

**Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No. 475**

Principal Area Boundary Review

City of Durham / District of Sedgfield

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

REPORT NO. 475

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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THE RT. HON. PATRICK JENKIN MP
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

1. The parish review report submitted to us by the Durham City Council contained a request for a change to the City's boundary with the adjoining district of Sedgfield, in order to produce a more easily identifiable boundary. The change in question entailed the transfer of several properties lying to the north-east of the A167 road from the town of Spennymoor, in the district of Sedgfield, to a proposed new parish of Croxdale and Hett, in the City of Durham. (A new parish of Croxdale and Hett - formed by the amalgamation of the existing parishes of Hett and Sunderland Bridge - is, in fact, among the proposals which we made to you in our letter of 31 October 1983.) Both the City of Durham and the district of Sedgfield are in the non-metropolitan county of Durham.

2. As paragraph 29 of DOE Circular No. 121/77 explains, recommendations for changes which affect a district or county boundary have no place in a parish review report. However, we decided to treat this recommendation as a request under section 48(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 for us to consider making proposals for the change which was suggested.

3. We considered the request, as required by that section of the Act, together with letters which we had received from Sedgfield District Council and Spennymoor Town Council. Spennymoor Town Council opposed the suggested change, but gave no specific reason for their objection. Sedgfield District Council put forward a counter-suggestion that the existing parishes of Hett and Sunderland Bridge should be transferred to Sedgfield district, with which, it was claimed, they had more affinity. The District Council, however, did not develop this argument. We were, moreover, aware that, in 1979, during the course of a parish review of Sedgfield district, enquiries had been made to ascertain whether the parishes of Hett and Sunderland Bridge wished to be transferred into that district; both parishes had indicated that they wished to remain within the Durham City area, and Sedgfield

District Council had decided not to pursue the matter.

4. On the basis of the information before us, we concluded that the change sought by Durham City Council appeared to be in the interests of effective and convenient local government, and we decided to issue draft proposals based on the realignments suggested.

5. Our draft proposals for changes to the boundary between the district of Sedgefield and the City of Durham were announced on 29 November 1983 in a letter to the councils of the two districts. Copies of the letter were sent to Durham County Council, the parish councils concerned, the Members of Parliament for the constituencies concerned, the headquarters of the main political parties, the Durham Association of Parish Councils, the Durham Health Authority, the Northumbrian Water Authority, local newspapers circulating in the area, local radio and television stations serving the area and the local government press. The two district councils were asked to publish a notice giving details of the draft proposals, and to place copies of it on display at places where public notices were customarily displayed; they were also asked to place copies of the draft proposals on deposit at their main offices for a period of six weeks. Comments on the draft proposals were invited by 10 January 1984.

6. In response to our draft proposals we received a letter from Durham County Council, who advised us that they had no comments to make; a letter from Durham City Council, who supported our proposals; and letters from Sedgefield District Council and Spennymoor Town Council, who reiterated their opposition to our proposals, again, however, without developing their arguments.

7. We have reassessed the matter and have decided to confirm our draft proposals as our final proposals. Details of our proposals are set out in Schedules 1-3 to this report: Schedule 1 specifies the proposed changes in local authority areas and Schedules 2 and 3 the consequential adjustments to the existing district and county

electoral arrangements. The proposed boundaries are shown on the large scale map being sent separately to your Department.

8. Separate letters, enclosing copies of this report and of the large scale map, are being sent to Sedgefield District Council and Durham City Council asking them to place copies of this report on deposit at their main offices and to put notices to this effect on public notice boards and in the local press. The text of the notices will refer to your power to make an Order implementing the proposals, if you think fit, after the expiry of six weeks from the date they are submitted to you; it will suggest that any comments on the proposals should therefore be addressed to you, in writing, preferably within six weeks of the date of the letter. Copies of this report, which includes a small scale sketch plan, are also being sent to those who received the consultation letter.

LS

Signed: G J ELLERTON (Chairman)

JOAN ACKNER

TYRRELL BROCKBANK

G E CHERRY

D P HARRISON

L B GRIMSHAW
Secretary

24 May 1984

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

PRINCIPAL AREA REVIEW - CITY OF DURHAM/SEDFIELD DISTRICT - FINAL PROPOSALS

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

SCHEDULE 1

Description of area of land proposed to be transferred from Spennymoor CP in Sedgfield District to the proposed Croxdale and Hett CP (as shown in the City of Durham Parish Review report 1982) in the City of Durham.

That area bounded by a line commencing at the point where the existing District boundary meets the southern boundary of the Sedgfield District ward of Tudhoe, thence westwards along said southern boundary to a point opposite the western boundary of the Thinford Inn (PH), thence northwestwards to and along said western boundary and the western boundary of parcel no 0762, as shown on OS 1:2500 scale microfilm (B) NZ 2834, date of publication 1979, and continuing northwestwards along the western boundaries of parcel nos 0671, 0283 and 0004 to the western boundary of parcel no 9409, as shown on OS 1:2500 scale microfilm (B) NZ 2735, date of publication 1971, thence northwestwards along said western boundary and the western boundaries of parcel nos 9219, 8443 and 7958 to the southern boundary of parcel no 7264, thence westwards along said southern boundary and northwestwards along the western boundary of said parcel and the western boundaries of parcel nos 6778, 5700 and 5300 to the western boundary of parcel no 5107, as shown on OS 1:2500 scale microfilm (A*) NZ 2736, date of publication 1978, thence northwestwards along said western boundary and the western boundary of parcel no 4911 to the existing District boundary, thence northeastwards and southeastwards along said District boundary to the point of commencement.

SCHEDULE 2

Revised District electoral arrangements, consequent upon the proposals described in Schedule 1.

It is proposed that the District Wards, as defined in the District of Sedgefield (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1979 and the City of Durham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1978 shall be altered as described below.

The area, as described in Schedule 1, shall be transferred from the Tudhoe Ward of the District of Sedgefield to the Croxdale Ward of the City of Durham.

SCHEDULE 3

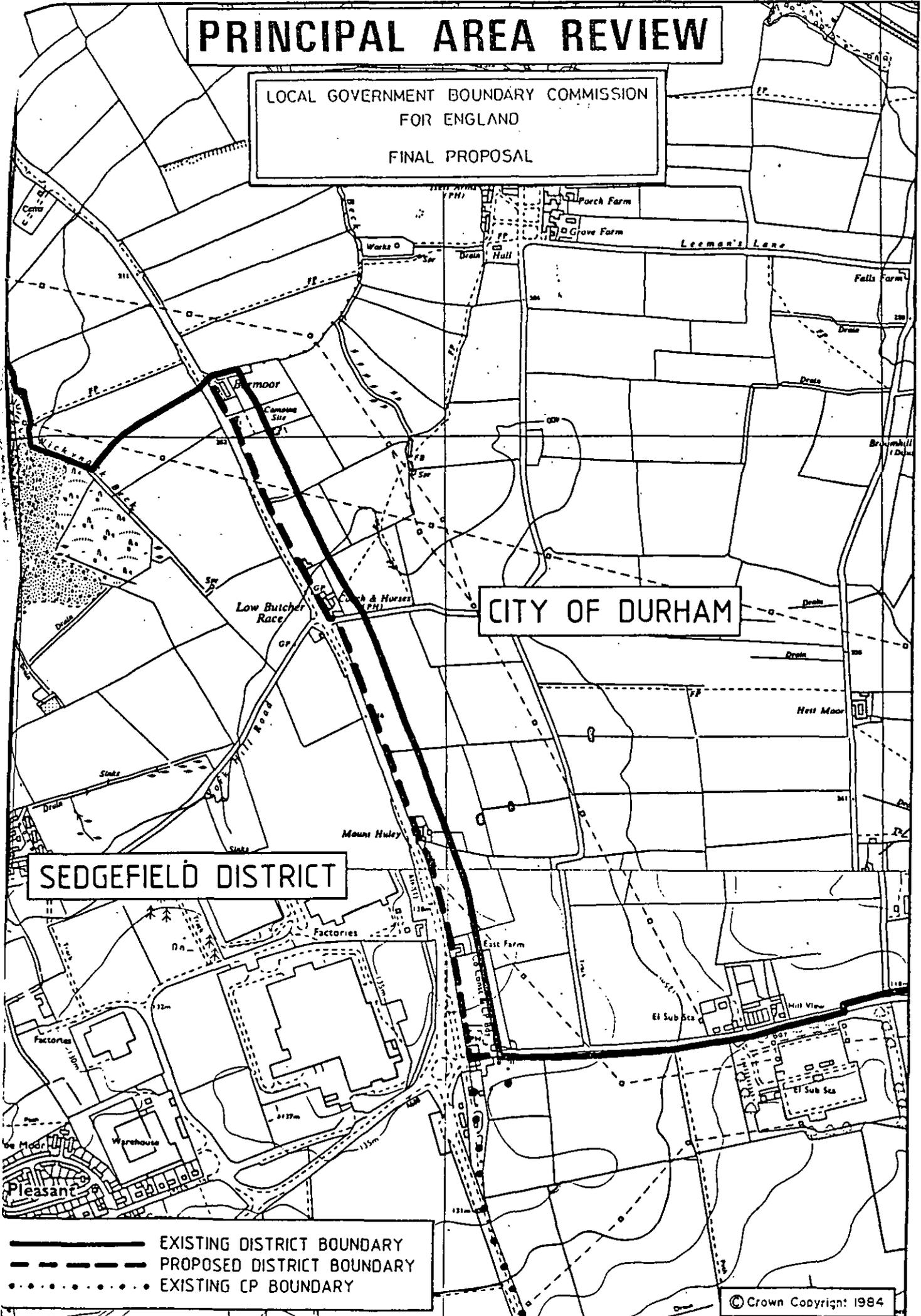
Revised County electoral arrangements, consequent upon the proposals described in Schedule 1.

It is proposed that the County Electoral Divisions, as defined in the County of Durham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1981 shall be altered as described below.

The area, as described in Schedule 1, shall be transferred from the Tudhoe ED to the Elvet ED.

PRINCIPAL AREA REVIEW

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND
FINAL PROPOSAL



CITY OF DURHAM

SEDFIELD DISTRICT

- EXISTING DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- - - - - PROPOSED DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- EXISTING CP BOUNDARY

Arose in the course of a parish review. (Durham City Council)

PRINCIPAL AREA REVIEW

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND
FINAL PROPOSAL

CITY OF DURHAM

SEDFIELD DISTRICT

- EXISTING DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- - - PROPOSED DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- EXISTING CP BOUNDARY

