

**Boundary Commission
for Northern Ireland**



FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT

2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies

Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland

2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT

Presented to Parliament pursuant to Sections 3(1) and 3(2) of the
Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986, as amended by the
Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011.



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2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies

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Chapter 1

Foreword

On 29 January 2013, Parliament passed an amendment to the Electoral Registration and Administration Bill which was enacted on 31 January 2013. The amendment introduced a change to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011 which is the legislation governing reviews of parliamentary constituencies.

The amendment set the date of “not before 1 September 2018 and before 1 October 2018” by which the Boundary Commissions must report their recommendations to the Secretary of State. The amendment also required the Boundary Commissions to base their next review of parliamentary constituencies on the parliamentary electoral register at 1st December 2015.

This Final Recommendations Report sets out the work that the Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland has undertaken in accordance with the above legislation.

The Commission is grateful to all those who took the time to contribute to the review and whose submissions contributed so helpfully to our task.

The Hon Madam Justice McBride, DBE, QC
(Deputy Chairman)

Dr William Smith
(Commissioner)

Ms Sarah Havlin
(Commissioner)

5 September 2018

Chapter 2

Introduction

The Boundary Commission

- 2.1 The Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland is an independent non-departmental body constituted under the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 as amended by the Boundary Commissions Act 1992 and the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011. The legislation sets out the procedure to be followed by the Commission when formulating its proposals. The membership of the Commission is set out in Appendix 1 and the statutory rules are reproduced in Appendix 2.
- 2.2 There are four Boundary Commissions in the United Kingdom: one each for England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland is responsible for keeping the representation of Northern Ireland in the House of Commons under continuous review and is required to submit a report to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland every five years showing the constituencies into which Northern Ireland should be divided and proposing the names by which they should be known.

Legislation

- 2.3 The Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 and the associated amending legislation can be accessed on our website at www.boundarycommission.org.uk. Chapter 3 explains how the legislation guides the Review process.

The Review Process

- 2.4 We have determined these Final Recommendations after careful consideration of all the evidence collected during three stages of public consultation.
- 2.5 It is our responsibility to delineate an arrangement of constituencies that has the best overall fit for the whole of Northern Ireland. To do this, we have had to balance out the competing criteria but at all times working within the requirements set out in legislation. Chapter 4 outlines the review process and Chapter 5 summarises our approach to the task.
- 2.6 We have been greatly assisted in our work by the quality and scope of the submissions received during the consultations and the valuable information gathered at the public hearings. Chapter 6 identifies the main themes emerging from the two-stage consultation process on our Provisional Proposals and our responses to them. Chapter 7 provides an overview of the consultation responses to our Revised Proposals Report and Chapter 9 sets out our Final Recommendations.

2.7 We have introduced an online consultation portal and established a social media presence to encourage participation in the Review which has led to an increase in responses received compared with previous Reviews. This has been a welcome development and something we are keen to build on for future Reviews.

Chapter 3

The Legislation

- 3.1 The Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011 substantively amended the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 and introduced new rules for the redistribution of seats and new provisions for public hearings. The Act provided for the current review to be carried out simultaneously in each of the four constituent parts of the United Kingdom by the respective Boundary Commissions and required each Commission to submit its report no earlier than 1 September 2018 and before 1 October 2018.

Base data

- 3.2 The legislation specifies that the electorate figures to be used for the 2018 Review must be those from the parliamentary electoral registers at 1 December 2015 (the “review date”). The Commission was not permitted to base its work on projected electorates or population figures. The Northern Ireland register of parliamentary electors at the review date can be viewed on the websites of the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland at www.eoni.org.uk and of the Boundary Commission at www.boundarycommission.org.uk.

The allocation of constituencies

- 3.3 The legislation provided for 600 constituencies to be allocated to the four parts of the United Kingdom according to a prescribed formula. The allocations for this review are set out below in Table 1.

Table 1: Allocation of UK constituencies

COUNTRY	ELECTORATE AT 1 DECEMBER 2015	EXISTING ALLOCATION	NEW ALLOCATION
England	37,294,494*	533	499(+2)
Northern Ireland	1,243,369	18	17
Scotland	3,842,736#	59	51(+2)
Wales	2,181,841	40	29
Total	44,562,440	650	600

* The total electorate for England does not include the electorate of the Isle of Wight which will comprise two protected constituencies

The total electorate for Scotland does not include the two protected island constituencies which are exempt from the 5% electoral parity rule

The electoral quota

3.4 The Boundary Commissions must ensure that, unless specifically exempted, each proposed constituency has an electorate that is within 5% of the United Kingdom electoral quota. The quota is defined as the total UK electorate (less the electorate of the four protected island constituencies) divided by 596. Based on the number of electors on 1 December 2015, the UK quota for this review was 74,769 electors, giving a +/- 5% range of 71,031 to 78,507 electors

Special provisions

3.5 The legislation contains a number of special provisions to take account of exceptional geographical circumstances. The effects of these are:

- that the Isle of Wight shall have two constituencies which are not required to fall within the quota range
- that there shall be two named Scottish Island constituencies (Orkney and Shetland and Na h-Eileanan an Iar) which are not required to fall within the quota range
- that the Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland may define constituencies which vary by more than 5% from the UK national quota to a limited extent if two prescribed conditions are satisfied.

Rule 7

- 3.6 Rule 7 sets out what these two prescribed conditions are. It is reproduced in full at Appendix 2.
- 3.7 The first condition relates to a mathematical calculation based on the electorate of Northern Ireland and the UK electoral quota. For the 2018 Review, this condition is met.
- 3.8 The second condition states that Rule 7 may be applied if the Commission considers that the application of Rule 2 would “unreasonably impair their ability to take into account the factors set out in Rule 5(1)” (see below) or their ability to submit their recommendations on time.
- 3.9 If both prescribed conditions are met, the Commission may recommend one or more constituencies of fewer than 71,031 electors, provided that the number is not less than 69,401.

Rule 5

- 3.10 Rule 5(1) states that Boundary Commissions may take a number of discretionary factors into account provided this does not prevent them achieving the required reduction in the number of seats and the quota range. For Northern Ireland these are:
- a. special geographical considerations including the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;
 - b. local government ward boundaries as they were on the most recent ordinary council election day before 1 December 2015 (i.e. on 22 May 2014);
 - c. boundaries of existing constituencies; and
 - d. any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies.
- 3.11 We are constrained in the extent to which we can take discretionary factors into consideration because of the overriding requirement to fit within the quota range. The legislation does not prioritise any of the discretionary factors.

Chapter 4

The Review Process

Commencement

- 4.1 On 24 February 2016, the Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland announced the start of the 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies. This followed publication of the UK parliamentary electoral registers for 1 December 2015 and agreement on the allocation of the 600 constituencies to the four constituent parts of the United Kingdom.
- 4.2 We produced a 'Guide to the 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies' to help make the review process more widely known and understood. The Guide set out more information on the rules governing the Review, the Commission's proposed approach and the Review process. The Guide is available to view on our website.

Meeting with Political Parties

- 4.3 As was the case during previous Reviews, we met representatives of the main political parties in Northern Ireland and the sitting MP not affiliated to any party (Lady Sylvia Hermon, MP) on 27 May 2016 to explain the role and remit of the Commission; the rules and procedures governing its work; and the proposed timetable for the review. Invitations were extended not only to those parties and independents represented at Westminster but also to those represented in the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Consultation responses

- 4.4 The Commission is grateful to all those who took the time and trouble to respond to our Provisional and Revised Proposals. Their contributions have been a vital source of information and intelligence on local ties, community concerns and other issues. In relation to the overall pattern for the region, it has been particularly helpful to us to have received a number of composite plans (that is, plans covering the whole of Northern Ireland), which we have been able to compare in detail with the various options that we have designed ourselves.
- 4.5 The consultation process has clearly shown us that many different iterations of 17 Parliamentary constituencies in Northern Ireland are theoretically possible. The map could be shaped and reshaped repeatedly to accommodate a multitude of local issues and individual perspectives. However the Review is a time bound process which must be conducted in accordance with the legislation as explained in the preceding Chapter.

- 4.6 We received a number of proposals which we were unable to consider because they concerned issues beyond our remit or were otherwise incompatible with the statutory framework. These are further detailed in Chapter 6. This suggests that in future more work could usefully be done in advance to explain the framework and its implications to potential respondents.
- 4.7 In this document we have sought to summarise the main issues raised at each stage in the consultation process. This summary does not do justice to the wealth of detailed information and argument which we were given. The original responses can be accessed through our website.
- 4.8 On some issues we were able to identify a broad consensus across respondents or a majority view: on others there were irreconcilable divisions of opinion. We have sought to accommodate both the areas of agreement and the differences. Ultimately it is the Commission's responsibility, informed by the consultation responses, to formulate final recommendations which are as fully compliant with the statutory criteria as possible.

Chapter 5

Rules and Principles

5.1 This Chapter explains how we have applied the statutory framework in practice.

Building blocks

- 5.2. As in previous reviews, we have used local government wards as the building blocks for our constituencies. This has meant adjusting the constituency boundaries to accommodate the updating of ward boundaries in 2014 following remodelling of the existing local council boundary lines and ward configuration as set out in the Local Government (Boundaries) Order (Northern Ireland) 2012.
- 5.3 Again following precedent, we decided to split wards between constituencies only if exceptional circumstances arose. We note that the legislation explicitly refers to ‘the boundaries of wards’, and there is no unit below ward level which could be used consistently as the basis for ward-splitting.

Application of Rule 5

- 5.4 Subject to the overriding criterion that all constituency electorates must fall within the permitted quota range, the law allows us to take the following ‘discretionary factors’ into account:
- ‘special geographical considerations including the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency’
 - ‘boundaries of existing constituencies’
 - ‘any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies’
- 5.5 We took ‘special geographical considerations’ to include mountains, lakes, coastlines, motorways, major rivers and built-up areas. We sought to create manageable shapes, not least for convenience in the administration of elections and the efficient conduct of elected representatives’ constituency business. Although this has not always proved achievable, we also sought to include at least one significant urban centre in each constituency and to respect ‘natural’ communities, whilst recognising that this can be a subjective judgement.
- 5.6 The mandated reduction in the number of constituencies from 18 to 17 and the imposition of a tighter range around the UK quota require more radical changes in the existing pattern than in the Fifth Review. Subject to the statutory framework, we have sought to minimise these changes. However, we recognised from the start that the boundaries of all existing constituencies would have to be changed to accommodate the overall loss of one seat, bring their numbers into the permitted range, and allow for the updating of ward boundaries.

- 5.7 Academic research on ‘local ties’ and the utility of this concept for the constituency review process across the United Kingdom has demonstrated that the term can be taken to cover a broad spectrum of possibilities, including patterns of commuting, shopping, school attendance, the organisation of health and other public services, transport routes and people’s self-identification with particular communities.¹ This is an area where the public consultation process has proved especially helpful. However, it has to be recognised that the assessment of local ties and their strength can include a subjective element.
- 5.8 The legislation does not rank the discretionary factors in any particular order, and nor did we. Rather, at every stage in the review process we have sought to strike the best attainable balance both across Northern Ireland and in the design of each individual constituency, taking account of the intelligence gleaned from the public.

Application of Rule 7

- 5.9 When we developed our Provisional Proposals we reached the conclusion that we should not at that stage invoke Rule 7. We took the view that we should test public opinion before we could justifiably conclude, as required by the legislation, that our ability to take account of the Rule 5 discretionary factors had been ‘unreasonably impaired’.
- 5.10 The strength and depth of submissions received during the consultations on our Provisional Proposals persuaded us that this condition had been met. This meant that in preparing our Revised Proposals we were able to design constituencies down to a lower limit of 69,401 rather than 71,031. By applying this flexibility across Northern Ireland, we were able to produce more compliant patterns.

Final Recommendations

- 5.11 We consider that the Final Recommendations should be derived from proposals which have been publicly debated as openly and fairly as possible during earlier stages of the consultation process. Given that the consultation is now closed, it would be preferable at this stage to avoid radical changes to our Revised Proposals. An exception could be made if there were a strong public consensus in support of a major change and a low probability of that change creating other issues of concern, whether in the constituencies affected or further afield. Otherwise, it is preferable for adjustments at this stage to be local and incremental.

¹ DJ Rossiter, RJ Johnston and CJ Pattie, “The Boundary Commissions”, Manchester University Press, 1999; pp 308-316

Chapter 6

Provisional Proposals Consultation

- 6.1 The Rules governing the work of the Commission required us to undertake three periods of public consultation. The first of these consultations was to include from three to five public hearings.
- 6.2 We published our Provisional Proposals on 6 September 2016 for a 12 week consultation period. During this time we held four public hearings (in Ballymena, Omagh, Belfast and Portadown) and received 55 written representations.
- 6.3 On 5 September 2017, we published transcripts of the public hearings and copies of the written representations. In response to these we received a further 39 written representations. Information on the Provisional and Secondary consultation representations can be found at Appendix 3.
- 6.4 We identified five main themes emerging from this process, as follows with a summary of our responses.

Boundaries of existing constituencies

- 6.5 Many respondents argued that the Provisional Proposals did not give sufficient priority to existing constituency boundaries. There was a strong overall consensus that the changes should be less radical.
- 6.6 In preparing our Revised Proposals we substantially reduced the degree of change required. We dropped our proposal to reduce the number of Belfast seats from four to three and we returned Fermanagh and South Tyrone back to its current state, except for adjustments to accommodate updated ward boundaries.

Towns and their hinterlands

- 6.7 Many respondents called for 'natural' hinterlands to be retained around key towns across Northern Ireland. They referred to the need to protect local ties, highlighting in particular Coleraine, Ballymoney, Ballymena and Dungannon.
- 6.8 We acknowledged and addressed these concerns in our Revised Proposals.

Belfast

- 6.9 In preparing our Provisional Proposals we tested both three-seat and four-seat options for Belfast. At the time we took the view that the most compliant of our three-seat options produced the best overall arrangement for Northern Ireland, albeit by a narrow margin.
- 6.10 A majority of the composite submissions questioned that choice and instead supported a four-seat Belfast. They cited the priority that should be given to existing constituency boundaries and the strength of local feeling as expressed through the initial consultation. It was noted that Belfast had had four seats continuously since 1922. Other respondents, including elected representatives from both main political traditions, argued that their communities on the edges of Belfast had become interwoven into the fabric of the city and that a modest expansion of the existing constituency boundaries would preserve these important local ties. Strong and detailed arguments were advanced specifically for the retention of areas around Dundonald, Glengormley and Carryduff.
- 6.11 Overall, we considered that respondents had made a strong case for the four-seat model, supported by detail on local ties. We accordingly tested a range of alternative options in depth, including those submitted by respondents. The tests covered both four-seat and three-seat options.
- 6.12 We concluded that our preferred four-seat option respected special geographical factors, existing boundaries and local ties more comprehensively than any other option not only in the Belfast area but also across Northern Ireland. We accordingly adopted this option for our Revised Proposals.

Glengormley/Newtownabbey

- 6.13 Many respondents criticised our proposed boundaries in the Glengormley/ Newtownabbey area. It was argued that they would divide the area across four constituencies and break long-established local ties with Belfast North.
- 6.14 We recognised the validity of these arguments but there was no clear consensus in favour of any one alternative. We tested a range of options and concluded that there was no perfect answer in this built-up area. Our Revised Proposals sought to address these concerns as far as we could within the constraints of the statutory framework.

Rule 7

- 6.15 A majority of those who produced composite plans asked us to deploy Rule 7, and used it in their own plans. It was argued that this would help to fulfil the purpose of Rule 5, and that not to use it would unreasonably impair our ability to take the discretionary factors into account.

- 6.16 Our subsequent modelling exercises demonstrated that the additional flexibility permitted by Rule 7 allowed for significantly greater alignment with the discretionary factors both in individual constituencies and across Northern Ireland.

Issues beyond our remit

- 6.17 A number of representations raised issues that we could not consider because they fall outside our remit and authority. They include the following:
- a. The number of constituencies should remain unchanged. This is determined by a formula set out in the legislation.
 - b. The use of alternative registers for determining the allocation of constituencies or take account of projected demographic changes. The legislation requires us to base our calculations on the electoral register at 1 December 2015.
 - c. Some constituencies should remain unchanged or should match District Electoral Area boundaries. To give effect to the absolute requirements set out in Rule 2, we must use the local government wards as they were on 22 May 2014. The local government wards on that date are different from the wards on which the existing parliamentary constituencies were constructed. That factor alone results in changes to each of the existing constituencies. This is compounded by the requirement to reduce the number of constituencies by one and keeping them within the quota range.
 - d. Electoral outcomes. A number of respondents expressed concern that they would become part of a constituency that did not reflect their voting wishes. We are not permitted to take account of electoral outcomes.
 - e. The removal of Rule 7 from the statute books. This is a matter for Parliament.
 - f. A breaking of the links between Northern Ireland Assembly seats and Westminster constituencies. The co-terminosity of Westminster and Assembly constituencies is provided for in Section 33 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. Any change is a matter for Parliament.
 - g. The requirement for Parliament to approve the Commission's recommendations. The process by which our recommendations come into effect is set out in the legislation. Any change is a matter for Parliament.

Chapter 7

Revised Proposals Consultation

- 7.1 We published Revised Proposals on 30 January 2018. The main changes from our Provisional Proposals were:
- we kept the existing four constituencies in Belfast, expanding them to include wards in Dundonald, Glengormley, Newtownbreda and Carryduff
 - we dropped the proposed changes to Fermanagh and South Tyrone, apart from those required to accommodate updated ward boundaries
 - we provided for closer alignment with existing constituency boundaries across Northern Ireland
 - we reversed changes which could have impaired local ties between key towns and their hinterlands including Ballymena, Ballymoney, Coleraine and Dungannon
 - we used Rule 7 to avoid unreasonably impairing our ability to take the discretionary factors into account.
- 7.2 The Revised Proposals consultation ran from 30 January to 26 March 2018. 13,889 representations were received. These included signatories to petitions and template letters circulated by political parties and local community organisations. There were seven composite proposals suggesting alternative designs for the whole or most of Northern Ireland.
- 7.3 The Revised Proposals Report, accompanying map and copies of the representations are available on our Commission's website. As stipulated in the legislation, no more public hearings were held. Details of respondents to the Revised Proposals consultation are available at Appendix 3.

Overview of Responses

- 7.4 The Commission has considered consultation responses to inform it of, among other things, local ties and community concerns. However it is not merely the consultation responses which frame the deliberations and conclusions of the Commission. The Commission can only accommodate submissions which are legally relevant, are feasible within the parameters of the statutory criteria and can be seen to have been publicly debated as openly and as fairly as possible under the proscribed process of a statutory consultation.
- 7.5 Therefore, some responses to the Revised Proposals which focused on local areas but which presented quite substantial 'ripple' effects elsewhere could not always be accommodated.
- 7.6 Some respondents expressed satisfaction that the Revised Proposals were less radical in relation to existing constituency boundaries, and that we had taken steps to protect local ties. Others contended that we should revert to our Provisional Proposals, making only minor adjustments: the main line of argument here related to electoral outcomes and so fell outside our remit.

- 7.7 Taking all the responses into account, we remained of the view that the Revised Proposals were substantially more compliant with our statutory framework than the Provisional Proposals.
- 7.8 We then identified five main issues emerging from the Revised Proposals consultation as follows:
- Belfast
 - Glengormley / Newtownabbey
 - Dungiven
 - Holywood
 - Mid Down

Belfast

- 7.9 A number of respondents returned to the question of whether Belfast should have three or four seats. Some maintained that we had extended the outer boundaries too far, taking in rural wards with stronger ties to other suburban towns. Others suggested that individual wards should be transferred from one of the four Belfast constituencies to another. Of those who offered valid composite proposals for Northern Ireland, the majority (by five to two) supported the retention of Belfast's existing four seats.
- 7.10 After three rounds of consultation, respondents remained divided on the number of seats for Belfast. The review process has shown that it is possible to produce satisfactory recommendations in line with either model. On balance, we remain of the view that the four-seat model which we are recommending is more compliant than the best of the three-seat models which we have seen or delineated ourselves, whether compliance is assessed within Belfast or at the Northern Ireland level. In particular, it provides for the retention of the existing four Belfast constituencies, adjusted as necessary to comply with the new legislation.
- 7.11 We accordingly recommend that Belfast should retain its existing four constituencies, adjusted as necessary to meet the new statutory requirements.

Glengormley/Newtownabbey

- 7.12 Respondents to the Revised Proposals were generally satisfied that they represented a significant improvement on the Provisional Proposals. However, many argued that Mallusk ward should remain in South Antrim rather than being transferred to Belfast North. The main factors cited were to keep Mallusk within its existing constituency and to respect its predominantly rural character.
- 7.13 We accept this argument and accordingly recommend that Mallusk should remain within the constituency of South Antrim.

Dungiven

- 7.14 Dungiven prompted the highest volume of responses of any single issue, including 4,751 signatories to an online petition and a comparable number of signatories to letters circulated by community organisations. They objected to the town being split across three proposed constituencies (West Tyrone, Mid Ulster and Causeway).
- 7.15 We accept that this is an arguable point and acknowledge the weight of public support for it. We have considered various options, including those proposed by respondents. Some of these would require ward splitting, which (as explained in Chapter 5 above) the Commission will consider only in exceptional circumstances. The Commission is not persuaded that this localised issue is sufficient to justify departing from our established principle of preserving the integrity of ward boundaries. However, a compromise solution is possible which would not require any wards to be split, namely to transfer Dungiven ward from Mid Ulster to Sperrin.
- 7.16 We accordingly recommend that Dungiven ward should be located in the new constituency of Sperrin rather than Mid Ulster.

Hollywood

- 7.17 A number of respondents, including petition signatories, objected to the proposed transfer of Loughview and Hollywood wards from North Down to Belfast East. It was argued that this would cut local ties within the town of Hollywood and with adjacent communities in North Down.
- 7.18 We acknowledge that there is an arguable case to be made for retaining these two wards in North Down, based on respect for existing constituency boundaries. We have looked in detail at alternatives, including a proposal that the internal division in Hollywood town could be addressed by transferring Cultra ward from North Down into Belfast East.
- 7.19 All of these options raise significant and new issues in neighbouring constituencies and in some cases further afield. Because the consultation process is now over, the public would not have had the opportunity to express their concerns or to make the case for better alternatives.
- 7.20 Accordingly we recommend no change in our Revised Proposals for the boundary between Belfast East and North Down.

Mid Down

- 7.21 Respondents were generally critical of the proposed Mid Down constituency. Concerns included the following:
- its 'artificial' and 'contrived' shape
 - concerns over access, given that the main transport links run north/south
 - the main towns of Banbridge and Newtownards would be on the periphery
 - the disruption of local ties between Banbridge, Lurgan and Portadown
- 7.22 Some respondents proposed alternative solutions in which the boundary between Mid Down and South Down would run north/south rather than east/west.
- 7.23 We acknowledge that these are arguable points. However we consider that such a substantial change to the Revised Proposals at this stage would raise new concerns and could prove to be equally problematic if it were subject to further public consultation.
- 7.24 We accordingly recommend no change in our Revised Proposals for Mid Down.

Chapter 8

Names and Designations

- 8.1 As in our earlier Proposals, we have followed the convention of retaining the name of every recommended constituency which is sufficiently similar to that of an existing constituency.
- 8.2 Where the existing name no longer fits, we have used the historic counties within which they are wholly or predominantly located, qualified as necessary by compass points.
- 8.3 In two cases where county names seem insufficiently accurate, we recommend new names derived from celebrated geographical features, Causeway and Sperrin.
- 8.4 As before, we recommend designating only the four Belfast constituencies as borough constituencies. The practical effect of this concerns the level of candidates' expenses allowable at elections.

Chapter 9

Final Recommendations

Summary

- 9.1 In relation to the existing 18 constituencies, our Final Recommendations would leave two unchanged except as required to accommodate updated ward boundaries (Foyle and Fermanagh & South Tyrone); 11 would be obvious successors which would retain the existing names (Belfast East, Belfast North, Belfast South, Belfast West, East Antrim, Mid Ulster, Newry and Armagh, North Down, South Antrim, South Down and Upper Bann); and there would be four new constituencies (Sperrin, Causeway, Mid Antrim and Mid Down).
- 9.2 There would be no single successor to the existing constituencies of North Antrim, Lagan Valley, Strangford, East Londonderry and West Tyrone.
- 9.3 The variation in electorates across constituencies would be reduced. Under the existing arrangements, the smallest constituency, East Antrim, had 59,658 electors on the designated date (1 December 2015) while the largest, Upper Bann, had 80,218. Under our recommendations, the smallest, Upper Bann would have 69,795 and the largest, Mid Down, 77,767.

Constituencies and their electorates

- 9.4 Table 2 shows the 17 recommended constituencies together with the variance from the UK electoral quota and the NI electoral average.

Table 2: 17 recommended constituencies together with the variance from the UK electoral quota and the NI electoral average

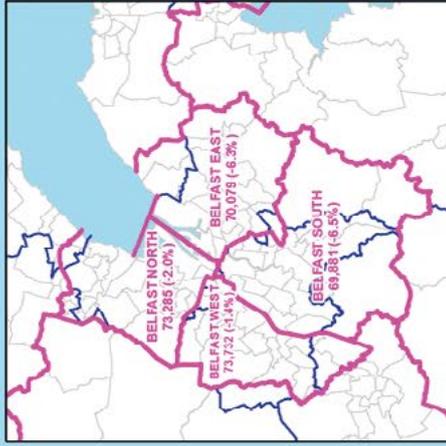
CONSTITUENCIES IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER	ELECTORATE: 1 DECEMBER 2015	VARIANCE: UK QUOTA	VARIANCE: NI ELECTORAL AVERAGE
Belfast East	70,079	-6.3%	-4.2%
Belfast North	73,285	-2.0%	0.2%
Belfast South	69,881	-6.5%	-4.5%
Belfast West	73,732	-1.4%	0.8%
Causeway	74,360	-0.5%	1.7%
East Antrim	74,733	-0.05%	2.2%
Fermanagh and South Tyrone	71,038	-5.0%	-2.9%
Foyle	71,398	-4.5%	-2.4%
Mid Antrim	70,409	-5.8%	-3.7%
Mid Down	77,767	4.0%	6.3%
Mid Ulster	71,501	-4.4%	-2.2%
Newry and Armagh	75,635	1.2%	3.4%
North Down	73,444	-1.8%	0.4%
South Antrim	76,489	2.3%	4.6%
South Down	76,924	2.9%	5.2%
Sperrin	72,899	-2.5%	-0.3%
Upper Bann	69,795	-6.7%	-4.6%
Total	1,243,369		

9.5 The following pages show our Final Recommendations. Information is provided on the ward composition of each constituency together with a map indicating the recommended constituency boundary.

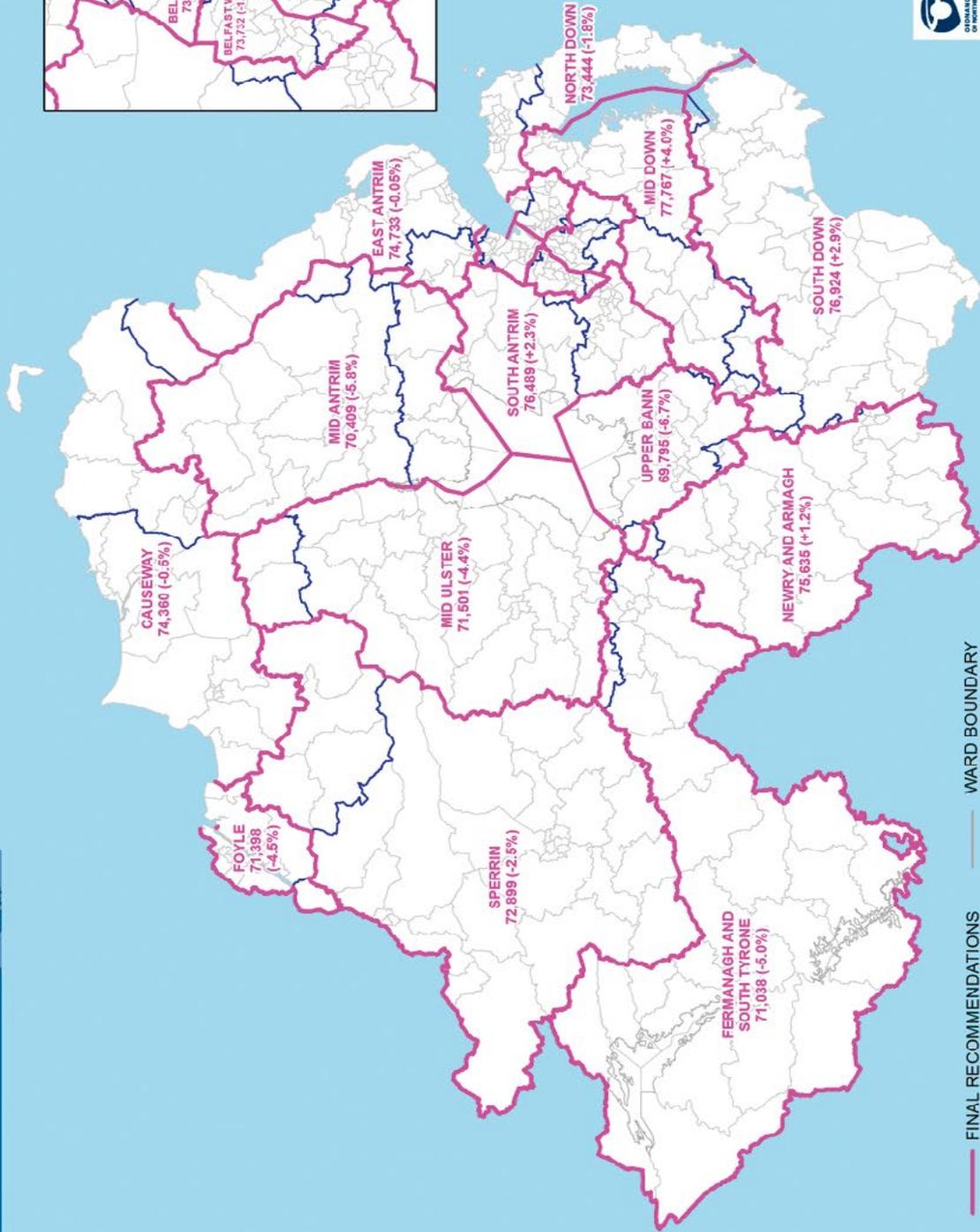
9.6 A larger, more detailed map of our Final Recommendations can be found at the back of this document. Maps can also be accessed on our website.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND EXISTING PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES

Boundary Commission
for Northern Ireland



BELFAST



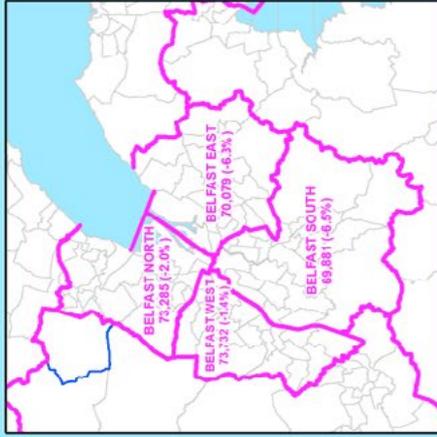
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— WARD BOUNDARY
— EXISTING PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY 2010



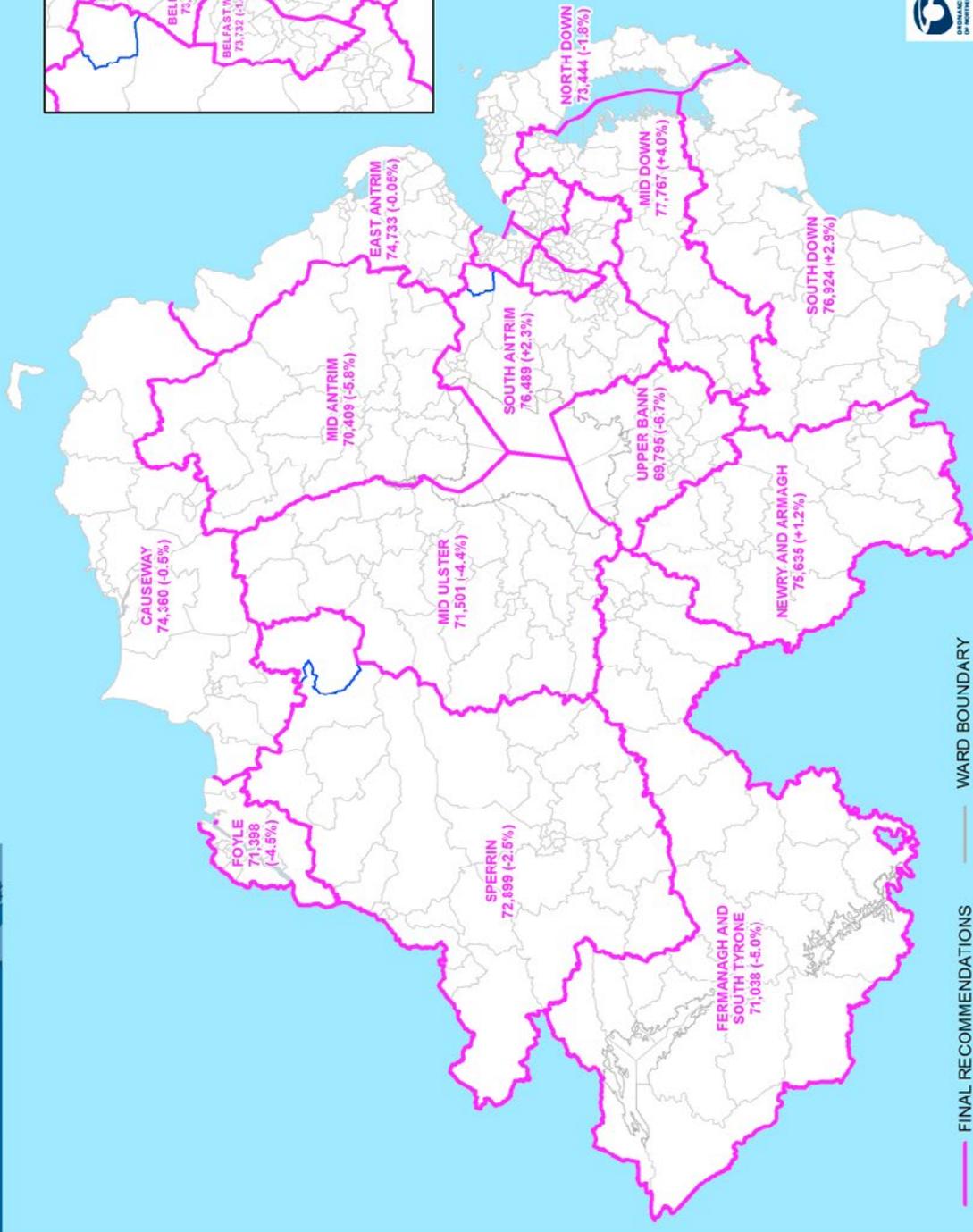
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FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND REVISED PROPOSALS

Boundary Commission
for Northern Ireland



BELFAST



WARD BOUNDARY

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

REVISED PROPOSALS

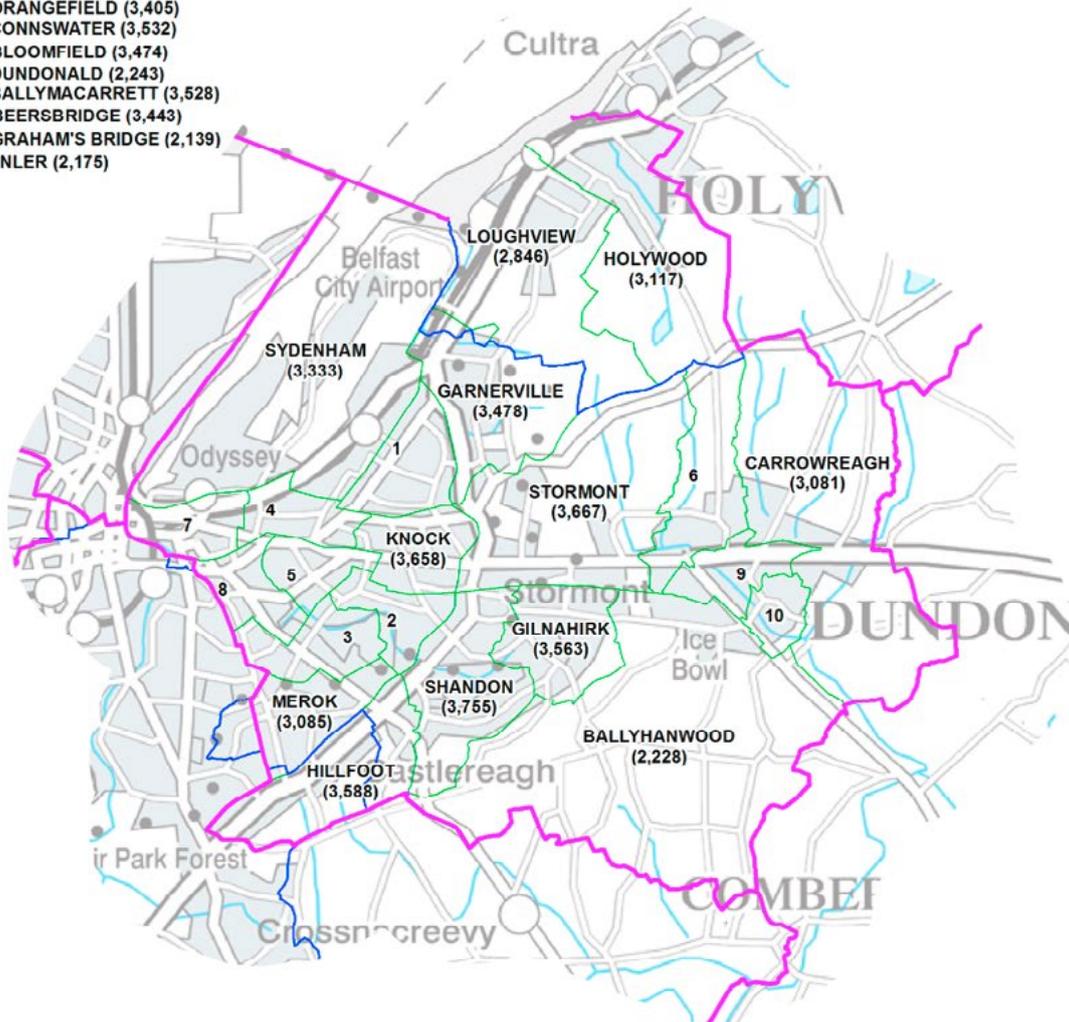


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FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: BELFAST EAST

1. BELMONT (3,534)
2. SANDOWN (3,207)
3. ORANGFIELD (3,405)
4. CONNSWATER (3,532)
5. BLOOMFIELD (3,474)
6. DUNDONALD (2,243)
7. BALLYMACARRETT (3,528)
8. BEERSBRIDGE (3,443)
9. GRAHAM'S BRIDGE (2,139)
10. ENLER (2,175)



FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ——— MAGENTA ——— WARD BOUNDARY
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ——— BLUE ———

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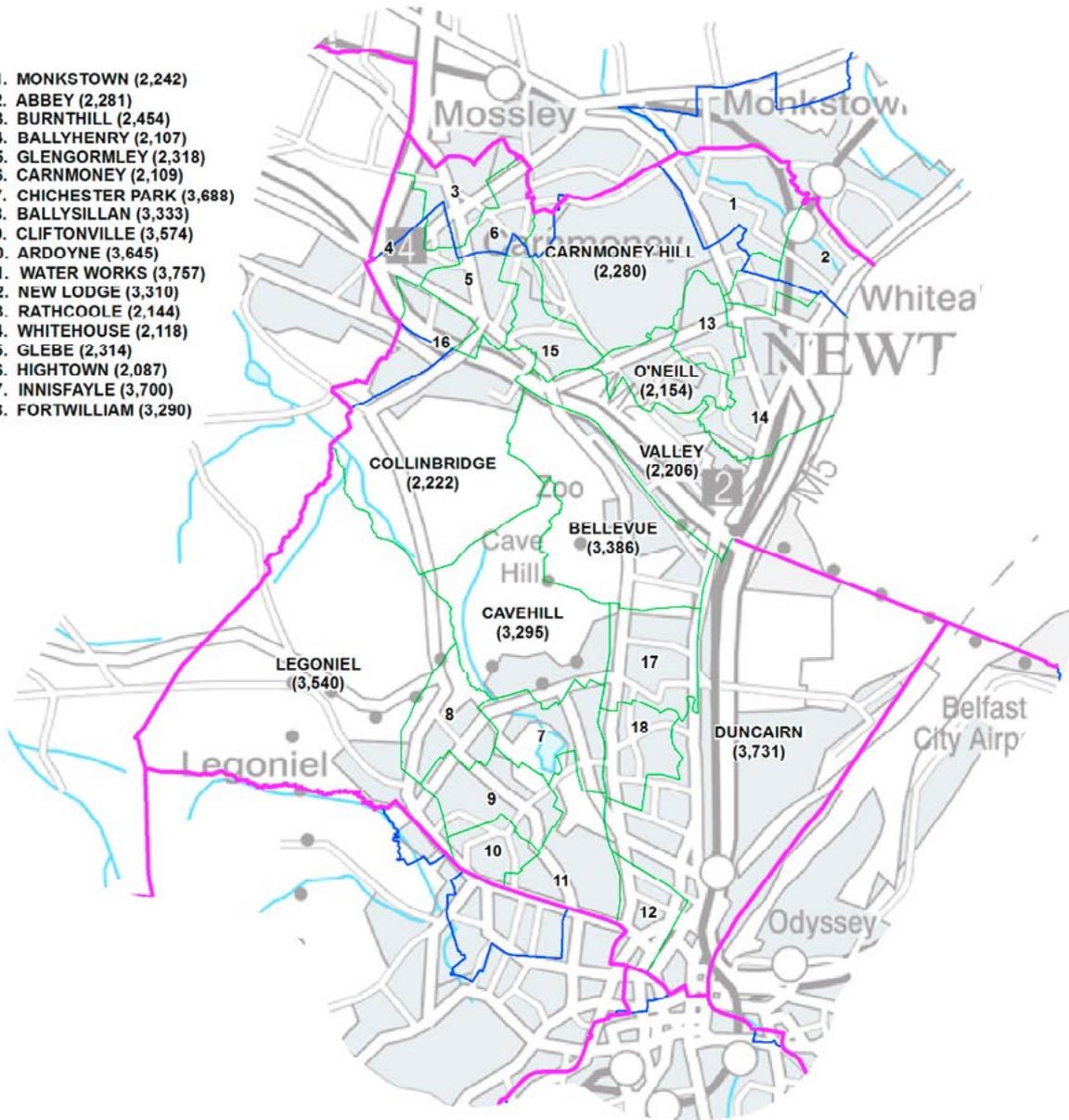
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Belfast East Borough Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Belfast LGD			
Ballymacarrett	3,528	Knock	3,658
Beersbridge	3,443	Merok	3,085
Belmont	3,534	Orangefield	3,405
Bloomfield	3,474	Sandown	3,207
Connswater	3,532	Shandon	3,755
Garnerville	3,478	Stormont	3,667
Gilnahirk	3,563	Sydenham	3,333
Hillfoot	3,588		
Ards & North Down LGD			
Holywood	3,117	Loughview	2,846
Lisburn and Castlereagh LGD			
Ballyhanwood	2,228	Enler	2,175
Carrowreagh	3,081	Graham's Bridge	2,139
Dundonald	2,243		
Total constituency electorate – 70,079			

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: BELFAST NORTH

1. MONKSTOWN (2,242)
2. ABBEY (2,281)
3. BURNHILL (2,454)
4. BALLYHENRY (2,107)
5. GLENGORMLEY (2,318)
6. CARNMONEY (2,109)
7. CHICHESTER PARK (3,688)
8. BALLYSILLAN (3,333)
9. CLIFTONVILLE (3,574)
10. ARDOYNE (3,645)
11. WATER WORKS (3,757)
12. NEW LODGE (3,310)
13. RATHCOOLE (2,144)
14. WHITEHOUSE (2,118)
15. GLEBE (2,314)
16. HIGHTOWN (2,087)
17. INNISFAYLE (3,700)
18. FORTWILLIAM (3,290)



FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS
 PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY — WARD BOUNDARY —
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY —

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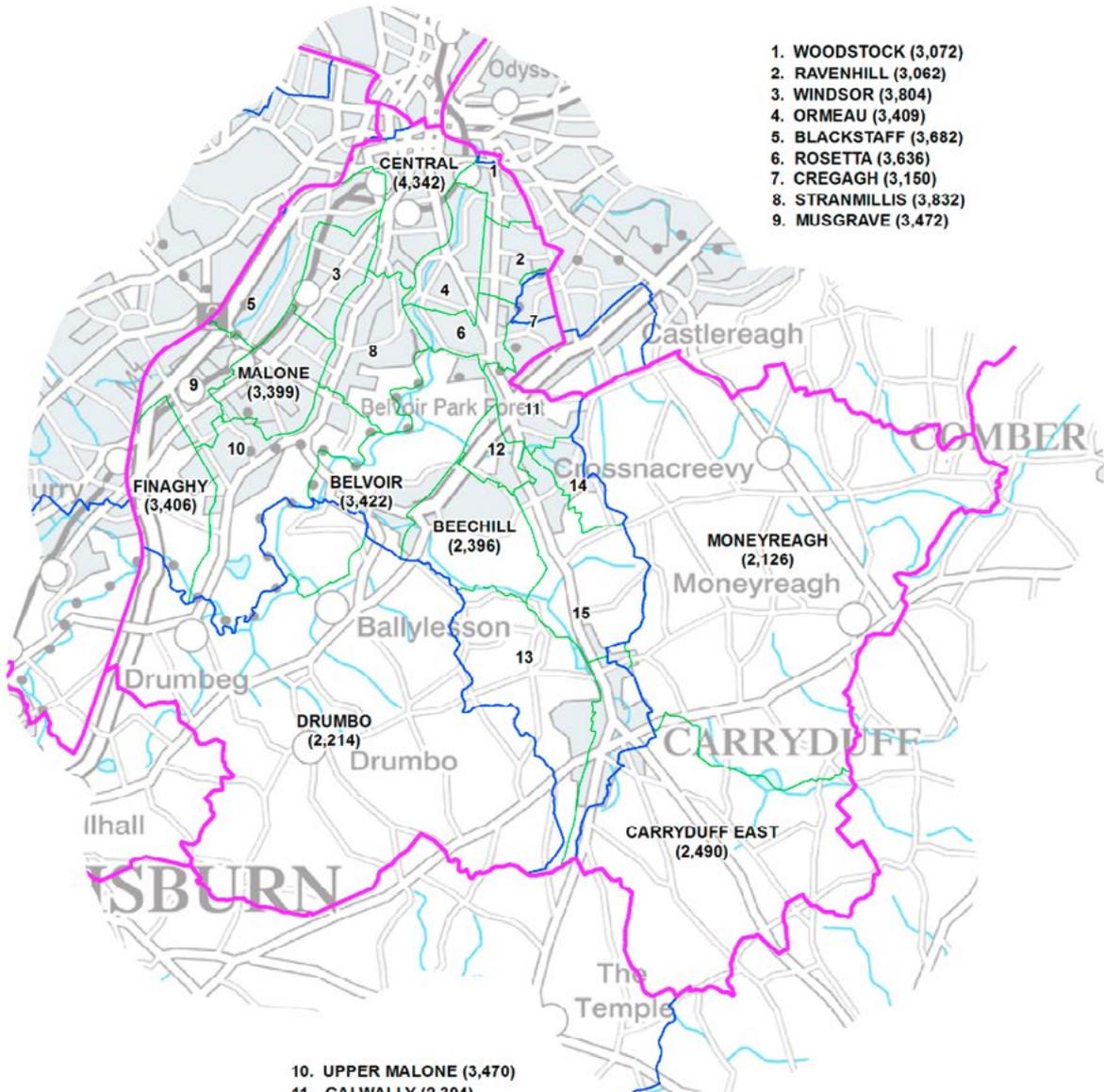
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Belfast North Borough Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Belfast LGD			
Ardoyne	3,645	Duncairn	3,731
Ballysillan	3,333	Fortwilliam	3,290
Bellevue	3,386	Innisfayle	3,700
Cavehill	3,295	Legoniel	3,540
Chichester Park	3,688	New Lodge	3,310
Cliftonville	3,574	Water Works	3,757
Antrim and Newtownabbey LGD			
Abbey	2,281	Glengormley	2,318
Ballyhenry	2,107	Hightown	2,087
Burnthill	2,454	Monkstown	2,242
Carnmoney	2,109	O'Neill	2,154
Carnmoney Hill	2,280	Rathcoole	2,144
Collinbridge	2,222	Valley	2,206
Glebe	2,314	Whitehouse	2,118

Total constituency electorate – 73,285

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: BELFAST SOUTH



- 1. WOODSTOCK (3,072)
- 2. RAVENHILL (3,062)
- 3. WINDSOR (3,804)
- 4. ORMEAU (3,409)
- 5. BLACKSTAFF (3,682)
- 6. ROSETTA (3,636)
- 7. CREGAGH (3,150)
- 8. STRANMILLIS (3,832)
- 9. MUSGRAVE (3,472)

- 10. UPPER MALONE (3,470)
- 11. GALWALLY (2,304)
- 12. NEWTOWNBRED A (2,000)
- 13. CARRYDUFF WEST (2,320)
- 14. CAIRNSHILL (2,385)
- 15. KNOCKBRACKEN (2,488)

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ——— WARD BOUNDARY
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ———

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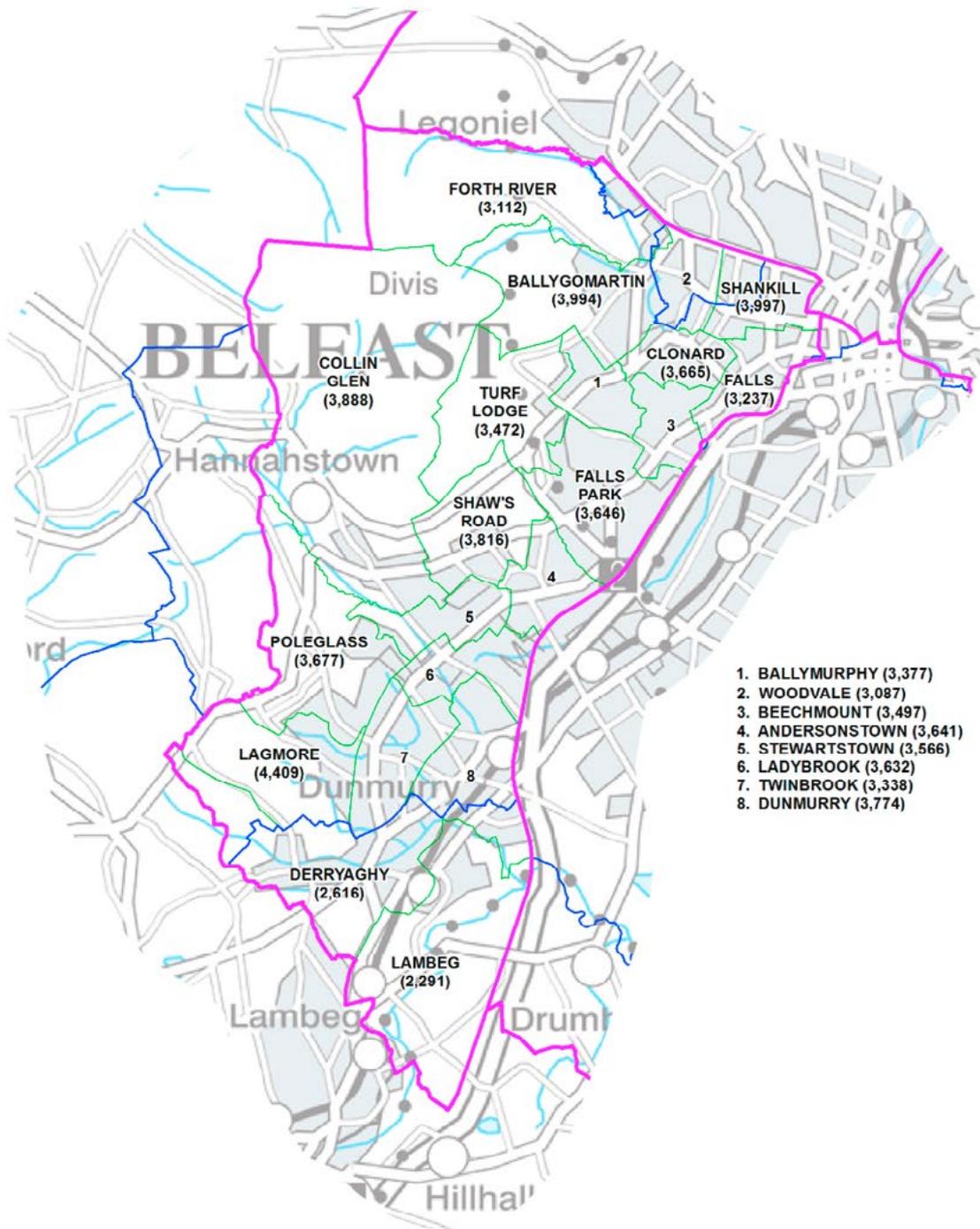


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Belfast South Borough Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Belfast LGD			
Belvoir	3,422	Ormeau	3,409
Blackstaff	3,682	Ravenhill	3,062
Central	4,342	Rosetta	3,636
Cregagh	3,150	Stranmillis	3,832
Finaghy	3,406	Upper Malone	3,470
Malone	3,399	Windsor	3,804
Musgrave	3,472	Woodstock	3,072
Lisburn and Castlereagh LGD			
Beechill	2,396	Galwally	2,304
Cairnshill	2,385	Knockbracken	2,488
Carryduff East	2,490	Moneyreagh	2,126
Carryduff West	2,320	Newtownbreda	2,000
Drumbo	2,214		
Total constituency electorate – 69,881			

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: BELFAST WEST



FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ——— WARD BOUNDARY
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ———

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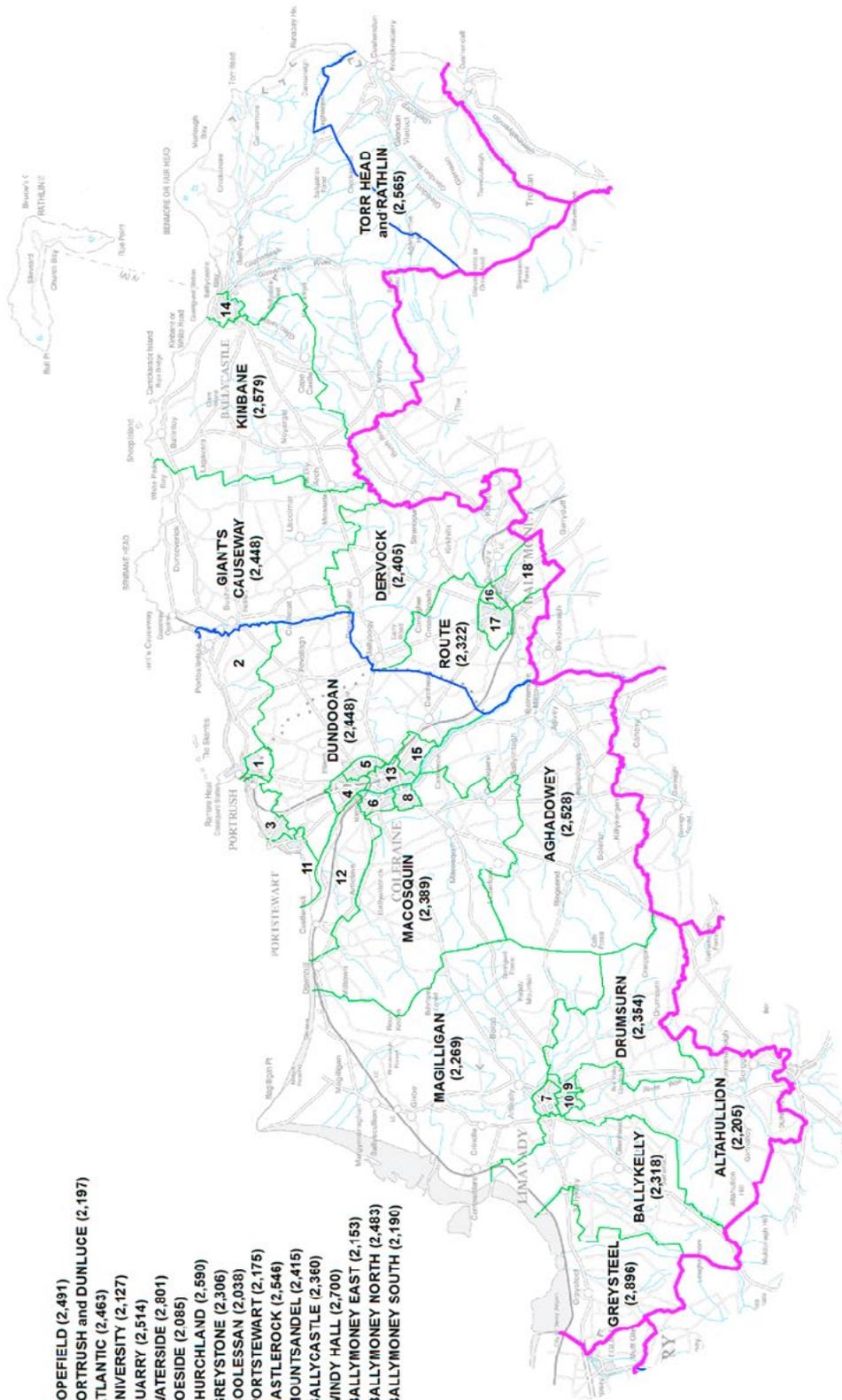
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Belfast West Borough Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Belfast LGD			
Andersonstown	3,641	Ladybrook	3,632
Ballygomartin	3,994	Lagmore	4,409
Ballymurphy	3,377	Poleglass	3,677
Beechmount	3,497	Shankill	3,997
Clonard	3,665	Shaw's Road	3,816
Collin Glen	3,888	Stewartstown	3,566
Dunmurry	3,774	Turf Lodge	3,472
Falls	3,237	Twinbrook	3,338
Falls Park	3,646	Woodvale	3,087
Forth River	3,112		
Lisburn and Castlereagh LGD			
Derryagh	2,616	Lambeg	2,291
Total constituency electorate – 73,732			

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: CAUSEWAY

1. HOPEFIELD (2,491)
2. PORTRUSH and DUNLUCE (2,197)
3. ATLANTIC (2,463)
4. UNIVERSITY (2,127)
5. QUARRY (2,514)
6. WATERSIDE (2,801)
7. ROESIDE (2,085)
8. CHURCHLAND (2,590)
9. GREYSTONE (2,306)
10. COOLESSAN (2,038)
11. PORTSTEWART (2,175)
12. CASTLEROCK (2,546)
13. MOUNTSANDEL (2,415)
14. BALLYCASTLE (2,360)
15. WINDY HALL (2,700)
16. BALLYMONEY EAST (2,153)
17. BALLYMONEY NORTH (2,483)
18. BALLYMONEY SOUTH (2,190)



FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS
PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY
BOUNDARY

CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY
CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY

WARD BOUNDARY

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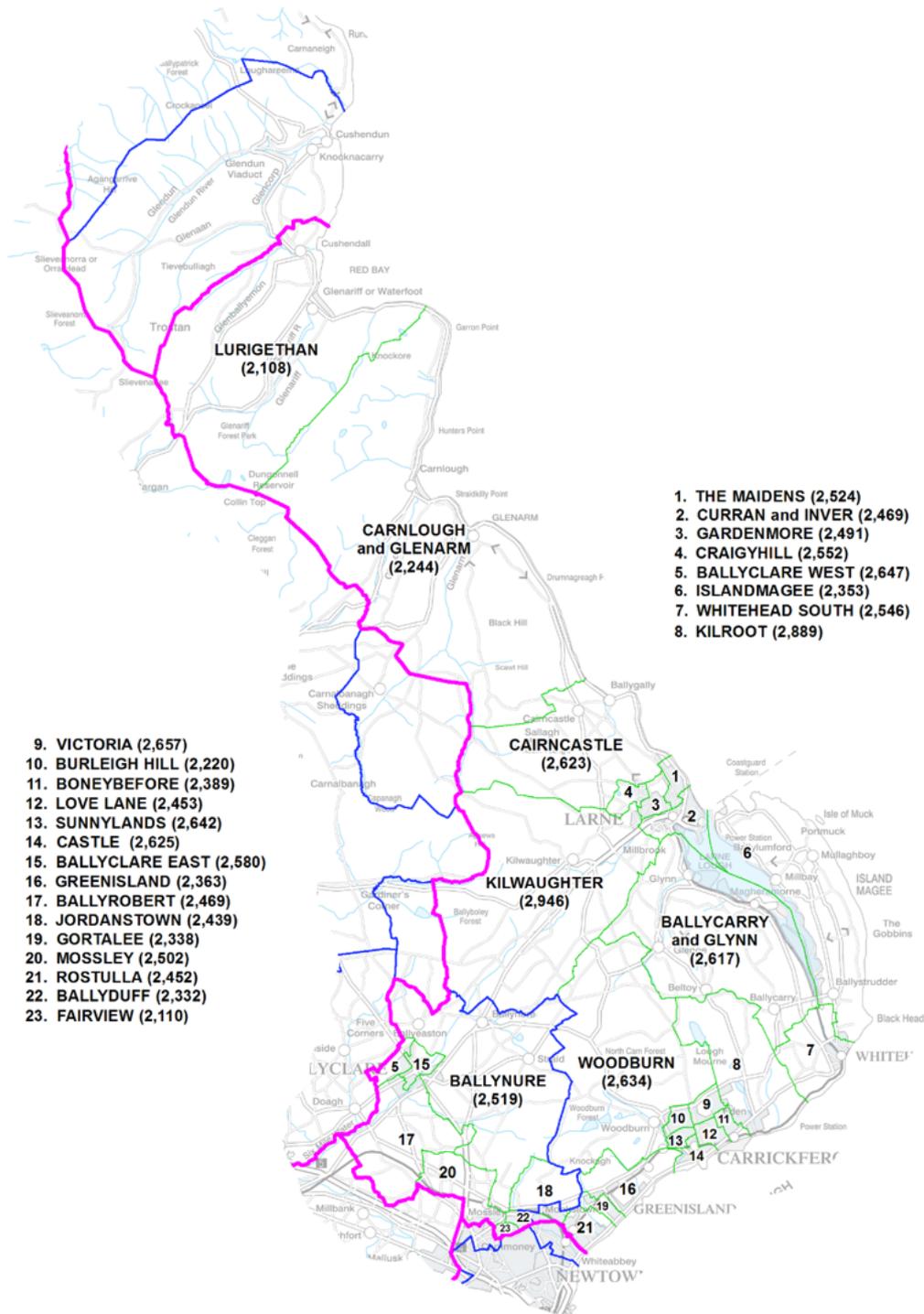
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Causeway County Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Causeway Coast and Glens LGD			
Aghadowey	2,528	Greystone	2,306
Altahullion	2,205	Hopefield	2,491
Atlantic	2,463	Kinbane	2,579
Ballycastle	2,360	Macosquin	2,389
Ballykelly	2,318	Magilligan	2,269
Ballymoney East	2,153	Mountsandel	2,415
		Portrush and	
Ballymoney North	2,483	Dunluce	2,197
Ballymoney South	2,190	Portstewart	2,175
Castlerock	2,546	Quarry	2,514
Churchland	2,590	Roeside	2,085
Coolessan	2,038	Route	2,322
		Torr Head and	
Dervock	2,405	Rathlin	2,565
Drumsumn	2,354	University	2,127
Dundooan	2,448	Waterside	2,801
Giant's Causeway	2,448	Windy Hall	2,700
Greysteel	2,896		

Total constituency electorate – 74,360

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: EAST ANTRIM



1. THE MAIDENS (2,524)
2. CURRAN and INVER (2,469)
3. GARDENMORE (2,491)
4. CRAIGYHILL (2,552)
5. BALLYCLARE WEST (2,647)
6. ISLANDMAGEE (2,353)
7. WHITEHEAD SOUTH (2,546)
8. KILROOT (2,889)

9. VICTORIA (2,657)
10. BURLEIGH HILL (2,220)
11. BONEYBEFORE (2,389)
12. LOVE LANE (2,453)
13. SUNNYLANDS (2,642)
14. CASTLE (2,625)
15. BALLYCLARE EAST (2,580)
16. GREENISLAND (2,363)
17. BALLYROBERT (2,469)
18. JORDANSTOWN (2,439)
19. GORTALEE (2,338)
20. MOSSLEY (2,502)
21. ROSTULLA (2,452)
22. BALLYDUFF (2,332)
23. FAIRVIEW (2,110)

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS
 PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ——— WARD BOUNDARY
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY
 CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ———

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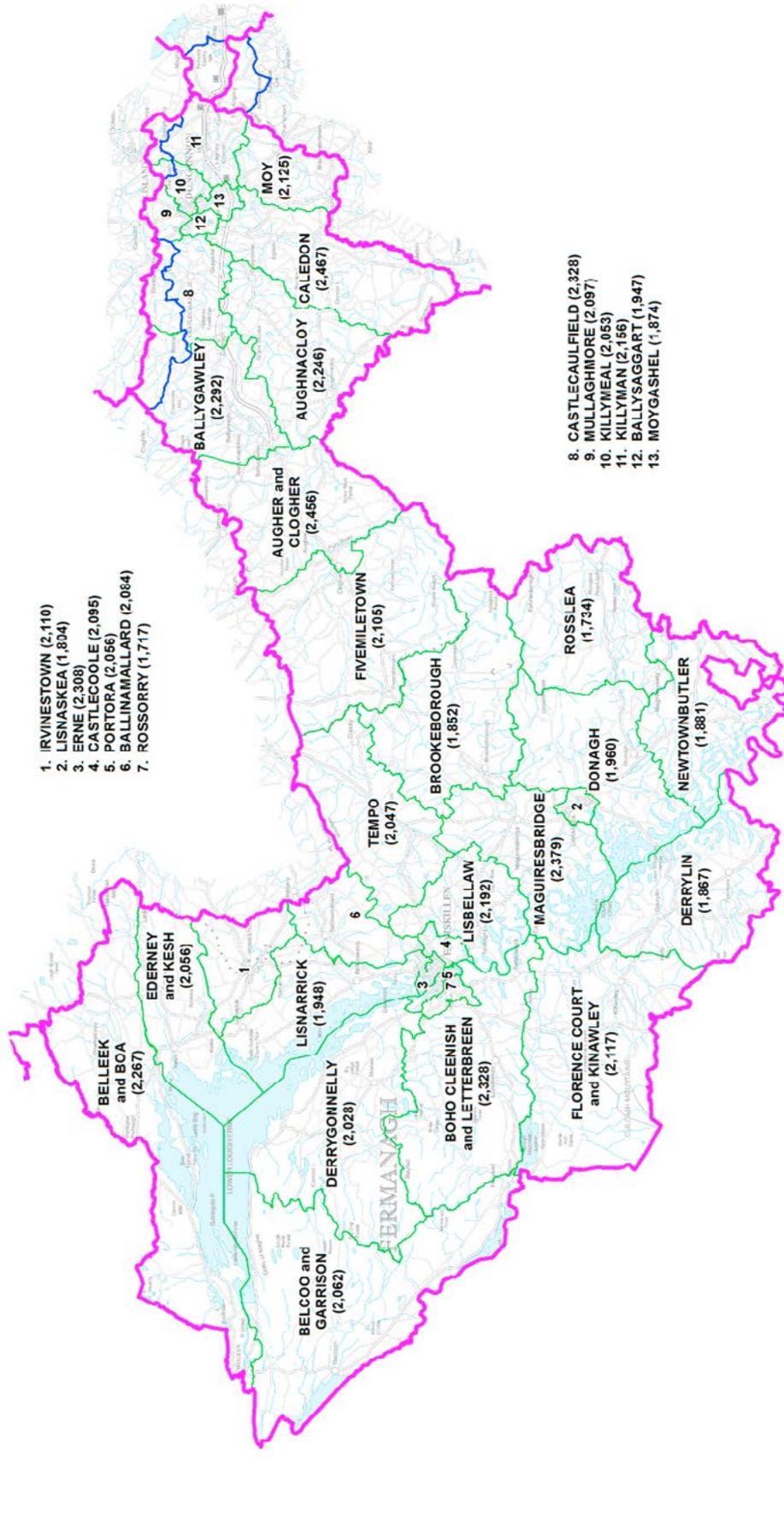


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East Antrim County Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Causeway Coast and Glens LGD			
Lurigethan	2,108		
Antrim and Newtownabbey LGD			
Ballyclare East	2,580	Fairview	2,110
Ballyclare West	2,647	Jordanstown	2,439
Ballyduff	2,332	Mossley	2,502
Ballynure	2,519	Rostulla	2,452
Ballyrobert	2,469		
Mid and East Antrim LGD			
Ballycarry and Glynn	2,617	Greenisland	2,363
Boneybefore	2,389	Islandmagee	2,353
Burleigh Hill	2,220	Kilroot	2,889
Cairncastle	2,623	Kilwaughter	2,946
Carnlough and Glenarm	2,244	Love Lane	2,453
Castle	2,625	Sunnylands	2,642
Craigyhill	2,552	The Maidens	2,524
Curran and Inver	2,469	Victoria	2,657
Gardenmore	2,491	Whitehead South	2,546
Gortalee	2,338	Woodburn	2,634
Total constituency electorate – 74,733			

REVISED PROPOSAL: FERMANAGH AND SOUTH TYRONE



FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS
PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY
BOUNDARY ——— WARD BOUNDARY
CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY
CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ———

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North Arrow

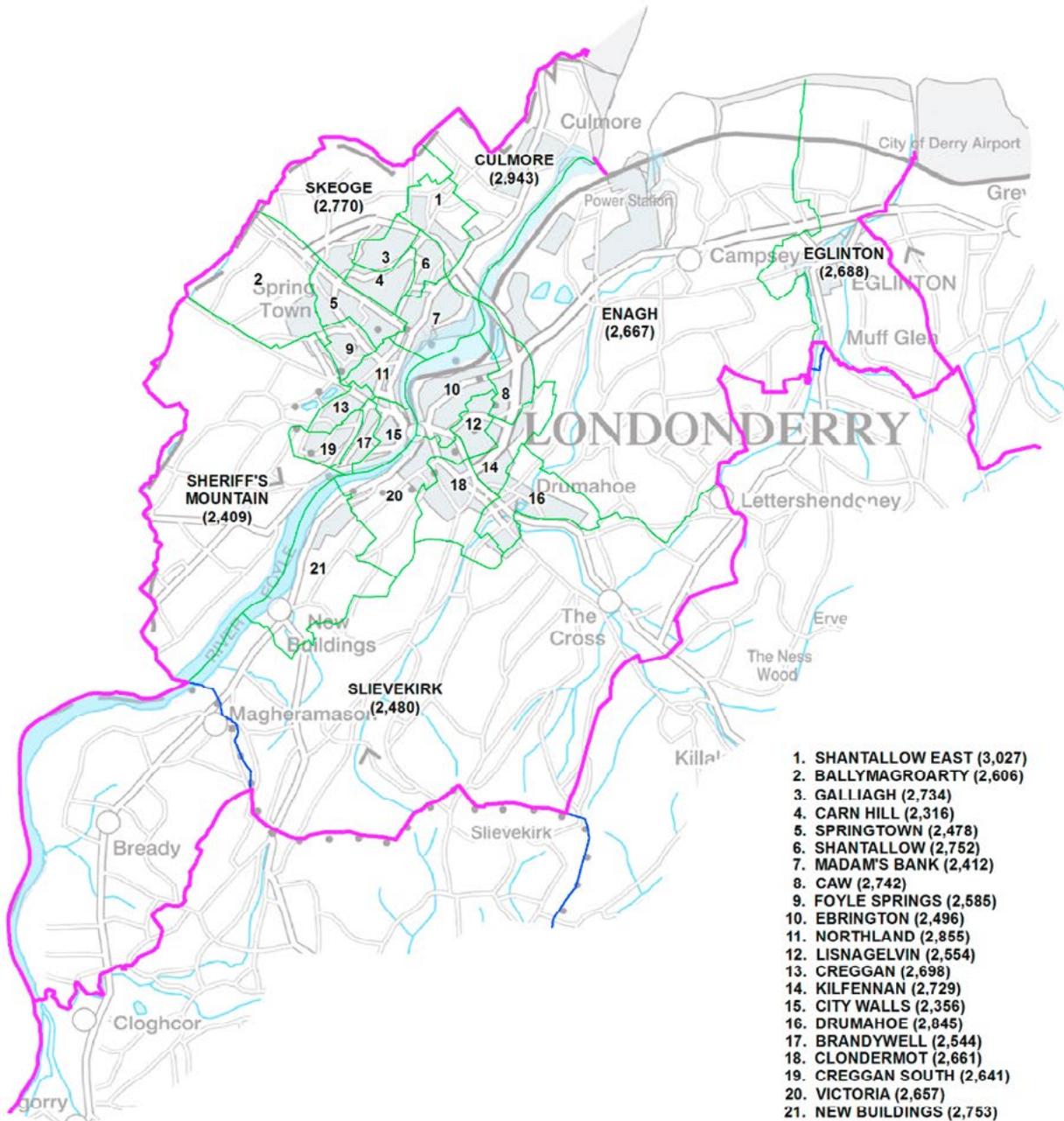
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Fermanagh and South Tyrone County Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Fermanagh and Omagh LGD			
Ballinamallard	2,084	Florence Court and Kinawley	2,117
Belcoo and Garrison	2,062	Irvinestown	2,110
Belleek and Boa	2,267	Lisbellaw	2,192
Boho, Cleenish and Letterbreen	2,328	Lisnarrick	1,948
Brookeborough	1,852	Lisnaskea	1,804
Castlecoole	2,095	Maguiresbridge	2,379
Derrygonnelly	2,028	Newtownbutler	1,881
Derrylin	1,867	Portora	2,056
Donagh	1,960	Rosslea	1,734
Ederney and Kesh	2,056	Rossorry	1,717
Erne	2,308	Tempo	2,047
Mid Ulster LGD			
Augher and Clogher	2,456	Fivemiletown	2,105
Aughnacloy	2,246	Killyman	2,156
Ballygawley	2,292	Killymeal	2,053
Ballysaggart	1,947	Moy	2,125
Caledon	2,467	Moygashel	1,874
Castlecaulfield	2,328	Mullaghmore	2,097
Total constituency electorate – 71,038			

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: FOYLE



FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS
 PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY
 BOUNDARY — WARD BOUNDARY —
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY
 CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY —

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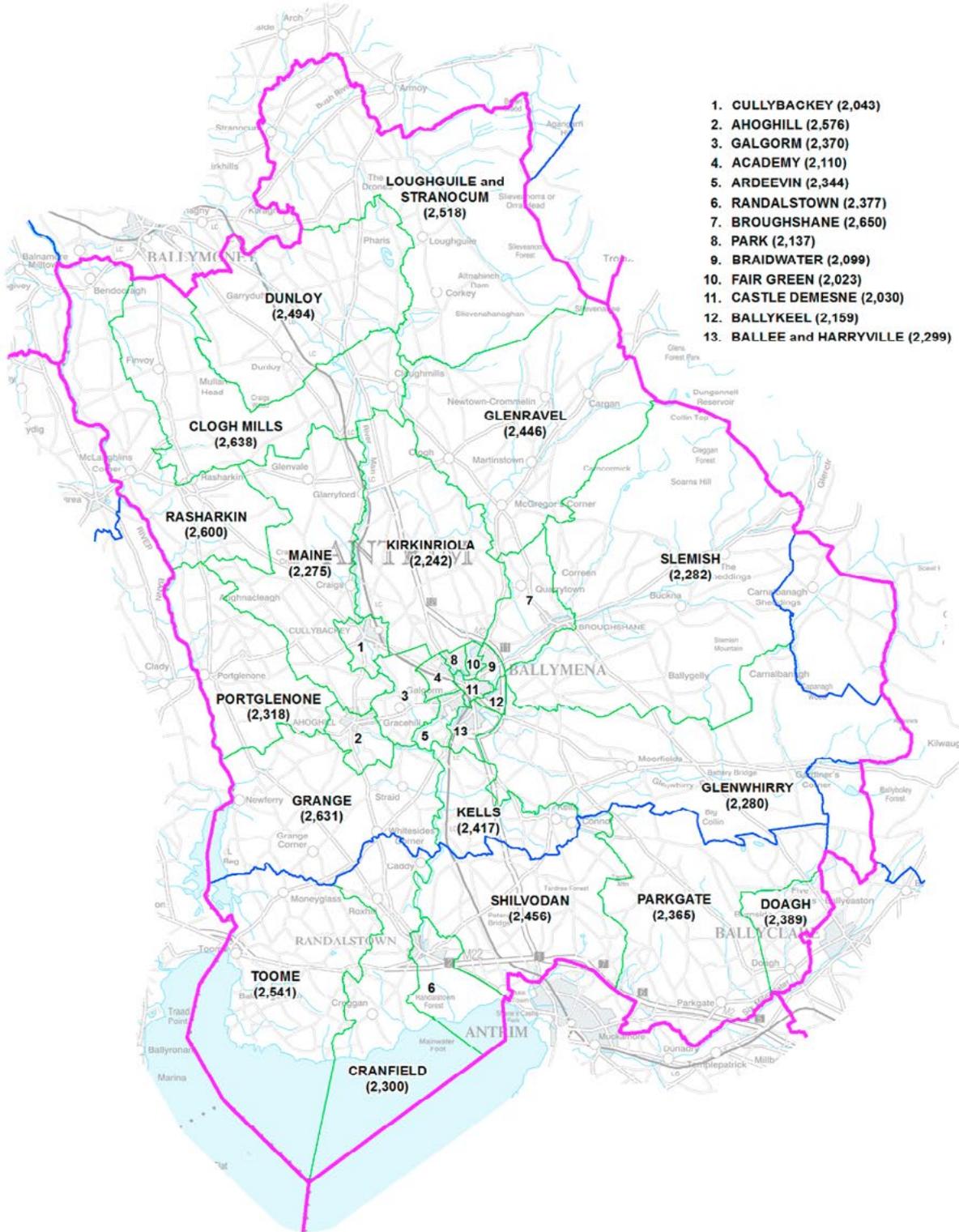
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Foyle County Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Derry and Strabane LGD			
Ballymagroarty	2,606	Galliagh	2,734
Brandywell	2,544	Kilfennan	2,729
Carn Hill	2,316	Lisnagelvin	2,554
Caw	2,742	Madam's Bank	2,412
City Walls	2,356	New Buildings	2,753
Clondermot	2,661	Northland	2,855
Creggan	2,698	Shantallow	2,752
Creggan South	2,641	Shantallow East	3,027
Culmore	2,943	Sheriff's Mountain	2,409
Drumahoe	2,845	Skeoge	2,770
Ebrington	2,496	Slievekirk	2,480
Eglinton	2,688	Springtown	2,478
Enagh	2,667	Victoria	2,657
Foyle Springs	2,585		

Total constituency electorate – 71,398

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: MID ANTRIM



FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS
 PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ——— WARD BOUNDARY
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ———

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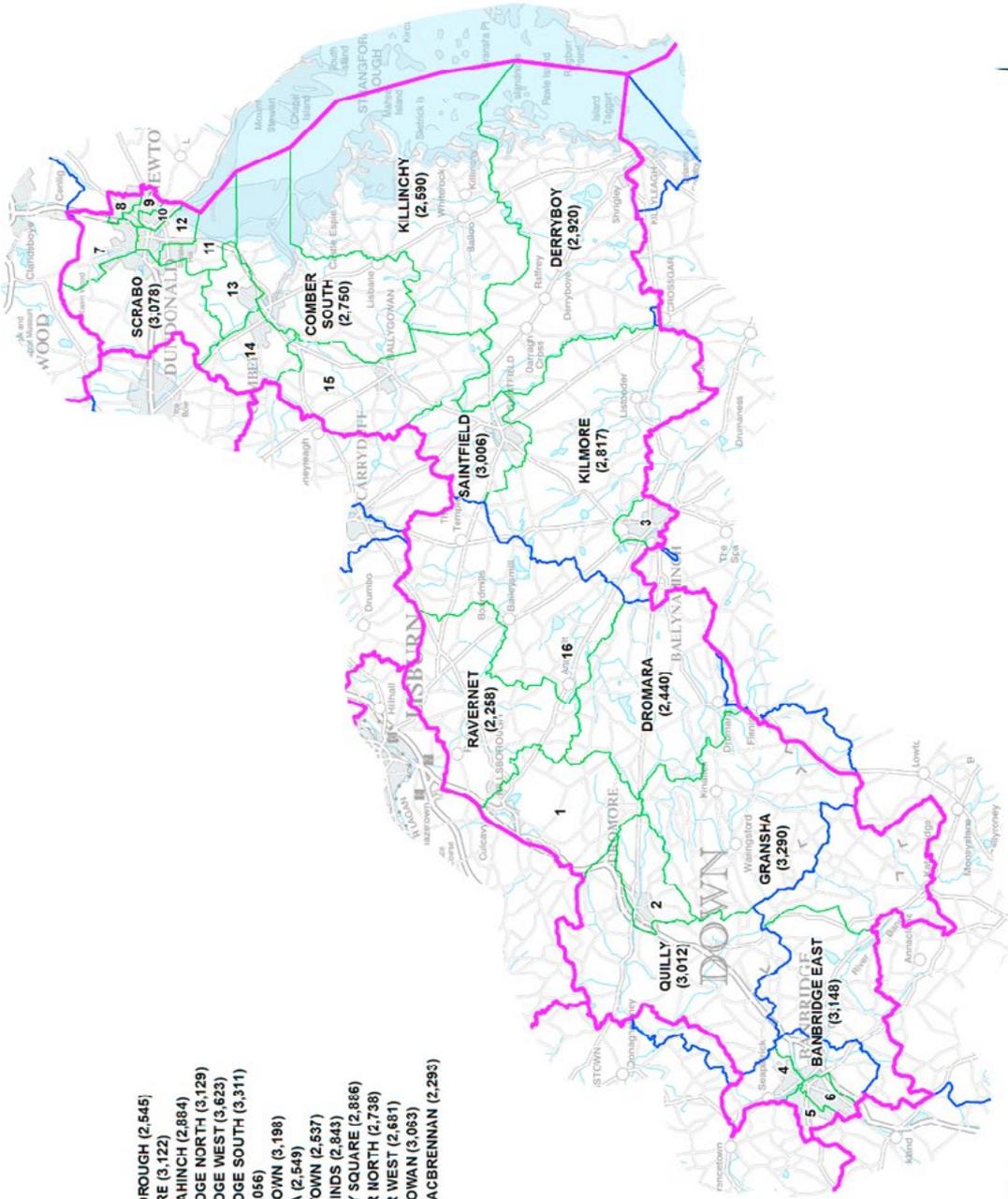
Mid Antrim County Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Causeway Coast and Glens LGD			
Clogh Mills	2,638	Loughguile and Stranocum	2,518
Dunloy	2,494	Rasharkin	2,600
Antrim and Newtownabbey LGD			
Cranfield	2,300	Randalstown	2,377
Doagh	2,389	Shilvodan	2,456
Parkgate	2,365	Toome	2,541
Mid and East Antrim LGD			
Academy	2,110	Galgorm	2,370
Ahoghill	2,576	Glenravel	2,446
Ardeevin	2,344	Glenwhirry	2,280
Ballee and Harryville	2,299	Grange	2,631
Ballykeel	2,159	Kells	2,417
Braidwater	2,099	Kirkinriola	2,242
Broughshane	2,650	Maine	2,275
Castle Demesne	2,030	Park	2,137
Cullybackey	2,043	Portglenone	2,318
Fair Green	2,023	Slemish	2,282

Total constituency electorate – 70,409

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: MID DOWN

- 1. HILLSBOROUGH (2,545)
- 2. DROMORE (3,122)
- 3. BALLYNAHINCH (2,884)
- 4. BANBRIDGE NORTH (3,129)
- 5. BANBRIDGE WEST (3,623)
- 6. BANBRIDGE SOUTH (3,311)
- 7. GLEN (3,056)
- 8. CRONSTOWN (3,198)
- 9. MOVILLA (2,549)
- 10. GREGSTOWN (2,537)
- 11. WEST WINDS (2,843)
- 12. CONWAY SQUARE (2,886)
- 13. COMBER NORTH (2,738)
- 14. COMBER WEST (2,681)
- 15. BALLYGOWAN (3,063)
- 16. BALLYMACBRENNAN (2,293)



FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY
 WARD BOUNDARY



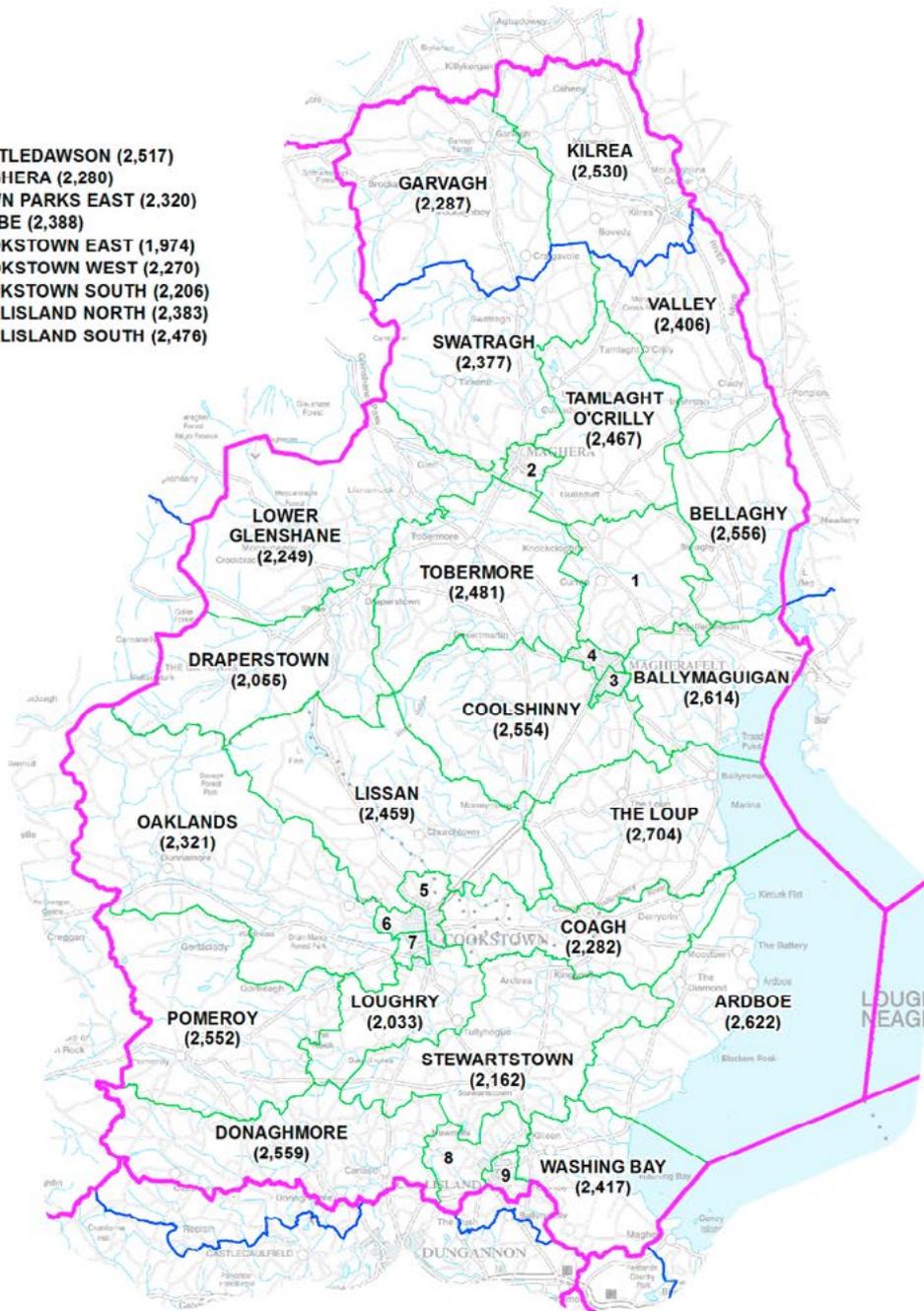
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Mid Down County Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon LGD			
Banbridge East	3,148	Dromore	3,122
Banbridge North	3,129	Gransha	3,290
Banbridge South	3,311	Quilly	3,012
Banbridge West	3,623		
Lisburn and Castlereagh LGD			
Ballymacbrennan	2,293	Hillsborough	2,545
Dromara	2,440	Ravernet	2,258
Newry, Mourne and Down LGD			
Ballynahinch	2,884	Kilmore	2,817
Derryboy	2,920	Saintfield	3,006
Ards and North Down LGD			
Ballygowan	3,063	Glen	3,056
Comber North	2,738	Gregstown	2,537
Comber South	2,750	Killinchy	2,590
Comber West	2,681	Movilla	2,549
Conway Square	2,886	Scrabo	3,078
Cronstown	3,198	West Winds	2,843
Total constituency electorate – 77,767			

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: MID ULSTER

1. CASTLEDAWSON (2,517)
2. MAGHERA (2,280)
3. TOWN PARKS EAST (2,320)
4. GLEBE (2,388)
5. COOKSTOWN EAST (1,974)
6. COOKSTOWN WEST (2,270)
7. COOKSTOWN SOUTH (2,206)
8. COALISLAND NORTH (2,383)
9. COALISLAND SOUTH (2,476)



FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ——— WARD BOUNDARY
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ———

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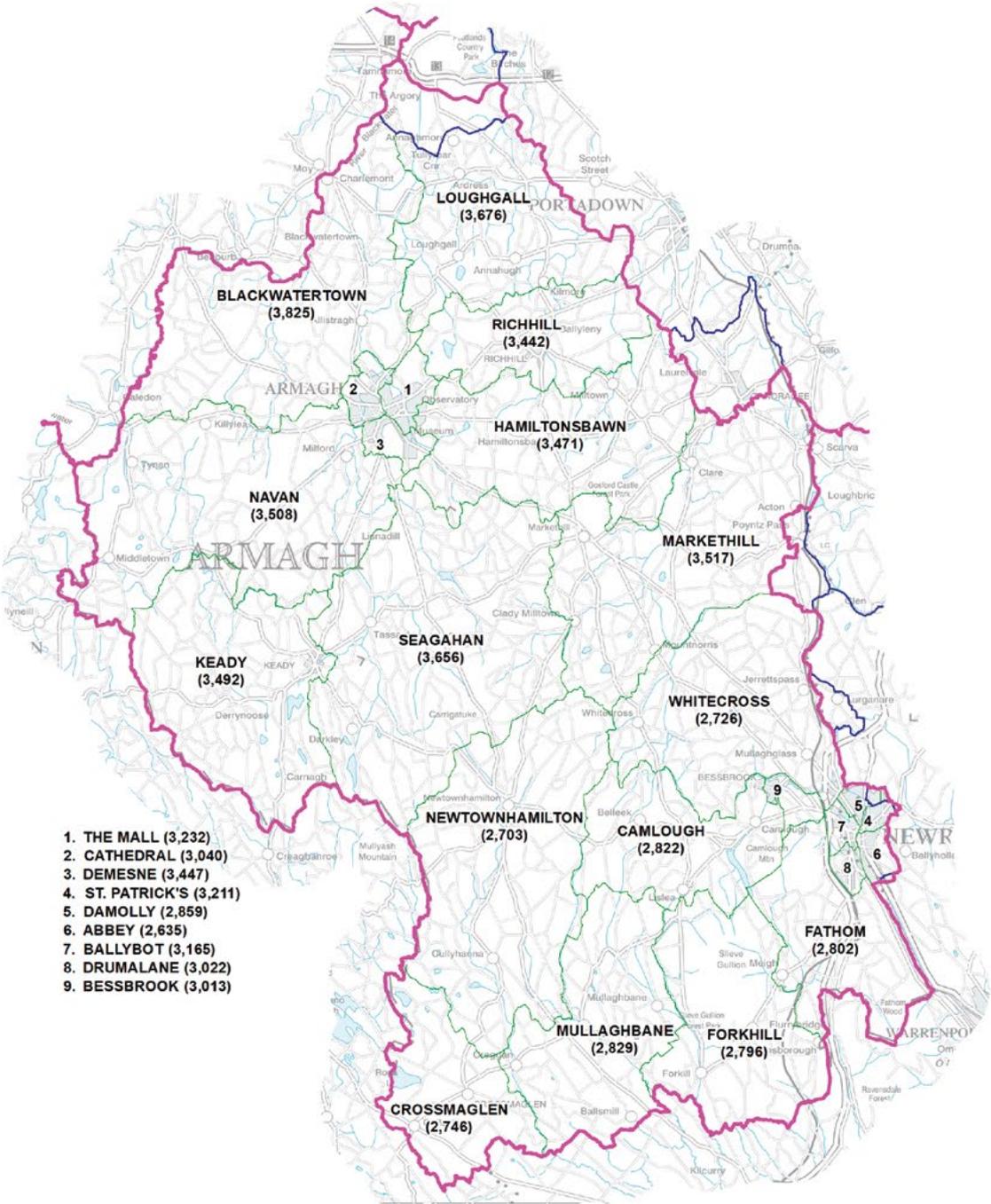
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Mid Ulster County Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Causeway Coast and Glens LGD			
Garvagh	2,287	Kilrea	2,530
Mid Ulster LGD			
Ardboe	2,622	Lissan	2,459
Ballymaguigan	2,614	Loughry	2,033
Bellaghy	2,556	Lower Glenshane	2,249
Castledawson	2,517	Maghera	2,280
Coagh	2,282	Oaklands	2,321
Coalisland North	2,383	Pomeroy	2,552
Coalisland South	2,476	Stewartstown	2,162
Cookstown East	1,974	Swatragh	2,377
Cookstown South	2,206	Tamlaght O'Crilly	2,467
Cookstown West	2,270	The Loup	2,704
Coolshinny	2,554	Tobermore	2,481
Donaghmore	2,559	Town Parks East	2,320
Draperstown	2,055	Valley	2,406
Glebe	2,388	Washing Bay	2,417

Total constituency electorate – 71,501

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: NEWRY AND ARMAGH



FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS
 PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ——— WARD BOUNDARY
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ———

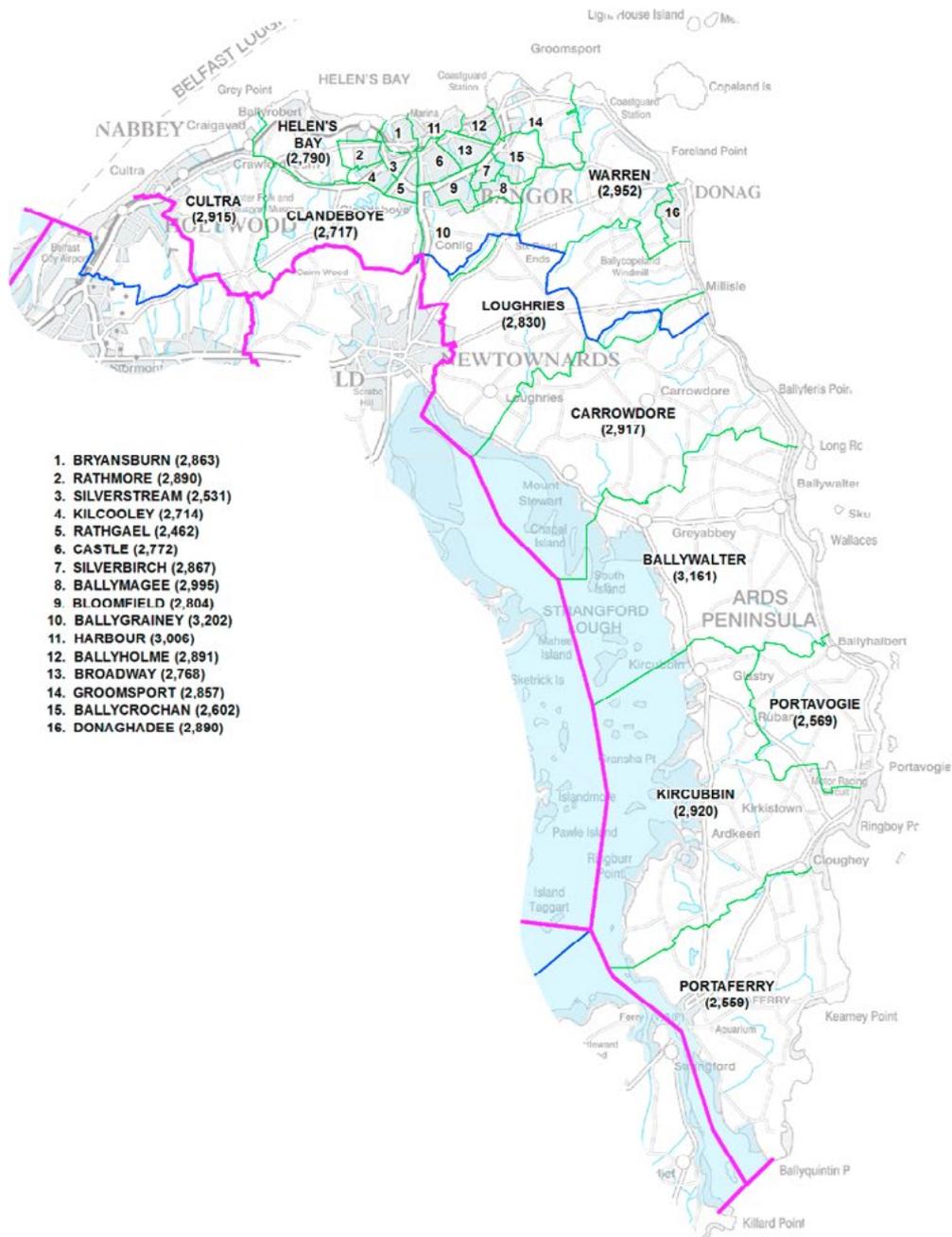
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Newry and Armagh County Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon LGD			
Blackwatertown	3,825	Markethill	3,517
Cathedral	3,040	Navan	3,508
Demesne	3,447	Richhill	3,442
Hamiltonsbawn	3,471	Seagahan	3,656
Keady	3,492	The Mall	3,232
Loughgall	3,676		
Newry and Mourne LGD			
Abbey	2,635	Fathom	2,802
Ballybot	3,165	Forkhill	2,796
Bessbrook	3,013	Mullaghbane	2,829
Camlough	2,822	Newtownhamilton	2,703
Crossmaglen	2,746	St. Patrick's	3,211
Damolly	2,859	Whitecross	2,726
Drumalane	3,022		
Total constituency electorate – 75,635			

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: NORTH DOWN



- 1. BRYANSBURN (2,863)
- 2. RATHMORE (2,890)
- 3. SILVERSTREAM (2,531)
- 4. KILCOOLEY (2,714)
- 5. RATHGAE (2,462)
- 6. CASTLE (2,772)
- 7. SILVERBIRCH (2,867)
- 8. BALLYMAGEE (2,995)
- 9. BLOOMFIELD (2,804)
- 10. BALLYGRAINEY (3,202)
- 11. HARBOUR (3,006)
- 12. BALLYHOLME (2,891)
- 13. BROADWAY (2,768)
- 14. GROOMSPORT (2,857)
- 15. BALLYCROCHAN (2,602)
- 16. DONAGHADEE (2,890)

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS
 PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ——— WARD BOUNDARY
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY
 CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ———

1:200,000 N




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North Down County Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Ards and North Down LGD			
Ballycrochan	2,602	Groomsport	2,857
Ballygrainey	3,202	Harbour	3,006
Ballyholme	2,891	Helen's Bay	2,790
Ballymagee	2,995	Kilcooley	2,714
Ballywalter	3,161	Kircubbin	2,920
Bloomfield	2,804	Loughries	2,830
Broadway	2,768	Portaferry	2,559
Bryansburn	2,863	Portavogie	2,569
Carrowdore	2,917	Rathgael	2,462
Castle	2,772	Rathmore	2,890
Clandeboyne	2,717	Silverbirch	2,867
Cultra	2,915	Silverstream	2,531
Donaghadee	2,890	Warren	2,952

Total constituency electorate – 73,444

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: SOUTH ANTRIM



- 1. STEEPLE (2,135)
- 2. SPRINGFARM (2,924)
- 3. GREYSTONE (1,934)
- 4. FOUNTAIN HILL (2,090)
- 5. MOIRA (2,534)
- 6. LISNAGARVEY (2,223)
- 7. OLD WARREN (2,397)
- 8. LAGAN VALLEY (2,083)
- 9. BALLYMACOSS (3,064)
- 10. KNOCKMORE (2,519)
- 11. BALLYMACASH (2,290)
- 12. MAGHERALAVE (2,318)
- 13. HARMONY HILL (2,257)
- 14. WALLACE PARK (2,503)
- 15. HILDEN (2,449)

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ——— WARD BOUNDARY
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ———

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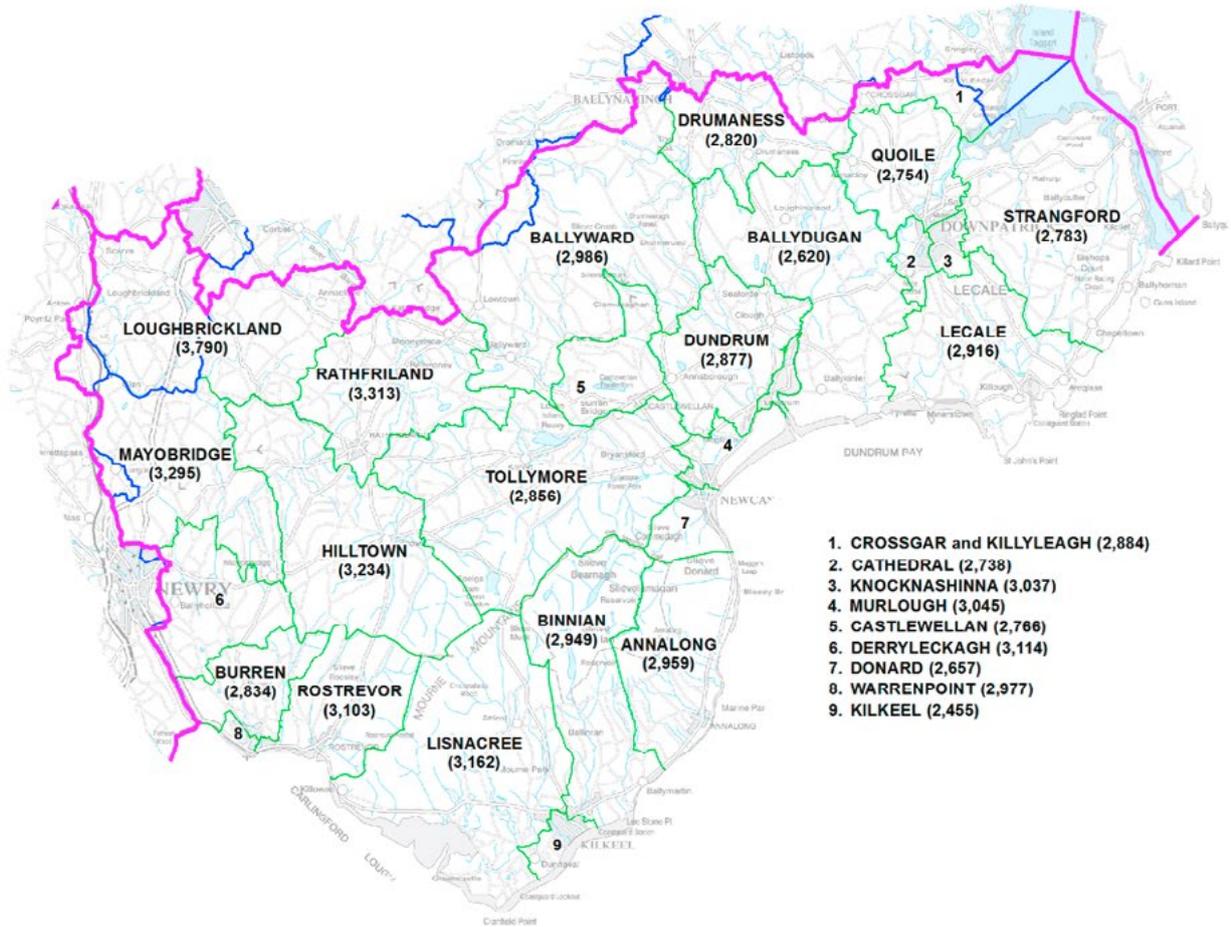
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South Antrim County Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Antrim and Newtownabbey LGD			
Aldergrove	2,524	Mallusk	3,217
Antrim Centre	2,583	Springfarm	2,924
Clady	2,489	Steeple	2,135
Crumlin	2,457	Stiles	2,356
Fountain Hill	2,090	Templepatrick	2,420
Greystone	1,934		
Lisburn and Castlereagh LGD			
Ballinderry	2,693	Lagan Valley	2,083
Ballymacash	2,290	Lisnagarvey	2,223
Ballymacoss	3,064	Maghaberry	2,701
Blaris	2,201	Magheralave	2,318
Glenavy	2,394	Maze	2,211
Harmony Hill	2,257	Moira	2,534
Hilden	2,449	Old Warren	2,397
Hillhall	2,584	Stonyford	2,122
Knockmore	2,519	Wallace Park	2,503
Lagan	2,339	White Mountain	3,478

Total constituency electorate – 76,489

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: SOUTH DOWN



FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS
 PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY
 BOUNDARY — — WARD BOUNDARY
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY
 CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY —

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South Down County Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon LGD			
Loughbrickland	3,790	Rathfriland	3,313
Newry, Mourne and Down LGD			
Annalong	2,959	Hilltown	3,234
Ballydugan	2,620	Kilkeel	2,455
Ballyward	2,986	Knocknashinna	3,037
Binnian	2,949	Lecale	2,916
Burren	2,834	Lisnacree	3,162
Castlewellan	2,766	Mayobridge	3,295
Cathedral	2,738	Murlough	3,045
Crossgar and Killyleagh	2,884	Quoile	2,754
Derryleckagh	3,114	Rostrevor	3,103
Donard	2,657	Strangford	2,783
Drumaness	2,820	Tollymore	2,856
Dundrum	2,877	Warrenpoint	2,977
Total constituency electorate – 76,924			

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: SPERRIN



FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS
 PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY — — WARD BOUNDARY
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY
 CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY —

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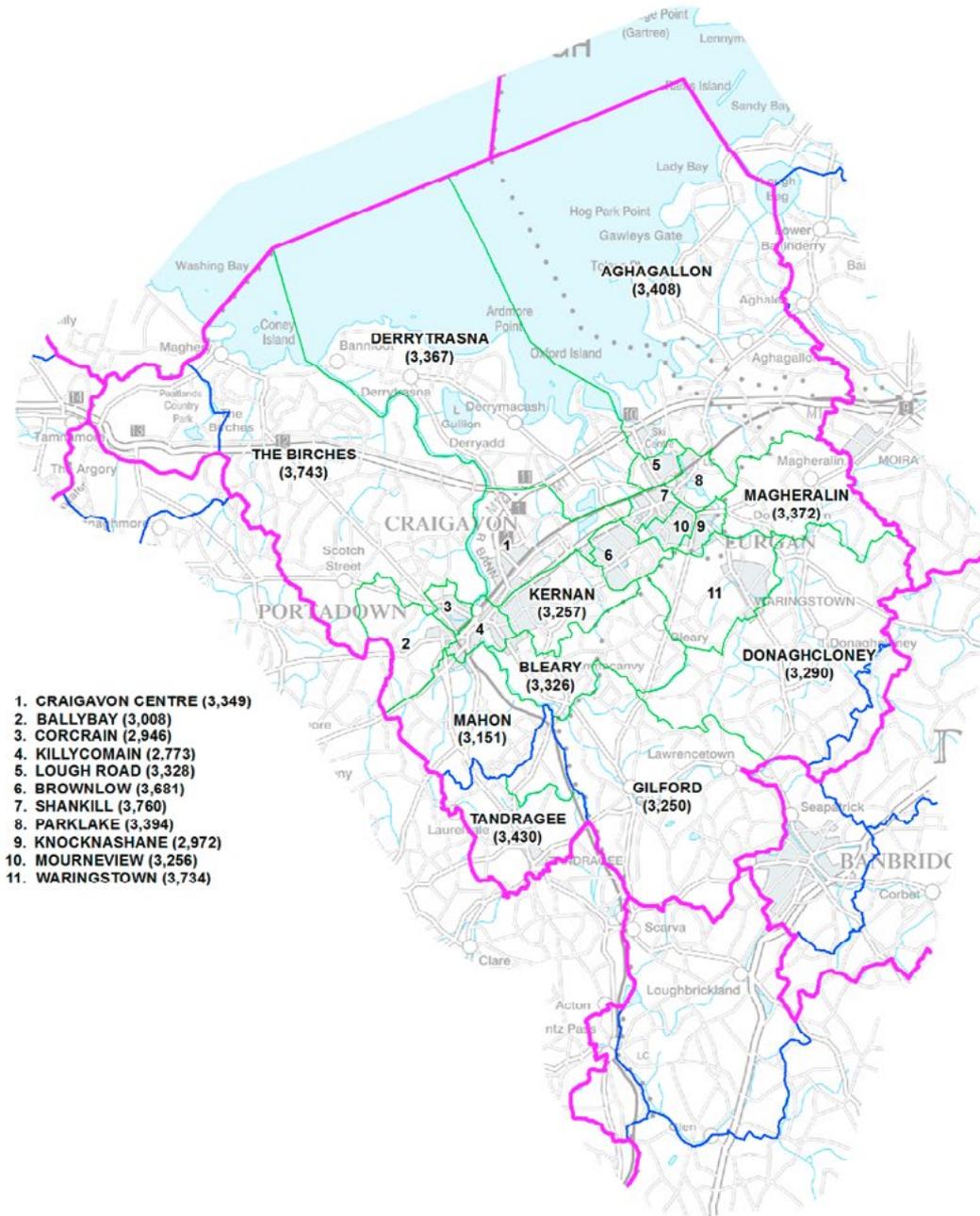


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Sperrin County Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Causeway Coast and Glens LGD			
Feeney	2,292	Dungiven	2,401
Derry and Strabane LGD			
Artigarvan	2,564	Glenelly Valley	2,406
Ballycolman	2,570	Newtownstewart	2,283
Castlederg	2,472	Park	2,494
Claudy	2,536	Sion Mills	2,610
Dunnamanagh	2,461	Strabane North	2,513
Finn	2,807	Strabane West	2,393
Glenderg	2,435		
Fermanagh and Omagh LGD			
Beragh	2,015	Gortin	2,028
Camowen	2,182	Gortrush	2,090
Coolnagard	2,184	Killyclogher	2,070
Dergmoney	1,711	Newtownsaville	1,999
Dromore	1,955	Owenkillew	1,970
Drumnakilly	2,053	Sixmilecross	1,980
Drumquin	2,066	Strule	1,705
Fairy Water	2,157	Termon	1,832
Fintona	1,786	Trillick	1,879
Total constituency electorate – 72,899			

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: UPPER BANN



FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS
 PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ——— WARD BOUNDARY
 CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY ———

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Upper Bann County Constituency

WARD	ELECTORATE	WARD	ELECTORATE
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon LGD			
Aghagallon	3,408	Knocknashane	2,972
Ballybay	3,008	Lough Road	3,328
Bleary	3,326	Magheralin	3,372
Brownlow	3,681	Mahon	3,151
Corcrain	2,946	Mourneview	3,256
Craigavon Centre	3,349	Parklake	3,394
Derrytrasna	3,367	Shankill	3,760
Donaghcloney	3,290	Tandragee	3,430
Gilford	3,250	The Birches	3,743
Kernan	3,257	Waringstown	3,734
Killycomain	2,773		

Total constituency electorate – 69,795

Chapter 10

Acknowledgements

We would like to record our gratitude to the Assessors who provided advice and assistance during the 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies. They are listed in Appendix 1 of this report.

We would like to acknowledge the invaluable professional assistance provided by staff from Land and Property Services; the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency; and the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland.

Mr Eamonn McConville acted as our Secretary and we would like to record our appreciation for his diligence and conscientiousness in discharging his duties. We would also like to thank the staff of our Secretariat (Mr Michael Harris, Mr Tim Johnston and Mr Adam McCalden) for their hard work and support.

The Hon Madam Justice McBride, DBE, QC

(Deputy Chairman)

Dr William Smith

(Commissioner)

Ms Sarah Havlin

(Commissioner)

Appendix 1

The Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland

Appointments to the Commission are made under Schedule 1 of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 which specifies that the chairman of the Commission is the Speaker of the House of Commons, as is the case for the parliamentary boundary commissions in England, Scotland and Wales.

Members

The Deputy Chairman of the Commission is a judge of the High Court appointed by the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland. The other two Commissioners are appointed by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland through a public appointments process. The Commission is supported in its work by a small Secretariat.

Chairman:	The Speaker of the House of Commons *
Deputy Chairman:	The Hon Madam Justice McBride, DBE, QC
Members:	Dr William Smith Ms Sarah Havlin
Assessors:	The Commissioner of Valuation for Northern Ireland, Mr Alan Brontë The Registrar General of Births and Deaths in Northern Ireland, Ms Siobhan Carey The Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland, Ms Virginia McVea# The Chief Survey Officer of Land and Property Services, Mr Jim Lennon≠
Secretary:	Mr Eamonn McConville

* The Deputy Chairman, by custom, presides at all meetings of the Commission and the Speaker is kept fully informed of the progress of the work of the Commission.

Succeeded Mr Graham Shields on 23 December 2016

≠ Succeeded Mr John Deyermond on 22 May 2017

Appendix 2

Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986

As amended

An Act to consolidate the House of Commons (Redistribution of Seats) Acts 1949 to 1979 and certain related enactments.

1 *Parliamentary constituencies*

- (1) There shall for the purpose of parliamentary elections be the county and borough constituencies (or in Scotland the county and burgh constituencies), each returning a single member, which are described in Orders in Council made under this Act.
- (2) In this Act and, except where the context otherwise requires, in any Act passed after the Representation of the People Act 1948, “constituency” means an area having separate representation in the House of Commons.

2 *The Boundary Commissions*

- (1) For the purpose of the continuous review of the distribution of seats at parliamentary elections, there shall continue to be four permanent Boundary Commissions, namely a Boundary Commission for England, a Boundary Commission for Scotland, a Boundary Commission for Wales and a Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland.
- (2) Schedule 1 to this Act shall have effect with respect to the constitution of, and other matters relating to, the Boundary Commissions.

3 *Reports of the Commissions*

- (1) Each Boundary Commission shall keep under review the representation in the House of Commons of the part of the United Kingdom with which they are concerned and shall, in accordance with subsection (2) below, submit to the Secretary of State reports with respect to the whole of that part of the United Kingdom, either -
 - (a) showing the constituencies into which they recommend that it should be divided in order to give effect to the rules set out in Schedule 2 to this Act,or
 - (b) stating that, in the opinion of the Commission, no alteration is required to be made in respect of that part of the United Kingdom in order to give effect to the said rules¹.

¹ 3(1)(a) and (b) amended by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

- (2) A Boundary Commission shall submit reports under subsection (1) above periodically – ²
- (a) before 1st October 2018 but not before 1st September 2018³, and
- (b) before 1st October of every fifth year after that.
- (2A) A failure by a Boundary Commission to submit a report within the time limit which is appropriate to that report shall not be regarded as invalidating the report for the purposes of any enactment.⁴
- (2B) In relation to any report which a Boundary Commission are required by subsection (2) above to submit before a particular date but have not yet submitted (a “pending boundary report”), the Commission shall submit to the Speaker of the House of Commons –
- (a) during the January that begins one year and nine months before that date, and
- (b) during each subsequent January,
- a report setting out what progress they have made with the preparation of the pending boundary report, with particular reference to the requirement in subsection (2) above.
- (2C) On receiving a report under subsection (2B) above, the Speaker shall lay it before Parliament.⁵
- (3)⁶
- (4) A report of a Boundary Commission under this Act showing the constituencies into which they recommend that any area should be divided shall state, as respects each constituency, the name by which they recommend that it should be known, and whether they recommend that it should be a county constituency or a borough constituency (or in Scotland a county constituency or a burgh constituency).
- (5) As soon as may be after the submission of a report under subsection (1) above, the Secretary of State shall lay the report before Parliament.
- (5A) As soon as may be after the submission of all four reports under subsection (1) above that are required by subsection (2) above to be submitted before a particular date, the Secretary of State shall lay before Parliament the draft of an Order in Council for giving effect to the recommendations contained in them.

² 3(2) substituted by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

³ 3(2)(a) amended by the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013

⁴ 3(2A) inserted by the Boundary Commissions Act 1992

⁵ 3(2B) and 3(2C) inserted by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

⁶ 3(3) repealed by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

(5B) Where –

- (a) a Boundary Commission have submitted a report under subsection (1) above (but no draft under subsection (5A) above has yet been laid in relation to the report),
- (b) the Commission notify the Secretary of State that the recommendations contained in the report are to have effect with specified modifications, and
- (c) the Commission submit to the Secretary of State a statement of the reasons for those modifications,

the draft under subsection (5A) above shall give effect to the recommendations with those modifications.

(5C) Subsections (5A) to (5B) above do not apply where each of the reports mentioned in subsection (5) above states that no alteration is required to be made in respect of the part of the United Kingdom with which the Commission in question are concerned.⁷

(6) Schedule 2 to this Act which contains the rules referred to above shall have effect.⁸

(7)

(8)⁹

3A¹⁰

4 *Orders in Council*

(1) The draft of any Order in Council laid before Parliament by the Secretary of State under this Act for giving effect, whether with or without modifications, to the recommendations contained in the report of a Boundary Commission may make provision for any matters which appear to him to be incidental to, or consequential on, the recommendations.

(2) Where any such draft gives effect to any such recommendations with modifications, the Secretary of State shall lay before Parliament together with the draft the statement submitted under section 3(5B)(c) above of the reasons for the modifications.¹¹

(3) If any such draft is approved by resolution of each House of Parliament, the Secretary of State shall submit it to Her Majesty in Council.

⁷ Subsection 3(5) substituted and 3(5A), (5B) and 5(C) inserted by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

⁸ Subsection 3(6) amended by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

⁹ Subsections 3(7) and 3(8) repealed by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

¹⁰ Subsection 3A proposed by the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 but repealed before coming into force.

¹¹ Subsection 4(2) amended by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

- (4) If a motion for the approval of any such draft is rejected by either House of Parliament or withdrawn by leave of the House, the Secretary of State may amend the draft and lay the amended draft before Parliament, and if the draft as so amended is approved by resolution of each House of Parliament, the Secretary of State shall submit it to Her Majesty in Council.
- (5) Where the draft of an Order in Council is submitted to Her Majesty in Council under this Act, Her Majesty in Council may make an Order in terms of the draft which (subject to subsection (6) below) shall come into force on such date as may be specified in the Order and shall have effect notwithstanding anything in any enactment.
- (6) The coming into force of any such Order shall not affect any parliamentary election or the constitution of the House of Commons until the dissolution of the Parliament then in being.¹²
- (7) The validity of any Order in Council purporting to be made under this Act and reciting that a draft of the Order has been approved by resolution of each House of Parliament shall not be called in question in any legal proceedings whatsoever.

5 *Publicity and consultation*¹³

- (1) Once a Boundary Commission have decided what constituencies they propose to recommend in a report under section 3(1)(a) above -
 - (a) the Commission shall take such steps as they think fit to inform people in each of the proposed constituencies -
 - (i) what the proposals are,
 - (ii) that a copy of the proposals is open to inspection at a specified place within the proposed constituency, and
 - (iii) that written representations with respect to the proposals may be made to the Commission during a specified period of 12 weeks (“the initial consultation period”);
 - (b) the Commission shall cause public hearings to be held during the period beginning with the fifth week of the initial consultation period and ending with the tenth week of it.
- (2) Subsection (1)(a)(ii) above does not apply to a constituency with respect to which no alteration is proposed.

¹² Subsection 4(6) amended by the Fixed-term Parliaments Act 2011

¹³ Section 5 substituted by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

- (3) Schedule 2A to this Act, which makes further provision about public hearings under subsection (1)(b) above, has effect.
- (4) After the end of the initial consultation period the Commission -
 - (a) shall publish, in such manner as they think fit, representations made as mentioned in subsection (1)(a) above and records of public hearings held under subsection (1)(b) above;
 - (b) shall take such steps as they think fit to inform people in the proposed constituencies that further written representations with respect to the things published under paragraph (a) above may be made to the Commission during a specified period of four weeks (“the secondary consultation period”).
- (5) If after the end of the secondary consultation period the Commission are minded to revise their original proposals so as to recommend different constituencies, they shall take such steps as they see fit to inform people in each of those revised proposed constituencies -
 - (a) what the revised proposals are,
 - (b) that a copy of the revised proposals is open to inspection at a specified place within the revised proposed constituency, and
 - (c) that written representations with respect to the revised proposals may be made to the Commission during a specified period of eight weeks.
- (6) Subsection (5) above does not apply to any proposals to make further revisions.
- (7) Steps taken under subsection (4) or (5) above need not be of the same kind as those taken under subsection (1) above.
- (8) A Boundary Commission shall take into consideration -
 - (a) written representations duly made to them as mentioned in subsection (1)(a), (4)(b) or (5)(c) above, and
 - (b) representations made at public hearings under subsection (1)(b) above.
- (9) Except as provided by this section and Schedule 2A to this Act, a Boundary Commission shall not cause any public hearing or inquiry to be held for the purposes of a report under this Act.

(10) Where a Boundary Commission publish -

- (a) general information about how they propose to carry out their functions (including, in the case of the Boundary Commission for England, information about the extent (if any) to which they propose to take into account the boundaries mentioned in rule 5(2) of Schedule 2 to this Act), or
- (b) anything else to which subsection (1), (4) or (5) above does not apply,

it is for the Commission to determine whether to invite representations and, if they decide to do so, the procedure that is to apply.

6¹⁴

6A¹⁵

6B *Functions of the Lord President of the Council*

See the Lord President of the Council Order 2010 by virtue of which functions of the Secretary of State under this Act are exercisable concurrently with the Lord President of the Council.¹⁶

7 *Consequential amendments*

Schedule 3 to this Act shall have effect.

8 *Repeals and revocation*

- (1) The enactments specified in Schedule 4 to this Act are hereby repealed to the extent specified in the third column of that Schedule.
- (2) Article 2(7) of the Local Government Reorganisation (Consequential Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1973 is hereby revoked.
- (3)¹⁷

9 *Citation, commencement and extent*

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986, and shall be included among the Acts which may be cited as the Representation of the People Acts.
- (2) This Act shall come into force at the end of the period of three months beginning with the day on which it is passed.
- (3) This Act extends to Northern Ireland.

14 Section 6 repealed by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

15 Section 6A inserted by SI 2002/2626 and repealed by SI 2003/1887

16 Subsection 6B inserted by SI 2010/1837

17 Subsection 8(3) repealed by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1

THE BOUNDARY COMMISSIONS

Constitution

- 1 The Speaker of the House of Commons shall be the chairman of each of the four Commissions.
- 2 Each of the four Commissions shall consist of the chairman, a deputy chairman and two other members appointed by the Secretary of State.
- 3 The deputy chairman -
 - (a) in the case of the Commission for England shall be a judge of the High Court appointed by the Lord Chancellor,
 - (b) in the case of the Commission for Scotland shall be a judge of the Court of Session appointed by the Lord President of the Court of Session,
 - (c) in the case of the Commission for Wales shall be a judge of the High Court appointed by the Lord Chancellor,
 - (d) in the case of the Commission for Northern Ireland shall be a judge of the High Court in Northern Ireland appointed by the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland.
- 4 A Member of any Commission (other than the chairman) shall hold his appointment for such term and on such conditions as may be determined before his appointment by the person appointing him.
- 4A In the case of a member of a Commission other than the chairman or deputy chairman, the conditions referred to in paragraph 4 above may include such provisions with respect to remuneration as the Secretary of State may determine with the approval of the Treasury.¹⁸

Officers

5. The officers of each Commission shall include, as assessors, the following persons -
 - (a) in the case of the Commission for England, the Statistics Board and the Director General of Ordnance Survey,¹⁹
 - (b) in the case of the Commission for Scotland, the Registrar General of Births, Deaths and Marriages for Scotland and the Director General of Ordnance Survey,

¹⁸ Paragraph 4A inserted by the Boundary Commissions Act 1992

¹⁹ Paragraph 5(a) amended by the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007

- (c) in the case of the Commission for Wales, the Statistics Board and the Director General of Ordnance Survey,²⁰
 - (d) in the case of the Commission for Northern Ireland, the Registrar General of Births and Deaths in Northern Ireland, the Commissioner of Valuation for Northern Ireland, the Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland and the Chief Survey Officer of Land and Property Services.²¹
- 6 (1) The Secretary of State may, at the request of any Commission, appoint one or more assistant Commissioners to assist the Commission in the discharge of their functions.
- (2) Any such assistant Commissioner shall be appointed either for a certain term or for the purposes of a particular matter, and on such conditions as to remuneration and otherwise as may be determined before his appointment by the Secretary of State with the approval of the Treasury.²²
- 7 The Secretary of State shall appoint a secretary to each of the Commissions, and may appoint such other officers of any Commission as he may determine with the approval of the Treasury, and the term and conditions of any such appointment shall be such as may be so determined.

Expenses

- 8 The expenses of each Commission, including the remuneration and travelling and other expenses of the members, assistant Commissioners, secretary and other officers, shall be paid out of money provided by Parliament.²³

Proceedings and instruments

- 9 A Commission shall have power to act notwithstanding a vacancy among their members, and at any meeting of a Commission two, or such greater number as the Commission may determine, shall be the quorum.
- 10 For the purpose of considering any matter of common concern, the Commissions, or any two or three of them, may hold joint meetings.
- 11 Subject to the provisions of this Act, each of the Commissions shall have power to regulate their own procedure.
- 12 Every document purporting to be an instrument made or issued by a Commission and to be signed by the secretary or any person authorised to act in that behalf, shall be received in evidence and shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed to be an instrument made or issued by the Commission.

²⁰ Paragraph 5(c) amended by the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007

²¹ Paragraph 5(d) amended by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

²² Paragraph 6 amended by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

²³ Paragraph 8 amended by the Boundary Commissions Act 1992

SCHEDULE 2

RULES FOR REDISTRIBUTION OF SEATS²⁴

Number of constituencies

1 The number of constituencies in the United Kingdom shall be 600.

Electorate per constituency

- 2 (1) The electorate of any constituency shall be -
- (a) no less than 95% of the United Kingdom electoral quota, and
 - (b) no more than 105% of that quota.
- (2) This rule is subject to rules 4(2), 6(3) and 7.
- (3) In this Schedule the “United Kingdom electoral quota” means –

$$U/596$$

where U is the electorate of the United Kingdom minus the electorate of the constituencies mentioned in rule 6.

Allocation of constituencies to parts of the United Kingdom

- 3 (1) Each constituency shall be wholly in one of the four parts of the United Kingdom (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland).
- (2) The number of constituencies in each part of the United Kingdom shall be determined in accordance with the allocation method set out in rule 8.

Area of constituencies

- 4 (1) A constituency shall not have an area of more than 13,000 square kilometres.
- (2) A constituency does not have to comply with rule 2(1)(a) if -
- (a) it has an area of more than 12,000 square kilometres, and
 - (b) the Boundary Commission concerned are satisfied that it is not reasonably possible for the constituency to comply with that rule.

²⁴ Schedule 2 substituted by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

Factors

- 5 (1) A Boundary Commission may take into account, if and to such extent as they think fit -
- (a) special geographical considerations, including in particular the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;
 - (b) local government boundaries as they exist on the most recent ordinary council-election day before the review date;
 - (c) boundaries of existing constituencies;
 - (d) any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies;
 - (e) the inconveniences attendant on such changes.²⁵
- (2) The Boundary Commission for England may take into account, if and to such extent as they think fit, boundaries of the electoral regions specified in Schedule 1 to the European Parliamentary Elections Act 2002 (ignoring paragraph 2(2) of that Schedule and the references to Gibraltar) as it has effect on the most recent ordinary council-election day before the review date.
- (3) This rule has effect subject to rules 2 and 4.

Protected constituencies

- 6 (1) There shall be two constituencies in the Isle of Wight.
- (2) There shall continue to be -
- (a) a constituency named Orkney and Shetland, comprising the areas of the Orkney Islands Council and the Shetland Islands Council;
 - (b) a constituency named Na h-Eileanan an Iar, comprising the area of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar.
- (3) Rule 2 does not apply to these constituencies.

Northern Ireland

- 7 (1) In relation to Northern Ireland, sub-paragraph (2) below applies in place of rule 2 where -
- (a) the difference between -
 - (i) the electorate of Northern Ireland, and

²⁵ Rule 5(1)(e) does not apply to a report due to be submitted before 1 October 2018, as specified by section 11(2) of the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011, as amended by the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013

- (ii) the United Kingdom electoral quota multiplied by the number of seats in Northern Ireland (determined under rule 8),

exceeds one third of the United Kingdom electoral quota, and

- (b) the Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland consider that having to apply rule 2 would unreasonably impair -

- (i) their ability to take into account the factors set out in rule 5(1), or
- (ii) their ability to comply with section 3(2) of this Act.

- (2) The electorate of any constituency shall be -

- (a) no less than whichever is the lesser of –

$N-A$

and 95% of the United Kingdom electoral quota, and

- (b) no more than whichever is the greater of –

$N+A$

and 105% of the United Kingdom electoral quota, where –

N is the electorate of Northern Ireland divided by the number of seats in Northern Ireland (determined under rule 8), and

A is 5% of the United Kingdom electoral quota.

The allocation method

- 8 (1) The allocation method referred to in rule 3(2) is as follows.
- (2) The first constituency shall be allocated to the part of the United Kingdom with the greatest electorate.
- (3) The second and subsequent constituencies shall be allocated in the same way, except that the electorate of a part of the United Kingdom to which one or more constituencies have already been allocated is to be divided by –

$2C+1$

where C is the number of constituencies already allocated to that part.

- (4) Where the figure given by sub-paragraph (3) above is the same for two or more parts of the United Kingdom, the part to which a constituency is to be allocated shall be the one with the smaller or smallest actual electorate.
- (5) This rule does not apply to the constituencies mentioned in rule 6, and accordingly -
 - (a) the electorate of England shall be treated for the purposes of this rule as reduced by the electorate of the constituencies mentioned in rule 6(1);
 - (b) the electorate of Scotland shall be treated for the purposes of this rule as reduced by the electorate of the constituencies mentioned in rule 6(2).

Interpretation

- 9
- (1) This rule has effect for the purposes of this Schedule.
 - (2) The “electorate” of the United Kingdom, or of a part of the United Kingdom or a constituency, is the total number of persons whose names appear on the relevant version of a register of parliamentary electors in respect of addresses in the United Kingdom, or in that part or that constituency. For this purpose the relevant version of a register is the version that is required by virtue of subsection (1) of section 13 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 to be published no later than the review date, or would be so required but for -
 - (a) any power under that section to prescribe a later date, or
 - (b) subsection (1A) of that section.
 - (3) “Local government boundaries” are -
 - (a) in England, the boundaries of counties and their electoral divisions, districts and their wards, London boroughs and their wards and the City of London,
 - (b) in Wales, the boundaries of counties, county boroughs, electoral divisions, communities and community wards,
 - (c) in Scotland, the boundaries of local government areas and the electoral wards into which they are divided under section 1 of the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004, and
 - (d) in Northern Ireland, the boundaries of wards.

- (4) "Ordinary council-election day" is -
- (a) in relation to England and Wales, the ordinary day of election of councillors for local government areas;
 - (b) in relation to Scotland, the day on which the poll is held at ordinary elections of councillors for local government areas;
 - (c) in relation to Northern Ireland, the day of an election for any district council (other than an election to fill a casual vacancy).
- (5) The "review date", in relation to a report under section 3(1) of this Act that a Boundary Commission is required (by section 3(2)) to submit before a particular date, is two years and ten months before that date.
- (6) "The United Kingdom electoral quota" has the meaning given by rule 2(3).
- (7) A reference in rule 6 to an area is to the area as it existed on the coming into force of Part 2 of the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011.

SCHEDULE 2A

PUBLIC HEARINGS ABOUT BOUNDARY COMMISSION PROPOSALS²⁶

Purpose of hearings

- 1 The purpose of a public hearing is to enable representations to be made about any of the proposals with which the hearing is concerned.

Number of hearings

- 2 (1) In relation to any particular report under section 3(1)(a) of this Act -
 - (a) the Boundary Commission for England shall cause at least two and no more than five public hearings to be held in each English region;
 - (b) the Boundary Commission for Scotland shall cause at least two and no more than five public hearings to be held in Scotland;
 - (c) the Boundary Commission for Wales shall cause at least two and no more than five public hearings to be held in Wales;
 - (d) the Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland shall cause at least two and no more than five public hearings to be held in Northern Ireland.
- (2) The public hearings in an English region shall be concerned with proposals for that region, and shall between them cover the whole region.
- (3) The public hearings in Scotland shall be concerned with proposals for Scotland, and shall between them cover the whole of Scotland.
- (4) The public hearings in Wales shall be concerned with proposals for Wales, and shall between them cover the whole of Wales.
- (5) The public hearings in Northern Ireland shall be concerned with proposals for Northern Ireland, and shall between them cover the whole of Northern Ireland.

Chair of hearing

- 3 For each public hearing the Boundary Commission concerned shall appoint a person to chair the hearing.

Length of hearings

- 4 A public hearing shall be completed within two days.

²⁶ Schedule 2A inserted by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011

Procedure at hearings

- 5 It is for the chair of each public hearing to determine the procedure that is to govern that hearing.
- 6 The chair shall make arrangements for a public hearing to begin with an explanation of -
- (a) the proposals with which the hearing is concerned;
 - (b) how written representations about the proposals may be made (as mentioned in section 5(1)(a), (4)(b) or (5)(c) of this Act).
- 7 (1) The chair of a public hearing must allow representations to be made -
- (a) by each qualifying party;
 - (b) by any other persons (whether individuals or organisations) considered by the chair to have an interest in any of the proposals with which the hearing is concerned.

Paragraph (b) above has effect subject to sub-paragraph (3)(b) below.

- (2) The chair may restrict the amount of time allowed for representations -
- (a) by qualifying parties, and
 - (b) by other persons,

and need not allow the same amount to each.

- (3) The chair may determine -
- (a) the order in which representations are made, and
 - (b) if necessary because of shortage of time, which of those wishing to make representations are not allowed to do so, in whatever way the chair decides.

- 8 (1) The chair may put questions, or allow questions to be put, to a person present at the hearing.
- (2) If questions are allowed to be put, the chair may regulate the manner of questioning or restrict the number of questions a person may ask.

Interpretation

9 In this Schedule -

“the chair” means the person appointed under paragraph 3 above;

“English region” means an electoral region specified in Schedule 1 to the European Parliamentary Elections Act 2002 (ignoring paragraph 2(2) of that Schedule and the references to Gibraltar) as it has effect on the day referred to in rule 5(2) of Schedule 2 to this Act;

“public hearing” means a hearing under section 5(1)(b) of this Act;

“qualifying party” means a party that is registered under Part 2 of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 and either -

- (a) has at least one Member of the House of Commons representing a constituency in the region, or (as the case may be) the part of the United Kingdom, in which the hearing is held, or
- (b) received at least 10% of the votes cast in that region or part in the most recent parliamentary general election.

Appendix 3

Details of representations received

INITIAL CONSULTATION PERIOD

The Commission published its Provisional Proposals for a 12 week consultation period in September 2016, ending on 28 November 2016. As part of this consultation, four public hearings were held during October 2016 in Ballymena, Omagh, Belfast and Portadown.

Oral representations

The following made representations at the public hearings:

Ballymena – Ian Paisley MP (DUP), Jim Allister MLA (TUV), David Ford MLA (Alliance), Cllr Timothy Gaston (TUV), Cllr Colin McCusker (UUP), Dr Alasdair McDonnell MP (SDLP), Cllr Trevor Beatty (DUP), Jacqueline Douglas.

Omagh – David Ford MLA (Alliance), Dr Alasdair McDonnell MP (SDLP), Joe Byrne, Cllr Colin McCusker (UUP), Tom Elliott MP (UUP), Cllr Howard Thornton (UUP), Winston Duff, Hazel Coulter, David Rowe.

Belfast – Dr Alasdair McDonnell MP (SDLP), Cllr Colin McCusker (UUP), Billy Dickson, Kenneth Millar (Alliance), Lady Sylvia Hermon MP (Independent), Eamon Hanna (SDLP), Claire Hanna MLA (SDLP), Nigel Dodds MP (DUP), Gavin Robinson MP (DUP), Margaret Ritchie MP (SDLP), Chris McCall (Alliance), Alex Maskey MLA (Sinn Fein), Daniel Lowe

Portadown – David Ford MLA (Alliance), Dr Alasdair McDonnell MP (SDLP), Cllr Barry Monteith (Independent), Cllr Colin McCusker (UUP), Cllr Walter Cuddy (UUP)

Transcripts of all four public hearings are available on the Commission's website at www.boundarycommission.org.uk/2018-review.

Written representations

In addition, the Commission received written submissions from:

Agnew, Philip	McDonnell MP, Dr Alasdair
Alliance Party	McFarland, Stephen William
Andrews, Paul	McInnes, David
Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council	McIntyre, Margaret
Bell, Kevin	McKinney, Ryan (2 responses)
Boyle, Councillor Joe	McN, Anthony
Brown, Wesley	McWhinney, David
Bush Community Cultural Group	Mid Ulster District Council
Campbell, Cormac	Moriarty, Michael
Cantellaven, Jason	Morrow, Robert
Cooke, Albert	Moygashel Residents Association
Cross, Stephen	Mulholland, Conor
Democratic Unionist Party	Mulholland, Malachy
Donaghy, Chris	Nabney, William Gordon
Drumbeg Women's Institute	Orr, Stephen Michael
Dungannon Regeneration Partnership	Pankhurst, Dale
Dunlop, Michael	Pankhurst, Kelly
Dunlop, Shauna	Ritchie MP, Margaret
Gawith, Owen	Simpson Grant Association, Dergina
Granville Residents Association	Social Democratic and Labour Party
Hanna MLA, Claire	Spratt, D
Hayfield, Harry	Torrens, Michael
Hermon MP, Lady Sylvia	Traditional Unionist Voice
Hoey, Tyler	Ulster Unionist Party
Livingstone, Richard	White, Art
Mallon, Gregory	Whitehead, Peter
Marshall, James	Whyte, Dr Nicholas

SECONDARY CONSULTATION PERIOD

On 5 September 2017, the Commission published the written and oral submissions received to its Provisional Proposals and invited further comment during a 4 week secondary consultation which ended on 2 October 2017.

Written submissions were received from the following:

Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council	Newtownabbey Arts & Cultural Network
Ballybeen Improvement Group	Patterson, Glenn
Belfast City Council	Rathcoole Regeneration Group
Breakaways Club	Rathfern Community Regeneration Group
Brown, Agnes Anne	Sinn Fein
Butler MLA, Robbie	Thompson, Sarah
Charter NI	Traditional Unionist Voice
Cowley, Prof. Philip	Trimble, Councillor Nicholas
Democratic Unionist Party	Ulster Unionist Party
Duff, Winston	W, Richard
Ellis, Deborah	Whyte, Dr Nicholas
Haller, Terry	Wilson, Councillor Trevor
Hussey, Alderman Derek	
Hussey, Ross	
Illegible signature 1	
Illegible signature 2	
John	
Larmour, Andrew	
Lawson, David	
Maguire, David	
Maxwell, Ruth	
McCandless, Councillor William	
McClurg, Cecil	
McCormack, Carl	
McCusker, Councillor Colin	
Mid Ulster District Council	
Minford, Jackson	

REVISED PROPOSALS CONSULTATION PERIOD

The Commission published its Revised Proposals for an 8 week consultation period on 30 January 2018, ending on 26 March 2018.

13,889 representations were received in total. Responses were received from all the main political parties in Northern Ireland and the independent Member of Parliament for North Down.

The majority of responses were in the form of petition letters. These included several different petition letters objecting to the proposed splitting of Dungiven town between three constituencies.

In addition to 4751 signatories to the Don't Divide Dungiven online petition at Change.org and 805 signatories to St Patrick's Parish Church Dungiven petition, there were approximately 2,900 signatories to a number of further separate template letters objecting to the splitting of Dungiven.

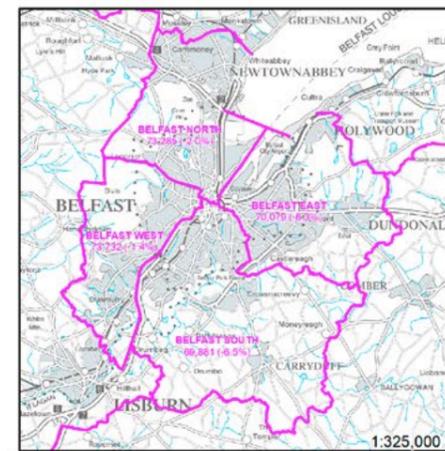
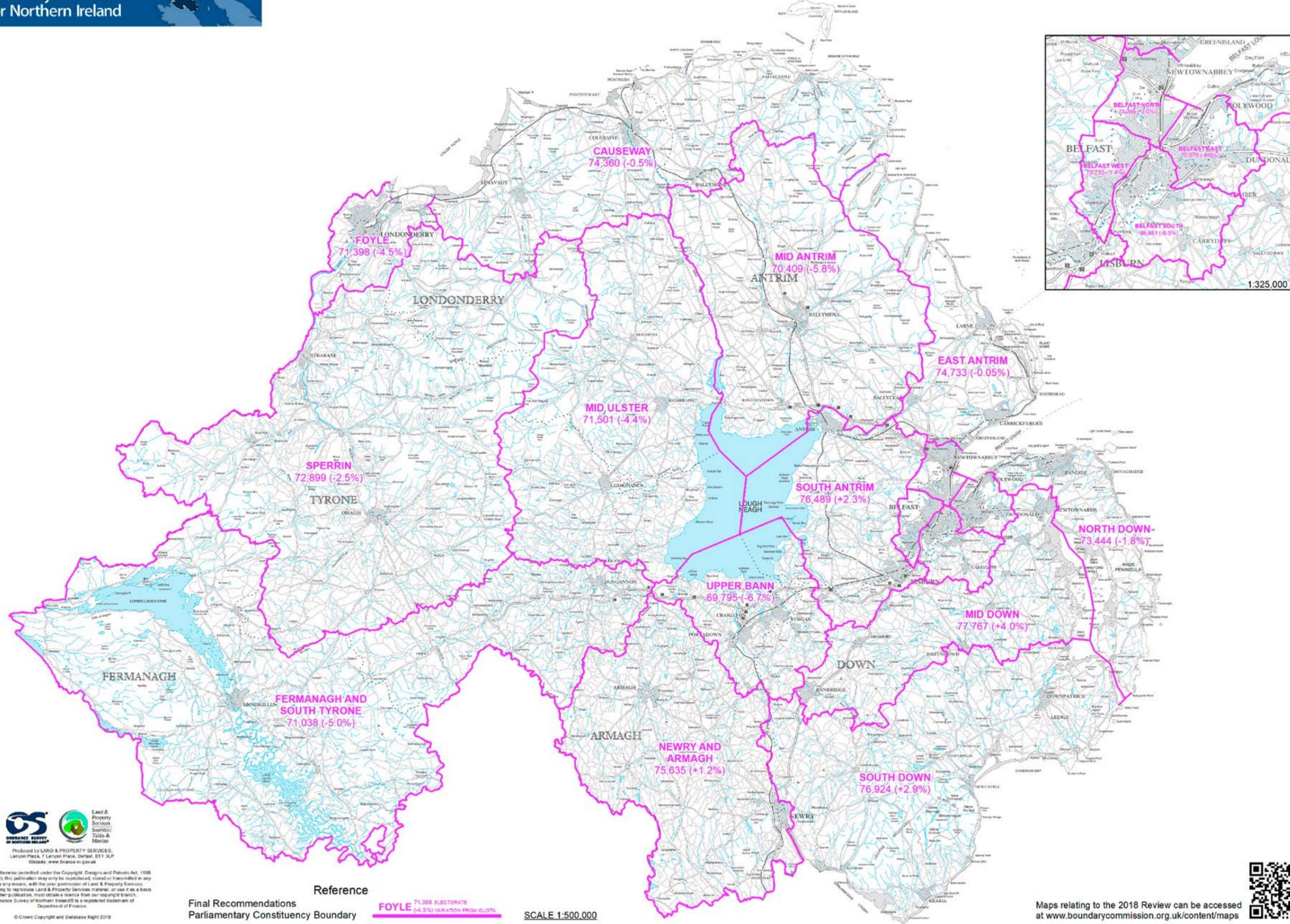
There were also two separate petition letters objecting to the Revised Proposals and calling for the Provisional Proposals to be reinstated. These attracted over 3,500 signatories.

All of the responses can be viewed on the Commission's website.

Final Recommendations Map



2018 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES FOR NORTHERN IRELAND: FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS



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Reference
 Final Recommendations
 Parliamentary Constituency Boundary
 FOYLE 71,398 ELECTORATE
 (-4.5% VARIATION FROM QUOTA)
 SCALE 1:500,000

Maps relating to the 2018 Review can be accessed
 at www.boundarycommission.org.uk/content/maps



