

**Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No. 136**

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
Secretary of State for the Home Department

PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE
BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON IN THE COUNTY OF DURHAM

1. We, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, having carried out our initial review of the electoral arrangements for the borough of Darlington 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 borough.
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 Darlington Borough Council, copies of which were circulated to parish councils and parish meetings in the district, to Durham County Council, the members of Parliament for the constituencies 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. Darlington Borough 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 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 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 15 May 1975, Darlington Borough Council presented their draft scheme of representation. The Council proposed to divide the area of the borough into 25 wards, each returning one, two or three councillors, to give a total council of 51.

6. We considered the draft scheme submitted by the Borough Council. We noted that the scheme complied with the rules in Schedule 11 to the Local Government Act 1972 and our own guidelines. Objections to the draft scheme were submitted by four parish councils in the district. All these submissions involved requests for an extra councillor for the rural area, and two of them specifically requested that this councillor should be allocated to the proposed Middleton St George ward, which was under-represented in the draft scheme. A third parish council suggested that the proposed 'Coniscliffe' ward should be named 'Whossoe' and that the extra councillor in the rural area should be allocated by regrouping the parishes in the two proposed single member Coniscliffe and Sadberge wards so as to form three wards, each with one councillor, to be named Coniscliffe, Whossoe and Sadberge. A political association submitted an alternative scheme of representation.

7. We carefully considered all the comments we had received, including the alternative scheme, and decided to adopt the pattern of wards proposed in the draft scheme, but to allocate an extra councillor to Middleton St George ward, and to re-name the proposed 'Coniscliffe' ward as 'Whossoe'. After consultation with Ordnance Survey we decided to propose some slight alterations to the boundary between the Cockerton East and Northgate North wards. We then formulated our draft proposals accordingly.

8. On 3 October 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 Council were asked to make the draft proposals and the accompanying maps, 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 28 November 1975.

9. Our draft proposals were accepted locally, but the Borough Council suggested a further realignment of the Cockerton East/Northgate North ward boundary, and after consultation with Ordnance Survey a new line has been agreed. Subject to this one boundary realignment we decided to confirm our draft proposals and formulated our final proposals accordingly.

10. Details of the final proposals are set out in Schedule 1 to this report and on the attached maps. 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 maps.

PUBLICATION

11. In accordance with section 60(5)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, a copy of this report and copies of the maps are being sent to Darlington Borough Council and will be available for public inspection at the Council's main offices.

Copies of this report, (without maps) 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 maps 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

AND BY WHEATLEY

DAVID R SMITH (Secretary)

18 December 1975

BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON : NAMES OF WARDS AND NUMBERS OF COUNCILLORS.

<u>NAME OF WARD</u>	<u>NO. OF COUNCILLORS</u>
BANK TOP	2
CENTRAL	2
COCKERTON EAST	3
COCKERTON WEST	2
COLLEGE	2
EASTBOURNE NORTH	2
EASTBOURNE SOUTH	2
HARROWGATE HILL	3
HAUGHTON EAST	3
HAUGHTON WEST	2
HEIGHINGTON	1
HUMERSKNOTT	2
HURWORTH	2
LASCELLES	2
LINGFIELD	2
MIDDLETON ST GEORGE	2
MOWDEN	2
NORTHGATE NORTH	2
NORTHGATE SOUTH	2
NORTH ROAD	2
PARK EAST	3
PARK WEST	2
PIERREMONT	3
SADBERGE	1
WHESOE	1

BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON: DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WARD BOUNDARIES

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.

COCKERTON EAST WARD

Commencing at the point where Newton Lane meets the southern boundary of Archdeacon Newton CP, thence generally eastwards and northeastwards along said CP boundary to the southern boundary of Whessoe CP, thence eastwards along said CP boundary to the Bishop Auckland and Weardale branch railway, thence southwards along said railway to a point opposite South Street, thence southwestwards to and along said street to its end, and thence southeastwards following the limits of the Whessoe Engineering Works car park to Alliance Street, thence southwestwards along Alliance Street to Brinkburn Road, thence generally westwards along said road and Prior Street to Newton Lane, thence northwestwards along said lane to the point of commencement.

HARROWGATE HILL WARD

Commencing at the point where Elmtree Street meets the eastern boundary of Cockerton East Ward, thence northwards along said ward boundary to the southern boundary of Whessoe CP, thence eastwards and northeastwards along said CP boundary to the western boundary of Barmpton CP, thence southwards along said CP boundary and the London to Newcastle railway to Thompson Street East, thence westwards along said street and Thompson Street West to Longfield Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Whessoe Road, thence southwards along said road to Elmtree Street, thence southwestwards along said street to the point of commencement.

NORTH ROAD WARD

Commencing at the point where the eastern boundary of Cockerton East Ward meets the southern boundary of Harrowgate Hill Ward, thence northeastwards

and following said southern boundary to the London to Newcastle railway, thence southwards along said railway to the path that leads to Askrigg Street, thence southwestwards along said path to said street, thence northwestwards along said street to North Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Denmark Street, thence northwestwards along said street to its junction with Cross Street, thence northwestwards in a straight line to Grid Reference NZ 2855316148, being a point on the eastern boundary of Cockerton East Ward, thence northwards along said Ward boundary to the point of commencement.

HAUGHTON WEST WARD

Commencing at the point where the River Skerne meets the London to Newcastle railway, thence northwards along said railway and the eastern boundaries of North Road Ward and Harrowgate Hill Ward to the southern boundary of Barmpton CP, thence southeastwards along said CP boundary to a point being the prolongation northwestwards of Sparrow Hall Drive, thence southeastwards to and along said Drive to Whinbush Way, thence southwestwards along said way to Whinfield Road, thence southeastwards along said road to a point opposite the northwestern boundary of Haughton County Secondary School, thence southwestwards to and along said boundary to Salters Lane South, thence southwards along said lane to Springwell Terrace, thence southwestwards along said terrace to Hutton Avenue, thence southwards along said avenue and the path that leads to the River Skerne, to the said river, thence northwestwards and following said river to the point of commencement.

HAUGHTON EAST WARD

Commencing at the point where the dismantled railway (the former Fighting

Cocks branch line) meets the prolongation southwestwards of the western boundary of Haughton Engineering Works, thence northeastwards to and along said western boundary and eastwards along the northern boundary of said Works to Blakett Road, thence northeastwards along said road and in prolongation thereof to the path that leads to the River Skerne, thence northwards along said path to the eastern boundary of Haughton West Ward, thence northwestwards and following said ward boundary to the southern boundary of Barmpton CP, thence generally eastwards along said CP boundary to the western boundary of Great Burdon CP, thence southwards and following said CP boundary to the dismantled railway (the former Fighting Cocks branch line), thence westwards along said dismantled railway to the point of commencement.

CENTRAL WARD

Commencing at the point where Coniscliffe Road meets Larchfield Street, thence northwards along said street and Portland Place to Woodland Road, thence southeastwards along said road and the road known as Bondgate to St Augustine's Way, thence northeastwards along said way to the road known as Northgate, thence northwards along said road to Cocker Beck, thence generally eastwards along said beck to the River Skerne, thence northwards and following said River to the southern boundary of Haughton West Ward, thence eastwards and following said ward boundary to the western boundary of Haughton East Ward, thence southwards along said ward boundary to the dismantled railway (the former Fighting Cocks branch line), thence westwards along said dismantled railway to Haughton Road, thence southwestwards along said road to the London to Newcastle railway, thence southwestwards along said railway to a point opposite the prolongation southeastwards of Victoria

Road, thence northwestwards to and along said road and West Street to Coniscliffe Road, thence southwestwards along said road to the point of commencement.

NORTHGATE NORTH WARD

Commencing at the point where Cocker Beck meets Hollyhurst Road, thence northeastwards along said road to Willow Road, thence westwards along said road to a point opposite the eastern boundary of St Matthew's Church Hall, thence northwestwards to and along said boundary and the eastern boundary of St Matthew's Vicarage to the southern boundary of Cockerton East Ward, thence eastwards and following said ward boundary and northwestwards along the eastern boundary of said ward to the southern boundary of North Road Ward, thence eastwards and following said ward boundary to the western boundary of Haughton West Ward thence southwards along said ward boundary to the northwestern boundary of Central Ward, thence southwestwards and northwestwards along said ward boundary and continuing northwestwards along Cocker Beck to the point of commencement.

NORTHGATE SOUTH WARD

Commencing at the point where the western boundary of Central Ward meets Greenbank Road, thence northwards and following said road to the footpath that leads to Cocker Beck, thence northwards along said path to the southern boundary of Northgate North Ward, thence eastwards and following said boundary to the western boundary of Central Ward, thence southwards and following said boundary to the point of commencement.

PIERREMONT WARD

Commencing at the point where Milbank Road meets Carmel Road North, thence northwards along Carmel Road North to Woodland Road, thence northwestwards and following said road to the southern boundary of Cockerton East Ward, thence eastwards along said ward boundary to the western boundary of Northgate North Ward, thence southwards and following said ward boundary and the western boundary of Northgate South Ward to Woodland Road, thence northwestwards along said road to Milbank Road, thence westwards along said road to the point of commencement.

COCKERTON WEST WARD

Commencing at the point where Cocker Beck meets the northern boundary of Low Coniscliffe CP, thence generally westwards along said CP boundary to the southeastern boundary of Archdeacon Newton CP, thence northwestwards and following said CP boundary to the southwestern boundary of Cockerton East Ward, thence southeastwards and following said ward boundary to the western boundary of Pierremont Ward, thence southwards along said ward boundary to Cocker Beck, thence northwestwards and following said beck to the point of commencement.

HOWDEN WARD

Commencing at the point where the prolongation westwards of the footpath leading to Nunnery Lane meets the eastern boundary of Low Coniscliffe CP, thence northwards and following said CP boundary to the southern boundary of Cockerton West Ward, thence northeastwards and following said ward boundary to the western boundary of Pierremont Ward, thence southeastwards and

following said ward boundary to Nunnery Lane, thence Southwestwards along said Lane to the footpath leading to Baydale Beck, thence southwestwards and following said path and in prolongation westwards thereof to the point of commencement.

HUMMERSKNOTT WARD

Commencing at the point where the southern boundary of the District meets the eastern boundary of Low Coniscliffe CP, thence northwards along said CP boundary to the southern boundary of Mowden Ward, thence eastwards and following said ward boundary to the western boundary of Pierremont Ward, thence southwards along said ward boundary and Carmel Road North and Carmel Road South to Croft Road, thence southwestwards along said road to the District boundary, thence westwards and following said district boundary to the point of commencement.

COLLEGE WARD

Commencing at the point where Cleveland Terrace meets the eastern boundary of Hummersknott Ward, thence northwards along said ward boundary to the southern boundary of Pierremont Ward, thence eastwards and following said ward boundary to the western boundary of Central Ward, thence southwestwards and following said ward boundary to Coniscliffe Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Cleveland Terrace, thence westwards along said terrace to the point of commencement.

PARK WEST WARD

Commencing at the point where the northern boundary of Hurworth CP meets the eastern boundary of Hummersknott Ward, thence northwestwards along said ward boundary to the southern boundary of College Ward, thence generally eastwards along said ward boundary and the southern boundary of Central Ward to the River Skerne, thence southwestwards and following said river to the northern boundary of Hurworth CP, thence generally westwards along said CP boundary to the point of commencement.

PARK EAST WARD

Commencing at the point where the northern boundary of Hurworth CP meets the eastern boundary of Park West Ward, thence northeastwards and following said ward boundary to the southern boundary of Central Ward, thence eastwards along said ward boundary to the London to Newcastle railway, thence southwestwards along said railway to the northern boundary of Hurworth CP, thence westwards and following said CP boundary to the point of commencement.

EASTBOURNE SOUTH WARD

Commencing at the point where the northern boundary of Hurworth CP meets the eastern boundary of Park East Ward, thence northwards along said ward boundary to the road known as Parkside, thence northeastwards along said road and Geneva Road to Burnside Road, thence southeastwards along said road to Lowmoor Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Carlton Moor Crescent, thence southeastwards along said crescent to Highmoor Road, thence southwards along said road to a point opposite the path that leads

to Salters Lane, thence eastwards to and along said path to said Lane, thence southwestwards along said Lane to the path that leads to Maidendale Cottages, thence southeastwards along said path to the northern boundary of Hurworth CP, thence southwestwards and following said CP boundary to the point of commencement.

LASCELLES WARD

Commencing at the point where the northern boundary of Eastbourne South Ward meets the eastern boundary of Park East Ward, thence northeastwards along said eastern boundary to a point being the prolongation southwestwards of Walton Street, thence northeastwards along said prolongation and said street to Neasham Road, thence northwards along said road to Falmer Road, thence eastwards along said road to Rydal Road, thence southwards along said road to a point opposite the path that leads to Milton Street, thence eastwards and northwards to and along said path to said street, and continuing northwards to Harris Street, thence northeastwards along said street to Geneva Road, thence southwards and following said road and the northern boundary of Eastbourne South Ward to the point of commencement.

BANK TOP WARD

Commencing at the point where the northern boundary of Lascelles Ward meets the eastern boundary of Park East Ward, thence northwestwards along said eastern boundary and the eastern boundary of Central Ward to Yarm Road, thence generally eastwards along said road to Geneva Road, thence southwards

along said road to the northern boundary of Lascelles Ward, thence westwards and following said ward boundary to the point of commencement.

LINGFIELD WARD

Commencing at the point where the northern boundary of Bank Top Ward meets the eastern boundary of Central Ward, thence northwards and eastwards along said eastern boundary and eastwards along the southern boundary of Haughton East Ward to the western boundary of Great Burdon CP, thence southwards and following said CP boundary and the western boundary of Morton Palms CP to Yarm Road, thence northwestwards along said road and the northern boundary of Bank Top Ward to the point of commencement.

EASTBOURNE NORTH WARD

Commencing at the point where the northern boundary of Eastbourne South Ward meets the eastern boundary of Lascelles Ward, thence northeastwards and following said eastern boundary and the eastern boundary of Bank Top Ward to the southern boundary of Lingfield Ward, thence southeastwards along said ward boundary to the western boundary of Morton Palms CP, thence southwards along said CP boundary to the northern boundary of Hurworth CP, thence southeastwards and following said CP boundary to the northeastern boundary of Eastbourne South Ward, thence northwestwards and following said ward boundary to the point of commencement.

HURWORTH WARD

The parishes of Hurworth
Neasham
Sockburn

MIDDLETON ST GEORGE WARD

The parishes of Low Dinsdale
Middleton St George

SADBERGE WARD

The parishes of Barmpton
Brafferton
Bishopton
East and West Newbiggin
Great Burdon
Great Stainton
Little Stainton
Morton Palms
Sadberge

HEIGHINGTON WARD

The parish of Heighington

WHESOE WARD

The parishes of Archdeacon Newton
Coatham Mundeville
Denton
High Coniscliffe
Houghton le Side
Killerby
Low Coniscliffe
Piercebridge
Summerhouse
Walworth
Whesoe