

**Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No. 272**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

REPORT NO. 272

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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Sir Edmund Compton GCB KBE

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Mr J M Rankin QC

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Lady Bowden

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Mr R R Thornton CB DL

Sir Andrew Wheatley CBE

To the Rt Hon Merlyn Rees, MF
Secretary of State for the Home Department

PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SOUTH
LAKELAND DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBRIA

1. We, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, having carried out our initial review of the electoral arrangements for South Lakeland district 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 laid down in Section 60(1) and (2) of the 1972 Act, notice was given on 19 August 1974 that we were to undertake this review. This was incorporated in a consultation letter addressed to the South Lakeland District Council, copies of which were circulated to Cumbria County Council, parish councils and parish meetings in the district, the Members of Parliament for the constituencies concerned and the headquarters of the main political parties. Copies were also sent to the editors of 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 from interested bodies.
3. South Lakeland 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 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 an opportunity for local comment.

4. The District Council have passed a resolution under Section 7(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 requesting the Secretary of State to provide for a system of elections by thirds.
5. On 4 March 1975, South Lakeland District Council presented their draft scheme of representation. They proposed to divide the area of the district into 40 wards, each returning 1, 2 or 3 members to give a total council of 54.
6. We considered the draft scheme submitted by the District Council and an alternative scheme submitted by a local political party. We decided to adopt the District Council's draft scheme as the basis of our draft proposals, but to reduce the over-representation of two areas we combined the proposed single-member Lakes : Grasmere and the proposed single-member Lakes : Langdales and Rydal wards to form an enlarged Lakes : Grasmere ward returning a single-member, and we reduced from 3 to 2 the number of councillors allocated to the Sedbergh ward. These alterations reduced the size of the council to 52 members.
7. On 8 July 1975, we issued our draft proposals and these were sent to all who had received our consultation letter or had commented on the Council's draft scheme. The District Council were asked to make the draft proposals, and the accompanying map which illustrated the 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 for comments to reach us by 16 September 1975.
8. We received comments objecting to the reductions in representation we had proposed, and alternative warding arrangements were put forward for other areas of the district.

9. We considered that we needed further information to enable us to reach a conclusion. Therefore, in accordance with Section 65(2) of the 1972 Act, and at our request, Mr. C N Booth was appointed an Assistant Commissioner to hold a local meeting and report to us.

10. Notice of the local meeting was sent to all who had received our draft proposals or had commented upon them, and was published locally.

11. The Assistant Commissioner held a meeting at Stricklandgate House, Kendal, on 11 December 1975. He also visited the areas which were the subject of comment.

12. There were two issues on which he felt he could not reach a conclusion without further information which was not available at the meeting. One was uncertainty about the District Council's plans for the future parish warding arrangements in Kendal, and the other concerned possible problems about the future compatibility of district wards and county electoral divisions. This information was sought by correspondence with South Lakeland District Council and Cumbria County Council after the meeting. On receiving the information the Assistant Commissioner asked for the meeting to be re-convened to discuss these two issues.

13. A further meeting was held at Kendal on 17 December 1976. Notification was sent to all who had received notice of the original meeting and to those who had attended it. The notice was published locally.

14. A copy of the Assistant Commissioner's report to us is attached at Schedule 1 to this report. The annexes to which he refers have not been reproduced.

15. In the light of the discussion which took place at the meetings and his inspection of the area the Assistant Commissioner recommended confirmation of our draft proposals except in the area of Kendal where he recommended that our proposed Strickland Fell, Highgate, Nether Castle and Far Cross wards, each returning 3 members, should be replaced by 12 single-member wards corresponding with 12 new parish wards.

16. We reviewed our draft proposals in the light of the comments which we had received and of the Assistant Commissioner's report. We concluded that his recommendations should be accepted and decided to confirm our draft proposals as our final proposals subject to the modifications he had suggested.

17. Details of our final proposals are set out in Schedules 2 and 3 to this report and on the attached map. Schedule 2 gives the names of the wards and the number of councillors to be returned by each. Schedule 3 shows the order of retirement of councillors. The boundaries of the new wards are shown on the attached map. A description of the proposed wards as shown on the map is set out in Schedule 4 to this report.

PUBLICATION

18. 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 South Lakeland 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.

L.S.

Signed:

EDMUND COMPTON (CHAIRMAN)

JOHN M RANKIN (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN)

PHYLLIS BOWDEN

J T BROCKBANK

MICHAEL CHISHOLM

R R THORNTON

ANDREW WHEATLEY

N DIGNEY (Secretary)

20 October 1977

14 January 1977

To the Chairman and members of the
Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Following my appointment by the Secretary of State for the Home Office as an Assistant Commissioner for the purpose of the review of the electoral arrangements for the District of South Lakeland I have the honour to report on a meeting at the Council Chamber, Stricklandgate, Kendal on Thursday 11 December 1975 and on a further meeting at the same place on Friday 17 December 1976 to hear representations on the draft proposals of the Commission.

The meeting on 11 December 1975 was attended by the undernamed:

South Lakeland District Council

Members: A W Bower
C H Iveson
Hilary Smyly
Cicely Thornton
Henry Thistlethwaite
John Dawson

Officers: N C Bizley
Alan F Winstanley
Frank Gosling

Cumbria County Council

T A Fox, Stone Lea, Sedgwick
G O White, The Courts, Carlisle
G D Nicholson, County Offices, Kendal

Kendal Town Council

P S Duff (Treasurer)

Ulverston Town Council

E Twentyman (Clerk), 8 New Market Street, Ulverston

Dent Parish Council

H Bell
Charles H Wilson (Clerk)

Garsdale Parish Council

M T Sykes (Clerk)

Westmorland Conservative Association

Major J G W Skipwith, Biggins House, Kirkby Lonsdale
(also representing Cumbria Association of Local
Councils and himself)

A C Moss, 112 Highgate, Kendal
G F Peaker, Michael's Fold, Grasmere
Mrs F W Anthony, Beck Steps Guest House, Grasmere
A E Anthony, Beck Steps Guest House, Grasmere

Sedbergh Conservative Association

A G Wilkinson, 66 Bainbridge Road, Sedbergh
Mrs J Chamley, Lune Croft, Sedbergh

Skipton Conservative Association

W G Thorpe, 19 Otley Road, Skipton

Westmorland Constituency Labour Party

Elizabeth Kemp, 9 Thorny Hills, Kendal
Brian Dobson

Sedbergh and District Chamber of Trade

John Douglass
Robert Udale
Henry Boardman

South Lakeland District Committee - Cumbria Association of Local Councils

F Thomas, Barnhowe Lyth, Kendal

The meeting on 17 December 1976 was attended by the undernamed:

South Lakeland District Council

A W Bower
Alan F Winstanley
Frank Gosling

Cumbria County Council

T A Fox
Eric J Barker
G O White

Kendal Town Council

P Duff

Staveley in Cartmel Parish Council

John H Park

Westmorland Conservative Association and Kirkby Lonsdale Parish Council

Major J G W Skipwith

Westmorland Conservative Association

A C Moss

Westmorland Labour Party

T Noble
Elizabeth Kemp
Avril Dobson
Deirdre Wilson

F Ogilvie, Cartmell Fell

Mrs Harrays, Cartmell Fell

C Thornton - Windermere (Applethwaite)
E R Capstick - S Lakeland (Hutton)

The draft scheme submitted by the South Lakeland District Council was identical with the then existing arrangements excepting within Kendal and Windermere where new parish wards or parish ward proposals were used as the basis for the new district wards. The draft proposals of the Commission followed the draft scheme of the District Council subject to a reduction in size of the Council from 54 to 52 by combining the proposed Grasmere and the proposed Langdales and Rydal wards to form a single member Grasmere ward and by reducing the representation of the proposed Sedbergh ward from three members to two.

In the proposed three member wards of the draft proposals of the Commission the member entitlement (based upon estimated electorate at 1979) varied from 3.16 to 3.30; in the two member wards from 1.61 to 2.11 and in the single member wards from 0.56 to 1.35. The outstanding variations in member entitlement of the draft scheme of the District Council consisted of an entitlement for a three member ward (Sedbergh) of 1.92 and entitlements of 0.52 and 0.55 for the Grasmere ward and the Langdales and Rydal ward respectively.

The draft proposals are contained in the memorandum of arrangements with Annex A and Annex B (all marked 1) attached to this report.

There is also attached to this report a table (marked 2) showing in detail the membership entitlement at 1974 and as estimated at 1979 based firstly on the draft proposals (52 member Council) and secondly on the District Council's draft scheme (54 member Council).

Prior to the meeting on 11 December 1975 the Commission was advised:

- (a) that the South Lakeland District Council objected to the Commission's proposed reduction in the membership of the Council from 54 to 52;
- (b) that the Cumbria County Council supported the District Council's objection;
- (c) that the Lakes Parish Council objected to the proposed reduction in the representation of the Grasmere area from 2 to 1;
- (d) that the Sedbergh Conservative Association, the Sedbergh and District Chamber of Trade, Mr A G Wilkinson of Sedbergh and Mr Henry Thistlethwaite JP, also of Sedbergh, objected to the proposed reduction in the representation of the Sedbergh area from 3 to 2;
- (e) that Councillor A W Bower of Grasmere via Mr Michael Jopling (member of parliament for the Westmorland County Constituency) supported the aforementioned objections;
- (f) that the Westmorland Constituency Labour Party supported the proposed reduction in the size of the District Council but proposed changes in certain areas designed to correct anomalies and to improve the relationship between district wards and county divisions. The proposed changes were detailed in a memorandum bearing a date stamp of February 27 1975 as modified by a letter to the Commission dated September 14 1975;

(g) that the Ulverston Town Council supported the draft proposals.

The Commission supplied me with copies of considerable correspondence between them and the District Council and the County Council respectively and between the two Councils. I was also supplied with copies of correspondence during the autumn of 1976 between Councillor Bower and the Home Office, the Boundary Commission and Mr Michael Jopling, MP.

At the outset of the meeting on 11 December 1975 I was handed further letters viz:

(a) dated 7 December 1975 from Mr W M Jessop, the proprietor of the New Dungeon Ghyll Hotel, Great Langdale;

(b) dated 8 December 1975 from Councillor C Barter;

(c) dated 4 December 1975 from Mr Michael Jopling - member of parliament for the Westmorland County Constituency

all supporting the District Council's proposed separate representation of the Langdales and Rydal area.

At the meeting on 11 December 1975 consideration was given to the whole of the draft proposals but the meeting on 17 December 1976 was limited to the further consideration of

(a) the proposed wards for Kendal; and

(b) how far it would be possible to establish compatible district and county electoral arrangements.

The observations made by those attending the meetings will be summarised by me subsequently in this report but for the purposes of a full record I attach prepared statements as follows:

marked 3 and 4 - the views of the South Lakeland District Council.

marked 5 - a statement by Councillor Bower.

marked 6 - the views of the Dent Parish Council on the Sedbergh

issue as expressed by their Clerk, Mr Charles Wilson.

marked 7 - 'a broad consideration' by the Westmorland Constituency

Labour Party on matters 'still to be decided'.

The Grasmere and the Langdales and Rydal areas

The District Council prepared a draft scheme for a 54 member council having an average electorate of 1,372 per councillor based upon the estimated electorate for 1979. The draft scheme made provision for a Lakes - Grasmere ward and a Lakes - Langdales and Rydal ward with estimated 1979 electorates of 720 and 750 respectively giving a member entitlement of 0.52 and 0.55 respectively.

The draft proposals of the Commission would reduce the total membership of the Council from 54 to 52 and in doing so the Commission proposed a single Lakes - Grasmere ward of an estimated 1,470 electors in 1979 with a member entitlement of 1.03. This proposal of the Commission was strongly challenged by the District Council and others.

The District Council maintained that the Commission's proposal was 'contrary to good government and a negation of democracy' - a denial of adequate representation of the electors in a rural area of some 21,000 acres. The South Lakeland district has a total of 382,871 acres and is the fifth largest in area in England. The District Council quoted 'concessions' to the Cumbria County Council in the proposed size of the County Council on account of the scattered and widespread nature of the County and to the proposals of the Commission in respect of the neighbouring Eden District of much smaller average electorate per member than proposed for South Lakeland. The physical characteristics of the area and the separation of communities by fells and mountains was stressed by the District Council.

The proposed electoral arrangements for the Eden District are detailed in Annex marked 8 supplied by the South Lakeland District Council and attention was drawn to the proposed electorate of 641 for the Ravenstonedale ward of the Eden district.

Grasmere, Langdales and Rydal, and Ambleside areas - being together the former Lakes Urban District - attract large numbers of visitors which in the opinion of the District Council adds to the responsibilities of the Councillors for those areas. Furthermore, representation on Committees of that area would be undesirably reduced by a reduction in the number of Councillors.

The Cumbria County Council representatives at the meeting endorsed the representations of the District Council and in particular emphasized the effect of the physical characteristics of the area and the limited lines of communication.

Councillor A W Bower - the member for the Grasmere ward - also supported the views expressed by the District Council. He said that the former Lakes UDC asked for five members but that request was rejected and now a further reduction to three members was quite unreasonable. The problem of adequate representation of the area on Committees by only three members for the former Lakes UD was stressed by Mr Bower.

Mr Bower's representations can be summarised as follows:

- (a) the draft proposal of the Commission is contrary to precedent established at Eden district and proposed for Cumbria;
- (b) there is an exceptional geographical boundary between Grasmere and the Langdales;
- (c) the proposed ward is far too large in area; the proposal is undemocratic and 'old ties' will be broken unnecessarily.

Major Skipwith appeared on behalf of the Westmorland Conservative Association, the Cumbria Association of local Councils and on his own behalf and supported all that had been said previously in opposition to the draft proposal of the Commission for Grasmere.

Mr G F Peaker - a resident of Grasmere - also supported the District Council.

Sedbergh

The second change made by the Commission in their draft proposals - as compared with the draft scheme of the District Council - consisted of a reduction from 3 to 2 in the representation of the Sedbergh ward. That proposal, together with the proposal of the Commission for the Grasmere area, accounts for the suggested total membership of 52 as compared with the District Council's proposal of the total membership of 54. The 1979 estimated electorate of the Sedbergh ward is 2,640 giving a membership entitlement of 1.85 assuming a Council of 52 members. The District Council's proposal of 3 members for that ward would give an electorate per councillor of 880 as compared with an average for the district as a whole of 1,425.

The District Council adopted in relation to the Sedbergh question much of their general submission in relation to Grasmere. Sedbergh ward was - pre-1972 - a rural district in its own right.

There are three quite distinct parishes of Sedbergh, Dent and Garsdale with a total area of 52,674 acres. The District Council submitted that it would be a breach of faith with the former RDC of Sedbergh if the representation of Sedbergh on the District Council were reduced from 3 to 2. When the former RDC decided to support the inclusion of their district in Cumbria they were - it was said - assured of adequate representation on the South Lakeland District Council; and communication between the parishes is poor.

Again the Cumbria County Council supported the representations of the District Council.

The Clerk of the Dent Parish Council reported that his Council were unanimous in their determination to seek three members for the Sedbergh ward. He spoke of small communities without services. Sedbergh itself accounts for some 1,800 of the present total ward electorate of 2,510. The Dent Parish Council would like to have one Councillor representing the rural areas of Dent and

Garsdale - leaving two members for the more urban area of Sedbergh itself. The District Council were however opposed to the division of the Sedbergh ward.

The Clerk of the Garsdale Parish Council stressed the different interests of rural and urban areas. 'Tourism' he said 'hadn't taken over Garsdale from the true farmer'.

The parishes of Dent and Garsdale together have an electorate of 738 and the urban area of Sedbergh 1,772.

Mr John Dawson spoke for the Sedbergh Parish Council. He is a member of the South Lakeland District Council and a past Chairman. He was Chairman of the Sedbergh RDC for 15 years and Chairman of the Joint Committee at the time of reorganisation. With that experience, Mr Dawson voiced the very strong feelings of the people of the Sedbergh district in favour of 3 members and wanted account to be taken of public opinion. The burden of attending meetings - always at some distance - was too great for 2 members only.

Dr Henry Thistlethwaite endorsed all that had been said by Mr Dawson.

Dr Thistlethwaite also was a member of the Parish Council and of the District Council. In his view the burden of attending Committees was becoming intolerable.

Councillor C H Iveson - again a member of the Parish and District Councils - said that he had to spend three days a week on Council business due partly to the small representation in numbers on the District Council and the problems of a scattered electorate with long distances to travel.

Mr A G Wilkinson of the Sedbergh Conservative Party pointed out that 10 miles had to be travelled from east to west of the ward and 14 from north to south. Mr Wilkinson also quoted one member wards of the South Ribble District of 962, 553, 740, 743 and 1,003 electors but the average electorate per member at South Ribble was not available to me.

Mr John Douglass representing the Sedbergh and District Chamber of Trade endorsed the views of previous speakers on the Sedbergh representation issue.

The Ulverston Town Council opposed the introduction of any further 'rural weighting'.

Kendal

The District Council told me that prior to 1972 a review of the wards in Kendal was considered to be necessary but that the task was not completed. There were 6 parish wards and at district level a combination of parish wards produced 4 district wards for the first elections.

Subsequent to 1972 the District Council, the County Council and the Parish Council favoured an agreed pattern of 4 three member district wards capable of use as 4 single member county divisions but the Westmorland Constituency Labour Party favoured single member wards for district purposes. Notwithstanding the opposition of the Labour Party the District Council felt it right to proceed on the basis of the suggested 4 three member wards and the draft proposals of the Commission made provision accordingly.

At the meeting on 11 December 1975 the Treasurer of the Town Council (Mr Duff) indicated that the views of the Constituency Labour Party were not known to the Town Council when agreeing to the 4 six member parish wards (and 4 three member district wards); and that only a few days prior to the date of the meeting (11 December 1975) the Town Council decided to support 12 one member district wards instead of 4 three member wards.

For the District Council it was said on 11 December 1975 that the District Council might well wish to have an opportunity of reviewing its view in the light of the change in the views of the Town Council.

I elected in the circumstances to defer coming to any conclusion about Kendal until the District Council had been given a chance of considering the change in the Town Council's views.

At the further meeting on 17 December 1976 I was told that the District Council, the Town Council and the Westmorland Constituency Labour Party favoured for district elections a pattern of 12 single member wards based upon a draft Order of 12 two member parish wards submitted to the Commission on 4 August 1976 and annexed hereto marked 9. The only reservation came from the Westmorland Constituency Conservative Party who continued on balance to prefer three member wards although they recognised some advantages of single member wards.

Generally

I had before me at the meeting on 11 December 1975 the draft proposals of the Commission and alternative proposals of the Westmorland Constituency Labour Party.

The District Council took the view that the Constituency Labour Party seemed to be intent on fitting district wards neatly within existing County divisions. On the other hand the District Council had concentrated on following the 'guide lines' of the 11th Schedule to the 1972 Act. Detailed proposals of the Constituency Labour Party and the replies of the District Council are contained in documents already noted and annexed to this report. In the light of what was said at the further meeting on 17 December 1976 no useful purpose would be served by detailing here the proposals and counter proposals. Sufficient it may be to record that it was not possible at the meeting on 11 December 1975 for the County Council to tell me whether (i) the draft proposals of the Commission and (ii) the alternative of the Constituency Labour Party would preclude proposals for electoral divisions based generally upon the grouping of wards and complying with the criteria laid down in the 1972 Act. At my request after the meeting on 11 December 1975 the Commission invited the County Council and the District Council to provide this information bearing in mind of course that I was not seeking positive proposals for county divisions in advance of the county review. I wanted to identify the areas where problems could be foreseen.

During 1976 members and officers of the two Councils met in preparation for a further meeting which was in fact held on 17 December 1976. On 3 August 1976 the County Council advised the Commission and likewise advised me at the further meeting on 17 December 1976 that 'in principle it would be possible to form County electoral divisions without dividing district wards in twelve of the sixteen divisions'. Some changes in existing divisions would be necessary to achieve this degree of compatibility. Of the remaining four divisions an improvement was thought possible at Sedbergh but compatibility in the three remaining divisions was not possible. The accompanying schedules marked 10 and 11 demonstrate how this measure of compatibility could be achieved but it must be emphasised that at this stage the schedules are not positive proposals of the County Council.

Dr Kemp - on behalf of the Constituency Labour Party - Mr Bower, and Major Skipwith - on behalf of the Constituency Conservative Party - commented on details, but at the end of the meeting I was assured by Dr Kemp that the Constituency Labour Party had no specific proposals to submit as an alternative to the draft proposals for the south Westmorland part of the South Lakeland District - that part having been throughout a primary concern of the Party.

Recommendations

It will not be difficult for me to make a recommendation in relation to Kendal because there is no outstanding objection to the sensible proposal of 12 wards each returning one member. But any recommendation within the scope of the 11th schedule to the 1972 Act in relation to the Grasmere/Langdale problem and the problem of the representation of Sedbergh must be prefaced by a reference to the fact that the very creation by the Act itself of a local government unit as vast in area as the South Lakeland district coupled with Schedule 11 denies any Assistant Commissioner the opportunity of heeding the pleas of those still seeking adequate representation of local communities in such a district.

The 11th schedule insists that 'the ratio of the number of local government electors to the number of councillors to be elected shall be as nearly as may be the same in every ward of the district'. The District Council in their representations to me were obliged to rely upon every possible argument other than this requirement of the Act which the Commission is unable to ignore. They were obliged to this - so it seems to me - because the separate Grasmere and Langdales and Rydal wards as proposed by them would result in a membership entitlement of no more than 0.52 and 0.55 respectively as compared with membership entitlement elsewhere in the district of between 1.30 and 1.40 for a single member ward. It is true that the draft proposals of the Commission provide for a member entitlement as low as 0.58 for the Whinfell ward - there would appear to be no alternative for that but there is available to the Commission an alternative to avoid a further 'low' of 0.52 at Grasmere. And the alternative of combining Grasmere and the Langdales and Rydal into one ward will not really be bedevilled by serious physical barriers of fell and mountain. Red Bank which is the near link between Grasmere and Langdales is no longer the hazard to those on foot or in motor cars that it was to the motorist forty or fifty years ago.

The total membership proposed for Cumbria County Council and the average electorate per councillor contemplated for the Eden district are not seriously relevant to the requests for additional representation for selected parts of a district. In referring to the Eden district the South Lakeland District Council relied upon the low electorate of 641 for the Ravenstonedale ward of Eden but the real significance of that figure is its relationship to the average number of electors per councillor of 840. If 641 is thought to be a wide departure from the average of 840 in Eden then South Lakeland can hardly use those figures to justify a figure of 720 for Lakes-Grasmere compared with an average electorate per councillor of 1,372.

It has been demonstrated to me beyond doubt that councillors and other with long experience of pre-1972 local government find it very difficult to accept

the vast area of some districts but I must - reluctantly perhaps - report to the Commission that I have heard nothing at the meetings to justify within the requirements of the Act any departure from the draft proposals for the Grasmere area.

My general observations in the foregoing paragraphs in relation to the Grasmere area apply equally to the Sedbergh issue. But I have to say very plainly that the very nature of the terrain and the distances to be covered make adherence to the provisions of the Act a repudiation of local government. Because of the inhibiting 11th Schedule I have to recommend the Commission to go forward with their draft proposals unchanged in relation to Sedbergh but I do not disguise that I would welcome any opportunity that might be known to the Commission on receiving my report of reversing my recommendations. Rural weighting must be equitable in circumstances such as Sedbergh if local government is to survive - let alone thrive - in those areas.

In relation to Kendal I recommend the Commission to modify their proposals by substituting 12 single member wards based upon the draft Order for parish wards which was submitted by the District Council on 4 August 1976. Otherwise I have no option but to recommend the Commission to proceed with the draft proposals without amendment.

Prior to the meeting on 11 December 1975 I enjoyed the opportunity of viewing Grasmere, the Langdales and Rydal yet once more from the fells surrounding those communities and the greater part of a day was occupied in renewing my acquaintance with Sedbergh, Dent and Garsdale. No-one at either of the meetings felt it necessary for me to make an accompanied visit subsequent to the meetings.

(Clement Booth)

Cross Hawes
Broughton Mills
Broughton in Furness
Cumbria

SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT: NAMES OF PROPOSED WARDS AND NUMBERS OF COUNCILLORS

<u>NAME OF WARD</u>	<u>NO. OF COUNCILLORS</u>
ARNSIDE	1
BELTHAM	1
BROUGHTON	1
BURNESIDE	1
BURTON AND HOLME	1
CARTMEL	1
CARTMEL FELL	1
COLTON AND HAVERTHWAITE	1
CONISTON	1
CRAKE VALLEY	1
ENDMOOR	1
GRANGE	2
HAWKSHEAD	1
HOLKER	1
HUTTON	1
KENDAL : CASTLE	1
KENDAL : FAR CROSS	1
KENDAL : FELL	1
KENDAL : GLEBELANDS	1
KENDAL : HERON HILL	1
KENDAL : HIGHGATE	1
KENDAL : MINTSFEET	1
KENDAL : NETHER	1
KENDAL : OXENHOLME	1
KENDAL : STONECROSS	1
KENDAL : STRICKLAND	1
KENDAL : UNDERLEY	1
KIRKBY LONSDALE	1
LAKES : AMBLESIDE	2
LAKES : GRASMERE	1
LEVENS	1
LOW FURNESS	1
LYTH VALLEY	1
MILNTHORPE	1
PENNINGTON	1
SEDBERGH	2
STAVELEY-IN-WESTMORLAND	1
ULVERSTON : CENTRAL	1
ULVERSTON : EAST	1
ULVERSTON : NORTH	1
ULVERSTON : SOUTH	2
ULVERSTON : WEST	2
WHINFELL	1
WINDERMERE: APPLETHWAITE	1
WINDERMERE: BOWNESS NORTH	1
WINDERMERE: BOWNESS SOUTH	1
WINDERMERE: TOWN	1

SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT

ORDER OF RETIREMENT OF COUNCILLORS - ELECTION BY THIRDS

NAME OF WARD	NO. OF COUNCILLORS REPRESENTING WARD	1ST YEAR 1980	2ND YEAR 1982	3RD YEAR 1983
ARNSIDE	1	-	-	1 PE
BEETHAM	1	-	-	1 PE
BROUGHTON	1	-	-	1 PE
BURNESIDE	1	-	-	1 PE
BURTON AND HOLNE	1	1 PE	-	-
CARTMEL	1	-	-	1 PE
CARTMEL FELL	1	1 PE	-	-
COLTON AND HAVERTHWAITE	1	1 PE	-	-
CONISTON	1	-	-	1 PE
CRAKE VALLEY	1	1 PE	-	-
ENDMOOR	1	-	-	1 PE
GRANGE	2	1	-	1 PE
HAWKSHEAD	1	1 PE	-	-
HOLKER	1	1 PE	-	-
HUTTON	1	-	-	1 PE
KENDAL: CASTLE	1	-	1 PE	-
KENDAL: FAR CROSS	1	-	1 PE	-
KENDAL: FELL	1	-	1 PE	-
KENDAL: GLEBELANDS	1	-	1 PE	-
KENDAL: HERON HILL	1	-	1 PE	-
KENDAL: HIGHGATE	1	-	1 PE	-
KENDAL: MINTSFEET	1	-	1 PE	-
KENDAL: NETHER	1	-	1 PE	-
KENDAL: OXENHOLME	1	-	1 PE	-
KENDAL: STONECROSS	1	-	1 PE	-
KENDAL: STRICKLAND	1	-	1 PE	-
KENDAL: UNDERLEY	1	-	1 PE	-
KIRKBY LONSDALE	1	-	-	1 PE
LAKES: AMBLESIDE	2	1	1 PE	-
LAKES: GRASMERE	1	-	1 PE	-
LEVENS	1	1 PE	-	-
LOW FURNESS	1	-	-	1 PE
LYTH VALLEY	1	1 PE	-	-
MILNTHORPE	1	1 PE	-	-
PENNINGTON	1	-	1 PE	-
SEDBERGH	2	-	1 PE	1
STAVELEY-IN-WESTMORLAND	1	1 PE	-	-
ULVERSTON: CENTRAL	1	1 PE	-	-
ULVERSTON: EAST	1	1 PE	-	-
ULVERSTON: NORTH	1	1 PE	-	-
ULVERSTON: SOUTH	2	1 PE	-	1
ULVERSTON: WEST	2	1 PE	-	1
WHINFELL	1	-	1 PE	-
WINDERMERE: APPLETHWAITE	1	-	-	1 PE
WINDERMERE: BOWNESS NORTH	1	-	-	1 PE
WINDERMERE: BOWNESS SOUTH	1	-	-	1 PE
WINDERMERE: TOWN	1	-	-	1 PE
TOTAL	52	17	17	18
PE denotes parish election				

SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT - DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WARDS

ARNSIDE WARD

The parish of Arnside

BEETHAM WARD

The parish of Beetham

BROUGHTON WARD

The parishes of Angerton

Broughton West

Dunnerdale-with-Seathwaite

Kirkby Ireleth

BURNESIDE WARD

The parishes of Crook

Strickland Ketel

Strickland Roger

BURTON AND HOLME WARD

The parishes of Burton

Dalton

Holme

CARTMEL WARD

The parishes of Broughton East

Lower Allithwaite

CARTMEL FELL WARD

The parishes of Cartmel Fell

Staveley

Upper Allithwaite

COLTON AND HAVERTHWAITE WARD

The parishes of Colton

Haverthwaite

CONISTON WARD

The parishes of Coniston

Skelwith

Torver

CRAKE VALLEY WARD

The parishes of Blawith

Egton with Newland

Lowick

Mansriggs

Osmotherley

Subberthwaite

ENDMOOR WARD

The parishes of Natland

Preston Patrick

Preston Richard

Stainton

GRANGE WARD

The parish of Grange-over-Sands

HAWK SHEAD WARD

The parishes of Claife

Hawkshead

Satterthwaite

HOLKER WARD

The parish of Lower Holker

HUTTON WARD

The parishes of Firbank

Hutton Roof

Killington

Lupton

Mansergh

Middleton

New Hutton

Old Hutton and Holmescales

KENDAL CASTLE WARD

The Castle Ward of the parish of Kendal

KENDAL FAR CROSS WARD

The Far Cross Ward of the parish of Kendal

KENDALL FELL WARD

The Fell Ward of the parish of Kendal

KENDAL GLEBELANDS WARD

The Glebelands Ward of the parish of Kendal

KENDAL HERON HILL WARD

The Heron Hill Ward of the parish of Kendal

KENDAL HIGHGATE WARD

The Highgate Ward of the parish of Kendal

KENDAL MINTSFEEET WARD

The Mintsfeet Ward of the parish of Kendal

KENDAL NETHER WARD

The Nether Ward of the parish of Kendal

KENDAL OXENHOLME WARD

The Oxenholme Ward of the parish of Kendal

KENDAL STONECROSS WARD

The Stonecross Ward of the parish of Kendal

KENDAL STRICKLAND WARD

The Strickland Ward of the parish of Kendal

KENDAL UNDERLEY WARD

The Underley Ward of the parish of Kendal

KIRKBY LONSDALE WARD

The parishes of Barbon

Casterton

Kirkby Lonsdale

LAKES AMBLESIDE WARD

The Ambleside Ward and the Troutbeck Ward of the parish of Lakes

LAKES GRASMERE WARD

The Grasmere Ward, Langdales Ward, and Rydal and Loughrigg Ward of the parish of Lakes

LEVENS WARD

The parishes of Helsington

Hincaster

Levens

Sedgwick

LOW FURNESS WARD

The parishes of Aldingham

Urswick

LYTH VALLEY WARD

The parishes of Crosthwaite and Lyth

Meathop and Ulpha

Underbarrow and Bradleyfield

Witherslack

MILNTHORPE WARD

The parishes of Heversham

Milnthorpe

PENNINGTON WARD

The parish of Pennington

SEDBERGH WARD

The parishes of Dent

Garsdale

Sedbergh

STAVELEY-IN-WESTMORLAND WARD

The parishes of Hugill

Kentmere

Nether Staveley

Over Staveley

ULVERSTON CENTRAL WARD

The Central Ward of the parish of Ulverston

ULVERSTON EAST WARD

The East Ward of the parish of Ulverston

ULVERSTON NORTH WARD

The North Ward of the parish of Ulverston

ULVERSTON SOUTH WARD

The South Ward of the parish of Ulverston

ULVERSTON WEST WARD

The West Ward of the parish of Ulverston

WHINFELL WARD

The parishes of Dillicar

Docker

Fawcett Forest

Grayrigg

Lambrigg

Longsleddale

Patton

Scalthwaiterigg

Skelsmergh

Whinfell

Whitwell and Selside

WINDERMERE APPLETHWAITE WARD

The Applethwaite Ward of the parish of Windermere

WINDERMERE BOWNESS NORTH WARD

The Bowness Northern Ward of the parish of Windermere

WINDERMERE BOWNESS SOUTH WARD

The Bowness Southern Ward of the parish of Windermere

WINDERMERE TOWN WARD

The Windermere Town Ward of the parish of Windermere

