



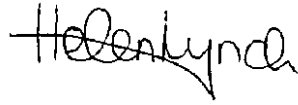
Local Government Act 1972

I Hereby Give You Notice that an **Ordinary Meeting** of the **Durham County Council** will be held in the **Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham** on **Wednesday 23 March 2022** at **10.00 am** to transact the following business:-

1. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2022 (Pages 3 - 20)
2. To receive any declarations of interest from Members
3. Chair's Announcements
4. Leader's Report
5. Questions from the Public
6. Petitions
7. Boundary Commission Review of Parliamentary Constituencies - Report of Corporate Director of Resources (Pages 21 - 224)
8. Ferryhill By-election - Statement of Returning Officer (Pages 225 - 226)
9. Motions on Notice
10. Questions from Members

And pursuant to the provisions of the above-named act, **I Hereby Summon You** to attend the said meeting

Dated this 15th day of March 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Lynch". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line through the middle of the name.

Helen Lynch
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

To: All Members of the County Council

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At an Ordinary Meeting of the County Council held in the The Main Hall -
Spennymoor Leisure Centre on **Wednesday 23 February 2022 at 10.00 am**

Present:

Councillor W Stelling (Chair)

Councillors E Adam, R Adcock-Forster, V Andrews, J Atkinson, P Atkinson, B Bainbridge (Vice-Chair), A Batey, K Batey, A Bell, C Bell, R Bell, G Binney, J Blakey, D Brown, L Brown, J Cairns, R Charlton-Lainé, J Charlton, I Cochrane, J Cosslett, B Coult, R Crute, M Currah, S Deinali, T Duffy, J Elmer, L Fenwick, C Fletcher, D Freeman, O Gunn, D Hall, C Hampson, A Hanson, P Heaviside, T Henderson, S Henig, J Higgins, L A Holmes, C Hood, A Hoppood, L Hovvels, J Howey, C Hunt, G Hutchinson, A Jackson, M Johnson, N Jones, P Jopling, C Kay, B Kellett, C Lines, L Maddison, R Manchester, C Marshall, C Martin, E Mavin, L Mavin, B McAloon, S McDonnell, M McGaun, D McKenna, M McKeon, I McLean, S McMahan, J Miller, B Moist, P Molloy, D Mulholland, D Nicholls, J Nicholson, D Oliver, R Ormerod, E Peeke, R Potts, P Pringle, J Purvis, J Quinn, S Quinn, A Reed, G Richardson, I Roberts, S Robinson, K Robson, K Rooney, J Rowlandson, E Scott, P Sexton, K Shaw, A Shield, J Shuttleworth, M Simmons, A Simpson, T Smith, M Stead, D Stoker, T Stubbs, A Surtees, D Sutton-Lloyd, P Taylor, F Tinsley, S Townsend, C Varty, E Waldock, M Walton, A Watson, M Wilkes, M Wilson, S Wilson, D Wood, R Yorke and S Zair

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Boyes, J Chaplow, J Griffiths, K Hawley, D Howarth, L Kennedy and A Savory

1 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2022 were confirmed by the Council as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in relation to any items of business on the agenda.

3 Chair's Announcements

The Chair informed Council that the main focus of the meeting was to set the budget and council tax and sought agreement to waive standing orders to allow for the extension of the meeting should it go beyond two and a half hours. **Seconded** by Councillor B Bainbridge.

Resolved:

That standing orders be waived to allow for the extension of the meeting should it go beyond two and a half hours.

The Chair reminded everyone to be respectful to each other during the meeting. Robust debate was part of the democratic process, but the Chair asked Members to respect the views of others and not to point fingers at others during debate, and not to shout across the floor.

Where points of order were raised, once a ruling had been made on advice of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, it would not be re-visited

4 Leader's Report

The Council noted a report from the Leader of the Council as follows:

The Leader hoped all Members were well and had not been too badly affected by the recent bad weather, which had once again seen the County battered by high winds, heavy rain and snow. The Council had continued to work closely with partners in the County Durham Local Resilience Forum with efforts to deal with any damage which was ongoing. The Leader thanked everyone who had been involved in the response and also to residents who had rallied around to support one another.

In the past few weeks, the Council had confirmation from government that County Durham was to be one of nine areas selected to take forward proposals for devolved powers.

The Council had worked extremely hard with government to set out why County Durham needed a devolution deal and how this would help the Council to invest in its local communities going forward. The Council had set out a strong and compelling argument to get to this point and looked forward to further discussions with government on how a deal would work for the Council.

The last two years had been a challenge for everyone, but with more local control over economic regeneration, housing, infrastructure and resources, the Council could look to the future with confidence and optimism.

The Leader assured Members that the Council would be working extremely hard to secure the best possible devolution deal for County Durham, including working with all 6 local MP's. The next steps would be set out once further discussions had taken place with government.

At the beginning of the month, the Council submitted further details of its bid to secure the UK City of Culture title for 2025 to government. The bid had been submitted with the Council's principal partner Durham University on behalf of Culture Durham. If successful, it could mean millions of extra visitors to the region, the potential for thousands of new jobs and a significant boost for levelling up.

The Leader congratulated Sarah Slaven on being appointed as the permanent Managing Director of Business Durham, the Council's business support service. Sarah previously held the post of Operations Director at Business Durham before becoming Interim Managing Director in early 2020. The Leader hoped Council would join her in wishing Sarah well.

The Council's Stronger Families initiative was to be extended for a further three years, following news of a £2.2 million grant from the government. The scheme provided tailored support to vulnerable families, helping them to access help to address a range of issues with the support of dedicated key workers from the council and fellow members of the Early Help Partnership.

Last week, the Leader welcomed Henri Murison, Director of the Northern Powerhouse Partnership, to County Durham. During his visit, Henri attended NETPark near Sedgefield and also visited Peterlee, where he was shown how the DurhamWorks scheme was helping young people into employment and training. DurhamWorks was supported by the European Social Fund, but this funding would come to an end in December 2023. It was vital the Council secured alternative funds to continue this important work.

The County would play host to a major conference next week, when the North East Satellite Applications Centre of Excellence held 'The New Frontier: North East Space Conference'. The event, at the Radisson Blu in Durham on Wednesday 2 March would give businesses the chance to learn more about the growing space industry in the region. Topics to be discussed ranged from building a UK space economy to how science and innovation could be a catalyst for economic prosperity, with attendees being from the UK and globally.

Councillor C Marshall referred to the discussions proposed on a devolution deal and asked when the Cabinet and leadership of the Council would set out to Members, partners, and communities its plans of what its ask was from government. The Leader replied that the discussions first needed to be held with government around the options available for a County deal, following which further details would be set out and Councillor Marshall would be included as Leader of the Opposition.

Councillor Gunn referred to the Space Conference taking place and asked whether there would be an opportunity for young people from County

Durham to have some involvement in the conference. The Leader replied that while the County was playing host to the conference the Council was not organising the conference. The Leader added she would contact the conference organisers with Councillor Gunn's question and provide Councillor Gunn with a written response.

5 Questions from the Public

There were no questions from the public.

6 Petitions

There were no petitions for consideration.

7 Report from the Cabinet

The Council noted a report from Cabinet which provided an update of business discussed by Cabinet on 19 January and 9 February 2022 (for copy see file of Minutes).

8 Budget 2022/23 - Report under Section 25 of Local Government Act 2003

The Council considered a report of the Corporate Director of Resources which provided information on the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of reserves in the Council's Budget for 2022/23 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

That the Council have regard to the statement when approving the budget and the level of Council Tax for 2022/23.

The Chair reminded Council that under Paragraph 14.6 of the Council Procedure Rules a recorded vote was required for each of the budget and council tax items.

Councillor P Sexton, Portfolio Holder for Adult and Health Services **moved** a Motion without Notice that Agenda Item Nos. 9 and 10 be considered together as they were inextricably linked. This was seconded by Councillor S McDonnell.

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services advised Council that the Council Procedure Rules allowed for such a Motion and that it was appropriate to consider both items together, reminding Members that such arrangements had been made in previous years. Considering the two items together impacted on the length of time Members could speak. The proposer and

seconded of the Motion and Group Leaders would have 10 minutes. Councillor R Bell, although a Group Leader, would be seconding the budget in his capacity as Deputy Leader and therefore could speak for 6 minutes. Councillor R Crute as Deputy Leader of the Labour Group and Shadow Portfolio Holder for Finance would respond to the budget and the Chair had agreed that he could speak for 10 minutes with Councillor C Marshall having 3 minutes. All other speakers had 3 minutes and the Leader had a 6 minute right of reply at the end of the debate.

9 Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2025/26 and Revenue and Capital Budget 2022/23
10 Council Tax Setting in Order to Meet the County Council's Council Tax Requirement for 2022/23

The Council considered reports from Cabinet which detailed budget recommendations for the 2022/23 balanced revenue budget, details of significant investments in key front-line services, an outline Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP(12)) covering the period 2022/23 to 2025/26 and a fully funded Capital Programme, and provided financial information and forecasts to enable the Council to set the Council Tax for 2022/23 (for copies see file of Minutes).

In moving adoption of the Cabinet reports, Councillor Hopgood made a statement on the Budget and Precept for 2022/23 as follows:

These were the first set of budget proposals the new Joint Administration had prepared and clearly demonstrated the scale of the Joint Administration's ambition for the Council and for the County with significant new capital investments, recurrent investment in key front-line services and the utilisation of £10m of reserves to invest in some one-off initiatives that would have a lasting legacy.

These were a set of budget proposals which were prudent and affordable with no increase in core council tax proposed and no reliance on using reserves to balance the base budget next year, something the Council had not been able to achieve in the current year or previous years. The budget proposals had been informed by community conversations and consultations and which targeted investment in areas that would have a significant impact on people's lives. At each stage Scrutiny had been involved in the budget setting process and the report included feedback from those meetings and from wider engagement through AAPs, business rate payers and trade unions.

The budget had once again been prepared against a backdrop of significant uncertainty that existed beyond the next financial year, particularly in relation

to the new service grant funding the Council was to receive next year as the publication of the Fair Funding Review was awaited later in the year.

The report provided a comprehensive and detailed overview of the Comprehensive Spending Review announcements on 27 October 2021 and the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2022/23 which was received on 16 December 2021.

In comparison to previous years the Council had received a reasonably good financial settlement with a significant year on year uplift in funding, better than anticipated. This meant the Council had an above average increase in its core spending power. However, the Council still lagged behind the national average core spending power per dwelling as outlined in the report. If the Council had the funding in line with the average core spending per dwelling it would have a further £39m available to it in 2022/23.

The Council's low tax base and consequential low tax raising capacity continued to constrain and place pressure on budgets. The Joint Administration would continue to press government on this in terms of rectifying the position in the Fair Funding Review Formula.

A key risk for the Council next year, and potentially beyond, was the ongoing and potential long-term impact of Covid. There was no new Covid grant funding available next year and whilst the Council had needed to adjust its waste disposal budgets to include growth in the 2022/23 budget it was unknown when usage and income would return to pre-pandemic levels.

Pay and price inflation was another significant concern and the budget proposals included significant uplifts in energy budgets and prudent assumptions in terms of other inflationary pressures. Unavoidable budget pressures of £45m had to be accommodated and these were set out in detail in Table 4 within Section 104 of the report. Key elements included pay and price inflation, the impact of the National Living Wage increase on Adult Social Care contracts, home to school transport, waste disposal contract increases and demographic pressures in Looked After Children budgets.

Despite these pressures, and as a consequence of the continued strong financial management of the Councils finances, the Council was making some significant and much needed investments in key front-line services.

The budgets next year made provision for:

- £13m in relation to pay and price inflation next year, which included £3m in relation to energy prices;
- £12m for Adult Social Care fee inflation;
- £4.4m for children's social care next year, which was on top of the additional £4.5m budget transfer agreed in the current year and represented aa

approximately £10m year on year budget uplift in this volatile area of the revenue budgets;

- £4.4m in waste disposal budgets, in part due to the ongoing impact of the pandemic;
- £2.6m additional budget for Home to School Transport;
- £313,000 of investment in the low carbon team staffing;
- £250,000 investment in drainage inspections;
- £100,000 for bin replacement;
- £600,000 to continue with the 'Free After 2' parking initiative;
- £890,000 to tackle workforce development challenges in the Community Protection Teams, who had been so important throughout the pandemic and where there was a national skills shortage;
- £130,000 of investment in Street Scene services;
- £120,000 of investment in Neighbourhood Wardens;
- £250,000 of investment in countryside management, local nature reserves and public rights of way; and
- £360,000 of investment in allotments management and maintenance.

The capital investment plans were both ambitious and significant with just under £113m of new capital investments and an overall Capital Programme in excess of £600m included in the MTFP, further demonstrating the scale of ambition the Council held.

The capital programme, including details of the new additions to the programme and the capital financing requirements linked to the programme were set out in sections 151 to 170, with the updated Capital Strategy and details of the individual schemes set out at Appendices 9 and 10.

New schemes included further investment in the new build primary at Spennymoor and the rebuild of Belmont Community School and CE Primary School; investment in new Children's Homes as part of the Looked After Children sufficiency strategy, significant additional investment in Highways, including targeted investment to tackle the condition of unclassified roads across the county; investment in playing pitches and in allotments; significant investment in net Zero and decarbonisation aspirations for Council buildings; a new climate change community loans scheme; investment in flood prevention and in the Council's parks and countryside estate, including public rights of way, which had all been neglected for far too long.

The Joint Administration was delivering on its commitments to raise the bar and scale of ambition for the County, as was also demonstrated by the City of Culture bid.

The one-year settlement from government was disappointing and the Leader acknowledged that there remained significant uncertainty beyond next year, with the planned Fair Funding Review casting a shadow over financial plans from 2023/24 onwards.

That said, the budget was balanced next year, with no increase in core council tax and no reliance on reserves to balance the budget in 2022/23, a position many other Councils would no doubt be envious of.

Not raising the core council tax next year would mean that the Council would lose access to approximately £4.5m of resources from its base budget capacity going forward, however, it was considered the right thing to do at this time.

In terms of reserves, the Cabinet had taken the opportunity to undertake a comprehensive review of all of earmarked and other reserves and the report set out the outcome of that review at sections 140 to 147, alongside details of the Councils reserves policy.

A number of these reserves had been re-prioritised and redirected to meet priorities, investing these funds in meeting those priorities and bolstering the budget support reserve balance and the ERVR reserve. £10m of one off and non-recurring investments were factored into this budget from the utilisation of these reserves, initiatives that would make a huge difference to many people's lives.

Applying an Adult Social Care precept increase next year was not a decision that should be taken lightly, particularly in light of the current squeeze on living standards, but in exercising fiduciary responsibilities for the management of the Council's budgets, was a decision borne out of a financial necessity to help to fund the significant budget pressures in Social Care and ensure continued to support vulnerable people and the market in Durham.

Not increasing council tax at all was not a sustainable or prudent strategy to adopt and the Council's financial resources must be carefully managed.

Those on low incomes continued to be afforded protection through the Council Tax Reduction Scheme. The Council retained Discretionary Housing Payments Grants.

The report also included details of the various Dedicated Schools block funding allocations and the Leader concluded by **Moving** the recommendations of both reports.

Councillor R Bell, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance **Seconded** the reports and recommendations under Items 9 and 10 and reserved the right to speak until the end of the debate.

Councillor C Martin, Chair of Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (COSMB) informed Council that it was a priority for the COSMB to scrutinise the MTFP and Revenue and Capital Budget and he was pleased to report the COSMB had been able to do this diligently and constructively.

COSMB had received four Cabinet reports on the development of the MTFP and Budget and had fed back views to Cabinet on each occasion. The COSMB meeting held on 10 February 2022 was a single item agenda to enable a detailed scrutiny of Cabinet's final proposals. All points raised by the Board were set out at paragraphs 92 and 93 of the report.

Councillor R Crute informed Council that these were exceptional times, a once in a generation period of financial hardship and this needed to be borne in mind. There was a unique and ongoing cost of living crisis which was having a severely damaging impact on household income and living standards across County Durham and beyond. Council supported a Labour Motion at its last meeting which called on the Government to take immediate measures to mitigate its impact.

The headline to the budget proposals before Council was that despite claims that council tax was being held to a zero percent increase the Joint Administration was raising its council tax demand as a whole by 3% at a time of severe financial crisis while at the same time the government was imposing an increase in taxes nationally.

The proposed council tax increase this year was higher than last years under the previous Labour administration. Both the Joint Administration and the government were proposing to increase the tax burden to pay for a social care crisis which the Deputy Leader of the Council some three months ago stated did not exist in County Durham.

It was completely unacceptable that at a time when households were struggling more than ever before to make ends meet they were being held back further by Members of the Joint Administration.

It was acknowledged that in normal times council tax rises were almost inevitable because of the way central government was de-funding local council services. In 2010 austerity was introduced and since then local authority budgets had seen savage cuts year after year with government effectively ordering councils to make up the funding shortfall locally by raising council tax. But these were not normal times. Under these specific circumstances, and in these almost unprecedented times of hardship, the Joint Administration needed to react accordingly when setting council tax levels if it wanted to alleviate the pressure on hard pressed family budgets.

County Durham residents were already struggling from the effects of 12 years of government imposed austerity and a Motion agreed at Council last month urged the government to take whatever actions were necessary to alleviate the additional financial burden of a potential financial catastrophe. The Motion reminded Council that the value of wages in real terms was falling, household disposable income in County Durham lagged way behind the national average, central government imposed taxes were set to increase from April 2022, Universal Credit benefit payments had been cut by £20 a week, energy prices were set to soar and inflation was at an almost 30 year high.

The Joint Administration proposed to increase council tax by 3%. The prevailing circumstances as outlined would mean that this years budget and council tax setting process was exceptional in terms of how the Joint Administration could help residents where central government had failed to do so. The normal process for setting a Council Budget was not relevant this year, these were exceptional times, and if the Joint Administration wanted to alleviate the pressure on household finances it would need to adopt an exceptional approach to setting council tax levels for the coming year.

For the reasons set out the Labour Group could not support the proposed budget in its current form and urged Members to support it in rejecting the Joint Administration's proposal to increase council tax by 3%.

Councillors Surtees, Hovels, Deinali, Gunn, P Atkinson, Charlton-Lainé, Henig, C Marshall and Tinsley spoke in support of rejecting the proposed budget.

Councillors A Shield, Jopling, T Henderson, Wilkes, Rowlandson, Howey, Sexton, Walton, J Quinn, Shuttleworth, Coult spoke in support of the proposed budget.

Councillor R Bell, Portfolio Holder for Finance thanked officers for a thorough and comprehensive report and Members who had contributed to it through the scrutiny process.

The report was a culmination of months of work and set out proposals which Councillor Bell commended to the Council. The budget proposals had largely been made possible through a better than expected increase in government funding being made available and also through the prudent management of finances.

The budget included significant investment in frontline services and an ambitious capital programme and had redeployed reserves to fund one-off investments.

The Joint Administration had avoided increasing council tax by the maximum 5% permissible and was proposing a nil increase in core council tax and a 3% increase in the adult social care precept.

The budget was sustainable and did not rely on reserves to balance the books, despite the £45m of unavoidable inflationary and demand based budget pressures which had to be accommodated. This represented prudent financial management of the public finances which would always be the bedrock of the Joint Administration's approach.

The capital programme included £113m of new investments including further significant investment in leisure centres, in schools including new builds, in the levelling up agenda and in the highways infrastructure which would see record levels of investment. The investments in front line services would produce physical and noticeable improvements in service delivery.

Councillor A Hopgood reminded Council that in 2011, 2012 and 2013 the Council did not increase council tax but accepted a government grant to freeze council tax. No Member of the Labour Group who had attended scrutiny meetings over the last three months had raised the issue of council tax nor had they asked questions on the MTFP at Cabinet and no alternative budget amendments had been submitted by the Labour Group.

Votes were then taken on the main Motions which were the recommendations contained within the reports.

Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2025/26 and Revenue and Capital Budget 2022/23

For the Motion

Councillors B Bainbridge, A Bell, C Bell, R Bell, J Blakey, D Brown, L Brown, J Cairns, J Charlton, I Cochrane, J Cosslett, B Coult, M Currah, T Duffy, J Elmer, D Freeman, P Heaviside, T Henderson, L Holmes, C Hood, A Hopgood, J Howey, C Hunt, G Hutchinson, A Jackson, N Jones, P Jopling, C Lines, L Maddison, C Martin, E Mavin, L Mavin, B McAloon, S McDonnell, M McGaun, B Moist, P Molloy, J Nicholson, D Oliver, R Ormerod, E Peeke, R Potts, J Quinn, A Reed, G Richardson, S Robinson, K Robson, K Rooney, J Rowlandson, E Scott, P Sexton, A Shield, J Shuttleworth, M Simmons, A Simpson, M Stead, W Stelling, D Stoker, T Stubbs, D Sutton-Lloyd, M Walton, A Watson, M Wilkes and S Zair.

Against the Motion

Councillors E Adam, R Adcock-Forster, V Andrews, J Atkinson, P Atkinson, A Batey, K Batey, G Binney, R Charlton-Lainé, R Crute, S Deinali, L Fenwick, C Fletcher, O Gunn, C Hampson, A Hanson, S Henig, J Higgins, L Hovvels, M Johnson, C Kay, B Kellett, R Manchester, C Marshall, D

McKenna, M McKeon, I McLean, S McMahon, J Miller, D Mulholland, D Nicholls, P Pringle, J Purvis, S Quinn, I Roberts, K Shaw, T Smith, A Surtees, P Taylor, F Tinsley, S Townsend, C Varty, E Waldock, M Wilson, S Wilson, D Wood and R Yorke.

Abstentions

None

Resolved:

That the report and its recommendations be adopted in full

Council Tax Setting in Order to Meet the County Council's Council Tax Requirement for 2022/23

For the Motion

Councillors B Bainbridge, A Bell, C Bell, R Bell, J Blakey, D Brown, L Brown, J Cairns, J Charlton, I Cochrane, J Cosslett, B Coult, M Currah, T Duffy, J Elmer, D Freeman, P Heaviside, T Henderson, L Holmes, C Hood, A Hopgood, J Howey, C Hunt, G Hutchinson, A Jackson, N Jones, P Jopling, C Lines, L Maddison, C Martin, E Mavin, L Mavin, B McAloon, S McDonnell, M McGaun, B Moist, P Molloy, J Nicholson, D Oliver, R Ormerod, E Peeke, R Potts, J Quinn, A Reed, G Richardson, S Robinson, K Robson, K Rooney, J Rowlandson, E Scott, P Sexton, A Shield, J Shuttleworth, M Simmons, A Simpson, M Stead, W Stelling, D Stoker, T Stubbs, D Sutton-Lloyd, M Walton, A Watson, M Wilkes and S Zair.

Against the Motion

Councillors E Adam, R Adcock-Forster, V Andrews, J Atkinson, P Atkinson, A Batey, K Batey, G Binney, R Charlton-Lainé, R Crute, S Deinali, L Fenwick, C Fletcher, O Gunn, C Hampson, A Hanson, S Henig, J Higgins, L Hovvels, M Johnson, C Kay, B Kellett, R Manchester, C Marshall, D McKenna, M McKeon, I McLean, S McMahon, J Miller, D Mulholland, D Nicholls, P Pringle, J Purvis, S Quinn, I Roberts, K Shaw, T Smith, A Surtees, P Taylor, F Tinsley, S Townsend, C Varty, E Waldock, M Wilson, S Wilson, D Wood and R Yorke.

Abstentions

None

Resolved:

That the following be adopted:

- (a) It be noted that the council tax base 2022/23 for:

- (i) the whole council area is 143,695.8 Band D equivalent properties [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended)] and
 - (ii) dwellings in those parts of its area to which a parish precept relates is set out in the attached Appendix 3.
- (b) The Council Tax Requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2022/23 (excluding Parish precepts and the Charter Trustees for the City of Durham precept) is £252,141,583.
- (c) Agree the following amounts in accordance with Sections 30 to 36 of the Act being the:
- (i) aggregate of the gross expenditure which the council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by parish councils is £1,326,980,522.
 - (ii) aggregate of the gross income which the council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act is £1,060,642,039.
 - (iii) amount by which the aggregate at (c) i) above exceeds the aggregate at (c) ii) above in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year [Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act] is £266,338,483.
 - (iv) amount at (c) iii) above (Item R), all divided by Item T ((a) i) above), in accordance with Section 31B of the Act as the basic amount of its council tax at Band D for the year (including parish precepts) is £1,853.49.
 - (v) aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34 (1) of the Act: (total of all parish precepts including Charter Trustees) is £14,196,900.
 - (vi) amount at (c) iv) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (c) v) above by Item T ((a) i) above), in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax at Band D for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates is £1,754.69.
- (d) It be noted that for 2022/23, the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Authority has recommended the following

amounts be in the precept issued to the County Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act, as shown in the table below:

COUNTY DURHAM AND DARLINGTON FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
73.13	85.31	97.50	109.69	134.07	158.44	182.82	219.38

- (e) It be noted that for 2022/23, the Durham Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner has recommended that the following amounts be in the precept issued to the County Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act, as shown in the following table:

DURHAM POLICE, CRIME AND VICTIMS' COMMISSIONER

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
160.16	186.85	213.55	240.24	293.63	347.01	400.40	480.48

- (f) That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended) hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of council tax for 2022/23 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1,027.75	1,199.05	1,370.34	1,541.63	1,884.21	2,226.80	2,569.38	3,083.26

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL – ADULT SOCIAL CARE

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
142.04	165.71	189.39	213.06	260.41	307.75	355.10	426.12

**AGGREGATE OF COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENTS
(excluding Parish, Town Council and Charter Trustees)**

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1,403.08	1,636.92	1,870.78	2,104.62	2,572.32	3,040.00	3,507.70	4,209.24

- (g) The Council has determined that its relevant basic amount of council tax for 2022/23 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended) and that the increase in council tax is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZC Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended).
- (h) As a billing authority the Council has not been notified by County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Authority and Durham Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner, as major precepting authorities, that their relevant basic amount of council tax for 2022/23 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended).
- (i) The Council set a 0% discount for Second and Empty Furnished Homes, in accordance with Section 11A (3) of the Act.
- (j) The Council set a 0% discount for dwellings defined in classes C or D, in accordance with Section 11A (4A) of the Act.
- (k) The Council set premium charges for long term empty homes, in accordance with Section 11B (1b) of the Act: 100% premium for properties which have been empty between two and five years and 200% premium for properties empty for longer than five years.
- (l) The Chief Executive be instructed to publish a notice in accordance with Section 38 (2) of the Act, relating to the amounts of council tax set.
- (m) The Chief Executive be instructed to publish a notice in accordance with Section 11A (6) and 11B (6) of the Act, relating to the discount set.

11 Decision to Opt-in to the National Scheme for Auditor Appointments managed by Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA)

The Council considered a report of the Corporate Director of Resources which sought approval to accept the invitation from Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) to opt into the national sector-led arrangement for the appointment of external auditors with effect from 1 April 2023 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

That the report be approved.

12 Creation of Head of Service roles - Regeneration, Economy and Growth

The Council considered a report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration, and Growth that sought approval to create two new Head of Service roles within the Regeneration, Economy and Growth Directorate which in accordance with the Council's Pay Policy required Full Council approval due to the salary of the posts.

Moved by Councillor E Scott, **Seconded** by Councillor Rowlandson.

Councillor C Marshall informed Council that these were exceptional times for Council and communities and considered this to be the wrong time to be creating such posts. He was opposed to the proposal at this time and urged all Members to vote against the recommendation. **Seconded** by Councillor Adam.

A named vote was requested and agreed.

For the recommendation

Councillors B Bainbridge, A Bell, C Bell, R Bell, J Blakey, D Brown, L Brown, J Cairns, J Charlton, I Cochrane, J Cosslett, B Coult, M Currah, T Duffy, J Elmer, D Freeman, P Heaviside, T Henderson, L Holmes, C Hood, A Hopgood, J Howey, C Hunt, G Hutchinson, A Jackson, N Jones, P Jopling, C Lines, L Maddison, C Martin, E Mavin, L Mavin, S McDonnell, M McGaun, B Moist, J Nicholson, D Oliver, R Ormerod, E Peeke, R Potts, J Quinn, A Reed, G Richardson, K Robson, K Rooney, J Rowlandson, E Scott, P Sexton, A Shield, J Shuttleworth, M Simmons, A Simpson, M Stead, W Stelling, D Stoker, T Stubbs, D Sutton-Lloyd, M Walton, A Watson, M Wilkes and S Zair.

Against the recommendation

Councillors E Adam, R Adcock-Forster, V Andrews, J Atkinson, P Atkinson, A Batey, K Batey, G Binney, R Charlton-Lainé, R Crute, S Deinali, L

Fenwick, C Fletcher, O Gunn, C Hampson, A Hanson, S Henig, J Higgins, L Hovvels, M Johnson, C Kay, B Kellett, R Manchester, C Marshall, B McAloon, D McKenna, M McKeon, I McLean, S McMahan, J Miller, D Nicholls, P Pringle, J Purvis, S Quinn, I Roberts, S Robinson, K Shaw, T Smith, A Surtees, P Taylor, F Tinsley, S Townsend, C Varty, E Waldock, M Wilson, S Wilson, D Wood and R Yorke.

Abstention

Councillor P Molloy.

Resolved:

That the report be approved.

13 Questions from Members

There were no questions from Members.

This page is intentionally left blank

Council

23 March 2022

**Boundary Commission Review of
Parliamentary Constituencies**



Report of Corporate Management Team

Paul Darby, Corporate Director of Resources

Councillor Amanda Hopgood, Leader of the Council

**Councillor Richard Bell, Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio
Holder for Finance**

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To update Council on the progress of the Boundary Commission Review of Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England.

Executive summary

- 2 The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) is an independent and impartial non-departmental public body, which is responsible for reviewing Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England.
- 3 The BCE is required to make recommendations for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries by 1 July 2023.
- 4 The Parliamentary Constituencies Act 2020 sets out the rules to be followed in conducting the review. The aim is to retain the overall number of constituencies across the UK at 650. The rules set out a distribution formula, which results in an increase in the number of constituencies in England from 533 to 543. The rules also require that every recommended constituency (with the exception of five constituencies) must have an electorate that is no smaller than 69,724 and no larger than 77,062.

- 5 The BCE published and consulted its initial proposals for the new Parliamentary constituency boundaries 8 June and 2 August 2021.
- 6 In February 2022, the BCE published the responses to the first consultation, which are subject to a second period of consultation between 22 February and 4 April 2022. This report summarises the outcome of the first consultation and invites CWG to consider the next steps.

Recommendation(s)

- 7 Council is recommended to:
 - i) agree the letter attached at Appendix 12; and
 - ii) request that the Head of Legal & Democratic Services submits the letter to the Boundary Commission before the consultation closes on 6 April 2022.

Background

- 8 The BCE must conduct a review of all the constituencies in England every eight years. The current review, which commenced in January 2021, is being conducted in accordance with the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 2020 (the Act). This requires the BCE to make more equal the number of electors in each constituency.
- 9 There will be 650 Parliamentary constituencies covering the UK. England has been allocated 543 constituencies, which is ten more than there are currently. The rules require that every constituency recommended by the BCE has no fewer than 69,724 electors and no more than 77,062.
- 10 Currently, constituencies across England range from 54,551 to 111,716 electors. In order to achieve the required distribution of electors and an additional ten constituencies, the BCR is recommending significant changes to the existing constituency arrangements.
- 11 As well as the rule in relation to the minimum and maximum number of electors, the Act also provides that the BCR 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.
- 12 The initial proposals for the North East are therefore based on local government boundaries that existed on 1 December 2020. In a number of existing constituencies, changes to local government wards since those constituencies were last updated in 2010, have resulted in the new ward effectively being split, between the constituency the old ward was wholly a part of, and at least one other existing constituency.
- 13 As part of the proposals, the BCR will by default seek to realign the boundaries of constituencies with up to date ward boundaries in order to reunite wards that are currently divided between existing constituencies. Where there has only been minor change to a ward, this approach may see an existing constituency boundary change only very slightly to realign with the new ward. 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.

- 14 The BCR have tried to retain existing constituencies wherever possible whilst meeting the other requirements. However, this has proved difficult. The initial proposals for the North East region retain just under 7% of existing constituencies in the region. The remainder are new constituencies although the BCR consider that in a number of cases, the changes to the existing constituencies are fairly minor.
- 15 At its meeting on 14 July 2021, the Council considered the proposals for the North East, which are attached to this report at Appendix 2. Council requested that the Constitution Working Group seek to agree any principles of common ground, which can be submitted by way of a letter to the Boundary Commission.
- 16 The Constitution Working Group met on 22 July 2021 and agreed the following principles:
 - i) the majority of constituencies should fall within County Durham with any cross over into other local authorities kept to an absolute minimum;
 - ii) the Commission should take account of established communities within neighbouring towns and villages (such as Willington and Crook) and ensure as far is possible that they are contained within the same Parliamentary constituency rather than split between constituencies;
 - iii) the Council requests the opportunity at the next stage of consultation to comment on the proposed names of constituencies to ensure that they better reflect the areas that they represent with an emphasis on geography (such as North Durham, North West Durham) rather than townships (such as Bishop Auckland or Seaham and Peterlee).
- 17 A letter dated 30 July 2021, setting out these principles, signed on behalf of all political groups on the Council was submitted to the BCR. It appears in the comments on the proposal, which are attached to the report at Appendix 3. A copy of the letter was a circulated to all Members.
- 18 In February 2022, the BCR published all the responses received during the first round of consultation. A link to the publication was sent to all Group Leaders on 10 February 2022. There were a number of comments submitted in respect of the proposals, which are attached at

Appendix 3 to the report. In addition, the following counterproposals have been submitted:

- i) Counterproposal for City of Durham, South Tyneside & Sunderland (Appendix 4)
- ii) 3 x counterproposals for whole region from members of the public (Appendices 5, 6 & 7)
- iii) Conservative Party counterproposal for the whole region (Appendix 8)
- iv) Green Party counterproposal for the whole region (Appendix 9)
- v) Labour Party counterproposal for the whole region (Appendix 10)
- vi) Liberal Democrat counterproposal for the whole region (Appendix 11)

Secondary Consultation

- 19 The BCR have commenced a second round of consultation between 22 February and 6 April 2022 to enable people to respond to the comments and counterproposals submitted during the first round of consultation. The BCR have not yet published any changes to the proposals which were published in June 2021.
- 20 Participation in the secondary consultation can be by email or letter or providing views in person at a public hearing. The BCR are holding 32 public hearings across the country during the consultation where people can have their say in person. Those wishing to make representations at a hearing can book a 10-minute speaking slot via the BCR website.
- 21 There will be two hearings in the North-East. The lead public hearing for the North-East Region will be on 28 and 29 March 2022. There will also be hearings in Middlesbrough on 31 March and 1 April 2022.

Development and publication of revised proposals

- 22 Once the secondary consultation has concluded, the BCR will analyse the representations received from stages one and two and consider whether the evidence presented persuades them to revise the initial proposals. Any changes to the proposals will need to be published for a further four week consultation. This is expected to be towards the end of 2022. There will be no further public hearings.

Proposed response on behalf of Durham County Council

- 23 Constitution Working Group met on 9 March 2022 to consider the representations made during the first round of consultation and considered whether to make any recommendations to Council as to further representations on behalf of the Council.
- 24 The Group noted the volume of responses and in particular that there were no representations in favour of the BCRs initial proposals. A number of counterproposals had been submitted but all of them were different.
- 25 The Group agreed to recommend to Council that it writes to the BCR reiterating its position as set out in its letter dated 30 July 2021 (paragraph 16 refers) and call on the BCR to take note of the strong opposition to the proposals and in the importance of maintaining community links to those who have responded to the consultation.
- 26 The draft letter is attached at Appendix 12 to the report. If Council agree the letter, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services will arrange for it to be submitted to the BCR prior to the consultation closing date of 6 April 2022.

Background papers

- None

Other useful documents

- Initial proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in the North East Region. [North East | BCE Consultation Portal \(bcereviews.org.uk\)](http://NorthEast|BCEConsultationPortal(bcereviews.org.uk))

Author(s)

Helen Lynch

Tel: 03000 269732

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

The Parliamentary Constituencies Act 2020 requires the Boundary Commission to conduct a review of Parliamentary Constituency boundaries, and make recommendations to Government, every 8 years. Under the review, the overall number of Constituencies will remain unchanged at 650. The distribution formula provides for an increase of constituencies from 533 to 543 in England. With the exception of five constituencies, each must have an electorate that is no smaller than 69,724 and no larger than 77,062.

Finance

There are no financial implications arising out of this report.

Consultation

The report provides an update as to progress of the review of Parliamentary Constituency boundaries. Constitution Working Group was invited to consider the responses to consider whether to make recommendations to Council in respect of any representations to be made as part of the second consultation.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

There are no equality and diversity implications arising out of the report.

Climate Change

There are no climate change implications arising out of the report.

Human Rights

There are no Human Rights implications arising out of the report.

Crime and Disorder

There are no Crime and Disorder implications arising out of the report.

Staffing

There are no staffing implications arising out of the report.

Accommodation

There are no accommodation implications arising out of the report.

Risk

There are no risks to the Council arising out of the report.

Procurement

There are no procurement implications in relation to the report.

Appendix 2: Summary of proposals for the North East Region

- 1 The North East region comprises the unitary authorities of County Durham, Darlington, Gateshead, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, Redcar and Cleveland, South Tyneside, Stockton-on-Tees and Sunderland.
- 2 There are currently 29 constituencies in the region. Of these, six are within the permitted electorate range, 21 currently fall below the minimum number of electors and two are above the maximum number. There are 1,952,999 electors in region, which gives a mathematical entitlement of 26.61 constituencies.
- 3 The BCR are proposing to reduce the number of constituencies from 29 to 27. In seeking to produce 27 constituencies within the electorate range, the BCR have considered whether local authorities could be grouped into sub-regions. In doing so, they have tried to respect county boundaries wherever possible and achieve obvious practical groupings such as those dictated by the geography of the area such as the Rivers Tees, Tyne and Wear and the Pennines.
- 4 The BCR have sought to retain constituencies within combined authority and unitary authority boundaries, however, where this has not been possible, they have sought to group authorities together into sub-regions. It is possible to allocated a whole number of constituencies within each of the combined authority area without crossing from one combined authority to another.
- 5 The BCR have therefore recommended sub-regions which mirror the North East, North of Tyne and Tees Valley combined authorities with the exception of Gateshead, which is considered separately. The BCR considers this to be a practical approach. However, it invites respondents to the consultation to submit counter proposals based on other groupings of counties and unitary authorities, which meet the statutory requirements of the review.
- 6 The BCR have discounted combining County Durham and Northumberland because combining them into a sub-region would create a constituency which crosses a local authority boundary and one that crosses the boundaries of the North East and North of Tyne combined authorities.

- 7 Grouping Northumberland, Newcastle upon Tyne and North Tyneside provides a mathematical entitlement to 8.13 constituencies and means that constituencies can be created within a single sub-region.
- 8 Gateshead has an electorate of 144,619 and is entitled to 1.97 constituencies. The BCR is therefore proposing two constituencies, without crossing out the unitary authority area and wholly contained within the local authority boundary.
- 9 County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland have an electorate of 716,893 and an entitlement of 9.77 constituencies. The BCR propose 10 constituencies without crossing out of the North East Combined Authority and preserves Sunderland Central, which is within the required electorate range.
- 10 The Tees Valley Combined Authority has an electorate of 494,601 and a mathematical entitlement to 6.74 constituencies. The BCR considered that the Combined Authority area can be allocated seven constituencies without crossing the combined authority boundary. However, due to the distribution of electorates in certain parts of the sub-region, the majority of constituencies will have to be reconfigured to bring them within the permitted electorate range. Hartlepool has an electorate of 71,228 which provides an entitlement of 0.97. The BCR therefore propose a Hartlepool constituency within the local authority boundary.

Initial Proposals for the County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland sub-region.

- 11 Based upon the electorate of the County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland sub-region as set out at paragraph 24, the BCR are proposing an allocation of ten constituencies rather than the current eleven.
- 12 The current City of Durham, North West Durham and Sunderland Central have electorates within the permitted electorate range. The BCR state that the electorates of the remaining constituencies are significantly below the permitted electoral range. This includes Easington at 61,335 and South Shields at 62,796.
- 13 There are no proposed changes to the Sunderland Central Constituency. The BCR propose to treat Gateshead as its own sub-region including the Blaydon and Gateshead Constituencies. This will mean that Jarrow (electorate 65,232) will take in the wards of Castle, Redhill and St Anne's from Sunderland West and Cleadon and East Boldon to the South Shields Constituency. It is proposed that Jarrow

will be renamed Jarrow and Sunderland West to better reflect the new composition of the constituency.

- 14 It is proposed that the existing Washington and Sunderland West constituency gains the wards of Sandhill, Shiney Row, Silksworth and St Chad's with the name being changed to Washington and Sunderland South West to better reflect the geography.
- 15 The BCR propose to move the electoral division of Burnopfield and Dipton from North West Durham to North Durham, to bring it within the permitted electorate range at 73,327 electors. The remainder of North West Durham will remain relatively unchanged, other than to realign its boundaries with changes to local government ward boundaries, which creates a constituency with an electorate of 70,300.
- 16 It is proposed that the City of Durham Constituency is extended into the Borough of Sunderland as far as Houghton-le-Spring, which has good connections to Durham via the A690 road.
- 17 The existing Easington constituency has an electorate of 61,335. The BCR considered that its position on the coast between Sunderland to the North and a coterminous Hartlepool constituency to the south limits the options available. They propose to extend the constituency slightly westwards and include Doxford Ward from the Borough of Sunderland. It is also proposed to change the constituency name from Easington to Seaham and Peterlee to better reflect the main population centres.
- 18 The BCR propose that the constituencies of Bishop Auckland and Sedgefield include wards from City of Durham to bring them into the permitted electorate range. The proposed Bishop Auckland constituency will include the Brandon ward and the Sedgefield Constituency will include the Coxhoe ward. The Sedgefield constituency will be renamed to Newton Aycliffe and Sedgefield to better represent the main population centres of the Constituency.
- 19 Under the proposals outlined above, the new constituencies for County Durham would be as set out at paragraphs (i) to (vi) below. A map showing the initial proposals for the region is set out at Appendix 2 to the report. Appendix 3 to the report sets out the existing constituency wards, the electorate and the proposed constituency:

i) Bishop Auckland CC 72,307

Constituency Ward	Local Authority	Electorate
Barnard Castle East	County Durham	6,979

Constituency Ward	Local Authority	Electorate
Barnard Castle West	County Durham	6,656
Bishop Auckland Town	County Durham	6,057
Brandon	County Durham	7,635
Coundon	County Durham	3,177
Evenwood	County Durham	6,458
Spennymoor	County Durham	8,848
Tudhoe	County Durham	7,044
West Auckland	County Durham	6,545
Willington & Hunwick	County Durham	6,861
Woodhouse Close	County Durham	6,047

ii) **City of Durham CC**

70,603

Constituency Ward	Local Authority	Electorate
Belmont	County Durham	10,129
Durham South	County Durham	2,204
Elvet & Gilesgate	County Durham	5,740
Framwellgate & Newton Hall	County Durham	10,315
Neville's Cross	County Durham	7,409
Sherburn	County Durham	6,722
Copt Hill	Sunderland	9,027
Hetton	Sunderland	9,171
Houghton	Sunderland	9,886

iii) **Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield CC****70,149**

Constituency Ward	Local Authority	Electorate
Aycliffe East	County Durham	6,420
Aycliffe North & Middridge	County Durham	8,406
Aycliffe West	County Durham	5,358
Bishop Middleham & Cornforth	County Durham	2,884
Chilton	County Durham	3,429
Coxhoe	County Durham	9,779
Ferryhill	County Durham	8,125
Sedgfield	County Durham	6,370
Shildon & Dene Valley	County Durham	9,630
Trimdon & Thornley	County Durham	9,748

iv) **North Durham CC****73,327**

Constituency Ward	Local Authority	Electorate
Annfield Plain	County Durham	5,891
Burnopfield & Dipton	County Durham	6,333
Chester-le-Street East	County Durham	3,006
Chester-le-Street North	County Durham	3,071
Chester-le-Street South	County Durham	5,991
Chester-le-Street West Central	County Durham	5,811
Craghead & South Moor	County Durham	5,737

Constituency Ward	Local Authority	Electorate
Lumley	County Durham	5,727
North Lodge	County Durham	3,020
Pelton	County Durham	10,227
Sacrison	County Durham	5,638
Stanley	County Durham	6,361
Tanfield	County Durham	6,514

v) **North West Durham CC**

70,300

Constituency Ward	Local Authority	Electorate
Benfieldside	County Durham	6,488
Consett North	County Durham	5,874
Consett South	County Durham	3,598
Crook	County Durham	9,277
Deerness	County Durham	9,479
Delves Lane	County Durham	6,232
Esh & Witton Gilbert	County Durham	6,384
Lanchester	County Durham	6,085
Leadgate & Medomsley	County Durham	6,830
Tow Law	County Durham	3,435
Weardale	County Durham	6,618

vi) **Seaham and Peterlee****72,787**

Constituency Ward	Local Authority	Electorate
Blackhills	County Durham	6,245
Dawdon	County Durham	6,098
Deneside	County Durham	5,435
Easington	County Durham	5,710
Horden	County Durham	5,393
Murton	County Durham	5,817
Passfield	County Durham	3,426
Peterlee East	County Durham	5,415
Peterlee West	County Durham	6,131
Seaham	County Durham	5,365
Shotton & South Hetton	County Durham	6,802
Wingate	County Durham	3,094
Doxford	Sunderland	7,856

Appendix 3: Comments submitted in respect of proposals

Appendix 3 – Comments from Bishop Auckland Constituency

Comment
<p>Putting a suburb of durham into a large rural constituency divorces us from the city of which we have always been a part and makes a mockery of local representation. Rural co durham has very different priorities to those people who live close to the city which is heavily influenced by the university and student needs, and where the local mp needs to be fully aware of the impact of living and working in an area increasingly affected in the local villages by student housing needs, medical services and the lack of city centre services for the elderly and those without access to transport. Bishop auckland may be a local town by definition of proximity, but it's needs are different, it's priorities are related more to the rural economy further west and are heavily influenced by local projects driven by the Auckland Project. Further, their health and social care needs are based on a more elderly and dispersed population base. This is an uneasy and unwise amalgamation on of very different community needs and aspirations and would be problematic in terms of a single mp being able to represent the needs of such a large and contradictory constituency</p>
<p>No Thankyou! I bought a house in Durham and would prefer it stayed that way!</p> <p>I am closer to spennymoor than [RD:6] Newton aycliffe and sedgefield! the village boundary has come under Durham for hundreds of years! How dare you decide itâ€™s fine to move our boundaries in a lovely little village in bishop Auckland DURHAM !!!!</p>
<p>Change the name, that area is way too big to be called Bishop Auckland CC. Given the area above is named North West Durham CC, make this area South West Durham CC.</p>
<p>I am [RD:2] yrs old and have voted [RD:12] all my life. It has taken 57 years to get a [RD:12] MP in Bishop Auckland and now you intend to move us into the Newton Aycliffe/Sedgefield constituency.</p> <p>It seems that it is pointless registering your vote any more!</p> <p>[RD:9]</p>
<p>The boundary isnâ€™t correct at all - I live in Bishop Auckland, not Newton Aycliffe or Sedgefield - COMPLETE NONSENSE!!</p>
<p>I currently live in Kirk Merrington. Spennymoor is part of our address and is the nearest town to us. I don't agree with being made part of Newton Aycliffe. We are only just over a mile away from Spennymoor, almost 5 miles from Bishop Auckland and over 6 miles to Newton Aycliffe. It seems Ludacris to be taken out of the Spennymoor area and added to an area 6 miles away. We are a small village with a population of just over 700, I don't think this small number would affect the boundary figures.</p>
<p>I strongly believe that moving Willington from North West Durham to Bishop Auckland would not be a great decision.</p> <p>Willington has a strong bond with Crook and shares community values, spirit and in fact local resources.</p> <p>I do not believe these towns should ever fall into different constituencies were decisions are potentially being made in opposing directions. Willington, Crook and Hunwick all fall within a very small distance of one another and should remain in the same constituency.</p> <p>For example, making a decision to remove or add something to Crook would also be adding / removing community value from the people of Willington and vice versa.</p>

A few years ago I submitted comments to the Boundary Commission when local authority changes were proposed. Despite overwhelming support for the status quo we were moved into the Ferryhill/Chilton ward. The latest review proposes we are moved into the newly created Newton Aycliffe/ Sedgefield constituency. Kirk Merrington has no connections with either, shopping/entertainment needs met in Bishop Auckland/Spennymoor with 4 miles. I cannot recall when I last visited Newton Aycliffe/Sedgefield. Public transport does pass through the village to Newton Aycliffe, there is no direct link to Sedgefield. If the proposals are adopted, Kirk Merrington residents will need to deal with Spennymoor Town Council for local issues, Ferryhill/Chilton ward for County issues and Newton Aycliffe/Sedgefield constituency for national concerns. Not the ideal scenario to meet the buzz phrase of engagement with the people. No doubt the consultation and result will follow the course highlighted at the beginning of my comments

Brandon is 3 miles away from Durham City it is not part of Bishop Auckland, How stupid is that

This seems a ridiculous way of defining a boundary. You're effectively cutting a town in half. If you're going to change boundaries, then at least include a whole town in the areas. There has got to be a way of doing a better job than this hotch potch arbitrary drawing of lines that's illustrated here.

And what is the good of living in an area and having a county council that's probably not remotely interested in towns and villages it's never had to be concerned about before?

Not all change is for the better and this seems like a very strange change to make.

You claim that it's to have a certain number of parliamentary electors in each area. Why?? People choose to live in certain areas and towns. And they should be represented regardless of whether there are 600 or 60,000 people in that area. Does this mean that there is going to be a saturation point if an area reaches its limit of populous that you've set??

The constituencies should stay the same. This is nothing but a money wasting exercise.

Should be classed as Durham. We are in County Durham.

Given the relationship between Kirk Merrington and North Close to Spennymoor, it seems illogical while moving the boundaries around not to include them within the same boundary as Spennymoor which is Bishop Auckland.

It is also illogical to have the boundary running through the middle of a new housing estate which is the case here between Merrington Lane and Low Spennymoor. The estate class themselves as within Spennymoor and should not have half of the road in one constituency and one in the other, given that behind them, is fields and not an immediate connection to Ferryhill.

I would rather we stopped with Bishop Auckland or Durham

I feel nothing to where we are now it just seems we have been stuck on without thought

I don't agree that Auckland Park, an area of Bishop Auckland should be included in the Sedgefield and Newton Aycliffe Constituency. I feel Auckland Park being included in Bishop Auckland would be in the best interests of the area. I don't feel a MP for Sedgefield and Newton Aycliffe would be best suited, and the Bishop Auckland MP would be a better representation. Auckland Park is an area of Bishop Auckland and should remain this way for political representation.

On another comment, the inclusion of Brandon seems to be a surprise, given it is a Durham area rather than a South West Durham area. Would this area be better served by a Central Durham MP?

I live in Bishop Auckland, which is in Lower Weardale/Wear Valley. However, the proposed boundary would squeeze Bishop Auckland into a vast area that is predominantly Teesdale. This is a nonsense. The issues that affect the town of Bishop Auckland are very different to those which affect the largely rural Teesdale. At the very least, we should be in with our immediate neighbours, Shildon, with whom we share many more issues.

I consider the proposed boundary for the Bishop Auckland Constituency to be illogical where it cuts through Bracks Farm Estate, leaving part in this constituency and part in Newton Aycliffe and Segdefield. The proposed boundary follows an abandoned railway and should either follow Bracks Road or better still the A688 bypass. Also dividing South Church away from Bishop Auckland seems wrong. Whilst there might not be an as easy solution as the previous comment I'm sure one could and should be found.

Shildon Town Council strongly oppose the boundary changes which would move Shildon and Dene Valley to Sedgefield and Newton Aycliffe County Constituency.

Shildon and Dene Valley encompasses village which have a DL14 (Bishop Auckland) postcode and borders Bishop Auckland. Shildon and the villages of South Church, Auckland Park, Coronation, Eldon, Close House, Eldon Land and Coundon consider Bishop Auckland to be their nearest town of significance and have an affinity to Bishop Auckland. Most children from these villages are educated to secondary level in Bishop Auckland as well as people working in the Bishop Auckland area. The villages are reasonable well connected to Bishop Auckland by bus but public transport links to Sedgefield are conversely poor. A resident of any of these villages, seeking consultation with, or support from, their MP, will find it frustrating when their parliamentary representative is more remote from them than they are now. Shildon Town Council cannot see any advantage of any part of the ward being attached to a parliamentary district centred on Sedgefield and Aycliffe and would ask the Boundary Commission to leave Shildon and Dene Valley in the Bishop Auckland County Constituency.

Move us back to North Yorkshire - Durham is so far from here and does not think of Teesdale enough

This is a Gerrymandering and you know it. All you are doing is conning the public in order to get more Tory votes.

Shildon has far more in common with Bishop Auckland than Sedgefield and Newton Aycliffe.

I am totally against this change. The Sedgefield MP has no interest in Shildon. We have just lost our only Secondary School. We live in a deprived area and pay one of the highest Council taxes on the UK and no amenities compared to other areas not even a swimming pool! The austerity measures taken by this government have meant less facilities but more & more food banks! What's next...Workhouses?

I am strongly against the proposals for the Bishop Auckland Constituency. The proposals are to remove Shildon and South Church from the Constituency and put Brandon, Meadowfield and Langley Moor currently Durham City area into Bishop Auckland area. This seems to be based on politics rather than local allegiance or preference. For example it would be highly unlikely for someone from Brandon to see Bishop Auckland as their local town whereas South Church is part of the town and has only been out into another constituency by virtue of the road running through Bishop. This will also mean that the Towns only Industrial Estate will now be in a different constituency even though it is just on the other side of the proposed road boundary.

Historically Shildon has always had close links with Bishop Auckland with many people from Bishop working at Shildon Shops until the closure of the railway workshops and this has led to close ties between the two towns.

The residents of Shildon will use more of the facilities that Bishop has to offer including the towns supermarkets and leisure facilities. The residents of Brandon, Langley Moor Brancepeth would more obviously use Durham facilities.

It would therefore seem very inappropriate it change the boundaries based purely on a road and footpath rather on local allegiance.

The proposed boundary changes for the Bishop Auckland do not appear to be based on any local knowledge of the area. South Church has always been considered to be part of Bishop Auckland, in fact the postal address for South Church Enterprise Park is Bishop Auckland. Under the proposals Bishop will now be aligned with areas such as Brandon who have no real connection with Bishop Auckland. In fact the Enterprise Park is now one of the few work places left in the area and the proposal is to put it in a different constituency. I understand the reason for proposed changes is population numbers however the Enterprise Park would not affect population numbers and seems to have been moved solely because of the bypass dividing Bishop from South Church. I also believe the people of Shildon have more allegiance to Bishop Auckland than many of the other areas in the proposed new constituency. Shildon have historically been linked for many years due to the railway with many people from Shildon using Bishop shops and leisure facilities. Even the Bishop GP's still cover parts of Shildon. The proposals would appear to be based on drawing boundaries splitting communities based on roads or footpaths rather than on how communities view themselves.

I wish to comment on the proposals for County Durham, where I have been a County Cllr since 2005.

I support the proposals other propose a minor change of composition between two constituencies to better reflect local ties.

I agree with the expansion of the North Durham constituency by adding the Burnopfield and Dipton ward from North West Durham.

I disagree with the resulting change to North West Durham.

95% of the Willington and Hunwick ward is currently within North West Durham. It has very strong ties with neighbouring Crook, in terms of transport/buses and schools. All secondary school children from both towns go to Parkside School at Willington. They are spoken of in the same breath by local people. The 2 towns should be kept together in NWD.

Conversely less than 10% of the Deerness ward is currently in North West Durham. It has ties with the Brandon ward currently in the City of Durham, but which is proposed to move to Bishop Auckland. I therefore propose to include the majority of the Deerness ward in the Bishop Auckland constituency.

This splits the Deerness ward but as this is a large 3 member ward with distinct settlements, this is feasible. It makes a better fit with respect to community ties.

Please find attached a letter outlining my position on the proposed boundary changes to the Bishop Auckland constituency.

With every good wish,

Dehenna Davison MP

Having lived in this area all of my life, [RD:2] years, I am mostly supportive of the changes that have been proposed. I am less supportive of the lack of publicity that these changes have shown as I believe this submission is now at the 11th hour! Furthermore, it is very strange to see areas that have always been in the same "area" (ward / partnerships / community) now severed. Crook, Willington and Hunwick have always been locations that are supportive of one another. To slice them up and place them in areas with different MPs really compounds the issue of appropriate representation. Without offering any slight to our MPs, they are incredibly busy people. Separating these areas will mean that we have to draw the attention of two different MPs and bring each up to speed with the problems we wish to address. This seems to be an unnecessary complexity that is at odds with the geographical and historical connections that lie within our areas. I do please ask that you re-consider this change and allow these areas to remain associated with one another. For reference, I grew up in these areas and have only recently moved into "town" to be closer to work.

Appendix 3 – Comments from City of Durham Constituency

Comment
<p>For the City of Durham CC, the villages to the immediate south and west of Durham (Broompark, Ushaw Moor, Brandon, Bearpark, Branecpeth etc.) are inextricably linked to the city and should absolutely be considered part of the same community. Conversely, Houghton le Spring and its environs are far more linked to Sunderland and have very little connection to Durham, ie. these are two very distinct communities. While adding the latter to Durham is understandable in reducing the North East's constituencies, this should not be achieved at the cost of slicing the city of Durham's community between three constituencies.</p>
<p>While I agree that separating the city of Durham from its rural hinterland is a good idea, combining it with Sunderland wards makes no sense. Would instead propose a City of Durham and Chester Lee Street seat, combining the City of Durham wards: (Sherburn, Belmont, Framwellgate and Newton Hall, Neville's Cross and Durham South), and the Chester Lee Street wards: (Lumley, Sacriston, North Lodge, and Chester lee Street South/West Central/North/East). These two areas have a lot in common culturally, and have strong ties along the A1 motorway</p>
<p>Whilst I no longer live in this constituency, I was a long-time resident of Bowburn - within Coxhoe ward. I believe it is incomprehensible that Coxhoe ward is not within the City of Durham constituency. The ward has no tangible links with Newton Aycliffe or Sedgfield and so it rather looks like it has been done on the basis on numbers rather than any logical conclusion.</p> <p>It is my strong belief that Coxhoe should be added to the City of Durham constituency. The vast majority of residents work and socialise within Durham. Whilst this would make the City of Durham constituency too large, this could be stimated by transferring Copt Hill and Houghton into Seaham & Peterlee and then Shotton & South Hetton, Blackhalls and Wingate into the Sedgfield constituency.</p>
<p>I live in Houghton le Spring. My local authority is City of Sunderland. I have a Durham postcode. I am concerned that by having a change of constituency and therefore a Durham M.P. my area will become even lower, if that is possible, in the priorities of Sunderland council.</p> <p>Leave us in Sunderland with a Sunderland M.P. or move the County boundary to include us in County Durham with a Durham M.P.</p> <p>I do not really care which Constituency I am in so long as my local authority and Constituency match!</p>
<p>Has the proposed new housing estate at Sniperly been considered? My understanding is this will add a significant population (many thousands) to the new proposed boundary.</p>
<p>The village of Kelloe is much more connected to Durham City and the local amenities there. We have no connection to the villages/areas in the new proposed area. There are few transport links to the area. Our closest hospital, libraries, and other resources are all north, not south. I am very much against this change. I pay enough council tax and live in a village with very poor amenities. I cannot afford to pay more, which will no doubt happen with the change.</p>
<p>Would the boundary changes impact on the council tax charges? Newton Aycliffe is subject to a Town Council charge, would a small village such as Kelloe be subject to this charge and what benefits would the village receive if the charge is applicable?</p>
<p>As noted from my postal address kelloe is in Durham not County Durham. Therefore I object to kelloe being placed in the Newton Wycliffe and sedgfield constituency. Kelloe needs to remain in DCC</p>

I wish to object against the proposed boundary changes for Coxhoe. I wish to stay with Durham County Council and not be linked with areas that I do not consider part of my area such as Newton Aycliffe etc. I do believe that this will have implications on our Council Tax and Services which we receive at the moment. Why spend a load of tax payers money changing things when people are happy with the current boundary arrangements.

[RD:5]

I live in [RD:6], within the present City of Durham constituency. It is proposed that we move to a new Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield constituency. This is something that I, and I suspect most people in this area, would object to. The proposal does not reflect the reality of people's lives, and identities, on the ground. For people here the City of Durham is an economic and cultural focal point. There is no real connection at all here with Newton Aycliffe that I am aware of. The proposed new boundaries of the City of Durham constituency are bizarre in terms of local identity. The constituency would include what are effectively outlying areas of Sunderland (with which they identify) while not including Durham's natural hinterland around here, or its western suburbs. The proposal smacks of lines being drawn in an arbitrary fashion simply to get the "correct" number of people within them.

I live in a small rural village called Kelloe. Larger towns know nothing about the way villages work. We have 2 buses an hour that go to Durham city. If you change boundaries it would mean having to get 2 buses to wherever. I find it really frustrating we are being completely disregarded as to whether this would benefit us in any way and I totally oppose any boundary change.

Langley Moor, Meadowfield, etc are much more Durham than Bishop Auckland- it's an area so heavily associated with Durham that it's weird to split it off. What do we gain from doing this?

I am totally opposed to the moving of the boundary i am very proud to live in county Durham and do not wish to be part of your proposed new boundary please don't make this change

Coxhoe (and surrounding villages e.g. Bowburn) have absolutely no links to Newton Aycliffe. I have never been there in my life. The local town/city in my address is Durham, and that is the city which the area is most closely linked to. The proposed boundary does not fit the area or the ties that residents have with local towns. Inevitably the proposed boundary means that many decisions would be made based upon Newton aycliffe, as the largest town in the section. However that would be completely irrelevant to the people of Coxhoe and have no impact on our lives. In the same way, Coxhoe and surrounding areas would have no sway with their MP.

Durham city centre is large and has vastly different needs to areas like Houghton le spring. Houghton is a growing town and has a different council to durham city centre. By putting houghton in the same constituency as durham it will become forgotten about. Durham is a well know county throughout the country and when comments are made by the MP they will undoubtedly favour comments and improvements in durham, leaving houghton far behind when it already needs care and attention.

I am dismayed at the boundary changes proposed for the City of Durham constituency. At the moment, the City sits bang in the middle of its eponymous constituency and the immediately adjacent areas (i.e. within one or two miles) traditionally associated with the City (such as Nevilles Cross Bank, Langley Moor, Meadowfield, Brandon, Broompark, Bearpark and Witton Gilbert) are also incorporated. Your selection of the A167 as a western boundary removes all of these traditional areas, places the City at the westmost edge of a wildly skewed constituency and would include areas beyond Houghton-le-Spring nearly 9 miles away which are all but in name part of Sunderland. I suspect the weighting of a proposed 20,000 University students living in the City (notably for only 30 weeks of the year) may have affected your calculations, and it would be interesting to learn what proportion you have assumed will chose to vote in Durham. The number of students is now more than the number of full-time residents living in the traditionally defined City area and this is perhaps yet another example of ways in which the City is being affected by the unchecked expansion of the University. Whilst I have nothing against change per se, and I fully appreciate the need to even out numbers as between constituencies, I do think this particular proposal is very poorly conceived and more geographically logical alternatives must surely be achievable.

It does not seem fair to my that Ushaw Moor or the wider Deerness Valley area be grouped in which the people of Weardale. Our views and needs in general do not really reflect the same demographics or views as more rural areas and could mean our views are not fully reflected by the MP who is elected to represent this proposed constituency. I feel this area should remain as part of City of Durham

As someone who has grown up in North West Durham constituency all their life it feels strange to suddenly have a different MP who works differently for your area that you didn't vote for.

When I live 3 miles from the centre of DURHAM City how the hell do you put me in the Bishop constituency that will then link me with places over 30 miles from my home, I personally think common sense has gone out of the window and the world has gone crazy

Hi, I live in the DH7 area, and I disagree with the proposal to move my area I live in from city of Durham to bishop of Auckland. With Durham city only 3 miles away and my closest city/ town I shop snd visit, to be move to an area boundary that the main area is 11 miles is outrageous!
This needs to be reviewed as if my area falls under the bishop Auckland constituency my village will see a lack of area improvement as well as less people voting. With my area covered by the local police force based at fram, will my local police force move their boundary too?
No there for this boundary should not include Langley moor or Brandon!

Langley Moor is to stay in the Durham City area!

The proposal to include Brandon and Byshottles in Bishop Auckland CC makes absolutely no sense at all, when itâ€™s 2-3 miles from Durham City and 11 from Bishop Auckland! I also think most importantly, the residents wouldnâ€™t appreciate having an MP from a completely different political party who wasnâ€™t elected or has anyoneâ€™s best interests at heart. Seems more like a political move than anything else.

I live two miles from the centre of Durham City in Langley Moor. The boundary commission proposes to remove us from the City of Durham constituency and add us to Bishop Auckland which is eighteen miles away. Our local area has no connection with Bishop Auckland; Durham is our local town and where our children go to secondary school.

It is stated "As far as possible, we try to have regard to local ties, geographic factors, local government boundaries (as they were known at 1 December 2020), existing constituencies, and minimising disruption caused by proposed change."

By moving Langley Moor from City of Durham to Bishop Auckland you are paying no heed to local ties between Langley Moor and Durham City.

I do not agree with changing the boundary to Newton Aycliffe/Sedgefield. Coxhoe does not identify at all with aycliffe and has strong identity links to Durham. It is also much closer to Durham, Shincliffe and Bowburn and it should not have an MP that is not representative of its identity and heritage. The boundary should remain as it currently is to include Durham city.

Adding Brandon to the Bishop Auckland constituency seems to make very little sense. Brandon's proximity to Durham means it is very strongly linked with the city, with many commuters living here and working there. There are much fewer such links with Bishop Auckland and very little relation to the areas covered by the Bishop Auckland constituency.

The current electorate population of the City of Durham constituency is within the parameters set for the new constituency boundaries so there should be no need to change it.

The proposed new boundaries for county Durham are deeply concerning. Someone in parts of Sunderland local authority will have an equal say in who makes decisions about Durham as people who live in the city. Meanwhile historic suburbs of Durham city such as Langley moor and Bowburn are being lost to other constituencies and will have no ability to influence the areas that service the population.

Leave the boundaries as they are please.

I believe the following villages should be in Durham City boundaries still Bowburn Coxhoe Quarrington Hill Cassop Kelloe Old Quarrington Tursdale Hett Croxdale Park Hill Old Cassop around 9000 homes

Durham City constituency is currently all within County Durham area but the new suggested division straddles the boundary with Sunderland. Will it not make more work for an MP to have an area that includes parts of two different unitary authorities rather than have just one council to have to liaise with as most MPs will have?

What happened to the commitment by David Cameron in 2009 in the wake of the expenses scandal to reduce the number of MPs to 600 from 650? This was entered into law in 2011 by the coalition government wasn't it? Given that Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are all devolved why do we still need so many MPs?

The Parish of Croxdale and Hett is currently within the boundary of Durham City and has been for a number of years. The proposed change location is on the boundary between Durham City and Newton Aycliffe/Sedgefield and would request if this could be considered to include the Parish of Croxdale and Hett within Durham City boundary.

Councillors feel that because of its rural nature the ward best fits as at present with Durham City rather than with Newton Aycliffe/Sedgefield.

I strongly object to the parish of Croxdale and Hett becoming part of Sedgefield. Historically we have always been linked with Durham and I do not wish this to change. We are far closer to Durham than Sedgefield which now comes under Teeside as a county.

Hi How will the changes to the boundary affect my area ie does postcode etc change? Hett has always been part of county Durham in the 22 years I lived here, I would like to know more detail as to how it will affect residence in hett ie services etc.

Looking forward to hearing from you.
Thanks [RD:12]

I like the idea of Houghton returning to Durham in some capacity. It was part of County Durham for centuries before being swallowed up by Sunderland in the 1970s. I'm concerned though that the new constituency will overlap two councils so there will be less cohesion between the MP and the councils.

Also, many of the boundaries break up communities which are very close together such as Shiney Row and Houghton. I appreciate the borders have to go somewhere but is dividing close communities the answer?

Durham County Council have recently adopted a new local development plan, The County Durham Plan, which in its Policy 5 allocates an area of previously Green Belt land as a "sustainable urban extension" to Durham City. This is shown on the attached document, which is an extract from the policies map associated with the County Durham Plan, and is the large brown area labelled H5. It has been given the name Sniperley Park.

I have overlaid on this plan part of the proposed boundary between the new constituencies of North West Durham (to the west) and City of Durham (to the east). As you can see it cuts across this area proposed for housing. Currently this area is playing fields and farmland and nobody lives there. The allocation is for 1,700 houses. It is likely that the boundary could actually pass through some of these houses.

From talking to local County Councillors I understand that it is likely that the ward boundary which forms the basis for the new constituency boundary will be moved west, so that the whole of the new development becomes part of either the Framwellgate and Newton Hall or the Neville's Cross electoral divisions. This would be a sensible move.

I consider that the whole of the new Sniperley Park Area should form part of the City of Durham Constituency. As nobody currently lives there this will not alter the number of electors. The revised boundary should be drawn in consultation with Durham County Council.

The proposed changes split the electorate of my city and surrounding villages into 4 areas that coincide with conservative vote proportion, effectively diluting the opposing vote representation. It is clear that this has been considered systematically across the region, pairing areas of opposing control in the existing boundaries with those of government control in neighbouring boundaries. With the current FPPT system this will undoubtedly affect the political landscape and representation of this area in central government.

I do not think that the current proposals have considered this effect in the best possible way, dividing communities that are closely related in ideals.

I really think Ushaw Moor, Bear Park and Langley Moor should be included in the boundary for Durham as they very much are part of that area. I think the same is probably true of Brandon as well. It is very odd for Durham to be on the very edge of the Durham district and to cut off the villages in Durham's western orbit from being part of the same district.

Why is part of Sunderland, Houghton le spring, being kept as part of Durham CC, yet areas less than 7 miles to the West and South of Durham City itself are being moved into new ones? Geographically this makes no sense, and if it is a 'numbers' thing, surely it would have been more sensible to put these areas of Sunderland within Sunderland's borders?

Witton Gilbert resident

Witton Gilbert should remain in the city of Durham our focus is not to NW Durham its entirely focused on the City who's centre is 3 miles away. Shopping facilities used by Witton residents ie Arnison or Dragonville are both north and south and within the citys boundaries.

The schools Witton residents use beyond primary are in the city of Durham the Hospital we use is in the current boundaries also.

We have a long historical connection with the City of Durham not Consett or Stanley or Chester le Street

it would be an absolute crying shame if we lost our historical connection to the City.

Our oldest building St Michael's church which is over 850 years old was built at the request of the City's Bishop

a lot of people will feel totally dejected if we lose our historical connection with the City

Witton Gilbert is a few minutes from the centre of Durham City. It is many miles from any other substantial population centre and shares no economic or cultural links with any of them. It is, in effect, an integral part of the city.

All Public Transport routes through Witton Gilbert except one converge on the City.

The main centre for shopping for clothes, food and other items is almost exclusively the Arnison Centre.

Entertainment venues such as cinemas, restaurants and clubs are predominantly in the nearby city centre.

It would be ludicrous to imagine these important facilities being served by any town in the NW Durham Constituency.

More people from Witton Gilbert will be employed in the City than in the largely rural towns and villages of NW Durham

There is also a very strong emotional link to the City centre. The City with its historical and cultural benefits is the spiritual home of many inhabitants of Witton Gilbert who have grown up "popping into Durham" It is difficult to imagine an inhabitant "popping into" Consett or Stanley or indeed Stanhope. Why would they? Witton Gilbert belongs in Durham Constituency economically, traditionally, emotionally.

Having a local MP who appreciates and can support these links and common interests is priceless

It would be an act of political and social vandalism to separate the two in pursuit of an essentially bureaucratic fix.

The proposed changes to the City of Durham Constituency are unnecessary and against the spirit of our constitution. The City of Durham Constituency (CoD) has the required number of electors already; the current size of the electorate is closer to the proposed average and median electorate size; the current distribution of wards for CoD all fall within Durham County Council and these changes would weaken the link between MP, Council Ward, and the Local Authority, making representation more difficult; the villages CoD will lose are connected to the City of Durham via transport, job opportunities, and commuter norms; the role of a Member of the House of Commons is to represent interests of local Commons, not to be a delegate of an equalised number of people (Vindication of the English Constitution - B. Disraeli).

The required number of electors suggested is between 69,724 and 77,062. The median and average for this range are 73,393. The current electorate is 75007 compared to the proposed 70603. The current boundaries better meet the proposed number of electors.

My own ward of Coxhoe falls within the Durham County Council boundaries and will continue to be in Durham County Council. Currently, I can call on my local Councillors, and my MP to engage with the council on my behalf. Should these changes go ahead, then I will have to contact the Sedgefield MP, who will not have the same relationship with Durham County Council as my current MP. This will frustrate attempts to have any issues dealt with, and weaken the representation of the people living in Coxhoe.

The Coxhoe Ward is a popular commuter area for the City of Durham. Our local transport all goes into Durham, which is our nearest bus and train station. The vast majority of people, when heading out for leisure or work, head towards Durham, making any issues they experience likely to happen within the CoD constituency.

Members of the House of Commons have the constitutional role of representing the interest of the Commons in the parliamentary constituency in which they have been elected. These constituencies have never been drawn up to reflect an exact number of electors, primarily because our constitution is concerned with ensuring all interests are represented appropriately rather than the representation of the members of one section of society. As stated above, by weakening the link between the MP who represents the area in which I live, work, and take my leisure in, and myself, my interests will be less well represented, as will 1000s of others'. Our system is a First Past the Post system, not a Proportional Representation system. These suggestions seem to be pushing towards a constitutional shift. As it stands, our constitution legitimizes MPs to speak on issues that affect other areas of the country by virtue of their role as a representative of the interests of commons, as opposed to as a representative of a group of the commons. This helps bind our national democracy together, as differently located members of the commons share interests. This will be undone if the focus is shifted to numerical groupings of commons within a locality. As a resident of Coxhoe, my interests are shared by those in Shinclif and Gilesgate, much more so than with those in Sedgefield, and should this shift occur, it would be entirely proper to question the legitimacy of the MP for CoD interfering with matters which fall within Durham County Council, but outside the CoD Constituency.

I understand the desire to even out the number of electors, but I ask you not to weaken my democratic representation in the attempt to do so.

How can Ushaw Moor and Bearpark which are 1.5 miles from Durham City be in the same constituency as a town in the Durham Dales. Ridiculous and another way for the government to grab more power and make it easier for their conservative cronies to get into power.

I object to the proposed boundary changes to the Durham area. As someone from Esh Winning I have close links to Durham city and wish to remain represented there. I have no links to Consett and do not wish to be represented there

The comment relates to the Parish Witton Gilbert which in the proposals will be moved from the City of Durham constituency to the North West Durham constituency.

Witton Gilbert parish shares a boundary with the City of Durham and many of the services we use are provided in Durham City. Yet you have chosen to add Wards like Houghton, Houghton and Sunderland South and Hetton to the City of Durham constituency, these areas do not traditionally have the same links to Durham city as the villages around the western edge of Durham.

In the Witton Gilbert Ward the new Local Plan has provision for a City extension. It makes little sense to effectively separate off this development into a different constituency when all of the community provision will be provided in the City.

The democratic point of a local constituency is to give people the opportunity to vote on the issues which affect their daily lives. By moving Witton Gilbert out of the City of Durham constituency into a constituency dominated by a much more rural constituency we will lose the democratic right to influence decisions on many of our community's services and amenities.

The City of Durham constituency makes a great deal of sense as it is. I can see no reason to change it. Your data shows that the current constituency electorate is 71482 and the proposed is 70603. You are required to keep within 69724 to 77062. For a change of less than a thousand you propose to disenfranchise considerable more people.

I felt sick to my stomach when I saw that Bearpark is going to be in the Consett constituency. I can walk into Durham City it's on my doorstep for heavens sake, 4 or 5mins if that on the bus. If I had wanted to be in the Consett constituency I would have bought a house near Consett. How can Hetton le Hole be considered part of Durham when Bearpark isn't?? Please, you can't do this, I want my council to be local, I want Durham councillors... Surely the radius should be an equal distance from the centre of Durham forming a circle. Small overlapping areas should then be re-examined. The way you have separated the areas just doesn't make sense to me at all.

Separating the city of Durham from its neighbouring villages would split places which have tremendously strong cultural and social ties with each other. I've lived in Durham since I was born, with just 10 years out for university and working elsewhere I, I've socialised, gone to school with and worked with people from the neighbouring villages as my son does now. He has close friends in villages (Brandon, Coxhoe) who he goes to school with and is likely to have life-long associations with. He has absolutely nothing to do with Houghton le Spring and neither have I, my parents or my friends. This new constituency would be entirely artificial and rip apart historic links to lump in places that have very few ties and little proximity. It would destroy Durham as a coherent entity and very likely be damaging to the city and the villages which would find themselves lobbed onto constituencies they have little or no historic, social or cultural ties with. I think it's abhorrent and could work to destroy the strong connections Durham has with its villages and work to destroy its already struggling city centre

Counter proposals for the Boundary Commission Review 2023

In the Guide to the 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies document, the Boundary Commission states the following:

Rule 5 in Schedule 5 provides for a number of other factors that the BCE may take into account in establishing a new map of constituencies for the 2023 Review, specifically:

- Special geographical considerations, including the particular size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;
- Local government boundaries as they existed on 1 December 2020;
- Boundaries of existing constituencies;
- Any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies; and
- The inconvenience attendant on such changes

We believe the proposed changes do not meet these tests.

Durham City

• The decision to remove several key wards from the City of Durham constituency cannot be supported due to the unique nature of the city.

• Durham is the historic county town of County Durham, and is home to a world-class university, a world renowned Norman cathedral with a history of pilgrimage dating back to medieval times, and since 1986 has been home to a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which recognises the outstanding universal value of the city.

• Through a history of shared governance and population growth, the city now encompasses the villages that surround the immediate centre.

• In terms of the “flow of life” for people who live in the surrounding villages and divisions, all leisure activities; services; local and national transport links; employment opportunities; religious ties and places of worship; shopping and studying opportunities are focused inwards towards the city. Every wider, cross-village community link feeds through the city centre.

• These proposals amount to splitting a city, which is clearly in breach of Rule 5, Schedule 5.

Brandon Division – proposed move to Bishop Auckland constituency

• This division is not separate from the city.

• The proposals put forward by BCE split the city, and instead include this division in the Bishop Auckland constituency, with which it has no links whatsoever.

• Secondary school pupils have to leave their constituency to go to school and those who may travel to school in the Deerness division, will cross two constituencies to get to school.

• Those students who attend New College, the Durham Sixth Form Centre or Durham University would also need to leave their constituency to do so.

• The city centre would remain the focal point for leisure activities, with Langley Moor effectively a five-

minute bus journey from the city centre.

â€¢ Under the proposals, should someone in the Brandon Division wish to access services in their new constituency, this would require a five to ten minute bus journey out of their constituency, to then take a less frequent, 45 minute bus journey back into their constituency to Bishop Auckland.

â€¢ Onward and national transport links are all based in Durham (East Coast Mainline; A1)

â€¢ University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department).

â€¢ Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

â€¢ There is a history of shared governance between Brandon and Durham City, dating back to the formation of the City of Durham Council in 1974.

â€¢ No evidence that ties with the Bishop Auckland constituency would develop over time, as rest of constituency would be too remote.

â€¢ Councillors on Charter Trustees Committee for the City.

It seems ridiculous that villages surrounding Durham Cityâ€™ some less than 2 miles from the City centre should be carved off and pushed into constituencies where the centre of the new proposed area is many miles distant.

In the case of my own village- Bearpark- the new constituency will stretch from the eastern edge of the village over as far as the border with Cumbria!!

There are many and strong links existing between Durham City and local pit villages and strong community and cultural ties. Transport to and around the villages all starts/ finishes in the city, much of the local employment is in Durham or to industrial estates to the east of the city.

We have much in common with other local satellite villages surrounding the city and much less in common with rural villages in the dales and derwentside.

I am concerned that the proposal to move Brancepeth and Brandon into a Bishop Auckland centred constituency gives no regard to the local ties of the area which are predominantly to the city of Durham. Education, Health, employment and transport links from Brancepeth and Brandon are all primarily with Durham and this will mean that the MP for the area has no influence over these key services for the people they represent. The boundary would make much more sense between Brancepeth and Willington whose population is served more by the town of Bishop Auckland.

How can an MP represent the city of Durham when the western border ends barely a mile from the city centre while the north and east isn't even in the same county never mind city.

Links between Durham city and it's surrounding suburbs and villages need to be strengthened not severed. Your proposals will cut a wedge through the heart of Durham and harm local communities and their relationship with Parliament.

A constituency should be based on a historic geographic location and not the whim of some mapping software.

Please have a rethink.

This is a ludicrous idea, we are only 2.2 miles from Durham City and we belong to Durham, not Bishop Auckland, which is 6.5 miles away. I don't understand why the BA constituency needs to be increased in numbers to be almost 2000 more than Durham?? Stupid idea, drop it!

The original boundaries for Durham look far more sensible including Bearpark and Ushaw Moor. I would think Esh should also be included. These are locally thought of as firmly Durham areas.

No. The level of traffic through the village and the link it provides to the centre of Durham means it should be in same area as central Durham. The existing boundary makes much more sense.

I wish for the plans to be ditched and the boundaries to stay as they are.

Durham needs to include Langley Moor, Meadowfield and Brandon

This seems ridiculous that a for constituency called Durham City, the City only just falls into it on the western edge and many of the suburbs to the west are not included.

In fact much of the proposed area is not even in the county and consists of vast area of Sunderland around Houghton-le-Spring.

Total madness.

I think it's unfair and would disproportionate benefit some interests over that of others.

I think it is absolutely ridiculous to move Bowburn into the Sedgefield and Newton Aycliffe constituency when they are several more miles away than what Durham is. Bowburn has always been a part of Durham and for the residents of Bowburn it would be a travesty as Durham county council do so much for us as a community.

This is not the City of Durham if the City - and not even all of it - is squashed into a bottom corner of the proposed new constituency. Brandon and Deerness especially belong to the City.

The proposed changes to the Durham city constituency are clear gerrymandering cutting across the Western part of the wider metropolitan area in an attempt to consolidate all safe Labour seats into a single constituency and create new potential Tory constituencies. The idea that Durham city ends at Neville's Cross and Bishop Auckland begins is both geographically and demographically inaccurate. The degree to which the new boundaries are being manufactured for political gain can be seen in the globular extrusion of the former elements of Durham City which are now being tacked on to Bishop Auckland by a thin neck of land. While not the prototypical salamander shape (more like an angry chicken) the artificiality and unwieldy nature of the proposed changes proves definitive gerrymandering.

This is one among many attempts to bring the worst parts of American politics into Britain and it must not be permitted. Using the screen of a global pandemic to sneak in changes that rig future elections is morally bankrupt even by the standard of modern politics - you should be ashamed.

The proposed boundary changes are a clear example of gerrymandering. Their sole purpose appears to be the elimination of Labour Party seats and the partitioning of those areas off into largely Conservative voting areas.

The communities around Bowburn and Coxhoe (Bowburn, Cassop, Coxhoe, Kelloe, Quarrington Hill, Croxdale and Hett) have long associations with each other and are cohesive. I welcome proposals that keep these all in the same constituency.

These communities have traditional links with the City of Durham, in terms of Parliamentary constituencies, historical local government, travel links, travel to work/shop/leisure areas etc rather than Sedgefield or Newton Aycliffe. Moving the area to a Sedgefield and Aycliffe constituency would be damaging to the area, ensuring that local MPs and political parties are not familiar with our issues and that transport links would make it harder to attend the MPs office. This also applies to Durham South division (which under the draft proposals stay with City of Durham seat). This area is all within the City of Durham (as chartered) which is currently co-terminus with the City of Durham constituency. It would cause confusion if residents were getting their council tax bills and seeing they are paying a precept as part of the the City of Durham and then to be in a different constituency.

Spennymoor and Tudhoe divisions are part of a cohesive community and should be kept together.

I oppose the proposed boundary changes for the reasons outlined below:

At the eastern point, Deerness it reaches right to the edge of the city, bordering the A167. This is also part of the city.

â€¢ Although this division contains a secondary school, many pupils from across the division use other schools across the existing City of Durham constituency.

â€¢ Pupils attending Durham Sixth Form Centre or New College will have to leave their constituency to study.

â€¢ There is little in the way of regular and direct public transport links to the rest of the North West Durham constituency, leading to a constituent requiring constituency-based services leaving and re-entering their constituency to do so.

â€¢ The bus routes that lead from this division into the city are well-defined and well-used.

â€¢ Onward and national transport links are based in Durham (East Coast Mainline; A1)

â€¢ Leisure activities would also remain focussed on the City of Durham as the nearest urban centre. The nature of the North West Durham constituency (mainly a rural constituency) means that there is no obvious, nearby urban centre that would replace Durham City.

â€¢ Any attempt to reach leisure services in the new constituency would require a journey through Durham.

â€¢ Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

â€¢ University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department.

â€¢ There is a history of shared governance between Deerness and Durham City, dating back to the formation of the City of Durham Council in 1974.

â€¢ Councillors on Charter Trustees Committee for the City.

â€¢ No evidence ties with new constituency would grow over time.

I strongly object to this particular boundary change as I feel the integrity of the existing City of Durham will be compromised by the introduction of a population who have no stake in or interest in its future prosperity. Houghton for example is traditionally and economically tied to the city of Sunderland.

Your boundary changes for Durham City creates a parliamentary constituency crossing two cities and two local authority areas, an incoherent arrangement for electors .

Your removal of the communities of Coxhoe, Cassop Bowburn, Kelloe and the Quarringtons is a breach of a long standing identifying by electors with the city of Durham

the proposed inclusion in Sedgefield and Newton Aycliffe towns -the latter having no direct bus link with the communities you propose to include in a reformed Parliamentary constituency.

You should consider that the vast majority of electors do not visit or have any affinity with Sedgefield or Newton Aycliffe for education, employment or commercial services.

Please reconsider your proposals and have regard to common every day community links ie local authority transport, commercial services and cultural.

I object to the suggested boundary changes on the following grounds:-

My village is 6 miles from Durham City, at the end of a valley that opens onto the City and with hills to the west, north and south. I have lived here for over 40 years. My links for work, for leisure and for amenities have always been with Durham City. Indeed both the geography of the area and its history means it is inextricably intertwined with Durham City. My local ties with the City are numerous. The suggested boundary change to remove Deerness Ward from the whole of Durham City is incongruent and absurd.

There is a direct road into the City, with buses every 15 minutes during the day. There are no buses in any other direction, and the road to the west is steep and can be impassible in bad weather in the winter. To access constituency facilities in another area would mean going into Durham City, and then out again at great inconvenience.

There is also the old railway line, now a bridleway, used by many people walking and cycling, for leisure, for amenities and to get to work in Durham City.

Children go to secondary schools either in the valley or in the City. My son went to school in the valley and then to the Sixth Form Centre in Durham City, keeping friends and connections.

The Hospital is in the City and easily accessible by car and bus.

I feel fortunate to live within the Durham City Constituency and wish it to remain.

I feel that this exercise is purely and simply to make it harder for Labour voters to exercise their ballot.

It is intended to make it difficult for people in parts of Durham to vote, making them instead having to travel to Bishop Auckland.

This smacks to me of underhand tactics by the people who are proposing it and is probably thoroughly dishonest.

I strongly disagree with this change; we've been part of Durham constituency for a very long time. We are closer to Durham than Newton Aycliffe & Sedgefield; Parkhill would be right on the boundary & we would be the forgotten land. I do believe leaving it as it is would be the best outcome

You have included areas of Hetton le Hole and Houghton le Spring in the new Durham City constituency. These areas are not even in County Durham let alone the city. They have been in Sunderland, part of Tyne & Wear since the local government reorganisation in the 1970s. Historically all the area south of the Tyne was County Durham. They look towards Sunderland for services.

At least have the decency to call the new constituency "City of Durham and Houghton le Spring"

I wish to object in the strongest possible terms about the Boundary Commission's proposals for the City of Durham constituency.

Moving the Brandon, Deerness and Coxhoe divisions out of the constituency does not make any sense, and does not respect existing and abiding local ties. While these might appear to separate villages from the city centre, this is not the case. They would be better described as suburbs of the wider city area.

Brandon for instance, is on the very edge of the city centre, separated only by a small green stretch and the A167. To all intents and purposes, this division is in the city. All services, such as public transport, health and leisure are focussed on the city. For any constituency based services, a resident of Langley Moor using public transport would take a very frequent, 5 minute bus journey into the city, only to then wait for a far less frequent, 45 minute bus journey back into their new constituency.

Onward travel journeys, via rail or motorway, would also involve moving into the city.

Education is all focused on the city as well, with secondary school pupils entering the city to attend, by and large, the Durham Johnston School. Under these proposals, these pupils would be moving into a new constituency for their education. For those in, say Brandon, who attend the Durham Federation in Ushaw Moor, this would involve moving between three constituencies.

Health Services would also remain focussed on the city, with the nearby University Hospital of North Durham. Indeed, many residents also access other health services, such as dentists and GPs based in the city, and the local mental health services for both adults and children are both based in the city.

These arguments are identical for Deerness as well. While this division does reach further away from the city centre geographically, the bulk of residents live at the eastern end of the division, and are very much part of the city.

Transport, leisure health and education are, and will remain, focussed on the city centre.

Furthermore, the break these long-standing local ties, which can be seen in the shared governance of these areas dating back to the 1970s, and the presence of the County Councillors for both divisions being present on the Charter Trustees Committee for the city centre, would not result in new ties being formed with the new constituencies.

For Brandon, there is no shared history with Bishop Auckland at all, and given the proximity to the city, it is impossible to see how any would form over time. The main urban area in the new constituency (Bishop Auckland itself) is simply too far away for any links to be built.

Equally, with Deerness, there are no links to the nearest major urban area (Consett) and to access this area would involve moving through Durham anyway, so no links would develop over time. It is the BCEs own remit that it will not create orphan wards and, while technically these won't be, in practice they will be cut adrift from any locally recognised ties.

Coxhoe equally is strongly linked to the city, although geographically more distant. It contains Bowburn, which is very close to the city centre.

Again, the arguments above all apply, and this division is largely a suburb of the city, rather than a separate urban area. While public transport is more frequent into what would be its new constituency of Sedgfield, there is no real major urban conurbation in that constituency which would mean that residents would look to that constituency rather than simply 'facing' the city.

In terms of the proposals to join Copt Hill, Hetton and Houghton into the City of Durham constituency, this doesn't make any sense whatsoever. These divisions are part of separate city, being in the wider scope of Sunderland City Council. While the BCE is right in that they are linked to the City of Durham by the A690, this is the only link that could be cited. There are no shared services, governance or indeed similarities with the city. In fact, they are more similar to each other than to the communities around Durham.

Education is focussed on Sunderland, with likely only a few students moving into the city to attend the Durham Sixth Form College. All others will attend much closer schools, or colleges in Sunderland.

It creates an administratively awkward constituency as well, as the local governance will be split between Sunderland City Council and Durham County Council, resulting in a constituency with potentially differing levels of services, which seems patently unfair on residents.

There is no shared governance of these areas in living memory, and indeed, there will be no chance for new constituency and community ties to develop over time, as it is highly likely that these areas will in fact still look to the larger Sunderland for key services. Much like the divisions described above, these divisions are in fact suburbs of Sunderland, rather than villages which can be move between constituencies.

It would make far more sense for residents, and for credible constituency boundaries for the North East south of the Tyne to look like this:

Bishop Auckland

Barnard Castle East

Barnard Castle West

Bishop Auckland Town

Coundon

Evenwood

Sildon and Dene Valley

Spennymoor

Tudhoe

West Auckland

Willington and Hunwick

Woodhouse Close

City of Durham

Belmont

Brandon

Coxhoe

Deerness

Durham South

Elvet & Gilesgate

Framwellgate Moor & Newton Hall

Neville's Cross

Sherburn

Witton Gilbert (village)

Darlington

Bank Top & Lascelles

Brinkburn & Faverdale

Cockerton

College

Eastbourne

Harrowgate Hill

Haughton & Springfield

Heighington & Coniscliffe

Hummersknott

Mowden

North Road

Northgate

Park East

Park West

Pierremont

Red Hall & Lingfield

Stephenson

Whinfield

Newton Aycliffe and Sedgefield

Aycliffe East

Aycliffe North and Middridge

Aycliffe West

Bishop Middleham and Cornforth

Blackhalls

Chilton

Ferryhill

Passfield

Peterlee East

Peterlee West

Sedgefield

Trimdon and Thornley

North Durham

Chester-le-Street East

Chester-le-Street North

Chester-le-Street South

Chester-le-Street West Central

Craghead and South Moor

Houghton

Lumley

North Lodge

Pelton

Sacrison

Stanley

Tanfield

North West Durham

Annfield Plain

Benfieldside

Burnhopfield and Dipton

Consett North

Consett South

Crook

Delves Lane

Esh and Witton Gilbert

Lanchester

Leadgate and Medomsley

Tow Law

Weardale

Seaham and Peterlee

Copt Hill

Dawdon

Deneside

Doxford

Easington

Hetton

Hornden

Murton

Seaham

Shotton and South Hetton

Wingate

While this would potentially create a slightly unusual border between Seaham and Peterlee (which would need to be renamed) this is in the area of several larger towns, and so would not remove the historic links that we see with the proposals in the City of Durham. It would also only have minimal impact on other constituencies and would ensure that similar communities, such as in North Durham, are kept together. I believe this would create a credible, defensible proposals for the region, and would meet the electorate numbers for each constituency that is laid down in the BCE terms of reference.

I believe there are strong arguments for the City of Durham Constituency to remain unchanged.

My reasons are as follows:

- 1) The number of electors (75,007) meets your requirements.
- 2) The constituency is all within the Durham County Council local authority area. Your proposals change this with three wards in the Sunderland local authority area.
- 3) The proposed wards to be lost to the constituency Brandon, Coxhoe. Deerness and Esh and Witton Gilbert are all close to Durham City which is the local centre for shopping, culture and in some cases schooling.
- 4) The wards to join the constituency Copt Hill, Hetton and Houghton are all in the Sunderland local authority area. Sunderland is their local centre for shopping, culture and in some cases education. Access to Sunderland is well served by the A690 dual carriage-way road, and regular bus services.
- 5) for the current constituency Durham is very much the "Mother" City while for the new wards it is Sunderland

See attached document with evidence from Belmont Parish Council.

I think you should look again at the proposals for City of Durham you have removed half the villages on the west side of Durham that all look to Durham as their major city and added places that relate more to Sunderland than Durham.

This will just erode local democracy even more, we lost enough when we had to have a unitary authority now you propose to take away even more of our sense of place by carving up Durham City and adding bits have no relation to each other.

These changes should not go ahead as other changes proposed for the rest of County Durham also put pieces of the county together that do not relate to each other. If this goes ahead I will feel even more removed from politics and less likely to vote.

The proposed changes to the City of Durham constituency are puzzling. Adding the wards of Hetton, Houghton and Dipton makes no sense. They are not in County Durham but in Tyne and Wear. The people living in those wards have local ties and affiliations with Sunderland and feel no connection at all with Durham City - adding them to the constituency will not change that. It may well make those residents feel disenfranchised and will damage the cohesion of the constituency.

By the same token, people in Brandon and Coxhoe are very much a part of Durham City and don't see themselves as being connected to either Bishop Auckland or Sedgefield. Durham City is the focal point of those wards as it is for the rest of the constituency.

Local feelings and loyalties should I think be taken into account more when boundary changes are being considered.

As the size of the electorate is within the proposed range, I would like to see the constituency remain unchanged.

I don't believe Oakenshaw should be included in the Bishop Auckland area. Geographically we are nearer to Durham and wish to remain in Durham

Please find attached comments from the City of Durham Trust about the proposed boundary changes to the City of Durham constituency.

Cassop-cum-Quarrington Parish Council is pleased to see that the proposals place the whole of the parish and the county council division within the same constituency and would always support this approach. However, the parish has no historical or current links to Newton Aycliffe or Sedgefield and the Parish Council feel that it should be part of a Durham City constituency.

For the Hetton/Houghton area (DH5) it would mean the MP having to deal with two local authorities (Sunderland & Durham) with the area in DH5 having a lot more diverse needs than say DH1 just down the road.

There has to be another solution so that DH5 remains under one MP who would be dealing with the same City council for all the needs of their constituents.

I live at Kimblesworth Grange, in Esh and Witton Gilbert ward, which is currently in the City of Durham Constituency. I am strongly opposed to the proposal to move my area into North West Durham constituency.

Kimblesworth Grange is on the outskirts of Durham, just 3.5 miles from the City Centre. I feel a very strong connection with Durham, which is where I go for shopping, socialising, entertainment, cultural events, information etc. I travel there usually by bike, sometimes by car, or I walk the 1.5 miles to Pity Me and get a bus. I also visit shops, pubs, etc. in Pity Me or Framwellgate Moor. My children went to school in Framwellgate Moor. The Boundary Commission's proposals would leave Pity Me and Framwellgate Moor in City of Durham, and split Witton Gilbert and Kimblesworth Grange off into North West Durham. This is unacceptable.

I can understand that it could make sense to move the western part of Witton Gilbert ward into NW Durham, and that the Commission is reluctant to split wards. However, I believe this is allowed in special circumstances, e.g. where local ties would otherwise be broken, causing inconvenience. This is surely the case here - in fact "inconvenience" is putting it mildly! As far as I am concerned, Witton Gilbert and Kimblesworth Grange are part of the City of Durham. In this case, it is surely preferable to split a ward rather than split a city.

I strongly protest the inclusion of Brandon, Meadowfield, and Langley Moor in the proposed Bishop Auckland constituency. These three towns have virtually no connection to the other settlements in the Bishop Auckland constituency.

Prior to its abolition, Brandon, Meadowfield, and Langley Moor were included in the City of Durham district council area, and have strong ties to Durham City today. They house a large population of commuters who work in Durham City, and most children in the area go to schools in the city.

Brandon, Meadowfield, and Langley Moor have much weaker links to the other towns in the proposed Bishop Auckland constituency - many of which were part of either the Sedgefield or Wear Valley district council areas prior to their abolition. For example, there are no buses to any of the other towns in the proposed Bishop Auckland constituency from Brandon, Meadowfield, and Langley Moor; conversely, practically all the buses passing through these towns go to the City of Durham.

While I understand the concept of have similar size constituencies, I'm not sure that places very close to Durham City - Eg Ushaw Moor(2.1m) ; NOT in the Durham City Constituency but together with places with very different needs some 18+ miles away. At the same time there are places over 8 miles from Durham that are included in the Durham City constituency while falling being nearer Sunderland and being within the Sunderland local Authority not in County Durham.

To the Boundary Commission in relation to public consultation on proposed Boundary Review 2023.

I live in the City of Durham Constituency, in the Deerness Ward. My village lies just a mile outside of the City Boundary but under proposals being considered would be relocated to NW Durham whose administrative centre is Consett. Few people in the village have any ties with Consett and rely on the City of Durham for work, education, health and leisure. Such a move would cut across existing boundaries and travel links which would cause considerable difficulty to the peripheral ex mining villages which have always been part of the City of Durham historically.

Such a decision appears to me to be against the spirit of Rule 5 in Shedule 5 and I would urge the Commission to consider alternative proposals for the City of Durham which keeps as many of the current constituency boundaries as possible. The ex mining communities have stable populations of aging householders who have suffered considerable losses during the Covid-19 Pandemic, please do not bring further community disruption into their lives.

[RD:40]

I wish to oppose the proposals and inform the Boundary Commission I wish the existing constituency boundaries to remain unchanged.

I live in County Durham in the north east of England. I am in Belmont Division, located in the constituency of the City of Durham. We are in the east of the constituency.

Though the parish would remain in the proposed new City of Durham constituency, the proposed removal of Brandon, Coxhoe and Deerness county electoral divisions, as well as the village of Witton Gilbert to other constituencies will severely damage the cohesive nature of shared governance in the Durham city area, Furthermore the inclusion of Houghton, Hetton and Copt Hill from the City of Sunderland will complicate relationships for residents with two principal authorities administering public services in the proposed City of Durham constituency.

In its own guidance the Boundary Commission in schedule 5 (rule 5) states a number of factors may be taken into account. These include local government boundaries as they existed on 1st December 2020; geographical considerations including size, shape and accessibility; local ties that would be broken in constituencies; and inconvenience caused by proposed changes. Belmont Parish Council contends the proposals are contrary to that guidance.

The present constituency boundaries, established in 1983, correspond with the former City of Durham local government district. Thus there is a well established coherence between the historic county town and villages, in the immediate area, that through population growth and housing development has become an integrated settlement.

“Local ties” are specifically referred to in schedule 5 and in terms of public services, leisure and cultural activities, shopping and educational provision there is a shared usage and identification within the City of Durham, as recognised by the parliamentary constituency boundaries. The proposed changes would result in many residents crossing constituency boundaries to visit Belmont Retail Park, the Arnison Centre and access Durham Sixth Form Centre and New College.

Similarly, developing employment opportunities at Bowburn, Meadowfield and Belmont in purpose built estates would be located in three constituencies. These have been strategically progressed over the last 40 years within the context of local plans that recognise the importance of the City of Durham as a key employment centre.

Historically there are strong links between the city centre with its world heritage site, cathedral and university, and surrounding villages, which are now essentially discrete suburbs. The Charter Trust responsible for the mayoralty dating back to 1602 comprises county councilors representing the former local government district and parliamentary constituency. Indeed the present mayor, a resident of Witton Gilbert, would, were these proposals adopted, live in a different parliamentary constituency.

There is a strong identity by residents with the City of Durham. This is reinforced by transport links recognising employment, retail, leisure, educational, and public service usage. Under the proposals residents in the areas proposed for transfer to North West Durham, Bishop Auckland and Sedgefield, would face longer journey times either by car or public transport, were they to access services in those constituencies. There is no natural affinity with these constituencies

The Boundary Commission guidance clearly states recognition must be given to local government boundaries. Therefore, there can be no justification for including communities in the City of Sunderland with City of Durham. Hetton, Houghton and Copt Hill look predominately towards Sunderland for public services, retail and further education. There is little shared history with the City of Durham, apart from being part of the former Durham coalfield, which effectively ceased operation by 1985.

Were the proposals adopted the MP for City of Durham would be dealing with two principal local authorities.

I find the justification for changing the parliamentary boundaries of the City of Durham far from convincing. The population of the present constituency meets the criteria set and its character more than satisfies the guidance contained in Schedule 5 (Rule 5)

Finally, while it is noted there will be further consultations based on representations received, I believe the period for response to this critical first phase has been unnecessarily short. A closing date of barely six weeks in the middle of summer, has not given individuals and voluntary organisations time to consider and constructively respond.

The new boundary for the Bishop Auckland Constituency has two major flaws. Its name and its boundaries. Both are fairly important. First the name, this is important because the general public will assume that the town which gives the constituency its name will be relatively central to the constituency. Even before the proposed change in boundaries Bishop Auckland (Bishop) was in the far north of the constituency and did not reflect the actual coverage. Bearing in mind the name of the constituency to the north (North West Durham) it would be logical to name the constituency almost identical in size and shape directly to its south "South West Durham".

This name is important as I imagine one of the reasons that the new boundary has a ridiculous loop directly into the City of Durham is because otherwise Bishop is only just in its own constituency.

I am currently in the City of Durham Constituency, pay council tax to Durham County Council and am within the Parish of Brancepeth (which is part of Durham County Council). It would be geographically and politically illogical to be aligned for the purposes of a general election with a constituency in other geopolitical areas.

However, whilst it is quite illogical for Brancepeth to be included in the Bishop constituency it beggars belief that the Boundary Commission thinks it is logical under any circumstances to take that boundary up the A690 as far as Neville's Cross. Not only is Neville's Cross most certainly within the boundaries of Durham city is it is also socially and politically connected to the city rather than the Dales of the Bishop Constituency. This would be akin to taking half of Shetland and making it part of the Aberdeen constituency on the grounds that the ferry from Aberdeen to Lerwick links them together.

I would like to know on what grounds a large part of what is clearly Durham city, historically, geographically and socially has been included in a predominantly rural constituency with which it has no obvious linkage.

The Deerness Valley area is culturally very integrated with the Durham City District, as are all the pit villages surrounding the city, eg Brandon, Bowburn and should remain represented as such.

Esh Winning is a large village on the western end of the Deerness valley. This physical geography means that all significant community links are to the east, with Durham City. The only public transport to the village is to Durham. Likewise, the main road link is to the east, and the minor rural roads that link to the proposed north west Durham constituency can be impassable in winter.

Practically this means that shopping, work, education, leisure, services, etc. are linked to the city. My children go to school in Durham City, their friends are there etc.

It also means that the village historically feels part of the city's orbit. The Cathedral is visible from the hills above the village, the river runs via the Browney to the wear at Durham.

The proposed change would mean linking with Consett and surrounding area which has a distinct feel that is different from the villages of the Durham city area. To travel to them by public transport you would have to travel to Durham first, and then back out.

It would also split my local parish council between three constituencies - something that appears strange.

My Mum, brother and I would suddenly be in three constituencies, Durham north west, Bishop Auckland, Durham City, when all three of us deeply feel we live in the same community - wider Durham City.

I understand the need to balance the size of constituencies, but strongly feel this should not be done by lumping together areas with little connection and splitting areas with strong emotional ties. Linking areas of a different local authority (Houghton and Hetton) with Durham City, while taking away Durham's hinterland, would appear to shatter a culturally important city, and create the possibility of poor governance - the MP having to deal with two competing local authorities with different priorities. This would, I feel pull the focus to the east of the city, to the detriment of my village, which has not geographic choice but to look to Durham City, whatever the political arrangements.

Alternatives could include linking Houghton with Chester-le-Street in the north Durham constituency which makes more historical and transport sense, Hetton with Seaham and Murton, and including some of the western areas of North Durham into North West Durham, to which they share community (and transport) links.

The proposal to separate the Brandon Division from the Durham City constituency and put it in the Bishop Auckland constituency does not make a great deal of sense.

The Brandon division has no links or affiliation with Bishop Auckland whatsoever.

All of our much needed services are provided in the Durham Constituency area.

ie Education, shopping, hospitals plus most of our care provision and other services.

We are a good 1 hour away from Bishop Auckland by public transport which includes two bus journeys yet are only 20 minutes away from Durham City with only one bus journey needed.

Our area has a great relationship with Durham over the years with local politicians having had the honour of been elected to serve as the Mayor of Durham.

The local County Councillors are also elected as Charter Trustees to Durham City ensuring that the mayoral duties are carried out according to the historic tradition.

When they closed Brandon Comprehensive school it was Amalgamated with Durham Johnston school resulting in many of the children from our area travel to Durham for their education.

I have real concerns that our local identity will be lost if we are to be moved into Bishop Auckland area there is also the problem that they have been creating retail parks out of town which is even further to travel also what effect will this upheaval have on our telephone numbers as at the moment I'm in 0191 where as Bishop Auckland is 01388 also has any one given consideration to all the post codes that would have to be changed and the cost involved in making these alterations.

I have lived in Durham for 55 years and my professional life was as a senior officer dealing with planning, economic development and corporate governance at Durham County Council. I am familiar with the physical, economic and social geography of County Durham and the North East Region.

In my opinion the Commission's proposals for the City of Durham Constituency are deeply flawed by removing places such as Brandon, Witton Gilbert and Bowburn that are much more closely tied to Durham city than anywhere else, and by adding Hetton and Houghton that lie in a different local authority altogether. There is a detailed issue about the boundary running through the proposed Sniperley Park housing development.

I consider that the submissions from the City of Durham Member of Parliament's office and from the City of Durham Trust represent a far better set of constituencies for County Durham.

The proposed boundary changes do not directly affect my address within the constituency but I am concerned + do not support the changes due to the impact on the constituency as a whole.

The current constituency boundaries are those of the previous City of Durham district before the formation of Durham County Council as a unitary authority. There is a strong sense of the historic centre of the city with emotional and practical (e.g. transport) links to the surrounding villages on all sides. The proposals that villages/divisions on the north, west and south of the city would be linked to other centres/constituencies would break those longstanding links.

The proposal for three divisions from Sunderland side to be added to the east of the city has little to recommend it. It is likely to be disruptive to residents of those areas who currently look to Sunderland as their urban centre.

The inclusion of those divisions would also create a constituency whose residents look to two different councils for all local authority issues with likely added confusion and potential disharmony, especially if the two local authorities take different approaches on some issues.

Having reviewed your map of the proposed boundary changes it is clear that the Commission does not understand the geography of County Durham and how vast and different the areas are that they propose to realign.

Currently my ward (Deerness) sits within the boundaries of Durham City Constituency. This makes sense geographically (as Deerness ward lies just 3 miles west of Durham City) and politically as the smaller constituency means that our MP is able to address the needs of both the city centre and the surrounding areas, such as Deerness, without it ever feeling that we in Deerness are losing out to Durham City.

Having examined the map with the proposed boundary changes I am considered about the vast size of the new constituency which not only includes Deerness and other local wards (currently aligned to Durham City constituency) but also Consett and surrounding areas (approx. 12 miles away) and Weardale and the surrounding areas (approx. 20 miles away). Not only is the size of the new constituency concerning, particularly with the vast expanse of Weardale included, but the needs of these areas are very different. The former mining villages of the Deerness ward have very different needs to that such as Consett (which has had some investment and regeneration in recent years) and Weardale which is remote and has a lot of rural concerns but, in contrast to the Deerness ward, is relatively affluent for the region. Also, many of the people living in the Deerness ward are working in Durham City and, therefore, travel there on a regular basis. Changing constituencies will likely impact on public transport services between the villages of the Deerness ward and Durham City, thus impacting upon job opportunities.

Not only are these areas vastly different and incompatible with one another in terms of need the size of the area means that our MP would no longer be a visible presence supporting the Deerness ward as they are now in the Durham City constituency and areas such as the Deerness ward will be left to rot while MPs focus on their current constituency area (Consett) in a bid to secure votes. This is likely to be even more pertinent as, in the last General Election, Consett voted Conservative while Durham City and the surrounding areas returned a Labour MP. Moving the Deerness and other Durham City wards into the North West Durham County Constituency will mean that we will be lumbered with a [RD:41]

Finally, the current Conservative government aims to level up the North East but how is reducing our number of constituencies and merging together areas that are miles apart and have no common characteristics, levelling up?

I am unable to support the Commissions proposals for the boundary changes to Durham City Constituency.

The proposed changes do not comply with the Guidance set out in the 2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies, Rule 5 Schedule 5.

In summary the proposals do not take into account the cultural, social and geographical factors.

I am therefore unable to identify any benefit to the people affected by these changes.

Methods of working, relationships and services have been developed over many years, to the benefit of people living in this constituency.

The case for the three Districts remaining in the Durham Constituency have a communality.

The people identify themselves as citizens of Durham sharing a culture and heritage founded over centuries.

Public transport is accessed by people of the Districts under review, within the city of Durham.

The Rail Station provides access to the National Rail network.

The City Bus Station is the hub for services throughout the North East.

Voters in the districts affected, wishing to access services in the proposed constituencies, or be active in the political process, would be obliged to take longer journeys and incur additional costs.

Primary Health and Social Care will continue to be organised from within Durham City.

The University of North Durham Foundation Trust will continue to be the focal point for secondary health care.

The providers of Secondary Education, Six Form Colleges, Faith Schools and Special Schools are attended by students from the three Districts identified.

If voters wish to discuss the above services with their MP they will be obliged to travel out of their area incurring increased costs and extra time travelling, increasing levels of air pollution.

The retail parks at Dragon Lane, City of Durham,

Arnison Centre and the Developments within Durham provide services and Leisure facilities provide opportunities for social interaction and add to vibrancy and culture life of the Constituency and are used by all within the current constituency boundary.

Hetton, Houghton le Spring and Copt Hill.

It is difficult to find any justification in transferring these Districts to the Durham Constituency.

The people identify as being proud 'Wearsiders' with few if any historical or cultural links to Durham.

The services required and used by the voters in these areas, Health, Social Care and Education are organised within the boundary of Sunderland.

The extensive Leisure Sporting and Cultural activities are enjoyed by the people of Hetton, Houghton and Copt Hill. The use of these facilities undoubtedly increase their identity and relationships with the people of Sunderland.

In conclusion the changes to the boundaries would change the relationships between MPs and their constituents.

MPs would be required to form new relationships with service providers, with the consequential increase in time for all the parties involved.

These proposals have the potential to undo the work which has gone on over many years causing disruption and delays. Without any identifiable benefits.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposals. The Parish Council accept the need for boundaries to reduce. However, the proposals presented would negatively affect our Parish. Under the proposals, Bearpark would be divorced from the City of Durham and we would lose our close affinity with the City of Durham. Historically, our culture, transport links (direct services) and employment are all inextricably linked to the City of Durham which is a mere 2 mile away, as are education and leisure services. Electors pay towards the Charter Trustees for the City of Durham to retain the mayoralty as not all of the former City of Durham areas are parished.

It is our belief that local people would not associate themselves within a North West Durham constituency which essentially only serves to confuse.

Our preference would be for Bearpark to be retained within the City of Durham Constituency. This could be achieved within the benchmark of 'no more than 105% of the UK electoral quota', potentially along with other villages which will no doubt have similar points of view.

However, this would potentially result in the splitting of the current LA Deerness ED. The Parish Council notes that there may be circumstances where the splitting of a ward may be necessary to achieve a scheme of constituencies locally that better meets the 'Rule 5' statutory criteria overall.

Ultimately, the preservation of local ties, i.e. those with Durham are extremely important for Bearpark which has lost a significant industrial site, community facilities and local business over the past year.

The Parish Council are of the view that the commission should take account of these views as part of the review.

As I live within walking distance of Durham City Centre and my entire focus: educational, social, shopping, dentist, doctor, voluntary work etc and that of my community, is in the Durham City area, these proposals would enable my community and the entire ward of Witton Gilbert to stay in the City of Durham Constituency. as is currently the case with appropriate numbers in each constituency.

Proposals for future constituency boundaries in County Durham and Darlington.

Bishop Auckland

74,302

City of Durham

71,412

Darlington

70,446

Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield

71,957

North Durham

70,989

North West Durham

71,045

Seaham and Peterlee

69,768

Proposed Constituencies with Wards

Bishop Auckland

Barnard Castle East

6,979

Barnard Castle West

6,656

Bishop Auckland Town

6,057

Coundon

3,177

Evenwood

6,458

Shildon and Dene Valley

9,630

Spennymoor

8,848

Tudhoe

7,044

West Auckland

6,545

Willington and Hunwick

6,861

Woodhouse Close

6,047

City of Durham

Belmont

10,129

Brandon

7,635

Coxhoe

9,779

Deerness

9,479

Durham South

2,204

Elvet & Gilesgate

5,740

Framwellgate Moor & Newton Hall

10,315

Neville's Cross

7,409

Sherburn

6,722

Witton Gilbert

2,000

Darlington

Bank Top & Lascelles

4,590

Brinkburn & Faverdale

4,875

Cockerton

4,775

College

3,425

Eastbourne

4,697

Harrowgate Hill

4,843

Haughton & Springfield

4,842

Heighington & Coniscliffe

3,531

Hummersknott

3,145

Mowden

3,192

North Road

4,323

Northgate

2,509

Park East

4,685

Park West

3,500

Pierremont

4,249

Red Hall & Lingfield

3,163

Stephenson

2,984

Whinfield

3,118

Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield

Aycliffe East

6,420

Aycliffe North and Middridge

8,406

Aycliffe West

5,358

Bishop Middleham and Cornforth

2,884

Blackhalls

6,245

Chilton

3,429

Ferryhill

8,125

Passfield

3,426

Peterlee East

5,415

Peterlee West

6,131

Sedgefield

6,370

Trimdon and Thornley

9,748

North Durham

Chester-le-Street East

3,006

Chester-le-Street North

3,071

Chester-le-Street South

5,991

Chester-le-Street West Central

5,811

Craghead and South Moor

5,737

Houghton

9,886

Lumley

5,727

North Lodge

3,020

Pelton

10,227

Sacriston

5,638

Stanley

6,361

Tanfield

6,514

North West Durham

Annfield Plain

5,891

Benfieldside

6,488

Burnhopfield and Dipton

6,333

Consett North

5,874

Consett South

3,598

Crook

9,277

Delves Lane

6,232

Esh and Witton Gilbert

4,384 exc. Witton Gilbert

Lanchester

6,085

Leadgate and Medomsley

6,830

Tow Law

3,435

Weardale

6,618

Seaham and Peterlee

Copt Hill

9,027

Dawdon

6,098

Deneside

5,435

Doxford

7,856

Easington

5,710

Hetton

9,171

Horden

5,393

Murton

5,817

Seaham

5,365

Shotton and South Hetton

6,802

Wingate

3,094

I strongly oppose moving the Deerness division where I live, out of the City of Durham constituency. Below are some of my reasons:

At the eastern point, Deerness it reaches right to the edge of the city, bordering the A167. This is also part of the city.

Although this division contains a secondary school, many pupils from across the division use other schools across the existing City of Durham constituency.

Pupils attending Durham Sixth Form Centre or New College will have to leave their constituency to study.

There is little in the way of regular and direct public transport links to the rest of the North West Durham constituency, leading to a constituent requiring constituency-based services leaving and re-entering their constituency to do so.

The bus routes that lead from this division into the city are well-defined and well-used.

Onward and national transport links are based in Durham (East Coast Mainline; A1)

Leisure activities would also remain focussed on the City of Durham as the nearest urban centre. The nature of the North West Durham constituency (mainly a rural constituency) means that there is no obvious, nearby urban centre that would replace Durham City.

Any attempt to reach leisure services in the new constituency would require a journey through Durham.

Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department.

There is a history of shared governance between Deerness and Durham City, dating back to the formation of the City of Durham Council in 1974.

Councillors on Charter Trustees Committee for the City.

No evidence ties with new constituency would grow over time.

These proposals amount to splitting a city, which is clearly in breach of rule 5, schedule 5.

It is complete nonsense to include Brandon (2 miles from Durham city centre) in the bishop auckland constituency. Other proposals are equally nonsensical. These proposals need a complete rethink. Has anyone from Brandon for example actually been consulted about these proposals? I have a number of friends from the Brandon area who knew nothing about the proposals and are fuming about the proposed changes. More consultation required I'm afraid as this will be a disgrace if current proposals are approved.

[RD:13]

Counter proposals for the Boundary Commission Review 2023

In the Guide to the 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies document, the Boundary Commission states the following:

Rule 5 in Schedule 5 provides for a number of other factors that the BCE may take into account in establishing a new map of constituencies for the 2023 Review, specifically:

- Special geographical considerations, including the particular size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;
- Local government boundaries as they existed on 1 December 2020;
- Boundaries of existing constituencies;
- Any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies; and
- The inconvenience attendant on such changes

We believe the proposed changes do not meet these tests.

Durham City

• The decision to remove several key wards from the City of Durham constituency cannot be supported due to the unique nature of the city.

• Durham is the historic county town of County Durham, and is home to a world-class university, a world renowned Norman cathedral with a history of pilgrimage dating back to medieval times, and since 1986 has been home to a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which recognises the outstanding universal value of the city.

• Through a history of shared governance and population growth, the city now encompasses the villages that surround the immediate centre.

• In terms of the “flow of life” for people who live in the surrounding villages and divisions, all leisure activities; services; local and national transport links; employment opportunities; religious ties and places of worship; shopping and studying opportunities are focused inwards towards the city. Every wider, cross-village community link feeds through the city centre.

• These proposals amount to splitting a city, which is clearly in breach of Rule 5, Schedule 5.

Brandon Division – proposed move to Bishop Auckland constituency

• This division is not separate from the city.

• The proposals put forward by BCE split the city, and instead include this division in the Bishop Auckland constituency, with which it has no links whatsoever.

• Secondary school pupils have to leave their constituency to go to school and those who may travel to school in the Deerness division, will cross two constituencies to get to school.

• Those students who attend New College, the Durham Sixth Form Centre or Durham University would also need to leave their constituency to do so.

• The city centre would remain the focal point for leisure activities, with Langley Moor effectively a five-

minute bus journey from the city centre.

â€¢ Under the proposals, should someone in the Brandon Division wish to access services in their new constituency, this would require a five to ten minute bus journey out of their constituency, to then take a less frequent, 45 minute bus journey back into their constituency to Bishop Auckland.

â€¢ Onward and national transport links are all based in Durham (East Coast Mainline; A1)

â€¢ University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department).

â€¢ Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

â€¢ There is a history of shared governance between Brandon and Durham City, dating back to the formation of the City of Durham Council in 1974.

â€¢ No evidence that ties with the Bishop Auckland constituency would develop over time, as rest of constituency would be too remote.

â€¢ Councillors on Charter Trustees Committee for the City.

Deerness Division â€œ Proposed move to North West Durham constituency

â€¢ At the eastern point, Deerness it reaches right to the edge of the city, bordering the A167. This is also part of the city.

â€¢ Although this division contains a secondary school, many pupils from across the division use other schools across the existing City of Durham constituency.

â€¢ Pupils attending Durham Sixth Form Centre or New College will have to leave their constituency to study.

â€¢ There is little in the way of regular and direct public transport links to the rest of the North West Durham constituency, leading to a constituent requiring constituency-based services leaving and re-entering their constituency to do so.

â€¢ The bus routes that lead from this division into the city are well-defined and well-used.

â€¢ Onward and national transport links are based in Durham (East Coast Mainline; A1)

â€¢ Leisure activities would also remain focussed on the City of Durham as the nearest urban centre. The nature of the North West Durham constituency (mainly a rural constituency) means that there is no obvious, nearby urban centre that would replace Durham City.

â€¢ Any attempt to reach leisure services in the new constituency would require a journey through Durham.

â€¢ Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

â€¢ University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department.

â€¢ There is a history of shared governance between Deerness and Durham City, dating back to the formation

of the City of Durham Council in 1974.

â€¢ Councillors on Charter Trustees Committee for the City.

â€¢ No evidence ties with new constituency would grow over time.

Coxhoe Division â€” proposed move to Newton Aycliffe and Sedgefield constituency

â€¢ Division contains Bowburn which is part of the city

â€¢ The bus routes that lead from this division into the city are well-defined and well-used.

â€¢ Children from the division will likely attend secondary schools in a different constituency than the proposed Newton Aycliffe and Sedgefield constituency.

â€¢ Onward and national transport links are based in Durham (East Coast Mainline) or within the division (A1).

â€¢ University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department.

â€¢ Leisure activities would also remain focussed on the City of Durham as the nearest urban centre. The nearest urban area in new constituency would be Sedgefield.

â€¢ Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

â€¢ The bus routes that lead from this division into the city are well-defined and well-used.

â€¢ Councillors on Charter Trustees Committee for the City.

â€¢ No evidence ties with new constituency would grow over time.

Witton Gilbert â€” proposed village move into North West Durham

â€¢ Boundary Commission trying not to split divisions.

â€¢ It does recognise that this may happen under certain circumstances.

â€¢ Village right on the edge of the inner areas of Durham City.

â€¢ Nearest urban area in new constituency would be Langley Park, which would not replace Durham as the focus.

â€¢ Village is equidistant between Langley Park and the city centre.

â€¢ Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

â€¢ University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department. Can walk there.

â€¢ Onward and national transport links are based in Durham (East Coast Mainline; A1)

â€¢ The majority of children from Witton Gilbert will access secondary or further education within the City of Durham constituency

Hetton, Houghton and Copt Hill â€” proposed move into the City of Durham constituency

â€¢ Only strong existing link to these divisions is a road link (A690)

â€¢ No shared history with the city in living memory

â€¢ Public services, leisure, transport and health services are likely to be accessed in Sunderland

â€¢ No real education links to Durham

â€¢ Communities similar to each other, but not similar to Durham

â€¢ Electorally difficult â€” who would be the returning officer for elections.

I am opposed to the idea of this boundary change. It will put my area on the furthest east of the constituency and I feel that by doing this my area will see less investment and could potentially be forgotten about in favour of other larger areas such as Consett and Stanley.

I was born in Durham city , going to senior school with pupils from Brandon and Bowburn. Brandon and Bowburn are part of Durham city with close social ties to the city and should remain within the constituency.

The proposal for the City of Durham County Constituency removes communities to the west of Durham which to all intents and purposes are part of the city.

We share a lot of the same facilities such as transport, community centres, parks and recreational facilities.

While the proposal removes these communities from the City of Durham Constituency, other areas to the east of Durham are being included.

These areas have less in common with the City of Durham residents and the boundary is so far to the west that some of these residents use facilities and amenities in Sunderland rather than Durham.

So the proposal is to exclude electors who have significant ties and interests with the City of Durham and include electors who have less interest and fewer ties to Durham.

I propose the City of Durham constituency boundaries are redrawn to exclude those areas to the extreme west of Durham (beyond say, Sherburn and instead include areas to the East of Durham notably Deerness and Esh and Witton Gilbert.

I do not support the proposal to extend the boundary of Easington constituency into Sunderland but would instead suggest that the boundary be extended out towards Wingate and Sherburn. This would ensure the numbers are met to balance the numbers of electors.

It would make sense to extend borders within County Durham as the areas suggested share historical and cultural links.

I strongly oppose the name Seaham and Peterlee for the constituency as it excludes many villages within the area. The constituency should have an inclusive identity so I therefore suggest East Durham. This will fit in with other local constituencies such as North Durham and North-West Durham. This will also allow for the constituency to be better identified geologically.

It appears that the proposed Durham City constituency crosses local authority boundaries. Nearly 40% of the electorate will not be in Durham at all but will be much closer to the city of Sunderland. I do feel that this should be avoided at all costs. The two areas have different characters, different history and importantly have very different needs.

This move northwards seems to be achieved in part by removing Langley Moor and Brandon from Durham City. Residents from these areas share many local services such as buses, community groups leisure centres, the local park and schools. In addition, there is no natural divide as the areas form a continuous area of settlement with Durham City.

The proposal barely changes the size of the electorate, and Ideally the issue of wards will need to be addressed, but surely this could be done by perhaps gaining all of Esh and Witton Gilbert and Deerness and perhaps losing Willington and Hunwick, and Trimdon and Thornley.

I do realise that this a difficult task, but I do ask that you look again at the way the City of Durham is going to be cut up, currently it appears you are slicing up a closely linked community, for very little apparent gain.

Whilst I understand that there is a certain band of population required for each constituency, taking Brandon out of Durham City constituency makes no sense, either geographically or socially. Brandon faces Durham and is within walking distance of the city, the post office in Brandon serves Langley Moor and Meadowfield, the bus services all run to Durham.

I wish to object to the proposal to split the City into three separate constituencies. Durham is a small historic city that has its own unique identity and should be kept as one entity.

I am aged [RD:2] and have lived throughout my life in County Durham, the past 40+ years in Brandon, Durham City. I wish to make representations against the proposal that the Brandon district be moved from the City of Durham constituency and placed in that of Bishop Auckland.

There is in my view no logical justification for this proposal. Brandon is situated only 5 miles from Durham City centre, most of the every day and essential services which we use are situated within the City area, including places of work, public transport links, leisure venues, the major hospital, shopping etc. Brandon has no relationship whatsoever with the Bishop Auckland constituency, there are very few reasons why the vast majority of Brandon residents would ever need to visit the Bishop Auckland area.

I very much hope that the proposal will be reconsidered.

Culturally Durham City Constituency should stay as at present, a world famous historical site, central to its surrounding mining heritage. Deerness, Coxhoe, Brandon and Witton Gilbert have far more in common with Durham City all ways round than Hetton, Houghton and Copt Hill.

Please do not proceed with this particular proposed boundary change.
[RD:25]

I have revised the proposed boundary changes for several MP seats in the North East and the changes have me concerned but also furious at how the North East is been treated with disdain.

Our current MP is part of City of Durham CC and this makes sense as the city of Durham is only a few miles away from our village at Ushaw Moor. The new proposed MP will be from North West Durham which makes no sense as I will describe below.

The new MP is miles away from our village so how can this new MP represent or care about us in anyway when we are so far away from the core areas the same for the Weardale area why would the North west Durham MP care about these rural far flung locations.

The MP for North West Durham will see us as been lumbered with them and we will be ignored as the new MP will focus on there core areas for votes. The City of Durham MP at least knows for the city to do well they need to ensure the feeder villages for jobs and local spending need some services fed.

These boundary changes are purely for one reason only and that is to empower Tory voting areas as the boundary changes are purely designed to weaken areas and voting pools for non Tory areas.

The Tory party is employing these tactics to ensure that the voting system continues to favour the Tories as most of the proposed boundary changes are not harming any Tory held areas and mostly seem to be aimed at Labour and Lib Dem areas with the aim of weakening those areas allowing a party that has a corrupt Prime Minister who has affairs, lies and ensured the deaths of over 100k of UK citizens by his poor planning and haphazard policies in COVID.

The North East has always been mostly seen as a enemy by the Conservative party and since the days of the Iron Lady they have sought for ways to crush the hopes of those who live in the North East.

I oppose the proposal for the Deerness ward and surrounding areas to be removed from the City of Durham constituency. These areas have a strong link with Durham City and are reliant on it for services, jobs, schooling, healthcare etc. and it is logical that we are represented by the same Member of Parliament as Durham City. My village, and those surrounding it, have no such relationship with Stanley or Consett and our needs are different to those of people living in villages in North West Durham. I would be concerned if Deerness ward were to be represented by an MP for North West Durham as we would lose our ability for our voices to be heard by the MP representing Durham City, on which our lives are so reliant.

Whilst I understand the need for the review the proposed moving of Bearpark from the City of Durham constituency into the North West Durham Constituency would have a negative affect on the village.

Bearpark has links to the City of Durham both historically and culturally.

We are in walking distance of the City where many of our residents are employed. We are part of the Charter Trustees of Durham and contribute to the cost of the Mayoralty, Children both at Primary School and Secondary School attend schools in and around the City.. Because of our transport links we are within ten minutes of the Train Station and Bus Station. Medical Services at UHND again can be accessed within ten to fifteen minutes by car and also by bus which has a direct. Retail is also easily accessible .

We have been linked with the City of Durham since the creation of our village in in the 1880's and to moved to North West Durham where we have no links educationally, historically ,for retail purposes or health visits would certainly mean losing our local ties. I ask that the Commission take these points into consideration and would welcome the opportunity to comment at the second phase.

1. In the Guide to the 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies document, the Boundary Commission states the following:

Rule 5 in Schedule 5 provides for a number of other factors that the BCE may take into account in establishing a new map of constituencies for the 2023 Review, specifically:

Special geographical considerations, including the particular size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;

Local government boundaries as they existed on 1 December 2020;

Boundaries of existing constituencies;

Any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies; and

The inconvenience attendant on such changes

We believe the proposed changes do not meet these tests.

Durham City

The decision to remove several key wards from the City of Durham constituency cannot be supported due to the unique nature of the city.

Durham is the historic county town of County Durham, and is home to a world-class university, a world renowned Norman cathedral with a history of pilgrimage dating back to medieval times, and since 1986 has been home to a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which recognises the outstanding universal value of the city.

Through a history of shared governance and population growth, the city now encompasses the villages that surround the immediate centre.

In terms of the "flow of life" for people who live in the surrounding villages and divisions, all leisure activities; services; local and national transport links; employment opportunities; religious ties and places of worship; shopping and studying opportunities are focused inwards towards the city. Every wider, cross-village community link feeds through the city centre.

These proposals amount to splitting a city, which is clearly in breach of Rule 5, Schedule 5.

2. Hetton, Houghton and Copt Hill “ proposed move into the City of Durham constituency

Only strong existing link to these divisions is a road link (A690)

No shared history with the city in living memory

Public services, leisure, transport and health services are likely to be accessed in Sunderland

No real education links to Durham

Communities similar to each other, but not similar to Durham

Electoral difficult “ who would be the returning officer for elections.

Object to the revised proposal for City of Durham. The existing boundaries in operation since 1983 are coherent and relate to peoples movement for public services, leisure and retail. There is a shared identity which would be split in four constituencies. Moreover the proposed constituency straddles two principal authorities, contrary to the guidance. I also object to the very limited period of consultation for this crucial issue. I understand detailed objections have been submitted by many bodies which because of time constraints I've not had time to view fully. However, I wish to associate myself with those submissions

I have been following the Boundary Commission's review with some interest over the previous weeks and months. While most of the work that has been done is excellent there are a few areas of concern.

I have been in discussion with my MP, who is clearly vastly more literate than I, and have therefore attached her proposals.

I wholeheartedly support these and urge you to consider them. Local knowledge is critical in these matters, and the proposal alterations to the current proposal make a great deal of sense for our communities.

I attach her proposals and support for these and draw particular attention to the parish council wards being substantially within one constituency. Parish Councils are often poorly represented and creating more work by splitting more of these across different constituencies just makes life harder for everyone.

Counter proposals for the Boundary Commission Review 2023

In the Guide to the 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies document, the Boundary Commission states the following:

Rule 5 in Schedule 5 provides for a number of other factors that the BCE may take into account in establishing a new map of constituencies for the 2023 Review, specifically:

“ Special geographical considerations, including the particular size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;

“ Local government boundaries as they existed on 1 December 2020;

“ Boundaries of existing constituencies;

“ Any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies; and

“ The inconvenience attendant on such changes

We believe the proposed changes do not meet these tests.

Durham City

â€¢ The decision to remove several key wards from the City of Durham constituency cannot be supported due to the unique nature of the city.

â€¢ Durham is the historic county town of County Durham, and is home to a world-class university, a world renowned Norman cathedral with a history of pilgrimage dating back to medieval times, and since 1986 has been home to a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which recognises the outstanding universal value of the city.

â€¢ Through a history of shared governance and population growth, the city now encompasses the villages that surround the immediate centre.

â€¢ In terms of the "flow of life" for people who live in the surrounding villages and divisions, all leisure activities; services; local and national transport links; employment opportunities; religious ties and places of worship; shopping and studying opportunities are focused inwards towards the city. Every wider, cross-village community link feeds through the city centre.

â€¢ These proposals amount to splitting a city, which is clearly in breach of Rule 5, Schedule 5.

Brandon Division " proposed move to Bishop Auckland constituency

â€¢ This division is not separate from the city.

â€¢ The proposals put forward by BCE split the city, and instead include this division in the Bishop Auckland constituency, with which it has no links whatsoever.

â€¢ Secondary school pupils have to leave their constituency to go to school and those who may travel to school in the Deerness division, will cross two constituencies to get to school.

â€¢ Those students who attend New College, the Durham Sixth Form Centre or Durham University would also need to leave their constituency to do so.

â€¢ The city centre would remain the focal point for leisure activities, with Langley Moor effectively a five-minute bus journey from the city centre.

â€¢ Under the proposals, should someone in the Brandon Division wish to access services in their new constituency, this would require a five to ten minute bus journey out of their constituency, to then take a less frequent, 45 minute bus journey back into their constituency to Bishop Auckland.

â€¢ Onward and national transport links are all based in Durham (East Coast Mainline; A1)

â€¢ University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department).

â€¢ Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

â€¢ There is a history of shared governance between Brandon and Durham City, dating back to the formation of the City of Durham Council in 1974.

â€¢ No evidence that ties with the Bishop Auckland constituency would develop over time, as rest of constituency would be too remote.

â€¢ Councillors on Charter Trustees Committee for the City.

Deerness Division â€“ Proposed move to North West Durham constituency

â€¢ At the eastern point, Deerness it reaches right to the edge of the city, bordering the A167. This is also part of the city.

â€¢ Although this division contains a secondary school, many pupils from across the division use other schools across the existing City of Durham constituency.

â€¢ Pupils attending Durham Sixth Form Centre or New College will have to leave their constituency to study.

â€¢ There is little in the way of regular and direct public transport links to the rest of the North West Durham constituency, leading to a constituent requiring constituency-based services leaving and re-entering their constituency to do so.

â€¢ The bus routes that lead from this division into the city are well-defined and well-used.

â€¢ Onward and national transport links are based in Durham (East Coast Mainline; A1)

â€¢ Leisure activities would also remain focussed on the City of Durham as the nearest urban centre. The nature of the North West Durham constituency (mainly a rural constituency) means that there is no obvious, nearby urban centre that would replace Durham City.

â€¢ Any attempt to reach leisure services in the new constituency would require a journey through Durham.

â€¢ Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

â€¢ University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department.

â€¢ There is a history of shared governance between Deerness and Durham City, dating back to the formation of the City of Durham Council in 1974.

â€¢ Councillors on Charter Trustees Committee for the City.

â€¢ No evidence ties with new constituency would grow over time.

Coxhoe Division â€“ proposed move to Newton Aycliffe and Sedgefield constituency

â€¢ Division contains Bowburn which is part of the city

â€¢ The bus routes that lead from this division into the city are well-defined and well-used.

â€¢ Children from the division will likely attend secondary schools in a different constituency than the proposed Newton Aycliffe and Sedgefield constituency.

â€¢ Onward and national transport links are based in Durham (East Coast Mainline) or within the division (A1).

â€¢ University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department.

â€¢ Leisure activities would also remain focussed on the City of Durham as the nearest urban centre. The nearest urban area in new constituency would be Sedgfield.

â€¢ Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

â€¢ The bus routes that lead from this division into the city are well-defined and well-used.

â€¢ Councillors on Charter Trustees Committee for the City.

â€¢ No evidence ties with new constituency would grow over time.

Witton Gilbert â€” proposed village move into North West Durham

â€¢ Boundary Commission trying not to split divisions.

â€¢ It does recognise that this may happen under certain circumstances.

â€¢ Village right on the edge of the inner areas of Durham City.

â€¢ Nearest urban area in new constituency would be Langley Park, which would not replace Durham as the focus.

â€¢ Village is equidistant between Langley Park and the city centre.

â€¢ Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

â€¢ University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department. Can walk there.

â€¢ Onward and national transport links are based in Durham (East Coast Mainline; A1)

â€¢ The majority of children from Witton Gilbert will access secondary or further education within the City of Durham constituency

Hetton, Houghton and Copt Hill â€” proposed move into the City of Durham constituency

â€¢ Only strong existing link to these divisions is a road link (A690)

â€¢ No shared history with the city in living memory

â€¢ Public services, leisure, transport and health services are likely to be accessed in Sunderland

â€¢ No real education links to Durham

â€¢ Communities similar to each other, but not similar to Durham

â€¢ Electorally difficult â€” who would be the returning officer for elections.

Appendix 3 – Comments from Easington Constituency

Comment
<p>The decision to place a single Sunderland ward into the Easington constituency would significantly disadvantage residents of Doxford.</p> <p>This could be resolved by placing Doxford into the City of Durham constituency, which under the proposals already includes Copt Hill, Hetton and Houghton, which are in the Sunderland area. This would create a more equal representation for the Sunderland and Durham wards in the constituency.</p> <p>To meet the electorate requirements, Sherburn could be placed into the Easington constituency, creating a constituency that is solely within County Durham.</p> <p>In relation to the renaming of the Easington constituency, please don't! Either retain the name Easington constituency or use the more inclusive term by calling the constituency East Durham.</p>
<p>It doesn't seem to me that the proposed constituency of Peterlee and Seaham will be very different in area or population from the current constituency of Easington. However, the name change may benefit both Peterlee and Seaham which are towns in need of investment whereas Easington is a village with a smaller population.</p>
<p>I 100% oppose to the change in name to constituency. It's a tactless and deliberate ploy to remove a name strongly associated as a Labour stronghold yet further proves that as an area Easington Colliery is completely disregarded when it comes to funding and any form of regeneration. Disgusting</p>
<p>It seems absolutely ridiculous to be in a constituency that isn't even in the same local authority as the rest of it, not even the same county. We will be caught between 2 lots of governance and will be completely forgotten about. I live 100 metres from my doctors, yet they will be in another constituency.</p> <p>It's not joined up thinking at all. There is a natural divide a mile away at Seaham</p>
<p>The Doxford Area should not become part of Seaham and Peterlee. Doxford should remain in Sunderland, it is part of Sunderland Council, not part of Durham County Council. We have no direct links with Seaham and Peterlee. Doxford is a growing area, new housing is being developed and plans for more in the future. We are an area which need a representative who understands the needs of the area.</p>
<p>I believe bringing my area to the Peterlee constituency is not acceptable given the geographical location we should remain in the current sector and be aligned with Ryhope and new Silksworth and the boundaries should not be changed the area of Seaton and Seaton Lane should be the most likely boundary line to accommodate the Houghton area as well.</p> <p>How can people living in Doxford Park area be accommodated a Councillor and MP who does not know the area and how can people from a totally different area know the geographical area and historic area of Doxford Park and know more than someone who lives in the exact area not over 30 miles away.</p> <p>Local council should be that local not in another area and postcode sector.</p> <p>We are not guinea pigs for the government to allow them to impose impossible and totally unacceptable changes to the constitution and voting system</p> <p>People who have not heard of Doxford Park should not represent us.</p>

The proposed new constituency of Seaham and Peterlee is not reflective of the social or geographical perimeters of the area, especially in regard to the Sunderland based communities that fall under this plan.

The suggested divide of Sunderland areas such as Doxford and Moorside away from Sunderland and into County Durham is illogical. The new constituency groups it with areas in Hartlepool, to which we have no uniting links other than being north of Middlesbrough. The more northern areas of the constituency similarly hold little connection to Sunderland. There are sparse links to the current Seaham and Peterlee areas (no transport links, different county, to name a few) and this will disturb the political landscape, generating more problems than solutions. There are no pertaining links between the Sunderland and County Durham areas that justify them being within the same constituency, a move that would have severe ramifications for years to come.

Removing these areas from a Sunderland constituency will cause confusion and division; there is nothing to alleviate by enacting this change. Sunderland Council will be less inclined to provide governance and (economic, social) support to areas cast outside of its core constituencies. This will only be felt by the area's residents and cause resentment among them.

Politically, the reduction of MPs can be seen as part of a wider tactic to reduce the North East's representation in the House of Commons in a time when we as a region are continuously disadvantaged in proportion to wealthier areas of the country. We need our voices more than ever, and reducing us to fewer, poorly devised constituency boundaries is another exhibit of this political inequality.

I speak for many when I say I hope these proposed boundaries are reconsidered. Removing Sunderland's current constituencies is ill-advised and will only serve to weaken the city's position and reputation on the electoral map. In a time when the city's communities are growing, it is a disservice to segregate them politically. Upholding the current constituencies is crucial to the development of these areas and should be the conclusion decided upon by this Commission.

We pay our Council Tax to Durham County Council. We have a Hartlepool Post Code and a Hartlepool Telephone Number. Our constituency used to be Sedgfield. It makes no sense at all to put Hutton Henry in the Seaham and Peterlee CC.

Easington as a constituency has been around for many, many years people know the area as this so why change the name.

If the boundaries were moving to exclude Easington I could understand the change but this is not happening. Easington was the hub of the area unfortunately through changes made by the Tory governments the area and communities have been gnawed away and with very little investment or government interest in the area it has fallen into deprivation.

Cash and industry investment has been pushed toward for years to Peterlee followed by Seaham/Dawdon and in recent years Murton leaving nothing for Easington.

Now decisions have been made to dump the name from our area, this is obviously the final part of the jigsaw to eradicate the last part of what has always been a strong Labour area and remove the name from history of politics.

Why are you mixing areas up which aren't aligned to the same local authority? Makes no sense to have areas in Sunderland as part of Seaham and Peterlee.

Seaham and Peterlee, although we have a SR postcode, are part of County Durham and we pay council tax to Durham County Council. Just makes it all messy to have areas mixed with different local authorities.

I am proud to be from County Durham. It would make more sense to reassess our postcodes and give people living in East Durham a DH postcode instead of us having a SR postcode when we don't even live in Sunderland.

Can't believe this is even a priority during a global pandemic. Time and money should be spent elsewhere.

Why not just stick with "Easington"?

How will the proposed changes to Seaham and Peterlee CC affect the governance of the area, as it now comes under Durham County Council, and Sunderland City Council?

The idea that as a resident of Sunderland South we are put in with Seaham and Peterlee is appalling. The Postcode is SR and not DH or TS.

Sunderland area should have an MP from Sunderland. The whole system is corrupt enough already without moving the goalposts further to suit those in power. I have lived in Sunderland all of my life and you can not tell me Sunderland is part of Seaham and Peterlee. Disgusting proposal.

Please be aware that we do not want the boundary moving, Doxford Park and associated areas should not become part of Seaham and Peterlee, which are very large areas and our views or concerns of the community would be drowned out when raising issues with our local councilors or representatives.

The whole community feels this way.

I disagree with the new proposal to have a Peterlee MP in the doxford area and any boundary changes

I do not support this change. This is a political move and does not in any way benefit or help better represent the residents of Houghton and Sunderland South. The Doxford Ward continues to expand with sweeping new build construction so this area needs proper representation. There is nothing to suggest that being lumped in with far away Peterlee will better serve either areas.

I do not think the boundary should change so that areas such as Doxford Park and Silksworth are placed into the Seaham and Peterlee constituency. Doxford park and Silksworth are based in Sunderland and therefore have differing issues affecting them than Seaham and Peterlee. Examples are; different local health care services and provisions from different CCGs, different local authority and councils structures, making it difficult to lump everyone together. It makes no logistical sense to have MPs from an area outside of Sunderland, suddenly having to deal with issues within their own constituency and Sunderland on top. It will dilute their capacity to deal with important issues of residents from both sides.

I wholly object to being put into seaham and Peterlee constituency

I am not happy with the proposed change. I do not feel that an MP would represent me if it also included (no disrespect to) Seaham and Peterlee areas. I (and many others) consider myself as a resident of Sunderland and not the areas that I would be classed as and as such vehemently oppose this proposed change.

I would go as far as saying that if I saw a poll card stating this area I would think "I don't live there" and be reluctant to vote.

A cynical move by this government to increase their likelihood of being re-elected. Disgraceful that such a large and diverse area is now being treated as one constituency. NO FAITH IN THIS GOVERNMENT

I have lived in Hall Farm for most of my life, using direct transport links into Sunderland, using schools, doctors and dentists within the area but not my locality. In the past ten years I've probably been to Seaham a handful of times as it is in County Durham with no direct links and is not considered part of my local area. To move this constituency in my opinion is not a decision taken by someone who lives in the area or maybe even visited... if they did it would be easy to understand how bizarre this proposal is!!!

Whilst we live within your proposed area, we are actual people trying our best to get by and the one thing you can always rely on is that your representative is local and fighting for local causes. Having someone representing me from a totally different area and local knowledge is simply ludicrous! It crosses Sunderland / County Durham boundary... how can a representative work on such a large scale with different police forces, NHS commissioning groups, councils etc. I strongly urge that you visit the area and get a true understanding of the demographics before making this change.

Moving those of us in Ryhope to a Seaham constituency is ridiculous. We aren't a part of Doxford either. Tunstall Bank estate should be put back within the boundaries the pit ponies represent.

Revert name to Easington. This has been the name of the seat since 1950.

Easington Constituency is no more? I wonder why. Another way of trying to convert a proud Labour stronghold or more so to punish a small town further?

It's scandalous how this small town is treated by local and national government and even to take the name of a constituency is another calculated move.

Pathetic

Including a small area of Sunderland in Seaham and Peterlee makes no sense. Seaham and Peterlee are completely separate from Sunderland - we are not even the same county. I cannot understand how I can pay council tax for one place and vote for an MP for another

County Durham has a very proud and unique heritage, a heritage that is not shared with much of the rest of the region nor many other surrounding local authorities. Historically, County Durham was represented by the Prince Bishops, which resulted in unique cultural and political developments. The people of County Durham, including Darlington and Hartlepool, have strong internal historical and community bonds. To this end, we must consider the question of where the Moorside, Sourmilk Hill, and Tunstall areas of Sunderland fit in with the existing communities within the Easington (to be Seaham and Peterlee) Constituency. The simple answer is, very little.

If we start with the geography and infrastructure, there is very little, if any, continuity between Seaham and these areas of Sunderland. In fact, to get to these parts of any other of the current Easington Constituency one has to narrowly skirt the newly proposed northern board, with an almost 10-minute commute from Seaham to these parts of Sunderland up the A19. And what is worse still, perhaps the most efficient route to these proposed included areas of Sunderland would take an individual well outside the Seaham and Peterlee Constituency and into Sunderland Central. In addition, I am not aware of any public transport infrastructure which links the Moorside, Sourmilk Hill, and Tunstall areas of Sunderland to either Seaham or Peterlee, with all community links here going north into Sunderland proper.

This leads on nicely to my next point regarding community links. The Moorside, Sourmilk Hill, and Tunstall areas of Sunderland are very much part of Sunderland and not County Durham. Community-wise there is very little, if any, crossovers from the Easington Constituency into Sunderland, and nor the reverse. A simple look at map clearly suggests that the Moorside, Sourmilk Hill, and Tunstall areas of Sunderland find their community ties in Sunderland proper, and not County Durham. This is perhaps most well demonstrated in terms of access to health services, with people in Seaham and Peterlee most frequently referred to services within the constituency itself or those located in the Hartlepool or City of Durham constituencies, and not north into Sunderland.

For these reasons, I do not believe that any part of Sunderland can reasonably be included within the Seaham and Easington constituency. However, if a part of Sunderland must be included, I would suggest the Ryhope area is much more appropriate. Ryhope has greater geographical continuity with Seaham and Peterlee than that of the Moorside, Sourmilk Hill, and Tunstall areas of Sunderland. Yet, Ryhope still suffers from the lack of community links to the rest of the newly drawn proposed constituency.

A much more appropriate solution, in my opinion, would be to include either Easington Lane or Haswell Plough and Wheatly Hill. All of these places have strong geographical and community links, with good public transport links and often shared community groups.

The inclusion of such a small part of Sunderland into a County Durham seat does not make sense and should be reconsidered.

Having given my feedback on the boundary itself, I must now say that I support the renaming, which now much better reflects the community centres of the areas.

Our Constituency should be name East Durham to best represent the people of the area, peterlee and seaham are a very small part of the constituency.

I also think that the boundaries should be kept within County Durham's borders.

Absolutely ludicrous to put part of Sunderland south in with Seaham and Peterlee COUNTY DURHAM. The boundary line has been very selective to say the least - why when all other boundaries are across the map do we have a long strip on the north east coast. Why isn't Peterlee attached to Hartlepool - this is their nearest town and both part of County Durham. Or is it more to do with a worry that the Hartlepool seat won't be held onto if you change the boundaries!! Why is Ryhope not attached to Seaham rather than the Mill Hill area - when you can literally walk along the road from Ryhope into Seaham. Has this taken into account the numerous houses planned in the Mill Hill area? Whoever drafted this obviously has no idea of the local area and is purely looking at numbers. This needs a fresh set of eyes looking at it - it is a poor misjudged piece of work - how on earth can you state this has taken local considerations into account. I live nowhere near Peterlee area but can actually walk into Sunderland from my home. Seems we can only have north and central of a city or town. What is missing from this piece is what does it actually mean to us as taxpayers. What does it mean for our local services. The drawing of the boundary for what is Sunderland South makes no sense whatsoever - can we please have an explanation as to why this area has to change so drastically??

I've heard about the initial proposals of this commission from my family, and I feel some changes will be detrimental for local residents, in particular the addition of Doxford to my constituency. My daughter lives in Doxford and to think that area, so far away, will be in the same constituency as me seems strange.

There is no real similarity between the two areas, it is not a natural fit to this constituency. Having looked at the plans across the region, changes around Sunderland seem to be driven more by the geography chosen further north than by local ties.

The plan crosses the old Tyne & Wear boundary.

If the changes went ahead, Sunderland council, who my daughter has to consult, has to deal with more MPs and my Easington MP has to deal with more than one council. That will only confuse matters.

I therefore think the changes are not in the best interests of Doxford residents, such as my daughter and her family.

Instead, I think Sherburn ward, just to the west of my constituency, could be added in. This seems a more natural fit.

I disagree with the splitting of Sunderland into so many different constituencies - this doesn't respect the make up of our city.

Doxford is part of Sunderland and should not be moved into a Durham constituency.

I do not believe that our city can be best represented by MPs who are spread. It makes us feel like orphans.

If the city needs rebalancing to meet the numbers requirement then a simple Sunderland North and Sunderland South would be far more preferable.

The constituency looks to be unchanged which is fine but why do you need to erase history by changing the historic name of Easington, which is also the name of the diocese to the name of more modern towns. In my view the name change is totally unnecessary and I suspect pandering to elitism

Parliamentary Boundary Review: Response to the Boundary Commission for England (BCE) proposals for the Easington Constituency

For brevity I have summarised below my response to the BCE proposals as they relate to the current Easington Constituency:

â€¢ I do not support the proposal to extend the boundary of the current Easington Constituency northwards into Sunderland. As an alternative I support Labour's Revised Area Plan to include the wards of Wingate (currently Sedgefield) and Sherburn (currently City of Durham) in the revised Easington Constituency. This proposal meets the BCE requirement to balance the numbers of electors in each constituency

â€¢ I believe the revised constituency boundaries should remain within the current County Durham local authority area, with the revised Easington constituency based wherever possible on the boundary of the former Easington District local authority area

â€¢ The two points above would retain historical, cultural and shared-identity links with the communities within both County Durham and East Durham

â€¢ I strongly reject the BCE proposal to rename the revised constituency the Peterlee and Seaham constituency. In the interests of ensuring an inclusive identity encompassing all the communities in the constituency I would suggest the new name of the East Durham constituency. This would be consistent with the geographical identities of the current North Durham and North-West Durham constituencies, and would also be better recognised as a geographical location within and beyond the North-East region

Appendix 3 – Comments from North Durham Constituency

Comment
The new boundary seems sensible.
<p>Our current inclusion within North West Durham is much more in tune with the close links Dipton and Burnopfield has as opposed to North Durham.</p> <p>As a Dipton local (who has grown up in the Burnopfield/Dipton area) I would class Consett as my local town and I have close community and family links there. North West Durham is my home and any change to the boundaries would be detrimental to my way of life and the local businesses and relationships that make being part of North West Durham a key part of our local identity.</p> <p>Our new MP, Richard Holden, represents the views of our community far more than that of North Durham and as a constituency we voted for him at the general election not the Labour Party that is a representation of North Durham.</p> <p>I would ask that you review the decision to remove our ward from North West Durham and allow us to remain as part of the constituency we hold dear to. I am happy with our current representation and would feel extremely aggrieved as to any change.</p>
<p>Boundaries should not be in the interests of the party that's in power. Boundaries were altered to better suit the Tories. Which is, bias.</p> <p>All Boundaries should receive equal funding. Have equal investment non bias.</p> <p>All parties should be non bias</p>
<p>I have been a Constituency(Voting) member of NW Durham for the last 40 years & wish to remain so.WHY? because for the first time in 4 decades we actually have an MP who is more action than words.In all the time I have been here Richard Holden has done more for this area in the time he has been here than all the other MP's put together in their full terms of office.I have no wish to go back to an MP who does very little for their area & from what I have seen & heard of the present incumbent of North Durham I would have no wish to have him as MP. I have no politics to speak of,this is just a personal preference for a man who gets things done instead of spouting platitudes & getting nothing done. I also do not like people who know nothing of the people and the area affected just pointing to a map & say we will do this that & the other just to balance the books,IF IT ISNT BROKE(& it isnt,)DONT FIX IT!! We have the recommended number of voters,just please leave us as we are!We are happy now!!</p>
<p>I do not support this change to constituency boundaries. I consider this to be gerrymandering and it is not in the best interests of the constituents but is only in best interests of the Tory government.</p>
<p>Why is there a North Durham and a North West Durham?</p>
<p>Looks fine to me.</p>

Please see attached document for full comment and map.

We suggest that "North Durham" is not an appropriate name for a constituency that actually occupies a relatively small part of the north of County Durham and does not actually lie in the far north of County Durham.

We also suggest that "North Durham", though maintaining the naming convention for county constituencies, will be easily confused with the north of the city of Durham.

We do not think that the use of an historic county name is appropriate in this example. Instead our suggested name, "Chester-le-Street and Stanley" refers to the two sizeable towns in the proposed constituency.

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find attached my submission in response to your current consultation.

Could you please confirm that this letter has been safely received?

Thank you for your assistance.

Rt Hon Kevan Jones

Member of Parliament for North Durham

Appendix 3 – Comments from North West Durham Constituency

Comment
<p>The allocation of Willington to Bishop Auckland is plain silly - it splits the local community (Wear Valley - Crook/Tow Law/Willington) and creates a 'bulge' unnecessarily for Bishop Auckland. While I have no affinity to NWDurham it is illogical to produce this artificial division between naturally allied communities.</p>
<p>With Willington being moved to the Bishop constituency it seems a bit forced as if you look there is no proper road connections except some small roads but also feels like its splitting a community. This by splitting crook and Willington, as used to living there they are basically 1 community. With that being said willington holds many labour votes and knwoing now north west Durham is a swing constituency and Bishop being now a safe tory seat, its hard to to say that this may possibly favour the tories as now its easier for them to win northwest Durham now. North west durham i dont think needed any change as it had the perfect amount of population for a constituency.</p>
<p>I'm delighted to be seeing Hunwick join the Bishop Auckland constituency, we are closer (4 minutes away) and definitely feel more akin with that area than any other.</p>
<p>I don't understand why Willington is going to be part of the Bishop constituency . I am quite happy for it to stay part of North Durham. This area has it's own pros and cons which i think is helped better by being part of the Durham constituency.</p>
<p>As North West Durham constituency already has the right number of constituents some of the proposal seem like change for the sake of it. It doesnâ€™t take into account some of the community links and the boundaries seem to have been drawn as a fall out from the starting point. One local change splits the City of Durham in two and moves some communities out of that constituency into our own, even though the physical Geography means those proposed changes make no practical or social sense.</p>
<p>The boundary changes in my constituency do not I feel take into the cultural heritage of County Durham. You are proposing moving Dipton and Burnhopfield out to North Durham. Both villages identify within the Stanley area in NW Durham. Also Witton Gilbert identifies with the city of Durham and does not share the concerns with us in the rural areas.</p> <p>The towns and villages in our area are distinctly different from each other and there are a lot of differences between the rural areas and the more affluent city centre.</p>

As our present constituency is of the correct size, I cannot understand why anything needs to change.

Crook and Willington are very closely aligned, with various groups having worked together for many years. Examples being: AAPs, School catchment areas, Church parishes and circuits, RBL area, Police boundaries, Scouts and Guides groups etc.

Historically the council areas were united having been Crook and Willington Urban District Council, prior to Wear Valley District Council prior to DCC unitary Council. These all show that the 2 towns are used to doing things together.

Distance wise, Crook and Willington are only 2 miles apart, and are nearer than Willington and Bishop Auckland.

I can understand more built up areas being looked to create more regular sized constituencies, but really with rural areas, the population is much more spread out, and in a way 'tribal',

The constituency has also been well represented by the current MP, and many initiatives started by him, will need to continue to be monitored by him in the future.

I think it's disgraceful that Willington is to be made part of the Bishop Auckland.

The people of Crook and Willington share a close community bond, this is heavily due to many of the residents of Crook going to school in Willington at Parkside Academy.

What if a parent had a complaint about the school to the local MP? that resident would have to complain to the North West Durham MP to then pass the message onto the Bishop Auckland MP.

Who ever created this has no idea or knowledge about being local in the area and how much towns rely on each other like Crook and Willington.

Really a senseless change whoever sets the boundaries has definitely not been to the affected areas, we do not want to be changed to bishop Auckland!

I believe Burnopfield should be kept within its original boundary of North West Durham rather than moving into the new area of North Durham. It has long stood as part of North West Durham and I believe the change is unnecessary as our current local area is already within the new guidelines for the sizes of the areas.

I'm not happy being moved to North Durham. We associate ourselves with the countryside / fells and feel our new area is more town orientation.

The bus service between Willington and Bishop is terrible. If it snows or the river floods Willington is cut off from Bishop. By the time the boundaries change Willington would not receive any investment promised from the town partnerships and it's already missed out on money invested in Bishop area, how is that fair?

How would it affect hospital services? Will I still see the neurologist at North Durham, or will I have to get 2/3 busses to Darlington if we change? Willington has flip flopped between Weardale and Bishop Auckland over the years (I know this for a fact as in the general election before the last, Helen Goodman was on our ballot paper not Laura Pidcock) allowing it to be openly neglected for decades.

Now we have an MP that cares [RD:18]. Genuinely disgusted at this proposal and the waste of taxpayer money it is.

I do not agree to changing the boundaries and putting willington under different constituency

It just doesn't make sense that Willington is to be made part of Bishop Auckland constituency. We re so closely aligned with Crook which is NW Durham all this while and still is. . Looking at the new map, Willington looks like it is tucked away at the farthest protruding isolated corner of the boundary lines. That is what is going to happen to Willington in the future if this be true. A forgotten awkward corner of the Bishop Auckland constituency. It doesn't bode well and makes Willington residents feel isolated and forgotten. This is just not right or healthy. It somehow makes Willington resident feels that they don't matter anymore.

The proposals are ludicrous. There is nothing wrong with the system we have and I don't see the point of wasting money making the changes necessary to do this. There are more important things requiring consideration than boundaries.

I understand the reasoning behind the boundary change however we have a very active MP in our community [RD:15]. Changing the boundary removes my democratic vote to someone else who I didn't vote for. Is that even legal?

I am against the proposals.

I am a resident of Willington. This proposal is a waste of tax payers money. The new boundaries would break local ties, it would cause more angst in the people that require to speak the local councillors/mps.

This has massive implications for general public, hardly any of this is published. It could even go as far as affecting school catchment areas and doctor surgeries. (for example would a pupil/ patient in the newly proposed Bishop Area) still be accepted in the old Crook / Willington).

As the boundary seems to run through my house (and DEINITELY through my land) can I choose which constituency to vote in?

Having been resident in NW Durham all my life as well as having worked the entire area in my first career as a police officer and for the last 14 years as CEO of a leisure trust based in willington I find the proposals way off the mark. To separate both willington and crook is flawed. Both areas have been linked for centuries and compliment each other across all sectors. To include Brandon etc to NW Durham these areas are traditional to City of Durham and have no links at all to the area. For example my membership at the centre is almost 50/50 between people from the crook and willington communities with less that 1% from the east side of the constituency. I know this not an issue in terms of boundaries but it does give an indication of how the public link and live. I would make an alternative and in my opinion a more sensible proposal that both crook and willington together with the Brandon areas go to Bishop Auckland. In return based again and community links that Barnatd Castle east and west together with Evenwood move to NW Durham as well as Esh Winning is encompassed into this proposal. The Durham dales thatâ€™s both Weardale and Teesdale have always been strongly linked with each other and this is evidenced by the way the local Area Action Partnerships work and have done for years. Geographically it may be a large area but has been linked together for decades and this can be evidenced in the way that policing of the areas has always taken place. As a resident, worker and someone who is passionate about my area I feel so strongly that the break up NW Durham is a dreadful mistake unless my proposals are given serious though. On that point in terms of local authority seat allocation by my proposal this would maintain the status quo on seats across the area

As a local Cllr for the nearby Lanchester Ward, I am concerned by the proposal to remove Willington from the North West Durham constituency and to break its link with Crook. Crook and Willington have strong community bonds due to their geographic proximity. An example of this is the fact that a large number of children who live in Crook attend Parkside Academy in Willington and there are many other informal community links between the two with people frequently travelling between Crook and Willington for shopping and work purposes.

The proposed boundary changes to North West Durham make no sense whatsoever. The constituency very much identifies as Derwentside, Weardale and the 3 towns of Crook Willington and Tow Law. One of our MPs main projects is to reopen the Derwent line from Newcastle to Consett, much of which is in the current constituency.

In turn Esh Winning, Ushaw Moor Bearpark and Witton Gilbert are very much part of the Durham City area, particularly in terms of the local bus routes while Houghton le Spring is part of the Sunderland area in the same way as well as being outside the county.

The current NW Durham and City of Durham constituencies should remain unchanged, and any population imbalances in the Tyne and Wear area should be adjusted within that area. The same should also apply to Teesside.

The proposals as they stand appear to be nothing more than a gerrymandering attempt to prop up the Labour Party.

Our address has been separated from Durham and awkwardly panhandled onto Bishop Auckland's, with Durham's being shifted eastward towards Sunderland.

I feel this change will lead to a diminishment of reasonable representation due to the socio-economic and geographic links in the area. The collective villages of Brandon, Bronwey, Langley Moor, and Meadowfield form a near continuous developed link with the City of Durham and as a result, stronger links and community with the city centre of Durham as opposed to the more rural setting of Bishop Auckland.

The move toward a more rural representation would not serve or represent the needs of our area and would lead to conflicting view points across the area and a lower quality of representation.

The proposed changes sees NW Durham constituency move borders into Durham City. NW Durham is predominantly rural. The needs of Durham city compared to rural areas such as Consett is so different and makes no sense including the outskirts of the city in a new boundary, whilst omitting areas that all have similar needs and requirements. The current boundary accurately reflects the neighbouring villages and towns with similar needs. To change to the proposed boundary would in my view make it so very difficult for the local MP as they won't be able to represent their constituents fairly.

In the Guide to the 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies document, the Boundary Commission states the following: Rule 5 in Schedule 5 provides for a number of other factors that the BCE may take into account in establishing

a new map of constituencies for the 2023 Review, specifically:

Special geographical considerations, including the particular size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;

Local government boundaries as they existed on 1 December 2020; i. Boundaries of existing constituencies;

Any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies; and

The inconvenience attendant on such changes.

I believe the proposed changes do not meet these tests.

Durham City

The decision to remove several key wards from the City of Durham constituency cannot be supported due to the unique nature of the city.

Durham is the historic county town of County Durham, and is home to a world-class university, a world renowned Norman cathedral with a history of pilgrimage dating back to medieval times, and since 1986 has been home to

a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which recognises the outstanding universal value of the city.

Through a history of shared governance and population growth, the city now encompasses the villages that surround the immediate centre.

In terms of the "flow of life" for people who live in the surrounding villages and divisions, all leisure activities; services; local and national transport links; employment opportunities; religious ties and

places of worship; shopping and studying opportunities are focused inwards towards the city. Every wider, cross-village community link feeds through the city centre.

These proposals amount to splitting a city, which is clearly in breach of Rule 5, Schedule 5

I live in The ward of Witton Gilbert

But in the countryside 3miles from Durham City centre. It would be perfectly possible to keep The City of Durham part of the ward in the constituency.

proposed village move into North West Durham

Boundary Commission trying not to split divisions but it does recognise that this may happen under certain circumstances.

I live in walking/cycling distance of Durham City centre

The Village is right on the edge of the inner areas of Durham City.

Nearest urban area in new constituency would be Langley Park, which would not replace Durham as the focus.

The Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas. I live under 2 miles away.

University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department. Can walk there.

Onward and national transport links are based in Durham (East Coast Mainline; A1)

My children walked to [RD:51]

The majority of children from Witton Gilbert will access secondary or further education within the City of Durham constituency

I have no ties to Consett. Nor do any of my neighbours. Our community connections are all there.

Eg I volunteer at the Foodbank. Use the City Library, go to the dentist, use the market, shop. Etc

Please see the attached letter signed by all Group Leaders on Durham County Council.

I am writing to support the proposed boundary changes. I feel the amount of elected officials currently on the public payroll is excessive and a reduction is long overdue. I have on occasion attended local government meetings and I am amazed by the number of Councillors who, week after week contribute nothing to the discussions. This reform is long overdue and I thank you for your work to streamline the local structures.

I support the changes recommended in the proposals.

I wholeheartedly agree with the changes proposed for the constituency that I reside in. Bringing Willington into the same constituency as is nearest neighbouring town would increase co-operation with the two communities.

Whilst I understand the need to balance numbers of electors I look to Durham City for all my services. I feel Willington is a more natural break for those who look to Bishop Auckland rather than Durham for their services and community.

I think it would be very wrong to separate Willington from Crook.

The 2 have always been classed as 1 community and should stay as such.

This boundary change is harmful to the voters of north west Durham and I oppose it.

Stanhope Parish Council wishes to object to the removal of Willington ward from the North West Durham constituency and the addition of Dere ness ward to the same.

The Parish Council covers the top end of Weardale from the county boundary with Cumbria down to the village of Frosterley.

Something approximating 95% of the current Willington ward is currently within North West Durham while only 10% of Dere ness ward voters is. The effect of swapping these wards would be twofold. First it would break the many and manifest ties that exist between Crook and Willington. The commission ought to take account of local ties and the separation of Willington from Crook in particular, and the upper Wear Valley more generally runs contrary to this.

Second, the North West Durham constituency as presently constituted has two broad but very much linked spheres of influence, the Wear Valley and Derwentside. The removal of Willington and insertion of the whole of Dere ness ward would dilute the Wear Valley aspect of the constituency while adding a introducing a third sphere of influence, that of the city of Durham to which the overwhelming majority of Dere ness ward looks to, in a way the rest of the constituency does not.

As North West Durham is one of the few constituencies to be within electoral quota, we believe these changes to be unnecessary and disruptive. We are very firmly of the view that rural Weardale is best served by the constituency as currently constituted, one that is focussed on the Wear Valley and Derwentside, without almost lapping the fringes of suburban Durham City.

I don't feel it is appropriate to move Willington and Hunwick into Bishop Auckland CC. The majority of our local resources and links are in Crook and under suggested changes, we would then be in different areas. Local primary schools link mainly to schools in Willington and Wolsingham and this proposed change would have these secondary schools in separate areas.

It is disappointing and confusing to see that the boundary proposals plan to move Willington out of the North West Durham constituency and place it in the Bishop Auckland constituency. Willington is deeply connected to Crook and Weardale (both of which are in the North West Durham constituency). The vast majority of children in Crook aged 11-16 go to secondary school in Willington at Parkside Academy. Crook, Tow Law and Willington are connected by the Three Towns Partnership. So many families are spread across Weardale and the north side of the River Wear upon which Crook, Willington and other towns sit. Chopping Willington out of North West Durham makes no sense.

I am against the moving of Willington and Hunwick to Bishop Auckland. Willington has natural links with Crook, schools etc and I can not see the point of changing this now

As a resident of Crook I would like to ask that the North West Durham proposals are reviewed to keep Willington and Hunwick as part of the constituency rather than move it to Bishop Auckland. Since the demis of Wear Valley District Council the areas of Crook Willington and Tow Law have been part of the same Area Action Partnership. Area Action Partnerships are the neighbourhood arrangements put in place by Durham County Council and bring together statutory organisations with members of the community and the VCS. These arrangements have been very successful and many local organisations provide services across all of these areas. These arrangements enable the sharing of skills, expertise and resources.

Willington is the place that young people from Crook go to secondary school and also the medical practices in Crook and Willington have worked very closely throughout Covid. People also travel to ommunity evenets in these areas. This includes events like Big Engine, community carnivals and Christmas Activities. These communities belong together and I would ask that you take the above into accountfor the benefit of all residents.

I disagree with the proposals to move Willington from North West Durham constituency to Bishop Auckland constituency. It goes against all local ties by taking it away from Durham Dales where it has traditionally always sat. Everything about Willington is shared by the dales. It is a rural area and is served by the major road the A66 which runs directly from Durham through Willington to Crook only two miles away and then onto Wolsingham, Stanhope and upper Weardale. People from Willington naturally and traditionally have always aligned with Durham and Crook and the Dales but never Bishop Auckland. Significant effort has to be made to make a detour to Bishop Auckland and for what? There are no decent facilities there. It makes absolutely no sense to pluck one small place out of its traditional home where it sits happily and plonk it in a strange environment with no advantages whatsoever for the area or the inhabitants.

Having been living in Willington for 73 years. We have always been known as north west Durham it would be better for us to stay within it.

Most of the residents use Crook for daily use such as social vistas and shopping

Family also live in that area as crook is only 2 mile compared to Bishop Auckland which is 5 miles and Durham 7.

The main bus service is route 46 Crook to Durham serviced by a double decker bus while

The 106/9 service to Bishop Auckland are a smaller bus

We belong the area crook up the killhope Wheel

Leave us alone
[RD:15]

I think the new proposal to add deer ness and Wilton Gilbert is a great idea to our constituency

For north west Durham

Please see the attached representation on constituency names.

Willington is very much associated with Crook in all matters relating to local government and transport. It would therefore make more sense to retain this area with North West Durham.

Please keep Burnopfield in North West Durham. We uses many of the Consett services and can be better represented by an MP representing the area we are in and where we use services. It is also the correct size so please make adjustments elsewhere. Please keep in mind the local identities of the citizens and where rural communities do their living and working.

I support all the observations made in the section named 6. Conclusions, i.e. items 67 onwards of the Submission of the Conservative Party regarding the Initial Proposals of the Boundary Commission for England for the North East Region

Appendix 3 – Comments from Sedgefield Constituency

Comment
<p>The proposed boundaries proposed for South Stockton included areas which in no way "look" to or are part of "Stockton". Places like Barmpton and Hurworth are clearly linked to the community of Darlington.</p> <p>Yet there seems to be an irrational (or "biased"?) determination NOT to bring in areas to the South of Stockton which are more closely linked.</p> <p>The whole exercise is clearly designed to divide greater Stockton into 2 constituencies which will divide the doors between Labour and Tory</p>
<p>I strongly object to my postcode being in Stockton West. Our local authority is Darlington and we should be in the same constituency as this. Previously we have been in the Sedgefield constituency and this has made no sense as we are governed by Darlington LA and in local council elections we vote on their councillor posts. A constituency should logically include postcodes that pay their local taxes etc to councils in that area.</p> <p>Please put Middleton St George in the Darlington constituency.</p>
<p>I do believe we should remain under darlington as we are only 15 minutes from the town centre.</p>
<p>Middleton St George is 3 miles from Darlington a Borough of Darlington, a village always part of Darlington. It is not in Stockton on Tees and never has been or had an association with this town. There is no logic in placing within the proposed boundary. [RD:12]</p>
<p>The proposed changes are a nonsense. Middleton St George lies three miles from the centre of Darlington. We are in a Darlington post code area and are serviced by Darlington Borough Council.</p> <p>We should be within Darlington.</p>
<p>Middleton St George is currently part of Sedgefield constituency. It is right on the southern boundary and has been overlooked by a number of MPs going back many years.</p> <p>This proposed change will continue to perpetuate this unsatisfactory situation. The village has no historic links to Stockton or to the area of the proposed new constituency. The village is administered by Darlington Borough Council and its links to Darlington have been strong for hundreds of years.</p> <p>For the benefit of the village and its residents, the link with Darlington should be strengthened by it becoming part of that constituency.</p>
<p>Middleton St George and the outer Darlington villages are part of Darlington Council. It makes absolutely no sense for these villages to be part of a Stockton constituency that has no involvement in our villages. I strongly believe the proposals for these boundaries are flawed and would damage representation and cause unnecessary levels of confusion. Middleton St George and the outer villages that are part of Darlington council should be part of the Darlington constituency.</p>
<p>It is absolutely disgraceful to be considered for moving into Stockton. We are near Darlington, but have been in Sedgefield for voting which is nowhere near us. Stockton is also nowhere near us. Please can someone show some logic and common sense and put us in the same district that we pay our rates to?</p>

Middleton St George is a village in Darlington. Previously we were in Sedgefield ward, with Sedgefield itself a 20 odd minute drive from the village (compared with 5 minutes to Darlington centre). Now we are proposed to be in Stockton West Ward which really isn't any improvement at a similar 15-20 minute drive. This makes it very difficult for our local MP to act on issues coming from Darlington Borough Council as there is always a disconnect.

I understand the population cap per seat, but surely this is the opportunity for the various villages east and south of Darlington (Sadberge, Middleton St George, Neasham & Hurworth) to finally be included as part of the Darlington seat, rather than Stockton.

[RD:4]

Never heard so much [RD:4] in my life!

If I wanted to live in a TS postcode I would have moved there in the first place!!!

Please can we just not have this divot and have School Aycliffe in one constituency or the other. It's just silly.

Hurworth on Tees should be in the Darlington constituency. It's ridiculous to put a village just a few miles south of Darlington in a Stockton constituency. Our services, shops, education, transport links, social and medical provision are all based in Darlington.

It's bureaucratic stupidity not to put Hurworth in the Darlington constituency. A Darlington MP is far better placed to understand and represent the people of Hurworth than a Stockton MP.

For years we have been in the Sedgefield constituency, which made no sense. To move us from there to another inappropriate constituency would be crazy.

Please include Hurworth in Darlington constituency as it's our home town.

The village in which I live has no connections of any kind to either Newton Aycliffe or Sedgefield. My village's principal links are to Durham City and currently we are able to vote for an MP that represents Durham City and our village because of the social, physical, historical and economical links between the settlements.

The proposals would take away my current ability to vote in a constituency which is based on clear established links and replace it with a cobbled together constituency based on no social, physical, historical and economic links whatsoever.

I therefore object to the proposals.

As a business located just outside Middleton St George, I do not agree with the boundary redraw putting us in to Stockton West. The Sedgefield constituency is far more appropriate as it is made up of several areas that border Darlington and are affected by decisions this area makes. It would therefore be logical to maintain MSG within this constituency as these areas are represented as a whole more effectively.

For many years, Hurworth, Sadberge and Middleton wards have been in the Sedgefield constituency for electoral purposes but paying council tax to - and having services provided by - Darlington. The proposed new boundaries would move us not into Darlington but into Stockton West, electorally, meaning continued taxation without representation. In my view, we belong in Darlington, as recognised by who we pay our council tax to and where we get council services from (as well as Darlington being geographically, culturally and commercially closer).

Our postcode area (Hurworth) is proposed to move from Sedgefield constituency to Stockton. An absolute ridiculous decision, we presently vote in an area which we have no connection to and you are proposing moving us to another ! Move us to Darlington where we have all our services from! We certainly won't be voting in Stockton elections!

I feel very strongly that it is wrong that Hurworth is not assigned to Darlington area. We pay council tax to Darlington council, all our services are provided by Darlington council, but if we have an issue requiring help from our MP he/she is not the Darlington MP. We have had this issue for years being part of Sedgefield area and I really hoped that any boundary changes would site us in the Darlington area .

I do not want Middleton St George to become part of Stockton West

The South Western boundary of the Darlington constituency should be the A66. The line has been drawn around the current built up area. Extending the boundary will not immediately increase the electorate. If they are developed they will be pockets in another constituency which are geographically disconnected from it by a very busy ring road the A66.

please can I say that, with regards to southern County Durham, the proposals are far better than the ones found in the various stages of proposals in the last review. Obviously, this is in part due to not needing to reduce the seats down to 600, but it's nice to see no contortions like "Aycliffe and Billingham" (two towns with little specific connection) like the final proposal last review.

My current constituency is Sedgefield and I would be in the Newton Aycliffe and Sedgefield proposed constituency. As a lifelong resident of Newton Aycliffe, I feel these changes would be perfectly acceptable. They maintain the core of the current constituency as Newton Aycliffe, Sedgefield, the Trimdons and Ferryhill, and the additions and subtractions are not offensive. All additions are closely connected with the towns in the to-be former Sedgefield constituency -- Eldon and Shildon (with Newton Aycliffe), Kirk Merrington (with Ferryhill and Chilton), Coxhoe and Quarrington (with Ferryhill and Cornforth), Wingate (with the Trimdons), and Ludworth (with Thornley and Wheatley Hill). All have good road connections.

The current constituency of Sedgefield is quite irregular, with villages to the east of Darlington (e.g. Sadberge) having more connections with Darlington and Stockton, than with the rest of the constituency. This proposal rights that.

One comment of note, however. The villages to the west of Newton Aycliffe (e.g. Redworth and Heighington) have far more connections with Newton Aycliffe than they do with Darlington. People from those villages would, in my experience, travel to Aycliffe before Darlington for shopping, employment, doctor's appointments, school, etc. I understand taking them would more-or-less necessitate taking the whole of the Heighington & Coniscliffe ward, but this is just a note.

I may also specifically stress the strange anomaly of the southern part of School Aycliffe, a village in Newton Aycliffe's sprawl, being an "exclave" from the rest of the proposed Darlington constituency. No direct road connections (other than the boundary road) or specific tie with Darlington. Again, this is down to the wards and the silly authority boundary. In this case, however, for the presumably inconsequential number of electors and tiny area of this half-village, a ward division would be sensible in this situation.

Finally, I will add that the name of the constituency is excellent. The name Sedgefield for this part of the county has historical precedence, but the town of Newton Aycliffe has been its main population centre for many decades now. It has always been bizarre when the constituency has been in the national news --e.g. 2019 election, Tony Blair's premiership-- and the town is given as the only representation of the constituency, presumably because of the name. Hopefully this new name will fix that.

Thank you for reading, hopefully these comments give you confidence in the proposals laid out.

I support the proposed new Constituency of Newton Aycliffe & Sedgefield. The proposal retains the historical name plus gives prominence to Newton Aycliffe. The Boundaries are clear and distinct and does not split up any communities. It is a good all round solution well done.

I wish to remain in the Darlington/Sedgefield constituency as that is where I live and pay my Rates.

Any issues that may arise need to be addressed by an MP elected by those living in the area related to the services and amenities they have paid for.

Again, on a national level, local interests can only be served by an MP elected as above.

I object to the proposal that the area of Hurworth should be once again be used a make-weight in the balancing act used to determine parliamentary constituencies. This is not good enough and generally leads to rural areas being used as make=weights for the urban areas.

Hurworth and surrounding areas is part of the Darlington area, we pay our community charges to Darlington, planning applications are made to Darlington, rubbish and recycling is carried out by Darlington. The PCC comes under Co Durham. How many more areas are we to fall under for our bureaucratic governance?

Being part of Sedgefield is bad enough! if you're going to change things make it more logical to show that there are some benefits to the population and not just the number crunchers of the Boundary Commission for England!

Hurworth is right next to Darlington and we pay our council tax to Darlington Borough Council. It would make sense that we are in Darlington constituency. I could never really understand why we were in Sedgefield constituency and to now change and move us to Stockton just does not make sense.

Middleton st george is apart of darlington. Why would it change from sedgfield to stockton west. Leave it alone

How can hurworth place be in the same constituency as Stockton, we are 4 miles away from Darlington,our bins etc are collected by Darlington borough council and we have nothing to do with Stockton or there issues or the area around Stockton and wouldnâ€™t want a vote for Stockton mp

I wholeheartedly disagree with the proposal of moving the boundaries, this means we will have an MP based further away from their constituency, we already have issues with DBC having a council based further away will

Not help matters. I believe this is a ploy to be Abel to build

More housing in the Hurworth/ Darlington area under a different constituency.

Please re think this proposal.

I disagree with the changes

Instead of taking Coxhoe ward from the City of Durham constituency, the Newton Aycliffe and Sedgefield constituency should instead keep Wingate ward and take the entirety of Blackhalls ward. This would preserve existing constituency ties, as Wingate ward and part of Blackhalls ward are part of the existing Sedgefield constituency, and Coxhoe would remain part of the City of Durham constituency, where it has closer ties to.

Copt Hill ward should then be transferred from the proposed boundaries for the City of Durham constituency to Seaham and Peterlee, as this would ensure that all three of the aforementioned constituencies are within the statutory electorate range after these changes are made.

School Aycliffe is split into 2 by the boundary, surely it would be better to set the boundary outside the village so the whole village falls into one or the other.

With Middleton St George being in the borough of Darlington Borough Council it has always seemed strange that the towns MP doesn't always represent the residents of the area.

For instance if issues happen with the locks authority then the towns MP should be able to deal with this direct , not one who technically links to another local authority

I am pleased that Coatham Mundeville is finally being included in Darlington constituency. I have long been annoyed by the fact that all my services come from Darlington & I pay my Council Tax to Darlington yet have never had a say in the MP elected to represent my constituency. For very many years I have had to place my vote in Sedgefield constituency with always feeling it was a waste of time as it was rank Labour! I'm pleased we now have a Conservative MP but feel if all the surrounding areas of Darlington had been included in their boundaries Darlington would have been Conservative much longer than it has been! My home is within the boundaries of my home town & look forward to now being able to have my say in the elections.

Firstly, I believe the village of Wingate should be included in the proposed Aycliffe and Sedgefield Constituency. The considered reasoning for this suggestion, is that Wingate is naturally joined to the Trimdons and Deaf Hill village grouping.

Secondly, I believe that the proposed Constituency should simply be called Aycliffe Constituency. Newton Aycliffe is one of the largest towns in County Durham. The proposed Constituency's name should reflect this.

Revert name to Sedgefield, which has been the name of the district and constituency for over 100 years.

It's just to make sure the Tories win more seats. Adding rural areas to traditionally tight constituencies to make a Tory win inevitable. Just another example of the corruption in this country by the Tories. It will just mean even more people don't vote, why waste your time when the outcome is manipulated to be inevitable.

I strongly oppose to the changes, we will loose our area identity, I haven't found or been given any acceptable reasons for the wasteful changes. There is no advantage to our community.

I strongly disagree we are wearside not tyneside and I want to be represented by an elected person from wearside. You are destroying our identity. Leave us where we are or at least in punt Durham never tyneside. Whose out on every major development when it comes to tyne and Wear. The metro and transport improvements links are always aimed at tyneside. Please leave us where we are.

We have all waited for a long time to see which constituency in the North East of England would be abolished. This was long thought to be the Sedgefield seat. If the Sedgefield seat was going to be divided up into parts and given to neighbouring constituencies then there might have been some sense in giving Hurworth and Middleton St George to a Stockton seat. But Sedgefield is to continue in another form after all.

There is therefore no point at all in giving Hurworth and Middleton St George to any Stockton seat.

The preferable solution would be to give Newton Aycliffe to the Darlington parliamentary constituency area and then split Darlington into two constituencies one of which would incorporate Middleton and Hurworth.

This is much fairer and more accurately reflects the fact Newton Aycliffe is a large dormitory town for Darlington. This would also allow the disappearance of the Sedgefield constituency as Newton Aycliffe is the largest area of population in the Sedgefield parliamentary seat. The total number of constituencies would remain the same. If two Darlington constituencies would not reach the required 69,724 electors I would suggest an electoral registration campaign drive to increase the number of electors in the area. Some people are not registering to vote. As communities along the A167 to the West of Darlington such as Gainford identify with Darlington and shop in Darlington redrawing the Darlington parliamentary constituency boundary westward should increase the number of electors to reach the required minimum 69724 electors for two Darlington constituency seats.

I feel being included in sedgefield and Newton aycliffe new boundary would benefit us greatly as being attached to Durham city boundary has limited our inclusion in council services and we pay over Â£3000 in council tax and receive poor value for money, ie no road repairs, fighting for winter grit deliveries, no recycling . We receive the fortnightly bin collection which is an excellent service. Thank you to our refuse collectors . I also feel we have been railroaded over any environmental issues we raise in relation to poor/excess water due to the building of Amazon at integra 61 and the NWA facility at Bowburn.

The ward of Hurworth which comprises the parish councils of Hurworth and Neasham lies to the south of Darlington. It is an enclave which under the proposed changes is almost completely surrounded by Darlington CC to the north and Richmond Yorks CC to the south. We feel strongly, that it is inappropriate for the Hurworth Ward (which includes Neasham) to be designated as part of the Stockton West Parliamentary Constituency, with whom there is no affinity. The Hurworth/Neasham ward has a long history of involvement with Darlington on local matters. As local issues often play a large part in Parliamentary constituency elections, we feel that it is only right that Hurworth/Neasham should be part of the Darlington constituency.

I live less than 3 miles from Darlington town centre, my address is Darlington, our issues are specific to Darlington.

Why would I want to be represented by an MP representing Stockton? The current state of affairs whereby we are represented by a Sedgefield MP is bad enough but at least Sedgefield is a lot closer than Stockton which is 14 miles away.

Just make the Darlington wards larger to represent Darlington people!

I understand the need to rebalance constituencies in light of changing numbers; but numbers are not the main thing that matters to the general public - where we identify with is much more important to us. For example, the village of Hurworth identifies much more with Darlington than Stockton.

No, no, no. Bowburn is part of Durham City. Durham City is less than 10 minutes away from Bowburn and what happens in Durham impacts us directly. Do not lump us in with Sedgefield. We are not Sedgefield.

Not a good idea. Bowburn is very close to Durham so why move it out of the Durham Council area, just idiotic. Why haven't you thought about making the boundary the A1? Whoever thought about this doesn't really know what is going on.

I am extremely against being included in the Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield catchment, especially considering the proximity of Bowburn to the centre of Durham itself.

My main issue is how can it be sensible to be included within this area, when Sedgfield isn't even a Durham postcode? It is a completely different area whereby the majority of people I know who live there would classify themselves as more concerned with Teesside, their closest town is Stockton which is almost a 20 to 30 minute drive, as apposed to Durham City centre which is within walking distance.

I genuinely feel like this line has been very poorly drawn considering the size of Durham, its influence on the local area and the disconnect between us here in the Durham villages to the Sedgfield and Newton Aycliffe areas. It makes no sense at all.

I am writing with regard to the village of Middleton St George (which is a parish on its own, and which is also in the Ward of Sadberge and Middleton St George).

But I also write with regard to all the villages surrounding the Borough of Darlington, and which come under its authority and whose services are provided by the Borough of Darlington.

The Boundary Review (2023) Initial Proposals document states:

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.

It was recognised in the last Review (2018) that there were reasons why it made no sense for the villages surrounding Darlington (and coming under Darlington Borough Council for services, etc.) to be within a Sedgfield Constituency, but rather to be in Darlington Constituency.

The Initial Proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in the North East (2018 Review) stated, at paragraph 38: Our proposed Darlington constituency retains 17 wards of the existing constituency. We have been able to include in this constituency the remaining wards of the Borough of Darlington. Therefore, our proposed Darlington constituency is coterminous with the borough boundaries.

I agreed fully with those recommendations, and spoke at the hearing giving my reasons.

(I attach a copy of my submission to the hearing held in Darlington during the last Review).

The Final Conclusions of that 2018 Review retained the initial proposals for Middleton St George and the other villages surrounding Darlington – i.e. that they should be in Darlington Constituency.

Therefore, the starting point for considering the villages in this current Review (2023) should be that they should be within Darlington Constituency, not Sedgfield Constituency.

The proposals in the current Review (2023) suggest bringing only Heighington and Coniscliffe into Darlington Constituency, and not the other villages surrounding Darlington. The Initial Proposals document states that Darlington currently has an electorate of 66,729, so the addition of Heighington and Coniscliffe Ward would bring it within the permitted electorate range, extending the Darlington constituency to the boundary with County Durham (which would bring the number up to 70,446).

Yet excluding the other villages of Hurworth, Sadberge and Middleton St George from this grouping, and instead allocating them to a new “Stockton West” constituency does not make sense. There is no connection between these villages and Stockton. They should be included in Darlington, along with Heighington and Coniscliffe.

New legislation states that constituencies must have no fewer than 69,724 electors and no more than 77,062.

Adding the following

Hurworth 2,978

Sadberge and Middleton St George 5,074

Would bring the total up to 78, 498, which is 1,463 above the maximum figure of 77,062.

However, the Guide to the 2023 Review states, at paragraph 35: “By way of illustration, the BCE would prefer to identify a constituency that had, say, a 4% variance from the UK electoral quota, but which respected local ties, in preference to an alternative that produced a constituency with only a 1% variance, but which would split communities.

Including the villages of Hurworth and Sadberge and Middleton St George (an increase in 1,463) would be well within the 4% variance of the required 77,062 (which would be 3,082), and closer to a 2% variance (1,541).

Therefore, given the valid reasons set forth above and attached why all the villages surrounding Darlington (as a group) should be within Darlington Constituency, and not separated in any way, then I would strongly proposed that, as such, Darlington Constituency should be regarded as coming within the provision of said 4% variance, in order to respect local ties and prevent the split of communities.

Such considerations would also respect the fact that they would all still come under the Combined Tees Valley Authority.

Given also the fact that Middleton St George always seems to have been “in no man’s land” in terms of parliamentary constituency, paragraph 37 of the Guide to the Review appears to address this.

37 Where it is necessary to have a constituency that crosses a local authority boundary, the BCE will generally seek to avoid having a single “orphan” ward from a local authority isolated in a constituency. This is to avoid the perception (if not the reality) that the residents of that ward – and the local authority of which it remains a part – may be considered less important than the remainder of the constituency by its MP

So, by including Middleton St George (and Sadberge, and Hurworth) as well as Heighington and Coniscliffe within Darlington Constituency, our village(s) will no longer be "orphans" in this sense.

Middleton St George should be part of Darlington not Stockton. It is Darlington Borough Council, it has a Darlington postcode. It has strong historical links to Darlington. I object to this proposed change.

I have lived in this area for almost 50 years and in that time we have been Gerrymandered 3 times. 1. Darlington. 2. Bishop Auckland. 3. Sedgefield. In all that time, with the exception of living in the Darlington Constituency, we have never seen or been helped by our MP. Be it Labour or Conservative.

Yet once more here we are again about to be pushed into yet another Constituency that means nothing to us. Once again we are on the perimeter of some God forsaken new Constituency.

Whether this is once again to break up the votes or whatever else you can come up with, I have decided that enough is enough and after voting at every election, both General and Local I will no longer bother.

I pay my rates etc to Darlington and I can vote for my Darlington Councillors and yet I am unable to vote for a Darlington MP.

Historical Middleton St George has always been linked to Darlington 2.5 miles away and not part of Stockton some 10 miles away. Boundary change should include villages of Sadberge, Middleton St George as part of Darlington in the proposed changes

Middleton St George should not be part of Stockton. The village is part of Darlington Borough Council's area and has deep connections with the town.

It is the largest commuter area into Darlington.

The people of Middleton St George have a recognizably Darlington accent and do not have a Teesside (Stockton) accent, nor do they use the same dialect.

An MP who represented the area highlighted would find many conflicts of interest across from north to south. It would be unfair to expect them to represent such a differing area effectively.

We should be in Darlington, we pay council tax to Darlington and we have always been considered part of Darlington.

I do not believe that Middleton St George should become part of Stockton West I believe Middleton St George has too many historical ties to Darlington it forms part of our community.

I pay council tax to Darlington, I have a Darlington post code and Darlington appears in my address therefore we should stay under Darlington Council and the boundary should stay the same.

I buy a Darlington and district bus ticket to get to work. I am entitled to use Darlington Waste Disposal site and not Stockton's. Would all this change if we are lumped in with Stockton and would we be charged for Stockton Council services on our council tax bills as well as Darlington's?

Middleton St George (MSG) is geographically and socially more in sync with Darlington and Richmond Yorks. Middleton St George provides dental care, schooling, and fulfils other local needs for these areas and has little to no relation to Stockton. It is therefore ill-fit to be within this proposed constituency. Residents will feel a sense of alienation and dislocation from their constituency as MSG is simply too far West and does not bear much connection to Stockton. Residents tend to socialise and work more in Northallerton and Darlington, and therefore both North Yorkshire (preferably Richmond North Yorks.) and Darlington would be better constituencies for the area where residents would feel more motivated and feel more included and represented in local politics.

I believe that our constituency should be Darlington. All our links, eg public transport, refuse collection, council tax, councillors, education etc come from Darlington. Surely our MP should be well versed in all of this. It makes sense for local authorities to mirror parliamentary constituencies (or vice versa). I've never understood why we are, at present, in Sedgefield constituency.

This doesn't make sense..we should be in Darlington..we have no say or activity with Stockton at all

Middleton st George is closer to Darlington, it has always been thought of as part of Darlington and should not need to change. The train station in the village is one stop from Darlington and a lot further away from Stockton.

Why on earth would anyone from any village under Darlington BC (even thuo unless) would want Stockton BC. I can't see any benefit in doing this for the villages other then for Stockton councillor's?? Madness

You have cut out a large part of Yarm Road that contain no houses, so no residents - and placed them in Stockton. Makes no sense at all. Should be a boundary with the road (the A66 bypass) would make more sense. Can't believe this! If the boundaries are changing to reflect how many residents there are in a county council, why would you cut out industry and businesses that have no residents in those areas.

Document attached.

Sedgefield and Newton aycliffe are not representative of the village that we live in. We are an ex mining village with closer ties ties peterlee and seaham. Presently, our representation is not in line with the general views of the local community in our village. This is difficult when the local people are voting one way, but huge other parts of the boundary ar evoking in a completely different way. When your local mp does not represent you because the village is outweighed by the votes of 2 towns, this does not spread to be a fair system

I cannot see any rational justification for amending the boundary of Stockton South to include Darlington satellite villages such as Hurworth and Middleton St. George. Perhaps you could explain it? Unlike Thornaby, those places are remote from and bear little physical or cultural relationship to the main urban area of Stockton, Yarm, Ingleby Barwick etc. and as indicated, are strongly related to Darlington and logically fall within the same administrative and postcode district. Those villages also have relatively small populations which is unlikely to make much difference to the electoral population in the event of removing Thornaby and its 25,000 residents presumably to support the numbers in Middlesbrough. Further to that, I do not recall the Teesside conurbation of Stockton, Middlesbrough and Redcar ever being carved up in this way and again I do not see the justification for it, i.e that it cannot sustain 4 or 5 constituency MPs within the conurbation and its East Cleveland hinterland given that the population is stable, albeit growing more rapidly in the west. If however there is insufficient population within the urban area to sustain 5 MPs, then the logical solution is to merge a couple eg Redcar and MSEC if boundary changes do not cut it. There is certainly no need to extend the reach of Stockton South as the population here is approx 200,000 and is steadily increasing and has been

for decades.

I agree with all the changes, they look good. But what about poor Piercebridge surely it should be in Darlington especially as it is linked to the parish of Coniscliffe

I support the proposed changes listed by the Conservative party for the North East as a whole and for Darlington in particular.

I disagree with proposed boundaries. Thornaby should remain Thornaby.

I consider that the name should be Sedgefield and Newton Aycliffe not as proposed.

Sedgefield is a more established name, 700 years old, Newton Aycliffe is post war.

An example in County Durham is Seaham and Peterlee CC

As a Councillor on Darlington Borough Council I represent the Ward of Hurworth which includes the rural villages of Hurworth, Neasham and Low Dinsdale located on the South side of Darlington. It is very important to the residents of Hurworth that their views are taken into consideration; the documents outlining the proposed boundary changes clearly state that the review process will be heavily informed by public consultation.

Hurworth are currently part of the Sedgefield Parliamentary constituency and the proposals are now to move them into the new Stockton West constituency. The residents along with the Parish Councils of Hurworth and Neasham strongly object to these proposals.

The residents of Hurworth identify only with the constituency of Darlington as this is the Local Authority area to which they pay their Council Tax and receive all their local community services. It is the name of the Borough in which they live, shop, spend their leisure time, send their children to school and for a large part also work.

Hurworth is located to the South of Darlington and aligns better with the Darlington boundary than with the Stockton West boundary.

The actual numbers specified in terms of upper and lower limits could still be met if all of Hurworth was to be included within the Darlington boundary.

The residents of Hurworth feel that for the last 30 years their voices have not been heard and that they have been treated with indifference under the existing boundaries and clearly this needs to change.

For this review to be meaningful it needs to focus on the real lives of the constituents and not just on line boundaries and parameters set by the Commission.

The proposed new name of Stockton West is not acceptable. If some of the Darlington wards were to ultimately be included within this new boundary then it could equally well be renamed Darlington East. (or something more reflective of all the combined Stockton and Darlington wards.

My Post Code is A Darlington Post code NOT a Stockton one why confuse it and us in relation to a constituency Why ?

As a former member parliament for the Sedgefield constituency, I would like the Commission to consider changing its proposal for the Newton Aycliffe & Sedgefield constituency by admitting Tudhoe, Coxhoe and Durham South to the existing Sedgefield wards in the new constituency while excluding Shildon & Dene Valley, while also excluding Wingate. I understand the lose of Wingate because of the need to keep the size of the constituency within paramtere set by the number of electors.

Although this proposal means dividing the town of Spennymoor, it will also include Tudhoe in with other wards such as Ferryhill and Chilton. All of which were once together in the Sedgefield constituency. There is a historic connection between them.

This amendment to the original proposal will keep the electorate within the proscribed limits. All aspects of the new constituency will be accessible because the constituency is more compact than the existing Sedgefield constituency, with ready access to all parts via the A1, which runs through the centre of the constituency, north to south, while trunk roads such as the A167, A689 and A177 allow easy accessibility via road, although the bus network in county Durham is not what it should be, but that would remain a problem whatever the configuration of any new constituencies in the county would be.

My amendment to the boundary commission's proposal does not split wards. It, I believe, takes into consideration historic factors, including the length of time many of the wards have been part of the same constituency, although I understand that the driving factor in all of this is to trying an equalise the size of constituencies.

I also understand my proposal for the new Newton Aycliffe and Sedgefield constituency could impact on other constituencies in County Durham, and indeed further afield, but I want the proposal to be considered as I believe it could be the best outcome for the area I once represented.

In the Guide to the 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies document, the Boundary Commission states the following:

Rule 5 in Schedule 5 provides for a number of other factors that the BCE may take into account in establishing a new map of constituencies for the 2023 Review, specifically:

â€¢ Special geographical considerations, including the particular size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;

â€¢ Local government boundaries as they existed on 1 December 2020;

â€¢ Boundaries of existing constituencies;

â€¢ Any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies; and

â€¢ The inconvenience attendant on such changes

I believe the proposed changes do not meet these tests.

Durham City

â€¢ The decision to remove several key wards from the City of Durham constituency cannot be supported due to the unique nature of the city.

â€¢ Durham is the historic county town of County Durham, and is home to a world-class university, a world renowned Norman cathedral with a history of pilgrimage dating back to medieval times, and since 1986 has been home to a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which recognises the outstanding universal value of the city.

â€¢ Through a history of shared governance and population growth, the city now encompasses the villages that surround the immediate centre.

â€¢ In terms of the "flow of life" for people who live in the surrounding villages and divisions, all leisure activities; services; local and national transport links; employment opportunities; religious ties and places of worship; shopping and studying opportunities are focused inwards towards the city. Every wider, cross-village community link feeds through the city centre.

â€¢ These proposals amount to splitting a city, which is clearly in breach of Rule 5, Schedule 5.

Brandon Division " proposed move to Bishop Auckland constituency

â€¢ This division is not separate from the city.

â€¢ The proposals put forward by BCE split the city, and instead include this division in the Bishop Auckland constituency, with which it has no links whatsoever.

â€¢ Secondary school pupils have to leave their constituency to go to school and those who may travel to school in the Deerness division, will cross two constituencies to get to school.

â€¢ Those students who attend New College, the Durham Sixth Form Centre or Durham University would also need to leave their constituency to do so.

â€¢ The city centre would remain the focal point for leisure activities, with Langley Moor effectively a five-minute bus journey from the city centre.

Under the proposals, should someone in the Brandon Division wish to access services in their new constituency, this would require a five to ten minute bus journey out of their constituency, to then take a less frequent, 45 minute bus journey back into their constituency to Bishop Auckland.

Onward and national transport links are all based in Durham (East Coast Mainline; A1)

University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department).

Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

There is a history of shared governance between Brandon and Durham City, dating back to the formation of the City of Durham Council in 1974.

No evidence that ties with the Bishop Auckland constituency would develop over time, as rest of constituency would be too remote.

Councillors on Charter Trustees Committee for the City.

Deerness Division – Proposed move to North West Durham constituency

At the eastern point, Deerness it reaches right to the edge of the city, bordering the A167. This is also part of the city.

Although this division contains a secondary school, many pupils from across the division use other schools across the existing City of Durham constituency.

Pupils attending Durham Sixth Form Centre or New College will have to leave their constituency to study.

There is little in the way of regular and direct public transport links to the rest of the North West Durham constituency, leading to a constituent requiring constituency-based services leaving and re-entering their constituency to do so.

The bus routes that lead from this division into the city are well-defined and well-used.

Onward and national transport links are based in Durham (East Coast Mainline; A1)

Leisure activities would also remain focussed on the City of Durham as the nearest urban centre. The nature of the North West Durham constituency (mainly a rural constituency) means that there is no obvious, nearby urban centre that would replace Durham City.

Any attempt to reach leisure services in the new constituency would require a journey through Durham.

Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department.

There is a history of shared governance between Deerness and Durham City, dating back to the formation of the City of Durham Council in 1974.

â€¢ Councillors on Charter Trustees Committee for the City.

â€¢ No evidence ties with new constituency would grow over time.

Coxhoe Division â€” proposed move to Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield constituency

â€¢ Division contains Bowburn which is part of the city

â€¢ The bus routes that lead from this division into the city are well-defined and well-used.

â€¢ Children from the division will likely attend secondary schools in a different constituency than the proposed Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield constituency.

â€¢ Onward and national transport links are based in Durham (East Coast Mainline) or within the division (A1).

â€¢ University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department.

â€¢ Leisure activities would also remain focussed on the City of Durham as the nearest urban centre. The nearest urban area in new constituency would be Sedgfield.

â€¢ Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

â€¢ The bus routes that lead from this division into the city are well-defined and well-used.

â€¢ Councillors on Charter Trustees Committee for the City.

â€¢ No evidence ties with new constituency would grow over time.

Witton Gilbert â€” proposed village move into North West Durham

â€¢ Boundary Commission trying not to split divisions.

â€¢ It does recognise that this may happen under certain circumstances.

â€¢ Village right on the edge of the inner areas of Durham City.

â€¢ Nearest urban area in new constituency would be Langley Park, which would not replace Durham as the focus.

â€¢ Village is equidistant between Langley Park and the city centre.

â€¢ Arnison Centre, Durham City Retail Park and City Centre would remain the main shopping areas for this division.

â€¢ University Hospital of North Durham (UHND) would remain the main centre for health services and the only nearby Accident and Emergency department. Can walk there.

â€¢ Onward and national transport links are based in Durham (East Coast Mainline; A1)

â€¢ The majority of children from Witton Gilbert will access secondary or further education within the City of Durham constituency

Hetton, Houghton and Copt Hill â€” proposed move into the City of Durham constituency

â€¢ Only strong existing link to these divisions is a road link (A690)

â€¢ No shared history with the city in living memory

â€¢ Public services, leisure, transport and health services are likely to be accessed in Sunderland

â€¢ No real education links to Durham

â€¢ Communities similar to each other, but not similar to Durham

â€¢ Electorally difficult â€” who would be the returning officer for elections.

East and West Newbiggin Parish Meeting is part of the Middleton St George Ward and these residents are currently part of the Sedgefield Parliamentary constituency; the proposals are now to move them into the new Stockton West constituency.

East and West Newbiggin residents object to these proposals .

The residents of East and West Newbiggin identify only with Darlington as this is the Local Authority area to which they pay their Council Tax and receive all their local community services. Darlington is the name of the Borough in which they live and work. They wish to feel a valued part of the Darlington community and this cannot be achieved if they are moved to the constituency of Stockton West.

The residents clearly wish to be part of the Darlington constituency which aligns with the Darlington Local Authority boundaries.

The residents of East and West Newbiggin feel that for the last 30 years their voices have not been heard . The review should be based on the wishes of the electorate and not simply an exercise based on numbers.

The new name of Stockton West is not acceptable; it does not reflect in anyway the current proposal for the inclusion of the two Darlington wards.

Suggestions for a name change include the following:-

Darlington East

Darlington East and Yarm

Darlington Tees Valley

Hello, I wish to register my views on the 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies " particularly the proposed new Stockton West constituency.

I live in Sadberge, County Durham and our present constituency is Sedgefield. This constituency is primarily a rural one of many villages and a few, but no large, towns.

Sadberge is a rural village with commanding views of the surrounding countryside " Teesside and the Cleveland Hills lay to the east, with the Vale of York stretching to the south, the Durham plateau rises to the north and the Yorkshire Dales to the west. There have been settlements on the site since Roman and Saxon times.

In Anglo-Saxon times its geographical position being on a north/south and east/west crossroads, gave further rise to its significance. Sadberge was a "Saxon Wapentake" - land was held by military service. Until the 12th Century it was a totally independent community until it was incorporated by the Bishop of Durham into the County Palatine of Durham, keeping its independence from any other town. It also had judicial power, governing its own affairs, with its own "Assize Court". The last Assizes were recorded in 16th Century.

There are a few facts I would like to bring up concerning your Developing proposals " requirements and policy:-

1) 26. Rule 5 in Schedule 2 provides for a number of other factors that the BCE may take into account in establishing a new map of constituencies for the 2023 Review, specifically:
special geographical considerations, including in particular the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;
any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies; and the inconveniences attendant on such changes.

Sadberge, although in the Sedgefield Parliamentary Constituency, is under the administrative jurisdiction of Darlington Borough Council.

Sadberge is much closer to Darlington and is more affiliated to it. There is little connectivity to Stockton at all.

Although the Stockton to Darlington Railway was the first passenger railway in the world, nearly 200 years ago, in 1825, there has been no direct passenger railway from Darlington to Stockton for decades. The nearest railway station to Stockton from Darlington would be Thornaby – a 1.6 mile journey by bus or walking to Stockton’s administrative and shopping centre. There are two main roads that take the route towards Stockton for a car or bus journey, but none directly to the heart of the town. Indeed, it is over 12 miles to get to Stockton from Darlington by bus, but with no stops between, even though the road (A66) passes the village’s two entrances from that road. The other road passes through 5 miles of countryside before it reaches the outlying suburbs of northern Stockton, with another 4 miles to reach the centre of Stockton. The major road, the A66, doesn’t go into Stockton, it by-passes it on the way passing green fields to Middlesbrough, the nearest exit slip road to Stockton is 1.5 miles from the High Street.

It is no wonder then that residents of Sadberge have more of an affinity with its closest town – Darlington. There are five major supermarkets in Darlington closer than the nearest one in Stockton-on-Tees, Darlington Memorial Hospital is nearly 2 miles nearer than the North Tees Hospital of Stockton (and that’s only because it is on the outskirts of Stockton). With no direct access to public transport most school pupils and college students travel into Darlington for their education.

I am sure that most of these facts are in contradiction to the Special geographical considerations in the Review’s Developing proposals – requirements and policy – items below:-

26.The BCE considers that special geographical considerations that may have an impact on the ability to form a constituency with an electorate within the statutory electorate range will primarily relate to physical geography such as mountains, hills, lakes, rivers, estuaries, islands, and major roads, rather than to human or social geography. Matters of culture, history, socio-economics and other possible aspects of non-physical geography are more likely to arise as issues when considering the separate factor of –local ties–.

27.that do not contain –detached parts–, i.e. where the only physical connection between one part of the constituency and the remainder would require travel through a different constituency.

28.Where it is necessary to have a constituency that crosses a local authority boundary, the BCE will generally seek to avoid having a single –orphan– ward from a local authority isolated in a constituency. This is to avoid the perception (if not the reality) that the residents of that ward – and the local authority of which it remains a part – may be considered less important than the remainder of the constituency by its MP.

As I said there is no connectivity with Sadberge and Stockton-on-Tees, I hold nothing against Stockton – I was born and brought up there – but an MP (of any party or persuasion) in an urban situation as Stockton would have little in common with outlying rural areas such as Sadberge, seven or eight miles away from the edge of town (as the crow flies). Sadberge will have issues to deal with that are totally different to the requirements of Stockton’s residents. Our present Member of Parliament has quite a number of rural communities in his constituency which are managed well because of the similar nature they have with each community.

Sadberge does not want to be, or need to be, another outlying garden estate of a conurbation with a contradictory ethos.

Thank you for reading this, I would appreciate an acknowledgement of its receipt, thank you.

**Appendix 4: Counterproposal for County Durham, South
Tyneside & Sunderland**

Appendix 4 – Counter Proposal for County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland

I set out below my observations on and proposed changes to the Commission’s Initial Proposals for the North East Region.

Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland

I support the Commission’s proposals for the constituencies within this sub-region.

As only 45% of the electorate of the Newcastle upon Tyne North constituency lies within the City of Newcastle, with the remaining in North Tyneside Borough, I propose that it is renamed. I suggest Gosforth and Longbenton, being the main communities within each of the respective metropolitan boroughs.

County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland

As pointed out by the Commission, the configurations of the proposed constituencies of Jarrow and Sunderland West, and Washington and Sunderland South West are not ideal. One justification for this is that Sunderland Central can remain unchanged. However, this constituency currently straddles the River Wear, with the wards of Fulwell, St Peter’s and Southwick to the north of the river and the remainder to the south of it. I therefore believe that breaking up Sunderland Central would improve the layout of constituencies in the City of Sunderland.

Consequently, I propose the following changes to the Commission’s proposals:

- the three wards mentioned above to be added to a South Shields and Sunderland North constituency;
- the South Tyneside wards of Biddick and All Saints, Simonside and Rekendyke, West Park, and Whiteleas to be included in the Jarrow constituency;
- the City of Sunderland wards of Castle, Redhill and St Anne’s to be retained in the Washington and Sunderland and West constituency;
- only the ward of Shiney Row to be transferred to Washington and Sunderland West; and
- the wards of St Chad’s, Sandhill and Silksworth now to be added to Sunderland Central which would be renamed Sunderland Central and South.

The revised electorates as a result of these changes are:

- Jarrow – 70,268
- South Shields and Sunderland North – 70,024
- Sunderland Central and South – 71,092
- Washington and Sunderland West – 76,036

As the City of Durham constituency now extends into the City of Sunderland metropolitan borough, comprising 40% of its electorate, I propose renaming it to City of Durham and Houghton-le-Spring.

Gateshead

I concur with the proposals for the two constituencies in the Gateshead sub-region.

Tees Valley

As discussed by the Commission, the town of Thornaby-on-Tees is split between two constituencies. Ideally, the Village ward should also be included in the revised Middlesbrough constituency. However, given the constraints of the very low average constituency size in this sub-region, it is not possible to do this. Even if this sub-region is combined with the County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland sub-region by including the ward of Sedgfield in one of the Stockton constituencies, it would be very difficult to construct viable constituencies without completely re-drawing the proposed constituency boundaries.

Therefore, I support the proposals for the Tees Valley sub-region.

Appendix 5: Counterproposal for the whole region from members of the public

My submission covering entirety of North East region and that alone can be found in the attached document.

I am a lifelong resident of the Linthorpe part of Middlesbrough. I would like to present my proposal for how to redraw the parliamentary Boundary in North East England while ensuring I following rules and paying attention to the guidelines. I feel my plan is an improvement on your initial proposals as reduces the number of different consistencies wards from one local authority are in, splits less towns and similar entities, more naturally expands consistencies and better follows the minimum change guidelines. I accept the last two are more subjective.

This is a plan that tries where possible to keep smaller towns and larger suburbs intact. I have in general kept urban areas with the electorate of large suburbs intact too. I suspect many of my plan's advantages and disadvantages are caused by this.

To make sentences more concise I have said minus ward when either part or the whole of the ward is in the current consistency.

While this not the precedent, I feel when the part of a consistency associated with one part of name is much smaller than the other a 'with' should be used instead of an 'and'. This convention is present in university degree names and Blackburn with Darwen council. However, in my opinion it should be done sparingly considering all factors, not just town size but whether the name represents a much larger part of consistency. For reference note, Cramlington and Long Benton and South Shields with Jarrow.

I have included maps along with my submission created boundary assistant for which I rightly and happily give following credits.

Leaflet | ©OpenStreetMap contributors

Boundary data © Ordnance Survey. Copyright and database right 2010-2020

Map data © 2021 Google

Design © 2020 Kevin Larkin

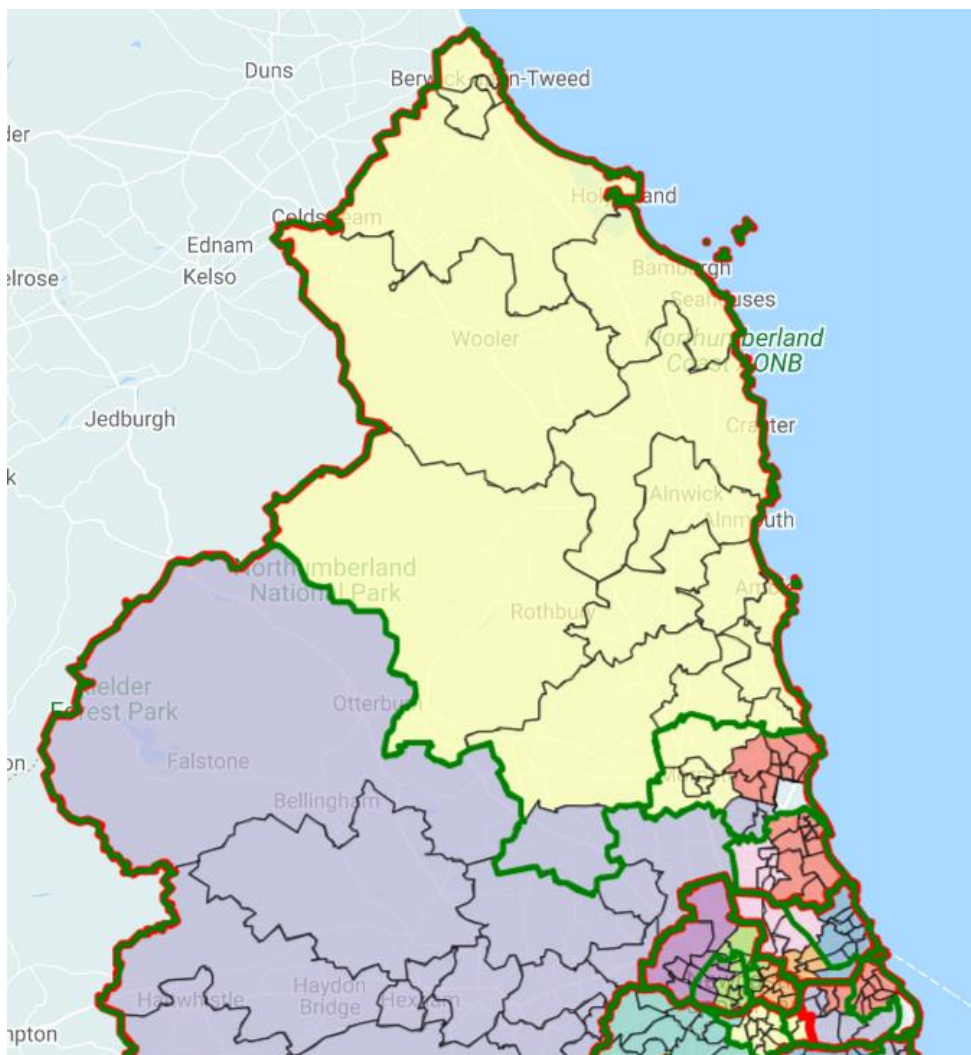
Colouring denotes my proposed consistency. I have decided to leave the wards I plan to spilt blank as I am not sure exactly where to spilt wards as I have not been able to access a polling district map. So, while I have suggested how I would like to spilt the ward, if that way is possible in text, I decided to not map it.

Berwick and Morpeth- Current Berwick plus 3 Morpeth Wards and the rest of 'Longhorsely' and 'Pegswood' wards.

Hexham and Bedlington- Current Consistency plus Bedlington wards and the rest of 'Ponteland north' ward. More electorate is still needed so my preference is splitting 'Sleekburn' ward with south west of the ward in this consistency (which appears to be part of Bedlington town), whilst East and West Sleekburn and rest of the ward is placed Blyth and Ashington. Options avoiding ward splits are possible with maybe the best being, (but I lack local knowledge) to add Choppington ward but that appears to spilt Guide Post between consistencies.

Blyth and Ashington- The rest of Northumberland County Council area excluding wards with Cramlington in their names.

Cramlington and Longbenton- Consists of Cramlington wards plus 'Weetsdale', 'Longbenton', 'Camberdown', 'Benton', 'Killingworth' and 'Valley'. I am no way attached the second half of name, let the locals decide



Tynemouth- It is the current consistency minus 'Valley' plus 'Riverside'

Newcastle East and Wallsend- Remaining North Tyneside council wards plus 'Manor Park', 'Heaton', 'Walkergate', 'Walker', 'Byker' and 'Ouseburn'

Newcastle Central and Gosforth- 'Parklands', Gosforth Wards, Jesmond Wards, 'Wingrove', 'Monument', 'Arthur's Hill' and 'Elswick'

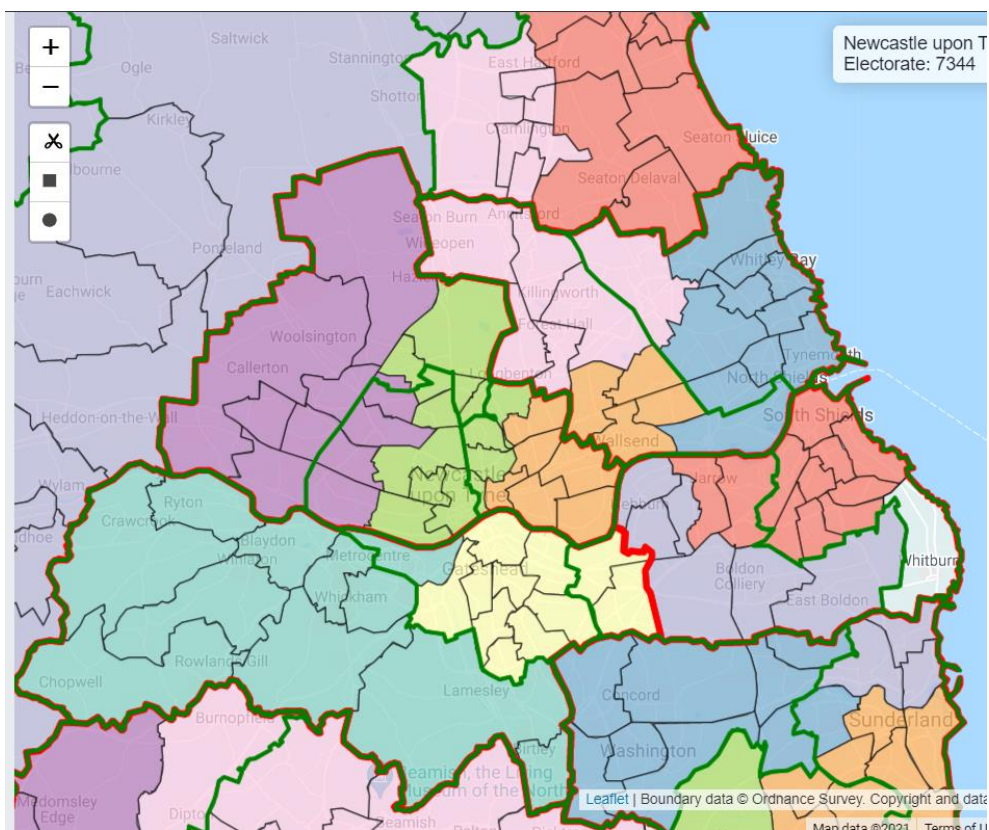
Newcastle West- Remaining Newcastle council area wards. Newcastle seems to be place with options. As I lack local knowledge, consider well-reasoned plans from those, with local knowledge and that consider what's best for Newcastle as whole over mine. My plans were picked as they keep the consistencies compact and keep Gosforth and Jesmond together but does spilt High Heaton.

Blaydon- As your initial proposals

Gateshead- As your initial proposals

South Shields with Jarrow - As Current consistency plus 'Primrose' and 'Bede' minus Whitburn Part of 'Whitburn and Mardsen' Ward.

Sunderland North, Boldon and Hebburn- The rest of South Tyneside Council area plus 'Fulwell', 'Southwick' and 'St Peters'.



Washington and Sunderland West- As current consistency plus either 'Pallion' or 'Sandhill', I lean towards the former.

Sunderland South- The rest of Sunderland proper, see below if there is any confusion.

Houghton-le-Spring and Seaham- Houghton-le-Spring area of the Sunderland council area ('Shiney row', 'Houghton', 'Copt Hill', 'Hetton') plus 'Seaham', 'Deneside', 'Dawdon', 'Murton', 'Easington' and 'Shotton' and 'South Hetton'

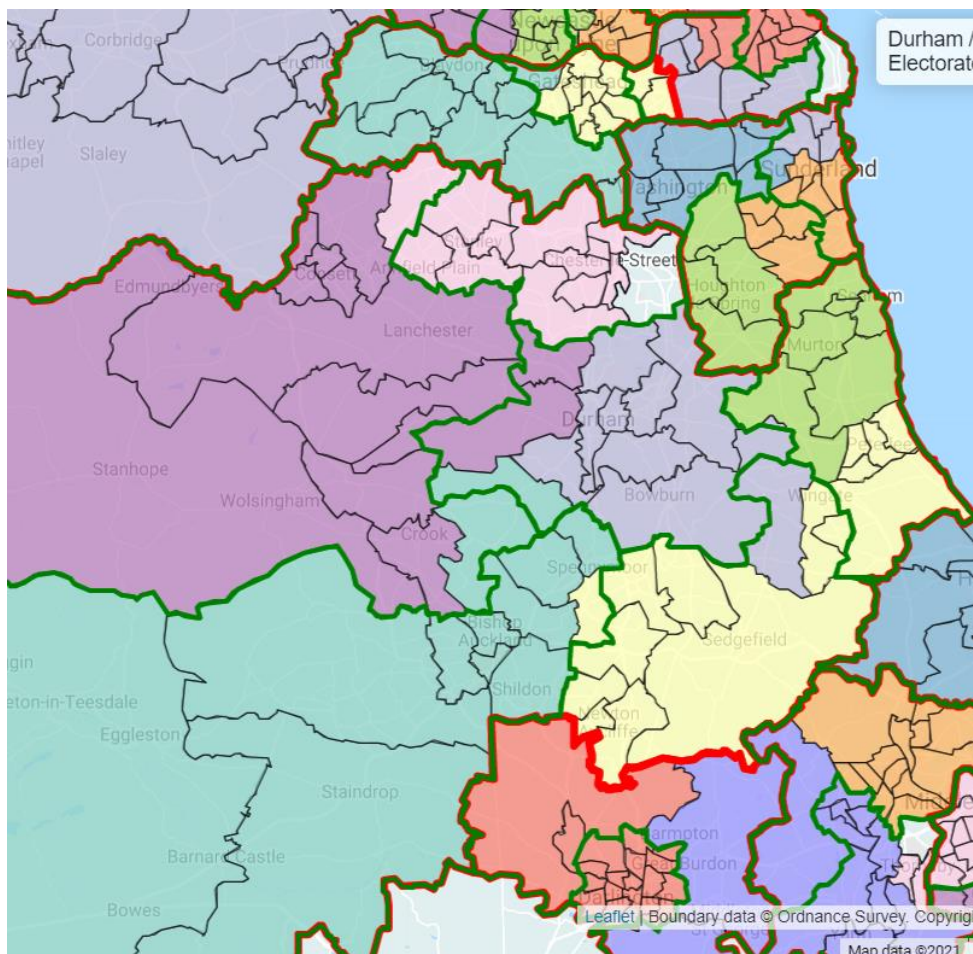
North Durham- As current plus 'Burnopfield and Dipton' minus part of 'Lumley' ward. Specifically Great Lumley and hopefully everything south of Lumley Park Burn would not be in this consistency while Bournmoor would.

North West Durham- As current minus 'Willington and Hunwick' and 'Burnopfield and Dipton' plus the rest of 'Deerness' and 'Esh and Witton Gilbert'

Bishop Auckland- Same as Current plus 'Willington and Hunwick' minus 'Ferryhill'.

City of Durham- As current minus 'Deerness' and 'Esh and Witton Gilbert' plus part of 'Lumley' ward that is not in North Durham

Sedgefield and Peterlee- Rest of County Durham Council wards. Sedgefield in name refers to the former district not the town.



Hartlepool- As current seat and initial proposals

Darlington- As initial proposals

Stockton South West, Yarm and Ingleby Barwick- My preference is for it to be like the current Stockton South minus 3 Thornaby wards plus 'Western Parishes', 'Hurtworth' and 'Sadberge and Middleton St George'. Name reflects that much of consistency does not have affinity with the name Stockton. For why I prefer this arrangement to your initial plan see the next consistency.

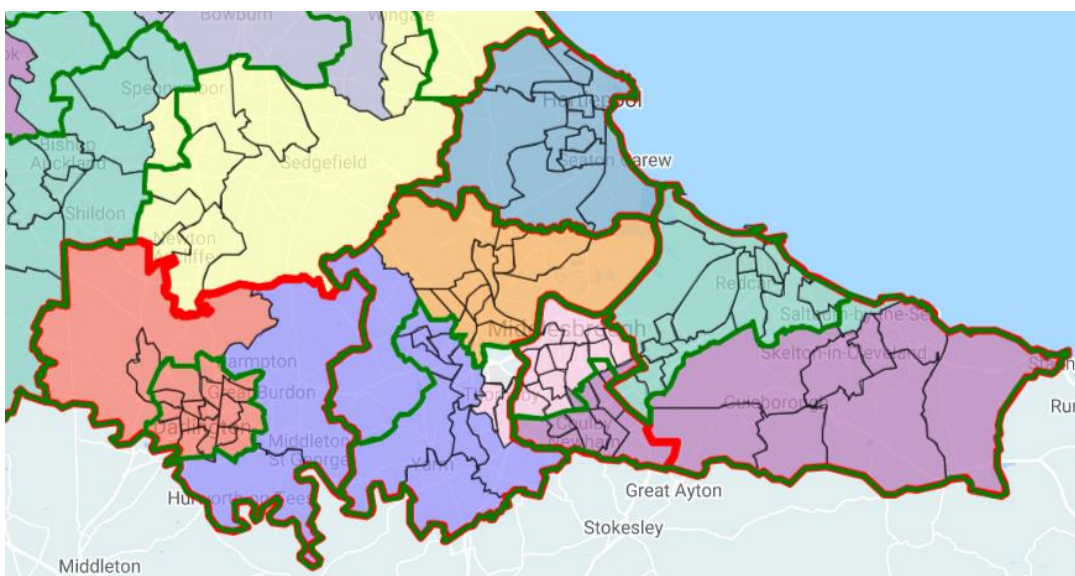
Stockton North East and Billingham- Current Consistency minus 'Western Parishes' plus most of 'Mandale and Victoria'. I have accepted unless the regional boundary is crossed by far the best option is to spilt Thornaby. I feel my plan means the Pavillon (the town centre shopping centre) is not forming a consistency boundary and instead Stockton Town centre and parts of Thornaby that are somewhat of a continuation of it are in same consistency (to be clear aware this only describe a small part of 'Mandale and Victoria' even less once you consider the electorate).

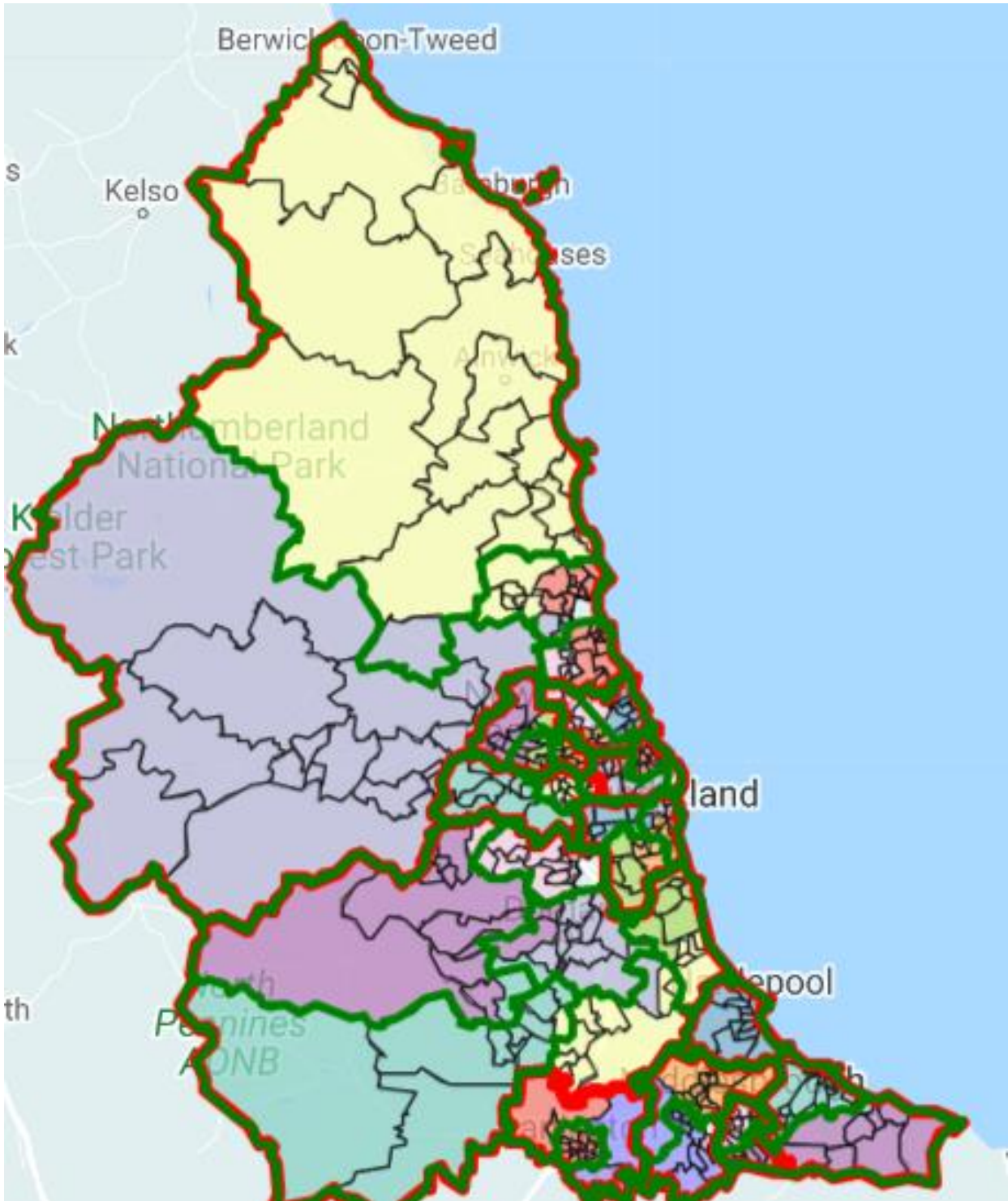
Middlesbrough and Thornaby

Current Middlesbrough consistency minus 'Ladgate' and 'Park End and Beckfield' plus the rest of 'Berwick Hills and Pallister' and rest of Stockton council area. I say rest as this and the next seat works whether you go with the initial or my proposals for the rest of Stockton council area.

Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland- As the current consistency, minus 'Saltburn' and 'Berwick Hills and Pallister' plus rest of 'Ladgate' and 'Park End and Beckfield'.

Redcar- As current plus 'Saltburn'





Thankyou for reading my submission, apologies for any grammar issues or other places where I could have written my submission better. I tried to sort these out but I have probably missed some. I hope my suggestions have been beneficial. However, my desire is having the best drawn consistencies within rules whether I have had a hand in it or not.

Appendix 6: Counterproposal for the whole region from members of the public

The attached document 'Initial Proposal BCE Submission' contains my general comment for the North East region. It sets out where I agree/disagree with the Commission, why, and any counter proposals made as a consequence. The attached document 'North East Plan Map' contains my counter proposal made using Plan Builder.

Northumberland, Newcastle, North Tyneside and Gateshead

I agree with the Commission on the inclusion of Morpeth in the successor to the 'Berwick upon Tweed' constituency. The town is well connected to the rest of the constituency through the A1 road. However, I disagree with the removal of Longhorsley ward. Morpeth is a hub for the small villages in this ward and therefore has strong local ties. Furthermore, the Southfields estate of Morpeth is within Longhorsley ward so Morpeth would be divided between 2 constituencies under the Commission's initial proposal. It would also alter existing constituency boundary when doing so is not necessary.

I support the proposed boundaries for 'Blyth and Ashington', 'Whitley Bay and Cramlington', and 'Tynemouth'. They ensure that local ties are not broken through the splitting of towns. Furthermore, the Tynemouth' constituency is an improvement on the existing boundaries as it reunites North Shields within 1 constituency. My only suggestion for improvement is renaming 'Tynemouth' as 'North Shields and Wallsend'. North Shields is around 4 times larger than Tynemouth itself and would be a more accurate name for that half of the constituency. Wallsend covers the other half and is the largest settlement within the constituency so should certainly be included in the name.

I broadly agree with the Commission's proposals for Newcastle and Hexham area but some changes are needed to better protect local ties. I support the proposed 'Newcastle upon Tyne North' except for the inclusion of 'Castle' ward. Castle includes the northern half of Kingston Park which would leave the community split between 2 constituencies, thereby breaking local ties. Instead, I would include 'Dene and South Gosforth' in 'Newcastle upon Tyne North' to stay within quota. This would protect local ties in Kingston Park. Furthermore, it would strengthen local ties by reuniting Gosforth within 1 constituency, and the Benton Park View area also has strong ties to the Longbenton area already within the proposed constituency (for example, employment at the DWP and HMRC sites).

As a consequence, 'Newcastle upon Tyne East' is under quota and gains 'Elswick' ward. This is a natural fit as the area is adjacent to the city centre and part of Elswick is already within the Commission's proposed 'Newcastle Upon Tyne East' constituency so would protect local

ties better. My proposed 'Newcastle' upon Tyne West' is largely based on the Commission's proposal but with the aforementioned changes in the Kingston Park and Elswick area to better reflect local ties. It also gains 'Arthur's Hill' ward from 'Newcastle upon Tyne East' to unite the Fenham area within one constituency which improves local ties. The inclusion of 'Arthur's Hill' also allows the constituency to stay within quota when it loses 'Lemington' ward to 'Hexham' constituency. This is necessary to keep Hexham in quota having lost Longhorsley ward to 'Berwick and Morpeth' (which as previously explained includes part of Morpeth and should be in the latter constituency). It is acceptable to include Lemington in 'Hexham' constituency as the area is separated by the A1 road from most of Newcastle and has good local ties to the adjacent Newburn/Throckley area which is already included in the proposed 'Hexham' constituency. I would also suggest renaming the constituency 'Hexham and Ponteland' as the 2 main settlements are of similar size and including the latter would better reflect the fact the constituency now includes part of Newcastle upon Tyne (Ponteland is on the border).

I fully agree with the Commission's proposals for 'Blaydon' and 'Gateshead' constituencies. They achieve minimum change to the existing constituency boundaries and do not unnecessarily split local government boundaries. Furthermore, 'Dunston and Teams' is the correct ward to include in 'Blaydon' constituency as it unites all of Dunston within 1 constituency and alternative wards all include more core parts of Gateshead town which would cause greater harm to local ties.

South Tyneside, Sunderland and Durham

The Commission's proposals for the Sunderland and South Tyneside area needs fundamental change. They split the city itself 4 times as well as splitting the Houghton area and having an unnecessary River Wear crossing. I believe my counter-proposal better reflects the criteria. My 'South Shields' constituency swaps the Cleadon/Whitburn area for the north eastern part of the Commission's proposed 'Jarrow and Sunderland West' constituency. This better reflects local ties by uniting the Simonside area within 'South Shields' constituency and uses local geography (the A19 road and River Don) as the boundary between the 2 constituencies. My 'Washington and Hebburn' constituency takes in Washington as well as Hebburn/core Jarrow. These are clearly defined local communities and this constituency proposal ensures that small parts of the city of Sunderland are not included in largely Jarrow/Washington based constituencies.

I am therefore proposing only 2 constituencies taking in the city of Sunderland. 'Sunderland North' covers the city centre, the city north of the River Wear, and the Cleadon/Whitburn area. These areas are all linked to each other, with the latter largely commuting territory for Sunderland. 'Sunderland South' then covers the rest of the city of Sunderland itself. This is a

clear improvement on the Commission's proposals as it keeps the city of Sunderland itself within only 2 constituencies rather than 4, thereby protecting local ties. It also better reflects local geography as it eliminates the proposed River Wear crossing in the 'Jarrow and Sunderland West' constituency.

Following on from this, my proposals involve significant change within the Durham area which I believe better reflects the criteria. First, I propose a 'Chester le Street and Houghton' constituency. This protect local ties within Houghton, as opposed to the Commission's initial proposal to split this area. I then propose a 'Consett and Stanley' constituency based on the 2 eponymous towns. These 2 towns form a geographically compact constituency that have bus services ensuring good transport links within the constituency. This is in contrast to the proposed 'North West Durham' constituency which puts Consett in a constituency with the Deerness and Weardale valley's which it has very little local ties to and has weaker transport links with.

My proposed 'City of Durham' constituency takes in the city itself along with some villages to its west. These villages such as Lanchester and Witton Gilbert have greater local ties and better transport links with the city of Durham than they do with the rest of the Commission's proposed 'North West Durham' constituency. This is also true of the Brandon area immediately adjacent to the city which the Commission proposes be included in a 'Bishop Auckland' constituency which is largely south of the River Wear and stretches all the way to the Yorkshire border. My proposal also prevents the division of the Houghton area and causes much less change to the existing 'City of Durham' constituency.

I then propose a 'Teesdale and Weardale' constituency covering Bishop Auckland and the Teesdale and Weardale valley's. Compared to the Commission's proposals, this keeps Weardale in 1 constituency. Weardale also has better local ties through physical geography and transport links to Bishop Auckland than it does to Consett or the Deerness valley in the Commission's proposed 'North West Durham'. Furthermore, it keeps the 'Shildon and Dene Valley' ward in a constituency with Bishop Auckland which reflects the strong ties that Shildon has to Bishop Auckland as well as the fact that part of the ward (the Southchurch area) is part of the Bishop Auckland urban area. This leaves a South Durham based 'Newton Aycliffe and Spennymoor' constituency. This keeps all of Spennymoor Town Council in 1 constituency (The Kirk Merrington area was already within the Commission's 'Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield' constituency) and allows for Shildon to remain in a constituency with Bishop Auckland. Finally, the existing 'Easington' constituency expands to take in the Trimdon/Wingate area. This is an improvement on the Commission's proposal to include an orphan ward from Sunderland council as it splits no local government boundary and does not include a small part of the Sunderland community in an otherwise east Durham based constituency.

Teesside

I fully support the proposed Hartlepool constituency. It ensure no change from the existing constituency, respects local government boundaries, and doesn't split any local ties. I also support the Commission's boundary proposals in Darlington and Stockton. However, I would keep the 'Stockton South' name rather than the proposed 'Stockton West' as the constituency still largely covers the southern part of Stockton town as well as the south of Stockton Council.

Finally, the Commission proposes an unnecessary amount of change in the Middlesbrough/Redcar area. The Commission's proposed 'Redcar and Eston' seat makes an unjustified foray into Middlesbrough Council area when it could instead just take in 'Saltburn' ward. This would prevent the crossing of a local government boundary as well as lower the amount of change from the existing 'Redcar' constituency (which should retain its current name). The existing 'Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland' constituency then just needs to gain 'Longlands and Beechwood' ward from Middlesbrough and is also now in quota. I would also change its name to 'Middlesbrough South and Guisborough', as the latter is the largest village in the constituency and more clearly states where the constituency is than the vague 'East Cleveland'. These changes leave 'Middlesbrough' constituency to take in most of Thornaby as the Commission similarly proposes. The constituency name should be changed to 'Middlesbrough Central' to reflect the fact that the seat does not cover all or even nearly all of the eponymous town.

Conclusion

In summary, I believe the Commission has made a good start in the majority of the North East region but some significant alterations are still needed. The Commission's proposals for Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside are largely acceptable, with only modest ward swaps needed to better reflect local ties and geography along with a couple of constituency names changes. The Gateshead proposals are already correct and should not be altered. The South Tyneside, Sunderland and Durham areas require much greater change. The Commission's initial proposals have very significant deficiencies in protecting local ties and local government boundaries. My counter proposal does a better job in meeting the criteria, particularly in the Sunderland area. Finally, the Commission's proposed boundaries in western Teesside are correct, while those in eastern Teesside need some changes to better reflect local government boundaries and existing constituency boundaries.

planname	planconstnumber	planconstname	planconstelect	primauthcd	primauthnm	wardcode	wardname	electorate
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009131	Longhorsley	3732
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009093	Alnwick	8072
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009094	Amble	4017
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009095	Amble West with Warkworth	3506
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009097	Bamburgh	3587
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009102	Berwick East	3398
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009103	Berwick North	3442
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009104	Berwick West with Ord	3171
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009118	Druridge Bay	4268
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009132	Longhoughton	3547
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009139	Norham and Islandshires	3649
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009151	Shilbottle	4435
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009158	Wooler	3559
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009135	Morpeth North	4025
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009140	Pegswood	4263
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009136	Morpeth Stobhill	3619
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009134	Morpeth Kirkhill	4413
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009148	Rothbury	4128
NorthEastPlan1	1	Berwick and Morpeth	76273	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009133	Lynemouth	3442
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009105	Bothal	3835
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009096	Ashington Central	3375
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009098	Bedlington Central	3831
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009099	Bedlington East	3269
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009100	Bedlington West	3792
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009107	Choppington	3530
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009108	College	3578
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009121	Haydon	3484
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009126	Hirst	3313
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009137	Newbiggin Central and East	3611
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009149	Seaton with Newbiggin West	4063
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009152	Sleekburn	3365
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009155	Stakeford	3544
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009130	Kitty Brewster	4871
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009138	Newsham	3573
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009153	South Blyth	3733
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009141	Plessey	3305
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009129	Isabella	3136
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009110	Cowpen	3159
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009117	Croft	3128
NorthEastPlan1	2	Ashington and Blyth	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009157	Wensleydale	3957
NorthEastPlan1	3	Cramlington and Whitley Bay	74510	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009120	Hartley	3929
NorthEastPlan1	3	Cramlington and Whitley Bay	74510	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009127	Holywell	4038
NorthEastPlan1	3	Cramlington and Whitley Bay	74510	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009150	Seghill with Seaton Delaval	4748
NorthEastPlan1	3	Cramlington and Whitley Bay	74510	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009111	Cramlington East	3150
NorthEastPlan1	3	Cramlington and Whitley Bay	74510	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009114	Cramlington South East	3767
NorthEastPlan1	3	Cramlington and Whitley Bay	74510	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009115	Cramlington Village	3610
NorthEastPlan1	3	Cramlington and Whitley Bay	74510	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009112	Cramlington Eastfield	3940
NorthEastPlan1	3	Cramlington and Whitley Bay	74510	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009113	Cramlington North	4069
NorthEastPlan1	3	Cramlington and Whitley Bay	74510	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009116	Cramlington West	4480

NorthEastPlan1	3	Cramlington and Whitley Bay	74510	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001129	St Mary's	7162
NorthEastPlan1	3	Cramlington and Whitley Bay	74510	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001124	Monkseaton North	6989
NorthEastPlan1	3	Cramlington and Whitley Bay	74510	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001134	Whitley Bay	7250
NorthEastPlan1	3	Cramlington and Whitley Bay	74510	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001125	Monkseaton South	7593
NorthEastPlan1	3	Cramlington and Whitley Bay	74510	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001131	Valley	9785
NorthEastPlan1	4	North Shields and Wallsend	76984	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001120	Cullercoats	7551
NorthEastPlan1	4	North Shields and Wallsend	76984	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001130	Tynemouth	8374
NorthEastPlan1	4	North Shields and Wallsend	76984	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001119	Collingwood	8360
NorthEastPlan1	4	North Shields and Wallsend	76984	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001118	Chirton	7672
NorthEastPlan1	4	North Shields and Wallsend	76984	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001128	Riverside	8120
NorthEastPlan1	4	North Shields and Wallsend	76984	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001115	Battle Hill	8002
NorthEastPlan1	4	North Shields and Wallsend	76984	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001121	Howdon	7798
NorthEastPlan1	4	North Shields and Wallsend	76984	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001127	Preston	6646
NorthEastPlan1	4	North Shields and Wallsend	76984	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001132	Wallsend	7442
NorthEastPlan1	4	North Shields and Wallsend	76984	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001126	Northumberland	7019
NorthEastPlan1	5	Newcastle East	70138	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011459	Walkergate	8417
NorthEastPlan1	5	Newcastle East	70138	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011458	Walker	6970
NorthEastPlan1	5	Newcastle East	70138	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011439	Byker	6406
NorthEastPlan1	5	Newcastle East	70138	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011455	Ouseburn	6819
NorthEastPlan1	5	Newcastle East	70138	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011448	Heaton	8106
NorthEastPlan1	5	Newcastle East	70138	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011452	Manor Park	7201
NorthEastPlan1	5	Newcastle East	70138	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011457	South Jesmond	6878
NorthEastPlan1	5	Newcastle East	70138	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011454	North Jesmond	6990
NorthEastPlan1	5	Newcastle East	70138	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011453	Monument	5594
NorthEastPlan1	5	Newcastle East	70138	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011445	Elswick	6757
NorthEastPlan1	6	Newcastle North	72437	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011447	Gosforth	7889
NorthEastPlan1	6	Newcastle North	72437	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011446	Fawdon and West Gosforth	7309
NorthEastPlan1	6	Newcastle North	72437	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011456	Parklands	8924
NorthEastPlan1	6	Newcastle North	72437	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001123	Longbenton	8194
NorthEastPlan1	6	Newcastle North	72437	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001116	Benton	7869
NorthEastPlan1	6	Newcastle North	72437	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001122	Killingworth	8823
NorthEastPlan1	6	Newcastle North	72437	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001117	Camperdown	7787
NorthEastPlan1	6	Newcastle North	72437	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001133	Weetslade	7979
NorthEastPlan1	6	Newcastle North	72437	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011443	Dene and South Gosforth	7663
NorthEastPlan1	7	Newcastle West	74788	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011461	Wingrove	7344
NorthEastPlan1	7	Newcastle West	74788	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011437	Benwell and Scotswood	7770
NorthEastPlan1	7	Newcastle West	74788	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011460	West Fenham	7129
NorthEastPlan1	7	Newcastle West	74788	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011444	Denton and Westerhope	8693
NorthEastPlan1	7	Newcastle West	74788	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011442	Chapel	7524
NorthEastPlan1	7	Newcastle West	74788	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011450	Kingston Park South and Newbiggin Hall	7055
NorthEastPlan1	7	Newcastle West	74788	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011438	Blakelaw	6630
NorthEastPlan1	7	Newcastle West	74788	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011449	Kenton	7336
NorthEastPlan1	7	Newcastle West	74788	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011441	Castle	9313
NorthEastPlan1	7	Newcastle West	74788	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011436	Arthur's Hill	5994
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011440	Callerton and Throckley	7048
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009142	Ponteland East and Stannington	3796
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009143	Ponteland North	3901
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009145	Ponteland West	3480
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009144	Ponteland South with Heddon	3387
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009124	Hexham East	3519

NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009125	Hexham West	3270
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009128	Humshaugh	3452
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009154	South Tynedale	3980
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009123	Hexham Central with Acomb	3428
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009122	Haydon and Hadrian	3645
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009119	Haltwhistle	3756
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009109	Corbridge	3398
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009106	Bywell	3724
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009147	Prudhoe South	3984
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009146	Prudhoe North	4240
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009156	Stocksfield and Broomhaugh	3893
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009101	Bellingham	3105
NorthEastPlan1	8	Hexham and Ponteland	76304	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011451	Lemington	7298
NorthEastPlan1	9	Blaydon	74066	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001072	Crawcrook and Greenside	6917
NorthEastPlan1	9	Blaydon	74066	E08000037	Gateshead	E05009313	Chopwell and Rowlands Gill	6884
NorthEastPlan1	9	Blaydon	74066	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001088	Winlaton and High Spen	6853
NorthEastPlan1	9	Blaydon	74066	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001068	Blaydon	7197
NorthEastPlan1	9	Blaydon	74066	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001082	Ryton, Crookhill and Stella	6957
NorthEastPlan1	9	Blaydon	74066	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001086	Whickham South and Sunniside	6539
NorthEastPlan1	9	Blaydon	74066	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001085	Whickham North	6349
NorthEastPlan1	9	Blaydon	74066	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001075	Dunston Hill and Whickham East	6755
NorthEastPlan1	9	Blaydon	74066	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001074	Dunston and Teams	6259
NorthEastPlan1	9	Blaydon	74066	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001078	Lamesley	7229
NorthEastPlan1	9	Blaydon	74066	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001067	Birtley	6127
NorthEastPlan1	10	Gateshead	70553	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001071	Chowdene	6867
NorthEastPlan1	10	Gateshead	70553	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001080	Low Fell	7064
NorthEastPlan1	10	Gateshead	70553	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001079	Lobley Hill and Bensham	6880
NorthEastPlan1	10	Gateshead	70553	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001069	Bridges	5968
NorthEastPlan1	10	Gateshead	70553	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001083	Saltwell	5936
NorthEastPlan1	10	Gateshead	70553	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001073	Deckham	6336
NorthEastPlan1	10	Gateshead	70553	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001076	Felling	5653
NorthEastPlan1	10	Gateshead	70553	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001077	High Fell	6041
NorthEastPlan1	10	Gateshead	70553	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001087	Windy Nook and Whitehills	7150
NorthEastPlan1	10	Gateshead	70553	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001084	Wardley and Leam Lane	6138
NorthEastPlan1	10	Gateshead	70553	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001081	Pelaw and Heworth	6520
NorthEastPlan1	11	Washington and Hebburn	74715	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001177	Washington West	8810
NorthEastPlan1	11	Washington and Hebburn	74715	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001175	Washington North	7935
NorthEastPlan1	11	Washington and Hebburn	74715	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001174	Washington East	9090
NorthEastPlan1	11	Washington and Hebburn	74715	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001173	Washington Central	8550
NorthEastPlan1	11	Washington and Hebburn	74715	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001176	Washington South	7837
NorthEastPlan1	11	Washington and Hebburn	74715	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001144	Hebburn South	7026
NorthEastPlan1	11	Washington and Hebburn	74715	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001143	Hebburn North	7175
NorthEastPlan1	11	Washington and Hebburn	74715	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001146	Monkton	6350
NorthEastPlan1	11	Washington and Hebburn	74715	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001141	Fellgate and Hedworth	5717
NorthEastPlan1	11	Washington and Hebburn	74715	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001147	Primrose	6225
NorthEastPlan1	12	South Shields	70117	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001136	Bede	5839
NorthEastPlan1	12	South Shields	70117	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001148	Simonside and Rekenydyke	6325
NorthEastPlan1	12	South Shields	70117	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001150	West Park	5481
NorthEastPlan1	12	South Shields	70117	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001149	Westoe	6122
NorthEastPlan1	12	South Shields	70117	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001135	Beacon and Bents	6753

NorthEastPlan1	12	South Shields	70117	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001145	Horsley Hill	6898
NorthEastPlan1	12	South Shields	70117	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001142	Harton	6680
NorthEastPlan1	12	South Shields	70117	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001140	Cleadon Park	5889
NorthEastPlan1	12	South Shields	70117	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001152	Whiteleas	6364
NorthEastPlan1	12	South Shields	70117	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001137	Biddick and All Saints	6453
NorthEastPlan1	12	South Shields	70117	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001138	Boldon Colliery	7313
NorthEastPlan1	13	Sunderland North	69973	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001157	Fulwell	8987
NorthEastPlan1	13	Sunderland North	69973	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001168	St Peter's	8054
NorthEastPlan1	13	Sunderland North	69973	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001172	Southwick	7881
NorthEastPlan1	13	Sunderland North	69973	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001163	Redhill	7987
NorthEastPlan1	13	Sunderland North	69973	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001154	Castle	8210
NorthEastPlan1	13	Sunderland North	69973	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001158	Hendon	7759
NorthEastPlan1	13	Sunderland North	69973	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001139	Cleadon and East Boldon	6929
NorthEastPlan1	13	Sunderland North	69973	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001167	St Michael's	8335
NorthEastPlan1	13	Sunderland North	69973	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001151	Whitburn and Marsden	5831
NorthEastPlan1	14	Sunderland South	70774	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001164	Ryhope	8497
NorthEastPlan1	14	Sunderland South	70774	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001156	Doxford	7856
NorthEastPlan1	14	Sunderland South	70774	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001166	St Chad's	7501
NorthEastPlan1	14	Sunderland South	70774	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001169	Sandhill	7790
NorthEastPlan1	14	Sunderland South	70774	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001165	St Anne's	7920
NorthEastPlan1	14	Sunderland South	70774	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001162	Pallion	7631
NorthEastPlan1	14	Sunderland South	70774	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001153	Barnes	8435
NorthEastPlan1	14	Sunderland South	70774	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001171	Silksworth	8035
NorthEastPlan1	14	Sunderland South	70774	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001161	Millfield	7109
NorthEastPlan1	15	Chester le Street and Houghton	70045	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001159	Hetton	9171
NorthEastPlan1	15	Chester le Street and Houghton	70045	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001160	Houghton	9886
NorthEastPlan1	15	Chester le Street and Houghton	70045	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001155	Copt Hill	9027
NorthEastPlan1	15	Chester le Street and Houghton	70045	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001170	Shiney Row	9697
NorthEastPlan1	15	Chester le Street and Houghton	70045	E06000047	Durham	E05009068	Lumley	5727
NorthEastPlan1	15	Chester le Street and Houghton	70045	E06000047	Durham	E05009043	Chester-le-Street East	3006
NorthEastPlan1	15	Chester le Street and Houghton	70045	E06000047	Durham	E05009046	Chester-le-Street West Central	5811
NorthEastPlan1	15	Chester le Street and Houghton	70045	E06000047	Durham	E05009045	Chester-le-Street South	5991
NorthEastPlan1	15	Chester le Street and Houghton	70045	E06000047	Durham	E05009044	Chester-le-Street North	3071
NorthEastPlan1	15	Chester le Street and Houghton	70045	E06000047	Durham	E05009071	North Lodge	3020
NorthEastPlan1	15	Chester le Street and Houghton	70045	E06000047	Durham	E05009076	Sacrison	5638
NorthEastPlan1	16	Consett and Stanley	70085	E06000047	Durham	E05009083	Stanley	6361
NorthEastPlan1	16	Consett and Stanley	70085	E06000047	Durham	E05009084	Tanfield	6514
NorthEastPlan1	16	Consett and Stanley	70085	E06000047	Durham	E05009030	Annfield Plain	5891
NorthEastPlan1	16	Consett and Stanley	70085	E06000047	Durham	E05009052	Craghead and South Moor	5737
NorthEastPlan1	16	Consett and Stanley	70085	E06000047	Durham	E05009042	Burnopfield and Dipton	6333
NorthEastPlan1	16	Consett and Stanley	70085	E06000047	Durham	E05009067	Leadgate and Medomsley	6830
NorthEastPlan1	16	Consett and Stanley	70085	E06000047	Durham	E05009048	Consett North	5874
NorthEastPlan1	16	Consett and Stanley	70085	E06000047	Durham	E05009056	Delves Lane	6232
NorthEastPlan1	16	Consett and Stanley	70085	E06000047	Durham	E05009049	Consett South	3598
NorthEastPlan1	16	Consett and Stanley	70085	E06000047	Durham	E05009037	Benfieldside	6488
NorthEastPlan1	16	Consett and Stanley	70085	E06000047	Durham	E05009073	Pelton	10227
NorthEastPlan1	17	City of Durham	72102	E06000047	Durham	E05009064	Framwellgate and Newton Hall	10315
NorthEastPlan1	17	City of Durham	72102	E06000047	Durham	E05009070	Neville's Cross	7409
NorthEastPlan1	17	City of Durham	72102	E06000047	Durham	E05009060	Elvet and Gilesgate	5740
NorthEastPlan1	17	City of Durham	72102	E06000047	Durham	E05009036	Belmont	10129

NorthEastPlan1	17	City of Durham	72102	E06000047	Durham	E05009058	Durham South	2204
NorthEastPlan1	17	City of Durham	72102	E06000047	Durham	E05009055	Deerness	9479
NorthEastPlan1	17	City of Durham	72102	E06000047	Durham	E05009079	Sherburn	6722
NorthEastPlan1	17	City of Durham	72102	E06000047	Durham	E05009061	Esh and Witton Gilbert	6384
NorthEastPlan1	17	City of Durham	72102	E06000047	Durham	E05009041	Brandon	7635
NorthEastPlan1	17	City of Durham	72102	E06000047	Durham	E05009066	Lanchester	6085
NorthEastPlan1	18	Teesdale and Weardale	74563	E06000047	Durham	E05009062	Evenwood	6458
NorthEastPlan1	18	Teesdale and Weardale	74563	E06000047	Durham	E05009088	Weardale	6618
NorthEastPlan1	18	Teesdale and Weardale	74563	E06000047	Durham	E05009053	Crook	9277
NorthEastPlan1	18	Teesdale and Weardale	74563	E06000047	Durham	E05009038	Bishop Auckland Town	6057
NorthEastPlan1	18	Teesdale and Weardale	74563	E06000047	Durham	E05009092	Woodhouse Close	6047
NorthEastPlan1	18	Teesdale and Weardale	74563	E06000047	Durham	E05009089	West Auckland	6545
NorthEastPlan1	18	Teesdale and Weardale	74563	E06000047	Durham	E05009034	Barnard Castle East	6979
NorthEastPlan1	18	Teesdale and Weardale	74563	E06000047	Durham	E05009035	Barnard Castle West	6656
NorthEastPlan1	18	Teesdale and Weardale	74563	E06000047	Durham	E05009085	Tow Law	3435
NorthEastPlan1	18	Teesdale and Weardale	74563	E06000047	Durham	E05009080	Shildon and Dene Valley	9630
NorthEastPlan1	18	Teesdale and Weardale	74563	E06000047	Durham	E05009090	Willington and Hunwick	6861
NorthEastPlan1	19	Aycliffe and Spennymoor	69840	E06000047	Durham	E05009082	Spennymoor	8848
NorthEastPlan1	19	Aycliffe and Spennymoor	69840	E06000047	Durham	E05009087	Tudhoe	7044
NorthEastPlan1	19	Aycliffe and Spennymoor	69840	E06000047	Durham	E05009063	Ferryhill	8125
NorthEastPlan1	19	Aycliffe and Spennymoor	69840	E06000047	Durham	E05009039	Bishop Middleham and Cornforth	2884
NorthEastPlan1	19	Aycliffe and Spennymoor	69840	E06000047	Durham	E05009078	Sedgefield	6370
NorthEastPlan1	19	Aycliffe and Spennymoor	69840	E06000047	Durham	E05009047	Chilton	3429
NorthEastPlan1	19	Aycliffe and Spennymoor	69840	E06000047	Durham	E05009032	Aycliffe North and Middridge	8406
NorthEastPlan1	19	Aycliffe and Spennymoor	69840	E06000047	Durham	E05009033	Aycliffe West	5358
NorthEastPlan1	19	Aycliffe and Spennymoor	69840	E06000047	Durham	E05009031	Aycliffe East	6420
NorthEastPlan1	19	Aycliffe and Spennymoor	69840	E06000047	Durham	E05009051	Coxhoe	9779
NorthEastPlan1	19	Aycliffe and Spennymoor	69840	E06000047	Durham	E05009050	Coundon	3177
NorthEastPlan1	20	Easington	74679	E06000047	Durham	E05009059	Easington	5710
NorthEastPlan1	20	Easington	74679	E06000047	Durham	E05009040	Blackhalls	6245
NorthEastPlan1	20	Easington	74679	E06000047	Durham	E05009054	Dawdon	6098
NorthEastPlan1	20	Easington	74679	E06000047	Durham	E05009057	Deneside	5435
NorthEastPlan1	20	Easington	74679	E06000047	Durham	E05009065	Hornden	5393
NorthEastPlan1	20	Easington	74679	E06000047	Durham	E05009069	Murton	5817
NorthEastPlan1	20	Easington	74679	E06000047	Durham	E05009072	Passfield	3426
NorthEastPlan1	20	Easington	74679	E06000047	Durham	E05009074	Peterlee East	5415
NorthEastPlan1	20	Easington	74679	E06000047	Durham	E05009075	Peterlee West	6131
NorthEastPlan1	20	Easington	74679	E06000047	Durham	E05009077	Seaham	5365
NorthEastPlan1	20	Easington	74679	E06000047	Durham	E05009081	Shotton and South Hetton	6802
NorthEastPlan1	20	Easington	74679	E06000047	Durham	E05009086	Trimdon and Thornley	9748
NorthEastPlan1	20	Easington	74679	E06000047	Durham	E05009091	Wingate	3094
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013044	Manor House	6218
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013038	Burn Valley	5982
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013039	De Bruce	5885
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013040	Fens and Greatham	5583
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013041	Foggy Furze	6445
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013042	Hart	6035
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013043	Headland and Harbour	6390
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013045	Rossmere	5533
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013046	Rural West	5491

NorthEastPlan1	21	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013047	Seaton	5647
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013048	Throston	6302
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013049	Victoria	5717
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010422	Mowden	3192
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010412	Bank Top and Lascelles	4590
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010413	Brinkburn and Faverdale	4875
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010414	Cockerton	4775
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010415	College	3425
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010416	Eastbourne	4697
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010417	Harrowgate Hill	4843
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010418	Haughton and Springfield	4842
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010420	Hummersknott	3145
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010423	North Road	4323
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010424	Northgate	2509
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010425	Park East	4685
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010426	Park West	3500
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010427	Pierremont	4249
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010428	Red Hall and Lingfield	3163
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010430	Stephenson	2984
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010431	Whinfield	3118
NorthEastPlan1	22	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010419	Heighington and Coniscliffe	3531
NorthEastPlan1	23	Stockton North	69779	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001543	Norton North	4889
NorthEastPlan1	23	Stockton North	69779	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001527	Billingham Central	5323
NorthEastPlan1	23	Stockton North	69779	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001528	Billingham East	4938
NorthEastPlan1	23	Stockton North	69779	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001529	Billingham North	6987
NorthEastPlan1	23	Stockton North	69779	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001530	Billingham South	4678
NorthEastPlan1	23	Stockton North	69779	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001531	Billingham West	4506
NorthEastPlan1	23	Stockton North	69779	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001536	Hardwick and Salters Lane	5196
NorthEastPlan1	23	Stockton North	69779	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001541	Newtown	4651
NorthEastPlan1	23	Stockton North	69779	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001544	Norton South	4795
NorthEastPlan1	23	Stockton North	69779	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001545	Norton West	5042
NorthEastPlan1	23	Stockton North	69779	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001547	Roseworth	4978
NorthEastPlan1	23	Stockton North	69779	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001549	Stockton Town Centre	4406
NorthEastPlan1	23	Stockton North	69779	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001546	Parkfield and Oxbridge	5861
NorthEastPlan1	23	Stockton North	69779	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001542	Northern Parishes	3529
NorthEastPlan1	24	Stockton South	70108	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001538	Ingleby Barwick East	7833
NorthEastPlan1	24	Stockton South	70108	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001539	Ingleby Barwick West	9479
NorthEastPlan1	24	Stockton South	70108	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001533	Eaglescliffe	8305
NorthEastPlan1	24	Stockton South	70108	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001552	Yarm	8457
NorthEastPlan1	24	Stockton South	70108	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001537	Hartburn	5269
NorthEastPlan1	24	Stockton South	70108	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001535	Grangefield	5163
NorthEastPlan1	24	Stockton South	70108	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001534	Fairfield	4549
NorthEastPlan1	24	Stockton South	70108	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001550	Village	5115
NorthEastPlan1	24	Stockton South	70108	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001551	Western Parishes	2862
NorthEastPlan1	24	Stockton South	70108	E06000005	Darlington	E05010429	Sadberge and Middleton St George	5074
NorthEastPlan1	24	Stockton South	70108	E06000005	Darlington	E05010421	Hurworth	2978
NorthEastPlan1	24	Stockton South	70108	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001532	Bishopsgarth and Elm Tree	5024
NorthEastPlan1	25	Middlesbrough Central	70924	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009856	Brambles and Thorntree	5812
NorthEastPlan1	25	Middlesbrough Central	70924	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009855	Berwick Hills and Pallister	5865
NorthEastPlan1	25	Middlesbrough Central	70924	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009867	North Ormesby	1734

NorthEastPlan1	25	Middlesbrough Central	70924	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009866	Newport	5197
NorthEastPlan1	25	Middlesbrough Central	70924	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009869	Park	6780
NorthEastPlan1	25	Middlesbrough Central	70924	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009862	Linthorpe	4517
NorthEastPlan1	25	Middlesbrough Central	70924	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009857	Central	5887
NorthEastPlan1	25	Middlesbrough Central	70924	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009854	Ayresome	4191
NorthEastPlan1	25	Middlesbrough Central	70924	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009853	Acklam	4491
NorthEastPlan1	25	Middlesbrough Central	70924	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001540	Mandale and Victoria	7175
NorthEastPlan1	25	Middlesbrough Central	70924	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001548	Stainsby Hill	4771
NorthEastPlan1	25	Middlesbrough Central	70924	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009860	Kader	4432
NorthEastPlan1	25	Middlesbrough Central	70924	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009872	Trimdon	4428
NorthEastPlan1	25	Middlesbrough Central	70924	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009870	Park End and Beckfield	5644
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012443	Guisborough	5727
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012455	Skelton West	3311
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012438	Brotton	5205
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012454	Skelton East	3482
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012446	Lockwood	1862
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012447	Loftus	4765
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012437	Belmont	3733
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012444	Hutton	5463
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009868	Nunthorpe	4227
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009865	Marton West	4402
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009871	Stainton and Thornton	2654
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009859	Hemlington	4480
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009858	Coulby Newham	6530
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009864	Marton East	4498
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009861	Ladgate	3984
NorthEastPlan1	26	Middlesbrough South and Guisborough	70785	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009863	Longlands and Beechwood	6462
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012445	Kirkleatham	5517
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012439	Coatham	3567
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012440	Dormanstown	3463
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012441	Eston	5669
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012442	Grangetown	3800
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012448	Longbeck	3469
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012449	Newcomen	3840
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012450	Normanby	5440
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012451	Ormesby	4933
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012452	St Germain's	5678
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012456	South Bank	3432
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012457	Teesville	5074
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012458	West Dyke	4987
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012459	Wheatlands	3908
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012460	Zetland	3479
NorthEastPlan1	27	Redcar	71331	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012453	Saltburn	5075

Appendix 7: Counterproposal for the whole region from members of the public

planname	planconstnumber	planconstname	planconstelect	primauthcd	primauthnm	wardcode	wardname	electorate	wmconstcd	wmcname
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012437	Belmont	3733	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012446	Lockwood	1862	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009858	Coulby Newham	6530	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009859	Hemlington	4480	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009864	Marton East	4498	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009865	Marton West	4402	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009868	Nunthorpe	4227	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009871	Stainton and Thornton	2654	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012438	Brotton	5205	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012443	Guisborough	5727	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012444	Hutton	5463	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012447	Loftus	4765	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012453	Saltburn	5075	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012454	Skelton East	3482	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012455	Skelton West	3311	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	1	Middlesborough South and East Cleveland	71092	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012452	St Germain's	5678	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012459	Wheatlands	3908	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012439	Coatham	3567	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012440	Dormanstown	3463	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012441	Eston	5669	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012442	Grangetown	3800	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012445	Kirkleatham	5517	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012449	Newcomen	3840	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012450	Normanby	5440	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012451	Ormesby	4933	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012456	South Bank	3432	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012457	Teesville	5074	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012458	West Dyke	4987	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012460	Zetland	3479	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009856	Brambles and Thorntree	5812	E14000819	Middlesbrough
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009870	Park End and Beckfield	5644	E14000819	Middlesbrough
NorthEastPlan1	2	Redcar	72034	E06000003	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012448	Longbeck	3469	E14000891	Redcar
NorthEastPlan1	3	Middlesborough	69914	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009863	Longlands and Beechwood	6462	E14000819	Middlesbrough
NorthEastPlan1	3	Middlesborough	69914	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009857	Central	5887	E14000819	Middlesbrough
NorthEastPlan1	3	Middlesborough	69914	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009866	Newport	5197	E14000819	Middlesbrough
NorthEastPlan1	3	Middlesborough	69914	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001540	Mandale and Victoria	7175	E14000971	Stockton South
NorthEastPlan1	3	Middlesborough	69914	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009854	Ayresome	4191	E14000819	Middlesbrough
NorthEastPlan1	3	Middlesborough	69914	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009872	Trimdon	4428	E14000819	Middlesbrough
NorthEastPlan1	3	Middlesborough	69914	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009869	Park	6780	E14000819	Middlesbrough
NorthEastPlan1	3	Middlesborough	69914	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009862	Linthorpe	4517	E14000819	Middlesbrough
NorthEastPlan1	3	Middlesborough	69914	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009853	Acklam	4491	E14000819	Middlesbrough
NorthEastPlan1	3	Middlesborough	69914	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009860	Kader	4432	E14000819	Middlesbrough
NorthEastPlan1	3	Middlesborough	69914	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009861	Ladgate	3984	E14000820	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
NorthEastPlan1	3	Middlesborough	69914	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009855	Berwick Hills and Pallister	5865	E14000819	Middlesbrough
NorthEastPlan1	3	Middlesborough	69914	E06000002	Middlesbrough	E05009867	North Ormesby	1734	E14000819	Middlesbrough
NorthEastPlan1	3	Middlesborough	69914	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001548	Stainsby Hill	4771	E14000971	Stockton South
NorthEastPlan1	4	Stockton East	70037	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001549	Stockton Town Centre	4406	E14000970	Stockton North
NorthEastPlan1	4	Stockton East	70037	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001544	Norton South	4795	E14000970	Stockton North
NorthEastPlan1	4	Stockton East	70037	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001530	Billingham South	4678	E14000970	Stockton North
NorthEastPlan1	4	Stockton East	70037	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001531	Billingham West	4506	E14000970	Stockton North
NorthEastPlan1	4	Stockton East	70037	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001527	Billingham Central	5323	E14000970	Stockton North
NorthEastPlan1	4	Stockton East	70037	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001528	Billingham East	4938	E14000970	Stockton North
NorthEastPlan1	4	Stockton East	70037	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001529	Billingham North	6987	E14000970	Stockton North
NorthEastPlan1	4	Stockton East	70037	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001541	Newtown	4651	E14000970	Stockton North
NorthEastPlan1	4	Stockton East	70037	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001543	Norton North	4889	E14000970	Stockton North
NorthEastPlan1	4	Stockton East	70037	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001545	Norton West	5042	E14000970	Stockton North
NorthEastPlan1	4	Stockton East	70037	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001546	Parkfield and Oxbridge	5861	E14000971	Stockton South
NorthEastPlan1	4	Stockton East	70037	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001535	Grangefield	5163	E14000971	Stockton South
NorthEastPlan1	4	Stockton East	70037	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001542	Northern Parishes	3529	E14000970	Stockton North
NorthEastPlan1	4	Stockton East	70037	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001537	Hartburn	5269	E14000971	Stockton South
NorthEastPlan1	5	Stockton West	69850	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001533	Eaglescliffe	8305	E14000971	Stockton South

NorthEastPlan1	5	Stockton West	69850	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001538	Ingleby Barwick East	7833	E14000971	Stockton South
NorthEastPlan1	5	Stockton West	69850	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001539	Ingleby Barwick West	9479	E14000971	Stockton South
NorthEastPlan1	5	Stockton West	69850	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001552	Yarm	8457	E14000971	Stockton South
NorthEastPlan1	5	Stockton West	69850	E06000005	Darlington	E05010429	Sadberge and Middleton St George	5074	E14000915	Sedgefield
NorthEastPlan1	5	Stockton West	69850	E06000005	Darlington	E05010421	Hurworth	2978	E14000915	Sedgefield
NorthEastPlan1	5	Stockton West	69850	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001551	Western Parishes	2862	E14000970	Stockton North
NorthEastPlan1	5	Stockton West	69850	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001534	Fairfield	4549	E14000971	Stockton South
NorthEastPlan1	5	Stockton West	69850	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001532	Bishopsgarth and Elm Tree	5024	E14000971	Stockton South
NorthEastPlan1	5	Stockton West	69850	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001536	Hardwick and Salters Lane	5196	E14000970	Stockton North
NorthEastPlan1	5	Stockton West	69850	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001547	Roseworth	4978	E14000970	Stockton North
NorthEastPlan1	5	Stockton West	69850	E06000004	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001550	Village	5115	E14000971	Stockton South
NorthEastPlan1	6	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013045	Rossmere	5533	E14000733	Hartlepool
NorthEastPlan1	6	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013038	Burn Valley	5982	E14000733	Hartlepool
NorthEastPlan1	6	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013039	De Bruce	5885	E14000733	Hartlepool
NorthEastPlan1	6	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013040	Fens and Greatham	5583	E14000733	Hartlepool
NorthEastPlan1	6	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013041	Foggy Furze	6445	E14000733	Hartlepool
NorthEastPlan1	6	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013042	Hart	6035	E14000733	Hartlepool
NorthEastPlan1	6	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013043	Headland and Harbour	6390	E14000733	Hartlepool
NorthEastPlan1	6	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013044	Manor House	6218	E14000733	Hartlepool
NorthEastPlan1	6	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013046	Rural West	5491	E14000733	Hartlepool
NorthEastPlan1	6	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013047	Seaton	5647	E14000733	Hartlepool
NorthEastPlan1	6	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013048	Throston	6302	E14000733	Hartlepool
NorthEastPlan1	6	Hartlepool	71228	E06000001	Hartlepool	E05013049	Victoria	5717	E14000733	Hartlepool
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010425	Park East	4685	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010412	Bank Top and Lascelles	4590	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010413	Brinkburn and Faverdale	4875	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010414	Cockerton	4775	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010415	College	3425	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010416	Eastbourne	4697	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010417	Harrowgate Hill	4843	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010418	Haughton and Springfield	4842	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010420	Hummersknott	3145	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010422	Mowden	3192	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010423	North Road	4323	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010424	Northgate	2509	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010426	Park West	3500	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010427	Pierremont	4249	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010428	Red Hall and Lingfield	3163	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010430	Stephenson	2984	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010431	Whinfield	3118	E14000658	Darlington
NorthEastPlan1	7	Darlington	70446	E06000005	Darlington	E05010419	Heighington and Coniscliffe	3531	E14000915	Sedgefield
NorthEastPlan1	8	Seaham and Peterlee	71653	E06000047	Durham	E05009040	Blackhalls	6245	E14000677	Easington
NorthEastPlan1	8	Seaham and Peterlee	71653	E06000047	Durham	E05009054	Dawdon	6098	E14000677	Easington
NorthEastPlan1	8	Seaham and Peterlee	71653	E06000047	Durham	E05009057	Deneside	5435	E14000677	Easington
NorthEastPlan1	8	Seaham and Peterlee	71653	E06000047	Durham	E05009059	Easington	5710	E14000677	Easington
NorthEastPlan1	8	Seaham and Peterlee	71653	E06000047	Durham	E05009065	Horden	5393	E14000677	Easington
NorthEastPlan1	8	Seaham and Peterlee	71653	E06000047	Durham	E05009069	Murton	5817	E14000677	Easington
NorthEastPlan1	8	Seaham and Peterlee	71653	E06000047	Durham	E05009072	Passfield	3426	E14000677	Easington
NorthEastPlan1	8	Seaham and Peterlee	71653	E06000047	Durham	E05009074	Peterlee East	5415	E14000677	Easington
NorthEastPlan1	8	Seaham and Peterlee	71653	E06000047	Durham	E05009075	Peterlee West	6131	E14000677	Easington
NorthEastPlan1	8	Seaham and Peterlee	71653	E06000047	Durham	E05009077	Seaham	5365	E14000677	Easington
NorthEastPlan1	8	Seaham and Peterlee	71653	E06000047	Durham	E05009081	Shotton and South Hetton	6802	E14000677	Easington
NorthEastPlan1	8	Seaham and Peterlee	71653	E06000047	Durham	E05009091	Wingate	3094	E14000915	Sedgefield
NorthEastPlan1	8	Seaham and Peterlee	71653	E06000047	Durham	E05009079	Sherburn	6722	E14000641	Durham, City Of
NorthEastPlan1	9	City of Durham	71961	E06000047	Durham	E05009041	Brandon	7635	E14000641	Durham, City Of
NorthEastPlan1	9	City of Durham	71961	E06000047	Durham	E05009058	Durham South	2204	E14000641	Durham, City Of
NorthEastPlan1	9	City of Durham	71961	E06000047	Durham	E05009060	Elvet and Gilesgate	5740	E14000641	Durham, City Of
NorthEastPlan1	9	City of Durham	71961	E06000047	Durham	E05009070	Neville's Cross	7409	E14000641	Durham, City Of
NorthEastPlan1	9	City of Durham	71961	E06000047	Durham	E05009036	Belmont	10129	E14000641	Durham, City Of
NorthEastPlan1	9	City of Durham	71961	E06000047	Durham	E05009055	Deerness	9479	E14000641	Durham, City Of
NorthEastPlan1	9	City of Durham	71961	E06000047	Durham	E05009090	Willington and Hunwick	6861	E14000856	Durham North West
NorthEastPlan1	9	City of Durham	71961	E06000047	Durham	E05009085	Tow Law	3435	E14000856	Durham North West

NorthEastPlan1	9	City of Durham	71961	E06000047	Durham	E05009050	Coundon	3177	E14000569	Bishop Auckland
NorthEastPlan1	9	City of Durham	71961	E06000047	Durham	E05009082	Spennymoor	8848	E14000569	Bishop Auckland
NorthEastPlan1	9	City of Durham	71961	E06000047	Durham	E05009087	Tudhoe	7044	E14000569	Bishop Auckland
NorthEastPlan1	10	Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield	70149	E06000047	Durham	E05009051	Coxhoe	9779	E14000641	Durham, City Of
NorthEastPlan1	10	Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield	70149	E06000047	Durham	E05009047	Chilton	3429	E14000915	Sedgfield
NorthEastPlan1	10	Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield	70149	E06000047	Durham	E05009032	Aycliffe North and Middridge	8406	E14000915	Sedgfield
NorthEastPlan1	10	Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield	70149	E06000047	Durham	E05009063	Ferryhill	8125	E14000915	Sedgfield
NorthEastPlan1	10	Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield	70149	E06000047	Durham	E05009039	Bishop Middleham and Cornforth	2884	E14000915	Sedgfield
NorthEastPlan1	10	Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield	70149	E06000047	Durham	E05009086	Trimdon and Thornley	9748	E14000915	Sedgfield
NorthEastPlan1	10	Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield	70149	E06000047	Durham	E05009033	Aycliffe West	5358	E14000915	Sedgfield
NorthEastPlan1	10	Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield	70149	E06000047	Durham	E05009071	Aycliffe East	6420	E14000915	Sedgfield
NorthEastPlan1	10	Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield	70149	E06000047	Durham	E05009038	Sedgfield	6370	E14000915	Sedgfield
NorthEastPlan1	10	Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield	70149	E06000047	Durham	E05009080	Shildon and Dene Valley	9630	E14000569	Bishop Auckland
NorthEastPlan1	11	Bishop Auckland	72997	E06000047	Durham	E05009034	Barnard Castle East	6979	E14000569	Bishop Auckland
NorthEastPlan1	11	Bishop Auckland	72997	E06000047	Durham	E05009062	Evenwood	6458	E14000569	Bishop Auckland
NorthEastPlan1	11	Bishop Auckland	72997	E06000047	Durham	E05009089	West Auckland	6545	E14000569	Bishop Auckland
NorthEastPlan1	11	Bishop Auckland	72997	E06000047	Durham	E05009038	Bishop Auckland Town	6057	E14000569	Bishop Auckland
NorthEastPlan1	11	Bishop Auckland	72997	E06000047	Durham	E05009092	Woodhouse Close	6047	E14000569	Bishop Auckland
NorthEastPlan1	11	Bishop Auckland	72997	E06000047	Durham	E05009088	Weardale	6618	E14000856	Durham North West
NorthEastPlan1	11	Bishop Auckland	72997	E06000047	Durham	E05009035	Barnard Castle West	6656	E14000569	Bishop Auckland
NorthEastPlan1	11	Bishop Auckland	72997	E06000047	Durham	E05009053	Crook	9277	E14000856	Durham North West
NorthEastPlan1	11	Bishop Auckland	72997	E06000047	Durham	E05009061	Esh and Witton Gilbert	6384	E14000856	Durham North West
NorthEastPlan1	11	Bishop Auckland	72997	E06000047	Durham	E05009066	Lanchester	6085	E14000856	Durham North West
NorthEastPlan1	11	Bishop Auckland	72997	E06000047	Durham	E05009030	Annfield Plain	5891	E14000840	Durham North
NorthEastPlan1	12	Chester Le Street	71418	E06000047	Durham	E05009045	Chester-le-Street South	5991	E14000840	Durham North
NorthEastPlan1	12	Chester Le Street	71418	E06000047	Durham	E05009084	Tanfield	6514	E14000840	Durham North
NorthEastPlan1	12	Chester Le Street	71418	E06000047	Durham	E05009046	Chester-le-Street West Central	5811	E14000840	Durham North
NorthEastPlan1	12	Chester Le Street	71418	E06000047	Durham	E05009083	Stanley	6361	E14000840	Durham North
NorthEastPlan1	12	Chester Le Street	71418	E06000047	Durham	E05009043	Chester-le-Street East	3006	E14000840	Durham North
NorthEastPlan1	12	Chester Le Street	71418	E06000047	Durham	E05009068	Lumley	5727	E14000840	Durham North
NorthEastPlan1	12	Chester Le Street	71418	E06000047	Durham	E05009071	North Lodge	3020	E14000840	Durham North
NorthEastPlan1	12	Chester Le Street	71418	E06000047	Durham	E05009044	Chester-le-Street North	3071	E14000840	Durham North
NorthEastPlan1	12	Chester Le Street	71418	E06000047	Durham	E05009052	Craghead and South Moor	5737	E14000840	Durham North
NorthEastPlan1	12	Chester Le Street	71418	E06000047	Durham	E05009076	Sacrison	5638	E14000840	Durham North
NorthEastPlan1	12	Chester Le Street	71418	E06000047	Durham	E05009064	Framwellgate and Newton Hall	10315	E14000641	Durham, City Of
NorthEastPlan1	12	Chester Le Street	71418	E06000047	Durham	E05009073	Pelton	10227	E14000840	Durham North
NorthEastPlan1	13	Blaydon and Consett	70163	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001088	Winlaton and High Spen	6853	E14000574	Blaydon
NorthEastPlan1	13	Blaydon and Consett	70163	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001072	Crawcrook and Greenside	6917	E14000574	Blaydon
NorthEastPlan1	13	Blaydon and Consett	70163	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001068	Blaydon	7197	E14000574	Blaydon
NorthEastPlan1	13	Blaydon and Consett	70163	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001082	Ryton, Crookhill and Stella	6957	E14000574	Blaydon
NorthEastPlan1	13	Blaydon and Consett	70163	E08000037	Gateshead	E05009313	Chopwell and Rowlands Gill	6884	E14000574	Blaydon
NorthEastPlan1	13	Blaydon and Consett	70163	E06000047	Durham	E05009067	Leadgate and Medomsley	6830	E14000856	Durham North West
NorthEastPlan1	13	Blaydon and Consett	70163	E06000047	Durham	E05009048	Consett North	5874	E14000856	Durham North West
NorthEastPlan1	13	Blaydon and Consett	70163	E06000047	Durham	E05009037	Benfieldside	6488	E14000856	Durham North West
NorthEastPlan1	13	Blaydon and Consett	70163	E06000047	Durham	E05009049	Consett South	3598	E14000856	Durham North West
NorthEastPlan1	13	Blaydon and Consett	70163	E06000047	Durham	E05009056	Delves Lane	6232	E14000856	Durham North West
NorthEastPlan1	13	Blaydon and Consett	70163	E06000047	Durham	E05009042	Burnopfield and Dipton	6333	E14000856	Durham North West
NorthEastPlan1	14	Gateshead West	70994	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001079	Lobley Hill and Bensham	6880	E14000709	Gateshead
NorthEastPlan1	14	Gateshead West	70994	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001074	Dunston and Teams	6259	E14000709	Gateshead
NorthEastPlan1	14	Gateshead West	70994	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001075	Dunston Hill and Whickham East	6755	E14000574	Blaydon
NorthEastPlan1	14	Gateshead West	70994	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001085	Whickham North	6349	E14000574	Blaydon
NorthEastPlan1	14	Gateshead West	70994	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001080	Low Fell	7064	E14000709	Gateshead
NorthEastPlan1	14	Gateshead West	70994	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001083	Saltwell	5936	E14000709	Gateshead
NorthEastPlan1	14	Gateshead West	70994	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001069	Bridges	5968	E14000709	Gateshead
NorthEastPlan1	14	Gateshead West	70994	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001073	Deckham	6336	E14000709	Gateshead
NorthEastPlan1	14	Gateshead West	70994	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001086	Whickham South and Sunnyside	6539	E14000574	Blaydon
NorthEastPlan1	14	Gateshead West	70994	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001077	High Fell	6041	E14000709	Gateshead
NorthEastPlan1	14	Gateshead West	70994	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001071	Chowdene	6867	E14000709	Gateshead
NorthEastPlan1	15	Jarrow and Gateshead East	70118	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001136	Bede	5839	E14000765	Jarrow
NorthEastPlan1	15	Jarrow and Gateshead East	70118	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001147	Primrose	6225	E14000765	Jarrow
NorthEastPlan1	15	Jarrow and Gateshead East	70118	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001146	Monkton	6350	E14000765	Jarrow
NorthEastPlan1	15	Jarrow and Gateshead East	70118	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001143	Hebburn North	7175	E14000765	Jarrow

NorthEastPlan1	15	Jarrow and Gateshead East	70118	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001144	Hebburn South	7026	E14000765	Jarrow
NorthEastPlan1	15	Jarrow and Gateshead East	70118	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001081	Pelaw and Heworth	6520	E14000765	Jarrow
NorthEastPlan1	15	Jarrow and Gateshead East	70118	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001076	Felling	5653	E14000709	Gateshead
NorthEastPlan1	15	Jarrow and Gateshead East	70118	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001087	Windy Nook and Whitehills	7150	E14000709	Gateshead
NorthEastPlan1	15	Jarrow and Gateshead East	70118	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001084	Wardley and Leam Lane	6138	E14000765	Jarrow
NorthEastPlan1	15	Jarrow and Gateshead East	70118	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001148	Simonside and Rekendyke	6325	E14000944	South Shields
NorthEastPlan1	15	Jarrow and Gateshead East	70118	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001141	Fellgate and Hedworth	5717	E14000765	Jarrow
NorthEastPlan1	16	South Shields	70713	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001139	Cleadow and East Boldon	6929	E14000765	Jarrow
NorthEastPlan1	16	South Shields	70713	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001142	Harton	6680	E14000944	South Shields
NorthEastPlan1	16	South Shields	70713	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001135	Beacon and Bents	6753	E14000944	South Shields
NorthEastPlan1	16	South Shields	70713	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001137	Biddick and All Saints	6453	E14000944	South Shields
NorthEastPlan1	16	South Shields	70713	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001140	Cleadow Park	5889	E14000944	South Shields
NorthEastPlan1	16	South Shields	70713	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001145	Horsley Hill	6898	E14000944	South Shields
NorthEastPlan1	16	South Shields	70713	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001149	Westoe	6122	E14000944	South Shields
NorthEastPlan1	16	South Shields	70713	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001150	West Park	5481	E14000944	South Shields
NorthEastPlan1	16	South Shields	70713	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001151	Whitburn and Marsden	5831	E14000944	South Shields
NorthEastPlan1	16	South Shields	70713	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001152	Whiteleas	6364	E14000944	South Shields
NorthEastPlan1	16	South Shields	70713	E08000023	South Tyneside	E05001138	Boldon Colliery	7313	E14000765	Jarrow
NorthEastPlan1	17	Washington	73485	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001174	Washington East	9090	E14001020	Washington & Sunderland West
NorthEastPlan1	17	Washington	73485	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001176	Washington South	7837	E14001020	Washington & Sunderland West
NorthEastPlan1	17	Washington	73485	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001177	Washington West	8810	E14001020	Washington & Sunderland West
NorthEastPlan1	17	Washington	73485	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001173	Washington Central	8550	E14001020	Washington & Sunderland West
NorthEastPlan1	17	Washington	73485	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001175	Washington North	7935	E14001020	Washington & Sunderland West
NorthEastPlan1	17	Washington	73485	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001170	Shiney Row	9697	E14000754	Houghton & Sunderland South
NorthEastPlan1	17	Washington	73485	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001154	Castle	8210	E14001020	Washington & Sunderland West
NorthEastPlan1	17	Washington	73485	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001078	Lamesley	7229	E14000574	Blaydon
NorthEastPlan1	17	Washington	73485	E08000037	Gateshead	E05001067	Birtley	6127	E14000574	Blaydon
NorthEastPlan1	18	Sunderland Central	72178	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001168	St Peter's	8054	E14000982	Sunderland Central
NorthEastPlan1	18	Sunderland Central	72178	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001172	Southwick	7881	E14000982	Sunderland Central
NorthEastPlan1	18	Sunderland Central	72178	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001161	Millfield	7109	E14000982	Sunderland Central
NorthEastPlan1	18	Sunderland Central	72178	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001153	Barnes	8435	E14000982	Sunderland Central
NorthEastPlan1	18	Sunderland Central	72178	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001162	Pallion	7631	E14000982	Sunderland Central
NorthEastPlan1	18	Sunderland Central	72178	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001167	St Michael's	8335	E14000982	Sunderland Central
NorthEastPlan1	18	Sunderland Central	72178	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001157	Fulwell	8987	E14000982	Sunderland Central
NorthEastPlan1	18	Sunderland Central	72178	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001163	Redhill	7987	E14001020	Washington & Sunderland West
NorthEastPlan1	18	Sunderland Central	72178	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001158	Hendon	7759	E14000982	Sunderland Central
NorthEastPlan1	19	Houghton and Sunderland South	75683	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001155	Copt Hill	9027	E14000754	Houghton & Sunderland South
NorthEastPlan1	19	Houghton and Sunderland South	75683	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001160	Houghton	9886	E14000754	Houghton & Sunderland South
NorthEastPlan1	19	Houghton and Sunderland South	75683	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001156	Doxford	7856	E14000754	Houghton & Sunderland South
NorthEastPlan1	19	Houghton and Sunderland South	75683	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001166	St Chad's	7501	E14000754	Houghton & Sunderland South
NorthEastPlan1	19	Houghton and Sunderland South	75683	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001169	Sandhill	7790	E14000754	Houghton & Sunderland South
NorthEastPlan1	19	Houghton and Sunderland South	75683	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001171	Silksworth	8035	E14000754	Houghton & Sunderland South
NorthEastPlan1	19	Houghton and Sunderland South	75683	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001164	Ryhope	8497	E14000982	Sunderland Central
NorthEastPlan1	19	Houghton and Sunderland South	75683	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001165	St Anne's	7920	E14001020	Washington & Sunderland West
NorthEastPlan1	19	Houghton and Sunderland South	75683	E08000024	Sunderland	E05001159	Hetton	9171	E14000754	Houghton & Sunderland South
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009152	Sleekburn	3365	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009098	Bedlington Central	3831	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009100	Bedlington West	3792	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009099	Bedlington East	3269	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009107	Choppington	3530	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009105	Bothal	3835	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009155	Stakeford	3544	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009096	Ashington Central	3375	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009149	Seaton with Newbiggin West	4063	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009108	College	3578	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009121	Haydon	3484	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009126	Hirst	3313	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009137	Newbiggin Central and East	3611	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009130	Kitty Brewster	4871	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009117	Croft	3128	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009129	Isabella	3136	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009110	Cowpen	3159	E14000575	Blyth Valley

NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009157	Wensleydale	3957	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009141	Plessey	3305	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009138	Newsham	3573	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	20	Blyth and Ashington	75452	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009153	South Blyth	3733	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009154	South Tynedale	3980	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009122	Haydon and Hadrian	3645	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009119	Haltwhistle	3756	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009106	Bywell	3724	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009156	Stocksfield and Broomhaugh	3893	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009147	Prudhoe South	3984	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009146	Prudhoe North	4240	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009144	Ponteland South with Heddon	3387	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009145	Ponteland West	3480	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009142	Ponteland East and Stannington	3796	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009143	Ponteland North	3901	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009123	Hexham Central with Acomb	3428	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009125	Hexham West	3270	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009124	Hexham East	3519	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009109	Corbridge	3398	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009128	Humshaugh	3452	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009101	Bellingham	3105	E14000746	Hexham
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009148	Rothbury	4128	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	21	Hexham	75399	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011441	Castle	9313	E14000833	Newcastle Upon Tyne North
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009151	Shilbottle	4435	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009095	Amble West with Warkworth	3506	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009093	Alnwick	8072	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009158	Wooler	3559	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009132	Longhoughton	3547	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009139	Norham and Islandshires	3649	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009097	Bamburgh	3587	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009103	Berwick North	3442	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009104	Berwick West with Ord	3171	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009102	Berwick East	3398	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009118	Druridge Bay	4268	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009140	Pegswood	4263	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009094	Amble	4017	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009136	Morpeth Stobhill	3619	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009134	Morpeth Kirkehill	4413	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009135	Morpeth North	4025	E14001014	Wansbeck
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009131	Longhorsley	3732	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	22	Berwick and Morpeth	72145	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009133	Lynemouth	3442	E14000554	Berwick-Upon-Tweed
NorthEastPlan1	23	Newcastle West	75706	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011444	Denton and Westerhope	8693	E14000833	Newcastle Upon Tyne North
NorthEastPlan1	23	Newcastle West	75706	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011442	Chapel	7524	E14000833	Newcastle Upon Tyne North
NorthEastPlan1	23	Newcastle West	75706	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011451	Lemington	7298	E14000833	Newcastle Upon Tyne North
NorthEastPlan1	23	Newcastle West	75706	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011450	Kingston Park South and Newbiggin Hall	7055	E14000833	Newcastle Upon Tyne North
NorthEastPlan1	23	Newcastle West	75706	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011446	Fawdon and West Gosforth	7309	E14000833	Newcastle Upon Tyne North
NorthEastPlan1	23	Newcastle West	75706	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011449	Kenton	7336	E14000831	Newcastle Upon Tyne Central
NorthEastPlan1	23	Newcastle West	75706	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011438	Blakelaw	6630	E14000831	Newcastle Upon Tyne Central
NorthEastPlan1	23	Newcastle West	75706	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011447	Gosforth	7889	E14000831	Newcastle Upon Tyne Central
NorthEastPlan1	23	Newcastle West	75706	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011456	Parklands	8924	E14000833	Newcastle Upon Tyne North
NorthEastPlan1	23	Newcastle West	75706	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011440	Callerton and Throckley	7048	E14000833	Newcastle Upon Tyne North
NorthEastPlan1	24	Tynemouth	71066	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001120	Cullercoats	7551	E14001006	Tynemouth
NorthEastPlan1	24	Tynemouth	71066	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001130	Tynemouth	8374	E14001006	Tynemouth
NorthEastPlan1	24	Tynemouth	71066	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001134	Whitley Bay	7250	E14001006	Tynemouth
NorthEastPlan1	24	Tynemouth	71066	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001125	Monkseaton South	7593	E14001006	Tynemouth
NorthEastPlan1	24	Tynemouth	71066	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001129	St Mary's	7162	E14001006	Tynemouth
NorthEastPlan1	24	Tynemouth	71066	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001124	Monkseaton North	6989	E14001006	Tynemouth
NorthEastPlan1	24	Tynemouth	71066	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001119	Collingwood	8360	E14001006	Tynemouth
NorthEastPlan1	24	Tynemouth	71066	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001131	Valley	9785	E14001006	Tynemouth
NorthEastPlan1	24	Tynemouth	71066	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001115	Battle Hill	8002	E14000853	Tyneside North
NorthEastPlan1	25	Cramlington and Killingworth	76383	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009115	Cramlington Village	3610	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	25	Cramlington and Killingworth	76383	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009114	Cramlington South East	3767	E14000575	Blyth Valley

NorthEastPlan1	25	Cramlington and Killingworth	76383	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009116	Cramlington West	4480	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	25	Cramlington and Killingworth	76383	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009111	Cramlington East	3150	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	25	Cramlington and Killingworth	76383	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009113	Cramlington North	4069	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	25	Cramlington and Killingworth	76383	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009112	Cramlington Eastfield	3940	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	25	Cramlington and Killingworth	76383	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001133	Weetslade	7979	E14000853	Tyneside North
NorthEastPlan1	25	Cramlington and Killingworth	76383	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001117	Camperdown	7787	E14000853	Tyneside North
NorthEastPlan1	25	Cramlington and Killingworth	76383	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001123	Longbenton	8194	E14000853	Tyneside North
NorthEastPlan1	25	Cramlington and Killingworth	76383	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001116	Benton	7869	E14000853	Tyneside North
NorthEastPlan1	25	Cramlington and Killingworth	76383	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001122	Killingworth	8823	E14000853	Tyneside North
NorthEastPlan1	25	Cramlington and Killingworth	76383	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009150	Seghill with Seaton Delaval	4748	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	25	Cramlington and Killingworth	76383	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009127	Holywell	4038	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	25	Cramlington and Killingworth	76383	E06000057	Northumberland	E05009120	Hartley	3929	E14000575	Blyth Valley
NorthEastPlan1	26	Newcastle East and Wallsend	74596	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001128	Riverside	8120	E14000853	Tyneside North
NorthEastPlan1	26	Newcastle East and Wallsend	74596	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001132	Wallsend	7442	E14000853	Tyneside North
NorthEastPlan1	26	Newcastle East and Wallsend	74596	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001121	Howdon	7798	E14000853	Tyneside North
NorthEastPlan1	26	Newcastle East and Wallsend	74596	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011459	Walkergate	8417	E14000832	Newcastle Upon Tyne East
NorthEastPlan1	26	Newcastle East and Wallsend	74596	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011448	Heaton	8106	E14000832	Newcastle Upon Tyne East
NorthEastPlan1	26	Newcastle East and Wallsend	74596	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011439	Byker	6406	E14000832	Newcastle Upon Tyne East
NorthEastPlan1	26	Newcastle East and Wallsend	74596	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011458	Walker	6970	E14000832	Newcastle Upon Tyne East
NorthEastPlan1	26	Newcastle East and Wallsend	74596	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001126	Northumberland	7019	E14000853	Tyneside North
NorthEastPlan1	26	Newcastle East and Wallsend	74596	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001118	Chirton	7672	E14001006	Tynemouth
NorthEastPlan1	26	Newcastle East and Wallsend	74596	E08000022	North Tyneside	E05001127	Preston	6646	E14001006	Tynemouth
NorthEastPlan1	27	Newcastle Central	76139	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011436	Arthur's Hill	5994	E14000831	Newcastle Upon Tyne Central
NorthEastPlan1	27	Newcastle Central	76139	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011461	Wingrove	7344	E14000831	Newcastle Upon Tyne Central
NorthEastPlan1	27	Newcastle Central	76139	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011453	Monument	5594	E14000831	Newcastle Upon Tyne Central
NorthEastPlan1	27	Newcastle Central	76139	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011445	Elswick	6757	E14000831	Newcastle Upon Tyne Central
NorthEastPlan1	27	Newcastle Central	76139	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011437	Benwell and Scotswood	7770	E14000831	Newcastle Upon Tyne Central
NorthEastPlan1	27	Newcastle Central	76139	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011460	West Fenham	7129	E14000831	Newcastle Upon Tyne Central
NorthEastPlan1	27	Newcastle Central	76139	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011455	Ouseburn	6819	E14000832	Newcastle Upon Tyne East
NorthEastPlan1	27	Newcastle Central	76139	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011457	South Jesmond	6878	E14000832	Newcastle Upon Tyne East
NorthEastPlan1	27	Newcastle Central	76139	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011454	North Jesmond	6990	E14000832	Newcastle Upon Tyne East
NorthEastPlan1	27	Newcastle Central	76139	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011443	Dene and South Gosforth	7663	E14000832	Newcastle Upon Tyne East
NorthEastPlan1	27	Newcastle Central	76139	E08000021	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011452	Manor Park	7201	E14000832	Newcastle Upon Tyne East

Appendix 8: Conservative Party Counterproposal for the whole region

Appendix 8 – Conservative Party Counter Proposal for whole region

To whom it may concern

Please find enclosed the Conservative Party's response to the Initial Proposals for the North East Region for the 2023 Parliamentary Boundary Review.

Our response consists of:

- 1) Our formal statement of position;
- 2) Appendix A – a schedule of the composition of our proposed constituencies;
- 3) Appendix B – a list of our proposed constituencies and maps showing the proposals; and
- 4) Appendix C – maps of the wards we propose to split between constituencies.

We look forward to hearing from you on the timing of the public hearings and the second consultation stage.

Paper copies of all these documents have been delivered by hand this afternoon to your Great Smith Street office.

Type of respondent

Official response from the Conservative party

Submission of the Conservative Party regarding the Initial Proposals of the Boundary Commission for England for the North East Region

1. Introduction

1. This submission represents the views of the Conservative Party representing the current 29 constituencies within the counties of Durham, Northumberland and Tyne and Wear and the former county of Cleveland within the North East Region.
2. We support the reduction of two seats in the North East which results in an allocation of 27 seats compared to the current 29.
3. We support the Commission's policy of dividing regions into sub-regions for the purpose of allocating constituencies. This ensures that it is most likely that the Factors as outlined in Rule 5 of the Rules for the Redistribution of Seats (Schedule 2 to the Act) are met, in particular Rule 5 (1) b regarding local government boundaries and Rule 5 (1) c regarding existing constituencies.
4. We fully support the Commission's proposal to use the recently created combined authorities to divide the North East into sub-regions. This means the geography and administrative areas of the North East are respected and consequently the pattern of constituencies proposed are largely logical and respect the Factors outlined in Rule 5.
5. We support the allocation of eight constituencies to the sub-region of Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland. We also support the composition of all eight constituencies although we will propose three minor name changes. We note that this sub-region respects the River Tyne as a natural boundary.
6. We support the allocation of ten constituencies to County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland. We propose a minor change of composition between two constituencies in County Durham to better reflect local ties and one minor name change.
7. We support the allocation of two constituencies to Gateshead. We also support the names and composition. This is compliant with Rule 5 (1) c and is clearly logical and sensible.

8. We support the allocation of seven constituencies to the Tees Valley sub-region. We would alter the composition of two of the proposed constituencies to much better reflect Rule 5 (1) b, c and d.
9. We will now outline our detailed rationale for either supporting the Commission or proposing alternatives.

2. Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland

10. We fully support the allocation of eight constituencies to this sub-region, a reduction of one compared with the existing seats. This arrangement respects the River Tyne and keeps the entire North of Tyne Combined Authority in a single sub-region.
11. We note that all four constituencies in Northumberland are well below quota and there therefore needs to be considerable change and the necessity to cross local authority boundaries.
12. We support the composition of the proposed Berwick and Morpeth constituency. The existing constituency of Berwick-upon-Tweed needs to extend further south and the addition of the town of Morpeth is the most logical extension.
13. We support the inclusion of the name Morpeth in the constituency but would also like to better reflect the make-up of the constituency by including Alnwick, the county town of Northumberland.
14. We therefore propose the name of the constituency is Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth.
15. The Hexham constituency also needs to gain electors and we fully support the decision not to cross the combined authority boundary into County Durham.
16. We believe the decision to cross the Newcastle upon Tyne local authority boundary and add the Callerton and Throckley ward is the right one. The ward on the western edge of Newcastle is a semi-rural ward with close links to Ponteland in Northumberland. Although it is an orphan ward, it has good links with the Hexham constituency and enables the rest of Newcastle upon Tyne to be allocated three logical constituencies.
17. We support the Blyth and Ashington constituency totally within Northumberland which sensibly combines Ashington, Newbiggin, Bedlington and Blyth in one constituency. We believe Bedlington should be recognised in the name. We would therefore suggest Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington.
18. We note that the two constituencies within North Tyneside are the only ones in the North East which are above quota so we realise that changes need to be made here.

19. We support the combination of the five northern wards of North Tyneside with the town of Cramlington and the wards of the Seaton Valley. We however propose a name change to Cramlington and Whitley Bay to reflect the respective size of the towns.
20. This constituency makes sense geographically and is the most logical way to combine southern Northumberland with North Tyneside.
21. We support the proposed Tynemouth constituency which sensibly contains ten wards all within the North Tyneside local authority which represents the southern half of the authority with the strong border of the Tyne to the south.
22. The remaining five North Tyneside wards can then be combined with four northern wards of Newcastle upon Tyne in a Newcastle upon Tyne North constituency which we support.
23. The remaining twenty one wards in Newcastle can then be divided between an East and a West constituency which provide a logical division of wards that we can support.
24. In summary we support the composition of all eight constituencies in the North of Tyne Combined Authority. They are geographically sensible and logical and with the exception of three minor name changes we support all eight proposed constituencies.

3. County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland

25. We support the allocation of ten constituencies to this sub-region, a reduction of one constituency from the current position. We fully support this combination which ensures that all the constituencies are within the North East Combined Authority.
26. We support a no change Sunderland Central constituency which is compliant with Rule 5 (1) c.
27. We support the South Shields constituency with the addition of the Cleadon and East Bolden ward to the existing constituency taking it one elector above the lowest permitted electorate.
28. With Jarrow losing that ward and the wards within the Gateshead local authority it has to gain electors. We believe the Commission have proposed the least worst option by including three Sunderland wards in the proposed Jarrow and Sunderland West constituency.
29. Any alternative is likely to mean dividing the town of Washington which we believe is undesirable and a breach of Rule 5 (1) c and d.
30. We therefore support keeping Washington together and combining it with four other Sunderland wards.
31. We would suggest that Washington and Sunderland South West is a bit of a mouthful and we would not include the 'West', so simply calling it Washington and Sunderland South.
32. We agree with the expansion of the North Durham constituency by adding the Burnopfield and Dipton ward from North West Durham to the existing constituency.
33. We do not agree with the statement in paragraph 39 of the North East booklet where it says "the remainder of North West Durham is relatively unchanged."
34. 95% of the Willington and Hunwick ward is currently within North West Durham whilst less than 10% of the Deerness ward is currently in North West Durham. Despite the statement quoted above, the Commission include Deerness in North West Durham and exclude Willington and Hunwick.
35. Willington and Hunwick has close ties to the Crook ward which are broken by the proposals thus breaking Rule 5 (1) d. 6,518 electors are currently in the constituency of North West Durham; returning them to their current constituency improves the position under Rule 5 (1) c.

36. We would include this ward in North West Durham but exclude the majority of the Deerness ward which has ties with the Brandon ward currently in the City of Durham but proposed to be in Bishop Auckland.
37. We would therefore exclude the Willington and Hunwick ward from Bishop Auckland and include the majority of the Deerness ward.
38. The remaining nine wards proposed to be in the Bishop Auckland constituency are all currently in the existing Bishop Auckland constituency and it makes absolute sense for them to remain in Bishop Auckland.
39. We support the proposed Newton Aycliffe and Sedgefield constituency which sensibly does not include any electors from the Tees Valley Combined Authority as it does now.
40. We believe the addition of the Coxhoe ward is sensible as is including Newton Aycliffe in the name of the constituency.
41. We support the proposed City of Durham and Easington and Seaham constituencies which both include Sunderland wards but both are logical constituencies combining communities together.
42. In conclusion we broadly support the constituencies in the County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland sub-regions but we propose changes between North West Durham and Bishop Auckland to better reflect local ties and moving fewer electors between constituencies. This therefore better complies with Rule 5 (1) c and d.

4. Gateshead

43. We fully support the establishment of a Gateshead sub-region and the allocation of two constituencies to this sub-region. It provides for an improvement on the current position with two constituencies totally within one local authority. Thus it is compliant with Rule 5 (1) b. We also support the composition of both the Blaydon and the Gateshead proposed constituencies.

5. Tees Valley

44. We fully support creating a sub-region for the Tees Valley Combined Authority and allocating seven constituencies, the same as the current position.
45. As a result we accept that the electorate is such that all seven constituencies will have to have electorates near the lower end of the quota range. However we note the Commission have achieved this.
46. We support five of the seven constituencies but propose a different composition of the other two which much better meet Rules 5 (1) b, c and d.
47. We fully support no change to the Hartlepool constituency which is compliant with Rule 5 (1) c.
48. We note that the Darlington constituency is too small but by adding the ward of Heighington and Coniscliffe, it brings it within range and we support this proposal.
49. We support adding the two remaining Darlington local authority wards to the Stockton South constituency. We support the addition of the Western Parishes ward and the transfer of two of the Thornaby wards to Middlesbrough and Parkfield and Oxbridge ward to Stockton North.
50. We support renaming this constituency Stockton West.
51. We support the consequential changes to the Stockton North constituency.
52. We also support increasing the electorate of the Middlesbrough seat by including the two Thornaby wards. We note this avoids crossing the River Tees and note that any alternative would create more disruption and break local ties. We note the Commission state at paragraph 45 of the North East booklet that “We considered an alternative option whereby all three Thornaby wards are included in the same constituency, however this option would have the ‘domino’ effect of creating a Middlesbrough constituency which crosses the River Tees to include both Billingham and an incongruous Northern Parishes rural ward, and thereby breaking local ties between these areas and Stockton-on-Tees. On this basis, we discounted this option.”
53. We do not support the composition of the Redcar and Eston, and Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland, constituencies. We would just swap three wards in each seat.
54. Our proposal substantially improves the position under Rule 5 (1) b, c and d.

55. We would therefore include the wards of Longbeck, Saltburn and St Germain's in the constituency of Redcar and Eston rather than in Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland.
56. We would rename this constituency Redcar.
57. We would include the wards of Ladgate, Marton East, and Park End and Beckfield in the constituency of Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland rather than Redcar and Eston.
58. Our proposed Redcar constituency would only contain wards from one local authority (Redcar and Cleveland) rather than two under the proposals (Redcar and Cleveland, and Middlesbrough). This therefore being more compliant with Rule 5 (1) b.
59. The Middlesbrough local authority would contain only two constituencies (Middlesbrough, and Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland) rather than three under the proposals (Middlesbrough, Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland, and Redcar and Eston). This therefore being more compliant with Rule 5 (1) b.
60. The Longbeck and St Germain's wards are both currently included in the Redcar constituency so both these wards would be retained in their existing constituency, thus being more compliant with Rule 5 (1) c.
61. A small number of electors (167) from Redcar are included in the Saltburn ward and the best and least disruptive way to increase the electorate of the constituency so it is within quota is to include this ward within the Redcar constituency.
62. The whole of the Marton East ward, 95% of the Ladgate ward, and 40% of the Parkfield and Beckfield ward are currently in the Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland constituency. Therefore these electors would be included in their current constituency. The remaining electors in the latter two wards are currently included in the Middlesbrough constituency, not the Redcar constituency. Our proposal in respect of these wards is therefore more compliant with Rule 5 (1) c.
63. Therefore 19,839 more electors are retained in their existing constituency and only 4,908 electors move the other way. 14,931 fewer electors move constituency than do so under the Commission's proposals affecting just these two constituencies. Our proposal is far more compliant with Rule 5 (1) c than the Commission's proposals.
64. The two Marton wards (Marton East and Marton West) are currently in the same constituency and are separated under the Commission's proposals. We re-unite these wards thus restoring local ties that are broken by the proposals. There are also ties between the

Ladgate ward and Marton West which are broken under the Commission's proposals and restored under our proposals. Thus our proposals are more compliant with Rule 5 (1) c.

65. We believe there is an overwhelming case under the Rules to re-configure the Redcar and Eston constituency and Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland constituency in the way we have suggested.
66. We therefore support five of the proposed constituencies in the Tees Valley sub-region and proposed alterations in the other two to better reflect the Rules.

6. Conclusion

67. We support the broad approach of the Commission and particularly welcome their use of combined authorities to create sub-regions, all of which we support.
68. We support in full nineteen of the proposed 27 constituencies.
69. We suggest a minor name change to four constituencies while supporting the composition.
70. We suggest a small change of composition of two constituencies in County Durham. This moves less electors from these constituencies than the Commission's proposals and restores local ties.
71. We swap six wards between two constituencies in the Tees Valley sub-region. This moves fewer electors, better reflects local government links and restores local ties.
72. We believe our proposals better comply with the Rules for the Redistribution of Seats (Schedule 2 to the Act). In particular we believe we improve the proposals in respect of Rule 5 (1) in terms of the Factors that can be taken into account. We believe we improve the proposals in respect of Rule 5 (1) b, c and d.
73. We improve the position under Rule 5 (1) b as one constituency consists of just one local authority rather than two under the proposals. Additionally one authority includes just two constituencies rather than three under the Commission's proposals.
74. We improve the position under Rule 5 (1) c as 21,449 more electors remain in their existing constituency under our proposals as compared with the initial proposals from the Commission.
75. We improve the position under Rule 5 (1) d as we restore ties between Crook and Willington, we reunite the Marton wards and restore local ties in south Middlesbrough.
76. We hope the Commission will adopt our relatively minor adjustments to their proposals when they publish their revised proposals.
77. We look forward to giving evidence at the North East Public Hearings and comment on any representations received by the Commission. We reserve our right to adjust our position in the light of these representations.
78. We attach as Appendix A a schedule of the composition of our proposed constituencies in the North East region, as Appendix B a list of our proposed constituencies and maps showing

the proposals, and as Appendix C maps of the wards we propose to split between constituencies.

Appendix A

Conservative Party counter-proposal for the North East region

Schedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009093	Alnwick	8072
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009094	Amble	4017
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009095	Amble West with Warkworth	3506
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009097	Bamburgh	3587
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009102	Berwick East	3398
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009103	Berwick North	3442
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009104	Berwick West with Ord	3171
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009118	Druridge Bay	4268
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009132	Longhoughton	3547
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009133	Lynemouth	3442
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009134	Morpeth Kirkehill	4413
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009135	Morpeth North	4025
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009136	Morpeth Stobhill	3619
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009139	Norham and Islandshires	3649
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009140	Pegswood	4263
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009148	Rothbury	4128
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009151	Shilbottle	4435
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	Northumberland	E05009158	Wooler	3559
Bishop Auckland CC	71426	Durham	E05009034	Barnard Castle East	6979
Bishop Auckland CC	71426	Durham	E05009035	Barnard Castle West	6656
Bishop Auckland CC	71426	Durham	E05009038	Bishop Auckland Town	6057
Bishop Auckland CC	71426	Durham	E05009041	Brandon	7635
Bishop Auckland CC	71426	Durham	E05009050	Coundon	3177
Bishop Auckland CC	71426	Durham	E05009055	Part of Deerness (polling districts DMA, DSA, DSB, DSC and DSD)	5980
Bishop Auckland CC	71426	Durham	E05009062	Evenwood	6458

Appendix AConservative Party counter-proposal for the North East regionSchedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
Bishop Auckland CC	71426	Durham	E05009082	Spennymoor	8848
Bishop Auckland CC	71426	Durham	E05009087	Tudhoe	7044
Bishop Auckland CC	71426	Durham	E05009089	West Auckland	6545
Bishop Auckland CC	71426	Durham	E05009092	Woodhouse Close	6047
Blaydon CC	74066	Gateshead	E05001067	Birtley	6127
Blaydon CC	74066	Gateshead	E05001068	Blaydon	7197
Blaydon CC	74066	Gateshead	E05009313	Chopwell and Rowlands Gill	6884
Blaydon CC	74066	Gateshead	E05001072	Crawcrook and Greenside	6917
Blaydon CC	74066	Gateshead	E05001074	Dunston and Teams	6259
Blaydon CC	74066	Gateshead	E05001075	Dunston Hill and Whickham East	6755
Blaydon CC	74066	Gateshead	E05001078	Lamesley	7229
Blaydon CC	74066	Gateshead	E05001082	Ryton, Crookhill and Stella	6957
Blaydon CC	74066	Gateshead	E05001085	Whickham North	6349
Blaydon CC	74066	Gateshead	E05001086	Whickham South and Sunnyside	6539
Blaydon CC	74066	Gateshead	E05001088	Winlaton and High Spennymoor	6853
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009096	Ashington Central	3375
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009098	Bedlington Central	3831
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009099	Bedlington East	3269
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009100	Bedlington West	3792
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009105	Bothal	3835

Appendix A

Conservative Party counter-proposal for the North East region

Schedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009107	Choppington	3530
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009108	College	3578
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009110	Cowpen	3159
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009117	Croft	3128
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009121	Haydon	3484
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009126	Hirst	3313
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009129	Isabella	3136
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009130	Kitty Brewster	4871
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009137	Newbiggin Central and East	3611
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009138	Newsham	3573
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009141	Plessey	3305
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009149	Seaton with Newbiggin West	4063
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009152	Sleekburn	3365

Appendix AConservative Party counter-proposal for the North East regionSchedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009153	South Blyth	3733
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009155	Stakeford	3544
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	Northumberland	E05009157	Wensleydale	3957
City of Durham CC	70603	Durham	E05009036	Belmont	10129
City of Durham CC	70603	Durham	E05009058	Durham South	2204
City of Durham CC	70603	Durham	E05009060	Elvet and Gilesgate	5740
City of Durham CC	70603	Durham	E05009064	Framwellgate and Newton Hall	10315
City of Durham CC	70603	Durham	E05009070	Neville's Cross	7409
City of Durham CC	70603	Durham	E05009079	Sherburn	6722
City of Durham CC	70603	Sunderland	E05001155	Copt Hill	9027
City of Durham CC	70603	Sunderland	E05001159	Hetton	9171
City of Durham CC	70603	Sunderland	E05001160	Houghton	9886
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	North Tyneside	E05001124	Monkseaton North	6989
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	North Tyneside	E05001125	Monkseaton South	7593
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	North Tyneside	E05001129	St Mary's	7162
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	North Tyneside	E05001131	Valley	9785
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	North Tyneside	E05001134	Whitley Bay	7250
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	Northumberland	E05009111	Cramlington East	3150
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	Northumberland	E05009112	Cramlington Eastfield	3940
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	Northumberland	E05009113	Cramlington North	4069
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	Northumberland	E05009114	Cramlington South East	3767
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	Northumberland	E05009115	Cramlington Village	3610

Appendix A

Conservative Party counter-proposal for the North East region

Schedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	Northumberland	E05009116	Cramlington West	4480
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	Northumberland	E05009120	Hartley	3929
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	Northumberland	E05009127	Holywell	4038
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	Northumberland	E05009150	Seghill with Seaton Delaval	4748
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010412	Bank Top and Lascelles	4590
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010413	Brinkburn and Faverdale	4875
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010414	Cockerton	4775
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010415	College	3425
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010416	Eastbourne	4697
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010417	Harrowgate Hill	4843
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010418	Haughton and Springfield	4842
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010419	Heighington and Coniscliffe	3531
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010420	Hummersknott	3145
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010422	Mowden	3192
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010423	North Road	4323
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010424	Northgate	2509
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010425	Park East	4685
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010426	Park West	3500
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010427	Pierremont	4249
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010428	Red Hall and Lingfield	3163
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010430	Stephenson	2984
Darlington CC	70446	Darlington	E05010431	Whinfield	3118
Gateshead BC	70553	Gateshead	E05001069	Bridges	5968
Gateshead BC	70553	Gateshead	E05001071	Chowdene	6867
Gateshead BC	70553	Gateshead	E05001073	Deckham	6336

Appendix AConservative Party counter-proposal for the North East regionSchedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
Gateshead BC	70553	Gateshead	E05001076	Felling	5653
Gateshead BC	70553	Gateshead	E05001077	High Fell	6041
Gateshead BC	70553	Gateshead	E05001079	Lobley Hill and Bensham	6880
Gateshead BC	70553	Gateshead	E05001080	Low Fell	7064
Gateshead BC	70553	Gateshead	E05001081	Pelaw and Heworth	6520
Gateshead BC	70553	Gateshead	E05001083	Saltwell	5936
Gateshead BC	70553	Gateshead	E05001084	Wardley and Leam Lane	6138
Gateshead BC	70553	Gateshead	E05001087	Windy Nook and Whitehills	7150
Hartlepool CC	71228	Hartlepool	E05013038	Burn Valley	5982
Hartlepool CC	71228	Hartlepool	E05013039	De Bruce	5885
Hartlepool CC	71228	Hartlepool	E05013040	Fens and Greatham	5583
Hartlepool CC	71228	Hartlepool	E05013041	Foggy Furze	6445
Hartlepool CC	71228	Hartlepool	E05013042	Hart	6035
Hartlepool CC	71228	Hartlepool	E05013043	Headland and Harbour	6390
Hartlepool CC	71228	Hartlepool	E05013044	Manor House	6218
Hartlepool CC	71228	Hartlepool	E05013045	Rossmere	5533
Hartlepool CC	71228	Hartlepool	E05013046	Rural West	5491
Hartlepool CC	71228	Hartlepool	E05013047	Seaton	5647
Hartlepool CC	71228	Hartlepool	E05013048	Throston	6302
Hartlepool CC	71228	Hartlepool	E05013049	Victoria	5717
Hexham CC	72738	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011440	Callerton and Throckley	7048
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009101	Bellingham	3105
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009106	Bywell	3724
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009109	Corbridge	3398
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009119	Haltwhistle	3756

Appendix A

Conservative Party counter-proposal for the North East region

Schedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009122	Haydon and Hadrian	3645
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009123	Hexham Central with Acomb	3428
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009124	Hexham East	3519
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009125	Hexham West	3270
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009128	Humshaugh	3452
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009131	Longhorsley	3732
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009142	Ponteland East and Stannington	3796
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009143	Ponteland North	3901
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009144	Ponteland South with Heddon	3387
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009145	Ponteland West	3480
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009146	Prudhoe North	4240
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009147	Prudhoe South	3984
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009154	South Tynedale	3980
Hexham CC	72738	Northumberland	E05009156	Stocksfield and Broomhaugh	3893
Jarrow and Sunderland West BC	69762	South Tyneside	E05001136	Bede	5839
Jarrow and Sunderland West BC	69762	South Tyneside	E05001138	Boldon Colliery	7313
Jarrow and Sunderland West BC	69762	South Tyneside	E05001141	Fellgate and Hedworth	5717
Jarrow and Sunderland West BC	69762	South Tyneside	E05001143	Hebburn North	7175
Jarrow and Sunderland West BC	69762	South Tyneside	E05001144	Hebburn South	7026
Jarrow and Sunderland West BC	69762	South Tyneside	E05001146	Monkton	6350
Jarrow and Sunderland West BC	69762	South Tyneside	E05001147	Primrose	6225
Jarrow and Sunderland West BC	69762	Sunderland	E05001154	Castle	8210
Jarrow and Sunderland West BC	69762	Sunderland	E05001163	Redhill	7987
Jarrow and Sunderland West BC	69762	Sunderland	E05001165	St Anne's	7920
Middlesbrough BC	71742	Middlesbrough	E05009853	Acklam	4491

Appendix AConservative Party counter-proposal for the North East regionSchedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
Middlesbrough BC	71742	Middlesbrough	E05009854	Ayresome	4191
Middlesbrough BC	71742	Middlesbrough	E05009855	Berwick Hills and Pallister	5865
Middlesbrough BC	71742	Middlesbrough	E05009856	Brambles and Thorntree	5812
Middlesbrough BC	71742	Middlesbrough	E05009857	Central	5887
Middlesbrough BC	71742	Middlesbrough	E05009860	Kader	4432
Middlesbrough BC	71742	Middlesbrough	E05009862	Linthorpe	4517
Middlesbrough BC	71742	Middlesbrough	E05009863	Longlands and Beechwood	6462
Middlesbrough BC	71742	Middlesbrough	E05009866	Newport	5197
Middlesbrough BC	71742	Middlesbrough	E05009867	North Ormesby	1734
Middlesbrough BC	71742	Middlesbrough	E05009869	Park	6780
Middlesbrough BC	71742	Middlesbrough	E05009872	Trimdon	4428
Middlesbrough BC	71742	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001540	Mandale and Victoria	7175
Middlesbrough BC	71742	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001548	Stainsby Hill	4771
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Middlesbrough	E05009858	Coulby Newham	6530
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Middlesbrough	E05009859	Hemlington	4480
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Middlesbrough	E05009861	Ladgate	3984
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Middlesbrough	E05009864	Marton East	4498
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Middlesbrough	E05009865	Marton West	4402
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Middlesbrough	E05009868	Nunthorpe	4227

Appendix A

Conservative Party counter-proposal for the North East region

Schedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Middlesbrough	E05009870	Park End and Beckfield	5644
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Middlesbrough	E05009871	Stainton and Thornton	2654
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012437	Belmont	3733
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012438	Brotton	5205
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012443	Guisborough	5727
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012444	Hutton	5463
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012446	Lockwood	1862
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012447	Loftus	4765
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012454	Skelton East	3482
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012455	Skelton West	3311
Newcastle upon Tyne East BC	77038	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011436	Arthur's Hill	5994
Newcastle upon Tyne East BC	77038	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011439	Byker	6406
Newcastle upon Tyne East BC	77038	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011443	Dene and South Gosforth	7663
Newcastle upon Tyne East BC	77038	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011448	Heaton	8106
Newcastle upon Tyne East BC	77038	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011452	Manor Park	7201
Newcastle upon Tyne East BC	77038	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011453	Monument	5594

Appendix AConservative Party counter-proposal for the North East regionSchedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
Newcastle upon Tyne East BC	77038	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011454	North Jesmond	6990
Newcastle upon Tyne East BC	77038	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011455	Ouseburn	6819
Newcastle upon Tyne East BC	77038	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011457	South Jesmond	6878
Newcastle upon Tyne East BC	77038	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011458	Walker	6970
Newcastle upon Tyne East BC	77038	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011459	Walkergate	8417
Newcastle upon Tyne North BC	74087	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011441	Castle	9313
Newcastle upon Tyne North BC	74087	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011446	Fawdon and West Gosforth	7309
Newcastle upon Tyne North BC	74087	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011447	Gosforth	7889
Newcastle upon Tyne North BC	74087	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011456	Parklands	8924
Newcastle upon Tyne North BC	74087	North Tyneside	E05001116	Benton	7869
Newcastle upon Tyne North BC	74087	North Tyneside	E05001117	Camperdown	7787
Newcastle upon Tyne North BC	74087	North Tyneside	E05001122	Killingworth	8823
Newcastle upon Tyne North BC	74087	North Tyneside	E05001123	Longbenton	8194
Newcastle upon Tyne North BC	74087	North Tyneside	E05001133	Weetslade	7979
Newcastle upon Tyne West BC	73536	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011437	Benwell and Scotswood	7770
Newcastle upon Tyne West BC	73536	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011438	Blakelaw	6630
Newcastle upon Tyne West BC	73536	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011442	Chapel	7524
Newcastle upon Tyne West BC	73536	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011444	Denton and Westerhope	8693
Newcastle upon Tyne West BC	73536	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011445	Elswick	6757
Newcastle upon Tyne West BC	73536	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011449	Kenton	7336
Newcastle upon Tyne West BC	73536	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011450	Kingston Park South and Newbiggin Hall	7055
Newcastle upon Tyne West BC	73536	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011451	Lemington	7298
Newcastle upon Tyne West BC	73536	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011460	West Fenham	7129
Newcastle upon Tyne West BC	73536	Newcastle upon Tyne	E05011461	Wingrove	7344

Appendix A

Conservative Party counter-proposal for the North East region

Schedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield CC	70149	Durham	E05009031	Aycliffe East	6420
Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield CC	70149	Durham	E05009032	Aycliffe North and Middridge	8406
Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield CC	70149	Durham	E05009033	Aycliffe West	5358
Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield CC	70149	Durham	E05009039	Bishop Middleham and Cornforth	2884
Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield CC	70149	Durham	E05009047	Chilton	3429
Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield CC	70149	Durham	E05009051	Coxhoe	9779
Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield CC	70149	Durham	E05009063	Ferryhill	8125
Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield CC	70149	Durham	E05009078	Sedgfield	6370
Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield CC	70149	Durham	E05009080	Shildon and Dene Valley	9630
Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield CC	70149	Durham	E05009086	Trimdon and Thornley	9748
North Durham CC	73327	Durham	E05009030	Annfield Plain	5891
North Durham CC	73327	Durham	E05009042	Burnopfield and Dipton	6333
North Durham CC	73327	Durham	E05009043	Chester-le-Street East	3006
North Durham CC	73327	Durham	E05009044	Chester-le-Street North	3071
North Durham CC	73327	Durham	E05009045	Chester-le-Street South	5991
North Durham CC	73327	Durham	E05009046	Chester-le-Street West Central	5811
North Durham CC	73327	Durham	E05009052	Craghead and South Moor	5737
North Durham CC	73327	Durham	E05009068	Lumley	5727
North Durham CC	73327	Durham	E05009071	North Lodge	3020
North Durham CC	73327	Durham	E05009073	Pelton	10227
North Durham CC	73327	Durham	E05009076	Sacriston	5638
North Durham CC	73327	Durham	E05009083	Stanley	6361
North Durham CC	73327	Durham	E05009084	Tanfield	6514
North West Durham CC	71181	Durham	E05009037	Benfieldside	6488

Appendix AConservative Party counter-proposal for the North East regionSchedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
North West Durham CC	71181	Durham	E05009048	Consett North	5874
North West Durham CC	71181	Durham	E05009049	Consett South	3598
North West Durham CC	71181	Durham	E05009053	Crook	9277
North West Durham CC	71181	Durham	E05009055	Part of Deerness (polling districts DTA, DTB, DTC, NWDOC and NWDOD)	3499
North West Durham CC	71181	Durham	E05009056	Delves Lane	6232
North West Durham CC	71181	Durham	E05009061	Esh and Witton Gilbert	6384
North West Durham CC	71181	Durham	E05009066	Lanchester	6085
North West Durham CC	71181	Durham	E05009067	Leadgate and Medomsley	6830
North West Durham CC	71181	Durham	E05009085	Tow Law	3435
North West Durham CC	71181	Durham	E05009088	Weardale	6618
North West Durham CC	71181	Durham	E05009090	Willington and Hunwick	6861
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012439	Coatham	3567
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012440	Dormanstown	3463
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012441	Eston	5669
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012442	Grangetown	3800
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012445	Kirkleatham	5517
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012448	Longbeck	3469
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012449	Newcomen	3840
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012450	Normanby	5440
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012451	Ormesby	4933
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012453	Saltburn	5075
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012456	South Bank	3432
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012452	St Germain's	5678
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012457	Teesville	5074

Appendix A

Conservative Party counter-proposal for the North East region

Schedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012458	West Dyke	4987
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012459	Wheatlands	3908
Redcar BC	71331	Redcar and Cleveland	E05012460	Zetland	3479
Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	Durham	E05009040	Blackhalls	6245
Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	Durham	E05009054	Dawdon	6098
Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	Durham	E05009057	Deneside	5435
Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	Durham	E05009059	Easington	5710
Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	Durham	E05009065	Hornden	5393
Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	Durham	E05009069	Murton	5817
Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	Durham	E05009072	Passfield	3426
Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	Durham	E05009074	Peterlee East	5415
Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	Durham	E05009075	Peterlee West	6131
Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	Durham	E05009077	Seaham	5365
Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	Durham	E05009081	Shotton and South Hetton	6802
Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	Durham	E05009091	Wingate	3094
Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	Sunderland	E05001156	Doxford	7856
South Shields BC	69725	South Tyneside	E05001135	Beacon and Bents	6753
South Shields BC	69725	South Tyneside	E05001137	Biddick and All Saints	6453
South Shields BC	69725	South Tyneside	E05001139	Cleadon and East Boldon	6929
South Shields BC	69725	South Tyneside	E05001140	Cleadon Park	5889
South Shields BC	69725	South Tyneside	E05001142	Harton	6680
South Shields BC	69725	South Tyneside	E05001145	Horsley Hill	6898
South Shields BC	69725	South Tyneside	E05001148	Simonside and Rekendyke	6325
South Shields BC	69725	South Tyneside	E05001150	West Park	5481
South Shields BC	69725	South Tyneside	E05001149	Westoe	6122

Appendix AConservative Party counter-proposal for the North East regionSchedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
South Shields BC	69725	South Tyneside	E05001151	Whitburn and Marsden	5831
South Shields BC	69725	South Tyneside	E05001152	Whiteleas	6364
Stockton North CC	69779	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001527	Billingham Central	5323
Stockton North CC	69779	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001528	Billingham East	4938
Stockton North CC	69779	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001529	Billingham North	6987
Stockton North CC	69779	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001530	Billingham South	4678
Stockton North CC	69779	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001531	Billingham West	4506
Stockton North CC	69779	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001536	Hardwick and Salters Lane	5196
Stockton North CC	69779	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001541	Newtown	4651
Stockton North CC	69779	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001542	Northern Parishes	3529
Stockton North CC	69779	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001543	Norton North	4889
Stockton North CC	69779	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001544	Norton South	4795
Stockton North CC	69779	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001545	Norton West	5042
Stockton North CC	69779	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001546	Parkfield and Oxbridge	5861
Stockton North CC	69779	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001547	Roseworth	4978
Stockton North CC	69779	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001549	Stockton Town Centre	4406
Stockton West CC	70108	Darlington	E05010421	Hurworth	2978
Stockton West CC	70108	Darlington	E05010429	Sadberge and Middleton St George	5074
Stockton West CC	70108	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001532	Bishopsgarth and Elm Tree	5024
Stockton West CC	70108	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001533	Eaglescliffe	8305
Stockton West CC	70108	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001534	Fairfield	4549
Stockton West CC	70108	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001535	Grangefield	5163
Stockton West CC	70108	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001537	Hartburn	5269
Stockton West CC	70108	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001538	Ingleby Barwick East	7833
Stockton West CC	70108	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001539	Ingleby Barwick West	9479

Appendix A

Conservative Party counter-proposal for the North East region

Schedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
Stockton West CC	70108	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001550	Village	5115
Stockton West CC	70108	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001551	Western Parishes	2862
Stockton West CC	70108	Stockton-on-Tees	E05001552	Yarm	8457
Sunderland Central BC	72688	Sunderland	E05001153	Barnes	8435
Sunderland Central BC	72688	Sunderland	E05001157	Fulwell	8987
Sunderland Central BC	72688	Sunderland	E05001158	Hendon	7759
Sunderland Central BC	72688	Sunderland	E05001161	Millfield	7109
Sunderland Central BC	72688	Sunderland	E05001162	Pallion	7631
Sunderland Central BC	72688	Sunderland	E05001164	Ryhope	8497
Sunderland Central BC	72688	Sunderland	E05001172	Southwick	7881
Sunderland Central BC	72688	Sunderland	E05001167	St Michael's	8335
Sunderland Central BC	72688	Sunderland	E05001168	St Peter's	8054
Tynemouth BC	76984	North Tyneside	E05001115	Battle Hill	8002
Tynemouth BC	76984	North Tyneside	E05001118	Chirton	7672
Tynemouth BC	76984	North Tyneside	E05001119	Collingwood	8360
Tynemouth BC	76984	North Tyneside	E05001120	Cullercoats	7551
Tynemouth BC	76984	North Tyneside	E05001121	Howdon	7798
Tynemouth BC	76984	North Tyneside	E05001126	Northumberland	7019
Tynemouth BC	76984	North Tyneside	E05001127	Preston	6646
Tynemouth BC	76984	North Tyneside	E05001128	Riverside	8120
Tynemouth BC	76984	North Tyneside	E05001130	Tynemouth	8374
Tynemouth BC	76984	North Tyneside	E05001132	Wallsend	7442
Washington and Sunderland South BC	75245	Sunderland	E05001169	Sandhill	7790

Appendix AConservative Party counter-proposal for the North East regionSchedule of constituencies

Proposed constituency	Electorate	Local authority	Ward code	Ward name	Electorate
Washington and Sunderland South BC	75245	Sunderland	E05001170	Shiney Row	9697
Washington and Sunderland South BC	75245	Sunderland	E05001171	Silksworth	8035
Washington and Sunderland South BC	75245	Sunderland	E05001166	St Chad's	7501
Washington and Sunderland South BC	75245	Sunderland	E05001173	Washington Central	8550
Washington and Sunderland South BC	75245	Sunderland	E05001174	Washington East	9090
Washington and Sunderland South BC	75245	Sunderland	E05001175	Washington North	7935
Washington and Sunderland South BC	75245	Sunderland	E05001176	Washington South	7837
Washington and Sunderland South BC	75245	Sunderland	E05001177	Washington West	8810

Row Labels	Sum of Electorate2				
Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	1	Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	B
Bishop Auckland CC	71426	2	Bishop Auckland CC	71426	C
Blaydon CC	74066	3	Blaydon CC	74066	A
Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	4	Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	B
City of Durham CC	70603	5	City of Durham CC	70603	A
Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	6	Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	B
Darlington CC	70446	7	Darlington CC	70446	A
Gateshead BC	70553	8	Gateshead BC	70553	A
Hartlepool CC	71228	9	Hartlepool CC	71228	A
Hexham CC	72738	10	Hexham CC	72738	A
Jarrow and Sunderland West BC	69762	11	Jarrow and Sunderland West BC	69762	A
Middlesbrough BC	71742	12	Middlesbrough BC	71742	A
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	13	Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	C
Newcastle upon Tyne East BC	77038	14	Newcastle upon Tyne East BC	77038	A
Newcastle upon Tyne North BC	74087	15	Newcastle upon Tyne North BC	74087	A
Newcastle upon Tyne West BC	73536	16	Newcastle upon Tyne West BC	73536	A
Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield CC	70149	17	Newton Aycliffe and Sedgfield CC	70149	A
North Durham CC	73327	18	North Durham CC	73327	A
North West Durham CC	71181	19	North West Durham CC	71181	C
Redcar BC	71331	20	Redcar BC	71331	C
Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	21	Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	A
South Shields BC	69725	22	South Shields BC	69725	A
Stockton North CC	69779	23	Stockton North CC	69779	A
Stockton West CC	70108	24	Stockton West CC	70108	A
Sunderland Central BC	72688	25	Sunderland Central BC	72688	A
Tynemouth BC	76984	26	Tynemouth BC	76984	A
Washington and Sunderland South BC	75245	27	Washington and Sunderland South BC	75245	B
(blank)					
Grand Total	1952999				

Appendix B

Conservative Party counter-proposal for the North East region

Maps of constituencies

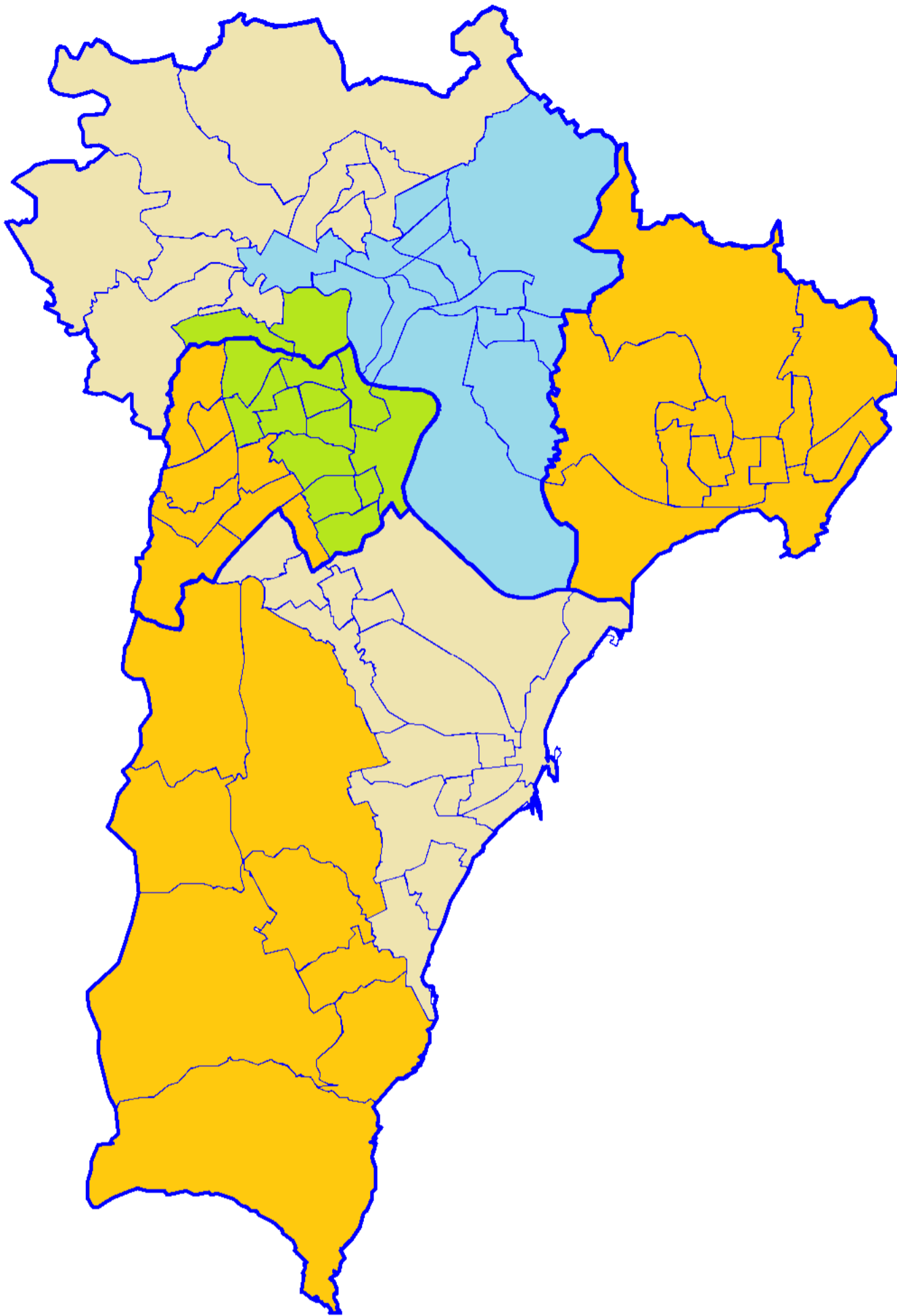
1	Berwick, Alnwick and Morpeth CC	72541	B
2	Bishop Auckland CC	71426	C
3	Blaydon CC	74066	A
4	Blyth, Ashington and Bedlington CC	75452	B
5	City of Durham CC	70603	A
6	Cramlington and Whitley Bay CC	74510	B
7	Darlington CC	70446	A
8	Gateshead BC	70553	A
9	Hartlepool CC	71228	A
10	Hexham CC	72738	A
11	Jarrow and Sunderland West BC	69762	A
12	Middlesbrough BC	71742	A
13	Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CC	69967	C
14	Newcastle upon Tyne East BC	77038	A
15	Newcastle upon Tyne North BC	74087	A
16	Newcastle upon Tyne West BC	73536	A
17	Newton Aycliffe and Sedgefield CC	70149	A
18	North Durham CC	73327	A
19	North West Durham CC	71181	C
20	Redcar BC	71331	C
21	Seaham and Peterlee CC	72787	A
22	South Shields BC	69725	A
23	Stockton North CC	69779	A
24	Stockton West CC	70108	A
25	Sunderland Central BC	72688	A
26	Tynemouth BC	76984	A
27	Washington and Sunderland South BC	75245	B

Key

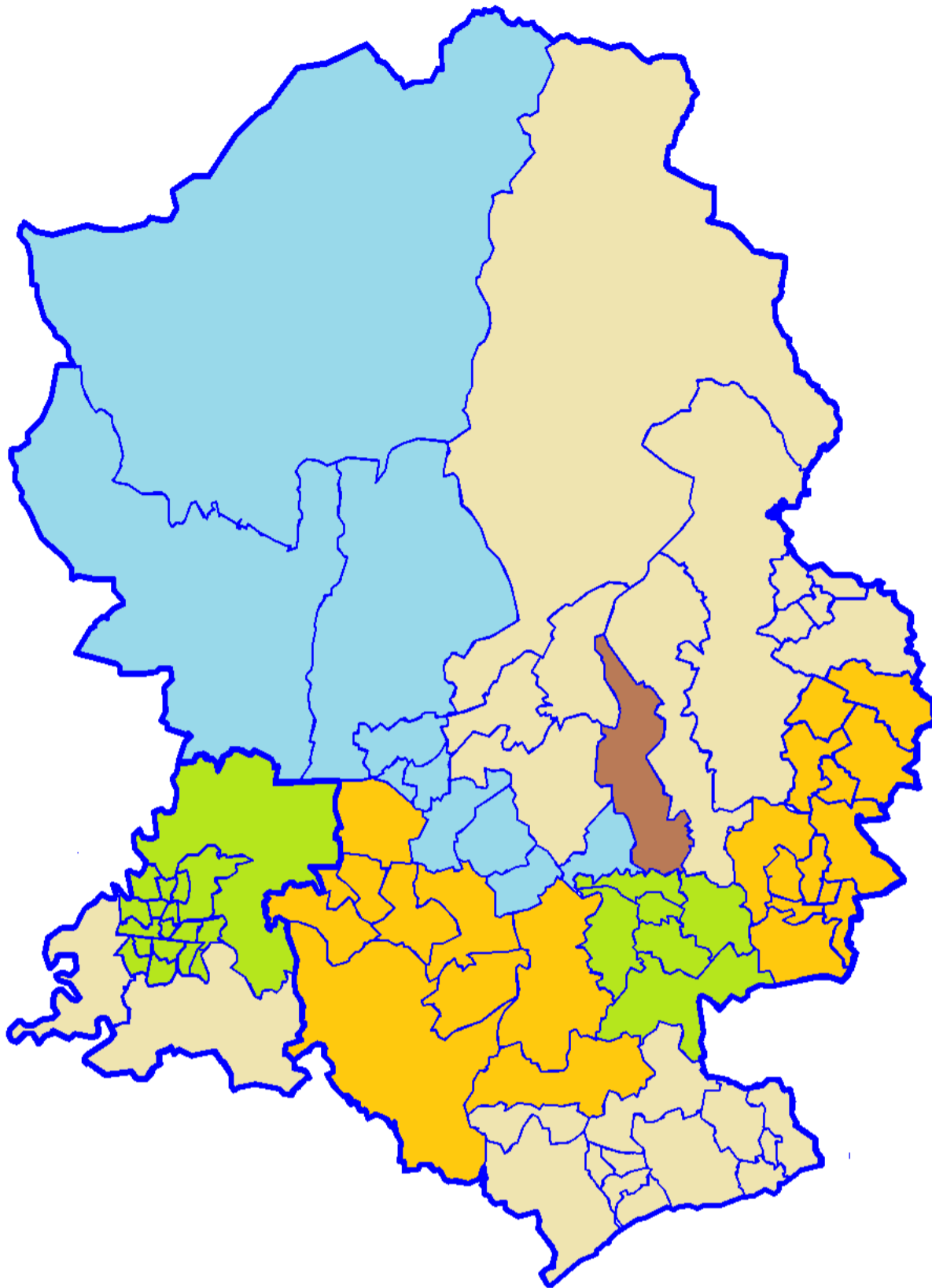
- A** Agree with the Commission's proposed constituency
- B** Agree with the composition of the Commission's proposed constituency but propose a name change
- C** Counter-proposal to the Commission's proposed constituencies

Key to maps

A ward coloured chocolate brown is proposed to be split between constituencies, please refer to Appendix C



Conservative Party proposal
Cleveland
(Stockton West: linked with County Durham)



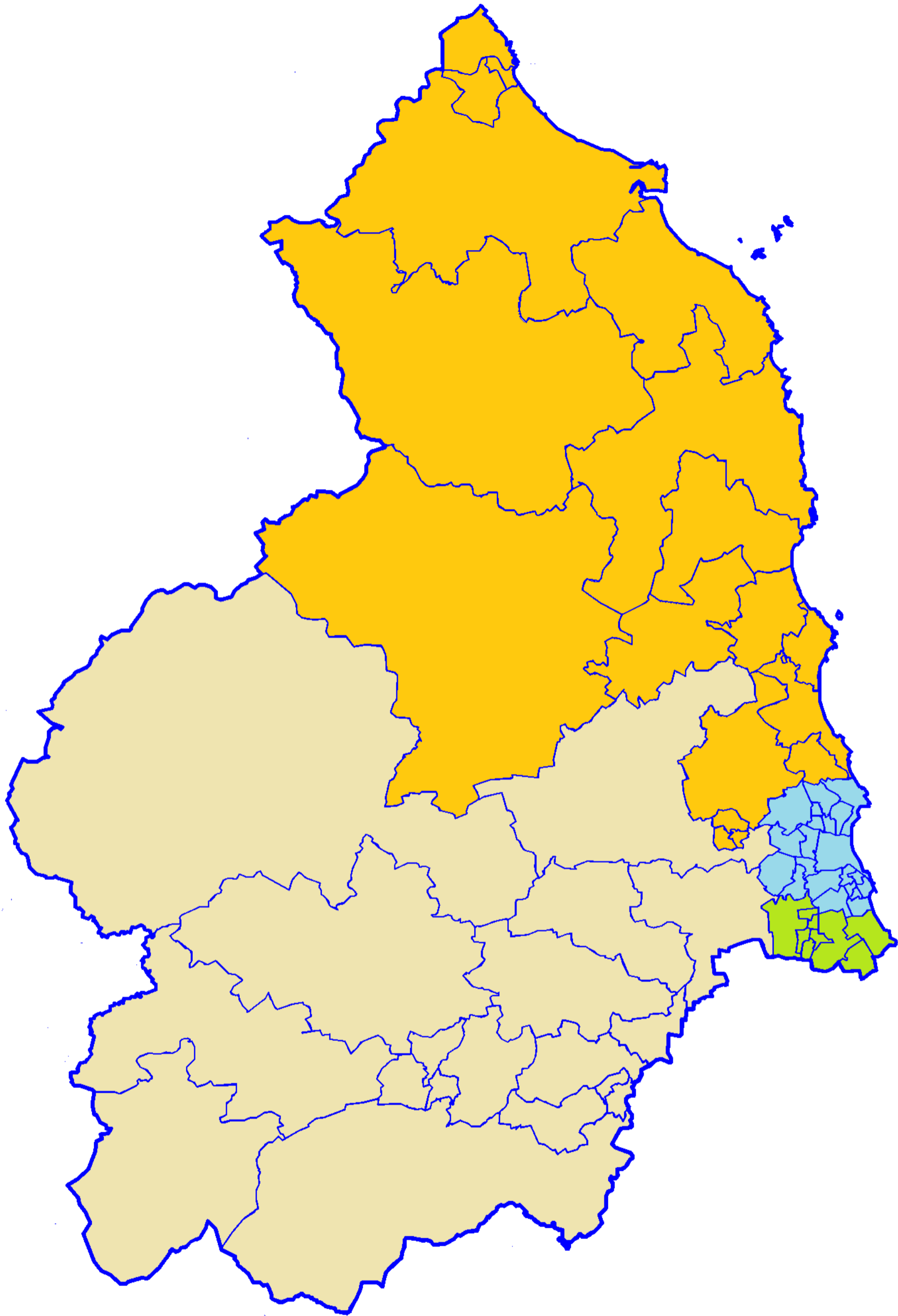
Conservative Party proposal

County Durham

(City of Durham: linked with Tyne and Wear)

(Seaham and Peterlee: linked with Tyne and Wear)

(Stockton West: linked with Cleveland)

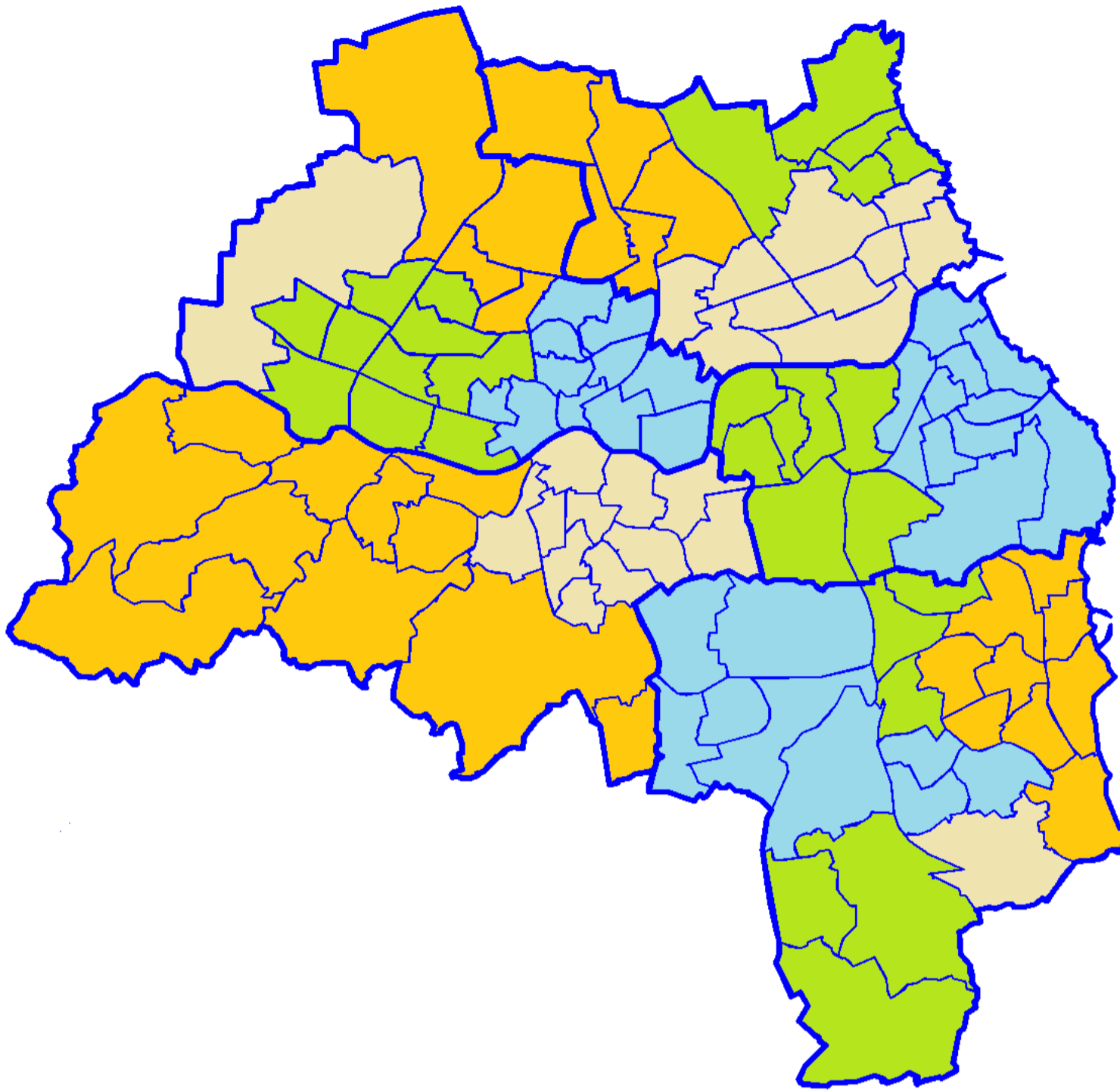


Conservative Party proposal

Northumberland

(Cramlington and Whitley Bay: linked with Tyne and Wear)

(Hexham: linked with Tyne and Wear)



Conservative Party proposal

Tyne and Wear

(City of Durham: linked with County Durham)

(Cramlington and Whitley Bay: linked with Northumberland)

(Hexham: linked with Northumberland)

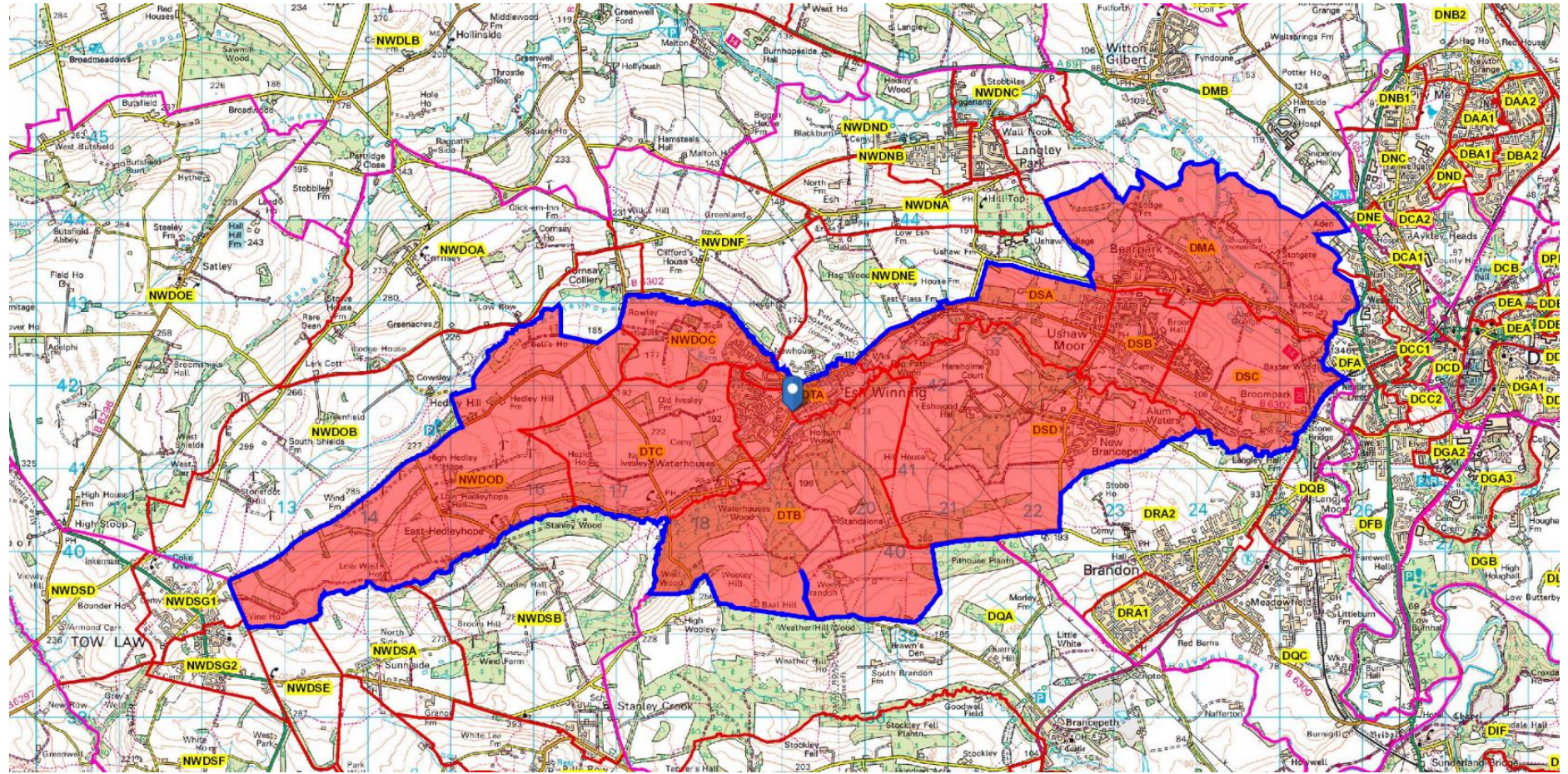
(Seaham and Peterlee: linked with County Durham)

Appendix C

Conservative Party counter-proposal for the North East region

Split wards

Constituency	Local authority	Ward code	Description of ward split	Electors
Bishop Auckland	Durham	E05009055	Part of Deerness (polling districts DMA, DSA, DSB, DSC and DSD)	5980
North West Durham	Durham	E05009055	Part of Deerness (polling districts DTA, DTB, DTC, NWDOC and NWDOD)	3499



Deerness ward
Copyright Durham Council

Appendix 9: Green Party Counterproposal for the whole region

Submission to the Boundary Commission

North East Green Party

July 2021

Sunderland

We understand that the Boundary Commission is reluctant to create constituencies that cross local authority and county boundaries and yet out of the five constituencies in Sunderland City Council area, three cross local authority boundaries and two cross county boundaries. The three current constituencies all fall entirely within the area covered by Sunderland City Council.

Sunderland Central

We are pleased to see that this constituency will be unchanged

City of Durham

Three of the wards - Copt Hill, Hetton and Houghton - that currently sit within Houghton and Sunderland South, are administered by Sunderland City Council and lie within Tyne and Wear. This new constituency crosses both county and local authority boundaries. We argue that this will cause considerable confusion for residents.

Jarrow and Sunderland West

Three of the wards - Castle, Redhill and St Anne's - that currently sit within Washington and Sunderland West, are administered by Sunderland City Council. This new constituency will cross local authority boundaries and create a constituency that combines part of Sunderland with Jarrow - a town that residents of Sunderland do not identify with.

Seaham and Peterlee County Constituency

One of the wards - Doxford - currently sits within Houghton and Sunderland South and is administered by Sunderland City Council. This new constituency will cross local authority and county boundaries. Residents of Doxford will not recognise themselves as part of Seaham and Peterlee. As a relatively new suburban development, and having no prior independent existence, unlike settlements such as Hetton, they identify very strongly as a part of Sunderland. This change is causing resentment and confusion with a Facebook group 'Doxford Says No' campaigning against the change.

<https://www.sunderlandecho.com/news/politics/sunderland-community-hits-out-at-nameless-bureaucrat-with-a-spreadsheet-over-constituency-boundary-proposals-3265734> .

They argue, quite rightly, that their transport systems and amenities are centred on Sunderland and they have little to no connection with Seaham or Peterlee. If one of the wards currently covered by Houghton and Sunderland South needs to join Seaham and Peterlee, it would make more sense for

this to be Ryhope. It is closer and more connected to Seaham, has an independent identity and, as an ex-colliery village, has more in common with Seaham and Easington than Doxford does.

Washington and Sunderland South West

All of the wards included in this new constituency will be administered by Sunderland City Council. This reorganisation will not cause great disruption

Overall - the changes made to constituency boundaries in Sunderland seem to be unnecessarily disruptive, likely to cause confusion and resentment and will produce five constituencies in a relatively small city covered by a single local authority. A resident who provided us with feedback described this as 'butchery' and we concur.

North Tyneside

Whitley Bay and Cramlington County Constituency

Five of the wards - Monkseaton North, Monkseaton South, St Mary's, Valley and Whitley Bay - currently sit within the constituency of Tynemouth and are covered by North Tyneside council. The new constituency will cross local authority and county boundaries causing considerable disruption and confusion.

Tynemouth

No comment

Blyth and Ashington

No comment

Overall - Our concerns centre on Whitley Bay and Cramlington Constituency. Not only will this cross both county and local authority boundaries, it will separate the ward of Whitley Bay from the other two coastal wards - Tynemouth and Cullercoats. These three communities have much in common, feel an affinity and should be represented by the same MP.

Durham

City of Durham

Several wards are being detached from City of Durham. We have no issue with the wards that are being moved to NW Durham as these communities will still be within a constituency they will identify with. We are concerned about the reassignment of Brandon and Willington and Hunwick to Bishop Auckland. These communities identify with Durham and, at the same time as they are being detached, three wards - Copt Hill, Hetton and Houghton - that identify with Sunderland, are being moved into City of Durham. This seems unnecessarily disruptive and breaks up natural communities.

Overall - broadly support but would ask you to reconsider the substitution of Brandon and Willington and Hunwick for Copt Hill, Hetton and Houghton.

Northumberland

Wansbeck

Wansbeck Constituency is one of two in the NE which is to disappear under these proposals. In effect the present constituency is to be split with the eastern portion becoming part of an enlarged Blyth and Ashington Constituency and Morpeth becoming part of the enlarged Berwick and Morpeth Constituency. This split seems rational and we support it with some minor adjustments.

The Local Government Longhorsley Ward is one of a very few which is currently split between two Constituencies, part being in Wansbeck and part in Hexham. The proposal is to re-combine them and to put the whole Ward into the Hexham Constituency.

The Ward includes the parish council area of Hepscott, a large portion of which lies within the continuously built-up area of Morpeth town, although outside Morpeth Town Council area. The Ward also includes the Parish of Thirston which stands on the A1 between Morpeth and Alnwick in the heart of the proposed Berwick and Morpeth Constituency and has no direct connection by road or rail with Hexham. Longhorsley is likewise on the road between Morpeth and Wooler with no sensible connection to Hexham.

We propose that the Longhorsley Ward should continue to be split, with the parishes of Hepscott, Mitford, Longhorsley and Thirston being in the Berwick and Morpeth Constituency, to reflect their place in the Morpeth catchment area and their remoteness from Hexham.

Overall - support proposals with exception of the reunification of Longhorsley Ward.

Appendix 10: Labour Party Counterproposal for the whole region

2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies

Official response from
The Labour Party

North East

North East Region

5.1. Electorates and Review Areas

- 5.1.1. We note that the North East Region has an electorate of 1,952,999 and has an entitlement to 27 seats under the Sainte-Laguë allocation, a reduction of two.
- 5.1.2. We further note that the Theoretical Entitlement of the region is to just 26.61 constituencies which has been rounded up to 27, leaving the average constituency electorate across the whole region at 72,333, 1,060 below the Electoral Quota.
- 5.1.3. We agree with the Commission that the extensive changes to local government structures over the years have reduced the justification for using the historic counties as the starting point for review areas. For example the district of Darlington has previously been considered as part of County Durham for these purposes, having been contained within the shire county council area prior to the creation of its unitary authority. It has now however been incorporated into the Tees Valley Combined Authority.
- 5.1.4. We agree with the Commission that these combined authorities are appropriate review areas as they allow them to respect the boundary of the River Tyne. Were the Commission to adhere to county boundaries the assumption would be that for example it would be more appropriate to link Newcastle upon Tyne with Gateshead rather than Northumberland which, as they point out in the Proposals Booklet, has proved unpopular.
- 5.1.5. We agree therefore that the North of Tyne Combined Authority should be a review area with an allocation of eight seats, a reduction of one, that the Tees Valley should also be a Review Area with an allocation of seven seats, and the North East Combined Authority comprising the three boroughs of Tyne & Wear County south of the Tyne plus Durham County Unitary Authority should be

another, with an allocation of 12 seats. We also agree with the initial proposal that the Hartlepool BC should remain coterminous with its borough. While we recognise that the Borough of Gateshead could sustain two whole seats however, we believe that the consequences of its doing so may not be justified by its benefits and we wish to make a counter proposal for the North East Combined Authority Review Area.

5.2. North of the Tyne

- 5.2.1. We believe that the Initial Proposals in this review area which result in the technical abolition of two seats and the creation of a new seat are far too disruptive.
- 5.2.2. We agree that the best way for the Berwick upon Tweed CC to be enlarged is for it to include the town of Morpeth. We do not however, support the inclusion of the Newcastle upon Tyne ward of Callerton & Throckley in the Hexham CC which breaks the ties of that ward with the west of the city and contributes to the break-up of the Newcastle upon Tyne North BC the new seat of which name bears little resemblance to the current one. Furthermore the proposals break in half both of the existing seats in the Borough of North Tyneside and create a Whitley Bay & Cramlington seat which would be made up of disparate parts.
- 5.2.3. We propose instead that the Hexham CC should include the four wards of Bedlington and Choppington, with the whole of the Longhorsley ward included in the Berwick & Morpeth CC, which improves the shape of that constituency and respects its ties with the town of Morpeth.
- 5.2.4. Rather than Bedlington and Choppington we propose that the Blyth & Ashington CC should include the wards of Hartley, Holywell and Seghill with Seaton Delaval.

We propose that the Tynemouth BC should be amended only to include the Riverside ward with the Valley ward included with five wards of North Tyneside BC in a Cramlington & Longbenton CC. The remaining four wards of North Tyneside would be in a Newcastle upon Tyne East & Wallsend BC, a seat which was in place between 1997 and 2010 and which is centred on the A1058 Coast Road and the Metro rail route. The five Newcastle upon Tyne wards of Arthur's Hill, Monument, North Jesmond, Ouseburn and South Jesmond would be in the Newcastle upon Tyne Central BC, with Newcastle upon Tyne North BC including the whole of the Gosforth area.

5.2.5. The full details of the counter proposal and electorates are set out in section 5.6 below.

Figure 1: Labour Counter Proposal for North of Tyne

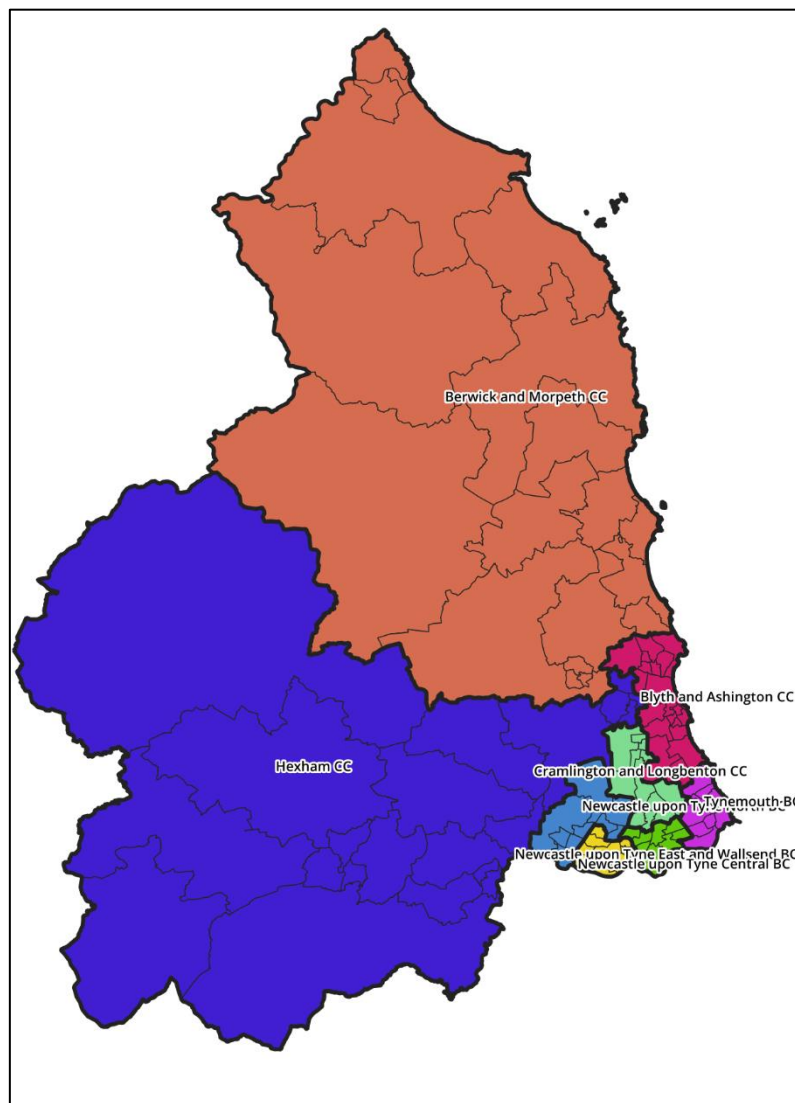
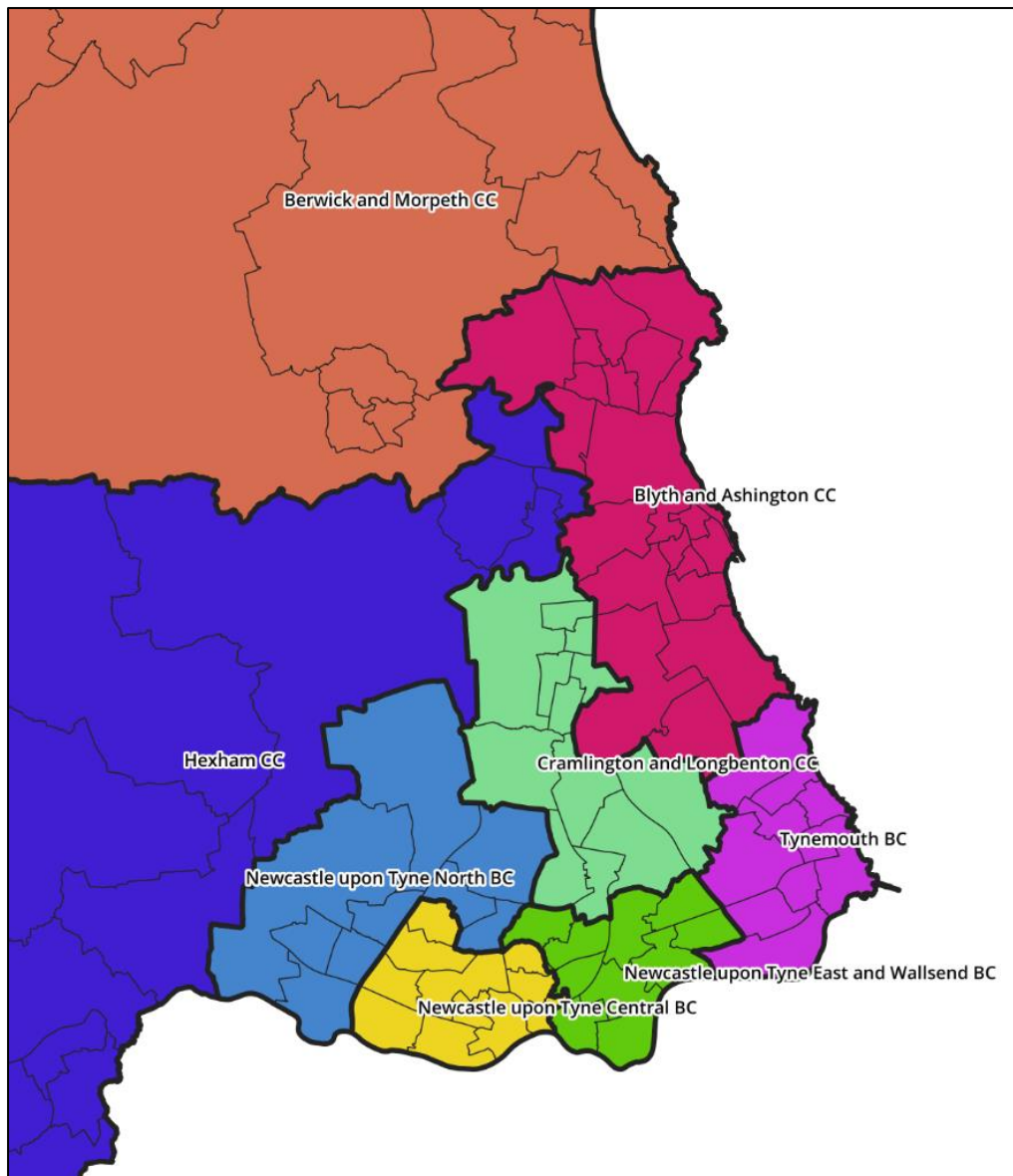


Figure 2: Labour Counter Proposal for North of Tyne (detail)



5.3. South of the Tyne

5.3.1. We also wish to make a counter proposal affecting ten of the 12 seats in the Gateshead, South Tyneside, Sunderland and Durham Review Area. We believe that the Initial Proposals break ties in Sunderland by dividing the Houghton & Sunderland South BC quite arbitrarily between four different seats, while the changes to Jarrow constituency also create a contrived arrangement and ties are broken in various parts of County Durham including between Brandon and Durham and between Shildon and Bishop Auckland.

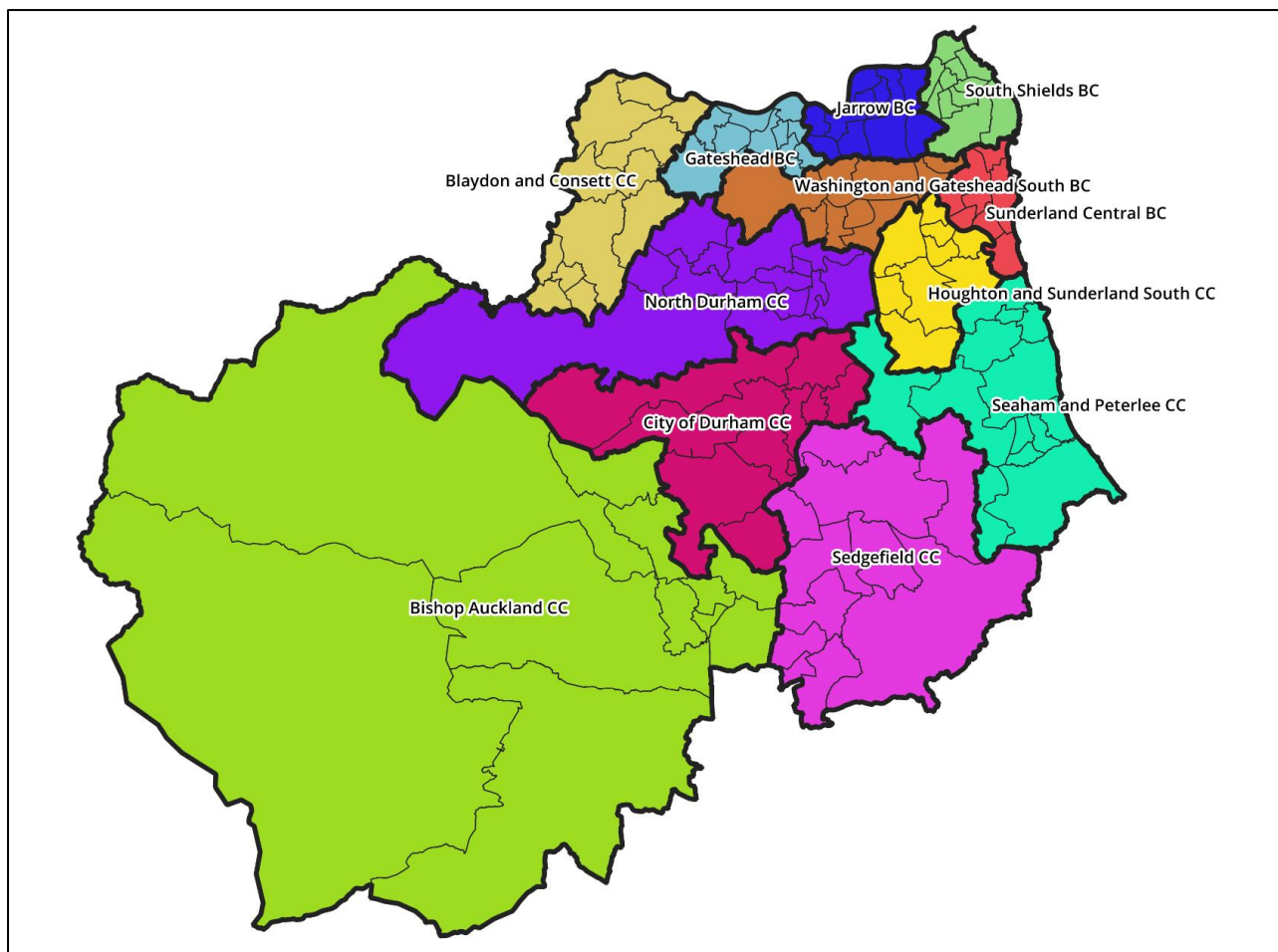
5.3.2. We propose therefore that the Borough of Gateshead should be included in the wider review area, allowing the existing Jarrow BC to retain the Gateshead

wards of Wardley & Leam Lane and Pelaw & Heworth and with the wards of Felling and Windy Nook & Whitehills ward added to replace the Cleadon & East Boldon ward. We also propose that Houghton & Sunderland South BC should be retained and amended only to include the St Anne's ward, with the Gateshead wards of Birtley and Lamesley included in a Washington & Gateshead South seat.

5.3.3. The Gateshead BC would continue to include Dunston & Teams with the three Whickham wards added while the remainder of the Blaydon constituency would be in a seat with six divisions of County Durham including the town of Consett. The North Durham CC would include the Lanchester ward rather than Burnopfield & Dipton allowing the whole of Deerness, Esh & Witton Gilbert and Brandon to be in the City of Durham CC along with Willington & Hunwick and Spennymoor. The Crook, Tow Law and Weardale divisions would be in Bishop Auckland CC along with Shildon & Dene Valley while the Sedgefield CC would include Durham South and Tudhoe and Seaham & Peterlee CC would include Sherburn.

5.3.4. While we accept that some ties are broken by aspects of the proposal, we believe that overall it is much less disruptive of existing arrangements and would mean that just one constituency would contain parts of both Durham and Tyne & Wear counties. The City of Sunderland would contain two seats wholly within the council area and one largely within it compared with its division between five different constituencies under the Initial Proposals, only one of which would be wholly within it. There would be five seats wholly within Durham County rather than four under the Initial Proposals.

Figure 3: Labour Counter Proposal for South of Tyne Review Area



5.3.5. The full details and electorates of the counter proposal are set out in section 5.6 below.

5.4. Tees Valley

5.4.1. We note the difficulties which the Commission faces because of the need to add parts of the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees to the Middlesbrough constituency and that they concede that their proposals divide the town of Thornaby. We also believe the transfer of the Parkfield & Oxbridge ward to Stockton North CC is unsatisfactory.

5.4.2. We do though support the proposed Darlington CC including the ward of Heighington & Coniscliffe and we believe there is logic in the transfer of Longbeck and St Germain's to the Middlesbrough South & East Cleveland

constituency. We have no objection to the changes to the Redcar (& Eston) constituency.

5.4.3. We believe however that the proposed Stockton West CC, which comprises part of Stockton, part of Thornaby and a large rural area, lacks much coherence. While we do not wish to make a counter proposal at this stage we will carefully consider any that may be made by others.

5.5. Names and Designations

5.5.1. We do not wish to make any detailed comment on the names of constituencies until the Secondary Consultation Period.

5.6. Counter Proposals

5.6.1. The Labour Party wishes to make a counter proposal for the North of Tyne Review Area affecting all eight constituencies within it.

5.6.2. We also wish to make a counter proposal for the South of Tyne (North East Combined Authority) Review Area affecting ten of the 12 constituencies, but supporting the Initial Proposals for the South Shields BC and the Sunderland Central BC

5.6.3. The ward lists for the counter proposals are set out below.

Figure 4: Labour Party Counter Proposal for North of Tyne

Constituency and Electorate	Wards
Berwick and Morpeth CC 76,273	<u>Northumberland</u> divisions of: Alnwick, Amble, Amble West with Warkworth, Bamburgh, Berwick East, Berwick North, Berwick West with Ord, Druridge Bay, Longhorsley, Longhoughton, Lynemouth, Morpeth Kirkhill, Morpeth North, Morpeth Stobhill, Norham & Islandshires, Pegswood, Rothbury, Shilbottle, Wooler

Constituency and Electorate	Wards
Blyth and Ashington CC 73,745	<u>Northumberland</u> divisions of: Ashington Central, Bothal, College, Cowpen, Croft, Hartley, Haydon, Hirst, Holywell, Isabella, Kitty Brewster, Newbiggin Central & East, Newsham, Plessey, Seaton with Newbiggin West, Seghill with Seaton Delaval, Sleekburn, South Blyth, Stakeford, Wensleydale
Cramlington and Longbenton CC 73,453	<u>North Tyneside</u> wards of: Benton, Camperdown, Killingworth, Longbenton, Valley, Weetslade <u>Northumberland</u> divisions of: Cramlington East, Cramlington Eastfield, Cramlington North, Cramlington South East, Cramlington Village, Cramlington West
Hexham CC 76,380	<u>Northumberland</u> divisions of: Bedlington Central, Bedlington East, Bedlington West, Bellingham, Bywell, Choppington, Corbridge, Haltwhistle, Haydon and Hadrian, Hexham Central with Acomb, Hexham East, Hexham West, Humshaugh, Ponteland East and Stannington, Ponteland North, Ponteland South with Heddon, Ponteland West, Prudhoe North, Prudhoe South, South Tynedale, Stocksfield and Broomhaugh
Newcastle upon Tyne Central BC 75,241	<u>Newcastle upon Tyne</u> wards of: Arthur's Hill, Benwell & Scotswood, Blakelaw, Elswick, Kenton, Monument, North Jesmond, Ouseburn, South Jesmond, West Fenham, Wingrove
Newcastle upon Tyne East and Wallsend BC 75,024	<u>Newcastle upon Tyne</u> wards of: Byker, Dene & South Gosforth, Heaton, Manor Park, Walker, Walkergate <u>North Tyneside</u> wards of: Battle Hill, Howdon, Northumberland, Wallsend
Newcastle upon Tyne North BC 71,053	<u>Newcastle upon Tyne</u> wards of: Callerton & Throckley, Castle, Chapel, Denton & Westerhope, Fawdon & West Gosforth, Gosforth, Kingston Park South & Newbiggin Hall, Lemington, Parklands
Tynemouth BC 75,717	<u>North Tyneside</u> wards of: Chirton, Collingwood, Cullercoats, Monkseaton North, Monkseaton South, Preston, Riverside, St Mary's, Tynemouth, Whitley Bay

Figure 5: Labour Counter Proposal for South of Tyne (North East Combined Authority)

Constituency and Electorate	Wards
Bishop Auckland CC 70,879	<u>Durham</u> divisions of: Barnard Castle East, Barnard Castle West, Bishop Auckland Town, Coundon, Crook, Evenwood, Shildon and Dene Valley, Tow Law, Weardale, West Auckland, Woodhouse Close
Blaydon and Consett CC 70,163	<u>Durham</u> divisions of: Benfieldside, Burnopfield & Dipton, Consett North, Consett South, Delves Lane, Leadgate & Medomsley <u>Gateshead</u> wards of: Blaydon, Chopwell & Rowlands Gill, Crawcrook & Greenside, Ryton, Crookhill & Stella, Winlaton & High Spen
City of Durham CC 72,800	<u>Durham</u> divisions of: Belmont, Brandon, Deerness, Elvet & Gilesgate, Esh & Witton Gilbert, Framwellgate & Newton Hall, Neville's Cross, Spennymoor, Willington & Hunwick
Gateshead BC 70,994	<u>Gateshead</u> wards of: Bridges, Chowdene, Deckham, Dunston & Teams, Dunston Hill & Whickham East, High Fell, Lobley Hill & Bensham, Low Fell, Saltwell, Whickham North, Whickham South & Sunnyside
Houghton and Sunderland South CC 76,883	<u>Sunderland</u> wards of: Copt Hill, Doxford, Hetton, Houghton, Sandhills, Silksworth, Shiney Row, St Anne's, St Chad's
Jarrow BC 71,106	<u>Gateshead</u> wards of: Felling, Pelaw & Heworth, Wardley & Leam Lane, Windy Nook & Whitehills South Tyneside wards of: Bede, Boldon Colliery, Fellgate & Hedworth, Hebburn North, Hebburn South, Monkton, Primrose
North Durham CC 73,079	<u>Durham</u> divisions of: Annfield Plain, Chester-le-Street East, Chester-le-Street North, Chester-le-Street South, Chester-le-Street West Central, Craghead and South Moor, Lanchester, Lumley, North Lodge, Pelton, Sacriston, Stanley, Tanfield
Seaham and Peterlee CC 71,653	<u>Durham</u> divisions of: Blackhalls, Dawdon, Deneside, Easington, Horden, Murton, Passfield, Peterlee East, Peterlee West, Seaham, Sherburn, Shotton & South Hetton, Wingate

Constituency and Electorate	Wards
Sedgefield CC 69,767	<u>Durham</u> divisions of: Aycliffe East, Aycliffe North & Middridge, Aycliffe West, Bishop Middleham & Cornforth, Chilton, Coxhoe, Durham South, Ferryhill, Sedgefield, Trimdon & Thornley, Tudhoe
Washington and Gateshead South BC 71,775	<u>Gateshead</u> wards of Birtley, Lamesley <u>Sunderland</u> wards of: Castle, Redhill, Washington Central, Washington East, Washington North, Washington South, Washington West

Appendix 11: Liberal Democrat Party Counterproposal for the whole region



2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies

*Response from the Liberal Democrats
for North East England at the initial
consultation period*

North East Liberal Democrats
18th July 2021

1. Liberal Democrat Party Statement

1.1 This submission is made on behalf of the Liberal Democrats and the North East Liberal Democrats regional party. It is being presented as an overall response to the Initial Proposals of the Boundary Commission following consultation with Liberal Democrat local parties, parliamentarians, council groups and our wider membership.

1.2 We recognise that this review is an ongoing process, and we will be listening and learning at every stage. We reserve the right to alter our response at future stages of this process as new evidence emerges or to withhold comments on specific seat configurations at this stage of the process.

1.3 We note the statutory (Rule 5) considerations that Commission is taking into account throughout this Review:

- special geographical considerations, including in particular the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;
- local government boundaries as they existed (or were in prospect) 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.

1.4 We agree with the Commission's approach to interpreting these considerations as laid out in paragraphs 27-36 of its Guide to the 2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies.

1.5 In Paragraph 31 of the Guide to the Review, the Commission states:

"Wards are well-defined and well-understood units, which are generally indicative of areas which have a broad community of interest. Any division of a ward between constituencies would therefore risk breaking local ties, as well as adding complexity to both the task of Returning Officers in administering a Parliamentary election in the area, and the 'grass roots' co-ordination of political party activism. The BCE's view is therefore that wards should continue to be the default building block for constituencies." (BCE's emphasis).

1.6 In the same paragraph, the Commission goes on to limit the circumstances in which it would be prepared to split a ward:

“ • Where splitting a ward would significantly enhance the ability of the BCE to adhere to existing or prospective local authority boundaries (i.e. avoid constituencies crossing local authorities), maintain existing constituencies unchanged, and/or preserve local ties, without causing consequential significant problems for surrounding constituencies.

• Where the division of a ward would avoid the alternative of a significant ‘domino effect’ of change to a wide area if wards were to be kept whole.

• Where the division of a ward would avoid otherwise unacceptable outcomes forced by local geographical factors.....”6.3 In Paragraph 31 of the Guide to the Review, the Commission states:

“Wards are well-defined and well-understood units, which are generally indicative of areas which have a broad community of interest. Any division of a ward between constituencies would therefore risk breaking local ties, as well as adding complexity to both the task of Returning Officers in administering a Parliamentary election in the area, and the ‘grass roots’ co-ordination of political party activism. The BCE’s view is therefore that wards should continue to be the default building block for constituencies.” (BCE’s emphasis).

1.7 In the same paragraph, the Commission goes on to limit the circumstances in which it would be prepared to split a ward:

“ • Where splitting a ward would significantly enhance the ability of the BCE to adhere to existing or prospective local authority boundaries (i.e. avoid constituencies crossing local authorities), maintain existing constituencies unchanged, and/or preserve local ties, without causing consequential significant problems for surrounding constituencies.

• Where the division of a ward would avoid the alternative of a significant ‘domino effect’ of change to a wide area if wards were to be kept whole.

• Where the division of a ward would avoid otherwise unacceptable outcomes forced by local geographical factors.....”

1.8 We remain to be convinced that any of the three ward splits proposed in the **South East** Region meet the circumstances put forward by the Commission.

1.9 While we agree with the Commission’s view, stated in paragraph 37, that orphan wards should be avoided, this is not a statutory (Rule 5) consideration. Where the choice is between respecting statutory considerations and avoiding an orphan ward, the Rule 5 considerations should take precedence.

1.10 Clearly it is not always possible to respect all of the statutory considerations whilst keeping all constituencies in the statutory range. Where we make alternative proposals, we will do so in a way which we believe better respect geography, local government boundaries, existing constituencies, and communities. We will also follow the Commission’s own guidance.

1.11 The Commission has proposed to change the names of some constituencies even where there has been little or no change to their boundaries. We believe this should spark a debate about constituency names in general and in those seats where the Commission has chosen to change, or not to change, these names. We have therefore refrained, at this stage, from commenting on names except where we propose a change to boundaries or where we believe the name proposed by the Commission does not describe the seat.

2. North East and sub-regions

2.1 We note the use of the Sainte-Laguë process to allocate 27 seats to North East England

2.2 We note the Commission’s decision to sub-divide North East England into the following sub-regions:

Sub-region	Number of constituencies
Newcastle, North Tyneside and Northumberland	8
County Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland	10
Gateshead	2
Tees Valley	7

2.3 Given the constraints of geography and existing sub-regional governance arrangements for the North of Tyne and for the Tees Valley, these sub-regions are broadly sensible, although it does not appear essential to us to categorise Gateshead as a separate sub-region to the County Durham, South Tyneside, and Sunderland one. However, we note that Gateshead local authority area has a population quota of 2 constituencies and we support the BCE proposals for a **Gateshead** constituency and a **Blaydon** constituency.

2.4 We are supportive of the proposals for Newcastle, North Tyneside and Northumberland, and for the Tees Valley.

2.5 Whereas we are supportive of the proposals for South Tyneside, Washington, and for most of Sunderland, we believe an alternative configuration is preferable for County Durham and the adjoining Sunderland wards of Houghton, Copt Hill, and Hetton, together with Doxford Park, that better reflect this area's local links with East Durham coalfield communities along the A19 to the south west of Sunderland. These have closer historical, economic and cultural ties with each other than with either the City of Sunderland or the City of Durham. We have set out alternative proposals for County Durham constituencies which allow for more recognisable and coherent groupings of communities.

3. Revised proposals for County Durham, South Tyneside, and Sunderland

3.1 We are supportive of the proposals for **Jarrow & Sunderland West**, **South Shields**, **Sunderland Central**, and **Washington & Sunderland South West**. We make the following counter-proposals for the remainder of this area

3.2 North Durham or Consett and Stanley

We propose that the **North Durham** constituency should group the two main North Durham towns of Consett and Stanley, along with their neighbouring settlements.

3.3 North West Durham

We propose that the **North West Durham** constituency should include Weardale, the Wear Valley, Crook, Spennymoor, and villages west of Durham City along the tributary River Browney and the River Deerness valleys

3.4 Bishop Auckland

We propose that the **Bishop Auckland** constituency should no longer contain Spennymoor, but should contain the three Newton Aycliffe divisions, which closely border Bishop Auckland and Shildon and are served by the same local road network.

3.5 Peterlee and Sedgfield or South East Durham

We propose a new constituency comprising Sedgfield, Peterlee and the villages and settlements of South East Durham including the small towns of Coxhoe, Ferryhill, and Chilton.

3.6 Houghton and Seaham

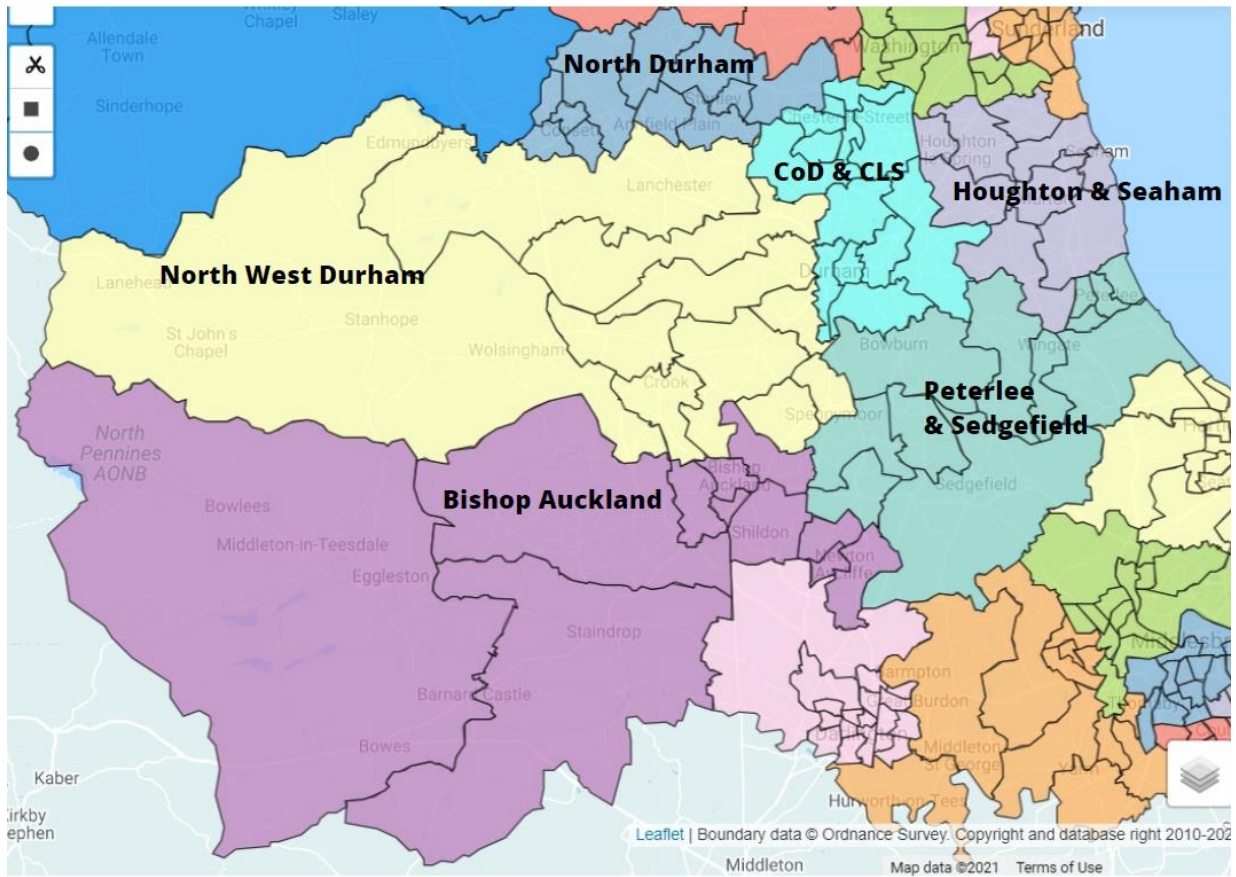
We propose a new constituency comprising the towns of Houghton le Spring and Seaham and the former pit villages of Hetton le Hole and Murton, together with the Doxford Park area of Sunderland (Doxford ward). We contend this constitutes a more logical configuration of similar communities along the A19 to the south west of Sunderland, and ensuring Houghton le Spring, Copt Hill and Hetton are in a constituency with similar local identity and tradition as parts of the former East Durham coalfield along with Seaham and its environs, rather than with the main Sunderland urban area.

3.7 City of Durham and Chester le Street

We propose a new constituency which includes the main part of Durham City together with its outlying areas along the A1 and A167, together with Chester le Street, which is some 5 miles north and is effectively linked by “ribbon” development along the old Great North Road (A167). We believe this is a more comprehensible and obvious linkage than with the BCE proposed City of Durham constituency including the more distant and less obviously linked Houghton and Hetton communities.

3.9 Taken as a whole, we believe this configuration of County Durham constituencies (together with outlying and distinct communities in the Sunderland local authority area) achieves very good levels of electoral equality, whilst also allowing clear community linkages and identities to be achieved in a more recognisable way than is set out in the BCE proposal. In our view, this revised configuration is more likely to be supported by the general public and local stakeholders.

Our proposals on the map



4 Conclusion

4.1 We should like to thank the BCE for their time and efforts in reaching their initial proposals. We confirm that our view is that the BCE proposals for Newcastle, North Tyneside, and Northumberland, Gateshead, and the Tees Valley are reasonable and acceptable. Similarly, we likewise accept the logic of the proposals for South Tyneside and the main part of Sunderland.

4.2 Nevertheless, we respectfully submit that our alternative proposals for County Durham and the Houghton / Hetton / Doxford parts of Sunderland have merit, achieve electoral equality and respect community identities, and should be given further consideration.

Appendix A

Counter proposal for County Durham, South Tyneside, and Sunderland

[NB Jarrow & Sunderland West, South Shields, Sunderland Central, and Washington & Sunderland South West as per the BCE proposals]

Constituency	Wards	Electorate
North Durham	<u>Durham County Council</u> Tanfield Burnopfield and Dipton Annfield Plain Stanley Craghead and South Moor Pelton Leadgate & Medomsley Delves Lane Consett South Benfieldside Consett North	70,085
North West Durham	<u>Durham County Council</u> Lanchester Esh & Witton Gilbert Tudhoe Spennymoor Willington and Hunwick Brandon Deerness Tow Law Crook Weardale	71,666
Bishop Auckland	<u>Durham County Council</u> Barnard Castle West Barnard Castle East Evenwood West Auckland Bishop Auckland Town Coundon	71,733

	Woodhouse Close Shildon & Dene Valley Aycliffe North and Middridge Aycliffe East Aycliffe West	
Sedgefield & Peterlee	<u>Durham County Council</u> Chilton Ferryhill Sedgefield Bishop Middleham and Cornforth Coxhoe Trimdon and Thornley Wingate Blackhalls Passfield Peterlee West Peterlee East Horden	70,039
Houghton & Seaham	<u>Durham County Council</u> Easington Shotton and South Hetton Hetton Seaham Murton Deneside Dawdon <u>Sunderland City Council</u> Copt Hill Doxford Hetton Houghton	71,167
City of Durham & Chester le Street	<u>Durham County Council</u> North Lodge Chester le Street West Central Lumley	71,712

	Chester le Street South Chester le Street East Sacriston Framwellgate and Newton Hall Sherburn Durham South Neville's Cross Belmont Elvet and Gilesgate	
--	---	--

Appendix 12: Draft Response to Boundary Commission Review

March 2022

Dear Sirs,

Initial Proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in the North East Region.

At its meeting on 23 March 2022, Durham County Council further considered the initial proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries for County Durham and the representations received in respect of those proposals during the first stage of consultation.

The Council agreed that in responding to those representations, it wished to reiterate the points made by the Council during the first consultation, which are set out below for ease of reference:

- i) the majority of constituencies should fall within County Durham with any cross over into other local authorities kept to an absolute minimum.
- ii) the Commission should take account of established communities within neighbouring towns and villages (such as Willington and Crook and Spennymoor and Tudhoe) and ensure as far is possible that they are contained within the same Parliamentary constituency rather than split between constituencies.
- iii) the Council requests the opportunity at the next stage of consultation to comment on the proposed names of constituencies to ensure that they better reflect the areas that they represent with an emphasis on geography (such as North Durham, North West Durham) rather than townships (such as Bishop Auckland or Seaham and Peterlee).

The Council would also request that the Boundary Commission takes note of the strength of opposition to the initial proposals expressed during the first consultation. In particular, the Council urges the Commission to take account of the number of representations highlighting the importance of maintaining community links.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Amanda Hopgood, Leader of the Council and Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group

Councillor Richard Bell, Deputy Leader of the Council and Leader of the Conservative Group

Councillor John Shuttleworth (Leader of the Durham County Council Independent Group

Councillor Alan Shield (Leader of the Durham Group)

Councillor Carl Marshall (Leader of the Labour Group)

Councillor Liz Maddison (Leader of the Spennymoor and Tudhoe Independents).

County Council

23 March 2022

Ferryhill By-Election



Statement of County Returning Officer

Following a by-election held on 24 February 2022 in the Ferryhill Electoral Division, I formally submit below a Statement for the information of the County Council showing details of the person elected as a County Councillor:

ELECTORAL DIVISION	NAME OF PERSON ELECTED
FERRYHILL	Curtis Ferenc BIHARI LABOUR

JOHN HEWITT
Returning Officer

This page is intentionally left blank