

Boundary Commission for England

Partner Pack

22 February to 4 April 2022



Help us spread the word - and enable others to have their say on the proposed new map of constituencies

This partner pack aims to provide all the information you need to know about the 2023 Boundary Review.

We hope the resources included in the pack help you to raise awareness of the secondary consultation, and use your communication channels to help as many people as possible get involved.

Contact us

If you have any questions, or require this document in a different format, please get in touch:

Email: information@boundarycommissionengland.gov.uk

Phone: 02072 761102

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

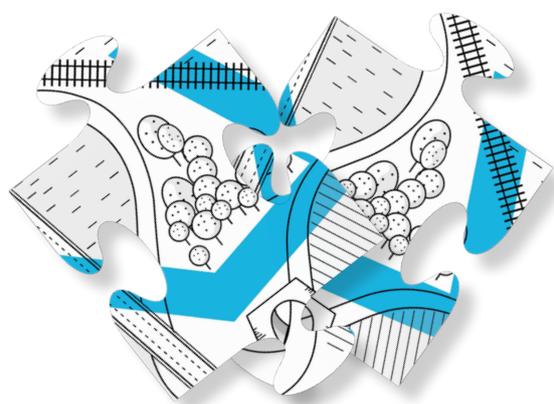
For press enquiries only

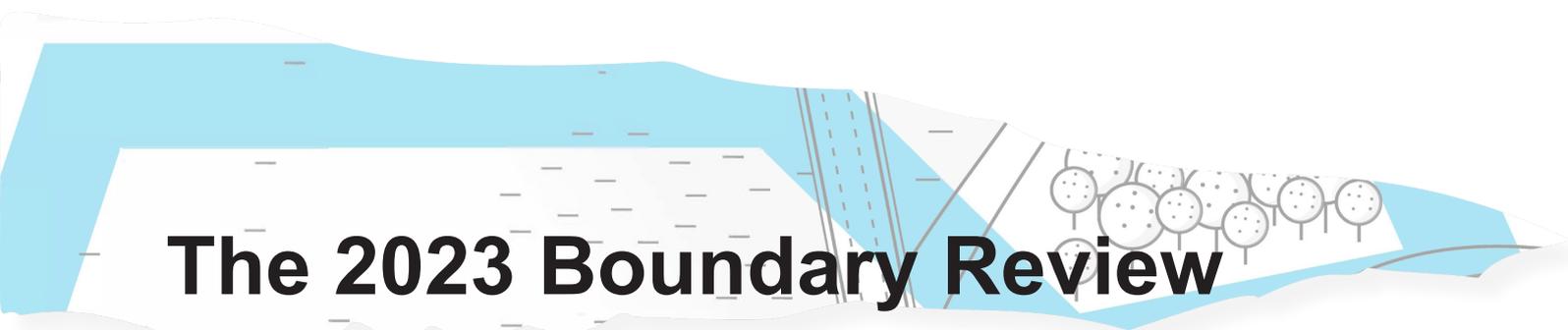
Email: press@boundarycommissionengland.gov.uk

Phone: 07821 637558

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The 2023 Boundary Review

Introduction

We are the Boundary Commission for England (BCE), an independent and impartial public body.

A review of parliamentary constituencies is taking place to ensure each one has roughly the same number of electors. As part of this process, the number of constituencies in England will increase to 543. The Commission is required by law to make sure that each constituency in England has between 69,724 and 77,062 electors, excluding two 'protected' constituencies for the Isle of Wight.

Due to population changes, the number of people registered to vote in some constituencies is much higher than in others. The 2023 Boundary Review will therefore rebalance the number of electors represented by each MP. It's an important process, and one which requires considerable change to the existing map of constituencies.

Our task is to redraw the map of constituencies in England so that it represents local communities as best as possible, while keeping to the legal requirements outlined above.

We want members of the public to tell us their thoughts on our proposed new constituencies, so we can improve them. This is where you come in. With your support, you can help us raise awareness of our secondary consultation and enable others to have their say on the boundary changes.

Our secondary consultation

We received a fantastic number of responses - over 34,000 - to our first consultation, which took place from June to August last year. From 22 February to 4 April 2022, we're holding a six-week secondary consultation on our initial proposals, and we want as many people as possible to have the opportunity to provide their views.

To have your say, you can send us your comments from 22 February in writing via our consultation website, bcereviews.org.uk, or by email or letter. These must reach us by 4 April 2022, when the consultation closes. You can give us your feedback on anything from where the proposed electoral boundaries are, to our suggestions for new constituency names.

We cannot accept any comments sent in before the consultation opens on 22 February. You are welcome to begin promoting the consultation before this date, but please be mindful of this restriction in your messaging.

We are also holding 32 public hearings across the country, where members of the public can provide their views in person. To find out the location of a public hearing in your region and book a 10 minute slot to speak, please visit the dedicated public hearings page on our website here: bit.ly/bcepublichearings.

Further information about the public hearings, including what to expect when attending a hearing, can be found in our [Guide to the public hearings](#) (available as an HTML webpage and to download as a PDF via our website).

We have also published the responses we received during our first consultation, so that people can take these into account when making a representation. These are available to view on bcereviews.org.uk.

What happens next?

After the secondary consultation has closed, the Commission will analyse every representation sent in during the first and secondary stages. We will produce a report deciding on whether the initial proposals should change and which details any suggested changes. Alongside this report, we will publish all the written representations we received during the secondary consultation, as well as the transcripts from public hearings.

If our proposals change, we will hold a further four-week written consultation on our revised proposals inviting you to tell us what you think about them. There will be no public hearings at this stage. Those comments will be published along with our final report, which will be sent to Parliament by July 2023 and subsequently made into law.



How to get involved

We have produced this pack to make it easier for you to get involved. We want to raise awareness of the 2023 Boundary Review as widely and locally as possible, to make sure that everyone has the opportunity to have their voices heard.

Help others to have their say by using your communication channels to spread the word. You could start by sending this resource pack to other organisations and representatives in your community, such as housing associations and parish councils.

Please think about how you can best reach every demographic in your community. For example, do you have a Diversity Officer who can assist you in spreading the word among underrepresented communities? To help reach those who don't have easy access to the internet, can you put up posters in local venues?

Here are some more ideas:

- Post our ready-made social media content, or design your own
- Include a brief paragraph in your newsletter or bulletin
- Publish our content on your organisation's website
- Distribute our posters and flyers to your offices and local venues, such as libraries
- Send a press release to your local media
- Email our factsheet to your stakeholders
- Spread the word among local community groups
- Follow us on social media (@BCEReviews) to keep up to date with the consultation, and share our content

We will be pushing out content on our social media channels and website throughout the consultation period - please feel free to share our posts, and join us in posting your own.

If you have any questions about the consultation, please get in touch - our team will be happy to answer them.

Our key messages

1

Critical part of our democracy

Reviewing constituency boundaries is an essential process to make sure that individual votes are of broadly equal weight.

Fair and impartial

Boundary Commission for England is an independent and impartial public body.

2

3

We want to hear your views

The Boundary Commission for England wants to hear from local residents and communities, to make sure their final recommendations to Parliament take account of local views and knowledge.

It's easy to have your say

View and comment on the proposed changes online at bcereviews.org.uk

4

Resources

Sample posts for social media

Make sure you're following us on social media to hear key updates about the secondary consultation, and the progress of the 2023 Boundary Review more generally.



Click the links to view and follow our page - we're **@BCEReviews** on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)

We've created some sample social media posts below to help you spread the word in your area. After the consultation opens on 22 February, feel free to post any of these on your social media channels or create your own.

We cannot accept responses which reach us before the consultation opens on 22 February, or after it closes on 4 April. Please take this into account when promoting the consultation on your channels, and ensure you include our consultation website address (bcereviews.org.uk) in your posts.

Download



Constituencies in your area are changing and @BCEReviews want to hear your thoughts on their proposals. Have your say in the consultation here before 4 April: bcereviews.org.uk



The Boundary Commission for England (@BCEReviews) wants YOU to help improve its proposals for new constituencies in your area. Go to bcereviews.org.uk and share your views now in the public consultation, which closes 4 April and includes public hearings in your region.

Get involved in the Boundary Commission for England's consultation on constituency boundaries in your area at bcereviews.org.uk, or at a public hearing in your region. Have your say now - follow @BCEReviews for more information



The Boundary Commission for England are holding public hearings on how new constituencies in your area should look. Find your nearest hearing and register for a slot to speak at bit.ly/bcepublichearings

The Boundary Commission for England are holding a public consultation on the proposed new constituency boundaries, including public hearings across the country. Have your say in person at a hearing or via bcereviews.org.uk. For more info follow @BCEReviews

How should the map of constituencies look in [INSERT AREA]? Tell the Boundary Commission and help improve their suggestions in the consultation open now. Go to bcereviews.org.uk and have your say - you've got until 4th April.



Text for your website or bulletin

Brief text (suitable for a newsletter or bulletin)

The Boundary Commission for England is holding an independent review of all constituency boundaries in England, and invites you to have your say on its proposals. Go to bcereviews.org.uk to view the proposed new constituencies for your area and share your views before the secondary consultation closes on 4 April. You can also speak at a public hearing in your region - find your nearest hearing and book your attendance at bit.ly/bcepublichearings. The 2023 Boundary Review will rebalance the number of electors in each constituency, and the number of constituencies in England will increase to 543. Follow @BCEReviews to keep updated.

Longer summary (suitable for a page on your website)

Constituencies are changing - have your say now via bcereviews.org.uk, or at a public hearing in your region.

The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) is required by Parliament to undertake an independent and impartial review of all constituencies in England, to rebalance the number of electors in each constituency. The 2023 Boundary Review also requires that the number of constituencies in England increases from 533 to 543. The Commission is holding a secondary consultation on its initial proposals for new constituencies, which takes place from 22 February to 4 April 2022. During the consultation, public hearings will be held across the country to allow members of the public to provide their views in person.

To have your say, submit your views in writing via the consultation website bcereviews.org.uk, by email, or letter; or speak at a public hearing in your region. Find your nearest hearing and book a slot to speak at bit.ly/bcepublichearings. On the consultation website, you can also view and take into account the responses sent in during the first consultation.

Follow @BCEReviews on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) to keep up-to-date with 2023 Boundary Review news.

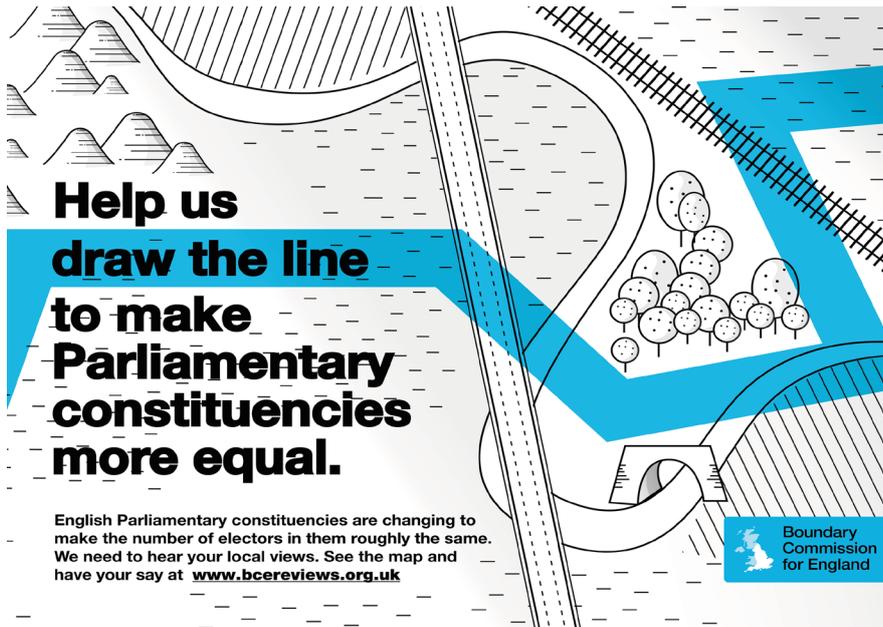
Further information and resources:

- [Boundary Commission for England website](#)
- [Guide to the 2023 Review](#)
- [Guide to the public hearings](#)

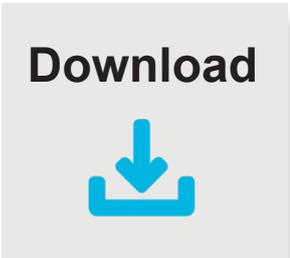
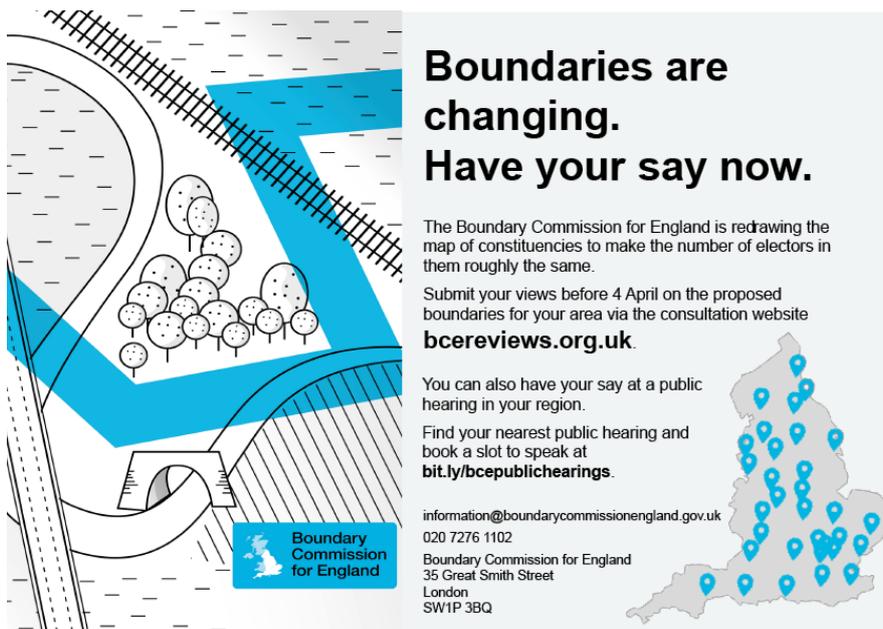
Poster and flyer

Download and distribute our informative A4 poster and A5 flyer. Send them to your contacts to print and circulate around your offices and local venues (for example, community centres, libraries, and on parish noticeboards), to help raise awareness of the consultation at a local level.

Option 1

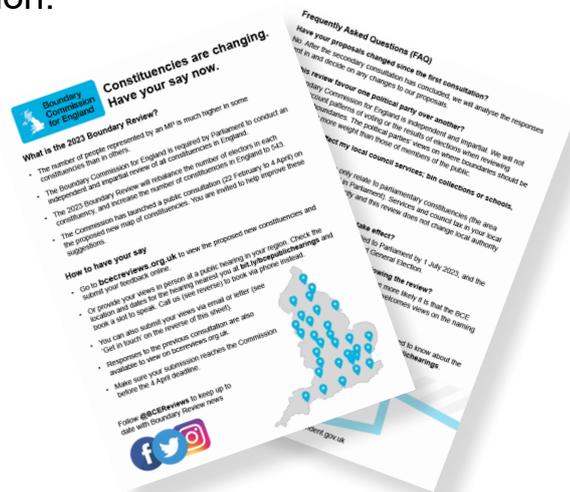
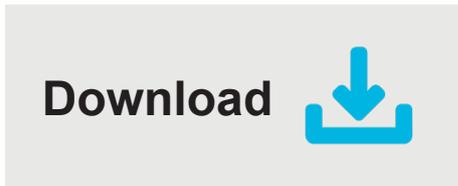


Option 2



Factsheet

Download our helpful factsheet about the secondary consultation and the 2023 Boundary Review below. Like the poster and flyer, it's an informative but brief resource you can distribute to your offices and local venues to spread awareness of the consultation.



Press release

On 22 February, we'll publish our news article announcing the launch of the secondary consultation, and link to our press release within the piece.

The news article will be published on our 'News' page here:

boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/category/news

You are welcome to download our press release and send it to your local media, or use the press release or news article for your own communications purposes - for example, to upload on your website.

Blog

Our first public hearing takes place in Westminster on 24 and 25 February. One of our Assistant Commissioners will write about their experience of participating in the 2023 Boundary Review and attending the hearing. We'll publish their piece on the 'Blogs' page on our website here shortly after the hearing has taken place:

boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/category/blogs

Please feel free to place it on your own website or distribute it via your newsletter or bulletin.

FAQ

Read the answers to some frequently asked questions below. Still have questions? Get in touch - our team will be happy to help.

Why are you reviewing constituency boundaries?

The Boundary Commission for England has been asked by Parliament to rebalance the number of electors in each constituency. Due to population changes since the last review, the number of electors in some constituencies is much higher than in others. The 2023 Boundary Review will make sure each MP represents roughly the same number of electors (between 69,724 and 77,062). The number of constituencies in England must also increase from 533 to 543. The new map of constituencies proposed by the Commission therefore has significant changes.

Where can I see your proposals for new constituencies?

Visit our consultation website, bcereviews.org.uk, to view our proposals and take part in the consultation.

How do you develop your proposals for new constituencies?

We must keep to the rules set by Parliament, outlined above. We also take into account existing boundaries, local geography, and local ties. We know that local knowledge can help improve our proposals, and have invited the public to participate in our secondary consultation. We will take into account every response when deciding on any changes to our initial proposals. Read our [Guide to the Review](#) for further information on this.

Have your proposals changed since the first consultation?

No. After the secondary consultation has concluded, we will analyse the responses sent in and decide on any changes to our proposals.

Will this review favour one political party over another?

The Boundary Commission for England is independent and impartial and will not take into account patterns of voting or the results of elections when reviewing constituency boundaries. Nor do the political parties' views on where boundaries should be have any more weight than those of members of the public.

Will the changes affect my local council services - bin collections or schools, for example?

No. The boundary changes only relate to parliamentary constituencies (the area an MP is elected to represent in Parliament). Services and council tax in your local area are set by your local authority and this review does not change local authority boundaries.

What happens after the secondary consultation, and when would the proposed changes take effect?

We will analyse every response received during the first and secondary consultations. If our proposals change, we will publish our recommendations and hold a further public consultation. Our final recommendations will be submitted to Parliament by 1 July 2023, and the new constituencies will take effect at the next General Election thereafter.

Will the name of my constituency change following the review?

Generally, the more a constituency has changed, the more likely it is that the BCE will recommend a change of name. The Commission welcomes views on the naming of proposed constituencies during the consultation.

Should I submit my views in writing or in person?

You are welcome to attend a public hearing to provide a response in person or to send in a written representation via our consultation website, bcereviews.org.uk, or by email or letter, within the consultation period. We place equal weight on feedback submitted orally and in writing.

How can I attend a public hearing?

Go straight to our public hearings page on our website via this link: bit.ly/bcepublichearings and find your nearest hearing from the dates and locations listed. By selecting your chosen event, you'll be taken to Eventbrite to register for a 10 minute slot to speak at the hearing. Booking is a quick and easy process.

What happens at a public hearing?

Read our [Guide to the public hearings](#) to find out everything you need to know about the hearings. It provides information on registering for a hearing, the timings of each day, and how the hearings are run.

Find out more

Useful resources and links

- Visit our consultation website to view our initial proposals for your area, and tell us your views: bcereviews.org.uk
- Keep up to date with 2023 Boundary Review news on our main website: boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk
- Find your local public hearing on our dedicated public hearings page: bit.ly/bcepublichearings
- Read our [Guide to the 2023 Review](#), which provides a detailed description of the 2023 Boundary Review process. An [easy read version](#) is also available to view or print from our website.



We also publish news about the Boundary Review on social media. Follow **@BCEReviews** on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

If you would like to find out more about the public hearings, the work of the Commission, or the 2023 Boundary Review more generally, please get in touch (see page 2 for our contact information).

Giving feedback on this resource

We welcome your feedback about this partner pack. To help us improve the materials we share, email us at information@boundarycommissionengland.gov.uk, using the subject line 'Partner pack feedback'.

