

Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No.311

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

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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 TEESDALE 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 district of Teesdale 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 31 December 1974 that we were to undertake this review. This was incorporated in a consultation letter addressed to Teesdale District Council, copies of which were circulated to Durham 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 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. Teesdale 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 District Council have not passed a resolution under section 7(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, so the provisions of section 7(6) will apply and the elections of all district councillors will be held simultaneously.

5. On 28 May 1975 Teesdale District Council presented their draft scheme of representation. The Council proposed to divide the area of the district into 17 wards, each returning one, two or three councillors, except for one ward which they proposed should return 6 councillors to form a council of 30 members.

6. We considered the draft scheme submitted by the District Council, together with the comments that had been made upon it. We noted that the scheme generally complied with the rules in Schedule 11 to the Local Government Act 1972 but that the proposed Evenwood and Barony ward, comprising the parish of Evenwood and Barony, was under-represented with 3 councillors and that, contrary to our guidelines, the proposed Barnard Castle ward, comprising the parish of Barnard Castle, was to be represented by 6 councillors. In order to improve the standard of representation, we decided to divide the 3-member Evenwood and Barony ward by using the existing parish wards to form a 3-member Evenwood with Ramshaw ward and a 1-member Barony ward. After agreeing with the District Council that they should ward the parish of Barnard Castle, we decided to divide the proposed 6-member ward of that name to form two 3-member wards, to be named Barnard Castle East and Barnard Castle West respectively.

7. Subject to these modifications, which increased the proposed size of the council to 31 members, we adopted the Council's draft scheme as our draft proposals.

8. 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 Council's 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.

9. Support for the draft proposals was expressed by the County Council and a parish council. The District Council accepted our proposals but asked that consideration be given to the possibility of replacing our proposed 2-member Middleton-in-Teesdale ward with two single member wards, the parishes of Forest and Frith, and Newbiggin forming one ward and the parish of Middleton-in-Teesdale the other. This suggestion was supported by representations from two of the parish councils concerned and a County Councillor. Another parish council wrote to us requesting separate representation for the parishes of Gainford and Winston which were combined to form a 2-member ward in our draft proposals.

10. We reviewed our draft proposals in the light of the comments we had received. We had some sympathy with the requests for separate representation for the parishes in the proposed Middleton-in-Teesdale, and Gainford and Winston wards but we concluded that the resulting imbalance would be unacceptable. We therefore decided to confirm our draft proposals as our final proposals without modification.

11. Details of these final proposals are set out in Schedules 1 and 2 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. Schedule 2 is a description of the areas of the wards we have proposed. The boundaries of the new wards are illustrated on the map.

PUBLICATION

12. 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 Teesdale 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

T BROCKBANK

MICHAEL CHISHOLM

D P HARRISON

R R THORNTON

N DIGNEY (Secretary)

26 October 1978

DISTRICT OF TEESDALE : NAMES OF PROPOSED WARDS AND NUMBERS OF COUNCILLORS

<u>NAME OF WARD</u>	<u>NO OF COUNCILLORS</u>
BARNARD CASTLE EAST	3
BARNARD CASTLE WEST	3
COCKFIELD	2
COTHERSTONE WITH LARTINGTON	1
EGGLESTON	1
ETHERLEY	2
EVENWOOD WITH RAMSHAW	3
GAINFORD AND WINSTON	2
GRETA	1
HAMSTERLEY AND SOUTH BEDBURN	1
INGLETON	1
LYNESACK	2
MIDDLETON-IN-TEESDALE	2
ROMALDKIRK	1
STAINDROP	2
STARTFORTH EAST	1
STARTFORTH WITH BOLDRON	1
STREATLAM AND WHORLTON	1
TOFT HILL AND LANDS	1

The proposed ward boundaries are shown on a map which can be inspected at the Council's offices. A detailed description of the boundaries of the proposed wards as defined on the map is at Schedule 2.

DISTRICT OF TEESDALE - DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WARD BOUNDARIES

BARNARD CASTLE EAST WARD

The East ward of the parish of Barnard Castle.

BARNARD CASTLE WEST WARD

The West ward of the parish of Barnard Castle.

COCKFIELD WARD

The parish of Cockfield.

COTHERSTONE WITH LARTINGTON WARD

The parishes of Cotherstone and Lartington.

EGGLESTON WARD

The parishes of Eggleston and Marwood.

ETHERLEY WARD

The parish of Etherley

EVENWOOD WITH RAMSHAW WARD

The Evenwood and Ramshaw wards of the parish of Evenwood and Barony.

GAINFORD AND WINSTON WARD

The parishes of Gainford and Winston.

GRETA WARD

The parishes of Bowes, Brignall, Gilmonby and Rokeby.

HAMSTERLEY AND SOUTH BEDBURN WARD

The parishes of Hamsterley, South Bedburn and those areas of the Lands Common to the parishes of South Bedburn, Hamsterley and Lynesack And Softley, excluding that area surrounded by the parish of Lynesack And Softley.

INGLETON WARD

The parishes of Bolam, Headlam, Hilton, Ingleton, Langton, Morton-Tinmouth and Wackerfield.

LYNESACK WARD

The parishes of Lynesack And Softley, Woodland and that area of the Lands Common to the parishes of South Bedburn, Hamsterley and Lynesack And Softley surrounded by the parish of Lynestack And Softley.

MIDDLETON-IN-TEESDALE WARD

The parishes of Forest and Frith, Middleton in Teesdale and Newbiggin.

ROMALDKIRK WARD

The parishes of Holwick, Hunderthwaite, Lunedale, Mickleton and Romalldkirk.

STAINDROP WARD

The parishes of Cleatlam, Langleydale and Shotton, Raby with Keverstone and Staindrop.

STARTFORTH EAST WARD

The parishes of Barforth, Barningham, Hope, Hutton Magna, Ovington, Scargill and Wycliffe with Thorpe.

STARTFORTH WITH BOLDRON WARD

The parishes of Boldron, Egglestone Abbey and Startforth.

STREATLAM AND WHORLTON WARD

The parishes of Streatlam and Stainton, Westwick and Whorlton.

TOFT HILL AND LANDS WARD

The Lands and Toft Hill wards of the parish of Evenwood and Barony.

