

LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND

FINAL
RECOMMENDATIONS
ON THE FUTURE
ELECTORAL
ARRANGEMENTS FOR
ALLERDALE
IN CUMBRIA

*Report to the Secretary of State for the
Environment, Transport and the Regions*

November 1997

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

This report sets out the Commission's final recommendations on the electoral arrangements for Allerdale in Cumbria.

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Peter Brokenshire

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Local Government Commission for England

4 November 1997

Dear Secretary of State

On 25 October 1996 the Commission began a periodic electoral review of the borough of Allerdale under the Local Government Act 1992. We published our draft recommendations in May 1997 and undertook an eight-week period of consultation.

We have now prepared our final recommendations in the light of the consultation. We have substantially confirmed our draft recommendations, although some modifications have been made (see paragraph 116) in the light of further evidence. This report sets out our final recommendations for changes to electoral arrangements in Allerdale.

We recommend that Allerdale Borough Council should be served by 56 councillors representing 31 wards, and that changes should be made to ward boundaries in order to improve electoral equality, having regard to the statutory criteria. We recommend that the Council should continue to be elected together every four years.

I would like to thank members and officers of the Borough Council and other local people who have contributed to the review. Their co-operation and assistance have been very much appreciated by Commissioners and staff.

Yours sincerely

PROFESSOR MALCOLM GRANT
Chairman

SUMMARY

The Commission began a review of Allerdale on 25 October 1996. We published our draft recommendations for electoral arrangements on 28 May 1997, after which we undertook an eight-week period of consultation.

- **This report summarises the representations we received during consultation on our draft recommendations, and offers our final recommendations to the Secretary of State.**

We found that the existing electoral arrangements provide unequal representation of electors in Allerdale because:

- **in 23 of the 34 wards, the number of electors represented by each councillor varies by more than 10 per cent from the average for the borough;**
- **in 11 wards, the number of electors represented by each councillor varies by more than 20 per cent from the average, two of which vary by more than 60 per cent;**
- **by 2001, the number of electors per councillor in 24 of the 34 wards is likely to vary by more than 10 per cent from the average, two of which would still vary by more than 60 per cent.**

Our main final recommendations for future electoral arrangements (Figure 1) are that:

- **Allerdale Borough Council should be served by 56 councillors, compared with 55 at present;**
- **there should be 31 wards, three fewer than at present;**
- **the boundaries of 31 of the existing wards should be modified, while three wards should retain their existing boundaries;**
- **elections should continue to take place every four years.**

These recommendations seek to ensure that the number of electors represented by each borough councillor is as nearly as possible the same, having regard to local circumstances.

- **In 29 of the 31 wards the number of electors per councillor would vary by no more than 10 per cent from the borough average; no wards would have an electoral variance over 13 per cent.**
- **This electoral equality is expected to be maintained by 2001.**

Recommendations are also made for changes to parish and town council electoral arrangements. They provide for:

- **new warding arrangements for the parishes of Cockermouth, Maryport and Workington;**
- **a reduction in the number of councillors for Blennerhasset & Torpenhow, Lorton and Westnewton parish councils.**

All further correspondence on these recommendations and the matters discussed in this report should be addressed to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions, who will not make an order implementing the Commission's recommendations before 16 December 1997:

**The Secretary of State
Local Government Review
Department of the Environment,
Transport and the Regions
Eland House
Bressenden Place
London SW1E 5DU**

*Figure 1:
The Commission's Final Recommendations: Summary*

Ward name	Number of councillors	Constituent areas	Map reference
1 All Saints (Cockermouth town)	3	All Saints ward; Castle ward (part)	Map A2
2 Aspatria	2	Aspatria ward (Aspatria parish); Boltons ward (part – Allhallows parish)	Map 2
3 Boltons	1	Boltons ward (part – the parishes of Boltons and Ireby & Uldale); Binsey ward (part – the parishes of Bassenthwaite, Bewaldeth & Snittlegarth and Underskiddaw)	Map 2
4 Broughton St Bridget's	2	Broughton ward (Broughton parish); St Bridget's ward (the parishes of Bridekirk, Brigham and Papcastle)	Map 2
5 Christchurch (Cockermouth town)	2	Castle ward (part)	Map A2
6 Clifton	1	<i>Unchanged</i> (the parishes of Great Clifton and Little Clifton)	Map 2
7 Crummock	1	Crummock ward (the parishes of Blindbothel, Buttermere, Embleton, Lorton, Loweswater, Setmurthy and Wythop); Binsey ward (part – Blindcrake parish)	Map 2
8 Dalton	1	Dalton ward (part – the parishes of Dean and Greysouthen)	Map 2
9 Derwent Valley	1	Derwent Valley ward (part – the parishes of Above Derwent and Borrowdale)	Map 2
10 Ellen	2	Dearham ward (Dearham parish); Ellen ward (part – Crosscanonby parish)	Map 2
11 Ellenborough (Maryport town)	2	Ellenborough ward (part)	Map A3
12 Ewanrigg (Maryport town, part)	2	Ewanrigg ward (part); Ellenborough ward (part); Seaton Moor ward (part – Broughton Moor parish)	Maps 2 and A3
13 Flimby (Maryport town)	1	Flimby ward (part)	Map A3
14 Harrington (Workington town, part)	2	Harrington ward (part); Dalton ward (part – Winscales parish)	Large map

Figure 1 (continued):
The Commission's Final Recommendations: Summary

Ward name	Number of councillors	Constituent areas	Map reference
15 Holme	1	Tarns ward (part - the parishes of Allonby and Holme St Cuthbert); Waver ward (part - Holme Abbey parish)	Map 2
16 Keswick	3	Keswick ward (Keswick parish); Derwent Valley ward (part - St John's Castlerigg & Wythburn parish)	Map 2
17 Marsh	1	Marsh ward (part - the parishes of Bowness and Kirkbampton)	Map 2
18 Moorclose (Workington town)	3	Moorclose ward (part); Westfield ward (part)	Large map
19 Moss Bay (Workington town)	3	Salterbeck ward; Westfield ward (part); Harrington ward (part)	Large map
20 Netherhall (Maryport town)	2	Netherhall ward; Flimby ward (part); Ewanrigg ward (part)	Map A3
21 St John's (Workington town)	3	St John's ward; Moorclose ward (part); Stainburn ward (part)	Large map
22 St Michael's (Workington town)	3	St Michael's ward; Northside ward; Stainburn ward (part)	Large map
23 Seaton	3	Seaton Moor ward (part - the parishes of Camerton and Seaton)	Map 2
24 Silloth	2	Silloth ward; Waver ward (part - Holme Low parish)	Map 2
25 Solway	1	Tarns ward (part - the parishes of Bromfield, Hayton & Mealo and Westnewton); Ellen ward (part - Oughterside & Allerby parish)	Map 2
26 Stainburn (Workington town)	1	Stainburn ward (part)	Large map
27 Wampool	1	Wampool ward (part - the parishes of Aikton and Thursby)	Map 2
28 Warnell	1	<i>Unchanged</i> (the parishes of Caldbeck, Sebergham and Westward)	Map 2
29 Waver	1	Waver ward (part - the parishes of Dundraw, Holme East Waver and Waverton); Marsh ward (part - Kirkbride parish); Wampool ward (part - Woodside parish)	Map 2

Continued overleaf

*Figure 1 (continued):
The Commission's Final Recommendations: Summary*

Ward name	Number of councillors	Constituent areas	Map reference
30 Wharrels	1	Binsey ward (part – the parishes of Bothel & Threapland and Plumbland); Boltons ward (part – Blennerhasset & Torpenhow parish); Ellen ward (part – Gilcruix parish)	Map 2
31 Wigton	3	<i>Unchanged</i> (Wigton parish)	Map 2

Notes: 1 The whole of Allerdale borough is parished.

2 Borough wards in Cockermouth, Maryport and Workington are coterminous with parish wards.

1. INTRODUCTION

1 This report contains our final recommendations on the electoral arrangements for the borough of Allerdale in Cumbria. We have now reviewed all the districts in Cumbria as part of our programme of periodic electoral reviews of all principal local authority areas in England.

2 In undertaking these reviews, we have had regard to:

- the statutory criteria contained in section 13(5) of the Local Government Act 1992;
- the *Rules to be Observed in Considering Electoral Arrangements* contained in Schedule 11 to the Local Government Act 1972.

3 We have also had regard to our *Guidance and Procedural Advice for Local Authorities and Other Interested Parties* (published in March 1996 and supplemented in September 1996), which sets out our approach to the reviews.

4 The review was in four stages. Stage One began on 25 October 1996, when we wrote to Allerdale Borough Council inviting proposals for future electoral arrangements. Our letter was copied to Cumbria County Council, Cumbria Police Authority, the local authority associations, Cumbria Association of Local Councils, parish and town councils in the borough, Members of Parliament and the Member of the European Parliament with constituency interests in the borough, and the headquarters of the main political parties. At the start of the review and following publication of our draft recommendations, we published notices in the local press, issued a press release and invited the Borough Council to publicise the review more widely. The closing date for receipt of representations was 20 January 1997. At Stage Two we considered all the representations received during Stage One and prepared our draft recommendations.

5 Stage Three began on 28 May 1997 with the publication of our report, *Draft Recommendations on the Future Electoral Arrangements for Allerdale in Cumbria*, and ended on 22 July 1997. Comments were sought on our preliminary conclusions. Finally, during Stage Four we reconsidered our draft recommendations in the light of the Stage Three consultation and now publish our final recommendations.

2. CURRENT ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

⁶ The borough of Allerdale covers an area of some 126,000 hectares with a population of 96,000. It is predominantly rural, although the relatively more populated coastal belt in the south-west of the borough has a history of heavy industry. The borough contains three physically and economically distinct areas: the relatively compact triangle of the towns of Workington (the administrative centre), Maryport and Cockermouth, which together account for nearly two-thirds of the population; a large stretch of the Solway Coast; and one-fifth of the Lake District National Park, including several lakes. The borough is completely parished with a total of 62 parishes.

⁷ To compare levels of electoral inequality between wards, the extent to which the number of electors per councillor in each ward (the councillor:elector ratio) varies from the average for the borough in percentage terms, has been calculated. In the report, this calculation may also be described as 'electoral variance'.

⁸ The Borough Council has 55 councillors elected from 34 wards (Map 1 and Figure 2). Six wards are each represented by three councillors, nine wards elect two councillors each, while the other 19 wards elect a single councillor each. The whole Council is elected together every four years, with the next elections due in May 1999. The electorate of the borough is 75,867 (February 1996) and each councillor represents an average of 1,379 electors. The Borough Council forecasts that the electorate will decrease by 1 per cent to 74,989 by the year 2001, which would change the average number of electors per councillor to 1,363 (Figure 2).

⁹ Since the last electoral review was completed in 1978 by our predecessor, the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC), changes in population and electorate have been unevenly spread across the borough. As a result, in 23 of the

34 wards, the number of electors per councillor varies by more than 10 per cent from the average, in 11 wards it varies by more than 20 per cent and in two wards by over 60 per cent. The most significant electoral imbalance is in Harrington ward where the councillor represents 2,409 electors, 75 per cent more than the borough average.

Map 1 (continued):
Existing Wards in Allerdale

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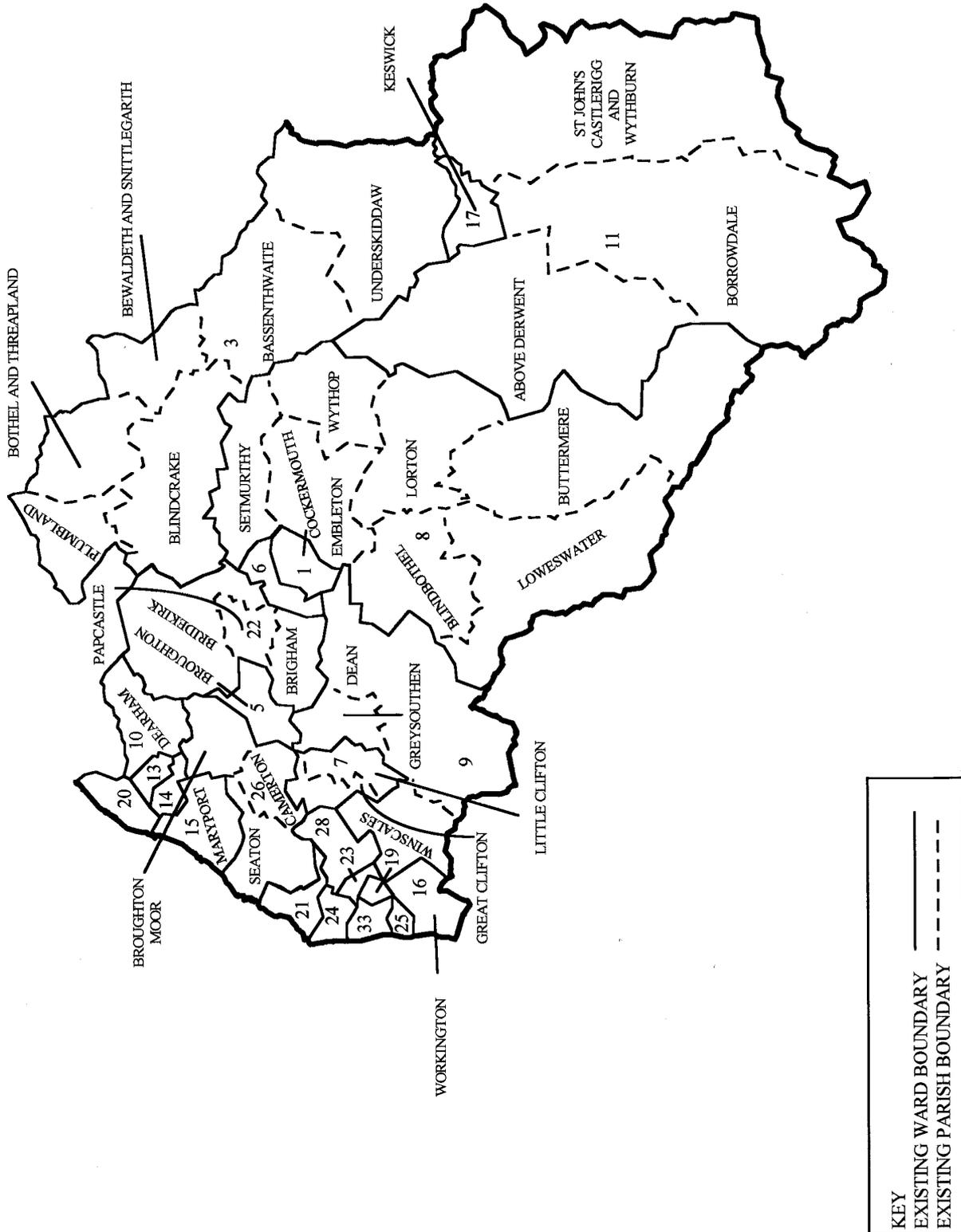


Figure 2:
Existing Electoral Arrangements

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (1996)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2001)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1 All Saints (Cockermouth town)	2	3,312	1,656	20	3,252	1,626	19
2 Aspatria	2	2,156	1,078	-22	2,136	1,068	-22
3 Binsey	1	1,487	1,487	8	1,408	1,408	3
4 Boltons	1	1,623	1,623	18	1,546	1,546	13
5 Broughton	1	1,281	1,281	-7	1,291	1,291	-5
6 Castle (Cockermouth town)	2	3,151	1,576	14	3,167	1,584	16
7 Clifton	1	1,275	1,275	-8	1,263	1,263	-7
8 Crummock	1	1,047	1,047	-24	988	988	-28
9 Dalton	1	1,435	1,435	4	1,422	1,422	4
10 Dearham	1	1,584	1,584	15	1,612	1,612	18
11 Derwent Valley	1	1,676	1,676	22	1,574	1,574	15
12 Ellen	1	1,571	1,571	14	1,537	1,537	13
13 Ellenborough (Maryport town)	2	2,994	1,497	9	3,030	1,515	11
14 Ewanrigg (Maryport town)	2	2,064	1,032	-25	2,027	1,014	-26
15 Flimby (Maryport town)	1	1,440	1,440	4	1,422	1,422	4
16 Harrington (Workington town)	1	2,409	2,409	75	2,420	2,420	77
17 Keswick	3	4,068	1,356	-2	3,893	1,298	-5
18 Marsh	1	1,776	1,776	29	1,721	1,721	26
19 Moorclose (Workington town)	3	3,152	1,051	-24	3,163	1,054	-23
20 Netherhall (Maryport town)	2	2,386	1,193	-14	2,428	1,214	-11
21 Northside (Workington town)	1	892	892	-35	867	867	-36

Figure 2 (continued):
Existing Electoral Arrangements

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (1996)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2001)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
22 St Bridget's	1	1,582	1,582	15	1,552	1,552	14
23 St John's (Workington town)	3	3,474	1,158	-16	3,475	1,158	-15
24 St Michael's (Workington town)	3	3,410	1,137	-18	3,348	1,116	-18
25 Salterbeck (Workington town)	2	2,126	1,063	-23	2,070	1,035	-24
26 Seaton Moor	3	4,609	1,536	11	4,715	1,572	15
27 Silloth	2	2,348	1,174	-15	2,355	1,178	-14
28 Stainburn (Workington town)	1	2,345	2,345	70	2,297	2,297	68
29 Tarns	1	1,479	1,479	7	1,439	1,439	6
30 Wampool	1	1,749	1,749	27	1,703	1,703	25
31 Warnell	1	1,519	1,519	10	1,424	1,424	4
32 Waver	1	1,532	1,532	11	1,513	1,513	11
33 Westfield (Workington town)	2	2,775	1,388	1	2,745	1,373	1
34 Wigton	3	4,140	1,380	0	4,186	1,395	2
Totals	55	75,867	—	—	74,989	—	—
Averages	—	—	1,379	—	—	1,363	—

Source: Electorate figures are based on Allerdale Borough Council's submission.

Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the number of electors per councillor varies from the average for the borough. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. For example, in 1996, electors in Northside ward were relatively over-represented by 35 per cent, while electors in Harrington ward were relatively under-represented by 75 per cent. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

3. DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

10 During Stage One, we received representations from Allerdale Borough Council on electoral arrangements for the borough, and from two town councils and one parish council. In the light of these representations and evidence available to us, we reached preliminary conclusions which were set out in our report, *Draft Recommendations on the Future Electoral Arrangements for Allerdale in Cumbria*. We proposed that:

- (a) Allerdale Borough Council should be served by 56 councillors representing 31 wards;
- (b) the towns of Cockermouth, Maryport and Workington should be re-warded;
- (c) there should be some wards comprising both rural and urban parished areas;
- (d) there should be modifications to the boundaries of 17 of the existing 20 rural wards;
- (e) there should be a reduction in the number of councillors for three parish councils.

Draft Recommendation

Allerdale Borough Council should comprise 56 councillors, serving 31 wards. The whole Council should continue to be elected together every four years.

11 Our proposals would have resulted in significant improvements in electoral equality, with the number of electors per councillor in 29 of the 31 wards varying by no more than 10 per cent from the borough average. This level of electoral equality was expected to be maintained for the period to 2001.

12 Our draft recommendations are summarised at Appendix B.

4. RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION

13 During the consultation on our draft recommendations report, 27 representations were received. A list of all respondents is available on request from the Commission.

Allerdale Borough Council

14 The Borough Council accepted our draft recommendations for 22 of the 31 wards, but put forward alternative proposals for the remaining wards, as outlined below:

- (a) in Workington, the Council accepted the grouping of Winscales parish and Harrington ward, but reiterated its support for two single-member wards rather than one two-member ward for the area; it also proposed the transfer of Ellerbeck Close (37 electors) from Moorclose ward to St John's ward, and a modification to the proposed boundary between Moorclose and Moss Bay wards;
- (b) in Aspatria, the Council proposed that the town should comprise two single-member wards – East and West, with the former including Allhallows parish – as proposed at Stage One;
- (c) the Council reiterated its preference for dividing Wigton into three single-member wards – North, South and West;
- (d) the Council disagreed with our proposed Dearham, Broughton and Seaton wards, instead proposing no change for the three existing wards of Broughton, St Bridget's and Seaton Moor, which it considered would better reflect community of interest; a revised two-member Ellen ward would comprise the parishes of Crosscanonby and Dearham.

National Union of Conservative & Unionist Associations - North West Area

15 The National Union of Conservative & Unionist Associations – North West Area ('the Conservatives') submitted views on behalf of the Conservative Group on the Borough Council and the Workington Conservative Association. They opposed our draft recommendations and

submitted alternative arrangements for only 11 wards, including the re-warding of Maryport town and the inclusion of Broughton Moor parish in one of the town wards for borough warding purposes. The Conservatives stated that these proposals would more accurately reflect rural allegiances, as well as historical and geographical boundaries. They also supported the principle of single-member wards for the borough, as far as was practicable.

Parish and Town Councils

16 During Stage Three, representations were received from six town councils, 15 parish councils and one parish meeting. Workington Town Council reiterated its support for no change to the electoral arrangements in the town, except that they agreed to move Walker Brow from Harrington ward to Salterbeck ward. Aspatria Town Council also proposed no change for its area. Maryport Town Council contended that Broughton Moor parish should be included with the town for borough warding purposes and proposed some minor adjustments to the Ellenborough/Ewanrigg ward boundary. It also wished to retain its borough and county representation of seven and two councillors respectively.

17 Cockermouth, Keswick and Wigton town councils all agreed with the draft recommendations for their respective areas. However, Keswick Town Council expressed reservations regarding the representation of urban and rural interests. It also opposed any suggestion of splitting the town into three single-member wards, and wished to retain its town council electoral arrangements.

18 Broughton, Blindcrake, Ireby & Uldale, Bassenthwaite, Kirkbride and Underskiddaw parish councils all supported the retention of their current electoral arrangements. In addition, Blindcrake Parish Council suggested that Underskiddaw parish be included in Keswick ward, a view that was not shared by Underskiddaw Parish Council because of the different urban and rural interests of the areas. Allonby and Seaton parish councils agreed with the draft recommendations insofar as they related to their respective areas, and Papcastle Parish Council supported the draft recommendations.

19 Holme Abbey, Oughterside & Allerby and Plumbland parish councils supported no change to their respective areas. However, if there were to be change, Holme Abbey Parish Council considered that the new Holme ward should include Bromfield parish rather than Allonby parish; Oughterside & Allerby Parish Council proposed that Tarns ward should be renamed Ellen; and Plumbland Parish Council would support the draft recommendation subject to Allhallows parish being included in the modified Binsey ward.

20 Allhallows Parish Council opposed the inclusion of the parish in a borough ward with Aspatria, preferring instead to be included in the modified Binsey ward, if change were necessary. Gilcrux Parish Council wished to remain a member of the Aspatria Forum and within the Workington Parliamentary Constituency. It also considered that its ties are with Aspatria, rather than Dearham or Cockermouth. Bewaldeth & Snittlegarth Parish Meeting was concerned that its long-established local ties with Bassenthwaite would be broken under the draft recommendations, and therefore wished to be included, together with Bassenthwaite parish, in the modified Boltons ward.

21 Lorton Parish Council agreed with the reduction in the number of its parish councillors to seven.

Other Representations

22 We received a further three representations in response to our draft recommendations. Councillor Mrs McGuffie, member for Binsey ward, commented that “most parish councils are against change and would support the [Borough Council’s Stage One] proposal to leave Binsey and Crummock wards as they are”. She added that many of the electorate would oppose any proposal to join rural and urban areas, as their rural identity would be lost, and that most would prefer single-member wards. Councillor McGuffie also stated that the electorate of Binsey and Crummock wards would support changes if they were seen to be fair and would not split established community links. She submitted alternative proposals for the area covered by the existing wards of Binsey, Boltons, Crummock, Keswick and St Bridget’s, which she considered would better reflect the wishes of the rural community.

23 Cumbria County Council wrote to advise us that it did not object to our draft recommendations. A resident of Keswick proposed

dividing the town into three single-member wards – East, Central and West – and that for the town council’s electoral arrangements, each ward should return four councillors.

5. ANALYSIS AND FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

24 As indicated previously, the Commission's prime objective in considering the most appropriate electoral arrangements for Allerdale is to achieve electoral equality, having regard to the statutory criteria set out in the Local Government Act 1992, and Schedule 11 to the Local Government Act 1972 which refers to the ratio of electors to councillors being "as nearly as may be, the same in every ward of the district or borough".

25 However, our function is not merely arithmetical. First, our recommendations are not intended to be based solely on existing electorate figures, but also on assumptions as to changes in the number and distribution of local government electors likely to take place within the ensuing five years. Second, we must have regard to the desirability of fixing identifiable boundaries, and to maintaining local ties which might otherwise be broken. Third, we must consider the need to secure effective and convenient local government, and reflect the interests and identities of local communities.

26 It is therefore impractical to design an electoral scheme which provides for exactly the same number of electors per councillor in every ward of an authority. There must be a degree of flexibility. However, our approach, in the context of the statutory criteria, is that such flexibility must be kept to a minimum.

27 In our March 1996 *Guidance*, we expressed the view that "proposals for changes in electoral arrangements should therefore be based on variations in each ward of no more than plus or minus 10 per cent from the average councillor:elector ratio for the authority, having regard to five-year forecasts of changes in electorates. Imbalances in excess of plus or minus 20 per cent may be acceptable, but only in highly exceptional circumstances ... and will have to be justified in full". However, as emphasised in our September 1996 supplement to the *Guidance*, while we accept that absolute equality of representation is likely to be unattainable, we

consider that, if electoral imbalances are to be kept to the minimum, such equality should be the starting point in any electoral review.

Electorate Projections

28 During Stage One the Borough Council submitted electorate forecasts for the period 1996 to 2001, projecting a reduction in the electorate of 1 per cent over the five-year period, from 75,867 to 74,989. The Council estimated rates and locations of housing development with regard to structure and local plans, the expected rate of building over the five-year period and assumed occupancy rates. Advice has been obtained from the Borough Council on the likely effect on electorates of ward boundary changes. In our draft recommendations report, we accepted that this is an inexact science and, having given consideration to projected electorates, were content that they represent the best estimates that could reasonably be made at the time.

29 We received no comments on the Council's electorate projections during Stage Three, and remain satisfied that they provide the best estimates presently available.

Council Size

30 Our March 1996 *Guidance* indicated that we would normally expect the number of councillors serving a district or borough council to be in the range of 30 to 60.

31 Allerdale Borough Council is at present served by 55 councillors. The Council did not propose any change to council size during Stage One. In our draft recommendations report we considered the size and distribution of the electorate, the geography and other characteristics of the area, together with the representations received. We concluded that the statutory criteria and the achievement of electoral equality would best be met by a council of 56 members. In its Stage Three submission, the Borough Council accepted the

proposed council size and we have not received any evidence to persuade us to move away from this view.

Electoral Arrangements

32 Having considered all representations received during Stage Three, we have reviewed our draft recommendations. The following areas, based on existing wards, are considered in turn:

- (a) Workington (eight wards);
- (b) Cockermouth (two wards);
- (c) Maryport (four wards);
- (d) Aspatria, Keswick and Wigton wards;
- (e) Marsh, Wampool and Warnell wards;
- (f) Silloth, Waver and Tarns wards;
- (g) Boltons and Binsey wards;
- (h) Ellen, Dearham, St Bridget's, Seaton Moor and Broughton wards;
- (i) Clifton, Crummock, Derwent Valley and Dalton wards.

Details of our final recommendations are set out in Figures 1 and 4, and illustrated in Map 2 and Appendix A.

Workington

33 Workington currently comprises eight wards represented by a total of 16 borough councillors: Harrington, Northside and Stainburn each returning one councillor; Salterbeck and Westfield, two councillors each; and Moorclose, St John's and St Michael's, three councillors each. Some parts of the town have experienced considerable housing development over the past years, and as a result have some of the worst electoral imbalances in the borough.

34 In response to our draft recommendations report, the Borough Council proposed modifications to some ward boundaries in the town (which are addressed in more detail below). Workington Town Council, however, reiterated its Stage One proposal for no change to the existing electoral arrangements in the town. The proposed wards in Workington are illustrated in the large map inserted at the back of the report.

Harrington ward

35 During Stage One the Borough Council proposed that the single-member Harrington ward, currently under-represented by 75 per cent, should be divided into two single-member wards: Harrington East and Harrington West. This would result in both of the wards being over-represented, by 9 per cent and 18 per cent respectively. To improve the electoral inequality, our draft recommendation included a merger of the whole of the existing Harrington ward with Winscales parish (currently in Dalton ward), to be represented by two borough councillors. A significant part of Workington's industrial base at Lillyhall is in Winscales, and it would appear that residents of Winscales look towards the town for amenities.

36 Our draft recommendations adopted the Borough Council's proposal to re-align the boundary between Harrington and Salterbeck wards by transferring 20 electors in Walker Brow from Harrington to Salterbeck. The number of electors per councillor in the two-member Harrington ward would be 5 per cent below the borough average (3 per cent in 2001).

37 At Stage Three the Borough Council accepted the concept of grouping Winscales parish and Harrington ward, but maintained its view that the area should be served by two single-member wards, rather than one two-member ward. Workington Town Council considered that the modified Harrington ward would be too large to be managed by three borough councillors (although our draft recommendation was for two). Both the Borough Council and the Town Council supported the minor boundary adjustment between Harrington ward and Salterbeck ward, as it affected Walker Brow (detailed above).

38 We considered options for two single-member wards to serve the area. As Winscales parish borders the Harrington East area, this would be the obvious merger, but it would result in a considerably under-represented ward and would leave Harrington West ward significantly over-represented. While joining Winscales parish with Harrington West would achieve better electoral equality, it would create a virtually detached ward which we consider would not secure effective and convenient local government, nor reflect local communities.

39 After consideration of the evidence received, we have decided that our draft recommendation for a two-member Harrington ward, incorporating Winscales parish, would provide the best electoral equality for the area, having regard to the statutory criteria, and therefore confirm our draft recommendation as final.

Moorclose, Salterbeck and Westfield wards

40 The three wards of Moorclose, Salterbeck and Westfield are located towards the south-west of the town and are represented by a total of seven borough councillors. Overall, the area is over-represented and merits only six councillors, assuming a council size of 55 or 56. During Stage One the Borough Council proposed some adjustments to both Moorclose and Salterbeck ward boundaries, and proposed no change to Westfield ward. In addition, it proposed that the area be served by a total of six councillors: Moorclose ward would be represented by two councillors, one less than at present.

41 However, under the Council's scheme, relatively large electoral imbalances would have remained in both Moorclose and Salterbeck wards (11 per cent and 22 per cent respectively). To address these imbalances, our draft recommendation provided for two three-member wards for the area: an enlarged Moorclose ward which would include part of Westfield ward; and a new Moss Bay ward which would comprise the rest of Westfield ward and Salterbeck ward (subject to the minor boundary adjustment with Harrington ward, detailed earlier). Under our draft recommendation, the number of electors per councillor would be 2 per cent below the borough average in Moorclose ward (1 per cent in 2001), and 1 per cent above the average in Moss Bay ward (equal to the average in 2001).

42 At Stage Three the Borough Council considered the boundary proposed by the Commission between Moorclose and Moss Bay wards to be artificial, and put forward an alternative boundary which would continue along Westfield Road, the disused railway line and along the northern boundary of No.2 Garth Road.

43 Workington Town Council supported the minor boundary adjustment between Harrington and Salterbeck wards, but was concerned that the new Moss Bay ward would be too large to be served by three borough councillors. However, we note that the new ward would cover a smaller area than the existing single-member Harrington ward.

44 We recognise the improved boundary which the Borough Council's proposal would provide between Moorclose and Moss Bay wards, and propose to put this forward as part of our final recommendation. This boundary adjustment would transfer an additional 116 electors from Moss Bay to Moorclose and would have a minimal effect on electoral equality. The number of electors per councillor would be equal to the borough average in Moorclose ward (1 per cent above in 2001), and 2 per cent below the average in Moss Bay ward (3 per cent in 2001).

45 Given that the levels of representation would be close to the average for the borough in both of the proposed wards, we have not been persuaded to move away from our initial proposal for two three-member wards. We confirm our draft recommendations for Moorclose and Moss Bay wards as final, subject to the minor boundary change in the Garth Road area (detailed earlier), and the transfer of Ellerbeck Close from Moorclose ward to St John's ward (detailed later).

Northside, St John's, St Michael's and Stainburn wards

46 The north of the town is currently served by two three-member wards, St John's and St Michael's, and two single-member wards, Northside and Stainburn. The area has some of the worst electoral variances in the borough (16 per cent, 18 per cent, 35 per cent and 70 per cent respectively). During Stage One the Borough Council proposed no change to Northside ward and some changes to the boundaries between the other three wards.

47 In our draft recommendations report, we endorsed the Borough Council's proposals to transfer some 990 electors from Stainburn ward to St John's ward, and to transfer some 60 electors to St Michael's ward from Stainburn ward. In order to correct the imbalances which would remain in Northside and St Michael's wards under the Borough Council's proposals (35 per cent and 10 per cent respectively), we recommended that the two wards be merged to form a modified three-member St Michael's ward (similar to the warding arrangement prior to the last electoral review in 1978).

48 At Stage Three the Borough Council accepted our proposed St Michael's and Stainburn wards. No alternative proposals were received, and we are therefore confirming our draft recommendation for these two wards as final. The number of electors per councillor would be 7 per cent above the

borough average in St Michael's ward and 5 per cent below the average in Stainburn (6 per cent above and 4 per cent below respectively in 2001).

49 The Council proposed a minor boundary change which would involve the transfer of Ellerbeck Close (37 electors) from Moorclose ward to St John's ward, arguing that the road is quite separate from Moorclose and is only linked to Ellerbeck Lane which leads to St John's. This change would have a negligible effect on the electoral equality achieved under our draft recommendations. The number of electors per councillor in St John's ward would be 11 per cent above the borough average both now and in 2001. We propose to accept the Council's amendment to the boundary, and confirm the rest of our draft recommendation for St John's ward as final.

Cockermouth

50 Cockermouth town currently comprises the two two-member wards of All Saints and Castle. Overall, the town is under-represented, with the number of electors per councillor being above the borough average in both wards: 20 per cent in All Saints and 14 per cent in Castle (19 per cent and 16 per cent respectively in 2001). The town has grown more quickly than any other part of the borough, and with further growth projected, the Borough Council contended that the number of councillors representing the town should be increased to five. However, in its Stage One submission, it concluded that there should be no change to the current arrangements in Cockermouth. This view was supported by Cockermouth Town Council.

51 In order to achieve a better level of representation in Cockermouth, our draft recommendation included a modification to the existing boundary between the two wards, transferring 474 electors from Castle ward to All Saints ward, with the proposed boundary following the rivers Derwent and Cocker, providing a clear, identifiable boundary. An additional councillor was recommended for All Saints ward, bringing the total number of councillors in the town to five. We also proposed that the ward name of Castle be changed to Christchurch, because the modified boundary would result in Cockermouth Castle being in All Saints ward.

52 Under our draft recommendation, the number of electors per councillor in All Saints and Christchurch wards would be 7 per cent below and 1 per cent below the borough average respectively (7 per cent below and 1 per cent above in 2001).

53 Both the Borough Council and Cockermouth Town Council supported our draft recommendation for Cockermouth, and we are therefore confirming it as final. The proposed boundary is illustrated in Map A2 at Appendix A.

Maryport

54 Maryport town currently comprises four wards represented by a total of seven borough councillors: Ellenborough, Ewanrigg and Netherhall wards are all two-member wards, while Flimby ward returns one councillor.

55 At Stage One, the Borough Council considered various options for this area, including the realignment of the internal ward boundaries and the inclusion of Broughton Moor parish (currently in Seaton Moor ward) in Ewanrigg ward. However, its Stage One submission only proposed amendments to the internal ward boundaries of the town. The Council's proposals would result in improved representation in the town, with the number of electors per councillor in all four wards being no more than 10 per cent from the borough average both now and in 2001.

56 No other representations had been received and we adopted the Borough Council's proposals for Maryport as part of our draft recommendations. Assuming a council size of 56, the number of electors per councillor in Ellenborough, Ewanrigg, Flimby and Netherhall would be 5 per cent, 8 per cent, 1 per cent and 8 per cent below the borough average respectively (3 per cent, 8 per cent, 2 per cent and 6 per cent below in 2001).

57 In response to our consultation report, the Borough Council supported the draft recommendations for Maryport, which reflected its initial proposals. However, Maryport Town Council, which had not commented at Stage One, proposed that Broughton Moor parish should form part of Ewanrigg ward because the parish uses Maryport facilities. The Town Council also proposed that Ewanrigg Brow and Hillside, currently in Ellenborough ward, should form part of Ewanrigg ward, while Buchanan Terrace should remain part of Ellenborough ward rather than Ewanrigg ward, as proposed in our draft recommendations.

58 The Conservatives also proposed that Broughton Moor parish be included in Ewanrigg ward but submitted alternative ward boundaries within the town. The boundary between Ellenborough and Ewanrigg wards would use the existing ward boundary along Thirlemere Road, then follow Victory Crescent and a track, as far as

the existing ward boundary (the railway line), thereby transferring 164 electors in Victory Crescent (south side), School Close and Sandy Lonning, from Ellenborough to Ewanrigg. The boundary between Ewanrigg, Flimby and Netherhall wards would be modified from our draft recommendations, as it would include the Solway Estate (from Ewanrigg ward) which does not include any electors.

59 Taking into consideration the representations received, we have decided to revise our draft recommendations in Maryport town. We support the proposal from the Conservatives and Maryport Town Council that Broughton Moor parish should form part of Ewanrigg ward for borough warding purposes. The parish is already linked to Ewanrigg for county purposes and is also part of Maryport South division. We are adopting the Conservatives' proposed boundary between Ellenborough and Ewanrigg wards as it appears to be well-defined, and we understand that it would have local support. However, we confirm our draft recommendation for the boundary between Flimby and Netherhall wards as final, as it would follow clearer ground detail.

60 Under our final recommendations, the number of electors in the revised Ellenborough and Ewanrigg wards would be 4 per cent and 5 per cent above the borough average respectively (7 per cent and 6 per cent in 2001). The electoral variances in Flimby and Netherhall wards would remain unchanged from our draft recommendations. The proposed boundaries in Maryport are illustrated in Map A3 at Appendix A.

Aspatria, Keswick and Wigton wards

61

Borough Council did not propose any changes for this ward, which comprises Keswick parish only. However, the neighbouring ward of Derwent Valley has 22 per cent more electors per councillor than the borough average. In order to correct this inequality, we proposed that the parish of St John's Castlerigg & Wythburn should be transferred from Derwent Valley ward to Keswick ward, noting that Keswick and St John's Castlerigg & Wythburn are already linked for county council electoral purposes. Under the draft recommendation, the number of electors per councillor in the modified Keswick ward would be 7 per cent above the borough average (4 per cent in 2001). Derwent Valley ward is discussed in more detail later.

67 During Stage Three, the Borough Council accepted our draft recommendation for Keswick ward. However, the Conservatives, Blindcrake Parish Council and Councillor McGuffie, member for Binsey ward, proposed that Underskiddaw parish should also form part of an enlarged Keswick ward. Underskiddaw Parish Council opposed any suggestion of including it in Keswick ward, wishing instead to remain in an unchanged Binsey ward. A resident of Keswick proposed that Keswick should be divided into three single-member wards.

68 Keswick Town Council did not oppose the draft recommendation, but expressed concern about a single councillor having to deal with disparate issues affecting the parishes of Keswick and St John's Castlerigg & Wythburn. The Town Council opposed any suggestion of including Underskiddaw parish in the proposed Keswick ward as it would create a "large area with such diverse interests [which] could not be properly represented". It also agreed that Keswick ward should be served by a single three-member ward, instead of being split into three single-member wards.

69 Having considered the representations received, and in the absence of any substantive evidence to the contrary, we conclude that the draft recommendation for Keswick ward comprising the parishes of Keswick and St John's Castlerigg & Wythburn would provide good electoral equality, having regard to local communities, and therefore confirm it as final.

70 Wigton is currently a three-member ward, comprising the parish of Wigton, and the number of electors per councillor is equal to the borough average (2 per cent above in 2001). At Stage One the Borough Council proposed the division of Wigton into three single-member wards – Wigton

North, Wigton South and Wigton West – with the number of electors per councillor being 1 per cent below, 4 per cent above and 4 per cent below the borough average respectively (2 per cent above, 7 per cent above and 1 per cent below in 2001).

71 However, we understood that Wigton Town Council would oppose the warding of the town and, in the absence of any evidence to support the proposed division, nor any substantial improvement in electoral equality in the area, we recommended the retention of the current three-member Wigton ward. Under our draft recommendation, the number of electors per councillor in Wigton would be 2 per cent above the borough average (4 per cent in 2001).

72 At Stage Three of the review, Wigton Town Council supported our draft recommendation, while the Borough Council adhered to its initial view that Wigton should be served by three single-member wards, but provided no evidence to support its proposal. We are therefore confirming our draft recommendation for no change to the three-member Wigton ward as final.

Marsh, Wampool and Warnell wards

73 At Stage One the Borough Council did not propose any change for these three north-eastern wards, noting that the area would remain in Penrith and The Border Parliamentary Constituency. Under the current arrangements, the number of electors per councillor in the three single-member wards of Marsh, Wampool and Warnell is 29 per cent, 27 per cent and 10 per cent above the borough average respectively (26 per cent, 25 per cent and 4 per cent in 2001).

74 Our electoral reviews, however, are not restricted by Parliamentary boundaries. Indeed, Parliamentary constituencies must take account of borough warding arrangements. In order to address the significant imbalances in both Marsh and Wampool wards, we proposed that Marsh ward (which currently comprises the parishes of Bowness, Kirkbampton and Kirkbride) should be modified, with the transfer of Kirkbride parish to a revised Waver ward (detailed later). Wampool ward (comprising the parishes of Aikton, Thursby and Woodside) should also be revised, with Woodside parish forming part of the revised Waver ward. Under our draft recommendation, the number of electors per councillor in Marsh and Wampool wards would be 4 per cent above the borough average and equal to the average respectively (2 per cent above and 2 per cent below in 2001).

75 We proposed no change to the current Warnell ward, since it appears to have a distinct and separate identity, largely due to its separation from neighbouring wards by fells and large open spaces, and the electoral imbalance is projected to improve by 2001. Under our draft recommendation, the number of electors per councillor in Warnell ward would be 12 per cent above the borough average (6 per cent in 2001).

76 The Borough Council accepted our draft recommendation for all three wards, but Kirkbride Parish Council supported no change to Marsh ward. The Parish Council stated that its orientation is more towards Bowness-on-Solway and Carlisle in the north and east, than to Abbeytown (in Waver ward) and Wigton in the west and south. However, we are not persuaded that the evidence available justifies the disproportionate level of representation which would remain under the existing arrangements. In order to provide for equality of representation in the area, we are confirming our draft recommendation for the wards of Marsh, Wampool and Warnell, as final.

Silloth, Waver and Tarns wards

77 Silloth ward (and parish) currently returns two borough councillors, each representing on average 15 per cent fewer than the average number of electors per councillor for the borough (14 per cent in 2001). In its Stage One submission the Borough Council proposed a revised Silloth ward which would include the neighbouring parish of Holme Low (currently in Waver ward). It appears that almost all of the airfield and much of Silloth's industrial potential lies within the parish of Holme Low, and that a considerable proportion of Holme Low's electorate (around Causewayhead) looks to Silloth for amenities. We adopted this proposal as part of our draft recommendation, and the number of electors per councillor in the modified Silloth ward would be 3 per cent below the borough average (1 per cent in 2001).

78 At Stage Three, the Borough Council supported the draft recommendation for Silloth ward, but Holme Abbey Parish Council preferred no change for Waver ward (Holme Abbey parish, together with Holme Low parish form part of the existing Waver ward). We have not been persuaded that the arguments in support of retaining the existing arrangements and the associated electoral imbalance, outweigh the improved level of representation provided by the draft recommendation. We therefore confirm our draft recommendation for Silloth as final.

79 Waver ward is currently represented by a single councillor and comprises the five parishes of Dundraw, Holme Abbey, Holme East Waver, Holme Low and Waverton. The number of electors per councillor is 11 per cent above the borough average both now and in 2001. The Borough Council initially proposed a modified Waver ward, excluding Holme Low parish which would form part of the revised Silloth ward (detailed earlier). This would result in the number of electors per councillor in Waver ward being 10 per cent below the borough average both now and in 2001.

80 However, taking into account other re-warding in this part of the borough, we proposed a modified Waver ward, comprising the parishes of Dundraw, Holme East Waver, Waverton, Kirkbride (from Marsh ward) and Woodside (from Wampool ward). Holme Low parish would form part of the modified Silloth ward (detailed earlier) and Holme Abbey parish would become part of the new Holme ward (detailed below). Under our draft recommendation, the number of electors per councillor in Waver ward would be 5 per cent above the borough average (4 per cent in 2001).

81 At Stage One the Borough Council did not propose any change for the current Tarns ward, comprising the parishes of Allonby, Bromfield, Hayton & Mealo, Holme St Cuthbert and Westnewton. However, in the light of other changes to this part of the borough, we proposed that a revised Tarns ward should comprise the parishes of Bromfield, Hayton & Mealo and Westnewton, together with Oughterside & Allerby parish (currently in Ellen ward). The other two parishes in the current Tarns ward, Allonby and Holme St Cuthbert, together with Holme Abbey parish (currently in Waver ward), would form a new Holme ward. Under our draft recommendation, the number of electors per councillor in both Tarns and Holme wards would be 7 per cent below the borough average (8 per cent and 7 per cent respectively in 2001).

82 During Stage Three the Borough Council accepted our draft recommendation for Waver, Holme and Tarns wards. Kirkbride Parish Council wanted to remain in Marsh ward, as it considered that the proposed Waver ward would be too large geographically and that the parish has no affinity with parishes to its south or west. Holme Abbey Parish Council suggested that the new Holme ward should comprise the parishes of Holme Abbey, Holme St Cuthbert and Bromfield (instead of Allonby), while Allonby Parish Council supported our draft recommendation so far as it affected the

parish. Oughterside & Allerby Parish Council stated that if the proposed warding arrangements were to come into effect, the ward name of Ellen should be retained, instead of Tarns.

83 Having considered the responses to our draft recommendations, we remain of the view that the electoral inequality in the north-west of the borough must be addressed. The draft recommendations would significantly improve electoral imbalance in the area and we consider that their benefits would appear to outweigh any adverse effect on the statutory criteria. We endorse the proposal to rename Tarns ward, since the Tarns (an area with a number of small lakes) are situated in the parish of Holme St Cuthbert, which would form part of the new Holme ward. However, we propose that Tarns ward should be renamed Solway, and not Ellen, as the parishes in the ward lie on the Solway Firth, and the river Ellen flows through Crosscanonby parish (which, together with Dearham parish would form the revised Ellen ward, detailed later).

84 We therefore confirm our draft recommendations for Silloth, Waver and Tarns wards as final, subject to renaming the latter ward Solway.

Boltons and Binsey wards

85 Boltons and Binsey are currently both single-member wards and the number of electors per councillor is 18 per cent and 8 per cent above the borough average respectively (13 per cent and 3 per cent in 2001). At Stage One the Borough Council proposed that Boltons ward (comprising the parishes of Allhallows, Blennerhasset & Torpenhow, Boltons and Ireby & Uldale) should be modified with the transfer of Allhallows parish to a new Aspatria East ward (detailed earlier).

86 No changes were proposed for Binsey ward (comprising the parishes of Bassenthwaite, Bewaldeth & Snittlegarth, Blindcrake, Bothel & Threapland, Plumbland and Underskiddaw), although the Borough Council recognised that the ward stretches a long way east to west and seems to have little focal point. Under the Council's proposals the number of electors per councillor in the wards of Boltons and Binsey would be 14 per cent below and 8 per cent above the average respectively (17 per cent below and 3 per cent above in 2001).

87 Taking into consideration the changes proposed elsewhere in the borough, we recommended a revised Boltons ward, comprising the parishes of Boltons, Ireby & Uldale, Bassenthwaite and

Underskiddaw (the latter two form part of the current Binsey ward). The number of electors represented by the single councillor for Boltons ward would be 5 per cent above the average (1 per cent in 2001). Our revised Binsey ward would consist of a ribbon of parishes along the A595: Bewaldeth & Snittlegarth, Bothel & Threapland, Plumbland, Blennerhasset & Torpenhow (the latter is currently in Boltons ward) and Gilcrux (currently in Ellen ward). The number of electors represented by the councillor for Binsey ward would be 8 per cent below the average (11 per cent in 2001). Blindcrake parish would form part of the modified Crummock ward (detailed later).

88 In our draft recommendations report, we acknowledged that our proposals would not result in a substantial improvement in electoral equality in this area compared with the Borough Council's proposal, but concluded that they would have the advantage of facilitating good electoral equality in the surrounding areas.

89 During Stage Three the Borough Council accepted our proposals for Binsey and Boltons wards. However, both the Conservatives and Councillor McGuffie, member for Binsey ward, proposed an alternative Binsey ward, comprising the parishes of Bewaldeth & Snittlegarth, Blennerhasset & Torpenhow, Boltons and Ireby & Uldale. In addition, they proposed that a new ward called Moota should comprise the parishes of Blindcrake, Bothel & Threapland, Bridekirk and Plumbland. However, Bassenthwaite, Blindcrake, Ireby & Uldale, Plumbland and Underskiddaw parish councils all supported no change to their current borough warding arrangements. In addition, Plumbland Parish Council stated that, should the modified Binsey ward be adopted as the final recommendation, Allhallows parish should also be included in the ward, because of its common interests with the other parishes in Binsey ward. This view was also reflected by Allhallows Parish Council.

90 Bewaldeth & Snittlegarth Parish Meeting was concerned that under the draft recommendation the parish would be separated from Bassenthwaite parish, with which it has long-established local ties. The Parish Meeting therefore proposed that it should be included in Boltons ward with Bassenthwaite parish.

91 Taking into consideration the comments received, we have decided to modify our draft recommendation in this area, with the transfer of Bewaldeth & Snittlegarth parish (containing 24 electors) from Binsey ward to Boltons ward. We

recognise that this modification would have a marginal effect on electoral equality in the area, but consider that it would better reflect the identities and interests of the local communities in this area. The removal of Bewaldeth & Snittlegarth parish from Binsey ward would suggest that the ward should be re-named, as the ward obtains its name from Binsey Fell which lies in the parish of Bewaldeth & Snittlegarth. Following local discussions, we propose that the revised Binsey ward be called Wharrels, the name of a fell in the parish of Bothel & Threapland, with which the whole area can identify.

92 Under our final recommendation, the number of electors per councillor in Boltons and Wharrels wards would be 7 per cent above and 10 per cent below the borough average respectively (3 per cent above and 13 per cent below in 2001). In the interest of electoral equality, we are not persuaded to move away from the rest of our draft recommendations for the wards of Boltons and Binsey (now Wharrels), and confirm them as final.

Ellen, Dearham, St Bridget's, Seaton Moor and Broughton wards

93 The Borough Council did not propose any changes to these wards during Stage One. The single-member Ellen ward currently comprises the parishes of Crosscanonby, Gilcrux and Oughterside & Allerby, and has 14 per cent more electors per councillor than the borough average (13 per cent in 2001). The Council considered transferring Gilcrux parish to a neighbouring ward which would have resulted in better electoral equality than at present, but concluded in its Stage One submission that there should be no change. To improve electoral equality within the wider area, we proposed that the constituent parishes of Ellen ward be re-distributed to neighbouring wards: Crosscanonby to the modified Dearham ward; Gilcrux to the modified Binsey ward (detailed earlier); and Oughterside & Allerby to the modified Tarns ward (also detailed earlier).

94 The single-member Dearham ward (and parish) has 15 per cent more electors per councillor than the borough average (18 per cent in 2001). One way of improving electoral equality in the area would be to create a two-member ward by joining similar-sized villages. We therefore proposed that the parishes of Bridekirk (currently in St Bridget's ward, described below), Crosscanonby and Dearham should form a revised two-member Dearham ward. Under our draft recommendation, the number of electors per councillor in the revised

Dearham ward would be 7 per cent above the average (8 per cent in 2001).

95 The current single-member St Bridget's ward has 15 per cent more electors per councillor than the borough average (14 per cent in 2001). We noted that the three constituent parishes of Bridekirk, Brigham and Papcastle are situated along the banks of the River Derwent and have strong local ties. However, to improve the relatively high electoral imbalance, we proposed that the parishes which comprise this ward should be transferred to neighbouring wards: Bridekirk to Dearham ward (described above); and Brigham and Papcastle to Broughton ward (detailed below).

96 Seaton Moor ward, comprising the three parishes of Broughton Moor, Camerton and Seaton, is currently the only multi-member rural ward in this part of the borough. The average number of electors represented by each of the three councillors for the ward is 11 per cent above the borough average (15 per cent in 2001). The Borough Council considered including Broughton Moor parish in neighbouring Ewanrigg ward in Maryport town, but, in its Stage One submission, concluded that there should be no change.

97 In our draft recommendations report, we proposed that Broughton Moor parish be transferred to a revised Broughton ward (detailed later) which would comprise a number of parishes situated between the towns of Maryport and Cockermouth. The remaining two parishes of Camerton and Seaton would form a new Seaton ward, in which the number of electors per councillor would be 2 per cent below the average (1 per cent above in 2001).

98 The current Broughton ward (and parish) is served by a single councillor who represents 7 per cent fewer electors than the borough average (5 per cent in 2001). To improve electoral equality in the surrounding areas, we proposed the creation of another two-member ward in this part of the borough, comprising the parishes of Broughton, Broughton Moor (from Seaton Moor), and Brigham and Papcastle (both parishes are currently in St Bridget's ward).

99 Under our draft recommendation, the number of electors per councillor in Broughton ward would be 12 per cent above the borough average (14 per cent in 2001). Although the level of representation in the ward would not be as good as under the current arrangements, we had to consider the electoral arrangements of the whole borough, and

could not look at one area in isolation. Any improvement in electoral equality in the proposed Broughton ward would have had an adverse effect on the equality achieved in the surrounding areas.

100 In its response to our draft recommendations, the Borough Council accepted the proposal to transfer the parishes in the existing Ellen ward to neighbouring wards, but proposed that the parishes of Dearham and Crosscanonby should form a revised two-member Ellen ward. It also reiterated its support for no change to St Bridget's, Seaton Moor and Broughton wards. As its preferred option, the Conservatives proposed an alternative Ellen ward, comprising the parishes of Crosscanonby and Gilcrux, with no change to Dearham ward. Their second option was to combine the two wards into a single two-member ward. Oughterside & Allerby Parish Council proposed no change to the existing Ellen ward. Gilcrux Parish Council stated that its ties are with Aspatria, rather than Dearham or Cockermouth, while Seaton Parish Council supported our proposal for a new Seaton ward.

101 The borough councillor for Binsey ward supported no change to the existing Ellen and Dearham wards, but proposed a modified St Bridget's ward, comprising only the parishes of Brigham and Papcastle. Bridekirk parish would become part of a new Moota ward. Papcastle Parish Council agreed with our draft recommendation. Broughton Parish Council opposed our draft recommendation for Broughton ward, instead proposing no change for the single-member Broughton ward, in order to reflect community identities.

102 In the light of the representations received, we propose to modify our draft recommendations to reflect more closely the identities and interests of local communities in the proposed Dearham and Broughton wards. As a consequence of our final recommendations for Maryport, Broughton Moor parish would form part of Ewanrigg borough ward. We accept the Borough Council's proposal for a two-member Ellen ward, comprising the parishes of Dearham and Crosscanonby, but propose that the existing St Bridget's ward (comprising the parishes of Bridekirk, Brigham and Papcastle) and Broughton ward (comprising Broughton parish) should together form a new two-member Broughton St Bridget's ward. This proposal would cause minimum disruption in the area, and would preserve the strong local ties between the parishes, while achieving better electoral equality than would be achieved with two separate wards.

103 Under the final recommendation, the number of electors per councillor in Broughton St Bridget's ward would be 6 per cent above the borough average both now and in 2001, and 10 per cent below the average in Ellen ward (8 per cent in 2001). We also confirm our draft recommendation for Seaton ward, comprising the parishes of Camerton and Seaton, as final, with the number of electors per councillor being 2 per cent below the borough average (1 per cent above in 2001).

Clifton, Crummock, Derwent Valley and Dalton wards

104 During the initial stage of the review, the Borough Council did not propose any changes to these four southern wards. All are currently single-member wards and the number of electors per councillor is 8 per cent below the borough average in Clifton, 24 per cent below in Crummock, 4 per cent above in Dalton and 22 per cent above in Derwent Valley (7 per cent below, 28 per cent below, 4 per cent above and 15 per cent above respectively in 2001).

105 Our draft recommendations endorsed the Borough Council's proposal for no change to Clifton ward, comprising the parishes of Great Clifton and Little Clifton, where, based on a council size of 56, the number of electors per councillor would be 6 per cent below the borough average both now and in 2001. We noted that any improvement to electoral equality in Clifton ward would have an adverse effect on electoral equality in neighbouring wards.

106 At Stage Three the Borough Council continued to support no change for Clifton, and we confirm our draft recommendation for the ward as final.

107 In order to improve the significant imbalances which currently exist in Crummock and Derwent Valley wards, we proposed some modifications, all of which featured in the Council's discussion document (which it indicated was produced by the Labour Group and formed the basis of its Stage One submission). The current Crummock ward would be extended to the north to include Blindcrake parish (currently in Binsey ward). Derwent Valley ward would comprise the parishes of Above Derwent and Borrowdale, with the transfer of St John's Castlerigg & Wythburn parish into the revised Keswick ward, as described earlier.

108 The number of electors per councillor in Derwent Valley ward would be 2 per cent above the borough average (3 per cent below in 2001). The only representations received in relation to this

ward were from the Borough Council and the Conservatives which both supported our draft recommendation, and we therefore confirm it as final.

109 In our draft recommendations report, we noted that the addition of Blindcrake parish to Crummock ward would increase the geographical size of an already large ward, and that the River Derwent flows between Blindcrake parish and the existing Crummock ward. Other alternatives to improve the electoral equality in Crummock ward are restricted. It is bordered to the east by Bassenthwaite Lake, to the south by Copeland borough, and to the west by Cockermouth town and Dean parish (which has over 800 electors). The Council's discussion document suggested that there would be some community of interest in an enlarged Crummock ward because, like Crummock, Blindcrake parish consists of villages with a broadly agricultural base. It added that "the protection of the River Derwent provides a community of purpose between the two areas".

110 In order to improve the current over-representation in Crummock ward, we consulted on an enlarged ward which would include Blindcrake parish. Under our draft recommendation, the number of electors per councillor would be 5 per cent below the borough average (9 per cent below in 2001).

111 At Stage Three, our draft recommendation for a revised Crummock ward was accepted by the Borough Council but opposed by Blindcrake Parish Council. The Parish Council cited geographical reasons, adding that increased distances would make representation difficult. It therefore supported the retention of the parish in Binsey ward. Both the Conservatives and Councillor McGuffie, member for the existing Binsey ward, proposed an alternative arrangement whereby Bassenthwaite parish would be added to the existing Crummock ward. Councillor McGuffie stated that "there are strong rural links between these communities, particularly between Bassenthwaite and Embleton". This view, however, was not supported by Bassenthwaite Parish Council, which wanted to remain in the existing Binsey ward.

112 While we recognise that Crummock ward already covers a large area and the River Derwent may limit communication between the ward and Blindcrake parish, we remain concerned at the high level of electoral imbalance that would remain under the current arrangements. We consider that the inclusion of Bassenthwaite parish would not be

an ideal solution. It would adversely affect electoral equality in the surrounding wards, and Bassenthwaite Lake substantially separates the parish from the rest of Crummock ward. Moreover, the proposal was not supported by Bassenthwaite Parish Council. As already indicated, alternative proposals to correct the over-representation in this area are severely restricted. We consider that our draft recommendation for an enlarged Crummock ward, including Blindcrake parish, is the only real alternative, and therefore confirm it as final.

113 In our draft recommendations report, we proposed that Dalton ward, which currently comprises the parishes of Dean, Greysouthen and Winscales, should be modified, with the transfer of Winscales parish to the modified Harrington ward (in Workington town, detailed earlier). The remaining parishes of Dean and Greysouthen would form a revised Dalton ward, where the number of electors per councillor would be 8 per cent below the borough average now and in 2001.

114 At Stage Three, the Borough Council accepted our proposal for Dalton ward, and no other representations were received. We are confirming our draft recommendation for Dalton ward as final.

Electoral Cycle

115 In our draft recommendations report, we proposed that the present system of whole-council elections in Allerdale be retained. At Stage Three the Borough Council reiterated its support for this proposal. No other representations were received on this issue, and we therefore confirm our draft recommendation as final.

Conclusions

116 Having considered carefully all the evidence and representations received in response to our consultation report, we have concluded that there should be an increase in council size from 55 to 56; that there should be 31 wards, three fewer than at present; that the boundaries of 31 of the existing wards should be modified; and that whole-council elections should continue to be held every four years. We have decided substantially to endorse our draft recommendations, subject to the amendments indicated for the following wards:

- (a) Binsey ward should comprise the parishes of Blennerhasset & Torpenhow, Bothel & Threapland, Gilcruix and Plumbland, with Bewaldeth & Snittlegarth parish being included in the modified Boltons ward; Binsey ward's name should be changed to Wharrels;

- (b) in Boltons ward, the parish of Bewaldeth & Snittlegarth should be included, along with the parishes of Bassenthwaite, Boltons, Ireby & Uldale and Underskiddaw;
- (c) Broughton ward should be revised as follows: the parishes of Brigham, Broughton and Papcastle should be included in the new Broughton St Bridget's ward (which would be a merger of the existing Broughton and St Bridget's wards); Broughton Moor parish should form part of Ewanrigg ward (in Maryport town);
- (d) Dearham ward should comprise the parishes of Dearham and Crosscanonby and be called Ellen, as proposed by the Borough Council, with Bridekirk parish being included in the new Broughton St Bridget's ward;
- (e) in Maryport, Broughton Moor parish should be included in Ewanrigg ward (as proposed by Maryport Town Council and the Conservatives); the boundary between Ellenborough and Ewanrigg wards should be modified as proposed by the Conservatives;
- (f) in Workington, there should be minor modifications to the ward boundary between Moorclose and Moss Bay wards, and between Moorclose and St John's wards (as proposed by the Borough Council).

117 Figure 3 shows the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality, comparing them with the current arrangements, based on 1996 and 2001 electorate figures.

118 As Figure 3 shows, our recommendations would result in a reduction in the number of wards with electoral variances of more than 10 per cent from 23 to two. The improved electoral equality is expected to be maintained over the period to 2001. We conclude that our recommendations would best meet the need for electoral equality, having regard to the statutory criteria.

Final Recommendation

Allerdale Borough Council should comprise 56 councillors serving 31 wards, as detailed and named in Figures 1 and 4, and illustrated in Map 2 and Appendix A to this report. The Council should continue to be elected together every four years.

Figure 3:
Comparison of Current and Recommended Electoral Arrangements

	1996 electorate		2001 projected electorate	
	Current arrangements	Final recommendations	Current arrangements	Final recommendations
Number of councillors	55	56	55	56
Number of wards	34	31	34	31
Average number of electors per councillor	1,379	1,355	1,363	1,339
Number of wards with a variance more than 10 per cent from the average	23	2	24	2
Number of wards with a variance more than 20 per cent from the average	11	0	10	0

Parish and Town Council Electoral Arrangements

119 In undertaking reviews of electoral arrangements, we are required to comply as far as is reasonably practicable with the provisions set out in Schedule 11 to the 1972 Act. The Schedule provides that if a parish is to be divided between different borough wards, it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single ward of the borough. Accordingly, we propose a number of consequential parish ward changes, as detailed below.

120 In its Stage One submission the Borough Council proposed that the number of town councillors in Workington be re-distributed among its proposed nine wards, while Workington Town Council proposed no change to its existing electoral arrangements. In our draft recommendations report, we proposed that the parish wards for Workington should be modified to reflect the six proposed Borough Council wards in the town, with the current level of representation being maintained in the wards.

121 At Stage Three, Workington Town Council maintained its support for no change to the existing Borough Council warding arrangements in the town. However, in the light of our proposed borough wards in Workington, we confirm that the parish wards should be modified to reflect our final recommendations for Borough Council wards, thereby confirming our draft recommendation for the distribution of town councillors between the six wards as final.

Final Recommendation

Workington Town Council should continue to comprise 30 councillors, representing six wards: Harrington (returning three councillors); Moorclose (six); Moss Bay (seven); St John's (five); St Michael's (seven); and Stainburn (two). The parish ward boundaries should be modified to reflect the proposed Borough Council wards, as illustrated in the large map at the back of the report.

122 At the initial stage of the review, Cockermouth Town Council proposed no change to its current electoral arrangements. In our draft recommendations report, however, we recommended that the parish wards in Cockermouth should be modified to reflect the proposed Borough Council wards in the town. We also proposed that the number of town councillors should remain unchanged.

123 At Stage Three Cockermouth Town Council supported our draft recommendation, as did the Borough Council. We therefore confirm our draft recommendation on the electoral arrangements for the parish of Cockermouth as final.

Final Recommendation

Cockermouth Town Council should continue to comprise 12 councillors, representing two wards, with the wards of All Saints and Christchurch each returning six councillors. The parish ward boundaries should be modified to reflect the proposed Borough Council wards, as illustrated in Map A2 at Appendix A.

124 During Stage One, Maryport Town Council did not comment on its existing electoral arrangements. In our draft recommendations report, we recommended that the parish wards in Maryport should be modified to reflect the proposed Borough Council wards in the town. We also consulted on the Borough Council's proposal that the Town Council should continue to comprise 24 councillors representing four wards: Ellenborough (returning seven councillors); Ewanrigg (seven); Flimby (four); and Netherhall (six).

125 In the light of our final recommendation for borough wards in Maryport, we propose that the parish wards should be modified to reflect the proposed Borough Council wards. However, following local discussions and having received further evidence on the town council's electoral arrangements, we propose that the number of councillors representing Maryport should be reduced from 24 to 18: Ellenborough, Ewanrigg and Netherhall each returning five councillors; and Flimby returning three councillors. This proposal would be supported by Maryport Town Council.

Final Recommendation

Maryport Town Council should comprise 18 councillors, representing four wards: Ellenborough (returning five councillors); Ewanrigg (five); Flimby (three); and Netherhall (five). The parish ward boundaries should be modified to reflect the proposed Borough Council wards, as illustrated in Map A3 at Appendix A.

126 During Stage Three a resident of Keswick proposed that the town should be divided into three parish wards – East, Central and West – represented by four councillors each. However, Keswick Town Council wished to retain its existing town council electoral arrangements: two wards, East and West, returning seven and five councillors respectively. In the absence of any evidence to justify altering the existing arrangements, we are not proposing any changes to the town council electoral arrangements for Keswick.

127 Following representations from the parish councils of Blennerhasset & Torpenhow, Lorton and Westnewton during Stage One, we recommended a reduction in the number of parish councillors on each council by one.

128 Of the three parish councils, we only heard from Lorton Parish Council during Stage Three, which supported our draft recommendation for the council. In the absence of any comments to the contrary, we are confirming our draft recommendation as final.

Final Recommendation

- (a) Blennerhasset & Torpenhow Parish Council should be represented by nine councillors;
- (b) Lorton Parish Council should be represented by seven councillors;
- (c) Westnewton Parish Council should be represented by seven councillors.

129 During Stage Three we did not receive any further representations for change to the electoral arrangements of parish and town councils in the borough.

130 In our draft recommendations report we also proposed that there should be no change to the electoral cycle of parish and town councils in the borough. We confirm this draft recommendation as final.

Final Recommendation

For parish and town councils, whole-council elections should continue to take place every four years, on the same cycle as that for the Borough Council.

Figure 4:
The Commission's Final Recommendations for Allerdale

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (1996)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2001)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1 All Saints (Cockermouth town)	3	3,786	1,262	-7	3,726	1,242	-7
2 Aspatria	2	2,597	1,299	-4	2,556	1,278	-5
3 Boltons	1	1,451	1,451	7	1,379	1,379	3
4 Broughton St Bridget's	2	2,863	1,432	6	2,843	1,422	6
5 Christchurch (Cockermouth town)	2	2,677	1,339	-1	2,693	1,347	1
6 Clifton	1	1,275	1,275	-6	1,263	1,263	-6
7 Crummock	1	1,290	1,290	-5	1,218	1,218	-9
8 Dalton	1	1,240	1,240	-8	1,229	1,229	-8
9 Derwent Valley	1	1,381	1,381	2	1,297	1,297	-3
10 Ellen	2	2,442	1,221	-10	2,451	1,226	-8
11 Ellenborough (Maryport town)	2	2,830	1,415	4	2,866	1,433	7
12 Ewanrigg (Maryport town, part)	2	2,854	1,427	5	2,831	1,416	6
13 Flimby (Maryport town)	1	1,336	1,336	-1	1,319	1,319	-2
14 Harrington (Workington town, part)	2	2,584	1,292	-5	2,593	1,297	-3
15 Holme	1	1,266	1,266	-7	1,240	1,240	-7
16 Keswick	3	4,363	1,454	7	4,170	1,390	4
17 Marsh	1	1,410	1,410	4	1,366	1,366	2
18 Moorclose (Workington town)	3	4,060	1,353	0	4,071	1,357	1
19 Moss Bay (Workington town)	3	3,976	1,325	-2	3,890	1,297	-3

continued overleaf

Figure 4 (continued):
The Commission's Final Recommendations for Allerdale

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (1996)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2001)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
20 Netherhall (Maryport town)	2	2,490	1,245	-8	2,531	1,266	-6
21 St John's (Workington town)	3	4,504	1,501	11	4,461	1,487	11
22 St Michael's (Workington town)	3	4,363	1,454	7	4,273	1,424	6
23 Seaton	3	3,983	1,328	-2	4,075	1,358	1
24 Silloth	2	2,637	1,319	-3	2,640	1,320	-1
25 Solway	1	1,266	1,266	-7	1,235	1,235	-8
26 Stainburn (Workington town)	1	1,291	1,291	-5	1,290	1,290	-4
27 Wampool	1	1,351	1,351	0	1,316	1,316	-2
28 Warnell	1	1,519	1,519	12	1,424	1,424	6
29 Waver	1	1,422	1,422	5	1,392	1,392	4
30 Wharrels	1	1,220	1,220	-10	1,165	1,165	-13
31 Wigton	3	4,140	1,380	2	4,186	1,395	4
Totals	56	75,867	—	—	74,989	—	—
Averages	—	—	1,355	—	—	1,339	—

Source: Electorate figures are based on Allerdale Borough Council's submission.

Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the number of electors per councillor varies from the average for the borough. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

6. NEXT STEPS

131 Having completed our review of electoral arrangements in Allerdale and submitted our final recommendations to the Secretary of State, we have fulfilled our statutory obligation under the Local Government Act 1992.

132 It now falls to the Secretary of State to decide whether to give effect to our recommendations, with or without modification, and to implement them by means of an order. Such an order will not be made earlier than six weeks from the date that our recommendations are submitted to the Secretary of State.

133 All further correspondence concerning our recommendations and the matters discussed in this report should be addressed to:

The Secretary of State
Local Government Review
Department of the Environment,
Transport and the Regions
Eland House
Bressenden Place
London SW1E 5DU

APPENDIX A

Final Recommendations for Allerdale: Detailed Mapping

The following maps illustrate the Commission's proposed ward boundaries for the Allerdale area.

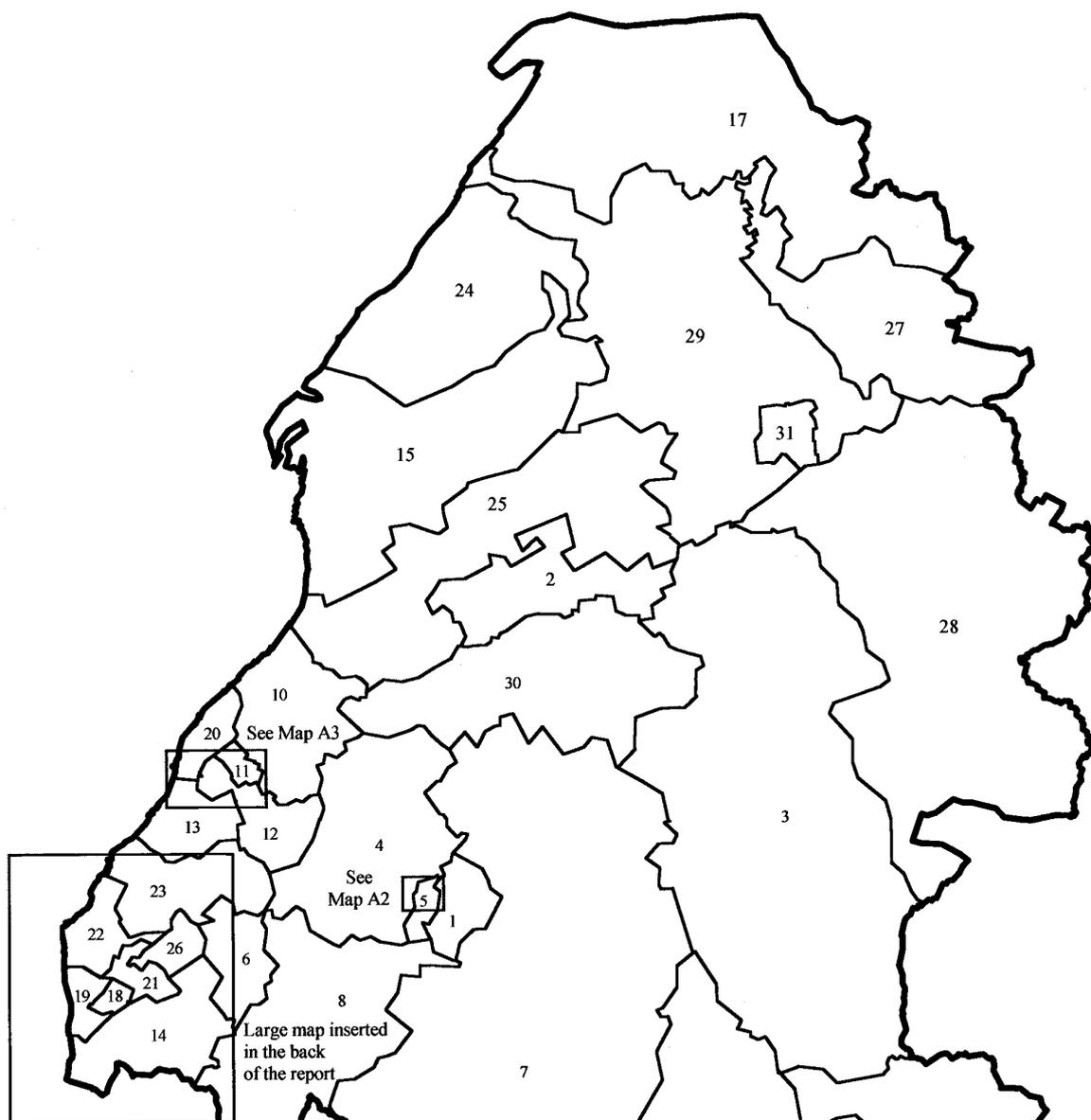
Map A1 illustrates, in outline form, the proposed ward boundaries within the borough and indicates the areas which are shown in more detail in Maps A2, A3 and the large map inserted in the back of the report.

Map A2 illustrates the proposed ward boundaries in Cockermouth town.

Map A3 illustrates the proposed ward boundaries in Maryport town.

The **large map** inserted in the back of this report illustrates the Commission's proposed warding for Workington town.

Map A1:
Final Recommendations for Allerdale: Key Map

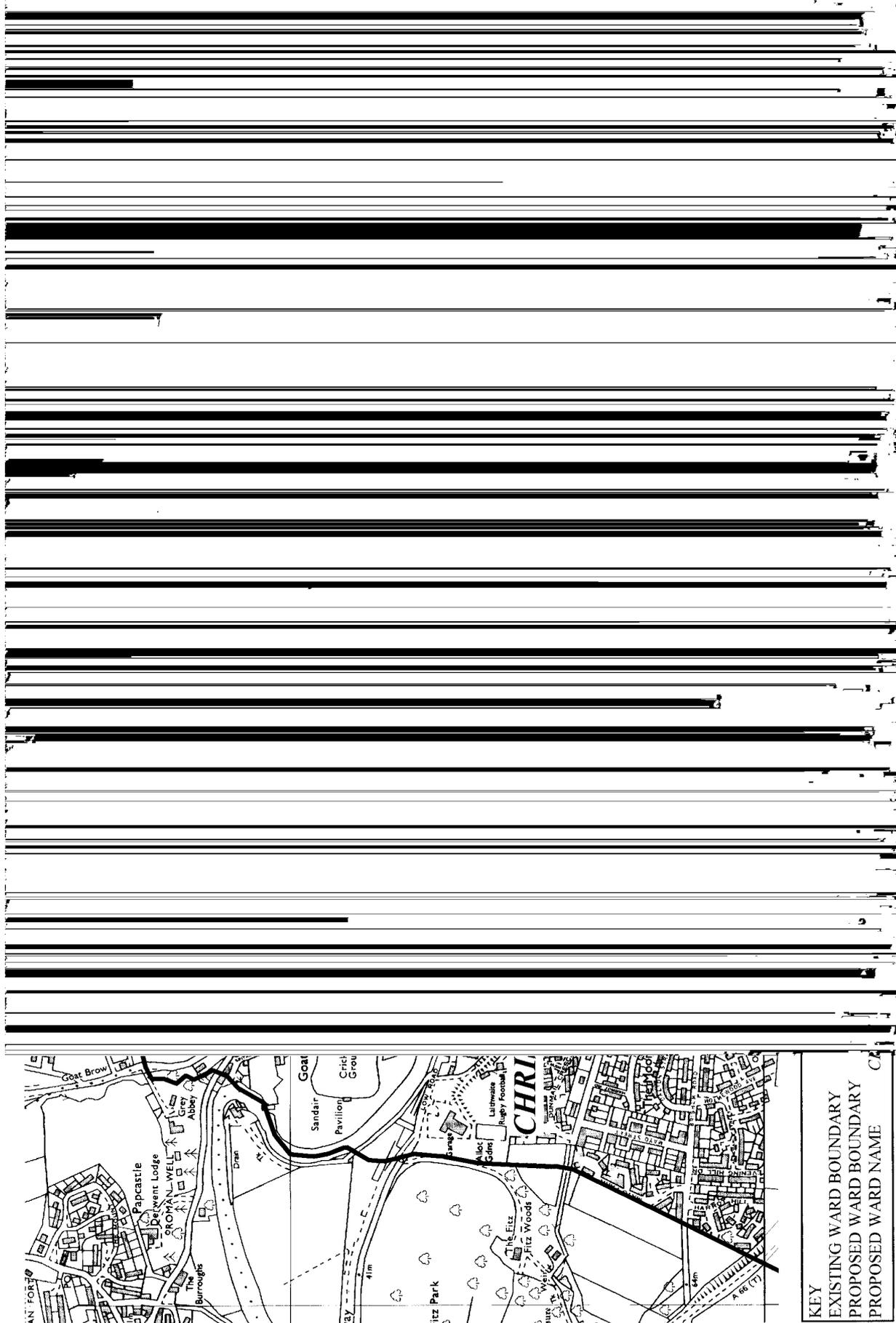


Key to Wards

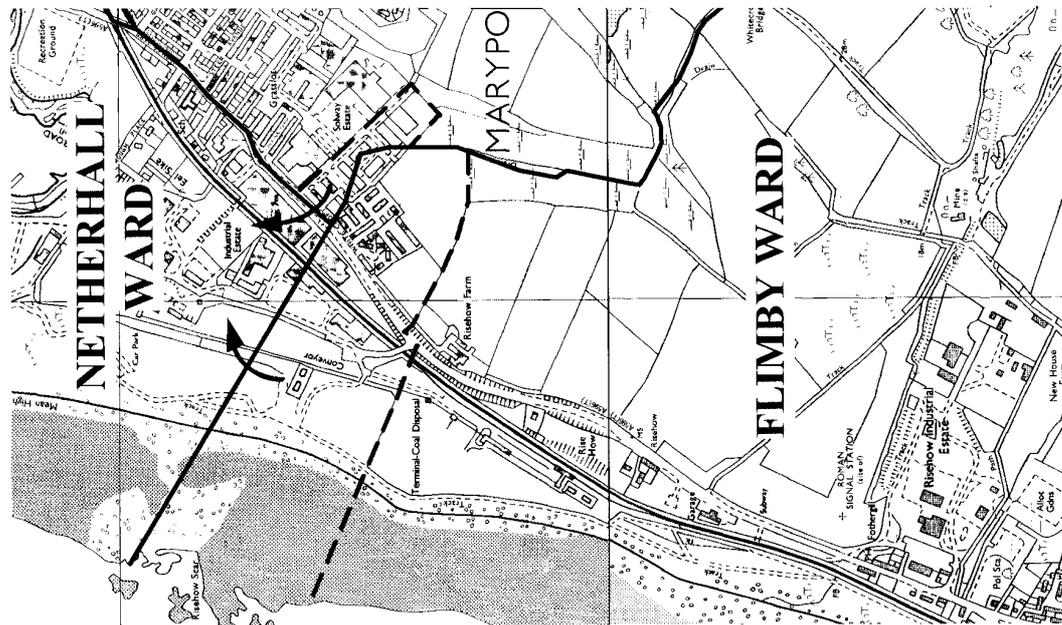
- | | | | |
|----|------------------------|----|--------------|
| 1 | All Saints | 21 | St John's |
| 2 | Aspatria | 22 | St Michael's |
| 3 | Boltons | 23 | Seaton |
| 4 | Broughton St Bridget's | 24 | Silloth |
| 5 | Christchurch | 25 | Solway |
| 6 | Clifton | 26 | Stainburn |
| 7 | Crummock | 27 | Wampool |
| 8 | Dalton | 28 | Warnell |
| 9 | Derwent Valley | 29 | Waver |
| 10 | Ellen | 30 | Wharrels |
| 11 | Ellenborough | 31 | Wigton |
| 12 | Ewanrigg | | |
| 13 | Flimby | | |
| 14 | Harrington | | |
| 15 | Holme | | |
| 16 | Keswick | | |
| 17 | Marsh | | |
| 18 | Moorclose | | |
| 19 | Moss Bay | | |
| 20 | Netherhall | | |

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Map A2:
 Proposed Ward Boundaries in Cockermouth



Map A3:
Proposed Ward Boundaries in Maryport



KEY
— EXISTING WARD BOUNDARY
- - - PROPOSED WARD BOUNDARY

APPENDIX B

Draft Recommendations for Allerdale

Figure B1:

The Commission's Draft Recommendations: Constituent Areas

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Constituent areas
1	All Saints (Cockermouth town)	3	All Saints ward; Castle ward (part)
2	Aspatria	2	Aspatria ward (Aspatria parish); Boltons ward (part – Allhallows parish)
3	Binsey	1	Binsey ward (part – the parishes of Bewaldeth & Snittlegarth, Bothel & Threapland and Plumbland); Boltons ward (part – Blennerhasset & Torpenhow parish); Ellen ward (part – Gilcrux parish)
4	Boltons	1	Boltons ward (part – the parishes of Boltons and Ireby & Uldale); Binsey ward (part – the parishes of Bassenthwaite and Underskiddaw)
5	Broughton	2	Broughton ward (Broughton parish); St Bridget's ward (part – the parishes of Brigham and Papcastle); Seaton Moor ward (part – Broughton Moor parish)
6	Christchurch (Cockermouth town)	2	Castle ward (part)
7	Clifton	1	<i>Unchanged</i> (the parishes of Great Clifton and Little Clifton)
8	Crummock	1	Crummock ward (the parishes of Blindbothel, Buttermere, Embleton, Lorton, Loweswater, Setmurthy and Wythop); Binsey ward (part – Blindcrake parish)
9	Dalton	1	Dalton ward (part – the parishes of Dean and Greysouthen)
10	Dearham	2	Dearham ward (Dearham parish); Ellen ward (part – Crosscanonby parish); St Bridget's ward (part – Bridekirk parish)
11	Derwent Valley	1	Derwent Valley ward (part – the parishes of Above Derwent and Borrowdale)
12	Ellenborough (Maryport town)	2	Ellenborough ward (part)

Continued overleaf

Figure B1 (continued):

The Commission's Draft Recommendations: Constituent Areas

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Constituent areas
13	Ewanrigg (Maryport town)	2	Ewanrigg ward (part); Ellenborough ward (part)
14	Flimby (Maryport town)	1	Flimby ward (part)
15	Harrington (Workington town, part)	2	Harrington ward (part); Dalton ward (part – Winscales parish)
16	Holme	1	Tarns ward (part – the parishes of Allonby and Holme St Cuthbert); Waver ward (part – Holme Abbey parish)
17	Keswick	3	Keswick ward (Keswick parish); Derwent Valley ward (part – St John's Castlerigg & Wythburn parish)
18	Marsh	1	Marsh ward (part – the parishes of Bowness and Kirkbampton)
19	Moorclose (Workington town)	3	Moorclose ward; Westfield ward (part)
20	Moss Bay (Workington town)	3	Salterbeck ward; Westfield ward (part); Harrington ward (part)
21	Netherhall (Maryport town)	2	Netherhall ward; Ewanrigg ward (part); Flimby ward (part)
22	St John's (Workington town)	3	St John's ward; Stainburn ward (part)
23	St Michael's (Workington town)	3	St Michael's ward; Northside ward; Stainburn ward (part)
24	Seaton	3	Seaton Moor ward (part – the parishes of Camerton and Seaton)
25	Silloth	2	Silloth ward; Waver ward (part – Holme Low parish)
26	Stainburn (Workington town)	1	Stainburn ward (part)
27	Tarns	1	Tarns ward (part – the parishes of Bromfield, Hayton & Mealo and Westnewton); Ellen ward (part – Oughterside & Allerby parish)
28	Wampool	1	Wampool ward (part – the parishes of Aikton and Thursby)
29	Warnell	1	<i>Unchanged</i> (the parishes of Caldbeck, Sebergham and Westward)

Figure B1 (continued):

The Commission's Draft Recommendations: Constituent Areas

Ward name	Number of councillors	Constituent areas
30 Waver	1	Waver ward (part – the parishes of Dundraw, Holme East Waver and Waverton); Marsh ward (part – Kirkbride parish); Wampool ward (part – Woodside parish)
31 Wigton	3	<i>Unchanged</i> (Wigton parish)

Notes: 1 The whole of Allerdale borough is parished.

2 Borough wards in Cockermouth, Maryport and Workington are coterminous with parish wards.

Figure B2:
The Commission's Draft Recommendations for Allerdale

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (1996)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2001)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1 All Saints (Cockermouth town)	3	3,786	1,262	-7	3,726	1,242	-7
2 Aspatria	2	2,597	1,299	-4	2,556	1,278	-5
3 Binsey	1	1,245	1,245	-8	1,189	1,189	-11
4 Boltons	1	1,426	1,426	5	1,355	1,355	1
5 Broughton	2	3,037	1,519	12	3,040	1,520	14
6 Christchurch (Cockermouth town)	2	2,677	1,339	-1	2,693	1,347	1
7 Clifton	1	1,275	1,275	-6	1,263	1,263	-6
8 Crummock	1	1,290	1,290	-5	1,218	1,218	-9
9 Dalton	1	1,240	1,240	-8	1,229	1,229	-8
10 Dearham	2	2,894	1,447	7	2,894	1,447	8
11 Derwent Valley	1	1,381	1,381	2	1,297	1,297	-3
12 Ellenborough (Maryport town)	2	2,573	1,287	-5	2,604	1,302	-3
13 Ewanrigg (Maryport town)	2	2,485	1,243	-8	2,453	1,227	-8
14 Flimby (Maryport town)	1	1,336	1,336	-1	1,319	1,319	-2
15 Harrington (Workington town, part)	2	2,584	1,292	-5	2,593	1,297	-3
16 Holme	1	1,266	1,266	-7	1,240	1,240	-7
17 Keswick	3	4,363	1,454	7	4,170	1,390	4
18 Marsh	1	1,410	1,410	4	1,366	1,366	2
19 Moorclose (Workington town)	3	3,981	1,327	-2	3,992	1,331	-1
20 Moss Bay (Workington town)	3	4,092	1,364	1	4,006	1,335	0
21 Netherhall (Maryport town)	2	2,490	1,245	-8	2,531	1,266	-6

Figure B2 (continued):
The Commission's Draft Recommendations for Allerdale

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (1996)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2001)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
22	St John's (Workington town)	3	4,467	1,489	10	4,424	1,475	10
23	St Michael's (Workington town)	3	4,363	1,454	7	4,273	1,424	6
24	Seaton	3	3,983	1,328	-2	4,075	1,358	1
25	Silloth	2	2,637	1,319	-3	2,640	1,320	-1
26	Stainburn (Workington town)	1	1,291	1,291	-5	1,290	1,290	-4
27	Tarns	1	1,266	1,266	-7	1,235	1,235	-8
28	Wampool	1	1,351	1,351	0	1,316	1,316	-2
29	Warnell	1	1,519	1,519	12	1,424	1,424	6
30	Waver	1	1,422	1,422	5	1,392	1,392	4
31	Wigton	3	4,140	1,380	2	4,186	1,395	4
	Totals	56	75,867	—	—	74,989	—	—
	Averages	—	—	1,355	—	—	1,339	—

Source: Electorate figures are based on Allerdale Borough Council's submission.

Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the councillor:elector ratio varies from the average for the borough. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

