

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND



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REPORT No. 2

LONDON
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE 1973
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LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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To the Rt Hon Geoffrey Rippon, QC MP
Secretary of State for the Environment

1. We, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, present our Report No. 2 containing our proposals for names for the non-metropolitan districts.

2. Under the provisions of paragraph 1 of Schedule 3 of the Local Government Act 1972 we are required "as soon as practicable after the passing of this Act to make proposals to the Secretary of State for the division of non-metropolitan counties into districts, for defining the areas of those districts and for naming them". Our proposals on the formation of the new districts were contained in our Report No. 1 (Cmnd 5148) dated 2 November 1972, to which effect was given by an order (S I 1972 No. 2039) made by the Secretary of State on 21 December 1972. We now present our proposals for the names of these new districts.

3. The formulation of our proposals for names has been governed by the following guidelines issued to us by the Secretary of State for the Environment in a letter dated 21 December 1972.

"Bearing in mind that the objective is to select a name for a local government unit and that existing place names, whether or not adopted for local government purposes, will continue to apply to towns and localities within the district, the Commission should have regard to the following considerations when reviewing suggestions for the naming of the non-metropolitan districts.

- (a) local wishes should be followed as far as possible and there should be a strong presumption in favour of a name generally acceptable within the area;
- (b) the name should be relevant to the geographical, historical or traditional background of the district concerned;
- (c) the names should be simple and straightforward; hybrid, concocted or double-barrelled names are best avoided;
- (d) districts in the same county should not have names so similar as to give rise to confusion between them; and
- (e) the implications should be considered if the name suggested for the district is already in use at parish level.

The Secretary of State would be grateful if the Commission's proposals could reach him by 26 March 1973".

4. The request that we should present our recommendations by 26 March was made because the names are required for use in the first elections to the district councils which are to be held on 7 June 1973. This deadline has determined the scope and timing of our local consultations.

5. On 21 December 1972 we sent a circular (LGBC 1/72) to local authorities in the non-metropolitan counties, and to the joint committees set up under section 264 of the Act, setting out the guidelines and inviting them to consider, in the light of those guidelines, the most appropriate name for each new district. We suggested that proposals for each district should be submitted by the Clerk of the Joint Committee, who should indicate the local authorities supporting each proposal. We also invited local authorities who wished to register their views separately, to write direct to us. In order to meet the Secretary of State's request on timing, we asked that these representations should be sent to us to arrive not later than Tuesday 13 February 1973. We knew, however, that much attention had already been given to the matter and that discussion of names for new districts had been taking place locally for some time before we issued our formal invitations: and we were assisted by the many joint committees and local authorities who communicated their views to us well before 13 February.

6. Generally the representations which we received showed the detailed consideration that local authorities and joint committees had given to the naming of their districts. Many had had the advantage of names suggested by local organisations and private individuals, often as the result of invitations issued by or through local newspapers. There was also evidence of the extent to which local authorities had co-operated in reaching agreement in the light of the criteria set out in the guidelines. There were however some areas where the choice appeared to have presented difficulties, and the need to compromise in order to achieve local agreement had led to the adoption of names which did not comply with other criteria, particularly guidelines (c) and (d). For a few districts no local agreement could be reached and we were presented with a list of two or more names from which to make a choice.

7. In considering our choice of names we have felt bound to pay particular attention to the criterion of local wishes provided in guideline (a) since this requires a "strong presumption" in favour of a name generally acceptable within the area. For the most part the names we recommend are locally agreed or carry substantial local support, and seem to us to be compatible with the criteria in the other guidelines. But there were cases where the name reported to be locally acceptable appeared to be seriously at variance with the other guidelines. (As an example, the same major geographical feature was the locally agreed choice of name for more than one new district, sometimes in the same county and sometimes in different counties). In such cases, we have thought it right to propose a name which appeared to us more appropriate within the guidelines and for which we had evidence of some local support.

8. In these and other areas of doubt it would have assisted us to arrive at a judgment if we could have issued draft proposals to test local opinion before arriving at our final recommendations. The timetable laid down in our guidelines obliged us to dispense with this intermediate step. Nevertheless we submit the names proposed in this Report in the belief that in general they satisfy the criteria in our guidelines, though we have no doubt that if we could have had further local consultations we could have improved some

of them. Should there be cases where further experience and the development of local opinion show that changes are required, Section 74 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides a procedure by which a new authority can change the name of its district, with the consent of the Secretary of State before 1 April 1978 and without such consent after that date.

9. The tables appended to this report give the names we propose for the districts in each of the non-metropolitan counties. The districts are identified by the use of the New District numbers used in our Report No. 1 and reproduced in the English Non-Metropolitan Districts (Definition) Order of 21 December 1972.

Signed

EDMUND COMPTON (Chairman)

LS

JOHN M RANKIN (Deputy Chairman)

DIANA ALBEMARLE

T C BENFIELD

MICHAEL CHISHOLM

ANDREW WHEATLEY

F B YOUNG

DAVID R. SMITH (Secretary)

13 March 1973

RECOMMENDATIONS

(1) Name of county	(2) Reference number of district	(3) Name of district
Avon	1	Northavon
	2	Bristol
	3	Kingswood
	4	Woodspring
	5	Wansdyke
	6	Bath
Bedfordshire	1	Bedford
	2	Mid Bedfordshire
	3	South Bedfordshire
	4	Luton
Berkshire	1	Newbury
	2	Reading
	3	Wokingham
	4	Windsor and Maidenhead
	5	Slough
	6	Bracknell
Buckinghamshire	1	Milton Keynes
	2	Aylesbury Vale
	3	Wycombe
	4	Chiltern
	5	Beaconsfield
Cambridgeshire	1	Peterborough
	2	Fenland
	3	Huntingdon
	4	East Cambridgeshire
	5	South Cambridgeshire
	6	Cambridge
Cheshire	1	Warrington
	2	Halton
	3	Ellesmere Port
	4	Vale Royal
	5	Macclesfield
	6	Chester
	7	Crewe
	8	Congleton
Cleveland	1	Hartlepool
	2	Stockton-on-Tees
	3	Middlesbrough
	4	Langbaugh
Cornwall	1	North Cornwall
	2	Restormel
	3	Caradon
	4	Penwith
	5	Kerrier
	6	Carrick
Cumbria	1	Carlisle
	2	Allerdale
	3	Eden
	4	Copeland
	5	South Lakeland
	6	Barrow-in-Furness

(1) Name of county	(2) Reference number of district	(3) Name of district
Derbyshire	1	High Peak
	2	Chesterfield
	3	West Derbyshire
	4	North East Derbyshire
	5	Bolsover
	6	Amber Valley
	7	Derby
	8	Erewash
	9	South Derbyshire
Devon	1	Torrige
	2	North Devon
	3	West Devon
	4	Tiverton
	5	Teignbridge
	6	Exeter
	7	East Devon
	8	Plymouth
	9	South Hams
	10	Torbay
Dorset	1	West Dorset
	2	North Dorset
	3	Wimborne
	4	Weymouth and Portland
	5	Purbeck
	6	Poole
	7	Bournemouth
	8	Christchurch
Durham	1	Derwentside
	2	Chester-le-Street
	3	Wear Valley
	4	Durham
	5	Easington
	6	Teesdale
	7	Sedgefield
	8	Darlington
East Sussex	1	Wealden
	2	Rother
	3	Hove
	4	Brighton
	5	Lewes
	6	Eastbourne
	7	Hastings
Essex	1	Uttlesford
	2	Braintree
	3	Colchester
	4	Tendring
	5	Harlow
	6	Epping Forest
	7	Chelmsford
	8	Maldon
	9	Brentwood
	10	Basildon
	11	Rochford
	12	Thurrock
	13	Castle Point
	14	Southend-on-Sea

(1) Name of county	(2) Reference number of district	(3) Name of district
Gloucestershire	1	Tewkesbury
	2	Forest of Dean
	3	Gloucester
	4	Cheltenham
	5	Cotswold
	6	Stroud
Hampshire	1	Basingstoke
	2	Hartley Wintney
	3	Rushmoor
	4	Test Valley
	5	Winchester
	6	Petersfield
	7	New Forest
	8	Southampton
	9	Eastleigh
	10	Fareham
	11	Gosport
	12	Portsmouth
	13	Havant
Hereford and Worcester	1	Wyre Forest
	2	Bromsgrove
	3	Redditch
	4	Leominster
	5	South Herefordshire
	6	Hereford
	7	Malvern Hills
	8	Worcester
	9	Wychavon
Hertfordshire	1	North Hertfordshire
	2	Stevenage
	3	East Hertfordshire
	4	Dacorum
	5	St. Albans
	6	Welwyn Hatfield
	7	Broxbourne
	8	Three Rivers
	9	Watford
	10	Hertsmere
Humberside	1	North Wolds
	2	Boothferry
	3	Beverley
	4	Kingston upon Hull
	5	Holderness
	6	Scunthorpe
	7	Glanford
	8	Cleethorpes
	9	Grimsby
Isle of Wight	1	Medina
	2	South Wight

(1) Name of county	(2) Reference number of district	(3) Name of district
Kent	1	Dartford
	2	Gravesham
	3	Medway
	4	Gillingham
	5	Swale
	6	Canterbury
	7	Dover
	8	Thanet
	9	Sevenoaks
	10	Tonbridge and Malling
	11	Maidstone
	12	Tunbridge Wells
	13	Ashford
	14	Shepway
Lancashire	1	Lancaster
	2	Wyre
	3	Ribbles Valley
	4	Blackpool
	5	Fylde
	6	Preston
	7	South Ribble
	8	West Lancashire
	9	Chorley
	10	Blackburn
	11	Hyndburn
	12	Burnley
	13	Pendle
	14	Rossendale
Leicestershire	1	North West Leicestershire
	2	Charnwood
	3	Melton
	4	Bosworth
	5	Leicester
	6	Blaby
	7	Oadby and Wigston
	8	Harborough
	9	Rutland
Lincolnshire	1	West Lindsey
	2	East Lindsey
	3	Lincoln
	4	North Kesteven
	5	Boston
	6	South Kesteven
	7	South Holland
Norfolk	1	Pastonacres
	2	West Norfolk
	3	Breckland
	4	Norwich
	5	Broadland
	6	Great Yarmouth
	7	South Norfolk
Northamptonshire	1	Corby
	2	Kettering
	3	East Northamptonshire
	4	Daventry
	5	Northampton
	6	Wellingborough
	7	South Northamptonshire

(1) Name of county	(2) Reference number of district	(3) Name of district
Northumberland	1	Berwick-upon-Tweed
	2	Alnwick
	3	Tynedale
	4	Castle Morpeth
	5	Wansbeck
	6	Blyth Valley
North Yorkshire	1	Richmondshire
	2	Hambleton
	3	Ryedale
	4	Scarborough
	5	Craven
	6	Harrogate
	7	York
	8	Selby
Nottinghamshire	1	Bassetlaw
	2	Mansfield
	3	Newark
	4	Ashfield
	5	Broxtowe
	6	Nottingham
	7	Gedling
	8	Rushcliffe
Oxfordshire	1	West Oxfordshire
	2	Cherwell
	3	Oxford
	4	Vale of White Horse
	5	Wallingford
Salop	1	Oswestry
	2	North Shropshire
	3	Shrewsbury
	4	Wrekin
	5	South Shropshire
	6	Bridgnorth
Somerset	1	Sedgemoor
	2	Mendip
	3	West Somerset
	4	Taunton Deane
	5	Yeovil
Staffordshire	1	Staffordshire Moorlands
	2	Newcastle-under-Lyme
	3	Stoke-on-Trent
	4	Stafford
	5	East Staffordshire
	6	South Staffordshire
	7	Cannock Chase
	8	Lichfield
	9	Tamworth
Suffolk	1	Waveney
	2	Forest Heath
	3	St. Edmundsbury
	4	Mid Suffolk
	5	Suffolk Coastal
	6	Babergh
	7	Ipswich

(1) Name of county	(2) Reference number of district	(3) Name of district
Surrey	1	Runnymede
	2	Spelthorne
	3	Surrey Heath
	4	Woking
	5	Elmbridge
	6	Epsom and Ewell
	7	Guildford
	8	Mole Valley
	9	Reigate and Banstead
	10	Tandridge
	11	Waverley
Warwickshire	1	North Warwickshire
	2	Nuneaton
	3	Rugby
	4	Warwick
	5	Stratford-on-Avon
West Sussex	1	Crawley
	2	Chichester
	3	Horsham
	4	Mid Sussex
	5	Arun
	6	Worthing
	7	Adur
Wiltshire	1	North Wiltshire
	2	Thamesdown
	3	West Wiltshire
	4	Kennet
	5	Salisbury

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