



NEWS RELEASE

Issued by the
Boundary Commission for Wales
Caradog House
1-6 St Andrews Place
Cardiff
CF10 3BE

Telephone 02920 395031
Fax 02920 395250
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PUBLIC INQUIRIES INTO THE PROPOSALS BY THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES FOR CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES IN WALES

Inquiries are to be held on behalf of the Boundary Commission for Wales into their provisional recommendations for constituency boundaries in the preserved counties of Gwent/Mid Glamorgan, Clwyd/Gwynedd, South Glamorgan and West Glamorgan. The Commission published their proposals on 5 January 2004, recommending that adjustments be made to 23 of the existing 40 seats, to reflect changes to preserved counties and local government areas and to reduce the disparity in the electorates.

Objections made about these proposals in the Preserved Counties of Clwyd/Gwynedd, Gwent/Mid Glamorgan, South Glamorgan and West Glamorgan have required the holding of a local inquiry under the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986. Official notice of the inquiries will be published in local newspapers during the week commencing 17 May 2004.

Each inquiry will be held in public and any interested person, whether a supporter of or objector to the Commission's proposals, may attend and be heard. The Commission would urge all interested parties to attend and make their views known. It should not be assumed that the inquiry will only discuss those matters raised in representations submitted during the representation period allowed nor that the Commission's provisional recommendations will remain unchanged. On many occasions, following consideration of the evidence submitted at the inquiry and the Assistant Commissioner's report, the Commission have revised their recommendations. While the Commission will always invite written representations against any revised recommendations they might publish, all interested parties should be aware that they may not be able to state their case at a further inquiry, as a further inquiry will only rarely be held.

Details of the inquiries in each area are as follows:

CLWYD/GWYNEDD

The inquiry will be held by the Assistant Commissioner, Mr David Lloyd Jones QC. It will open on:

6th July 2004 at 10.00am in the Powis Hall, Main Arts Building, University of Wales Bangor, College Road, Bangor LL57 2DG, and

8th July 2004 at 10.00am in the Council Chamber of Denbighshire County Council, Council Offices, Wynnstay Road, Ruthin LL15 1YN.

In the preserved county of Clwyd, the main objection to the provisional recommendations is in respect of the names of the proposed constituencies, particularly the Conwy constituency.

In the preserved county of Gwynedd, the main objection to the provisional recommendations is in respect of the proposed constituencies of Arfon and Dwyfor Meirionnydd. Most of the objections suggest that the existing arrangements should remain. A smaller number of representations have suggested that the Bangor area be included within the existing Caernarfon constituency. Objections have also been made in respect of the proposed consequential change to the North Wales and Mid and West Wales Assembly regions. A number of representations have also suggested that the Commission should await the publication of the report of the Richard Commission.

The provisional recommendations and copies of the representations made to the Commission (together with a summary) are open for public inspection at:

Clwyd

CONWY	Council Offices, Bodlondeb LL32 8DU
DEESIDE	Public Library, Wepre Drive, Connah's Quay CH5 4HA
LLANGOLLEN	One Stop Shop, Y Capel, Castle Street LL20 8NU
LLANRWST	Llanrwst Library, Plas yn Dre, Station Road LL26 0DF
MOLD	County Hall CH7 6HB
RHYL	Council Offices, Russel House, Churton Road LL18 3DP
RUTHIN	Trem Clwyd, Canol Y Dre LL15 1QA
WREXHAM	The Guildhall LL11 1WF

Gwynedd

CAERNARFON	County Offices LL55 1SH
DOLGELLAU	Council Offices, Cae Penarlag LL40 2YB
YNYS MÔN	Council Offices, Llangefni LL77 7TW

GWENT/MID GLAMORGAN

The inquiry will be held by the Assistant Commissioner, Mr Gerard Elias QC. It will open on:

28th June 2004 at 10.00am in the Council Chamber of Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend CF31 4WB; and

30th June 2004 at 10.00am in the Muni Arts Centre, Gelliwastad Road, Pontypridd CF37 2DP.

The main objections to the provisional recommendations are in respect of the transfer of the Cefn Cribwr and Aberkenfig electoral divisions from the Bridgend Constituency to the Ogmore Constituency, the transfer of the Cilfynydd and Glyncoch electoral divisions from

the Pontypridd constituency to the Cynon Valley constituency and the transfer of the Aberbargoed, Bargoed and Gilfach electoral divisions from the Caerphilly constituency to the Islwyn constituency.

The provisional recommendations and copies of the representations made to the Commission (together with a summary) are open for public inspection at:

Gwent

ABERGAVENNY	One Stop Shop, Cross Street, NP7 5HD
BLACKWOOD	Council Offices, Pontllanfraith, NP12 2YW
HENGOED	Council Offices, Ystrad Fawr, Ystrad Mynach, CF82 7SF
MONMOUTH	One Stop Shop, The Market Hall, Priory Street, NP25 3XA
NEWPORT	Council Offices, Civic Centre, NP20 4UR Maindee Library, Chepstow Road, NP18 8BT
PONTYPOOL	Council Offices, Civic Centre, NP4 6YB

Mid Glamorgan

ABERDARE	Central Library, High Street, CF44 7AG
BRIDGEND	Civic Offices, Angel Street, CF31 4WB
EBBW VALE	Municipal Offices, Civic Centre, NP23 6XB
MAESTEG	Maesteg Library, North Lane, CF34 9AA
MERTHYR TYDFIL	Civic Centre, Castle Street, CF47 8AN
NANTYMOEL	Nantymoel Library, Berwyn Centre, Ogwy Street, CF32 7SD
PONTYPRIDD	Electoral Registration Office, 4-8 Church Street, CF37 2TH
TONYPANDY	Council Offices, The Pavillions, Cambrian Park, CF40 2XX

SOUTH GLAMORGAN

The inquiry will be held by the Assistant Commissioner, Mr Anthony John Seys Llewellyn QC. It will open on:

24th June 2004 at 10.00am in the Paget Rooms, Victoria Road, Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan CF64 3EG.

The main objection to the provisional recommendations is in respect of the transfer of the Sully electoral division from the Vale of Glamorgan Constituency to the Cardiff South and Penarth Constituency.

The provisional recommendations and copies of the representations made to the Commission (together with a summary) are open for public inspection at:

BARRY	Civic Offices, Holton Road CF63 4RU
CARDIFF	Cardiff Central Library, St. David's Link CF10 2DU Canton Library, Library Street, Canton CF5 1QD Grangetown Library, Redlaver Street, Grangetown CF11 7LY Whitchurch Library, Park Road CF14 7XA
COWBRIDGE	Town Hall CF61 1SD
PENARTH	West House, Stanwell Road CF64 2YG

WEST GLAMORGAN

The inquiry will be held by the Assistant Commissioner, Mr John Milwyn Jarman QC. It will open on:

13th July 2004 at 10.00am in the Council Chamber of Swansea City and County Council, County Hall, Oystermouth Road, Swansea SA1 3SN.

The main objection to the provisional recommendations is in respect of the counter-proposal submitted by The Welsh Conservative Party, which was supported by a number of the representations (particularly in respect of the Mayals Electoral Division).

The provisional recommendations and copies of the representations made to the Commission (together with a summary) are open for public inspection at:

GORSEINON	Gorseinon Central Information Unit, Lime Street
NEATH	Council Offices, Civic Centre SA11 3QZ
PORT TALBOT	Council Offices, Civic Centre SA13 1JP
SWANSEA	The Guildhall SA1 4PN
	Morrison Library, Trehaune Road, Morrison SA6 7AA

Richard Commission

The Richard Commission was established by the National Assembly for Wales in July 2002 and was asked to consider whether the size of the Assembly is adequate to its present job; whether the present electoral system is sufficiently representative; and whether any changes would be needed if the Assembly were to acquire further powers. The Boundary Commission for Wales has, in the course of carrying out its current general review of Parliamentary constituency boundaries in Wales, received a number of representations, in reply to the Boundary Commission's provisional recommendations, to the effect that the Boundary Commission should defer making its Report to the Secretary of State until the Richard Commission has reported. The Boundary Commission have carefully considered these representations, together with the Report of the Richard Commission which has now been published, but have decided that they do not justify any alteration to the timetable of the present Review. The Boundary Commission will, however, draw the representations to the attention of the Secretary of State in submitting their final recommendations.

For further information please contact: The Boundary Commission for Wales, Caradog House, 1 – 6 St. Andrews Place, Cardiff, CF10 3BE.

Telephone 029 2039 5031
Fax 029 2039 5250
Email bcomm.wales@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Web Site: www.bcomm-wales.gov.uk