



Comisiwn Ffiniau  
i Gymru

Boundary Commission  
for Wales

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for Wales

# 2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies

Wales Progress Report - January 2023

# **Boundary Commission for Wales**

## **2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies Wales**

### **Report on progress during 2022**

Presented to Parliament pursuant to Section 3(2C) of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986, as amended by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011 and Parliamentary Constituencies Act 2020.

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**The Speaker  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA**

**31 January 2023**

**Dear Mr Speaker**

### **Introduction**

1. This report, as required by section 3(2B) of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (as amended by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011 and Parliamentary Constituencies Act 2020), hereafter referred to as ‘the Act’, sets out the progress the Boundary Commission for Wales (“the Commission”) has made in respect of the preparation of the boundary review that is to be submitted before 1 July 2023. As you will be aware, you are required by section 3(2C) to lay our report before Parliament.

### **Progress to date**

2. By way of background, the Commission published its initial proposals on 8 September 2021 and held an 8-week consultation period which ended on 3 November 2021. The Commission received 1,211 written submissions and these were published on 17 December 2021.
3. The Commission had intended to hold its second consultation period from 11 January 2022 until 21 February 2022, however due to the ongoing public health challenges, this was delayed and held from 17 February 2022 until 30 March 2022. During this consultation period, the Commission held five public hearings in Aberystwyth, Bangor, Wrexham, Swansea, and Cardiff. Evidence at the public hearings was given in-person, however the public hearings were also livestreamed. There were 81 participants at the public hearings and the Commission also received 156 written submissions during this period. All submissions and transcripts of public hearings were collated, translated and published on 22 June 2022.
4. The team of four Assistant Commissioners who had conducted the public hearings in the second consultation period considered all of the representations received (in both consultations) and at the public hearings and produced a report of recommendations which was presented to the Commission at a meeting in June. The production of the Assistant Commissioners’ report and the presentation were facilitated by the Commission’s Secretariat.
5. In light of the representations received in relation to its initial proposals, the Commission decided to revise its proposals. In developing these revised proposals, the

Commission considered the representations and the recommendations made by the ACs.

6. The report setting out the Revised Proposals, and the Commissioners' reasons, was then drafted by the Secretariat before being subsequently finalised and approved by the Commissioners. The report was then translated and checked and printed. Arrangements were made for the website and consultation portal to be updated accordingly.
7. The Revised Proposals report was published on 19 October 2022. By the end of the statutory four-week consultation period on 15 November 2022, the Commission had received 623 written submissions.

### **Next Steps**

8. The representations received during the Revised Proposals consultation period have now been processed and the Commission is currently preparing its Final Recommendations report.
9. The Commission is confident that it will be in a position to submit its final report before the statutory deadline of before 1 July 2023.

**Mrs Justice Jefford DBE**  
**Deputy Chair**

**Mr Huw Vaughan Thomas CBE**  
**Commissioner**

**Mr Sam Hartley**  
**Commissioner**

**Mrs Shereen Williams MBE OStJ DL**  
**Secretary**



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**Boundary Commission  
for Wales**

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