

London

Initial proposals summary

Who we are and what we do

The Boundary Commission for England is an independent and impartial non-departmental public body which is responsible for reviewing Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England.

2013 Review

We have the task of periodically reviewing the boundaries of all the Parliamentary constituencies in England. We are currently conducting a review on the basis of new rules laid down by Parliament. These rules involve a significant reduction in the number of constituencies in England (from 533 to 502), and require that every constituency – apart from two specified exceptions – must have an electorate that is no smaller than 72,810 and no larger than 80,473 (please refer to *A guide to the 2013 Review* for details of how this has been calculated).

Initial proposals

We have now completed the first stage of the review process and have published our initial proposals for the new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England. Information about the proposed constituencies is now available on our website or in hard copy at a local 'place of deposit' near you.

What is changing in London?

The London region has been allocated 68 constituencies – a reduction of five from the current arrangement.

Our proposals leave four of the 73 existing constituencies unchanged.

As it has not always been possible to allocate whole numbers of constituencies to individual London boroughs, we have grouped them into sub-regions. The number of constituencies allocated to each sub-region is determined by the electorate of the combined boroughs.

Of the existing constituencies we propose to retain, two are in the London Borough of Barnet and the other two are in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

Substantial change is required, however, throughout London in order to comply with the new rules. Consequently, it has been necessary to propose 38 constituencies that cross London borough boundaries. Of these, 37 contain parts of two London boroughs and one contains parts of two London boroughs and the whole of the City of London. The remaining 30 constituencies are each contained solely within one London borough.

In order to create 68 constituencies wholly within London, we have proposed one constituency (Chingford and Edmonton) that crosses the River Lee and one constituency (Richmond and Twickenham) that crosses the River Thames.

How to have your say

We are consulting on our initial proposals for a 12-week period, from 13 September 2011 to 5 December 2011. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to contribute to the design of the new constituencies – the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be when analysing all the views we receive.

We ask everyone wishing to contribute to the design of the new constituencies to first read the *Initial proposals* report and accompanying maps before responding to us.

Sub-region	Existing allocation	Proposed allocation
North East London (Barking and Dagenham, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Havering, Newham, Redbridge, Tower Hamlets, and Waltham Forest)	20	19
North, West, and Central London (Barnet, Brent, Camden, Ealing, Hammersmith and Fulham, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Islington, Kensington and Chelsea, Richmond upon Thames, Westminster, and the City of London)	25*	24
South London (Bexley, Bromley, Croydon, Greenwich, Kingston upon Thames, Lambeth, Lewisham, Merton, Southwark, Sutton, and Wandsworth)	27*	25

*One existing constituency (Richmond Park) is divided between these two sub-regions.

In particular, we would like to know:

- if you agree in full, in part or not at all with our initial proposals for the London region;
- which sub-regions you agree with and why;
- which sub-regions you disagree with and why; and

- if you can propose alternatives for areas you disagree with that meet the statutory rules we set out in our report.

You can find more details of how to respond on our website, or you can write to us direct or email london@bcommengland.x.gsi.gov.uk. You can also find details of where and when we will be holding public hearings in your area on our website.

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