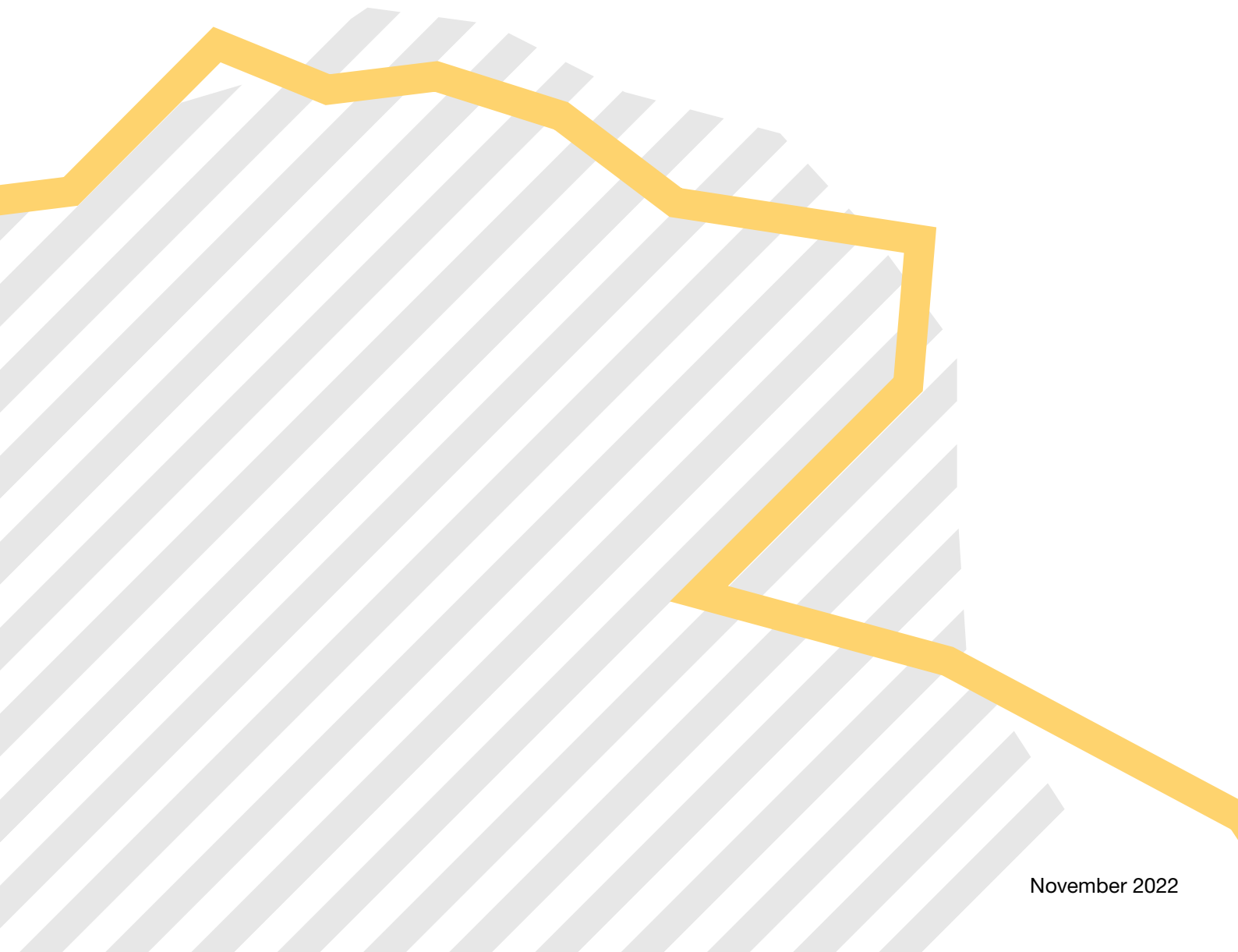


Revised proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in the **South West** region



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Summary

Who we are and what we do – ‘The 2023 Review’¹

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

We are currently conducting a review on the basis of legal rules most recently updated by Parliament in 2020, which will conclude with a final report and recommendations from us by 1 July 2023. The rules require there to still be 650 constituencies across the UK, but more equally distributed across the four parts of the UK, which will see the number of constituencies in England increase to 543. Each (apart from five ‘protected’ constituencies) must also contain a number of electors that is no smaller than 69,724 and no larger than 77,062 (as at the fixed date of 2 March 2020).

We published our initial proposals for the new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England on 8 June 2021 and there have been two rounds of statutory consultation relating to those to which we received over 45,000 responses. We have considered all of the comments received and taken them into account in developing our revised proposals, which we are now publishing for final consultation. For each region, a full report sets out a summary of the responses received to previous consultation on our initial proposals, our analysis of those, and the conclusions we have reached as to how the proposals should be revised as a result. The Appendix to each report contains details of the composition of each constituency we are now proposing, and maps to illustrate these can be viewed on our website or in hard copy at a local place of deposit.²

What are the revised proposals for the South West region?

We have revised the composition of 25 of the 58 constituencies we proposed in June 2021, and maintained our initial proposals for the remainder. We have revised the name of 11 of our initially proposed constituencies. Our revised proposals would leave one existing constituency in the South West region wholly unchanged, and 11 unchanged except to realign constituency boundaries with local government ward boundaries.³

As it is not always possible to allocate whole numbers of constituencies to individual counties and unitary authorities, we sometimes group these into sub-regions, meaning some constituencies cross unitary authority and county boundaries. After consideration of the responses to the sub-regions in our initial proposals, our revised proposals are based on unchanged sub-regions, as follows: ‘Avon’,⁴ Somerset and Devon⁵ (allocated

¹ Further details about the BCE and 2023 Review are published on our website: <https://boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/>

² A list of places of deposit is published on our website (as above).

³ Where the Order to make such wards was made by 1 December 2020.

⁴ Council areas of Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire, hereafter referred to together as Avon.

⁵ Council areas of Devon, Plymouth and Torbay, hereafter referred to together as Devon.

30 constituencies); Cornwall⁶ (allocated six constituencies); Dorset⁷ (allocated eight constituencies); and Gloucestershire and Wiltshire⁸ (allocated 14 constituencies).

In Avon, Somerset and Devon we have made minor revisions to proposed constituencies covering Exeter and East Devon, and retained our proposal to split the City of Plymouth ward of Peverell. We have made minor changes to the Taunton, and Tiverton and Minehead proposed constituencies. We have retained the composition of all the initially proposed constituencies in the Avon area, but propose to revise the name of one – to North East Somerset and Hanham.

In Cornwall, we have made minor revisions to four of the proposed constituencies: North Cornwall; St Austell and Newquay; Truro and Falmouth; and Camborne and Redruth. In Dorset, we have retained the composition of all our initially proposed constituencies, but restored the name of one constituency: Mid Dorset and North Poole.

In Gloucestershire and Wiltshire, we have made revisions to all our initially proposed constituencies, apart from Cheltenham, Forest of Dean and Swindon North. We have proposed to split the Borough of Swindon ward of Chiseldon and Lawn, between the Swindon South and East Wiltshire constituencies, which would enable a sequence of revisions to proposed constituencies across much of Wiltshire and into Gloucestershire.

How to have your say

We are consulting on our revised proposals for a four-week period, from 8 November 2022 to 5 December 2022. We encourage everyone to use this final opportunity to contribute to the design of the new constituencies – the more views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be when we make our final recommendations and report to Parliament. Our consultation portal at www.bcereviews.org.uk has more information about our revised proposals and how to give us your views. You can also follow us on Twitter [@BCEReviews](https://twitter.com/BCEReviews) or at facebook.com/BCEReviews.

⁶ Council areas of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, hereafter referred to together as Cornwall.

⁷ Council areas of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, and Dorset, hereafter referred to together as Dorset.

⁸ Council areas of Swindon and Wiltshire, hereafter referred to together as Wiltshire.

1 What is the Boundary Commission for England?

- 1.1 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 for new constituency boundaries, which are then made by Statutory Instrument and used at the next General Election.
- 1.2 The Chair of the Commission is the Speaker of the House of Commons, but – as an MP themselves – by convention they do not actively participate in the work of the Commission. The Deputy Chair and two further Commissioners determine its policies within the legislative framework, oversee the progression of a Review, and take decisions on the actual 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, or on our consultation portal at www.bcereviews.org.uk. You can also contact us with any general enquiries by emailing information@boundarycommissionengland.gov.uk, or by calling 020 7276 1102.

2 Background to the 2023 Review

- 2.1 We are currently conducting a review of Parliamentary constituency boundaries on the basis of rules most recently updated by Parliament in 2020.⁹ These rules require us to make the number of electors in each constituency more equal. 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 revised proposals for the South West.
- 2.2 Parliamentary boundaries are important, as they define the area in which voters will elect a Member of Parliament. When our recommendations are accepted, they are then used for the first time at the next General Election following their acceptance.
- 2.3 The legislation states that there will be 650 Parliamentary constituencies covering the UK – the same as the current number, but a statutory formula now distributes that total proportionately across the four parts of the UK. England has therefore 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,¹⁰ but they are also summarised later in this chapter. Most significantly, the rules require every constituency we recommend to contain no fewer than 69,724 electors and no more than 77,062.
- 2.4 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 53,210 to 109,246 electors. Achieving a more even distribution of electors in every constituency across England, together with the increase in the total allocation of constituencies, means that a significant amount of change to the existing map of constituencies is inevitable.
- 2.5 When implemented, the final recommendations that we will make will be the first set of boundaries to be defined under the new rules. While there has to be a significant amount of change across the country, we have, where practicable, attempted to limit the extent of such change, having regard to the statutory factors and the need to create the best possible pattern for constituencies as a whole. Under the legislation, we have a challenging job in conducting a review of constituency boundaries that is necessarily going to result, in many places, in constituencies that are unfamiliar to the public. Nevertheless, we have conducted the review in a rigorous and thorough fashion.

⁹ The Parliamentary Constituencies Act 2020, available at www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/25/contents

¹⁰ Available at www.bcereviews.org.uk

- 2.6 The revised proposals that we set out in this report, and in the reports for the other eight regions across England, are made on the basis of the evidence we received during two consultation exercises relating to our initial proposals, the careful consideration of that evidence by the Secretariat and our Assistant Commissioners, and the best judgement of the three Commissioners. We are confident that these revised proposals strike the best balance between the statutory factors and, having consulted twice already, we are close to settling on a final pattern of constituencies to recommend to Parliament next year. There are areas across the country where our judgement has been a balanced and marginal one between competing alternatives, and in such cases we have made clear that we are particularly looking for further evidence before we finalise our recommendations. In many other areas we are persuaded by the evidence we have received thus far, and we would therefore require new and significantly stronger arguments to make us depart from our revised proposals. If it exists, such new and compelling evidence would be welcome, but we will not be assisted by a repetition of arguments that have already been made, and which we have already considered. The requirement to keep constituencies within the permitted range of electors is strict, but otherwise we have sought to balance often conflicting considerations. Our proposals must also be comprehensive. We are acutely aware that very often a change that may seem obvious to make in one constituency necessarily requires far less attractive alterations in one or more neighbouring constituencies, and sometimes the consequential alterations reverberate through a whole chain of constituencies.
- 2.7 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 revised proposals and/or make their own counter-proposals.

The rules in the legislation

- 2.8 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.

- 2.9 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.
- 2.10 Our initial proposals for the South West (and the accompanying maps) were therefore based on local government boundaries that existed, or – where relevant – were prospective, on 1 December 2020. Our revised proposals contained within this report continue to be based on those boundaries. 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.
- 2.11 In a number of existing constituencies, changes to local government wards since 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 a 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 much of that area was in previously.
- 2.12 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 tried to retain existing constituencies as part of our initial proposals wherever possible, as long as the other factors could also be satisfied. This, however, proved difficult. Our initial proposals retained 3% of the existing constituencies in the South West as wholly unchanged, and a further 21% changed only to realign with changed boundaries of their component wards.
- 2.13 Among the many arguments we heard in response to the consultations on our initial proposals was the need to have particular regard to this factor of the rules to which we work. While some respondents might put a higher value on retaining existing constituency boundaries over the other factors in the rules, the legislation does not give any of these precedence over another, and the Commission therefore considers that its task is to seek to strike the best balance of all the factors in each area, within the numerical constraints.

- 2.14 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 South West region. There are eight other separate reports containing our revised proposals for the other regions. At the very beginning of the 2023 Review we decided, in agreement with all the qualifying political parties, to use these regions as discrete areas within which to undertake our work. You can find more details in our Guide to the 2023 Review and on our website. We stated in our initial proposals report that, while this approach does not prevent anyone from making proposals to us that cross regional boundaries, very compelling reasons would need to be given to persuade us to depart from the region-based approach.
- 2.15 In response to the consultations on our initial proposals, we did not receive sufficient evidence across the country to suggest that we should depart from the regional approach to this review. Therefore, this report, and all other regional reports, continue to use the regional boundaries as the basis for proposals for constituencies.

Timetable for our review

Stage one – development of initial proposals

- 2.16 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 was provided by individual local electoral registration officers and the Office for National Statistics. These figures are available on our website. The Commission then considered the statutory factors outlined above and drew up the initial proposals. We published our initial proposals for consultation for each of England's nine regions on 8 June 2021.

Stage two – consultation on initial proposals

- 2.17 We consulted on our initial proposals for eight weeks, from 8 June 2021 until 2 August 2021. We received over 34,000 discrete written representations across the country as a whole, including over 4,720 unique written representations relating to the South West. We are grateful to all those who took the time and effort to read and respond to our initial proposals.

Stage three – consultation on representations received

- 2.18 The legislation required us to publish all the responses we received on our initial proposals. We published the representations on 7 February 2022 ahead of a six-week 'secondary consultation' period, which took place from 22 February 2022 until 4 April 2022. The purpose of the secondary consultation was for people to

see what others 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 said. We received over 10,000 unique written representations across the country as a whole, including almost 1,100 unique representations relating to the South West. We also hosted between two and five public hearings in each region. We heard more than 120 oral representations at the four public hearings in the South West. We are grateful to all those who attended and spoke at our public hearings.

Stage four – development and publication of revised proposals

- 2.19 As we detail in chapter 3 below, having considered the evidence presented to us, we have decided that the evidence is such that it is appropriate to revise our initial proposals in some areas. Therefore, as we are required to do under the legislation, on 8 November 2022, we are publishing this report – *Revised proposals for new constituency boundaries in the South West region* – alongside eight others, one for each of the other regions in England. We are consulting on our revised proposals for the statutory four-week period, which closes on 5 December 2022. Unlike the secondary consultation period, there is no provision in the legislation for further public hearings. Chapter 4 outlines how you can contribute during this consultation period. It should be noted that this will be the final opportunity for people to contribute their views during the 2023 Review.

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

- 2.20 Once the consultation on revised proposals has closed on 5 December 2022, we will consider all the representations received at this stage, and throughout the review, before determining our final recommendations. The recommendations will be set out in a report to the Speaker of the House of Commons, who will lay it before Parliament, at which time we will also publish the report. The legislation states that we should 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.
- 2.21 Throughout each consultation period, we have taken – and are continuing to take – 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 Revised proposals for the South West

3.1 After the consultation on the initial proposals in 2021, we arranged for the appointment of two Assistant Commissioners for the South West – Anita Bickerdike and Vicky Smith – to assist us with the analysis of the representations received during the first two consultation periods. This included chairing public hearings held in the region to collect oral evidence, as follows:

- Exeter: 21-22 March 2022
- Gloucester: 24-25 March 2022
- Bath: 28-29 March 2022
- Dorchester: 31 March-1 April 2022

3.2 Following Ms Smith's resignation, John Feavoyour was appointed Assistant Commissioner for the region.

3.3 We asked the Assistant Commissioners to consider all the written and oral representations, and to make recommendations to us on whether our initial proposals should be revised, in light of evidence provided in the representations. It is important to stress that the Assistant Commissioners had no involvement in developing – and therefore no vested interest in supporting – our initial proposals. Accordingly, they came to the analysis with an independent mind, open to viable alternative proposals supported by evidence. We are very grateful for the thorough and methodical approach the Assistant Commissioners have taken to their work.

3.4 What follows in this chapter is:

- a brief recap of our initial proposals;
- a description of the views and counter-proposals put forward during the consultations;
- the Assistant Commissioners' analysis of the strength of the arguments for adoption of any of those counter-proposals; and
- our decision on whether or not to make changes to our proposals in the given area.

3.5 A tabular summary of the revised constituencies we now propose appears in the Appendix to this report.

3.6 Throughout this chapter, where we refer to a respondent's response, we do so by using the reference number, i.e. BCE-12345 (we only include an individual's name if they gave permission for it to be published). This reference number corresponds with the representations that can be found on our consultation website at www.bcereviews.org.uk. All representations received in response to the first two consultations are publicly available on this website. The representations received in response to these revised proposals will be published at the end of the review.

Sub-regions

- 3.7 The revised proposals recommendations have been formulated using the same sub-regions as the initial proposals. There was broad acceptance of our sub-regions, notably from the qualifying political parties: the Conservative Party (BCE-86590 and BCE-97624), Labour Party (BCE-79518, BCE-79532, and BCE-95667), Liberal Democrats (BCE-80986 and BCE-96091), and Green Party (BCE-95629 and BCE-85287) all supported the sub-regions that we had proposed. However, there were some representations that suggested alternative sub-regions, for example, Jonathan Stansby (BCE-62208, BCE-62734 and BCE-87731) and Pete Whitehead (BCE-85087). A key feature of a number of these counter-proposals was to avoid crossing, where possible, existing county boundaries, or even the traditional 'shire' county boundaries that existed prior to the 1974 reorganisation of county boundaries. John Bryant (BCE-72050, BCE-78902, BCE-94126 and BCE-97819), whilst suggesting alternative sub-regions, suggests alterations to the constituency of North Devon, which is coterminous with the local authority boundaries and is unchanged in the initial proposals and which was reasonably well-supported in the representations. Furthermore, his changes to Plymouth and Central Devon result in more change to the existing pattern of constituencies. Oliver Raven (BCE-84936) proposed alternative sub-regions, but provided no rationale for the composition of the constituencies he had proposed.
- 3.8 Alistair Philpot, who also spoke at the Exeter hearing in support of his written representations (BCE-57559, BCE-59706, BCE-62902 and BCE-62873) provided an extensive region-wide counter-proposal. However, we considered that his configuration of constituencies was unnecessarily disruptive in Devon, for example the changing of the Newton Abbot constituency and extensive changes in Plymouth and the surrounding areas. He also suggested changes in Bristol, where our initial proposals are widely supported.
- 3.9 Submission BCE-59338 also made a region wide counter-proposal. However, we considered this to be unnecessarily disruptive in Dorset, and less reflective of the statutory criteria. This counter-proposal split the areas of Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch; constituencies that all the qualifying political parties unanimously supported. Furthermore, this counter-proposal completely reconfigured Gloucester, Bristol and Somerset, where we received very little opposition, splitting communities in the process. Under this counter-proposal there are a total of six county crossings. BCE-63725 also suggested a different sub-region. It proposed a cross border constituency of Quedgeley and Severn Vale that includes three local authorities. We considered that including Gloucester wards in this constituency would be unnecessary.

- 3.10** While these counter-proposals for alternative sub-regions all contained elements that we considered had some merit, and in particular, aimed to minimise the number of constituencies that crossed county boundaries, we noted the general and wide level of support for the proposed sub-regions. We were not persuaded that the alternative proposals had garnered greater support in the public consultations than the initially proposed sub-regions had. We also consider that in some cases the alternative sub-regions would result in more disruption to existing constituencies and would not therefore better reflect the statutory factors in the region.
- 3.11** As in the initial proposals the aim has been to try to minimise changes to constituencies and to retain as many unchanged as is practicable whilst adhering to the statutory electorate range. Under the revised proposals one of the existing constituencies is wholly unchanged, as opposed to three in the initial proposals. There are no changes from the initial proposals to the number of constituencies that would cross the boundaries of two local authorities.

Gloucestershire and Wiltshire (including Swindon)

- 3.12** The Labour Party (BCE-79518 and BCE-79532) supported in its entirety the pattern of constituencies we initially proposed in the Gloucestershire and Wiltshire sub-region. The Conservative Party (BCE-86590 and BCE-97624), Liberal Democrats (BCE-80986, BCE-96091), and the Green Party (BCE-95629 and BCE-85287) suggested amendments to the initial proposals within the area. The Conservative Party suggested changes mainly within the constituencies in Gloucestershire – specifically the areas of Gloucester, Cheltenham, Stroud, Tewkesbury and The Cotswolds – and minor changes within Swindon.
- 3.13** The Liberal Democrats suggested just one minor, single ward amendment to the boundaries of the proposed cross-county boundary Cirencester and North Wiltshire constituency, supporting our initial proposals for the remaining constituencies in Gloucestershire. They did, however, suggest significant changes to the constituencies of Chippenham, and Melksham and Devizes. Their configuration aimed to unite the towns of Calne, Chippenham and Corsham, which they argued have strong links with each other.
- 3.14** The Green Party counter-proposal included the wards of Bisley, Chalford, Hardwicke, Minchinhampton, and Painswick & Upton in the Stroud constituency. This would be accommodated by removing the Kingswood, Wotton-under-Edge, Dursley, Cam East and Cam West wards from the south and would require changes to the constituencies of The Cotswolds, and Cirencester and North Wiltshire. They also suggested that the Springbank ward could be maintained in the Cheltenham constituency by the inclusion of the Battledown ward in Tewkesbury.

Gloucestershire

- 3.15** The Cheltenham borough wards of Prestbury and Swindon Village are currently included in the existing Tewkesbury constituency; in the initial proposals the two wards continued to be included in Tewkesbury. In order to bring the electorate of the Cheltenham constituency to within the permitted electorate range, we also allocated the Borough of Cheltenham ward of Springbank to the Tewkesbury constituency. This proved to be deeply unpopular, with approximately 350 objections to the initial proposals. Residents said that they identified with Cheltenham and that they have no real connection to Tewkesbury (BCE-80907). Chris Nelson, Police and Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire, and Chair of the Cheltenham Association of Conservatives, who spoke at the public hearing held in Gloucester (BCE-97944), suggested that Springbank would receive less attention than if it remained in Cheltenham. However, these views were not unanimous and there was some limited support for the inclusion of the Springbank ward in the Tewkesbury constituency, not least BCE-95047, a local councillor (BCE-75281), and the Liberal Democrats (BCE-80986), who supported the ward's inclusion in the Tewkesbury constituency 'with a heavy heart.'
- 3.16** The Conservative Party (BCE-86590), Alex Chalk, MP for Cheltenham (BCE-69746) and a number of local residents – for example John Landau (BCE 83185 and BCE-83233) and a local councillor (BCE-79144) – suggested that the St Paul's ward, rather than Springbank, should be included in the Tewkesbury constituency, and noted that St Paul's was in the same county division as the Swindon Village ward, which is currently in the existing Tewkesbury constituency. This was also supported by, for example, BCE-96882, who opposed any suggestion that the Battledown ward should be the ward to be excluded from Cheltenham as an alternative solution, as was proposed by the Green Party (BCE-95629) and Daniel Wilson (BCE-95055). While there were no substantive representations that expressed the view that Pittville was a more appropriate ward to exclude from Cheltenham, a number of representations urged us to reject any suggestion of this, such as a local councillor (BCE-74192), who drew attention to Cheltenham's 'Pump Room' being located in the Pittville ward. Alisha Lewis, Councillor for St Paul's ward (BCE-87980 and BCE-97920) provided significant evidence to support her opposition to the exclusion of the St Paul's ward, which she said was "the heart of Cheltenham" and included Cheltenham High Street down its centre, as well as the Centre Stone for Cheltenham, the heart of the origins of Cheltenham. Similar sentiments against the inclusion of the St Paul's ward in the Tewkesbury constituency were made by Mark Gale (BCE-94187) and BCE-92037.

- 3.17** Our Assistant Commissioners decided to visit a number of areas in Cheltenham to see, in particular, the wards of Battledown, Pittville, St Paul's, and Springbank for themselves, in light of the conflicting nature of the evidence. They agreed with the comments expressed by Councillor Alisha Lewis. It was their view that St Paul's ward was an integral part of the centre of Cheltenham and they considered it would be inappropriate to exclude the ward from the Cheltenham constituency. They considered that Pittville ward was also an integral part of Cheltenham and noted the similarity in housing type with the rest of the centre of Cheltenham. The Battledown ward was similarly considered to be clearly part of Cheltenham, particularly in the west of the ward, adjacent to more central areas of Cheltenham. They did, however, note that the ward had a large rural element, and that accessibility between Battledown and the Cleeve Hill ward to the north was poor.
- 3.18** On visiting Springbank ward, they noted that the ward had some similarities with the Swindon Village ward, which was not included in the Cheltenham constituency. They observed that the Springbank ward was residential in nature with a mixture of social housing and newer developments further away from the urban centre. Although they considered that the ward definitely looked towards Cheltenham, they concluded that these links were not as strong with the town centre as were those of the St Paul's, Battledown and Pittville wards.
- 3.19** We recognise that the ideal position would be to include the Springbank ward in Cheltenham, but despite the very strong opposition to its inclusion in the Tewkesbury constituency, a further ward has to be excluded from the existing Cheltenham constituency. We agree with the Assistant Commissioners, who felt that stronger links would be broken if another ward were to be included in Tewkesbury instead of Springbank. We agree with their recommendation that the Springbank ward be included in the Tewkesbury constituency, as in the initial proposals, and that there be no further change to the proposed Cheltenham constituency.
- 3.20** With an electorate of 81,509, the existing Gloucester constituency is too large for the permitted electorate range, so we proposed that the wards of Elmbridge and Barnwood should join the Longlevens ward in the Tewkesbury constituency. We did not include in the Tewkesbury constituency the alternative ward of Kingsholm & Wotton, as we considered that that ward had a particularly strong association with the Gloucester identity, containing half of Gloucester railway station, the Premiership rugby club, and Gloucestershire Royal Hospital.
- 3.21** As in Cheltenham, the initial proposals attracted a great deal of opposition: over 400 responses opposed the inclusion of either the Elmbridge or Barnwood wards in the Tewkesbury constituency, for example BCE-78063, BCE-84543 and Peter Dalton (BCE-61527). Additionally, there were a significant number of representations calling for the Longlevens ward to be 'returned' to the Gloucester

constituency, for example Bruce Clifford (BCE-92963), and BCE-91734. Some said that all three wards should continue to be included in the Gloucester constituency and that three wards containing the community of Quedgeley should instead be excluded and placed in The Cotswolds constituency, for example, Gloucester City Liberal Democrats (BCE-81903). John Bryant (BCE-72050) proposed the Quedgeley wards should be included in the Stroud constituency.

- 3.22** The Assistant Commissioners visited the wards in question. They considered the Elmbridge and Barnwood wards to be very similar in nature. They also considered that Quedgeley did indeed have a different character to that of the rest of Gloucester, with newer housing and industrial estates. They also noted that Gloucester Councillor Jeremy Hilton (BCE-81903) had used major roads as boundaries in a counter-proposal and that these were clearly defined. However, they also considered that Quedgeley had little in common with The Cotswolds constituency and that that community could be considered to cover four wards, rather than the three that had been proposed for inclusion in The Cotswolds constituency. Our Assistant Commissioners were not persuaded that despite being relatively newer and somewhat self-contained, Quedgeley should be included in The Cotswolds constituency rather than Gloucester. However, they noted that only two of the Longlevens, Elmbridge and Barnwood wards needed to be excluded from the Gloucester constituency. As Elmbridge is geographically next to the Longlevens ward, which is already part of the Tewkesbury constituency, they recommended that these two wards be left out of the Gloucester constituency, allowing the Barnwood ward to remain, in accordance with views expressed in many of the representations. We agree with their recommendations that the Barnwood ward should continue to be included in the Gloucester constituency.
- 3.23** At 83,818, the electorate of the existing Tewkesbury constituency is well above the permitted range, and would be increased significantly further with the inclusion of the wards from the existing Cheltenham and Gloucester constituencies. To bring it within the permitted electorate range, seven Tewkesbury district wards from the existing Tewkesbury constituency were therefore included in the proposed The Cotswolds constituency, including the Isbourne and Winchcombe wards, together with five wards that form the geographical area between our proposed Gloucester and Cheltenham constituencies. The initial proposals generated a number of representations in opposition, particularly from the Isbourne and Winchcombe wards, for example, Tewkesbury Town Council (BCE-65728) and Peter Davison-Smith (BCE-81726). It had been noted that the proposed configuration led to an odd-shaped Tewkesbury constituency, with the town of Tewkesbury itself being somewhat isolated in a small geographical area in the far north of the constituency. These sentiments were not unanimous, however, and there was some support for the inclusion of the Winchcombe ward in The Cotswolds constituency in particular

(BCE-88128). Tewkesbury Town Council also stated that the whole of the town of Churchdown should be included in The Cotswolds constituency, while Jonathan Stansby (BCE-87731) proposed that all of Churchdown should be included in the Tewkesbury constituency.

- 3.24** The Assistant Commissioners considered that there was persuasive evidence for the inclusion of the Isbourne ward, in particular, and the Winchcombe ward in the Tewkesbury constituency, where they are currently located, although they noted that there were some links between Winchcombe and The Cotswolds. There were also counter-proposals and support in the representations for the whole of the town of Churchdown (which was divided into two different constituencies in the initial proposals) to be included in The Cotswolds constituency, with the Churchdown St John's ward joining the Churchdown, Brookfield with Hucclecote ward in The Cotswolds (as mentioned above). The Assistant Commissioners recommended that the Isbourne and Winchcombe wards be included in the Tewkesbury constituency, as suggested in a number of representations, and that this would also allow for the two wards containing the town of Churchdown to be included in the same constituency. We agree with their recommendation.
- 3.25** To bring the existing Stroud constituency's electorate of 84,573 within the permitted electorate range, the four Stroud district wards of Hardwicke, Painswick & Upton, Bisley, and Chalford were included in the proposed The Cotswolds constituency. The Minchinhampton ward, although a Stroud district ward, is located in the existing The Cotswolds constituency, and in the initial proposals would remain so. These changes resulted in the Stroud constituency falling below the permitted electorate range and to increase its electorate the two Stroud district wards of Kingswood and Wotton-under-Edge, which are currently located in the existing The Cotswolds constituency, were included. There was a significant level of opposition to these initial proposals for Stroud, with a large number of representations received covering a range of wards that respondents felt should be included in the constituency. Due to the size of the electorate, however, it is inevitable that a number of Stroud district wards have to be included in a constituency other than Stroud.

3.26 We received approximately 110 representations objecting to the inclusion of the Chalford ward in The Cotswolds constituency, for example BCE-85223, Rick Gomez (BCE-95561), and Councillor Helen Fenton (BCE-97938), who spoke at the public hearing in Gloucester. There were also calls for the Minchinhampton ward to be included in Stroud (BCE 87518), and some support for the initial proposals that included the Wotton-under-Edge and Kingswood wards in the Stroud constituency (BCE-85021). We received significant opposition to the inclusion of the Hardwicke ward in The Cotswolds constituency: Siobhan Baillie, MP for Stroud (BCE-85155) said: 'It is clear from consultation that people in the large Hardwicke ward do not – at all – associate themselves with the Cotswolds on a day to day basis. The community ties are strongest with Stroud and Gloucester, rather than Cotswolds towns, which are geographically far away'. Objections were also received from Hardwicke Parish, (BCE-90827), and Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon Parish Council (BCE-63044), with a number of representations supporting the Conservative Party counter-proposals (BCE-86590 and BCE-97624). Others suggested that the Nailsworth ward instead should be included in The Cotswolds constituency, for example Councillor Mark Ryder (BCE-97926), and Councillor Denise Powell and Mr Philip Powell (BCE-97928). Councillor Powell, who now lives in Hardwicke village, but who had previously lived in Nailsworth, said that Hardwicke's links with Stroud were stronger than those of Nailsworth, which tended to look east towards the town of Tetbury. However, there was support for the initial proposals in which Nailsworth was included in the Stroud constituency, for example BCE-88140 and Paul Archer (BCE-89206), and considerable opposition to the representations that sought to include Hardwicke in Stroud instead of Nailsworth, for example Councillor Mick Fealty (BCE-91576), BCE-90936, BCE-97969, and Stephen Lydon, Chair of Stroud Constituency Labour Party (BCE-97939).

- 3.27 In light of the representations received regarding a number of wards in the District of Stroud the Assistant Commissioners conducted a site visit. Progressing through Hardwicke, they noted that most of the ward's population appeared to be located in the north of the ward, close to Gloucester, but that the rest of the ward was very rural in nature. They were particularly struck by the very clear demarcation between the Hardwicke and Stonehouse wards, where there was an abrupt change between open land in Hardwicke and housing in Stonehouse, which ends right at the stream that forms the boundary between the two wards. Continuing through Stroud and along the Nailsworth Valley to the town of Nailsworth, the Assistant Commissioners considered that, although Nailsworth was a town in its own right, there was continuous ribbon development from Stroud towards Nailsworth along the valley and that it was not obvious where one community ended and the next started. They visited Minchinhampton, where it was observed that the western edge of the ward was high land and almost moor-like, unlike the valley community of Nailsworth. They also visited Wotton-under-Edge, which they considered to be a large, rural ward that, although part of the District of Stroud, had little in common with Stroud itself.
- 3.28 The Assistant Commissioners concluded that it would not be possible to include both the Hardwicke and Nailsworth wards within the Stroud constituency without a further reconfiguration of the constituency, which would have knock-on effects across constituencies that were proposed elsewhere in Gloucestershire. They were mindful that the Stroud borough ward of Painswick & Upton, which is adjacent to the Hardwicke ward, was to be included in The Cotswolds constituency in the initial proposals. They had observed the rural nature of the Hardwicke ward and the stark boundary between it and the Stonehouse ward, which was in the proposed Stroud constituency. They also considered that there was continuous urban development along the Nailsworth Valley and that there was little to differentiate Nailsworth from Stroud, apart from their town centres. They therefore recommended no changes to the initial proposals with regard to these two wards, with Nailsworth ward included in the Stroud constituency, and Hardwicke included in The Cotswolds constituency. They considered whether the Minchinhampton ward should be included in Stroud, but noted that the ward is not currently in the existing Stroud constituency. They recommended no change to the initial proposals with regard to Minchinhampton.
- 3.29 The Assistant Commissioners also considered the Chalford ward, which had been excluded from Stroud in the initial proposals. In weighing up the evidence, they concluded that the case for Chalford's continued inclusion in Stroud was strong: it was in the existing Stroud constituency and it was effectively separated from Minchinhampton by the River Frome, the Thames and Severn Canal, and the A419 London Road. However, its inclusion would mean that another ward would have to be excluded from the Stroud constituency to ensure that its electorate was within the permitted range. In the initial proposals, the Stroud district wards of Wotton-under-Edge and Kingswood had been included in the

Stroud constituency from the existing The Cotswolds constituency. Although there had been relatively few representations regarding these wards, this change had been welcomed. The Assistant Commissioners noted that if they were to include the Kingswood ward alone in a Cotswold constituency, this would create an orphan ward, and so they considered whether both the Wotton-under-Edge and Kingswood wards could be transferred. However, doing so would not result in the constituencies being within the permitted electorate range.

- 3.30** Faced with a difficult issue, the Assistant Commissioners bore in mind that although both Chalford and Kingswood were wards of the District of Stroud, Chalford was already in the existing Stroud constituency, whereas Kingswood was in the existing The Cotswolds constituency. Furthermore, they noted that the Chalford ward contained approximately 5,300 electors, whereas the Kingswood ward contained approximately 1,800. By including Chalford in Stroud, fewer electors would find themselves in a different constituency. They therefore recommended that Chalford be included in the Stroud constituency. Due to the other changes in Gloucestershire, it was not feasible to include Kingswood in The Cotswolds constituency, and while acknowledging that Kingswood would be an orphan ward, they recommended, reluctantly, that it should be included in the Cirencester and North Wiltshire constituency. We consider that the evidence regarding all the wards in question is persuasive and that there is no solution that would satisfy all the residents of the District of Stroud. We agree with the Assistant Commissioners' recommendations that the Hardwicke ward should be included in The Cotswolds constituency, that the Nailsworth and Chalford wards should be included in Stroud, and that the Kingswood ward should be included in the cross-county constituency between Gloucester and Wiltshire.
- 3.31** The initial proposals made substantial changes to the boundaries of the existing The Cotswolds constituency, with the extension of the constituency westwards to include seven wards from the existing Tewkesbury constituency, together with four wards from the existing Stroud constituency. However, due to the transfer of other wards to the proposed cross-county boundary constituency (see below), the resulting The Cotswolds constituency actually covered a more compact geographic area than the existing constituency. Around 310 representations were received in opposition to the proposed The Cotswolds constituency, but this number also includes many representations that cover more than one constituency in addition to The Cotswolds. Some of these are referred to above. However, there was also support for the initial proposals with regard to The Cotswold constituency, for example Councillor John Bloxsom, Leader of the Labour group on Gloucestershire County Council, (BCE-78154), and general support from Geoffrey Wheeler (BCE-71266). Cotswold District Council (BCE-95936) supported both the initially proposed The Cotswolds, and Cirencester and North Wiltshire constituencies (albeit renamed North Cotswolds and South Cotswolds) apart from the suggestion to include the Chedworth & Churn Valley ward in the same constituency as Cirencester.

- 3.32** In order to create the extra constituency to which the combined area of Gloucestershire and Wiltshire is mathematically entitled, we proposed a Cirencester and North Wiltshire constituency that crossed the boundary between the two counties. The initial proposals generated a significant amount of opposition in the representations, such as those of Geoff Warren (BCE-92623) and Elly Harris (BCE-84177), where the sentiment was widely expressed that the town of Cirencester – ‘the Capital of the Cotswolds’ – could not be in a constituency with parts of Wiltshire. BCE-59624 said: ‘Cirencester is the heart of the Cotswolds, it has nothing to do with or share a post code with north Wiltshire, the two areas have very different issues and would not be in the best interest for residents’. A number of representations, however, suggested that the cross-county constituency might be more acceptable if the name were changed, with South Cotswolds being a common and popular suggestion (Cotswold District Council – BCE-82932, BCE-93907 and BCE-91949), and The Cotswolds being renamed North Cotswolds (BCE-96109 and BCE-76939).
- 3.33** Among the representations in opposition to the Cirencester and North Wiltshire constituency were a number that opposed the inclusion of Coln Valley ward, and in particular Northleach ward, which it was said looked towards the north Cotswolds and had little in common with Cirencester, let alone with north Wiltshire (for example BCE-94602 and Tony Antoniou – BCE-95912). There were also counter-proposals that suggested that the Chedworth & Churn Valley ward should be included in the same constituency as Cirencester (BCE-92948, and Cirencester Town Council – BCE-93310). Councillor Paul Hodgkinson (BCE-91597), highlighted the links of the ward with Cirencester, dating back to the times when Bagendon (which became Corinium) was the ‘largest pre-Roman settlement in England’.
- 3.34** The Assistant Commissioners considered the evidence about the Northleach ward and agreed that it would be more appropriate to include the ward in The Cotswolds, rather than Cirencester and North Wiltshire, and they recommended this change. However, The Cotswolds would then have an electorate that was too low. To address this issue and to bring it within the permitted range, they also recommended that the Coln Valley ward be included in The Cotswolds constituency. They noted the historical evidence of the links between Chedworth & Churn Valley ward and the town of Cirencester. However, the ward’s inclusion in Cirencester and North Wiltshire would again leave The Cotswolds with an electorate that was below the permitted range and would result in a very odd shape to The Cotswolds constituency, with a narrow neck of land linking the two parts of the constituency. For these reasons, they did not recommend Chedworth & Churn Valley’s inclusion in Cirencester and North Wiltshire. We also do not consider that ward’s inclusion in Cirencester and North Wiltshire would be appropriate, particularly with regard to the consequences that this would have for The Cotswolds constituency.

- 3.35 The Assistant Commissioners were very mindful of the opposition to the Cirencester and North Wiltshire constituency, but noted that a cross-county constituency was unavoidable within the sub-regions as established. However, they agreed with those who called for the names of The Cotswolds, and Cirencester and North Wiltshire to be changed. They noted the considerable body of representations that suggested that The Cotswolds could be named North Cotswolds, and that Cirencester and North Wiltshire could be renamed South Cotswolds. The Assistant Commissioners initially recommended to us the constituencies be renamed Northern Cotswolds and Southern Cotswolds. We agree with the composition of both constituencies, but do not agree to the names as recommended. We propose that the constituencies be named North Cotswolds and South Cotswolds as we consider this would be more in keeping with our approach to constituency names across the country.
- 3.36 The initial proposals for the Forest of Dean did not elicit a large number of representations, but the majority of those that were received were in support of the proposals and we therefore propose no revisions to the constituency as initially proposed.

Wiltshire (including Swindon)

- 3.37 In Wiltshire, local government ward changes have made it difficult, in some instances, to respect existing constituency boundaries. Consequently, there was considerable change and opposition to our proposals. There was, however, some support for the proposed Chippenham constituency, for example Robert Giles (BCE-84784), who also supported the proposed Devizes and Melksham constituency, and Councillor Nick Botterill (BCE-97839). The Conservative Party (BCE-86590 and BCE-97624) largely supported the initial proposals for both Melksham and Devizes, and Chippenham.
- 3.38 The Liberal Democrats (BCE-80986) submitted a counter-proposal that would make significant changes to the Chippenham, and Melksham and Devizes constituencies, with the main aim being that the town of Corsham should be included in the same constituency as Chippenham. They proposed that the Bromham, Rowde & Roundway ward should be included in a reconfigured Melksham and Devizes constituency along with the Calne wards, Lyneham ward, and the three Royal Wootton Bassett wards. The two Bradford-on-Avon wards, three Corsham wards, Box & Colerne, Hilperton, Holt, Melksham Without West & Rural, and Winsley & Westwood wards would be included in their reconfigured Chippenham constituency. This counter-proposal was strongly supported by councillors from the town of Corsham and by Corsham Town Council (BCE-69152, albeit with Melksham and Devizes being renamed Mid Wiltshire), who said that the ward of Box & Colerne also has very close links with the town of Corsham (as in the initial proposals) and that the Corsham ward was included in the same constituency as Chippenham between 1885 and 1983.

- 3.39 The Liberal Democrats' counter-proposal was also strongly opposed, however, in other representations. BCE-94763 said that the links between Corsham and Chippenham had been overstated and that Calne had close links with Chippenham. Some of those in opposition to their proposed Melksham and Devizes constituency alluded to the fact that geographically it would run from north of the town of Royal Wootton Bassett, down to Devizes and some distance beyond the town to its south. James Gray, MP for North Wiltshire, who spoke at the Bath public hearing (BCE-97844) supported the initial proposals and said that the Liberal Democrats' counter-proposal was 'very artificial'. Michele Donelan, MP for Chippenham (BCE-85373), noted the links between Royal Wootton Bassett and Calne, but said that 'there are no historic cultural, government or governance links between Melksham and Calne and RWB, nor between Devizes and RWB'. These sentiments were also expressed by Allison Bucknell, who also spoke at the Bath public hearing (BCE-97959).
- 3.40 There was widespread opposition from the rural wards surrounding Devizes to their perceived separation from the town of Devizes. In the initial proposals the town of Devizes was no longer included in the constituency after which it had been named (which was therefore to be renamed East Wiltshire), and was instead included at the eastern edge of the newly created Melksham and Devizes constituency, so named because Melksham is now the larger town of the two. Councillor Tamara Reay, who spoke at the public hearing held in Bath (BCE-97960), said that a new, proposed railway station for Devizes (Devizes Gateway) would most likely be located in the Urchfont and Bishops Canning ward. There was also opposition to the initial proposals from areas to the north of Devizes that had been included in the proposed Chippenham constituency, and in particular, from the Bromham area of the Bromham, Rowde & Roundway ward. Rebekah Jeffries of Rowde Parish Council (BCE-78412) said: 'Devizes has a very distinct character and the surrounding villages, of which Rowde is one, identifies very strongly with it. Rowde residents shop there, socialise there, go to school there. They are affected by traffic issues, policing issues & air quality issues in the town'. The Conservative Party in their counter-proposal would split this ward, with the Bromham area being included in the Melksham and Devizes constituency. There was also support for the inclusion of the town of Bradford-on-Avon in the Melksham and Devizes constituency (BCE-84135).
- 3.41 Our Assistant Commissioners visited parts of North Wiltshire to understand the representations more fully. They accepted that there were links between Chippenham and Calne, and also with Royal Wootton Bassett. They visited the rural Calne South ward and the Bromham, Rowde & Roundway ward and observed that the community of Bromham in the south of the ward was adjacent to, and closely connected with, Devizes. They considered the evidence and concluded that it would be possible to amend the proposed Chippenham constituency so that Royal Wootton Bassett, Calne, and Corsham would all

be in the same constituency as Chippenham. This would address many of the concerns in the representations received and satisfy to some extent the conflicting counter-proposals suggested by the Conservative and Liberal Democrat parties.

- 3.42** In view of the large number of representations objecting to the initial proposals, the Assistant Commissioners then visited the Urchfont & Bishops Cannings ward and The Lavingtons ward. Although they considered the distinction between the urban area of Devizes and the rural wards of Urchfont & Bishops Canning, and The Lavingtons was very clear and identifiable, and that there was no compelling reason why either ward needed to be in the same constituency as the town of Devizes, they considered that amending the Chippenham constituency, as suggested above, would also address the large number of representations received concerning the wards surrounding Devizes and that both wards could be included in the Melksham and Devizes constituency. Furthermore, the whole of the Bromham, Rowde & Roundway ward could be included in the Melksham and Devizes constituency without needing to be split, as in the Conservative Party counter-proposal. The inclusion of the whole of the Bromham, Rowde & Roundway ward in the Devizes constituency had also been proposed by Jonathan Stansby (BCE-62208, BCE-62734 and BCE-87731). This arrangement would mean that the ward of Calne South would have to be included in Melksham and Devizes, but when they visited the ward, the Assistant Commissioners observed that it was very rural in nature, largely separate from the town of Calne and that it was reasonable to consider that its residents looked both to Calne and Devizes for services. Additionally, a further consequence of adopting these changes would mean that the ward of Hilperton, which was considered by some to be part of the town of Trowbridge, would be included in the same constituency as Trowbridge, and that there was some limited support for this (for example BCE-60007 and Jonathan Stansby – references as above).
- 3.43** The Assistant Commissioners therefore recommended changes to the Chippenham, and Melksham and Devizes constituencies. They regretted that the electorate numbers would not allow for the Box & Colerne ward to be included in the same constituency as Calne in this arrangement. We agree that the Assistant Commissioners' recommendations are an acceptable solution that addresses and reflects the conflicting nature of the representations in this area.

- 3.44 The adoption of these recommendations would have consequences for the three remaining constituencies in Wiltshire. The inclusion of the Urchfont & Bishops Cannings, and The Lavingtons wards in the Melksham and Devizes constituency meant that additional wards would need to be included in the East Wiltshire constituency. However, this would be difficult to achieve, as the electorates of all the remaining constituencies were so close to the minimum permitted electorate range. The Assistant Commissioners therefore recommended that the Till Valley ward be included in the East Wiltshire constituency from the proposed Salisbury constituency. The Till Valley ward attracted very few comments in the representations, but this change was suggested by a local councillor (BCE-94897).
- 3.45 The town of Amesbury would also remain in the East Wiltshire constituency. While the Assistant Commissioners acknowledged the representations that suggested that the town of Amesbury looks very much towards Salisbury, and that its inclusion in the East Wiltshire constituency would not be welcomed as it has no significant links with the towns to the north of Salisbury Plain (BCE-53701 and BCE-95769), they considered that if the town were to remain undivided, all of its wards would have to be included in East Wiltshire. The inclusion of the Till Valley ward in East Wiltshire to the town's south and east would also mean that the town was less peripheral within the constituency. We were not persuaded to change the name of the East Wiltshire constituency to Vale of Pewsey, as suggested by Danny Kruger MP (BCE-97842) as we considered that the initially proposed name accurately described the constituency.
- 3.46 From the proposed Trowbridge and Warminster constituency there were few representations, but there was some support. The main issue was the call for a return of the existing constituency name of South West Wiltshire (BCE-93272). Although both the Nadder Valley and Tisbury wards attracted very little attention in the representations, among those that did mention the wards were proposals that they be included in the Salisbury constituency: for example, the Green Party (BCE-85287) and Jonathan Stansby (in respect of Nadder Valley). This would be possible within the new configuration for constituencies recommended by the Assistant Commissioners and they proposed that both wards be included in the Salisbury constituency.
- 3.47 As mentioned above, a consequence of the Assistant Commissioners' recommendations elsewhere in Wiltshire is that an additional ward has to be included in the Trowbridge and Warminster constituency; they therefore recommended that the Hilperton ward be included in Trowbridge and Warminster. The Assistant Commissioners considered that the name of the constituency was both suitable and appropriate, but they accepted the local support for the

constituency's name to revert to that of the existing constituency (for example Tom Dommett from Warminster Town Council – BCE-92006 and BCE-93272). They therefore recommended that the constituency name revert to South West Wiltshire.

- 3.48** We noted the representations concerning the town of Amesbury and its proposed inclusion in the East Wiltshire constituency, but agree with the Assistant Commissioners that this is the only practical solution – considering the other changes being proposed in Wiltshire – that allows for the whole of the town to be included in the same constituency, especially in view of the fact that options are limited by the very low electorates of the Wiltshire constituencies. We therefore accept the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners for the Salisbury, and Trowbridge and Warminster constituencies, and also accept their recommendation that Trowbridge and Warminster should revert to its existing name of South West Wiltshire.
- 3.49** There was support generally for the decision not to cross the county boundary between Gloucestershire and Wiltshire in Swindon, and to treat Swindon separately. In the initial proposals, the only change made to the composition of the North Swindon constituency was to realign constituency boundaries with new ward boundaries, with the Mannington and Weston, and Covingham and Dorcan wards being wholly included in the proposed Swindon South constituency, which then had an electorate above the permitted range. To address this, the Swindon borough wards of Wroughton and Wichelstowe, and Ridgeway were included in East Wiltshire, and the Chiseldon and Lawn ward, in view of the urban element in the northern part of the ward, continued to be included in the proposed Swindon South constituency. There was support for – and some opposition to – the initial proposals for both Swindon constituencies, for example BCE-67871 and BCE-78133, and some objections to the inclusion of two Swindon borough wards in the East Wiltshire constituency: for example, Lord Robert Hayward (BCE-81475 – Ridgeway); BCE-96323 (Wroughton and Wichelstowe); and calls for the Chiseldon and Lawn ward to be included in the East Wiltshire constituency, rather than in South Swindon as currently (Neil Hopkins – BCE-95475). In accordance with our constituency naming policy, we moved 'North' and 'South' as prefixes to suffixes in the constituency names, thus Swindon North and Swindon South.

- 3.50** On their site visit to Wiltshire, the Assistant Commissioners visited each of the three wards in south Swindon that respondents considered could be included in either the Swindon South or East Wiltshire constituencies, and noted that there had been a number of representations regarding these wards. They considered that the Wroughton and Wichelstowe ward was largely rural, apart from the community of Wroughton, and that there was a considerable amount of rural land between the community and the built-up area of Swindon. The Chiseldon and Lawn ward was similarly rural in nature, except in the north of the ward – north of the M4 motorway – where they observed an extension of the continuous urban area of Swindon in the Lawn and Badbury areas and that the Lawn area in particular was geographically close to Swindon Old Town. Despite the rural nature of the rest of the ward, it seemed appropriate that this ward, or at least the northern part of it, should be included in the Swindon South constituency. The Assistant Commissioners also visited the Ridgeway ward. The boundary between the built-up area of Swindon to the west and the Ridgeway ward was very pronounced along the A419. They considered that, despite the M4 running across the southern part of the ward, Ridgeway was an appropriate candidate for inclusion in the East Wiltshire constituency due to its rural characteristics.
- 3.51** The Assistant Commissioners therefore recommended that both the Wroughton and Wichelstowe, and Ridgeway wards be included in the East Wiltshire constituency, as in the initial proposals. However, they noted that, as a consequence of their recommended changes elsewhere in Wiltshire, it would not be possible to include the whole of the Chiseldon and Lawn ward in the Swindon South constituency and they therefore recommended that the Chiseldon and Lawn ward be split. The division would include the three urban polling districts of CLA, CLC and CLD, that lie to the north of the M4 motorway, in Swindon South, with the rural polling district CLB being included in East Wiltshire. They noted that the M4 motorway runs east/west across the whole of the Chiseldon and Lawn ward and would provide a very clear, understandable boundary between the two parts of the ward. It was also acknowledged that if the recommendation to split the Chiseldon and Lawn ward were not to be accepted, there is just one ‘whole ward’ solution that would not result in the collapse of the other recommended revisions to proposed constituencies in Wiltshire and into Gloucestershire: this would be to include the Ridgeway ward in South Swindon and the whole of Chiseldon and Lawn in East Wiltshire. However, this would include a rural ward in Swindon South, and a ward with a large urban element in East Wiltshire. They considered this did not better reflect community identity and therefore did not recommend this.

- 3.52** We agree with the recommendations of our Assistant Commissioners. Although we had not initially considered splitting the Chiseldon and Lawn ward, we accept that such a split is appropriate, given the unfavourable whole ward alternative, and that not doing so would preclude a pattern of constituencies across the entire sub-region that better reflects the statutory criteria, given the evidence received in response to the public consultations.

Dorset (including Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole)

- 3.53** There are currently eight constituencies in this sub-region, which comprises the two unitary authorities of Dorset, and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP). Six of the existing constituencies currently have electorates within the permitted range, with the existing Mid Dorset and North Poole constituency having an electorate below the permitted range, and the West Dorset constituency having an electorate above. The initial proposals were based as much as possible on maintaining existing constituencies, but due to ward realignments this had not been possible in some constituencies.
- 3.54** There was widespread acceptance of the composition of all eight of our proposed constituencies, including from all four qualifying political parties; the Conservative Party (BCE-86590 and BCE-97624); the Labour Party (BCE-79518, BCE-79532 and BCE-95667); the Liberal Democrats (BCE-80986 and BCE-96091); and the Green Party (BCE-95629 and BCE-85287).

- 3.55 The existing Bournemouth East, Bournemouth West, Poole, and Christchurch constituencies are all within the permitted electorate range, but due to changes to local government ward boundaries, retaining these constituencies wholly unchanged would divide a number of wards between constituencies. Therefore, the only changes proposed in the initial proposal to these constituencies was to realign constituency boundaries with new ward boundaries.
- 3.56 There was a significant level of support for the proposed constituencies in the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) unitary authority, which would be unchanged, apart from realignment with new ward boundaries: examples are Sue Spittle (BCE-63304 – Christchurch); Conor Burns, MP for Bournemouth West (BCE-77978) and BCE-74697 (Bournemouth West); BCE-63654 (Bournemouth East); and Graham Sutherland (BCE-73584 – Poole). There was some objection, however, for example from Thomas Burke (BCE-75170), who, in common with some other respondents, objected to East Dorset wards being included in the Christchurch constituency. Also, in the initial proposals we had changed the name of Mid Dorset and North Poole to Mid Dorset and Poole North to reflect our constituency naming policy. A number of representations said that the name should not be changed as no revisions were being proposed to the constituency, for example Michael Tomlinson, MP for Mid Dorset and North Poole (BCE-63916), the Liberal Democrats, and Greg Cook on behalf of the Labour Party at the public hearing held in Exeter (BCE-97426).
- 3.57 Peter Kingswood (BCE-85513, BCE-96743, BCE-96744, and BCE-97886) submitted a counter-proposal that treated Dorset and BCP separately, with each allocated four whole constituencies. This counter-proposal was strongly opposed by Patrick Canavan, Secretary of the Labour Party structure for the BCP unitary authority area, who spoke at the public hearing held in Dorchester (BCE-97888) and stated that it would not command local support, as it seemed to artificially try and fit constituencies into unitary boundaries, which would ultimately weaken community links.
- 3.58 As a consequence of ward boundary changes, the Dorset ward of West Purbeck in the Mid Dorset and Poole North constituency has been extended to the coast and was included in the South Dorset constituency. Consequently, the existing Mid Dorset and North Poole constituency was extended northwards to include the Dorset ward of Stour & Allen Vale. The North Dorset constituency required further changes to realign constituency boundaries with local government ward boundaries and the whole of the Dorset wards of Chalk Valleys, and Puddletown & Lower Winterborne were included in the North Dorset constituency.

- 3.59 In the initial proposals, the Chickerell ward was included in the South Dorset constituency, from West Dorset, and the Upwey & Broadwey ward was included in the West Dorset constituency, from South Dorset. This was not popular, with many respondents saying that this configuration caused a disruption of the historic and local ties present in the area. For example, with regard to the Chickerell ward, BCE-78964 stated: 'Chickerell is a "town" in West Dorset and stands on its own but being a neighbour of the larger town of Weymouth..... Chickerell has its own Town Council.....if this proposal goes ahead I feel Chickerell would lose its sense of identity and place ...' However, there was also some support, for example, Ron Martin (BCE-59927), who stated 'The Weymouth / Chickerell / Portland area is by the far the largest conurbation within the Dorset Council area and to split any part of this between different constituencies would be a travesty'.
- 3.60 There was greater opposition to the inclusion of the Upwey & Broadwey ward in the proposed West Dorset constituency, such as from Pauline Crump (BCE-83539), a local councillor (BCE 79048), and BCE-85002, which said the exclusion of Upwey & Broadwey and the inclusion of Chickerell 'does not take into account the geography and history of the area or the wishes of the people concerned. Chickerell is a better fit in the area in which it currently is, additionally the people concerned quite vehemently state that they are not part of Weymouth and wish to be identified as a town in their own right. Whereas Upwey & Broadwey has always been considered to be a part of Weymouth and it geographically makes far better sense'. Others suggested that the Upwey & Broadwey ward follows the traditional main route to Weymouth town centre, has had links with Weymouth since the Middle Ages, and is surrounded on three sides by other wards of Weymouth. The initial proposals were not, however, met with any objections from any of the four qualifying political parties. The Conservative Party in their second consultation submission (BCE-97624) noted that they saw no alternative to the Commission's proposals, because of the size, shape and extent of the wards and that, although they would consider an alternative scheme that was non-disruptive, 'we have not seen such an alternative'.
- 3.61 The Assistant Commissioners visited the Winterborne & Broadmayne ward, through Upwey & Broadwey, and into Weymouth. While they agreed with those who said that Upwey & Broadwey was intrinsically part of Weymouth, the ward's inclusion in South Dorset would mean that the Chickerell ward would have to be included in West Dorset (although this was supported in some of the representations), but that additionally, the Winterborne & Broadmayne ward would also have to be included in South Dorset. This is a large, mainly rural ward whose boundaries go right up to the town of Dorchester. It would not be possible to include the Upwey & Broadwey ward alone in South Dorset, and the Assistant Commissioners did not consider that they could recommend the inclusion also of Winterborne & Broadmayne in South Dorset. The lack of

representations concerning this ward suggested that, as its inclusion in the South Dorset constituency had not been proposed, local residents were presumably content with the initial proposals. We consider that it is regrettable that it would not be possible to include the Upwey and Broadwey ward alone in South Dorset and Chickerell in West Dorset without also having to include Winterbourne and Broadmayne in South Dorset, but agree with the recommendations of our Assistant Commissioners.

- 3.62** The issue that garnered the most opposition to the initial proposals came from the Chalk Valleys ward, with representations from more than 250 residents in the Cerne Abbas and Piddle Valley areas very much opposed to their inclusion in the North Dorset constituency, for example BCE-76150, BCE-82405, and Karen Burghart (BCE-95996). One respondent (BCE-86298), submitted a letter of objection and a petition containing 79 names. Several individuals also gave oral evidence at the hearing in Dorchester, for example Felicity Lewis (BCE-97892 and written representation BCE-61760), and Max and Claire Crosbie (BCE-97891). These respondents said that their ties were with Dorchester and the West Dorset constituency, and that they had little in common with North Dorset or places that appeared far away, such as Verwood, which were included in North Dorset.
- 3.63** We received a representation and alternative configuration from Chris Loder, MP for West Dorset (BCE-82829), who also gave oral evidence at the public hearing held in Dorchester (BCE-97890). He accepted that there was no whole ward solution to resolve this issue, and suggested that splitting wards between constituencies was the only way to properly address the constraints faced in the Dorset sub-region. He considered that local ties would continue to be broken in many areas if we did not consider that the circumstances in South Dorset, North Dorset, and West Dorset were exceptional enough to warrant constituencies that split wards. Mr Loder noted that in West Dorset, there are three wards – Sherborne Rural, Chalk Valleys, and Puddletown & Lower Winterborne – that are currently split over two existing constituencies, as a result of the new wards implemented for Dorset Council. In his counter-proposal, he proposed the splitting of two wards: West Purbeck and Chalk Valleys. He suggested that by splitting the West Purbeck ward, we would be able to create a Dorset sub-region with a similar existing pattern of constituencies, and that this split would also allow the Upwey & Broadwey ward to be included in South Dorset. He also suggested that a further split – in the Chalk Valleys ward – would allow the Cerne Abbas and Piddle Valley areas to be included in West Dorset with Dorchester.
- 3.64** Our Assistant Commissioners visited this area of Dorset to help them better understand the evidence received. Through their site visits they were able to observe community ties – particularly from the Cerne Abbas and Piddle Valley communities. They found the Chalk Valleys ward is large in area and rural in nature. They considered that although the communities mentioned above undoubtedly did use Dorchester for services, they were some distance away

from the town. While they had sympathy with the residents of the Chalk Valleys ward, and with Chris Loder's well-supported counter-proposal, the Assistant Commissioners did not consider that there were sufficient grounds for the splitting of two wards under his counter-proposal. They were also mindful of the evidence given by Simon Hoare, MP for North Dorset, at the public hearing in Dorchester (BCE-97887), who, while supporting the initial proposals for his constituency and opposing any split wards in the county, said that he was not aware of any objections locally in his area. He said he also wanted to address the misconception that people will somehow be constrained in their shopping and other activities by Parliamentary boundaries. Our Assistant Commissioners considered that there was no compelling reason why wards to the north and north west of Dorchester should be in the West Dorset constituency, and recommended that Mr Loder's counter-proposal should not be adopted. We agree with their recommendation.

- 3.65 Having considered the initial proposals and all the representations received, including the possibility of ward splits, the Assistant Commissioners therefore concluded that no evidence received throughout the public consultations provided a sufficiently compelling reason for them to adjust the composition of any of the Dorset constituencies as initially proposed. They therefore do not recommend making any such changes. However, they agreed with those who called for a retention of the existing Mid Dorset and North Poole constituency name, and they therefore recommended this. We agree that no changes need to be made to the proposed constituency compositions, but also agree with our Assistant Commissioners that it is appropriate to revert to the existing name of Mid Dorset and North Poole, on the basis of local support for that name.

'Avon', Somerset, and Devon (including Torbay and Plymouth)

- 3.66 The initial proposals established a sub-region comprised of the four unitary authorities that used to be contained in the county of Avon, plus Somerset and Devon (including Plymouth and Torbay). This results in a mathematical entitlement to 29.97 constituencies and an allocation of 30 constituencies to the sub-region, representing an increase of two from the current figure. Five constituencies that crossed county or unitary authority boundaries in this sub-region were proposed. Two would cross the boundary between Somerset and unitary authorities in the former Avon county area, two would cross the boundary between two unitary authorities within the former Avon county area, and one would cross the county boundary between Somerset and Devon. There was general support for the constituencies proposed in this sub-region from all the four qualifying political parties, albeit with some relatively minor local amendments.

‘Avon’ – Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire

- 3.67** Two of the four existing constituencies in Bristol have electorates that are significantly above the permitted range, particularly in Bristol West, which now is the largest constituency by electorate in England (apart from the existing single Isle of Wight constituency) with 99,859 electors. It was therefore proposed that there be an additional constituency allocated to Bristol, resulting in a cross-local authority boundary constituency with South Gloucestershire. South Gloucestershire council area already contains what would generally be considered some of the northern and eastern Bristol suburbs and new development. We had considered extending at least one Bristol constituency northwards into South Gloucestershire in view of the links with Bristol, for example, Bristol Parkway station is located within the existing Filton and Bradley Stoke constituency. However, it was considered this would cause unnecessary disruption to both the existing Filton and Bradley Stoke constituency and the wider South Gloucestershire unitary authority. A new Bristol North East constituency that expanded eastwards into South Gloucestershire was therefore proposed.
- 3.68** There was widespread support and relatively little opposition to the five proposed Bristol constituencies (including that shared with South Gloucestershire). In each of the five constituencies proposed for Bristol, support outweighed opposition and all four qualifying political parties: Conservative (BCE-86590 and BCE-97624), Labour (BCE-79518, BCE-79532 and BCE-95667), Liberal Democrats (BCE-80986), and the Green Party (BCE-85239 and BCE-85287) expressed support for the composition and names of the five proposed Bristol constituencies of Bristol Central, Bristol East, Bristol North East, Bristol North West, and Bristol South in their entirety. BCE-75267 considered the proposed boundaries to be ‘much better than the existing ones. The boundaries for Bristol Central in particular respect community ties very well, as far as possible with the electorate limits..... The name is also a much better reflection on the nature of the constituency. Similarly the boundaries for the other four Bristol seats (North West, North East, East and South) are sensible and do not notably divide up any communities with obvious ties.’
- 3.69** Bristol South Constituency Labour Party (BCE-70160), however, while broadly supportive of the proposals, expressed some concerns about splitting the Knowle West estate between the Bristol South and Bristol East constituencies, particularly in view of the ongoing work on the Knowle West Regeneration Framework. From the existing Kingswood constituency there was some objection to the inclusion of the South Gloucestershire wards of Kingswood, New Cheltenham, Woodstock, and Staple Hill & Mangotsfield in the Bristol North East constituency, for example BCE-84711, but these were few in number.

- 3.70** Our Assistant Commissioners noted the widespread acceptance that Bristol would require an additional constituency, and that there was little by way of opposition to the initial proposals, or counter-proposals for alternative arrangements of constituencies in Bristol. They therefore recommended that no changes be made to any of the five initially proposed Bristol constituencies of Bristol Central, Bristol East, Bristol North East, Bristol North West, and Bristol South. We agree with them regarding the five Bristol constituencies.
- 3.71** In South Gloucestershire unitary authority, to the north of Bristol, only limited changes were made to the existing Thornbury and Yate, and Filton and Bradley Stoke constituencies. Apart from some realignment with new ward boundaries, these were the inclusion of the Pilning & Severn Beach ward in Thornbury and Yate, and the Emersons Green ward in Filton and Bradley Stoke from the existing Kingswood constituency. The remaining wards of the existing Kingswood constituency had either been incorporated into Bristol North East, or the proposed Keynsham and North East Somerset constituency (Bitton & Oldland Common, Hanham, Longwell Green, and Parkwall & Warmley). Despite the relatively modest change in South Gloucestershire, there was opposition, largely from the Conservative Party (BCE-86590 and BCE-97624), Councillor Toby Savage, Leader of South Gloucestershire Council (BCE-81938), and Sanjay Shambhu (BCE-97838).
- 3.72** Many of those who opposed the initial proposals sought a reconfiguration of the South Gloucestershire constituencies in a broadly east/west arrangement. South Gloucestershire West would be the 'successor' to Filton and Bradley Stoke, with the inclusion of the wards of Severn Vale and Thornbury from the existing Thornbury and Yate constituency, the whole of the Winterbourne ward and the 'return' of the Pilning & Severn Beach ward, and a South Gloucestershire East constituency comprising six wards from the existing Thornbury and Yate constituency plus the whole of the Boyd Valley, and Frenchay & Downend wards, and the Emersons Green ward. The Members of Parliament for Thornbury and Yate, Luke Hall (BCE-79890), and for Filton and Bradley Stoke, Jack Lopresti (BCE-83754) also expressed support for this counter-proposal in their detailed representations.
- 3.73** There was also significant opposition to the Conservative Party counter-proposal, however, particularly in the representations during the second consultation, for example Councillor Claire Young from Thornbury and Yate constituency (BCE-96423), Councillor Angela Morey (BCE-92437 and BCE-97835), and Penny Richardson (BCE-97837). Penny Richardson alluded to the fact that Filton and Bradley Stoke was a relatively young constituency that, when it was first created, was considered to be 'a little bit of a hodgepodge' of areas, but that it has developed its own identity and a real sense of stability and continuity. She asked that it be allowed a degree of longevity.

- 3.74 Our Assistant Commissioners were not persuaded that a reconfiguration of the constituencies in South Gloucestershire was the most appropriate solution in the area. In the Conservative Party counter-proposal the relatively compact area of Filton and Bradley Stoke, which was adjacent to Bristol, would be included in a constituency that extended north to the boundary with Stroud, and the towns of Thornbury and Yate would be located in different constituencies, whereas there was relatively minor change to both constituencies in our initial proposals. They therefore recommended that the constituencies of Filton and Bradley Stoke, and Thornbury and Yate, should remain as in the initial proposals. We agree, and propose no change to Filton and Bradley Stoke, and Thornbury and Yate, except to alter the designation of Filton and Bradley Stoke to a Borough Constituency in view of its high electorate density.
- 3.75 There was some support, but mostly objection, to the proposed Keynsham and North East Somerset constituency. In the initial proposals the four South Gloucestershire wards of Bitton & Oldland Common, Hanham, Longwell Green, and Parkwall & Warmley from the existing Kingswood constituency were included in the proposed constituency with 11 wards from North East Somerset. Most objections concerned the “abolition” of the Kingswood constituency, the exclusion of the town of Midsomer Norton from the proposed constituency and its inclusion in the Frome constituency, and that the areas north of the river Avon have little in common with those areas to the south of it. The representations of Sam Ross (BCE-84603), BCE-78395, and BCE-95845 are typical of those received in objection to this proposed constituency. However, there was also support, for example BCE-95520 and BCE-84653, which said: ‘I consider that those living in the northern part of the existing constituency of North East Somerset have a lot more in common with their close neighbours in Bath and Bristol than they do with those of us living in the south thereof. It is better for residents in the smaller areas such as Radstock and Midsomer Norton to be linked up with Frome and its region.’ There has been no objection to the composition of Keynsham and North East Somerset constituency from any of the four qualifying political parties.
- 3.76 A number of representations said that the name of the constituency is inaccurate and tautologous, as Keynsham is itself a North East Somerset town and the name does not reflect the communities from South Gloucestershire that are included. The Conservative Party supported the composition of the constituency, but considered it could be renamed North East Somerset and South Gloucestershire South. Our Assistant Commissioners did not agree with this particular alternative, but agreed that the initially proposed name was not an accurate description of the constituency. They therefore recommended ‘North East Somerset and Hanham’ – a name suggested by Jed Quinn at the public hearing in Bath (BCE-97965). We agree to this renaming of the constituency.

- 3.77** The electorate of the Bath constituency was below the permitted range and was increased by the inclusion of the Bath and North East Somerset wards of Bathavon North and Newbridge. The initial proposals for Bath were largely supported, for example, BCE-81857, and BCE-84536, which said: 'The new proposals for Bath seem entirely logical as the additional two areas have obvious links with the city. The Newbridge addition makes sense as it completes and consolidates the original Newbridge area'. However, there was some opposition, as the Bathavon South ward was not included in the constituency (see under Frome below).
- 3.78** In order to reduce the electorate of the existing Weston-super-Mare constituency, the three largely rural wards of Blagdon & Churchill, Banwell & Winscombe, and Congresbury & Puxton were included in the proposed Wells and Mendip Hills constituency, thereby making Weston-super-Mare a more compact, urban constituency. Few representations were received with regard to the proposed Weston-super-Mare constituency: North Somerset Council Labour Group (BCE-81040) supported the initial proposals for the constituency, but there was little objection. Elsewhere in North Somerset, there was more objection to the initial proposals for the North Somerset constituency, but much of this was in opposition to the composition of the surrounding constituencies that had an impact on North Somerset, particularly the inclusion of the Yatton and Kenn areas (Yatton ward) in the proposed Wells and Mendip Hills constituency that crossed the boundary between North Somerset unitary authority and Somerset (BCE-61069, BCE-59689 and BCE-83787). BCE-60025 supported the inclusion of the Yatton ward in the Wells and Mendip Hills constituency, but objected to its name. The current MP for North Somerset, Dr Liam Fox (BCE-85323) supported the initial proposals.
- 3.79** Our Assistant Commissioners noted the general level of agreement and support for the initial proposals from the qualifying political parties and from individuals across North Somerset, and Bath and North East Somerset. They agreed with the Conservative Party, who, in their submission during the second consultation (BCE-97624), said that the initial proposals were 'probably the only practical solution to increase the Bath electorate'. The Assistant Commissioners therefore recommended that there be no change to the Bath, North Somerset, and Weston-super-Mare constituencies, as initially proposed. We agree.

Somerset

- 3.80** As all of the existing constituencies in Somerset have electorates that are considerably above the permitted electorate range, major change in the initial proposals was unavoidable, although there was a general consensus of support for the initial proposals from all the four qualifying political parties, albeit with some minor amendments.

- 3.81 Six Bath and North East Somerset wards, including the town of Midsomer Norton, were included in a Frome constituency, with 13 wards from the existing Frome and Somerton constituency, together with the South Somerset district ward of Bruton, which would be an orphan ward, and the Ashwick, Chilcompton and Stratton ward from the existing Wells constituency. In the initial proposals the Glastonbury and Somerton constituency contained a total of 15 wards from the existing Frome and Somerton constituency, including the town of Somerton itself, seven wards from the existing Wells constituency, including the towns of Glastonbury and Street, and the South Somerset district ward of Hamdon.
- 3.82 There was a significant degree of opposition to the proposed Frome constituency, with most of the objections concerning the inclusion of the Bathavon South ward in the constituency. Typical of these are the representations from Robert and Avril Grieg, (BCE-84170) and BCE-70092, who said that the parishes and communities in the north of the ward – such as Claverton and Monkton Combe – should be in the Bath constituency, and from Richard Burgess, Station Manager at Somer Valley FM (BCE-62064). However, there was also notable support, for example from Frome and District Chamber of Commerce (BCE-79905), which said the proposed constituency is ‘much more coherent than the existing Somerton and Frome constituency’.
- 3.83 Our Assistant Commissioners acknowledged the frustrations of those living in the north of the Bathavon South ward at their inclusion in the proposed Frome constituency. However, it was not possible to include both the Bathavon North, and Bathavon South wards in the Bath constituency. They also noted the support for the Frome constituency from, for example, the Somerset Independents, who claimed to represent local residents (BCE-66981), and the evidence given by Frome and District Chamber of Commerce. They therefore recommended no change to the constituency, and we agree.
- 3.84 The town of Somerton was included in the newly configured Glastonbury and Somerton constituency in the initial proposals. There was similarly some limited objection, but also support for the proposed constituency, for example from Somerset Independents (BCE-66981). In their revised submission (BCE-97624), the Conservative Party counter-proposed that The Pennards and Ditchat ward be included in Frome rather than Glastonbury and Somerton, which is also supported in representation BCE-83252. The Assistant Commissioners noted that those in opposition to the proposed Glastonbury and Somerton constituency outnumbered the representations in support, but these numbers were not large and they did not consider that the evidence that had been submitted had persuaded them to recommend a revision of the initial proposals. They therefore recommended that no changes be made to the Glastonbury and Somerset constituency as initially proposed, and we agree with their recommendation.

- 3.85 The proposed Wells and Mendip Hills constituency was significantly different to the existing Wells constituency: in addition to the inclusion of wards from surrounding constituencies, it would no longer include the town of Burnham-on-Sea, nor the Ashwick, Chilcompton and Stratton ward. It would extend to the Bristol Channel (as the existing Wells constituency already does, but at a different point), and cross the boundary between Somerset and the North Somerset unitary authority. Kenn Parish Council objected to the inclusion of the Yatton ward in the constituency (BCE-63436), and Peter Lander (BCE-81337), stated that the proposals for the constituency ‘make no sense whatsoever’. There was some support, however, for example from Janet Carter (BCE-84144) and James Heapey, MP for Wells (BCE-74863), as well as from all four main political parties.
- 3.86 The existing Bridgwater and West Somerset constituency needs to have its 85,448 electorate significantly reduced and a number of its wards were therefore included in the proposed Wells and Mendip Hills, and Tiverton and Minehead constituencies, including the wards that comprise the town of Minehead. The four wards that comprise the town of Burnham-on-Sea, with 13 remaining wards from the existing Bridgwater and West Somerset constituency, were included in the renamed Bridgwater constituency. While generally supportive, BCE-83792 expressed the views of a number of those in opposition to the inclusion of the Hinkley Point nuclear power station development in the Tiverton and Minehead constituency, rather than Bridgwater, which is home to many of the plant’s workforce. In addition, there were some calls for the constituency to include references to Bridgwater Bay or Burnham in its name. The initial proposals were supported by the MP for Bridgwater and West Somerset, Iain Liddell-Grainger (BCE-63351).
- 3.87 The Assistant Commissioners acknowledged the opposition to the proposed Wells and Mendip Hills, and Bridgwater constituencies, but also the considerable support, notably from the local MPs. They considered the issue of the Hinkley Point nuclear power station development, but noted that no-one had made a clear counter-proposal that kept this in the Bridgwater constituency without causing disruption elsewhere. They were not persuaded that the name of the Bridgwater constituency should be changed to Bridgewater Bay, Bridgwater and Burnham, or anything similar. They therefore recommended no changes be made to the Wells and Mendip Hills, and Bridgwater constituencies as initially proposed. We agree.

- 3.88** In Yeovil, slight adjustments were made to realign the constituency boundaries with local government ward boundary changes, maintaining the entirety of the town of Yeovil within the constituency. Opposition to the proposed constituency was limited, but most of those in opposition, including Yeovil's MP, Marcus Fysh (BCE-85217 and BCE-97893) noted that the Northstone, Ivelchester & St Michael's ward is currently split between existing constituencies. Mr Fysh suggested that this large, rural ward (which is included in the Glastonbury and Somerton constituency in the initial proposals) be split, with the area in the south that is in the existing Yeovil constituency remaining in Yeovil.
- 3.89** Our Assistant Commissioners considered that the initial proposals had aimed to keep all the wards of the town in the constituency, and that only the southern part of the newly enlarged ward of Northstone, Ivelchester & St Michael's had been previously included in the existing constituency. They considered the suggestions for the ward to be split, with the villages south of the A303 being retained within the Yeovil constituency. The electorate of the proposed Glastonbury and Somerton constituency was 69,990, however, so could only tolerate the loss of 266 electors without further consequences affecting other proposed constituencies: the number of electors in the area south of the A303 considerably exceeds this number, with 1,434 electors in the polling district that covers the village of Ilchester alone. The Assistant Commissioners were not persuaded of the merits of the proposed split of the ward. They were mindful of the general level of support for the constituencies in this area, and therefore recommended no change to the Yeovil constituency as initially proposed. We agree with them.
- 3.90** The proposed constituency of Taunton was considerably smaller in area than its predecessor, Taunton Deane, and it was inevitable that the constituency would no longer contain all the wards of the existing constituency. It was also renamed, as the Taunton Deane district – after which it was originally named – no longer exists. The proposed cross-county boundary constituency of Tiverton and Minehead included the remaining wards of the existing Bridgwater and West Somerset constituency, three wards from the existing Taunton Deane constituency, and the whole of the two Somerset West and Taunton district wards of South Quantock, and Wiveliscombe & District, which are both currently divided between constituencies (following local government ward changes). There was considerable opposition to the constituency containing parts of two

counties, for example the Green Party (BCE-95629 and BCE-85287), who said: 'Tiverton and Minehead groups together two areas with very few local ties or shared facilities. It covers many communities with very different local context and needs, and would be hard to represent. These areas are also not well connected by transport links, which would make campaigning in the constituency difficult.' Also, representation BCE-84838 said: 'there are no local ties between Minehead with its surrounding areas and Tiverton.... the proposal fails on the criteria of local ties and geographical factors. However the most extraordinary aspect of this proposal is its failure to meet the criteria of having regard to local government boundaries. The proposed constituency spans the counties of Somerset and Devon. These are historic counties with separate administration and a historic common county boundary which has existed for centuries. I maintain that the failure to meet this criteria is so significant that this proposal should be rejected.'

- 3.91** There was also support, however, for example from a local councillor (BCE-82741), who considered the proposed constituency 'geographically cohesive' and BCE-54062, who said: 'I am fully in favour of creating a new Tiverton and Minehead constituency and feel that for West Somerset it will be a major improvement over the existing arrangements. The rural hinterland will come together and we will be part of a new set-up which reflects our needs more closely.' The proposed Tiverton and Minehead constituency was also broadly supported by the Labour Party, the Conservative Party (although renamed Tiverton and West Somerset), and the Liberal Democrats, albeit the latter two proposed slight adjustments to the configuration. Much of the opposition concerned the inclusion of the Norton Fitzwarren & Staplegrove ward in this constituency rather than in the Taunton constituency: Staplegrove Parish Council (BCE-70553) and Norton Fitzwarren Parish Council (BCE-63619). The MP for Taunton Deane, Rebecca Pow (BCE-71726, BCE-85941, and BCE-97953), provided evidence in her representations of the strong links of Norton Fitzwarren & Staplegrove ward with Taunton, particularly citing the links of Taunton with 40 Commando Royal Marines (based at Norton Manor Camp in the ward).
- 3.92** Our Assistant Commissioners noted that the ward was physically close to Taunton town centre, and considered the evidence presented for the ward's inclusion in the Taunton constituency, in particular the town's links with Norton Manor Camp in the ward, to be compelling and were persuaded to recommend the retention of the Norton Fitzwarren & Staplegrove ward in the same constituency as Taunton. However, they were less persuaded by the calls for the constituency to include the town of Wellington in its name. The inclusion of the Norton Fitzwarren & Staplegrove ward in Taunton would mean that another ward would have to be included in the Tiverton and Minehead constituency in exchange, to allow both constituencies to remain within the permitted electorate range. They noted the representations that had suggested that the Upper Culm ward should instead be included in the Tiverton and Minehead constituency (BCE-8543 and BCE-82696).

3.93 The Assistant Commissioners noted that the ward is currently in the existing Tiverton and Honiton constituency, and that its inclusion in the proposed constituency would maintain the ward's ties with the town of Tiverton, and also the Lower Culm ward, which had been included in the Tiverton and Minehead constituency in the initial proposals. The Assistant Commissioners considered the opposition to the cross-county constituency of Tiverton and Minehead, although they also noted the support, and acknowledged that within the arrangement of constituencies that had been initially proposed, a constituency would have to cross the county boundary between Somerset and Devon. Although part of Devon would be included in the same constituency as holiday resorts on the Bristol Channel, they considered that the proposed constituency was appropriate. They considered that the evidence for including the Norton Fitzwarren & Staplegrove ward in the Taunton constituency, and the Upper Culm ward in Tiverton and Minehead was persuasive, and they therefore recommended the alterations to the Taunton, and Tiverton and Minehead constituencies with regard to these two wards, but did not recommend that the name of the Taunton constituency be changed from that set out in initial proposals. We agree with their recommendations.

Devon (including Plymouth and Torbay)

3.94 There was a significant degree of support for the initial proposals in Devon from all the qualifying political parties, although in other areas some relatively minor alternatives were proposed. However, there was unanimous opposition to the proposed Exeter and Exmouth constituencies.

3.95 As a result of the inclusion of eight wards (including those comprising the town of Tiverton itself) from the existing Tiverton and Honiton constituency in the proposed cross-county Tiverton and Minehead constituency, Tiverton and Honiton was renamed Honiton. This constituency was extended westwards in the initial proposals to include four wards from the existing East Devon constituency, including the towns of Ottery St Mary and Sidmouth. The initial proposals for Honiton were reasonably well supported, for example BCE-83738 and Simon Jupp, MP for East Devon (BCE-86099), albeit with a suggested constituency name change. Most of the opposition concerned the separation of the town of Ottery St Mary from the West Hill & Aylesbeare ward. Examples were Colin Bennett (BCE-92521), Elizabeth Pangbourne (BCE-92469) and Jess Bailey, who spoke at the public hearing in Exeter (BCE-97823), and who called for the inclusion of the ward from Exmouth to maintain social and business ties. There were also calls for the Newton Poppleford & Hartford ward to be included in the Honiton constituency, due to its close proximity to the town of Sidmouth (BCE-62550 and BCE-90318), pointing out that this would also allow for the Exe Valley ward to be included in the Exmouth constituency.

- 3.96** The Assistant Commissioners noted calls for the constituency name to include a reference to Sidmouth, a sizable town that would now be included in the constituency. Alistair Philpot (BCE-59706) had suggested that the Budleigh & Rayleigh ward should also be included in the Honiton constituency. Having considered the evidence, the Assistant Commissioners identified that it would be possible for both the wards of West Hill & Aylesbeare, and Newton Poppleford & Hartford to be included in the Honiton constituency and for its electorate to continue to be in the permitted range, but that it would not be possible to include the Budleigh & Rayleigh ward in light of the other changes that were being considered. They also recommended that the constituency's name should be revised to Honiton and Sidmouth. We agree with their recommendations for both the composition and name of the constituency.
- 3.97** In order to reduce the high electorate of the existing Exeter constituency, the three City of Exeter wards of Topsham, St. Loyes and Priory were included wholly in the proposed Exmouth constituency, as these wards crossed existing constituency boundaries following local government ward boundary changes. Apart from these changes, the existing Exeter constituency was otherwise unchanged. This proposal was almost unanimously opposed; more than 500 written representations were received in opposition, as well as petitions containing 1,853 names, and this was the largest issue in the South West region and one of the largest in England as a whole.
- 3.98** All the main political parties objected. The main issue of objection was the inclusion of the Priory ward in the Exmouth constituency. Many of the representations detailed, at some length and with passion, the historic links of the ward with the centre of Exeter, for example Catherine Craig (BCE-64028), Andrew Hannan (BCE-62899), and Susan Turner (BCE-79540). Many others suggested that the Pinhoe ward, rather than Priory, should be included in the Exmouth constituency, for example Ben Bradshaw, MP for Exeter (BCE-77026), Marina Asvachin (BCE-62793), and Exeter City Council (BCE-82644), although there was also some opposition to this alternative (for example BCE-84334). Respondents said that although Pinhoe is a City of Exeter ward, it comprises mostly new development and has ties to the town of Broadclyst and the newer developments in the Cranbrook ward. The ward's inclusion in Exmouth would mean that the three eastern wards of Exeter would all be in the Exmouth constituency. The Assistant Commissioners considered the evidence with regard to the Priory ward to be compelling and they therefore recommended that it be included in the Exeter constituency, with the Pinhoe ward instead being included in Exmouth. To reflect these changes, they recommend that Exeter should retain its name, and that Exmouth be renamed Exeter East and Exmouth. We agreed with their recommendations for the composition and names of both constituencies.

- 3.99** The existing Central Devon constituency would be changed under our initial proposals only to realign with changes to local government boundaries. It was acknowledged in the initial proposals that the Central Devon constituency would still contain wards from four different local authorities, but it was considered that any alternatives would require significant changes to constituencies that otherwise required only minor changes. There were few representations received, but there was some relatively minor objection to the proposed Central Devon constituency, which, it was said, looked towards Newton Abbot with which it had links, but would include much of Dartmoor (BCE-52688).
- 3.100** There were calls, for example from Jamie Kemp, councillor for the Exe Valley ward (BCE-97831), and who was supported by the Conservative Party, for the ward to be included in the Exmouth constituency, and our Assistant Commissioners noted that the changes they had recommended for constituencies in this area meant that this was now possible. The Labour Party did not support this, however: in their representation during the secondary consultation (BCE-95667) they said that without the Exe Valley ward, the Bradninch and Silverton wards would effectively become detached from the rest of Central Devon, due to there being poor road access to the rest of the constituency.
- 3.101** The Assistant Commissioners recommended that the Exe Valley ward should be included in Exeter East and Exmouth. Despite the concerns of the Labour Party, they considered the benefits of Exe Valley no longer being an orphan ward in the Central Devon constituency, and Central Devon containing parts of fewer local authorities (three rather than four as in the existing arrangement and the initial proposals) outweighed any disadvantages. They therefore recommended this change to us and we agree with their recommendation.
- 3.102** We received few representations regarding the proposed North Devon constituency, which would remain unchanged from the existing constituency: the majority of these supported the initial proposals, for example Selaine Saxby, MP for North Devon (BCE-82598). The Assistant Commissioners recommend there be no revisions to the North Devon constituency and we concur with them.
- 3.103** The existing Newton Abbot and Torbay constituencies were changed only to realign with changes to local government ward boundaries. Neither of these constituencies were particularly contentious, although there were calls for the Newton Abbot constituency to be renamed Teignbridge, a former name for the constituency, in a number of representations, including that of the Conservative Party (BCE-86590 and BCE-97624). Relatively minor changes were proposed to the existing Totnes constituency, with the inclusion of the Charterlands ward from the existing South West Devon constituency in the proposed constituency. There was opposition, however, largely from residents of the Brixham area of the Totnes constituency, who considered that the Torbay constituency should be

coterminous with the boundaries of the Borough of Torbay, and include the whole of Paignton and Brixham (BCE-85414 and BCE-61417). Unfortunately, this is not possible due to the electorate size of the Torbay constituency. There were many representations – in excess of 200, and a petition containing 65 names – that supported the call from Anthony Magnall, MP for Totnes (BCE-57096) to rename the constituency South Devon. He considered the current name not only ‘fails to reflect the constituency as it now is, but alienates residents who feel they are often overlooked’ and that the name should be more inclusive to those who live in areas of the constituency other than Totnes. This view was also supported by the Liberal Democrats (BCE-80986 and BCE-96091).

- 3.104** Apart from their recommendation to include the Exe Valley ward in the Exeter East and Exmouth constituency (detailed above), the Assistant Commissioners made no further recommendations regarding the Central Devon constituency. They considered the evidence regarding the Torbay, Newton Abbot and Totnes constituencies. They did not consider there was any compelling evidence for them to recommend any changes to the Torbay and Newton Abbot constituencies. Although they were sympathetic to those who called for the name of the Newton Abbot constituency to revert to its former name of Teignbridge, they noted that Newton Abbot was the name of the existing constituency, that there had been no changes to the existing constituency, other than to realign constituency with new local government ward boundaries, and that to change the name of the constituency could be confusing to residents. They therefore recommended no change from initial proposals to either the Torbay or Newton Abbot constituencies.
- 3.105** The Assistant Commissioners did, however, feel that a more persuasive case had been made for a change of name to the Totnes constituency, which had been altered to a relatively minor level in the initial proposals. They were persuaded that the name ‘Totnes’ could be considered as inappropriate in view of the other significant areas that are included in the constituency, such as Brixham, and agreed that a name change to South Devon would be more inclusive and would be welcomed in the constituency. They therefore recommended no change to the composition of the Totnes constituency, but did recommend that it be renamed South Devon. We agree with renaming this constituency South Devon under our revised proposals, and to the recommendation that there should otherwise be no change for this constituency, Torbay, or Newton Abbot, as initially proposed.

- 3.106** The existing Torridge and West Devon, and South West Devon constituencies would be largely unchanged under the initial proposals, apart from the inclusion of the two West Devon district wards of Buckland Monachorum and Burrator in the proposed South West Devon constituency from Torridge and West Devon. To reflect the fewer West Devon district wards that would now be included in the constituency, but also recognising the main West Devon population centre it includes, it was proposed that the latter constituency be renamed Torridge and Tavistock. The inclusion of the Buckland Monachorum and Burrator wards in South West Devon was objected to in a number of representations, for example Alan Hughes (BCE-91259) and Val Bolitho (BCE-56595), who claimed the wards' ties are with the town of Tavistock. Stephen Fletcher (BCE-58902) said that the proposals would divide Dartmoor National Park across constituencies. There was also support for these two constituencies, however, for example from BCE-74337 (Torridge and Tavistock), Jonathan Barrett (BCE-77094 - South West Devon), and John Gray of the Torridge and West Devon Conservative Association (BCE-81798).
- 3.107** Our Assistant Commissioners considered the representations regarding the proposed Torridge and Tavistock, and South West Devon constituencies, and noted the opposition from the Buckland Monachorum and Burrator wards. While they acknowledged this opposition, they also noted the support for the initial proposals and considered that any changes would require consequential changes to the pattern of constituencies across Devon. They were not persuaded to include the Buckland Monachorum and Burrator wards in the same constituency as Tavistock, and therefore recommended no change to the Torridge and Tavistock, and South West Devon constituencies as initially proposed. We agree with their recommendations.
- 3.108** In the City of Plymouth, the existing Plymouth Moor View constituency has an electorate below the permitted range, while the Plymouth Sutton and Devonport constituency has an electorate above the range. Due to the large electorates of the city wards, there is no solution that allows for both constituencies to fall within the permitted electorate range through the transfer of a single whole ward. There is a configuration that brings both constituencies within the permitted electorate range by exchanging two wards, but the result of this configuration would be the inclusion of the Devonport ward in the Plymouth Moor View constituency, thereby constructing a constituency that contains inland rural areas in the same constituency as the historic dockyard. When formulating our initial proposals, we considered this was likely to be regarded as unsatisfactory, as we expected it would break community ties between Devonport, Plymouth Hoe and the Barbican. In order to retain these community ties, we initially proposed that the Peverell ward be divided in the centre of Plymouth, broadly along the A386 Outland Road, with three polling districts of the Peverell ward (namely KA, KB

and KE) being included in the Plymouth Sutton and Devonport constituency, and the remaining two polling districts of this ward (KC and KD) being included in the Plymouth Moor View constituency. This would result in minimal change to both constituencies.

- 3.109** There was support for the initial proposals from the Labour Party, including Christopher Cuddihee of Plymouth Sutton and Devonport Constituency Labour Party (BCE-83437), and the Green Party (BCE-95629 and BCE-85287) and Liberal Democrats (BCE-80986 and BCE-96091). We also received support for the Conservative Party counter-proposal, (BCE-86590 and BCE-97624), including from Tony Carson, Chairman of Plymouth Sutton and Devonport Conservative Association (BCE-84707). This counter-proposal would instead split the Devonport ward with the Keyham area being included in the Plymouth Moor View constituency and the whole of the Peverell ward retained in the Plymouth Sutton and Devonport constituency.
- 3.110** Luke Pollard, MP for Plymouth Sutton and Devonport (BCE-97427) supported the initial proposals and opposed the Conservative Party counter-proposals to split the Keyham area in Devonport ward. He highlighted the close community ties this ward had with the rest of the Plymouth Sutton and Devonport constituency, which had been strengthened by the tragic events in the area in 2021, although some objected to this line of argument (for example Martin Slator – BCE-91192).
- 3.111** We also received an alternative counter-proposal from Alistair Philpot (BCE-62873 and BCE-97815), who suggested that Plymouth be divided across three constituencies: Plymouth East, Plymouth North and Ivybridge, and Plymouth West. John Bryant (BCE-94126) took a similar approach, suggesting Plymouth Devonport, Plymouth Sutton, and South West Devon constituencies, the latter including wards from the north of Plymouth, rather than the east. While the Assistant Commissioners recognised the intention of these counter-proposals, they were not persuaded to recommend either, given the disruption they resulted in to the pattern of constituencies outside of Plymouth, a pattern that had been broadly supported by respondents to the public consultation.

- 3.112 Accordingly, the Assistant Commissioners considered that the issue in Plymouth effectively lent itself to a binary solution: whether to split the Peverell or the Devonport ward, and they noted the evidence that had been submitted, both in support of and opposition to the splitting of either ward, which had been largely evenly divided. A site visit to Plymouth was conducted, during which it was observed that the A386 provides a clear and identifiable boundary between the polling districts that we proposed should be included in the Plymouth Moor View constituency and the rest of Peverell ward, along almost all of the road's extent through the ward. This was reinforced by Central Park, which also separates these areas. Furthermore, it was felt that the nature of the housing to the south and east of the road was somewhat different to that to the north and west, and that the areas either side of the A386 had a distinctly different 'feel' about them, with the area to the north and west being more similar in nature to the North Prospect area of Ham ward. The site visit continued through the North Prospect area to the north of the Devonport ward, and in particular the Keyham area that the Conservative Party counter-proposal had proposed should be separated from the rest of the Devonport ward and included in the Plymouth Moor View constituency.
- 3.113 During the visit, it was observed that the housing in Keyham was similar in nature to that in the Ham ward (which was being included in Plymouth Moor View), but also similar to the housing in the Ford area of the Stoke ward (which would be included in the Plymouth Sutton and Devonport constituency). The evidence given at the public hearing in Exeter – outlining close links forged between Keyham, the rest of the Devonport ward and the Ford area – was also considered. It was noted that the Conservative Party counter-proposal would use identifiable, existing ward boundaries along significant roads (Wolseley Road, Henderson Place/Royal Navy Road, and Moor View Road).
- 3.114 The Assistant Commissioners noted that the Conservative Party counter-proposal would divide the Devonport Docks effectively across the middle, excluding the administrative buildings and Headquarters of HM Naval Base Devonport from the maritime-focused Plymouth Sutton and Devonport constituency. The Conservative Party had said that it would still be appropriate for the southern constituency to be called Plymouth Sutton and Devonport, but with the exclusion of a significant part of the Devonport ward itself (not least the naval HQ), Assistant Commissioners struggled to see how the long-standing and historical reference to Devonport could continue to be appropriate for just one of the constituency names if the counter-proposal were to be adopted.
- 3.115 Our Assistant Commissioners assessed the merits and disadvantages of the splitting of either ward. They were not ultimately persuaded that the splitting of the Devonport ward was a satisfactory or appropriate proposition. Although the splitting of the Peverell ward was not without disadvantages, they considered that the advantages of splitting the Peverell ward significantly outweighed any

advantage of the splitting of the Devonport ward. They therefore recommended that no revisions be made to either the Plymouth Sutton and Devonport, or Plymouth Moor View constituencies, as initially proposed. We agree with their recommendation.

Cornwall

- 3.116** In the initial proposals, relatively minor changes were proposed to the existing six constituencies in the county, with the existing North Cornwall constituency being wholly unchanged in the proposals, and the three existing constituencies of South East Cornwall, St Austell and Newquay, and St Ives being changed only to realign them with new local government ward boundaries. To bring the Truro and Falmouth constituency within the permitted electorate range, it was proposed that the whole of the Perranporth, and Threemilestone & Chacewater wards be included in the Camborne and Redruth constituency. The electorate of the Truro and Falmouth constituency then had to be increased to bring it back within the permitted electorate range, with the inclusion of the Constantine, Mabe & Mawnan ward, and the whole of the divided Falmouth Trescobeas & Budock ward from the Camborne and Redruth constituency.
- 3.117** The qualifying political parties – Conservative (BCE-86590 and BCE-97624), Labour (BCE-79518, BCE-79532, and BCE-95667), Liberal Democrats, (BCE-80986 and BCE-96091) and the Green Party (BCE-95629 and BCE-85287) – submitted counter-proposals containing relatively minor changes within Cornwall. The Conservative Party, who originally supported all six proposed constituencies, made a number of changes from their initial representation after the public hearing held in Exeter. This was in light of the evidence given by a number of local speakers, (including Councillor Barry Jordan, on behalf of Cornwall Council – BCE-97825), which suggested moving four wards in five constituencies with the aim of moving fewer electors overall and restoring local ties. The Liberal Democrats’ suggested configuration also proposed the move of four wards within Cornwall. Labour’s counter proposal focussed solely on uniting the China Clay area in one constituency.
- 3.118** A number of other counter-proposals were received suggesting alternative configurations to constituencies. Many of these, including Julian Young of St Austell and Newquay Liberal Democrats (BCE-80197), and St Austell Bay Economic Forum (BCE-74129), drew attention to the historic China Clay area – specifically the Roche & Bugle ward. Under the initial proposals, this divided ward was included wholly within the South East Cornwall constituency. However, many representations said that this would, in effect, divide the China Clay area between constituencies, and called for it to be included instead with other ‘China Clay wards’ in the St Austell and Newquay constituency. In their response to the secondary consultation (BCE-97624), the Conservative Party supported the inclusion of the Roche & Bugle ward in St Austell and Newquay, but proposed

instead that the St Columb Major, St Mawgan & St Wenn ward be included in the North Cornwall constituency. This was in response to the representation by Cornwall Council, in a detailed rationale from James Mustoe (BCE-97810), and by Steve Double, MP for St Austell and Newquay (BCE-97811). There was strong support for this counter-proposal in other representations, such as the Green Party.

- 3.119** The Labour Party and the Devon and Cornwall Liberal Democrats' Simon Taylor (BCE-97404), suggested instead that, in order to accommodate the Roche & Bugle ward in St Austell and Newquay, the Fowey, Tywardreath & Par ward should be included in the South East Cornwall constituency. However, our Assistant Commissioners considered that there is a strong association between this ward and the neighbouring St Bazely ward, both of which are included in the existing St Austell and Newquay constituency, as well as there being significantly weaker links to South East Cornwall, including a lack of a river crossing from this ward across the Fowey estuary.
- 3.120** The Assistant Commissioners accepted that the China Clay area should be wholly contained within one constituency and recommended the inclusion of the Roche & Bugle ward in the St Austell and Newquay constituency, which they considered was best accommodated by including the St Columb Major, St Mawgan & St Wenn ward in the North Cornwall constituency. They considered that there are good transport links between the ward and the rest of the constituency via the A39 and noted the evidence that the area has been in a North Cornwall constituency in the past. They considered that a persuasive case had not been made for the inclusion of the Fowey, Tywardreath & Par ward in the South East Cornwall constituency, which would otherwise (apart from ward changes) remain unchanged. We agree with their recommendations.
- 3.121** There was considerable opposition to the inclusion of the Threemilestone & Chacewater ward in the Camborne and Redruth constituency in the initial proposals. Much of the opposition was from residents who maintained that Threemilestone has a significant residential area that is a satellite village of Truro, with many local businesses in the Threemilestone area likely to consider themselves a part of the greater Truro trading area and the Truro Town Deal, for example Stuart Roden (BCE-77139, BCE-89938 and BCE-96442). The name of the ward derives from the fact it is three miles from the centre of Truro (Susan Holden, BCE-65135). A number of individuals, the Liberal Democrats, and the Conservative Party in their later representation (BCE-97624) provided a counter-proposal for the Threemilestone & Chacewater ward, suggesting that the continued inclusion of this ward in the Truro and Falmouth constituency would avoid breaking local ties. The Conservative Party's revised counter-proposal was submitted in support of the representation from Cornwall Council and closely matched existing constituencies, by including the Constantine, Mabe & Mawnan ward in the Camborne and Redruth constituency (where it is currently located)

in order to accommodate the inclusion of Threemilestone & Chacewater in Truro and Falmouth. The Liberal Democrats and Green Party also included the Threemilestone & Chacewater ward in Truro and Falmouth, but instead proposed that the St Newlyn East, Cubert & Goonhavern ward be included in Camborne and Redruth. The Labour Party supported the retention of the Threemilestone & Chacewater ward in the proposed Camborne and Redruth constituency.

- 3.122** The Assistant Commissioners recommended that the Threemilestone & Chacewater ward be included in the Truro and Falmouth constituency, with the Constantine, Mabe & Mawnan ward being included in Camborne and Redruth. In this configuration the two wards are exchanged, with both wards being included in their existing constituencies and the concerns in the Threemilestone & Chacewater ward are addressed. They accepted that the Constantine, Mabe & Mawnan ward most likely looked towards the town of Falmouth, but noted that the ward was currently in the existing Camborne and Redruth constituency, and that there were distinct benefits of retaining the Threemilestone & Chacewater ward in Truro and Falmouth. They therefore recommended that we adopt the proposals suggested by Cornwall Council and the Conservative Party, whose evidence they considered to be the most persuasive, and whose proposals more closely resemble the existing pattern of constituencies. We agree with them.
- 3.123** The initial proposals for the remainder of the constituencies in the Cornwall sub-region were largely uncontentious and supported, although there was some further opposition to the proposed Camborne and Redruth, and St Ives constituencies, on the grounds that the ward of Hayle West, which contains most of the town of Hayle, should be included in the St Ives constituency, from, for example Guy Shipton (BCE-67158), and that the St Ives constituency should also include a reference to the Lizard Peninsula in its name. However, the Assistant Commissioners noted that the Hayle West ward was located in the existing Camborne and Redruth constituency and did not consider that the limited strength of these arguments warranted any further change to the Camborne and Redruth constituency, or to St Ives, and we agree with them.

4 How to have your say

- 4.1 We are consulting on our revised proposals for a four-week period, from 8 November to 5 December 2022 inclusive. We encourage everyone to use this last opportunity to help finalise the design of the new constituencies – the more public views we hear and the more local information that is provided, the more informed our decisions will be before making final recommendations to Parliament.
- 4.2 While people are welcome to write to us on any issue regarding the constituency boundaries we set out in this report and the accompanying maps, our main focus during this final consultation is on those constituencies which we have revised since our initial proposals. While we will consider representations that comment again on the initial proposals that we have not revised, it is likely that particularly compelling further evidence or submissions will be needed to persuade us to depart, at this late stage in the review, from those of our initial proposals, which have withstood intensive scrutiny of objections in the process of consultation and review to which they have already been subject. Representations relating to initial proposals that we have not revised and which simply repeat evidence or arguments that have already been raised in either of the previous two consultation stages are likely to carry little weight with the Commission.
- 4.3 When making comments on our revised 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:
- We cannot recommend constituencies that have electorates that contain more than 77,062 or fewer than 69,724 electors
 - We are basing our 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.
- 4.4 These issues mean that we encourage people who are making a comment about their local area to bear in mind there may be 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 be aware that their counter-proposals may have an impact on neighbouring constituencies, and on those further afield across the region.

How can you give us your views?

- 4.5 Views on our revised proposals should be given to the Commission in writing. We encourage everyone who wishes to comment on our proposals in writing to do so through our interactive consultation website at www.bcereviews.org.uk – you will find all the details you need and can comment directly through the website. The website allows you to explore the map of our proposals and obtain 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.
- 4.6 We encourage everyone, before submitting a representation, to read our approach to protecting and using your personal details (available at www.bcereviews.org.uk). As these consultations are very much concerned with a respondent's sense of place and community, when publishing responses, we will associate the response with the general locality (e.g. town or village) 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.
- 4.7 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.

What do we want views on?

- 4.8 We would particularly like to ask two things of people responding to our consultation. Firstly, if you support our revised 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 our proposals. Secondly, if you are considering objecting to our revised proposals, please use the resources (such as maps and electorate figures) available on our website and at the places of deposit to put forward counter-proposals that are in accordance with the rules to which we are working.
- 4.9 Above all, however, we encourage everyone to have their say on our revised proposals and, in doing so, to become involved in drawing the map of new Parliamentary constituencies. This is the final chance to contribute to the design of the new constituencies, and the more views we get on those constituencies, the more informed our consideration in developing them will be, and the better we will be able to reflect the public's views in the final recommendations that we present in 2023.

Appendix: Revised proposals for constituencies, including wards and electorates

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
Bath CC			73,241
	Bathavon North	Bath and North East Somerset	5,503
	Bathwick	Bath and North East Somerset	5,896
	Combe Down	Bath and North East Somerset	4,787
	Kingsmead	Bath and North East Somerset	4,334
	Lambridge	Bath and North East Somerset	4,362
	Lansdown	Bath and North East Somerset	4,500
	Moorlands	Bath and North East Somerset	2,478
	Newbridge	Bath and North East Somerset	4,863
	Odd Down	Bath and North East Somerset	5,149
	Oldfield Park	Bath and North East Somerset	2,437
	Southdown	Bath and North East Somerset	5,385
	Twerton	Bath and North East Somerset	4,659
	Walcot	Bath and North East Somerset	4,261
	Westmoreland	Bath and North East Somerset	4,863
	Weston	Bath and North East Somerset	4,463
	Widcombe & Lyncombe	Bath and North East Somerset	5,301
Bournemouth East BC			73,173
	Boscombe East & Pokesdown	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	7,348

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Boscombe West	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	6,071
	East Cliff & Springbourne	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	9,879
	East Southbourne & Tuckton	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	7,586
	Littledown & Iford	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	7,415
	Moordown	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	7,330
	Muscliff & Strouden Park	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	12,439
	Queen's Park	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	7,411
	West Southbourne	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	7,694
Bournemouth West BC			72,094
	Alderney & Bourne Valley	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	11,645
	Bournemouth Central	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	7,813
	Kinson	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	12,709
	Redhill & Northbourne	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	7,444
	Talbot & Branksome Woods	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	9,879
	Wallisdown & Winton West	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	7,612
	Westbourne & West Cliff	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	7,392

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Winton East	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	7,600
Bridgwater CC			71,418
	Berrow	Sedgemoor	1,941
	Bridgwater Dunwear	Sedgemoor	3,450
	Bridgwater Eastover	Sedgemoor	2,998
	Bridgwater Fairfax	Sedgemoor	5,117
	Bridgwater Hamp	Sedgemoor	3,683
	Bridgwater Victoria	Sedgemoor	3,858
	Bridgwater Westover	Sedgemoor	3,841
	Bridgwater Wyndham	Sedgemoor	3,877
	Burnham Central	Sedgemoor	5,556
	Burnham North	Sedgemoor	5,258
	Cannington and Wembdon	Sedgemoor	3,843
	Highbridge and Burnham Marine	Sedgemoor	6,292
	Huntspill and Pawlett	Sedgemoor	1,872
	King's Isle	Sedgemoor	4,864
	North Petherton	Sedgemoor	7,050
	Puriton and Woolavington	Sedgemoor	4,180
	Quantocks	Sedgemoor	3,738
Bristol Central BC			70,227
	Ashley	Bristol	14,596
	Central	Bristol	11,361
	Clifton	Bristol	10,422
	Clifton Down	Bristol	9,343
	Cotham	Bristol	9,414
	Hotwells & Harbourside	Bristol	4,348
	Redland	Bristol	10,743
Bristol East BC			75,936
	Brislington East	Bristol	8,700
	Brislington West	Bristol	8,944
	Easton	Bristol	9,917
	Knowle	Bristol	9,805
	Lawrence Hill	Bristol	10,638
	St. George Central	Bristol	9,444
	St. George Troopers Hill	Bristol	4,574
	St. George West	Bristol	4,879
	Stockwood	Bristol	9,035

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
Bristol North East BC			69,793
	Eastville	Bristol	10,293
	Frome Vale	Bristol	9,671
	Hillfields	Bristol	8,845
	Lockleaze	Bristol	9,117
	Kingswood	South Gloucestershire	6,256
	New Cheltenham	South Gloucestershire	6,862
	Staple Hill & Mangotsfield	South Gloucestershire	11,142
	Woodstock	South Gloucestershire	7,607
Bristol North West BC			76,783
	Avonmouth & Lawrence Weston	Bristol	14,660
	Bishopston & Ashley Down	Bristol	9,808
	Henbury & Brentry	Bristol	9,043
	Horfield	Bristol	9,712
	Southmead	Bristol	8,536
	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	9,539
	Westbury-on-Trym & Henleaze	Bristol	15,485
Bristol South BC			74,696
	Bedminster	Bristol	9,795
	Bishopsworth	Bristol	9,129
	Filwood	Bristol	9,398
	Hartcliffe & Withywood	Bristol	12,700
	Hengrove & Whitchurch Park	Bristol	13,681
	Southville	Bristol	9,645
	Windmill Hill	Bristol	10,348
Camborne and Redruth CC			73,568
	Camborne Roskear & Tuckingmill	Cornwall	4,506
	Camborne Trelowarren	Cornwall	4,681
	Camborne West & Treswithian	Cornwall	4,961
	Constantine, Mabe & Mawnan	Cornwall	4,937
	Four Lanes, Beacon & Troon	Cornwall	5,154
	Gwinear-Gwithian & Hayle East	Cornwall	5,039
	Hayle West	Cornwall	4,948

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Illogan & Portreath	Cornwall	5,151
	Lanner, Stithians & Gwennap	Cornwall	5,202
	Perranporth	Cornwall	5,117
	Pool & Tehidy	Cornwall	4,927
	Redruth Central, Carharrack & St Day	Cornwall	4,805
	Redruth North	Cornwall	4,333
	Redruth South	Cornwall	4,961
	St Agnes	Cornwall	4,846
Central Devon CC			73,491
	Boniface	Mid Devon	3,032
	Bradninch	Mid Devon	1,561
	Cadbury	Mid Devon	1,370
	Lawrence	Mid Devon	2,912
	Newbrooke	Mid Devon	1,306
	Sandford and Creedy	Mid Devon	2,789
	Silverton	Mid Devon	1,563
	Taw	Mid Devon	1,395
	Taw Vale	Mid Devon	1,422
	Upper Yeo	Mid Devon	1,427
	Way	Mid Devon	1,326
	Yeo	Mid Devon	2,860
	Ashburton & Buckfastleigh	Teignbridge	7,037
	Bovey	Teignbridge	6,437
	Chudleigh	Teignbridge	4,719
	Haytor	Teignbridge	2,114
	Kenn Valley	Teignbridge	6,626
	Moretonhampstead	Teignbridge	2,455
	Teign Valley	Teignbridge	4,081
	Chagford	West Devon	1,226
	Drewsteignton	West Devon	1,406
	Exbourne	West Devon	3,282
	Hatherleigh	West Devon	2,506
	Okehampton North	West Devon	4,158
	Okehampton South	West Devon	2,879
	South Tawton	West Devon	1,602
Cheltenham BC			75,292
	All Saints	Cheltenham	4,187
	Battledown	Cheltenham	4,611
	Benhall and the Reddings	Cheltenham	4,007

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Charlton Kings	Cheltenham	4,407
	Charlton Park	Cheltenham	4,079
	College	Cheltenham	4,380
	Hesters Way	Cheltenham	4,591
	Lansdown	Cheltenham	4,133
	Leckhampton	Cheltenham	4,431
	Oakley	Cheltenham	4,170
	Park	Cheltenham	4,942
	Pittville	Cheltenham	4,725
	St. Mark's	Cheltenham	4,646
	St. Paul's	Cheltenham	4,258
	St. Peter's	Cheltenham	5,196
	Up Hatherley	Cheltenham	4,176
	Warden Hill	Cheltenham	4,353
Chippenham CC			71,648
	Calne Central	Wiltshire	3,741
	Calne Chilvestor & Abberd	Wiltshire	3,959
	Calne North	Wiltshire	3,570
	Calne Rural	Wiltshire	4,164
	Chippenham Cepen Park & Derriads	Wiltshire	3,908
	Chippenham Cepen Park & Hunters Moon	Wiltshire	3,601
	Chippenham Hardenhuish	Wiltshire	2,907
	Chippenham Hardens & Central	Wiltshire	4,226
	Chippenham Lowden & Rowden	Wiltshire	2,550
	Chippenham Monkton	Wiltshire	2,260
	Chippenham Pewsham	Wiltshire	3,875
	Chippenham Sheldon	Wiltshire	4,210
	Corsham Ladbroke	Wiltshire	4,306
	Corsham Pickwick	Wiltshire	4,009
	Corsham Without	Wiltshire	3,705
	Lyneham	Wiltshire	4,144
	Royal Wootton Bassett East	Wiltshire	3,719
	Royal Wootton Bassett North	Wiltshire	4,165
	Royal Wootton Bassett South & West	Wiltshire	4,629

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
Christchurch CC			71,598
	Burton & Grange	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	7,158
	Christchurch Town	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	8,111
	Commons	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	8,036
	Highcliffe & Walkford	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	8,586
	Mudford, Stanpit & West Highcliffe	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	8,200
	Ferndown North	Dorset	7,501
	Ferndown South	Dorset	6,870
	St. Leonards & St. Ives	Dorset	6,456
	West Moors & Three Legged Cross	Dorset	7,584
	West Parley	Dorset	3,096
East Wiltshire CC			71,109
	Chiseldon and Lawn – part of (polling district CLB)	Swindon	1,874
	Ridgeway	Swindon	2,702
	Wroughton and Wichelstowe	Swindon	6,348
	Aldbourn & Ramsbury	Wiltshire	4,530
	Amesbury East & Bulford	Wiltshire	4,206
	Amesbury South	Wiltshire	3,380
	Amesbury West	Wiltshire	4,442
	Avon Valley	Wiltshire	3,491
	Durrington	Wiltshire	3,681
	Ludgershall North & Rural	Wiltshire	3,966
	Marlborough East	Wiltshire	4,020
	Marlborough West	Wiltshire	4,365
	Pewsey	Wiltshire	3,938
	Pewsey Vale East	Wiltshire	4,430
	Pewsey Vale West	Wiltshire	3,926
	Tidworth East & Ludgershall South	Wiltshire	5,327
	Tidworth North & West	Wiltshire	2,344
	Till Valley	Wiltshire	4,139

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
Exeter BC			71,713
	Alphington	Exeter	6,371
	Duryard & St. James	Exeter	8,499
	Exwick	Exeter	7,108
	Heavitree	Exeter	6,989
	Mincinglake & Whipton	Exeter	6,492
	Newtown & St. Leonard's	Exeter	7,237
	Pennsylvania	Exeter	8,178
	Priory	Exeter	6,399
	St. David's	Exeter	7,253
	St. Thomas	Exeter	7,187
Exeter East and Exmouth CC			74,502
	Broadclyst	East Devon	4,723
	Budleigh & Raleigh	East Devon	6,694
	Clyst Valley	East Devon	1,927
	Cranbrook	East Devon	3,512
	Exe Valley	East Devon	1,974
	Exmouth Brixington	East Devon	6,291
	Exmouth Halsdon	East Devon	6,111
	Exmouth Littleham	East Devon	6,656
	Exmouth Town	East Devon	5,797
	Exmouth Withycombe	East Devon	3,720
	Raleigh		
	Whimple & Rockbeare	East Devon	2,233
	Woodbury & Lympstone	East Devon	4,389
	Pinhoe	Exeter	6,399
	St. Loyes	Exeter	6,868
	Topsham	Exeter	7,208
Filton and Bradley Stoke BC			73,598
	Bradley Stoke North	South Gloucestershire	7,506
	Bradley Stoke South	South Gloucestershire	6,578
	Charlton & Cribbs	South Gloucestershire	5,270
	Emersons Green	South Gloucestershire	11,379
	Filton	South Gloucestershire	8,116
	Frenchay & Downend	South Gloucestershire	10,640

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Patchway Coniston	South Gloucestershire	3,562
	Stoke Gifford	South Gloucestershire	10,653
	Stoke Park & Cheswick	South Gloucestershire	4,003
	Winterbourne	South Gloucestershire	5,891
Forest of Dean CC			71,510
	Berry Hill	Forest of Dean	3,790
	Bream	Forest of Dean	3,777
	Cinderford East	Forest of Dean	3,447
	Cinderford West	Forest of Dean	3,130
	Coleford	Forest of Dean	5,956
	Dymock	Forest of Dean	1,662
	Hartpury & Redmarley	Forest of Dean	3,584
	Longhope & Huntley	Forest of Dean	3,303
	Lydbrook	Forest of Dean	1,837
	Lydney East	Forest of Dean	4,257
	Lydney North	Forest of Dean	1,732
	Lydney West & Aylburton	Forest of Dean	1,986
	Mitcheldean, Ruardean & Drybrook	Forest of Dean	5,843
	Newent & Taynton	Forest of Dean	4,971
	Newland & Sling	Forest of Dean	2,023
	Newnham	Forest of Dean	3,980
	Pillowell	Forest of Dean	1,805
	Ruspidge	Forest of Dean	1,855
	St. Briavels	Forest of Dean	1,992
	Tidenham	Forest of Dean	5,314
	Westbury-on-Severn	Forest of Dean	1,646
	Highnam with Haw Bridge	Tewkesbury	3,620
Frome CC			70,202
	Bathavon South	Bath and North East Somerset	4,321
	Midsomer Norton North	Bath and North East Somerset	4,373
	Midsomer Norton Redfield	Bath and North East Somerset	4,864
	Peasedown	Bath and North East Somerset	4,961

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Radstock	Bath and North East Somerset	4,410
	Westfield	Bath and North East Somerset	4,794
	Ammerdown	Mendip	2,002
	Ashwick, Chilcompton and Stratton	Mendip	3,801
	Beckington and Selwood	Mendip	1,905
	Coleford and Holcombe	Mendip	3,922
	Cranmore, Doultong and Nunney	Mendip	1,926
	Creech	Mendip	2,044
	Frome Berkley Down	Mendip	3,424
	Frome College	Mendip	3,444
	Frome Keyford	Mendip	4,641
	Frome Market	Mendip	3,779
	Frome Oakfield	Mendip	2,045
	Frome Park	Mendip	3,709
	Postlebury	Mendip	1,793
	Rode and Norton St. Philip	Mendip	1,990
	Bruton	South Somerset	2,054
Glastonbury and Somerton CC			69,990
	Butleigh and Baltonsborough	Mendip	2,005
	Glastonbury St. Benedict's	Mendip	1,987
	Glastonbury St. Edmund's	Mendip	1,690
	Glastonbury St. John's	Mendip	1,946
	Glastonbury St. Mary's	Mendip	1,657
	Street North	Mendip	3,373
	Street South	Mendip	3,824
	Street West	Mendip	1,832
	The Pennards and Ditchheat	Mendip	2,029
	Blackmoor Vale	South Somerset	4,763
	Burrow Hill	South Somerset	2,432
	Camelot	South Somerset	2,226
	Cary	South Somerset	4,303
	Curry Rivel, Huish & Langport	South Somerset	4,578
	Hamdon	South Somerset	2,263
	Islemoor	South Somerset	2,026
	Martock	South Somerset	4,555
	Milborne Port	South Somerset	2,429

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Northstone, Ivelchester & St. Michael's	South Somerset	6,843
	Tower	South Somerset	1,992
	Turn Hill	South Somerset	2,148
	Wessex	South Somerset	4,606
	Wincanton	South Somerset	4,483
Gloucester BC			76,695
	Abbeydale	Gloucester	5,109
	Abbeymead	Gloucester	4,659
	Barnwood	Gloucester	4,980
	Barton & Tredworth	Gloucester	6,308
	Coney Hill	Gloucester	2,392
	Grange	Gloucester	5,037
	Hucclecote	Gloucester	5,074
	Kingsholm & Wotton	Gloucester	4,564
	Kingsway	Gloucester	3,781
	Matson & Robinswood	Gloucester	6,339
	Moreland	Gloucester	6,535
	Podsmead	Gloucester	2,204
	Quedgeley Fieldcourt	Gloucester	5,080
	Quedgeley Severn Vale	Gloucester	4,619
	Tuffley	Gloucester	4,359
	Westgate	Gloucester	5,655
Honiton and Sidmouth CC			74,365
	Axminster	East Devon	6,259
	Beer & Branscombe	East Devon	2,185
	Coly Valley	East Devon	4,017
	Dunkeswell & Otterhead	East Devon	4,651
	Feniton	East Devon	2,066
	Honiton St. Michael's	East Devon	5,691
	Honiton St. Paul's	East Devon	3,827
	Newbridges	East Devon	2,125
	Newton Poppleford & Harpford	East Devon	1,859
	Ottery St. Mary	East Devon	6,136
	Seaton	East Devon	5,953
	Sidmouth Rural	East Devon	1,961
	Sidmouth Sidford	East Devon	6,437
	Sidmouth Town	East Devon	3,894
	Tale Vale	East Devon	2,224

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Trinity	East Devon	2,189
	West Hill & Aylesbeare	East Devon	2,214
	Yarty	East Devon	2,150
	Cullompton North	Mid Devon	3,209
	Cullompton Outer	Mid Devon	2,182
	Cullompton South	Mid Devon	3,136
Melksham and Devizes CC			71,823
	Bowerhill	Wiltshire	3,366
	Box & Colerne	Wiltshire	4,036
	Bradford-on-Avon North	Wiltshire	3,994
	Bradford-on-Avon South	Wiltshire	4,274
	Bromham, Rowde & Roundway	Wiltshire	4,005
	Calne South	Wiltshire	3,533
	Devizes East	Wiltshire	4,258
	Devizes North	Wiltshire	3,322
	Devizes Rural West	Wiltshire	3,641
	Devizes South	Wiltshire	3,921
	Holt	Wiltshire	3,727
	Melksham East	Wiltshire	3,255
	Melksham Forest	Wiltshire	3,938
	Melksham South	Wiltshire	3,941
	Melksham Without North & Shurnhold	Wiltshire	3,692
	Melksham Without West & Rural	Wiltshire	3,471
	The Lavingtons	Wiltshire	3,702
	Urchfont & Bishops Cannings	Wiltshire	3,682
	Winsley & Westwood	Wiltshire	4,065
Mid Dorset and North Poole CC			72,749
	Bearwood & Merley	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	10,855
	Broadstone	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	8,847
	Canford Heath	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	10,537
	Colehill & Wimborne Minster East	Dorset	6,914
	Corfe Mullen	Dorset	8,124

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Lytchett Matravers & Upton	Dorset	9,677
	Stour & Allen Vale	Dorset	3,997
	Wareham	Dorset	8,017
	Wimborne Minster	Dorset	5,781
Newton Abbot CC			72,956
	Ambrook	Teignbridge	4,751
	Bishopsteignton	Teignbridge	2,242
	Bradley	Teignbridge	5,395
	Buckland & Milber	Teignbridge	6,552
	Bushell	Teignbridge	4,609
	College	Teignbridge	4,039
	Dawlish North East	Teignbridge	7,024
	Dawlish South West	Teignbridge	4,837
	Ipplepen	Teignbridge	2,090
	Kenton & Starcross	Teignbridge	2,425
	Kerswell-with-Combe	Teignbridge	4,780
	Kingsteignton East	Teignbridge	5,058
	Kingsteignton West	Teignbridge	4,674
	Shaldon & Stokeinteignhead	Teignbridge	2,118
	Teignmouth Central	Teignbridge	4,429
	Teignmouth East	Teignbridge	3,973
	Teignmouth West	Teignbridge	3,960
North Cornwall CC			75,034
	Altarnun & Stoke Climsland	Cornwall	5,598
	Bodmin St Mary's & St Leonard	Cornwall	5,127
	Bodmin St Petroc's	Cornwall	4,755
	Bude	Cornwall	4,798
	Camelford & Boscastle	Cornwall	5,314
	Lanivet, Blisland & Bodmin St Lawrence	Cornwall	4,617
	Launceston North & North Petherwin	Cornwall	5,122
	Launceston South	Cornwall	5,013
	Padstow	Cornwall	5,066
	Poundstock	Cornwall	4,460
	St Columb Major, St Mawgan & St Wenn	Cornwall	4,707
	St Teath & Tintagel	Cornwall	5,174
	Stratton, Kilkhampton & Morwenstow	Cornwall	4,917

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Wadebridge East & St Minver	Cornwall	4,998
	Wadebridge West & St Mabyn	Cornwall	5,368
North Cotswolds CC			70,915
	Blockley	Cotswold	2,139
	Bourton Vale	Cotswold	2,179
	Bourton Village	Cotswold	2,416
	Campden & Vale	Cotswold	4,880
	Chedworth & Churn Valley	Cotswold	2,020
	Coln Valley	Cotswold	2,044
	Ermin	Cotswold	2,057
	Fosseridge	Cotswold	2,146
	Moreton East	Cotswold	2,397
	Moreton West	Cotswold	1,943
	Northleach	Cotswold	2,240
	Sandywell	Cotswold	2,226
	Stow	Cotswold	2,082
	The Rissingtons	Cotswold	1,935
	Bisley	Stroud	1,840
	Hardwicke	Stroud	5,761
	Minchinhampton	Stroud	3,707
	Painswick & Upton	Stroud	6,009
	Badgeworth	Tewkesbury	2,059
	Brockworth East	Tewkesbury	2,739
	Brockworth West	Tewkesbury	3,806
	Churchdown Brookfield with Hucclecote	Tewkesbury	5,027
	Churchdown St. John's	Tewkesbury	5,506
	Shurdington	Tewkesbury	1,757
North Devon CC			76,455
	Barnstaple Central	North Devon	1,816
	Barnstaple with Pilton	North Devon	5,988
	Barnstaple with Westacott	North Devon	5,563
	Bickington	North Devon	5,096
	Bishop's Nympton	North Devon	1,899
	Bratton Fleming	North Devon	1,927
	Braunton East	North Devon	3,853
	Braunton West & Georgeham	North Devon	3,863
	Chittlehampton	North Devon	2,007
	Chulmleigh	North Devon	1,849
	Combe Martin	North Devon	2,174

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Fremington	North Devon	4,149
	Heanton Punchardon	North Devon	1,763
	Ilfracombe East	North Devon	5,188
	Ilfracombe West	North Devon	3,521
	Instow	North Devon	1,848
	Landkey	North Devon	3,463
	Lynton & Lynmouth	North Devon	1,805
	Marwood	North Devon	1,999
	Mortehoe	North Devon	1,769
	Newport	North Devon	3,936
	North Molton	North Devon	1,777
	Roundswell	North Devon	2,870
	South Molton	North Devon	4,520
	Witheridge	North Devon	1,812
North Dorset CC			76,070
	Beacon	Dorset	3,897
	Blackmore Vale	Dorset	3,706
	Blandford	Dorset	8,199
	Chalk Valleys	Dorset	3,961
	Cranborne & Alderholt	Dorset	4,080
	Cranborne Chase	Dorset	3,391
	Gillingham	Dorset	12,163
	Hill Forts & Upper Tarrants	Dorset	3,663
	Puddletown & Lower Winterborne	Dorset	4,407
	Shaftesbury Town	Dorset	6,663
	Stalbridge & Marnhull	Dorset	4,288
	Sturminster Newton	Dorset	3,446
	Verwood	Dorset	10,761
	Winterborne North	Dorset	3,445
North East Somerset and Hanham CC			73,113
	Chew Valley	Bath and North East Somerset	4,762
	Clutton & Farmborough	Bath and North East Somerset	2,420
	High Littleton	Bath and North East Somerset	2,387
	Keynsham East	Bath and North East Somerset	4,550
	Keynsham North	Bath and North East Somerset	4,604

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Keynsham South	Bath and North East Somerset	5,242
	Mendip	Bath and North East Somerset	2,360
	Paulton	Bath and North East Somerset	4,633
	Publow & Whitchurch	Bath and North East Somerset	2,302
	Saltford	Bath and North East Somerset	5,108
	Timsbury	Bath and North East Somerset	2,112
	Bitton & Oldland Common	South Gloucestershire	7,420
	Hanham	South Gloucestershire	10,062
	Longwell Green	South Gloucestershire	7,900
	Parkwall & Warmley	South Gloucestershire	7,251
North Somerset CC			73,963
	Backwell	North Somerset	3,652
	Clevedon East	North Somerset	3,402
	Clevedon South	North Somerset	3,304
	Clevedon Walton	North Somerset	3,597
	Clevedon West	North Somerset	3,307
	Clevedon Yeo	North Somerset	3,344
	Gordano Valley	North Somerset	3,505
	Long Ashton	North Somerset	6,775
	Nailsea Golden Valley	North Somerset	3,330
	Nailsea West End	North Somerset	3,045
	Nailsea Yeo	North Somerset	3,492
	Nailsea Youngwood	North Somerset	2,850
	Pill	North Somerset	3,398
	Portishead East	North Somerset	5,536
	Portishead North	North Somerset	3,857
	Portishead South	North Somerset	3,314
	Portishead West	North Somerset	7,305
	Winford	North Somerset	3,599
	Writton	North Somerset	33,51
Plymouth Moor View BC			73,378
	Budshead	Plymouth	9,444

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Eggbuckland	Plymouth	10,208
	Ham	Plymouth	10,077
	Honicknowle	Plymouth	10,155
	Moor View	Plymouth	10,144
	Peverell – part of (polling districts KC and KD)	Plymouth	4,010
	Southway	Plymouth	9,999
	St. Budeaux	Plymouth	9,341
Plymouth Sutton and Devonport BC			73,495
	Compton	Plymouth	9,358
	Devonport	Plymouth	10,592
	Drake	Plymouth	7,159
	Efford and Lipson	Plymouth	9,933
	Peverell – part of (polling districts KA, KB, and KE)	Plymouth	6,147
	St. Peter and the Waterfront	Plymouth	11,076
	Stoke	Plymouth	9,725
	Sutton and Mount Gould	Plymouth	9,505
Poole BC			72,162
	Canford Cliffs	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	7,937
	Creekmoor	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	7,169
	Hamworthy	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	10,206
	Newtown & Heatherlands	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	12,376
	Oakdale	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	8,435
	Parkstone	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	8,072
	Penn Hill	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	8,404
	Poole Town	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	9,563

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
Salisbury CC			70,242
	Alderbury & Whiteparish	Wiltshire	4,506
	Downton & Ebbles Valley	Wiltshire	4,024
	Fovant & Chalke Valley	Wiltshire	3,764
	Laverstock	Wiltshire	4,432
	Nadder Valley	Wiltshire	3,748
	Old Sarum & Lower Bourne Valley	Wiltshire	4,160
	Redlynch & Landford	Wiltshire	3,773
	Salisbury Bemerton Heath	Wiltshire	2,631
	Salisbury Fisherton & Bemerton Village	Wiltshire	4,266
	Salisbury Harnham East	Wiltshire	3,899
	Salisbury Harnham West	Wiltshire	3,443
	Salisbury Milford	Wiltshire	4,286
	Salisbury St Edmund's	Wiltshire	3,815
	Salisbury St Francis & Stratford	Wiltshire	4,090
	Salisbury St Paul's	Wiltshire	3,724
	Tisbury	Wiltshire	3,753
	Wilton	Wiltshire	3,806
	Winterslow & Upper Bourne Valley	Wiltshire	4,122
South Cotswolds CC			72,865
	Abbey	Cotswold	1,979
	Chesterton	Cotswold	1,868
	Fairford North	Cotswold	1,996
	Four Acres	Cotswold	1,544
	Grumbolds Ash with Avening	Cotswold	2,044
	Kemble	Cotswold	2,162
	Lechlade, Kempsford & Fairford South	Cotswold	4,873
	New Mills	Cotswold	1,863
	Siddington & Cerney Rural	Cotswold	2,123
	South Cerney Village	Cotswold	1,828
	St. Michael's	Cotswold	2,143
	Stratton	Cotswold	2,074
	Tetbury East & Rural	Cotswold	1,991
	Tetbury Town	Cotswold	1,855
	Tetbury with Upton	Cotswold	1,667
	The Ampneys & Hampton	Cotswold	2,206

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	The Beeches	Cotswold	2,237
	Watermoor	Cotswold	2,077
	Kingswood	Stroud	1,825
	Brinkworth	Wiltshire	3,740
	By Brook	Wiltshire	3,621
	Cricklade & Latton	Wiltshire	3,914
	Kington	Wiltshire	4,102
	Malmesbury	Wiltshire	4,373
	Minety	Wiltshire	3,905
	Purton	Wiltshire	4,799
	Sherston	Wiltshire	4,056
South Devon CC			71,691
	Allington & Strete	South Hams	2,435
	Blackawton & Stoke Fleming	South Hams	1,987
	Charterlands	South Hams	2,442
	Dartington & Staverton	South Hams	2,289
	Dartmouth & East Dart	South Hams	6,278
	Kingsbridge	South Hams	4,475
	Loddiswell & Aveton Gifford	South Hams	2,247
	Marldon & Littlehempston	South Hams	2,414
	Salcombe & Thurlestone	South Hams	4,055
	South Brent	South Hams	4,335
	Stokenham	South Hams	2,251
	Totnes	South Hams	7,200
	West Dart	South Hams	2,152
	Churston with Galmpton	Torbay	5,803
	Collaton St. Mary	Torbay	2,274
	Furzeham with Summercombe	Torbay	8,194
	King's Ash	Torbay	5,434
	St. Peter's with St. Mary's	Torbay	5,426
South Dorset CC			74,356
	Chickerell	Dorset	6,218
	Crossways	Dorset	3,031
	Littlemoor & Preston	Dorset	7,790
	Melcombe Regis	Dorset	3,365
	Portland	Dorset	9,503
	Radipole	Dorset	7,476
	Rodwell & Wyke	Dorset	11,122
	South East Purbeck	Dorset	3,573

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Swanage	Dorset	8,077
	West Purbeck	Dorset	7,318
	Westham	Dorset	6,883
South East Cornwall CC			71,734
	Callington & St Dominic	Cornwall	5,188
	Calstock	Cornwall	5,355
	Liskeard Central	Cornwall	5,194
	Liskeard South & Dobwalls	Cornwall	5,786
	Looe East & Deviock	Cornwall	4,891
	Looe West, Pelynt, Lansallos & Lanteglos	Cornwall	4,851
	Lostwithiel & Lanreath	Cornwall	4,844
	Lynher	Cornwall	4,726
	Rame Peninsula & St Germans	Cornwall	5,748
	Saltash Essa	Cornwall	5,391
	Saltash Tamar	Cornwall	5,118
	Saltash Trematon & Landrake	Cornwall	4,377
	St Cleer & Menheniot	Cornwall	5,132
	Torpoint	Cornwall	5,133
South West Devon CC			75,371
	Plympton Chaddlewood	Plymouth	6,239
	Plympton Erle	Plymouth	6,837
	Plympton St. Mary	Plymouth	10,115
	Plymstock Dunstone	Plymouth	10,020
	Plymstock Radford	Plymouth	10,927
	Bickleigh & Cornwood	South Hams	2,273
	Ermington & Ugborough	South Hams	2,270
	Ivybridge East	South Hams	4,408
	Ivybridge West	South Hams	4,856
	Newton & Yealmpton	South Hams	5,043
	Wembury & Brixton	South Hams	4,086
	Woolwell	South Hams	2,289
	Buckland Monachorum	West Devon	3,070
	Burrator	West Devon	2,938
South West Wiltshire CC			71,551
	Ethandune	Wiltshire	3,801
	Hilperton	Wiltshire	3,460
	Mere	Wiltshire	3,597
	Southwick	Wiltshire	3,402

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Trowbridge Adcroft	Wiltshire	3,989
	Trowbridge Central	Wiltshire	4,641
	Trowbridge Drynham	Wiltshire	3,307
	Trowbridge Grove	Wiltshire	3,413
	Trowbridge Lambrok	Wiltshire	4,013
	Trowbridge Park	Wiltshire	2,839
	Trowbridge Paxcroft	Wiltshire	3,936
	Warminster Broadway	Wiltshire	3,859
	Warminster East	Wiltshire	4,162
	Warminster North & Rural	Wiltshire	4,833
	Warminster West	Wiltshire	2,872
	Westbury East	Wiltshire	3,637
	Westbury North	Wiltshire	3,916
	Westbury West	Wiltshire	3,958
	Wylve Valley	Wiltshire	3,916
St Austell and Newquay CC			74,585
	Fowey, Tywardreath & Par	Cornwall	4,709
	Mevagissey & St Austell Bay	Cornwall	4,394
	Newquay Central & Pentire	Cornwall	5,126
	Newquay Porth & Tretherras	Cornwall	4,869
	Newquay Trenance	Cornwall	5,284
	Penwithick & Boscoppa	Cornwall	4,808
	Roche & Bugle	Cornwall	5,113
	St Austell Bethel & Holmbush	Cornwall	5,409
	St Austell Central & Gover	Cornwall	5,232
	St Austell Poltair & Mount Charles	Cornwall	5,069
	St Blazey	Cornwall	5,209
	St Columb Minor & Colan	Cornwall	4,071
	St Dennis & St Enoder	Cornwall	5,864
	St Mewan & Grampound	Cornwall	4,296
	St Stephen-in-Brannel	Cornwall	5,132
St Ives CC			70,107
	Crowan, Sithney & Wendron	Cornwall	5,273
	Helston North	Cornwall	5,273
	Helston South & Meneage	Cornwall	5,301
	Land's End	Cornwall	5,445
	Long Rock, Marazion & St Erth	Cornwall	5,544

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Ludgvan, Madron, Gulval & Heamoor	Cornwall	5,545
	Mousehole, Newlyn & St Buryan	Cornwall	4,982
	Mullion & St Keverne	Cornwall	5,710
	Penzance East	Cornwall	5,092
	Penzance Promenade	Cornwall	4,732
	Porthleven, Breage & Germoe	Cornwall	5,617
	St Ives East, Lelant & Carbis Bay	Cornwall	4,996
	St Ives West & Towednack	Cornwall	4,969
	Bryher	Isles of Scilly	73
	St. Agnes	Isles of Scilly	66
	St. Martin's	Isles of Scilly	112
	St. Mary's	Isles of Scilly	1,290
	Tresco	Isles of Scilly	87
Stroud CC			76,249
	Amberley and Woodchester	Stroud	1,796
	Berkeley Vale	Stroud	5,807
	Cainscross	Stroud	5,854
	Cam East	Stroud	3,740
	Cam West	Stroud	3,191
	Chalford	Stroud	5,314
	Coaley & Uley	Stroud	2,006
	Dursley	Stroud	5,519
	Nailsworth	Stroud	5,346
	Randwick, Whiteshill & Ruscombe	Stroud	1,795
	Rodborough	Stroud	3,584
	Severn	Stroud	4,294
	Stonehouse	Stroud	5,899
	Stroud Central	Stroud	1,760
	Stroud Farmhill & Paganhill	Stroud	1,905
	Stroud Slade	Stroud	1,850
	Stroud Trinity	Stroud	1,685
	Stroud Uplands	Stroud	1,670
	Stroud Valley	Stroud	1,750
	The Stanleys	Stroud	3,808
	Thrupp	Stroud	2,005
	Wotton-under-Edge	Stroud	5,671

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
Swindon North CC			72,163
	Blunsdon and Highworth	Swindon	8,951
	Gorse Hill and Pinehurst	Swindon	8,332
	Haydon Wick	Swindon	8,829
	Penhill and Upper Stratton	Swindon	9,116
	Priory Vale	Swindon	8,291
	Rodbourne Cheney	Swindon	8,735
	St. Andrews	Swindon	11,045
	St. Margaret and South Marston	Swindon	8,864
Swindon South BC			72,468
	Central	Swindon	7,118
	Chiseldon and Lawn – part of (polling districts CLA, CLC, and CLD)	Swindon	3,962
	Covingham and Dorcan	Swindon	8,313
	Eastcott	Swindon	6,855
	Liden, Eldene and Park South	Swindon	7,792
	Lydiard and Freshbrook	Swindon	8,099
	Mannington and Western	Swindon	6,663
	Old Town	Swindon	7,627
	Shaw	Swindon	7,811
	Walcot and Park North	Swindon	8,228
Taunton CC			76,049
	Blackbrook & Holway	Somerset West and Taunton	4,436
	Comeytrowe & Bishop's Hull	Somerset West and Taunton	6,877
	Creech St. Michael	Somerset West and Taunton	2,390
	Halcon & Lane	Somerset West and Taunton	4,145
	Hatch & Blackdown	Somerset West and Taunton	2,266
	Manor & Tangier	Somerset West and Taunton	2,216
	Monument	Somerset West and Taunton	2,312
	North Curry & Ruishton	Somerset West and Taunton	4,233
	North Town	Somerset West and Taunton	1,926

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Norton Fitzwarren & Staplegrove	Somerset West and Taunton	4,855
	Priorswood	Somerset West and Taunton	6,361
	Rockwell Green	Somerset West and Taunton	2,110
	Trull, Pitminster & Corfe	Somerset West and Taunton	2,796
	Victoria	Somerset West and Taunton	3,657
	Vivary	Somerset West and Taunton	3,688
	Wellington East	Somerset West and Taunton	3,525
	Wellington North	Somerset West and Taunton	3,978
	Wellington South	Somerset West and Taunton	2,183
	Wellsprings & Rowbarton	Somerset West and Taunton	4,387
	West Monkton & Cheddon Fitzpaine	Somerset West and Taunton	5,600
	Wilton & Sherford	Somerset West and Taunton	2,108
Tewkesbury CC			72,426
	Prestbury	Cheltenham	4,883
	Springbank	Cheltenham	4,688
	Swindon Village	Cheltenham	4,142
	Elmbridge	Gloucester	4,814
	Longlevens	Gloucester	7,459
	Cleeve Grange	Tewkesbury	2,066
	Cleeve Hill	Tewkesbury	3,990
	Cleeve St. Michael's	Tewkesbury	4,246
	Cleeve West	Tewkesbury	4,009
	Innsworth	Tewkesbury	3,623
	Isbourne	Tewkesbury	3,103
	Northway	Tewkesbury	3,654
	Severn Vale North	Tewkesbury	1,981
	Severn Vale South	Tewkesbury	1,870
	Tewkesbury East	Tewkesbury	4,164
	Tewkesbury North & Twyning	Tewkesbury	4,185
	Tewkesbury South	Tewkesbury	4,106
	Winchcombe	Tewkesbury	5,443

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
Thornbury and Yate CC			74,935
	Boyd Valley	South Gloucestershire	7,257
	Charfield	South Gloucestershire	3,505
	Chipping Sodbury & Cotswold Edge	South Gloucestershire	7,964
	Dodington	South Gloucestershire	7,681
	Frampton Cotterell	South Gloucestershire	10,432
	Pilning & Severn Beach	South Gloucestershire	3,782
	Severn Vale	South Gloucestershire	7,880
	Thornbury	South Gloucestershire	10,652
	Yate Central	South Gloucestershire	6,655
	Yate North	South Gloucestershire	9,127
Tiverton and Minehead CC			70,829
	Canonsleigh	Mid Devon	2,684
	Castle	Mid Devon	3,239
	Clare and Shuttern	Mid Devon	2,945
	Cranmore	Mid Devon	3,949
	Halberton	Mid Devon	1,626
	Lower Culm	Mid Devon	4,618
	Lowman	Mid Devon	4,664
	Upper Culm	Mid Devon	3,375
	Westexe	Mid Devon	4,393
	Alcombe	Somerset West and Taunton	1,955
	Cotford St. Luke & Oake	Somerset West and Taunton	2,214
	Dulverton & District	Somerset West and Taunton	2,002
	Exmoor	Somerset West and Taunton	1,963
	Milverton & District	Somerset West and Taunton	2,145
	Minehead Central	Somerset West and Taunton	3,358
	Minehead North	Somerset West and Taunton	1,909

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Old Cleeve & District	Somerset West and Taunton	3,989
	Periton & Woodcombe	Somerset West and Taunton	1,812
	Porlock & District	Somerset West and Taunton	1,965
	Quantock Vale	Somerset West and Taunton	2,107
	South Quantock	Somerset West and Taunton	4,234
	Watchet & Williton	Somerset West and Taunton	5,571
	Wiveliscombe & District	Somerset West and Taunton	4,112
Torbay BC			75,742
	Barton with Watcombe	Torbay	8,497
	Clifton with Maidenway	Torbay	6,066
	Cockington with Chelston	Torbay	6,015
	Ellacombe	Torbay	5,647
	Goodrington with Roselands	Torbay	5,959
	Preston	Torbay	8,256
	Roundham with Hyde	Torbay	6,153
	Shiphay	Torbay	6,092
	St. Marychurch	Torbay	9,091
	Tormohun	Torbay	8,240
	Wellswood	Torbay	5,726
Torridge and Tavistock CC			74,802
	Appledore	Torridge	2,991
	Bideford East	Torridge	4,201
	Bideford North	Torridge	4,629
	Bideford South	Torridge	2,487
	Bideford West	Torridge	2,151
	Broadheath	Torridge	3,378
	Great Torrington	Torridge	4,463
	Hartland	Torridge	4,751
	Holsworthy	Torridge	2,516
	Milton & Tamarside	Torridge	3,440
	Monkleigh & Putford	Torridge	3,253
	Northam	Torridge	4,193
	Shebbear & Langtree	Torridge	3,131
	Two Rivers & Three Moors	Torridge	3,350

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Westward Ho!	Torridge	3,076
	Winkleigh	Torridge	1,767
	Bere Ferrers	West Devon	3,016
	Bridestowe	West Devon	2,611
	Dartmoor	West Devon	1,449
	Mary Tavy	West Devon	1,353
	Milton Ford	West Devon	1,493
	Tamarside	West Devon	1,443
	Tavistock North	West Devon	3,784
	Tavistock South East	West Devon	2,963
	Tavistock South West	West Devon	2,913
Truro and Falmouth CC			73,326
	Falmouth Arwenack	Cornwall	5,012
	Falmouth Boslowick	Cornwall	4,732
	Falmouth Penwerris	Cornwall	5,657
	Falmouth Trescobeas & Budock	Cornwall	4,602
	Feock & Kea	Cornwall	4,439
	Gloweth, Malabar & Shortlanesend	Cornwall	4,261
	Mylor, Perranarworthal & Ponsanooth	Cornwall	5,332
	Penryn	Cornwall	5,950
	Probus & St Erme	Cornwall	5,106
	St Goran, Tregony & the Roseland	Cornwall	4,803
	St Newlyn East, Cubert & Goonhavern	Cornwall	4,956
	Threemilestone & Chacewater	Cornwall	3,921
	Truro Boscawen & Redannick	Cornwall	4,443
	Truro Moresk & Trehaverne	Cornwall	5,223
	Truro Tregolls	Cornwall	4,889
Wells and Mendip Hills CC			69,843
	Chewton Mendip and Ston Easton	Mendip	1,821
	Crocombe and Pilton	Mendip	2,223
	Moor	Mendip	2,163
	Rodney and Westbury	Mendip	1,795
	Shepton East	Mendip	3,794
	Shepton West	Mendip	3,738
	St. Cuthbert Out North	Mendip	2,261

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Wells Central	Mendip	1,757
	Wells St. Cuthbert's	Mendip	3,636
	Wells St. Thomas'	Mendip	3,496
	Wookey and St. Cuthbert Out West	Mendip	2,096
	Banwell & Winscombe	North Somerset	6,256
	Blagdon & Churchill	North Somerset	3,204
	Congresbury & Puxton	North Somerset	3,235
	Yatton	North Somerset	6,906
	Axevale	Sedgemoor	3,472
	Cheddar and Shipham	Sedgemoor	5,918
	East Polden	Sedgemoor	1,735
	Knoll	Sedgemoor	4,329
	Wedmore and Mark	Sedgemoor	3,957
	West Polden	Sedgemoor	2,051
West Dorset CC			75,269
	Beaminster	Dorset	3,430
	Bridport	Dorset	12,276
	Charminster St. Mary's	Dorset	3,940
	Chesil Bank	Dorset	3,383
	Dorchester East	Dorset	6,772
	Dorchester Poundbury	Dorset	3,001
	Dorchester West	Dorset	7,026
	Eggardon	Dorset	4,261
	Lyme & Charmouth	Dorset	4,294
	Marshwood Vale	Dorset	3,967
	Sherborne East	Dorset	3,875
	Sherborne Rural	Dorset	4,045
	Sherborne West	Dorset	3,566
	Upwey & Broadwey	Dorset	3,840
	Winterborne & Broadmayne	Dorset	3,544
	Yetminster	Dorset	4,049
Weston-super-Mare CC			70,722
	Hutton & Locking	North Somerset	6,066
	Weston-super-Mare Central	North Somerset	6,117
	Weston-super-Mare Hillside	North Somerset	6,524
	Weston-super-Mare Kewstoke	North Somerset	6,958
	Weston-super-Mare Mid Worle	North Somerset	3,264

Constituency	Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate
	Weston-super-Mare Milton	North Somerset	6,999
	Weston-super-Mare North Worle	North Somerset	6,224
	Weston-super-Mare South	North Somerset	6,070
	Weston-super-Mare South Worle	North Somerset	6,560
	Weston-super-Mare Uphill	North Somerset	6,519
	Weston-super-Mare Winterstoke	North Somerset	5,850
	Wick St. Lawrence & St. Georges	North Somerset	3,571
Yeovil CC			76,056
	Blackdown & Tatworth	South Somerset	4,162
	Brympton	South Somerset	5,908
	Chard Avishayes	South Somerset	1,794
	Chard Combe	South Somerset	1,886
	Chard Crimchard	South Somerset	1,975
	Chard Holyrood	South Somerset	2,099
	Chard Jocelyn	South Somerset	1,834
	Coker	South Somerset	4,396
	Crewkerne	South Somerset	6,469
	Eggwood	South Somerset	2,027
	Ilminster	South Somerset	4,542
	Neroche	South Somerset	2,141
	Parrett	South Somerset	2,005
	South Petherton	South Somerset	4,533
	Windwhistle	South Somerset	2,044
	Yeovil College	South Somerset	5,938
	Yeovil Lyde	South Somerset	4,386
	Yeovil Summerlands	South Somerset	6,580
	Yeovil Westland	South Somerset	5,840
	Yeovil without	South Somerset	5,497

Glossary

Assistant Commissioner	Independent person appointed at the request of the BCE to assist it with the discharge of its functions.	Public hearing	Formal opportunity during the secondary consultation period for people to make oral representations, chaired by an Assistant Commissioner.
Borough constituency (abbreviated to BC)	The designation for a Parliamentary constituency containing a predominantly urban area.	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.
County constituency (abbreviated to CC)	The designation for a Parliamentary constituency containing more than a small rural element.	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.
Designation	Official classification as either a borough constituency or a county constituency. The designation of a constituency guides the determination of who the returning officer will be, and determines how much candidates can spend, in any election for that constituency.	Revised proposals	The initial proposals as subsequently revised.
Electorate	The number of registered Parliamentary electors in a given area.	Rules	The statutory criteria for Parliamentary constituencies recommended by a Parliamentary Boundary Commission, as set out in Schedule 2 to the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (as amended by Acts up to and including the 2020 Act).
(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.	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 in the UK) by 645.
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 amended since the earlier proposals in any given area.	Unitary authority	An area where there is only one tier of ‘principal area’ 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).
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 proposed constituency the Commission will make available hard copies of its revised 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.		

