

# Eastern Revised proposals summary

## Who we are and what we do

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

## The 2018 Review

We have the task of periodically reviewing the boundaries of all the Parliamentary constituencies in England. We are currently conducting a review on the basis of new rules laid down by Parliament. These rules involve a significant reduction in the number of constituencies in England (from 533 to 501), resulting in the number of constituencies in the Eastern region reducing by one, to 57. The rules also require that every constituency – apart from two specified exceptions<sup>1</sup> – must have an electorate that is no smaller than 71,031 and no larger than 78,507.

## How did we conduct the 2018 Review?

We published our initial proposals for new boundaries in September 2016 and consulted on them. We received written comments and oral submissions at public hearings held in each region. We published all the comments we received and we held a second consultation exercise in relation to them in March 2017. We are very grateful for all the comments that these two consultation exercises have generated. We have now completed the next stage of the review process and we are now publishing our revised proposals. For each region, the revised proposals report sets out our analysis of all the responses to our initial proposals in the first and second consultations, and the conclusions we have reached as to how those proposals should be revised as a result. The annex to

each report contains details of the composition of each constituency in our revised proposals for the relevant region; maps to illustrate these constituencies can be viewed on our website or in hard copy at a local place of deposit near you.

## What are the revised proposals for the Eastern region?

We have revised the composition of 21 of the 57 constituencies we proposed in September 2016. After careful consideration, we have decided not to make any revisions to the composition of the remaining 36 constituencies. In some instances, however, we have revised our proposed names for these constituencies.

Under our revised proposals, seven constituencies in the Eastern region would be the same as they are under the existing arrangements.

As it was not always possible to allocate whole numbers of constituencies to individual counties, our initial proposals grouped some local authority areas into sub-regions. It was also necessary to propose some constituencies that cross county or unitary authority boundaries. Following consideration of the representations made on our initial proposals, the sub-regions used in formulating our revised proposals remain unchanged as shown in the table below.

Sub-region	Existing allocation	Revised allocation
Cambridgeshire (including Peterborough), Hertfordshire and Norfolk	27	27
Bedfordshire (including Bedford, Central Bedfordshire and Luton)	6	6
Essex (including Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock)	18	17
Suffolk	7	7

<sup>1</sup> The specified exemptions in England to the rules on constituency size are the two constituencies in the Isle of Wight.

In the sub-region of Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and Norfolk, we propose revisions to the constituencies of Cambridge, South Cambridgeshire, South East Cambridgeshire, Hertsmere, North East Hertfordshire, St. Albans, and Watford. In this sub-region it has still been necessary to propose two constituencies that cross county boundaries. As in the initial proposals, we propose that one constituency contain wards from Norfolk and Cambridgeshire and that another contain wards from Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire. We propose no changes to the initial proposals for Norfolk, apart from the name change of one constituency.

Of the six existing constituencies in the ceremonial County of Bedfordshire, we propose changes to three constituencies. We propose no changes to the remaining three constituencies, apart from the name of one constituency.

In the County of Essex (including the boroughs of Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock) we propose changes across the county and in particular to the constituencies in south Essex. We have therefore made revisions to seven of the 17 constituencies in the county and an additional

change of name to one further constituency. The existing constituencies of Chelmsford, Epping Forest, and Thurrock remain unchanged, as in our initial proposals.

Of the seven constituencies in Suffolk, we have recommended revisions to the three constituencies of Bury St. Edmunds, Central Suffolk and North Ipswich, and Ipswich.

## How to have your say

We are consulting on our revised proposals for an eight-week period, from 17 October 2017 to 11 December 2017. We encourage everyone to use this final opportunity to contribute to the design of the new constituencies – the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be when we make recommendations to the Government in September 2018.

We ask everyone wishing to contribute to the design of the new constituencies to first look at the revised proposals report, and accompanying maps, before responding to us. The best way to respond to our revised proposals is through our consultation website: [www.bce2018.org.uk](http://www.bce2018.org.uk)

---

Boundary Commission for England  
35 Great Smith Street  
London  
SW1P 3BQ

t: 020 7276 1102

e: [information@boundarycommissionengland.gov.uk](mailto:information@boundarycommissionengland.gov.uk)

[www.bce2018.org.uk](http://www.bce2018.org.uk)

# 2018boundaryreview

@BCE2018

[www.facebook.com/bcommengland/](https://www.facebook.com/bcommengland/)