



2023 Review of UK Parliamentary Constituencies

Policies and Procedures

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Introduction

Who we are

1. The Boundary Commission for Scotland is responsible for keeping UK Parliament constituencies in Scotland under review and submitting recommendations to the Speaker, under the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986. We conduct our reviews independently of political considerations or influence.
2. We publish more information about our work on our website www.bcomm-scotland.independent.gov.uk.

This booklet

3. The purpose of this booklet is to explain our policies and procedures in **conducting our 2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies in Scotland (“the 2023 Review”)**. It is intended for everyone with an interest in the process: members of the public, parliamentarians, political parties, local authorities, journalists and councillors.

This review

General

4. When we conduct any review we must balance a number of inter-dependent requirements for constituency design and in doing so we aim to take a consistent approach across all of Scotland.
5. Maintaining public confidence in the review process is a key part of our responsibilities. We place great importance on representations made to us during the consultation stages of any review.
6. Because of the rules set out in the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986, it is not always possible for us to identify boundaries for the UK parliamentary constituencies in Scotland that simply replicate the constituency boundaries as those of council areas, Scottish Parliament constituencies, or electoral wards (primarily due to the different numbers of constituencies required).

Timing

7. The 2023 Review was announced on 5 January 2021, after the December 2020 publication of the 2 March 2020 electorate statistics for the United Kingdom. The 2023 Review is being carried out simultaneously in each of the four constituent parts of the United Kingdom by their respective Boundary Commissions. Each Commission is required to submit its report before 1 July 2023.
8. The four Commissions liaise closely with each other. However, reviews and reports regarding representation of Scotland in the House of Commons are our responsibility alone.

Applicable legislation

9. The legislation governing this review is the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (“the 1986 Act”), most recently amended by the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 2020.
10. Schedule 2 of the 1986 Act sets out the rules (“Rules”) as they apply to this review which are replicated in Appendix A.

Number of constituencies

11. Rule 1 specifies that there are to be 650 constituencies in total for the United Kingdom, with each constituency to return a single member to the United Kingdom Parliament under section 1 of the 1986 Act.

Protected constituencies

12. Rule 6 identifies two Scottish island constituencies exempt from quota requirements:

- a constituency covering the combined extent of Orkney Islands council area and Shetland Islands council area, and
- a constituency covering Na h-Eileanan an Iar council area (the Western Isles).

13. Rule 6 also requires two constituencies for the Isle of Wight in England and one constituency for Ynys Môn (Anglesey) in Wales.

Rules for determining parliamentary constituencies

14. No constituency is permitted to be larger than 13,000 square kilometres (Rule 4(1)).

15. The "United Kingdom electoral quota" is the average electorate per non-protected constituency across the United Kingdom. It is recognised that some non-protected constituencies also contain populated islands. For the purposes of this booklet "non-protected" is used to differentiate the protected island constituencies set out above from the others.

16. Under Rule 2, every constituency must have an electorate that is no less than 95% and no more than 105% of the United Kingdom electoral quota with two exceptions: the island constituencies listed above (rule 6); and any constituency larger than 12,000 square kilometres if the Boundary Commission is satisfied that it is not reasonably possible to devise a constituency with the minimum number of electors.

17. Subject to the above requirements Rule 5 permits us to take into account, as we think fit, the following factors when we make our recommendations:

- special geographical considerations, including in particular the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;
- boundaries of council areas and electoral wards (existing or prospective) at the start of a review;
- existing UK Parliament constituency boundaries;
- any local ties which would be broken by changes in constituencies; and
- the inconvenience attendant on such changes.

Electorate

18. The legislation specifies that this review uses the electoral register from 2 March 2020 (Rule 9(2A)).

19. The definition of electorate is the total number of people whose names appear on the register for UK Parliament elections. This definition includes **'attainers', who are those on the register who will only become of voting age after 1 March 2020 and before 2 March 2021 (Rule 9(2)).**

20. For this review, the electorate data for each country is:

Country	Electorate	Specified island electorates	Balance
England	39,860,421	111,716 (Isle of Wight x2)	39,748,705
Scotland	4,079,612	21,177 (Na h-Eileanan an Iar (Western Isles)) 34,824 (Orkney Islands and Shetland Islands)	4,023,611
Wales	2,322,677	52,415 (Ynys Môn (Anglesey))	2,270,262
Northern Ireland	1,295,688		1,295,688
Total	47,558,398	220,132	47,338,266

21. The resulting United Kingdom electoral quota is 73,393. This is calculated by dividing the total electorate (47,558,398), minus the protected constituencies (220,132) by the number of seats to be allocated (645).

22. To be no less than 95% and no more than 105% of the United Kingdom electoral quota, the electorate of a constituency has to be no fewer than 69,724 electors and no more than 77,062 electors.

23. For the purposes of the 2023 Review, The 1986 Act provides that we cannot take account of any changes in the electorate after the start of the review.

Allocation of constituencies

24. The number of constituencies allocated to Scotland is in addition to the two protected island constituencies. The number of constituencies allocated to England is in addition to the two protected Isle of Wight constituencies, and the number of constituencies allocated to Wales is in addition to the protected Ynys Môn constituency.

25. The resulting allocation of constituencies is:

Country	Allocation	Protected Islands	Total
England	541	2	543
Scotland	55	2	57
Wales	31	1	32
Northern Ireland	18	-	18
Total			650

Areas of constituencies

26. The 1986 Act requires constituencies not to exceed a maximum area of 13,000 square kilometres. It exempts constituencies from the minimum electorate requirement if they exceed 12,000 square kilometres and if it is not reasonably possible for them to comply with the requirement.

27. As a result, we require precise and accurate data for areas. We use geographical information system software, in conjunction with map data from Ordnance Survey. This allows us to calculate the area of any proposed constituency.

28. In each of these calculations, we use the 'Extent of the Realm' which includes foreshore (the area between high water and low water), inland areas of water, and any statutory seaward extensions of council areas. These statutory

seaward extensions occur around ports and harbours: the largest for a non-protected council area in Scotland is in Aberdeen City and is less than 20 square kilometres. Apart from these statutory seaward extensions, we do not include areas of sea in our calculations of constituency areas.

Policies

Principles for constituency design

29. As highlighted above, the 1986 Act sets out the legal parameters for constituency design in this review. Within those parameters, we have discretion on how to design constituencies taking into account the factors set out in rule 5.

30. We aim to design constituencies that:

- recognise community ties;
- consider special geographical considerations where appropriate;
- take into consideration local geography (for example transport links, other electoral boundaries, administrative boundaries and natural features);
- do not cross a council area boundary; and
- minimize disruption caused by any boundary changes.

Existing UK Parliament constituencies

31. The existing 59 UK Parliament constituencies in Scotland came into force in 2005, resulting from our Fifth Periodical Review of Parliamentary Constituencies.

32. Those constituencies include Orkney and Shetland, which was a constituency specified in the 1986 Act (as it applied to the Fifth Review at that time), and Na h-Eileanan Iar which we recommended as a constituency despite its small electorate because of its geographical circumstances. Both of those island constituencies will continue after this review.

33. The 2 March 2020 electorates of the existing constituencies, apart from the protected island constituencies, vary from 46,924 (Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross) to 88,506 (Linlithgow and East Falkirk).

34. Under this review, the number of non-protected constituencies in Scotland will reduce from 57 to 55, with each constituency required to have an electorate no less than 69,724 and no more than 77,062, apart from the exemptions explained under the Applicable legislation section above. As a result, we anticipate that few, if any, of the existing constituencies will be unchanged.

35. Even where an existing constituency has an electorate which is within the permitted range, it may not be possible to retain it, because of changes required to other neighbouring and nearby constituencies.

2018 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies

36. The Boundary Commission for Scotland submitted proposals to the UK Parliament as part of the 2018 Review but the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 2020 removed the duty of the UK Government to implement them.

Other existing boundaries

37. We take account of existing boundaries when designing new constituencies. However, because of the legal requirements it is frequently not possible for our

proposed constituencies to align exactly with other boundaries such as council area boundaries or Scottish Parliament boundaries.

Scottish Parliament constituencies

38. We are aware that many people would like the boundaries of UK Parliament and Scottish Parliament constituencies to be the same.

39. There are 73 Scottish Parliament constituencies. As there are to be 57 UK Parliament constituencies in Scotland, it is not possible for all constituency boundaries to coincide. Rule 5 does not mention Scottish Parliament constituency boundaries as a factor to be taken into account but they do inform our review in considering the other factors such as maintaining local ties.

Council areas

40. We are aware that many people would like the boundaries of constituencies **and council areas to be the same. Rule 5 says that we may have regard to 'local government boundaries' in developing our proposals,** both council area and ward boundaries (see rule 9(3)(c)). Such boundaries are defined as those which existed or were prospective on the review date of 1 December 2020. Prospective boundaries are those that are set out in provisions of primary or secondary legislation, but where those provisions have not yet come into force fully for the purposes of a local election by the review date. There are no such prospective boundaries in Scotland at the moment.

41. We will aim to make proposals for constituencies which are each wholly within a single council area where possible. Where that is not practicable, we will aim to propose constituencies which are each wholly within two neighbouring council areas.

42. Only where there are particularly compelling circumstances are we likely to make proposals for a constituency which contains parts of three or more council areas.

Electoral wards

43. In previous reviews between 1983 and 2005, we created constituencies by aggregating electoral wards used for the election of councillors for local authorities. In 2006, single member wards were replaced by multi-member wards, each returning three or four councillors. These wards have three or four times larger electorates than their predecessors.

44. This very substantial increase in ward electorates, together with the requirement that the electorate of each constituency is within 5% of the United Kingdom electoral quota, makes it impracticable in this review to create constituencies by simply aggregating electoral wards.

45. Although not able to locate every ward within a single constituency, we do take account of ward boundaries when proposing constituencies, as well as, subject to the legislative requirement outlined in the paragraph above, other electoral boundaries, administrative boundaries and natural features. We expect that many of Scotland's 354 electoral wards will each be contained in a single constituency.

46. In some cases, a desire to align constituencies with fit within council area or electoral ward boundaries will conflict. For example, it might only be possible to design a constituency made up of whole electoral wards by including wards from more than one council area.

47. When splitting wards we may consider polling district, community council area and school catchment area boundaries to help us use recognisable boundaries.

48. We are aware that the Boundaries Scotland (formerly Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland) has completed its 2019 Review of Electoral Arrangements for: Argyll and Bute; Na h-Eileanan an Iar; Highland; North Ayrshire; Orkney Islands; and Shetland Islands council areas and made recommendations to Scottish Ministers for wards to be used in the 2022 local government elections. It is not possible for us to take account of these wards in preparing our Initial Proposals because they are neither in force nor prospective at the review date of 1 December 2020.

Postcodes

49. Postcodes are not suitable as buildings blocks for constituencies. They are designed by Royal Mail for the purpose of delivering mail. As a result, their boundaries often do not follow the type of physical, natural or administrative features which make good constituency boundaries.

50. However, we make extensive use of postcodes during our reviews as a means of counting electors within proposed constituencies, particularly to enable us to split wards where necessary. This is possible because the electoral registers include postcodes for electors, and because of the availability of a boundary dataset depicting the extent of each postcode.

Naming and designation of constituencies

51. As part of a review, we recommend a name for each constituency, and have developed a set of guidelines when proposing names for constituencies:

- to use an existing constituency name where there is a successor constituency that is recognisably similar;
- to prefer constituency names that are short rather than attempt to describe an area exhaustively;
- to ensure that names of UK Parliament constituencies in general differ from those of Scottish Parliament constituencies where an appropriate and distinct alternative is available. Relying on word order alone (e.g. 'Glasgow East' and 'East Glasgow') or conjunctions (e.g. 'North and East Fife' and 'North East Fife') is generally not a sufficient difference;
- not to place compass points at the beginning of a name, in order to help make an alphabetically sorted list easier to use. We make an exception if a constituency is named after a council area or town which has a compass point at the start of its name (such as East Lothian or East Kilbride); and
- to use 'South West' rather than 'Southwest.'

52. We take account of local views when recommending names for constituencies, and also encourage local authorities to submit suggestions to us.

53. We are required to designate each constituency as either a burgh or a county constituency, but the 1986 Act does not define these terms. We consider that constituencies comprising predominantly urban areas will normally be designated as burgh constituencies, and constituencies which are predominantly rural will normally be designated as county constituencies. The designation affects the expenses allowable at elections. For this review, our proposed constituencies smaller than 109 km² are typically classified as burgh constituencies.

54. Responsibility for reviews of Scottish Parliament boundaries passed to Boundaries Scotland in May 2017, under the terms of the Scotland Act 2016. We have shared our constituency naming policy with them.

Procedures

Initial Proposals

55. We develop our Initial Proposals for all of Scotland and then publish them for public consultation. The legislative requirements relating to consultation and public hearings are set out in section 5 and schedule 2A of the 1986 Act.

56. We do not consult with parliamentarians, councils or other interested parties before publishing the Initial Proposals.

57. We put place great importance on making our proposals widely available in order to give as many people and organisations as possible the opportunity to comment on them. To do so, we publicise our proposals in a number of ways including issuing news releases, publishing material on our website, advertising our reviews on social media and in newspapers, distributing information to display points in each constituency and writing directly to organisations and elected representatives with an interest in the process.

58. We make extensive use of maps when we publish our proposals since we believe these provide an effective means of explaining our proposals.

59. We will publish our Initial Proposals for an 8-week consultation period (as required by section 5(1)(a)(iii) of the 1986 Act).

Representations

60. Representations can oppose or support our proposals. In previous reviews, we have found that most representations submitted focus on opposition to our proposals, but we are always keen to hear opinions in support of the proposals as well.

61. Representations which oppose our proposals are particularly valuable to us if they include an alternative suggestion which takes into account the legislative requirements and our need to make proposals which take a consistent approach throughout Scotland.

62. We normally only accept representations in writing, including via email and through our online consultation website. Our consultation website will allow users to view existing and proposed constituency boundaries, submit comments and view information relevant to the review. We do not accept representations via social media.

Secondary consultation including Public Hearings

63. After the initial consultation period we will hold a 6-week secondary consultation where we will publish the representations made during the initial consultation period on our website. During the secondary consultation period further written representations may be submitted to comment on the representations made during the initial consultation period (in accordance with section 5(4)(b) and (11)(a) of the 1986 Act). This process of scrutiny of representations by others will help us to consider those representations.

64. Before publishing representations on our website, we will remove personal contact information, such as addresses, phone numbers and email addresses, in line with our privacy policy.

65. In complying with the legislation we will hold between 2 and 5 Public Hearings around Scotland during the secondary consultation period on our Initial Proposals (in accordance with paragraph 2(1)(b) of schedule 2A of the 1986 Act). The purpose of these hearings is to explain our proposals and to give an opportunity for others to make representations on those proposals.

66. We will follow government guidance on holding our hearings as some COVID-19 restrictions may still be in place at that time. More information will be provided on any alternative online or hybrid arrangements at the appropriate time.

67. We will publicise the dates and locations of these hearings well in advance.

68. We will appoint a chair for each hearing, usually a Sheriff Principal. He or she will determine the procedure to be followed at the hearing. At each hearing, the chair will ask us to explain our proposals for the area and how representations can be made concerning them.

69. The chair will allow representations to be made by any person or organisation that they consider has an interest in our proposals for the area. The chair may set time limits for any individual speaker, to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to make their representation.

70. If as part of their representation, someone has prepared a written representation or map, they should provide copies to the chair of the hearing and our staff. They may also want to provide copies to others to give them an opportunity to study and comment on counter-proposals. The chair may adjourn the hearing for a short period in order to allow time for consideration to be given to a complex representation such as one covering a large area and affecting a number of constituencies.

71. After each speaker, and if time permits, the chair may invite questions to be put to that speaker and may ask questions of his or her own.

72. If someone speaks at a Public Hearing, they will be asked to give their name, and identify any group on whose behalf they are speaking.

73. We will arrange for a record of the proceedings of the Public Hearings to be made, and we will publish that record on our website.

Revised Proposals

74. After the end of the secondary consultation period, we will publish on our website all the written representations received during the secondary consultation period, together with transcripts of the public hearings.

75. Following the publication of these representations and transcripts, there will be a further 4-week period (the third consultation period) during which individuals and organisations can submit written comments with respect to representations made at the public hearings (in accordance with section 5(4B)(b) and (11)(b)).

76. We will consider all representations, the proceedings of the public hearings and any other relevant information during the third consultation period. Having done so, we will make any amendments to our Initial Proposals which we judge necessary.

77. If we decide to alter our Initial Proposals, we will also publish the resulting Revised Proposals for public consultation, and invite representations about these Revised Proposals during the 4-week period of the third consultation.

78. There will not be any Public Hearings in connection with our Revised Proposals. We will not publish representations received concerning our Revised Proposals for public scrutiny but will publish all the written representations received during this consultation period at the same time as we publish our final recommendations.

79. We will take into account any representations received regarding our Revised Proposals and decide whether any further modifications are required.

Final recommendations

80. If we decide to modify our Revised Proposals before submitting them to the Secretary of State for Scotland, we are not required to publish them for consultation prior to the submission of the report.

Final stages

Report submission

81. Once we have completed our review, we will submit our recommendations in a report to the Speaker before 1 July 2023. The Speaker is responsible for laying the report before the United Kingdom Parliament. A copy of our report will be submitted to the Secretary of State for Scotland at the same time.

82. We can publish our report once it has been laid in Parliament.

83. Once each of the four Boundary Commissions has submitted its report for its part of the United Kingdom, the relevant Minister is responsible for submitting a draft Order in Council to the United Kingdom Parliament within a four-month period of the report being submitted.

84. The draft Order in Council can modify the recommendations made by a Commission during the four-month period, but these are likely to be incidental modifications to correct any error of fact in our report.

85. Once the draft Order in Council completes its legislative process, it comes into operation at from the next general election to the United Kingdom Parliament.

Future reviews

86. Subsequent reviews must result in reports being submitted every eight years after 1 July 2023. The next review after the 2023 Review will report before 1 October 2031.

Appendix A —Rules for redistribution of seats (schedule 2 of Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986)

Number of constituencies

1. The number of constituencies in the United Kingdom shall be 650.

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 –

$$U / 645$$

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.

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 which exist, or are prospective, on 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.

(1A) In the case of a local government boundary which is prospective on the review date, it is that boundary rather than any existing boundary which it replaces, which may be taken into account under sub-paragraph (1)(b).

(2) The Boundary Commission for England may take into account, if and to such extent as they think fit, boundaries of the English regions specified in sub-paragraph (2A) as they exist on the most recent ordinary council-election day before the review date.

(2A) [Specifies the English regions as per Appendix C above.]

(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;

(c) a constituency named Ynys Mon, comprising the area of the Isle of Anglesey County Council.

(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

(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 purpose 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)(a) and (b);

(c) the electorate of Wales shall be treated for the purposes of this rule as reduced by the electorate of the constituency mentioned in rule 6(2)(c).

Interpretation

9. (1) This rule has effect for the purposes of this Schedule.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (2A), 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.

(2A) In relation to a report under section 3(1) that a Boundary Commission is required (by sections 3(2)) to submit before **1 July 2023, 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 a register of parliamentary electors (maintained under section 9 of the Representation of the People Act 1983) in respect of addresses in the United Kingdom, or in that part of that constituency, as that register has effect on 2 March 2020.**

(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.

(3A) A local government boundary is “prospective” on a particular date if, on that date–

- (a) it is specified in a provision of primary or secondary legislation, but
- (b) that provision is not yet in force for all purposes.

(3B) For that purpose –

(a) “primary legislation” means –

- (i) an Act of Parliament
- (ii) an Act of the Scottish Parliament
- (iii) an Act of Senedd Cymru; or
- (iv) Northern Ireland legislation and

(b) “secondary legislation” means an instrument made under primary legislation.

(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:

(a) 1 December 2020 in the case of a report required to be submitted before 1 July 2023, and

(b) in the case of a report required to be submitted before any other particular date, the date which is two years and 10 months before that date.

(For example, 1 December 2028 in the case of a report required to be submitted before 1 October 2031).

(6) “The United Kingdom electoral quota” has the meaning given by rule 2(3).

(7) A reference in rule 6(2)(a) or (b) to an area is to the area as it existed on the coming into force of Part 2 the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011, and the reference in rule 6(2)(c) to the area of the Isle of Anglesey County Council is to the area as it existed on the coming into force of the Schedule to the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 2020.