Local Government Boundary Commission For England Report No. 222

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

REPORT NO. 222

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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

PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DISTRICT OF RICHMONDSHIRE IN THE COUNTY OF NORTH YORKSHIRE

1. We, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, having carried out our initial review of the electoral arrangements for the district of Richmondshire 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 21 April 1975 that we were to undertake this review. This was incorporated in a consultation letter addressed to Richmondshire District Council, copies of which were circulated to parish councils and parish meetings in the district, North Yorkshire 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 district 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. Richmondshire 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 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 21 October 1975 Richmondshire District Council presented their draft scheme of representation. The Council proposed to divide the area of the district into 27 wards, each returning one, two or three councillors, to give a total council of 36.

6. We considered the draft scheme submitted by the District Council, together with the one comment which we received. We noted that there was some unevenness in the standard of representation. We decided to make modifications to the draft scheme with a view to improving the overall standard of representation. We combined the proposed single-member Middleham and Coverdale wards to form one single-member ward named Middleham and Coverdale; we transferred the parish of Brough with St Giles from the proposed Catterick with Tunstall ward to the proposed Colburn ward; we reduced the representation of the proposed Richmond Central ward from 2 councillors to one; we divided the constituent parishes of the Council's proposed St Michael with St Luke ward between the proposed Croft on Tees and Scorton wards and we combined the proposed 2-member Leyburn and single-member Lower Swaledale wards to form a 2-member ward named Leyburn and Lower Swaledale. As a result of these modifications the size of the proposed council was reduced from 36 to 32 members. We formulated our draft proposals accordingly.

7. On 19 April 1976 we issued our draft proposals, and these were sent to all who had received our consultation letter or had commented on the draft scheme. The Council were asked to make the draft proposals and the accompanying map, which illustrated 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 comments should reach us by 14 June 1976.

8. The District Council objected to the reduction in the size of council and asked for their draft scheme providing for 36 councillors to be reconsidered. A member of Parliament and eight parish councils supported the District Council's view, pointing to social and geographical reasons why they found the Council's original proposals to be preferable.

9. We reviewed our draft proposals in the light of these comments. We were impressed by the Council's case for preserving local ties and minimising difficulties in communications. We concluded that we should replace the Leyburn and Lower Swaledale ward in our draft proposals by the two separate wards proposed by the District Council in their draft scheme, the Leyburn ward returning 2 councillors and the Lower Swaledale ward 1 councillor. We also decided to replace our single-member Croft on Tees and Scorton wards by the three single member wards of Croft on Tees, Scorton and St Michael with St Luke which the Council had proposed in their draft scheme, and to transfer the parish of Brough with St Giles from the Colburn ward to the Catterick with Tunstall ward as the Council had originally proposed.

10. We gave further consideration to our proposal to join the Council's proposed Middleham and Coverdale ward. We noted that our proposed ward would cover a large area but because of the necessity to relate the number of councillors to the number of electors we felt we could not recommend more than 1 councillor for the combined area. Similarly we considered that the electorate of the Richmond Central ward did not justify more than one councillor.

11. We modified our draft proposals accordingly to formulate our final proposals which provide for a 34 member council.

12. Details of these 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 illustrated 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 Richmondshire District Council and will be made available for public inspection at the Council's main offices. Copies of the report (without map) are 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 illustrated on the map is set out in Schedule 2 to this report.

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)

May 1977

SCHEDULE 1

RICHMONDSHIRE DISTRICT : NAMES OF PROPOSED WARDS AND NUMBERS OF COUNCILLORS

NAME OF WARD	NO OF COUNCILLORS
ASKRIGG	1
AYSGARTH	1
BARTON	1
BOLTON MANOR	1
CATTERICK WITH TUNSTALL	2
COLBURN	3
CROFT ON TEES	1
GRINTON AND UPPER SWALDALE	1
HAWES AND HIGH ABBOTSIDE	1
HIPSWELL	2
KIRBY HILL	1
LEYBURN	2
LOWER DALE	1
LOWER SWALEDALE	1
MIDDLEHAM AND COVERDALE	1
REETH	1
RICHMOND EAST	3
RICHMOND CENTRAL	1
RICHMOND WEST	2
SCORTON	1
SCOTTON	1
ST AGATHAS	1
STANWICK	1
ST MICHAEL WITH ST LUKE	1
SWALESIDE	1
UREVALE	1

SCHEDULE 2

DISTRICT OF RICHMONDSHIRE - DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WARD BOUNDARIES

ASKRIGG WARD

The parishes of Askrigg
Bainbridge
Low Abbotside

AYSGARTH WARD

The parishes of Aysgarth
Bishopdale
Burton-cum-Walden
Carperby-cum-Thoresby
Newbiggin
Thoralby
Thornton Rust

BARTON WARD

The parishes of Barton
Cleasby
Cliffe
Manfield
Newton Morrell
Stapleton

BOLTON MANOR WARD

The parishes of Castle Bolton with East and West Bolton
Preston-under-Scar
Redmire
Wensley
West Witton

CATTERICK WITH TUNSTALL WARD

The parishes of Appleton East and West
Brough with St Giles
Catterick
Tunstall

COLBURN WARD

The parish of Colburn

CROFT ON TEES WARD

The parishes of Croft-on-Tees
Dalton-on-Tees
Eryholme

GRINTON AND UPPER SWALDALE WARD

The parishes of Grinton
Melbecks
Muker

HAWES AND HIGH ABBOTSIDE WARD

The parishes of Hawes
High Abbotside

HIPSWELL WARD

The parish of Hipswell

KIRBY HILL WARD

The parishes of Caldwell
Dalton
East Layton
Forcett and Carkin
Gayles
Kirby Hill
Newsham
Ravensworth
West Layton
Whashton

LEYBURN WARD

The parishes of Bellerby
Leyburn

LOWER DALE WARD

The parishes of Arrathorne
Hornby
Hunton
Newton-le-Willows
Patrick Brompton

LOWER SWALEDALE WARD

The parishes of Downholme
Hudswell
Marske
New Forest
Stainton
Walburn

MIDDLEHAM AND COVERDALE WARD

The parishes of Caldbergh with East Scrafton
Carlton Highdale
Carlton Town
Coverham with Agglethorpe
East Witton Out Parish
East Witton Town
Melmerby
Middleham
West Scrafton

REETH WARD

The parishes of Arkengarthdale
Ellerton Abbey
Marrick
Reeth, Fremington and Healaugh

RICHMOND CENTRAL WARD

The Central Ward of the parish of Richmond

RICHMOND EAST WARD

The East Ward of the parish of Richmond

RICHMOND WEST WARD

The West Ward of the parish of Richmond

SCORTON WARD

The parishes of Bolton-on-Swale
Ellerton-on-Swale
Scorton
Uckerby

SCOTTON WARD

The parish of Scotton

ST AGATHAS WARD

The parishes of Aske
Gilling with Hartforth and Sedbury
Skeeby

STANWICK WARD

The parishes of Aldbrough
Eppleby
Melsonby
Stanwick St John

ST MICHAEL WITH ST LUKE WARD

The parishes of North Cowton
Middleton Tyas
Moulton

SWALESIDE WARD

The parishes of Brompton-on-Swale
Easby
St Martin's

UREVALE

The parishes of Akebar
Barden
Constable Burton
East Hauxwell
Finghall
Garriston
Harmby
Hutton Hang
Spennithorne
Thornton Steward
West Hauxwell