

Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No.157

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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To the Rt Hon Roy Jenkins MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department

PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DISTRICT OF
CHESTER-LE-STREET IN THE COUNTY OF DURHAM

1. We, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, having carried out our initial review of the electoral arrangements of the district of Chester-le-Street in accordance with the requirements of section 63 of, and Schedule 9 to, the Local Government Act 1972, present our proposals for the future electoral arrangements for that district.

2. In accordance with the procedure prescribed in section 60(1) and (2) of the 1972 Act, notice was given on 31 December 1974 that we were to undertake this review. This was incorporated in a consultation letter addressed to Chester-le-Street District Council, copies of which were circulated to parish councils and a parish meeting in the district, Durham County Council, the member of Parliament for the constituency concerned and the headquarters of the main political parties. Copies were also sent to the editors of the local newspapers circulating in the area and of the local government press. Notices inserted in the local press announced the start of the review and invited comments from members of the public and interested bodies.

3. Chester-le-Street District Council were invited to prepare a draft scheme of representation for our consideration. When doing so, they were asked to observe the rules laid down in Schedule 11 to the Local Government Act 1972 and the guidelines which we set out in our Report No 6 about the proposed size of the council and the proposed number of councillors for each ward. They were also asked to take into account any views expressed to them following their consultation with

local interests. We therefore asked that they should publish details of their provisional proposals about a month before they submitted their draft scheme to us, thus allowing opportunity for local comment.

4. The District Council have passed a resolution under section 7(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 requesting a system of whole council elections.

5. On 28 May 1975 Chester-le-Street District Council presented their draft scheme of representation. The Council proposed to divide the area of the district into 16 wards each returning one, two or three councillors, to form a council of 33.

6. We considered the draft scheme submitted by the District Council. We noted that the scheme complied generally with the rules in Schedule 11 to the Local Government Act 1972 and our own guidelines but that on the whole the urban area had a better standard of representation than the rural area. An alternative grouping of parishes in 2 wards was suggested by Bournmoor Parish Council and alternative proposals for the urban area were received from a political party and a local organisation.

7. After carefully considering all the comments we had received, we decided to adopt the pattern of wards proposed in the draft scheme, but to make two modifications; we divided the proposed 3-member "Sacriston and Edmondsley" ward to give each parish separate representation, the Sacriston ward returning three councillors, and the Edmondsley ward returning one. We transferred an area containing approximately 470 electors from the proposed Chester Central ward to the proposed Chester South ward and as a consequence we considered that the Chester Central ward could be adequately represented by 1 councillor. We formulated our draft proposals accordingly.

8. On 20 February 1976 we issued our draft proposals, which were sent to all who had received our consultation letter or had commented on the Council's draft scheme. The Council were asked to make the draft proposals and the accompanying map which defined the proposed ward boundaries available for inspection at their main offices. Representations on our draft proposals were invited from those to whom they were circulated and, by public notices, from members of the public and interested bodies. We asked that any comments should reach us by 16 April 1976.
9. Our draft proposals were accepted by the District Council subject to a slight boundary realignment between the Chester North and Pelton Fell wards, where our draft proposals had followed a line which had been incorrectly drawn in the Council's original submission. After consulting Ordnance Survey we agreed to make the necessary adjustment to the boundary.
10. Bournmoor Parish Council repeated their earlier request for a re-grouping of the parishes in the proposed Bournmoor and Lumley wards, but their suggestion would have created an imbalance of representation and was not made with the support of the other parishes concerned. We therefore decided to confirm our draft proposals for these wards.
11. We therefore confirm our draft proposals as our final proposals subject to the realignment of the boundary between the Chester North and Pelton Fell wards.
12. Details of the final proposals are set out in Schedule 1 to this report and on the attached map. Schedule 1 gives the names of the wards and the number of councillors to be returned by each ward. The boundaries of the new wards are defined on the map.

PUBLICATION

13. In accordance with section 60(5)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, a copy of this report and a copy of the map are being sent to Chester-le-Street District Council and will be available for public inspection at the Council's main offices.

Copies of this report (without the map) are also being sent to those who received the consultation letter and to those who made comments. A detailed description of the boundaries of the proposed wards as defined on the map is set out in Schedule 2 to this report.

L.S.

Signed:

EDMUND COMPTON (Chairman)

JOHN M RANKIN (Deputy Chairman)

DIANA ALBEMARLE

T C BENFIELD

MICHAEL CHISHOLM

ANDREW WHEATLEY

N DIGNEY (Secretary)

24 June 1976

CHESTER-LE-STREET DISTRICT: NAMES OF PROPOSED WARDS AND NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS

<u>NAME OF WARD</u>	<u>NO OF COUNCILLORS</u>
BOURNMOOR	2
CHESTER CENTRAL	1
CHESTER NORTH	3
CHESTER SOUTH	3
CHESTER WEST	3
EDMONDSLEY	1
GRANGE VILLA	1
HOLMLANDS PARK	2
LUMLEY	3
NORTH LODGE	1
OUSTON	2
PELTON	3
PELTON FELL	2
PLAWSWORTH	1
SACRISTON	3
URPETH	1
WALDRIDGE	1

CHESTER-LE-STREET DISTRICT DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WARDS

NOTE: Where the boundary is described as following a road, railway, river canal or similar feature it should be deemed to follow the centre line of the feature unless otherwise stated.

PELTON FELL WARD

Commencing at the point where the northern boundary of Waldrige CP meets the eastern boundary of Edmondsley CP, thence northwestwards and following said eastern boundary to the southern boundary of Pelton CP, thence northwards and following said boundary to the unnamed stream forming the northern boundary of parcel number 0089 as shown on Ordnance Survey 1:2500 plan NZ 24/2551 Edition of 1958, thence southeastwards along said stream and following it to Chester Burn, thence southwards along said burn to Pelton Fell Road, thence northeastwards and southeastwards along said road to the road known as North Approach, thence southwestwards along said road and southwestwards and following the proposed spine road to the northern boundary of Waldrige CP, thence westwards and following said boundary to the point of commencement.

CHESTER NORTH WARD

Commencing at the point where the eastern boundary of Pelton Fell Ward meets the eastern boundary of Pelton CP, thence generally northwards and following said CP boundary to the southern boundary of North Lodge CP, thence generally eastwards along said boundary to North Road, thence generally southwards along said road and Newcastle Road to the road known as South Burns, thence westwards along said road and northwestwards along Pelton Fell Road and the eastern boundary of Pelton Fell Ward to the point of commencement.

CHESTER WEST WARD

Commencing at the point where the northern boundary of Waldrige CP meets the eastern boundary of Pelton Fell Ward, thence northwards and following said eastern boundary to the southern boundary of Chester North Ward, thence eastwards and following said boundary to the railway, thence generally southwards along

said railway to Waldrige Road, thence southwestwards along said road to the northern boundary of Waldrige CP, thence northwestwards and following said boundary to the point of commencement.

CHESTER CENTRAL WARD

Commencing at the junction of Roman Road (A6127) and Clifford Terrace, thence southwestward along said Terrace and its prolongation in the same straight line to the railway, thence generally northwards along said railway to the southern boundary of Chester North Ward, thence generally eastwards along said boundary to Front Street, thence generally southwards along said street and Roman Road to the point of commencement.

HOLMLANDS PARK WARD

Commencing at the point where the prolongation westwards of the southern boundary of parcel number 5117 as shown on Ordnance Survey 1:2500 plan NZ 26/2750 copyright of 1970 meets Park Road South, thence northeastwards along said road, the eastern boundary of Chester Central Ward and the eastern boundary of Chester North Ward to the southern boundary of North Lodge CP, thence eastwards and following said boundary to the southwestern boundary of Lambton CP, thence southeastwards and following said boundary and southwards and following the western boundaries of Little Lumley CP and Great Lumley CP to a point opposite the northern boundary of parcel number 6300, thence northwestwards to and along said boundary and generally southwards along the western boundary of said parcel to the eastern boundary of parcel number 4500, thence northwards along said boundary to the northern boundary of said parcel, thence westwards along said boundary and in prolongation thereof to the point of commencement.

CHESTER SOUTH WARD

Commencing at the point where the northern boundary of Flawsforth CP meets the eastern boundary of Waldrige CP, thence northwestwards and following said

eastern boundary to the southern boundary of Chester West Ward, thence north-eastwards along said boundary to the western boundary of Chester Central Ward, thence generally southwards along said boundary to the southern boundary of said ward, thence generally northeastwards southwards and eastwards following said boundary and the southern boundary of Holmlands Park Ward to the western boundary of Great Lumley CP, thence southeastwards and following said boundary to the southern boundary of the District, thence southwestwards following said boundary and northwards following the northern boundary of Plawsworth CP to the point of commencement.

BOURNMOOR WARD

The parishes of Bournmoor
 Lambton
 South Biddick

EDMONDSLEY WARD

The parish of Edmondsley

GRANGE VILLA WARD

The Grange Villa ward of the parish of Pelton

LUMLEY WARD

The parishes of Great Lumley
 Little Lumley

NORTH LODGE WARD

The parish of North Lodge

OUSTON WARD

The parish of Ouston

PELTON WARD

The Pelton ward of the parish of Pelton

PLAWSWORTH WARD

The parish of Plawsworth

SACRISTON WARD

The parish of Sacriston

URPETH WARD

The parish of Urpeth

WALDRIDGE WARD

The parish of Waldrige