



**THE REVIEW
OF
PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES
AND OF WELSH ASSEMBLY
ELECTORAL REGIONS
IN
WALES**

PROVISIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

January 2004

The Commission welcome correspondence and telephone calls either in English or Welsh

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

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CONTENTS

- 1. INTRODUCTION**
- 2. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS**
- 3. PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES**
- 4. CLWYD**
- 5. DYFED**
- 6. GWENT/MID GLAMORGAN**
- 7. GWYNEDD**
- 8. MID GLAMORGAN**
- 9. POWYS**
- 10. SOUTH GLAMORGAN**
- 11. WEST GLAMORGAN**
- 12. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR WALES ELECTORAL REGIONS**
- 13. PUBLICATION DETAILS**
- 14. PERIOD FOR REPRESENTATIONS**
- 15. BACKGROUND NOTE**

Appendix 1	Map of Proposed Constituencies – Clwyd
Appendix 2	Map of Proposed Constituencies – Dyfed
Appendix 3	Map of Proposed Constituencies – Gwent/Mid Glamorgan
Appendix 4	Map of Proposed Constituencies – Gwynedd
Appendix 5	Map of Proposed Constituencies – Powys
Appendix 6	Map of Proposed Constituencies – South Glamorgan
Appendix 7	Map of Proposed Constituencies – West Glamorgan
Appendix 8	Electoral Division Electorates
Appendix 9	Map of Proposed Assembly Regions

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In December 2002 the Commission announced the fifth general review of parliamentary constituencies in Wales, together with a review of the National Assembly for Wales electoral regions. A summary of the relevant statutory framework and of the Commission's general approach to the reviews is to be found in the Commission's publication, "The Review of Parliamentary Constituencies and of Welsh Assembly Electoral Regions in Wales" (2003), which is available in English and Welsh from the Commission or on the Commission's web-site at www.bcomm-wales.gov.uk.
- 1.2 The Commission are now publishing their **provisional** recommendations, i.e. the Commission's initial proposals, for public consultation. Those recommendations take careful account of developments since the last general review, including changes that have been made to preserved counties, local authority areas and electoral divisions. It is emphasised, however, that the recommendations and the reasoning on which they are based are all provisional (references to recommendations, decisions, conclusions, etc. within this document should therefore be read accordingly) and that great importance is attached to the opportunity now given for all concerned to make representations, whether in support of or objecting to the proposals.
- 1.3 For a number of reasons the Commission have decided to publish provisional recommendations for the whole of Wales in a single document. Although the review areas for parliamentary constituencies are the eight preserved counties of Wales, the Commission have borne in mind the possibility of considering two or more preserved counties together and in one case (Gwent and Mid Glamorgan) it has been decided to adopt that course. It may in any event be helpful, when assessing the recommendations for an individual preserved county, to see the Commission's approach in respect of other preserved counties. A wider perspective is also helpful when considering the implications that the recommended changes to constituencies have for the Welsh Assembly regions.
- 1.4 Details of when and how to make representations, together with a brief background note, are given later in this document.

2. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

- The proposed number of parliamentary constituencies (and thus Assembly constituencies) remains at 40.
- Significant changes to parts of the Clwyd and Gwynedd preserved county areas are proposed with the creation of new constituencies of Conwy, Arfon, and Dwyfor Meirionnydd.
- Minor changes are proposed to the following constituencies: Clwyd South, Clwyd West, Vale of Clwyd, Carmarthen East and Dinefwr, Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion, Preseli Pembrokeshire, Blaenau Gwent, Bridgend, Caerphilly, Cynon Valley, Islwyn, Ogmere, Pontypridd, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney, Montgomeryshire, Cardiff South and Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan, Gower and Neath.
- No changes are proposed to the remaining 17 constituencies.
- Changes are proposed to the Assembly electoral regions of North Wales and Mid and West Wales and a minor change is proposed to the electoral regions of South Wales Central and South Wales West, in each case to reflect proposed changes to parliamentary/Assembly constituencies.

3. PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES

- 3.1 The review areas are the areas of the eight preserved counties as constituted following the Preserved Counties (Amendment to Boundaries)(Wales) Order 2003. The proposed new constituencies are illustrated on outline maps for each area (Appendices 1 to 7) and are available on the Commission's web site at www.bcomm-wales.gov.uk (please note the copyright warning, at paragraph 15.12 below, concerning the maps). The letters on the maps refer to the unitary authorities, and the numbers refer to the electoral divisions. The maps are to be used in conjunction with the statistical information relating to the electoral divisions which is tabulated at Appendix 8. This information shows the 2003 electoral division electorates on which the Commission are required by law to work.

4. CLWYD

- 4.1 The preserved county of Clwyd, as constituted at the time of the last general review, had six constituencies with a 2003 electorate of 323,075. The electorates of the six existing seats range from 49,111 in the Vale of Clwyd constituency to 60,331 in the Alyn and Deeside constituency. As a result of changes brought about by the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 and the Preserved Counties (Amendment to Boundaries)(Wales) Order 2003, the area of the present preserved county of Clwyd has an electorate of 365,693. The total number of electors, when divided by the 2003 electoral quota (55,640), gives a theoretical entitlement to 6.57 seats. The electoral quota is explained in paragraph 15.5 below.
- 4.2 The Commission's proposals leave the boundaries of three of the existing constituencies unchanged (Alyn and Deeside, Delyn, and Wrexham) and make minor changes to the other three (Clwyd South, Clwyd West, and Vale of Clwyd). One new constituency would be created (Conwy). Details of the proposals are described below.
- 4.3 The most important development since the last general review has been the change to the boundary between the preserved counties of Clwyd and Gwynedd. This means that parts of the existing constituencies of Conwy and Meirionnydd Nant Conwy that were previously within the preserved county of Gwynedd are now within the preserved county of Clwyd. In the course of examining the implications of the boundary change, the Commission have looked at the possibility of considering Clwyd and Gwynedd together, but they have concluded that the two preserved counties can be dealt with satisfactorily if looked at separately and that this would accord better with rule 4 (see paragraph 15.5 below).
- 4.4 The Commission have decided that the parts of the existing Conwy and Meirionnydd Nant Conwy constituencies previously within Gwynedd but now within Clwyd should be combined into a single new constituency. They have decided to retain the name Conwy for this new constituency.
- 4.5 There has also been a change in the boundary between the preserved county of Clwyd and the preserved county of Powys, in that the Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant/Llansilin electoral division was formerly within Clwyd but was transferred to Powys by the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994. That electoral division is included in the existing Clwyd South constituency. The Commission wish to contain the Clwyd South constituency within the preserved county of Clwyd and have therefore decided that the Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant/Llansilin electoral division should be removed from the Clwyd South constituency and included within a Powys constituency (see paragraph 9.3 below).
- 4.6 As a result of the review of electoral arrangements for Welsh principal areas carried out by the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales, some changes have been made to electoral division boundaries. Four of the new electoral divisions (the Denbighshire electoral divisions of Efenechtyd, Llanarmon-yn-Ial/Llandegla, Llandyrnog and Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd/Gwyddelwern) are partly in one constituency and partly in another. The Commission use electoral divisions as their smallest building blocks for creating constituencies and have therefore realigned the constituency boundaries with the boundaries of these divided electoral divisions.

4.7 In respect of the four split electoral divisions, the Commission have decided to realign the constituency boundaries as follows:

Electoral Division	2003 Electorate	Existing Constituency	Proposed Constituency
Efenechtyd	257	Clwyd South CC	Clwyd West CC
	974	Clwyd West CC	
	<u>1,231</u>		
Llanarmon-yn-Ial / Llandegla	384	Clwyd South CC	Clwyd West CC
	1,384	Clwyd West CC	
	<u>1,768</u>		
Llandyrnog	526	Clwyd West CC	Vale of Clwyd
	1,034	Vale of Clwyd CC	
	<u>1,560</u>		
Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd / Gwyddelwern	660	Clwyd South CC	Clwyd West CC
	1,088	Clwyd West CC	
	<u>1,748</u>		

In each case the Commission have based their decision on consideration of the number of electors in each part of the split electoral divisions and the perceived local ties.

4.8 The Commission have decided against recommending changes to any of the other existing constituencies, having regard to the absence of any justification sufficient to outweigh the inconveniences and disruption of local ties if changes were made.

4.9 Accordingly the Commission have provisionally decided to allocate seven seats to Clwyd. The composition of the seven constituencies recommended would be (the 2003 electorates are shown in brackets):

ALYN AND DEESIDE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (60,331) **Flintshire County** electoral divisions: Aston, Broughton North East, Broughton South, Buckley Bistre East, Buckley Bistre West, Buckley Mountain, Buckley Pentrobin, Caergwrle, Connah's Quay Central, Connah's Quay Golftyn, Connah's Quay South, Connah's Quay Wepre, Ewloe, Hawarden, Higher Kinnerton, Hope, Llanfynydd, Mancot, Penyffordd, Queensferry, Saltney Mold Junction, Saltney Stonebridge, Sealand, Shotton East, Shotton Higher, Shotton West, Treuddyn.

CLWYD SOUTH COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (51,201) **Denbighshire County** electoral divisions: Corwen, Llandrillo, Llangollen. **Wrexham County** electoral divisions: Bronington, Brymbo, Bryn Cefn, Cefn, Dyffryn Ceiriog/Ceiriog Valley, Chirk North, Chirk South, Coedpoeth, Esclusham, Gwenfro, Johnstown, Llangollen Rural, Marchwiel, Minera, New Broughton, Overton, Pant, Penycae, Penycae and Ruabon South, Plas Madoc, Ponciau, Ruabon.

CLWYD WEST COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (55,381) **Conwy County** electoral divisions: Abergele Pensarn, Betws yn Rhos, Colwyn, Eirias, Gele, Glyn, Kinmel Bay, Llanddulas, Llandrillo yn Rhos, Llangernyw, Llansannan, Llysfaen, Mochdre, Pentre Mawr, Rhiw, Towyn, Uwchaled. **Denbighshire County** electoral divisions: Efenechtyd, Llanarmon-yn-

Ial/Llandegla, Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd/Llangynhafal, Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd/Gwyddelwern, Llanrhaedr-yng-Nghinmeirch, Ruthin.

CONWY COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (43,976) **Conwy County** electoral divisions: Betws-y-Coed, Bryn, Caerhun, Capelulo, Conwy, Craig-y-Don, Crwst, Deganwy, Eglwysbach, Gogarth, Gower, Llansanffraid, Marl, Mostyn, Pandy, Pant-yr-afon/Penmaenan, Penrhyn, Pensarn, Trefriw, Tudno, Uwch Conwy.

DELYN COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (54,277) **Flintshire County** electoral divisions: Argoed, Bagillt East, Bagillt West, Brynford, Caerwys, Cilcain, Ffynnongroyw, Flint Castle, Flint Coleshill, Flint Oakenholt, Flint Trelawney, Greenfield, Gronant, Gwernaffield, Gwernymynydd, Halkyn, Holywell Central, Holywell East, Holywell West, Leeswood, Mold Broncoed, Mold East, Mold South, Mold West, Mostyn, New Brighton, Northop, Northop Hall, Trelawnyd and Gwaenysgor, Whitford.

VALE OF CLWYD COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (49,637) **Denbighshire County** electoral divisions: Bodelwyddan, Denbigh Central, Denbigh Lower, Denbigh Upper/Henllan, Dyserth, Llandyrnog, Prestatyn Central, Prestatyn East, Prestatyn Meliden, Prestatyn North, Prestatyn South West, Rhuddlan, Rhyl East, Rhyl South, Rhyl South East, Rhyl South West, Rhyl West, St.Asaph East, St.Asaph West, Trefnant, Tremeirchion.

WREXHAM COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (50,890) **Wrexham County** electoral divisions: Acton, Borrass Park, Brynyffynnon, Cartrefle, Erddig, Garden Village, Gresford East and West, Grosvenor, Gwersyllt East and South, Gwersyllt North, Gwersyllt West, Hermitage, Holt, Little Acton, Llay, Maesydre, Marford and Hoseley, Offa, Queensway, Rhosnesni, Rossett, Smithfield, Stansty, Whitegate, Wynnstay.

4.10 The electoral divisions named in this document are the new electoral divisions which were created by the following Orders:

- The County Borough of Conwy (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998
- The County of Denbighshire (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998
- The County of Flintshire (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998
- The County Borough of Wrexham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998

5. DYFED

- 5.1 The preserved county of Dyfed has five constituencies with a 2003 electorate of 275,808. The electorates of the five existing seats range from 52,849 in the Ceredigion constituency to 57,409 in the Llanelli constituency. The total number of electors, when divided by the 2003 electoral quota (55,640), gives a theoretical entitlement to 4.96 seats. The electoral quota is explained in paragraph 15.5 below.
- 5.2 The Commission's proposals leave the boundaries of the Llanelli constituency unchanged and make minor changes to the other four constituencies. Details of the proposals are described below.
- 5.3 As a result of the County of Carmarthenshire (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998, the Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire (Clynderwen, Cilymaenllwyd and Henllanfallteg) Order 2002 and the Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire (St. Dogmaels) Order 2002, some changes have been made to electoral division boundaries. Three electoral divisions (the Carmarthenshire electoral division of Cynwyl Elfed and the Pembrokeshire electoral divisions of Maenclochog and St. Dogmaels) are partly in one constituency and partly in another. The Commission use electoral divisions as their smallest building blocks for creating constituencies and have therefore realigned the constituency boundaries with the boundaries of these divided electoral divisions.
- 5.4 In respect of the four split electoral divisions, the Commission have decided to realign the constituency boundaries as follows:

Electoral Division	2003 Electorate	Existing Constituency	Proposed Constituency
Cynwyl Elfed	1,345	Carmarthen East and Dinefwr	
	1,026	Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire	
	<hr/> 2,371		Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire
Maenclochog	1,635	Preseli Pembrokeshire	
	593	Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire	
	<hr/> 2,228		Preseli Pembrokeshire
St. Dogmaels	1,414	Preseli Pembrokeshire	
	345	Ceredigion	
	<hr/> 1,759		Preseli Pembrokeshire

In each case the Commission have considered the number of electors in each part of the split electoral divisions and the perceived local ties. In relation to Maenclochog and St. Dogmaels the Commission take the view that the balance in terms of number of electors strongly favours inclusion of the electoral division in the constituency of Preseli Pembrokeshire. In relation to Cynwyl Elfed, where the balance is not as clear-cut, the Commission consider that the links with Carmarthen town make it appropriate to include the electoral division in the Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire constituency.

- 5.5 The Commission have decided against recommending changes to the existing Llanelli constituency, having regard to the absence of any justification sufficient to outweigh the inconveniences and disruption of local ties if changes were made.
- 5.6 Accordingly the Commission have provisionally decided to allocate five seats to Dyfed. The composition of the five constituencies recommended would be (the 2003 electorates are shown in brackets):

CARMARTHEN EAST AND DINEFWR COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (52,741)
Carmarthenshire County electoral divisions: Abergwili, Ammanford, Betws, Cenarth, Cilycwm, Cynwyl Gaeo, Garnant, Glanamman, Gorslas, Llanddarog, Llandeilo, Llandovery, Llandybie, Llanegwad, Llanfihangel Aberbythych, Llanfihangel-ar-Arth, Llangadog, Llangeler, Llangunnor, Llangyndeyrn, Llanybydder, Manordeilo and Salem, Penygroes, Pontamman, Quarter Bach, St.Ishmael, Saron.

CARMARTHEN WEST AND SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (57,143)
Carmarthenshire County electoral divisions: Carmarthen Town North, Carmarthen Town South, Carmarthen Town West, Cynwyl Elfed, Laugharne Township, Llanboidy, Llansteffan, St.Clears, Trelech, Whitland. **Pembrokeshire County** electoral divisions: Amroth, Carew, East Williamston, Hundleton, Kilgetty/Begelly, Lampeter Velfrey, Lamphey, Manorbier, Martletwy, Narberth, Narberth Rural, Pembroke Dock: Central, Pembroke Dock: Llanion, Pembroke Dock: Market, Pembroke Dock: Pennar, Pembroke: Monkton, Pembroke: St.Mary North, Pembroke: St.Mary South, Pembroke: St.Michael, Penally, Saundersfoot, Tenby: North, Tenby: South.

CEREDIGION COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (52,514)
Ceredigion County electoral divisions: Aberaeron, Aberporth, Aberteifi /Cardigan-Mwldan, Aberteifi/ Cardigan-Rhyd-y-Fuwch, Aberteifi/ Cardigan-Teifi, Aberystwyth Bronglais, Aberystwyth Canol/Central, Aberystwyth Gogledd/North, Aberystwyth Penparcau, Aberystwyth Rheidol, Beulah, Borth, Capel Dewi, Ceulanamaesmawr, Ciliau Aeron, Faenor, Lampeter, Llanarth, Llanbadarn Fawr – Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr – Sulien, Llandyfriog, Llandysilio-gogo, Llandysul Town, Llanfarian, Llanfihangel Ystrad, Llangeitho, Llanybi, Llanrhystyd, Llansantffraed, Llanwenog, Lledrod, Melindwr, New Quay, Penbryn, Pen-parc, Tirymynach, Trefeurig, Tregaron, Troedyrour, Ystwyth.

LLANELLI COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (57,409)
Carmarthenshire County electoral divisions: Bigyn, Burry Port, Bynea, Dafen, Elli, Felinfoel, Glanymor, Glyn, Hendy, Hengoed, Kidwelly, Llangennech, Llannon, Lliedi, Llwynhendy, Pembrey, Pontyberem, Swiss Valley, Trimsaran, Tycroes, Tyisha.

PRESELI PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (56,001)
Pembrokeshire County electoral divisions: Burton, Camrose, Cilgerran, Clydau, Crymych, Dinas Cross, Fishguard North East, Fishguard North West, Goodwick, Haverfordwest: Castle, Haverfordwest: Garth, Haverfordwest: Portfield, Haverfordwest: Prendergast, Haverfordwest: Priory, Johnston, Letterston, Llangwm, Llanrhian, Maenclochog, Merlin's Bridge, Milford: Central, Milford: East, Milford: Hakin, Milford: Hubberston, Milford: North, Milford: West, Newport, Neyland: East, Neyland: West, Rudbaxton, St.David's, St.Dogmaels, St.Ishmael's, Sleddau, Solva, The Havens, Wiston.

- 5.7 The electoral divisions named in this document are the new electoral divisions which were created by the following Orders:

- The County of Carmarthenshire (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998
- The County of Pembrokeshire (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998
- The County of Ceredigion (Electoral Changes) Order 2002
- The Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire (Clynderwen, Cilymaenllwyd and Henllanfallteg) Order 2002
- The Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire (St Dogmaels) Order 2002

6. GWENT/MID GLAMORGAN

- 6.1 The preserved county of Gwent, as constituted at the time of the last general review, had six constituencies with a 2003 electorate of 345,818. As a result of changes brought about by the Preserved Counties (Amendment to Boundaries)(Wales) Order 2003, the area of the present preserved county of Gwent has an electorate of 426,826. The total number of electors, when divided by the 2003 electoral quota (55,640), gives a theoretical entitlement to 7.67 seats. The electoral quota is explained in paragraph 15.5 below.
- 6.2 The preserved county of Mid Glamorgan, as constituted at the time of the last general review, had seven constituencies with a 2003 electorate of 395,606. As a result of changes brought about by the Preserved Counties (Amendment to Boundaries)(Wales) Order 2003, the area of the present preserved county of Mid Glamorgan has an electorate of 306,817. This number of electors, when divided by the 2003 electoral quota (55,640), gives a theoretical entitlement to 5.51 seats.
- 6.3 Together the preserved counties of Gwent and Mid Glamorgan have an electorate of 733,643 between them which, when divided by the 2003 electoral quota (55,640), gives a theoretical entitlement to 13.19 seats.
- 6.4 The most important development since the last general review has been the change to the boundary between the two preserved counties. This means that the existing Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney constituency is now divided between the preserved counties. The Commission have given careful consideration to the implications of this, examining the position if the two preserved counties are considered separately and the position if they are considered together.
- 6.5 In so doing, the Commission have had firmly in mind rule 4(1)(a)(i) of the Rules for Redistribution of Seats (see paragraphs 15.4-15.5 below), which provides that so far as practicable having regard to rules 1 to 3 “no [preserved] county or any part of a [preserved] county shall be included in a constituency which includes the whole or part of any other [preserved] county ...”. They have also borne in mind, however, that rule 5 permits a departure from the strict application of rule 4 if it appears to them that a departure “is desirable in order to avoid an excessive disparity between the electorate of any constituency and the electoral quota, or between the electorate of any constituency and that of neighbouring constituencies ...”. Further, rule 7 confers an additional margin of appreciation and requires the Commission to take account so far as they reasonably can of “the inconveniences attendant on alterations of constituencies other than alterations made for the purposes of rule 4, and ... any local ties which would be broken by such alterations”.
- 6.6 The Commission have considered a number of possible approaches towards the allocation of seats on the basis of separate consideration of the two preserved counties, but have concluded that none of them is satisfactory for one or more of the following reasons: they would produce excessive disparities between constituency electorates and the electoral quota; they would produce excessive disparities between the electorates of neighbouring constituencies; or they would result in substantial alterations to existing constituencies, with attendant inconveniences and the breaking of local ties, in circumstances where such alterations might not be considered to be for

the purposes of rule 4. In addition, the solutions that are otherwise least unsatisfactory would produce a total allocation of seats for the two preserved counties that was either greater than or less than the joint existing allocation of 13 seats and would involve a substantial departure from the joint theoretical entitlement of 13.19 seats.

- 6.7 By contrast, the Commission take the view that consideration of the two preserved counties together would reduce the problems identified and would lead to a joint allocation of 13 seats, in line with the existing allocation and the joint theoretical entitlement. In all the circumstances they have decided that it is appropriate to consider the two counties together for the purpose of formulating their provisional recommendations for constituency boundaries.
- 6.8 Within the two preserved counties considered together, the Commission have decided to adhere to the basic pattern of existing constituencies. The boundaries of five constituencies are proposed to remain unchanged (Merthyr Tydfil, Newport East, Newport West, Rhondda, and Torfaen). For the remaining eight constituencies the Commission propose certain detailed changes in order to take account of changes to the boundaries of electoral divisions since the last general review or to reduce the disparity between the electorates of certain constituencies. Those proposed changes are described below.
- 6.9 As a result of the Blaenau Gwent and Caerphilly (Tredgar and Rhymney) Order 2002 the Sirhowy electoral division straddles the boundary between the Blaenau Gwent and Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney constituencies. As that part of the Sirhowy electoral division which falls within the Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney constituency is relatively small and has no electors, the Commission propose to include the whole of the Sirhowy electoral division within the Blaenau Gwent constituency.
- 6.10 As a result of changes to the local authority and preserved county boundaries brought about by the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 the existing Bridgend constituency crosses the boundary between the preserved counties of Mid Glamorgan and South Glamorgan in the area of the Communities of St. Bride's Major, Wick and Ewenny. So as to ensure that the boundaries of the constituencies are consistent with the local government boundaries in this area, the Commission propose that the electoral division of St. Bride's Major and the whole of the electoral division of Llandow/Ewenny be included within the Vale of Glamorgan constituency.
- 6.11 As a result of the Bridgend and The Vale of Glamorgan (Areas) Order 1996, the Coychurch Lower electoral division of Bridgend is split between the Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan constituencies. As that part of the Coychurch Lower electoral division which falls within the Vale of Glamorgan constituency is also relatively small and has no electors, the Commission propose to include the whole of the Coychurch Lower electoral division within the Bridgend constituency.
- 6.12 As a result of the City and County of Cardiff (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998, the Creigiau/St. Fagans electoral division of Cardiff is split between the Cardiff West and Pontypridd constituencies. In addition, as a result of the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994, the Pentyrch electoral division in the existing Pontypridd constituency is included within the preserved county of South Glamorgan. So as to ensure that electoral divisions are not split between constituencies, the Commission propose that the Pentyrch electoral division and the whole of the Creigiau/St. Fagans

electoral division are both included in the Cardiff West constituency in South Glamorgan.

- 6.13 The Rhondda Cynon Taff and Vale of Glamorgan (Llanharry, Pont-y-clun, Penllyn, Welsh St Donats and Pendoylan) Order 2002 resulted in the Cowbridge electoral divisions being split between the Ogmore and Vale of Glamorgan constituencies (a minor change involving two properties). As a result of the Preserved Counties Order 2003 this also entails a split across the boundary between the preserved counties of Mid Glamorgan and South Glamorgan. So as to ensure that electoral divisions are not split between constituencies, the Commission propose that the whole of the Cowbridge electoral division is included in the Vale of Glamorgan constituency in the preserved county of South Glamorgan.
- 6.14 In order to reduce the disparity between the electorates of certain constituencies, minor changes are proposed to the Bridgend, Caerphilly, Cynon Valley, Islwyn, Ogmore and Pontypridd constituencies.
- 6.15 The electoral divisions of Aberkenfig and Cefn Cribwr currently within the Bridgend constituency, are proposed to be included within the Ogmore constituency.
- 6.16 The electoral divisions of Aberbargoed, Bargoed and Gilfach currently within the Caerphilly constituency, are proposed to be included within the Islwyn constituency.
- 6.17 The electoral divisions of Cilfynydd and Glyncoch currently within the Pontypridd constituency, are proposed to be included within the Cynon Valley constituency.
- 6.18 Accordingly the Commission have provisionally decided to allocate thirteen seats to Gwent/Mid Glamorgan. The composition of the thirteen constituencies recommended would be (the 2003 electorates are shown in brackets):

BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (53,120) Blaenau Gwent County electoral divisions: Abertillery, Badminton, Beaufort, Blaina, Brynmawr, Cwm, Cwmtillery, Ebbw Vale North, Ebbw Vale South, Georgetown, Llanhilleth, Nantyglo, Rassau, Sirhowy, Six Bells, Tredegar Central and West.

BRIDGEND COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (57,046) Bridgend County electoral divisions: Brackla, Bryntirion, Laleston and Merthyr Mawr, Cefn Glas, Coity, Cornelly, Coychurch Lower, Litchard, Llangewydd and Brynhyfryd, Morfa, Newcastle, Newton, Nottage, Oldcastle, Pendre, Pen-y-fai, Porthcawl East Central, Porthcawl West Central, Pyle, Rest Bay.

CAERPHILLY COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (59,576) Caerphilly County electoral divisions: Aber Valley, Bedwas, Trethomas and Machen, Hengoed, Llanbradach, Maesycwmmmer, Morgan Jones, Nelson, Penyrheol, St.Cattwg, St.James, St.Martins, Ystrad Mynach.

CYNON VALLEY COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (48,272) Rhondda Cynon Taff County electoral divisions: Aberaman North, Aberaman South, Abercynon, Aberdare East, Aberdare West/Llwydcoed, Cilfynydd, Cwmbach, Glyncoch, Hirwaun, Mountain Ash East, Mountain Ash West, Penrhiwceiber, Pen-y-waun, Rhigos, Ynysybwl.

ISLWYN COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (60,769) **Caerphilly County** electoral divisions: Aberbargoed, Abercarn, Argoed, Bargoed, Blackwood, Cefn Fforest, Crosskeys, Crumlin, Gilfach, Newbridge, Pengam, Penmaen, Pontllanfraith, Risca East, Risca West, Ynysddu.

MERTHYR TYDFIL AND RHYMNEY COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (55,476) **Merthyr Tydfil County** electoral divisions: Bedlinog, Cyfarthfa, Dowlais, Gurnos, Merthyr Vale, Park, Penydarren, Plymouth, Town, Treharris, Vaynor. **Caerphilly County** electoral divisions: Darren Valley, Moriah, New Tredegar, Pontlottyn, Twyn Carno.

MONMOUTH COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (62,423) **Monmouthshire County** electoral divisions: Caerwent, Cantref, Castle, Croesonen, Crucorney, Devauden, Dixton with Osbaston, Drybridge, Goetre Fawr, Grofield, Lansdown, Larkfield, Llanbadoc, Llanelly Hill, Llanfoist Fawr, Llangybi Fawr, Llanover, Llantilio Crossenny, Llanwenarth Ultra, Mardy, Mitchel Troy, Overmonnow, Portskewett, Priory, Raglan, St.Arvals, St.Christopher's, St.Kingsmark, St.Mary's, Shirenewton, Thornwell, Trellech United, Usk, Wyesham. **Torfaen County** electoral divisions: Croesyceiliog North, Croesyceiliog South, Llanyrafon North, Llanyrafon South.

NEWPORT EAST COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (56,355) **Newport County** electoral divisions: Alway, Beechwood, Langstone, Liswerry, Llanwern, Ringland, St.Julians, Victoria. **Monmouthshire County** electoral divisions: Caldicot Castle, Dewstow, Green Lane, Mill, Rogiet, Severn, The Elms, West End.

NEWPORT WEST COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (60,882) **Newport County** electoral divisions: Allt-yr-yn, Bettws, Caerleon, Gaer, Graig, Malpas, Marshfield, Pillgwenlly, Rogerstone, Shaftesbury, Stow Hill, Tredegar Park.

OGMORE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (53,842) **Bridgend County** electoral divisions: Aberkenfig, Bettws, Blackmill, Blaengarw, Bryncethin, Bryncoch, Caerau, Cefn Cribwr, Felindre, Hendre, Llangeinor, Llangynwyd, Maesteg East, Maesteg West, Nant-y-moel, Ogmores Vale, Penprysg, Pontycymmer, Sarn, Ynysawdre. **Rhondda Cynon Taff County** electoral divisions: Brynna, Gilfach Goch, Llanharan, Llanharry.

PONTYPRIDD COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (54,122) **Rhondda Cynon Taff County** electoral divisions: Beddau, Church Village, Graig, Hawthorn, Llantrisant Town, Llantwit Fardre, Pont-y-clun, Pontypridd Town, Rhondda, Rhydfelen Central/Ilan, Taffs Well, Talbot Green, Ton-teg, Tonyrefail East, Tonyrefail West, Trallwng, Treforest, Tyn-y-nant.

RHONDDA COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (50,389) **Rhondda Cynon Taff County** electoral divisions: Cwm Clydach, Cymmer, Ferndale, Llwyn-y-pia, Maerdy, Pentre, Pen-y-graig, Porth, Tonypandy, Trealaw, Treherbert, Treorchy, Tylorstown, Ynyshir, Ystrad.

TORFAEN COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (61,371) **Torfaen County** electoral divisions: Abersychan, Blaenavon, Brynwern, Coed Eva, Cwmyniscoy, Fairwater, Greenmeadow, Llantarnam, New Inn, Panteg, Pontnewydd, Pontnewynydd, Pontypool, St.Cadocs and Penygarn, St.Dials, Snatchwood, Trevethin, Two Locks, Upper Cwmbrian, Wainfelin.

6.19 The electoral divisions named in this document are the electoral divisions which were created by the following Orders:

- The County Borough of Blaenau Gwent Electoral Arrangements Order 1994

- The County Borough of Bridgend (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998
- The County Borough of Caerphilly (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998
- The County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil Electoral Arrangements Order 1994
- The County of Monmouth (Electoral Changes) Order 2002
- The County Borough of Newport (Electoral Changes) Order 2002
- The County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taff (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998
- The County Borough of Torfaen (Electoral Changes) Order 2002

and amended by the following Order:

- The Rhondda Cynon Taff and Vale of Glamorgan (Llanharry, Pont-y-Clun, Penllyn, Welsh St Donats and Pendoylan) Order 2002.

7. GWYNEDD

- 7.1 The preserved county of Gwynedd, as constituted at the time of the last general review, had four constituencies with a 2003 electorate of 185,628. The electorates of the four existing seats range from 33,723 in the Meirionnydd Nant Conwy constituency to 55,009 in the Conwy constituency. As a result of changes brought about by the Preserved Counties (Amendment to Boundaries)(Wales) Order 2003, the area of the present preserved county of Gwynedd has an electorate of 141,652. The total number of electors, when divided by the 2003 electoral quota (55,640), gives a theoretical entitlement to 2.55 seats. The electoral quota is explained in paragraph 15.5 below.
- 7.2 The Commission's proposals leave the existing constituency of Ynys Môn unchanged. However, the proposed division of the rest of the county into two constituencies involves a major change to existing arrangements. Details of the proposals are described below.
- 7.3 As mentioned above in the context of Clwyd, the most important development since the last general review has been the change to the boundary between the preserved counties of Clwyd and Gwynedd. This means that areas of the existing constituencies of Conwy and Meirionnydd Nant Conwy that were previously within the preserved county of Gwynedd are now within the preserved county of Clwyd. In the course of examining the implications of the boundary change, the Commission have looked at the possibility of considering Clwyd and Gwynedd together, but they have concluded that the two preserved counties can be dealt with satisfactorily if looked at separately and that this would accord better with rule 4 (see paragraph 15.5 below).
- 7.4 In all the circumstances, and having regard in particular to the substantial reduction in the total electorate resulting from the change to the boundary of the preserved county, the Commission have decided that the number of constituencies in Gwynedd should be reduced from four to three.
- 7.5 The Commission note that the existing Ynys Môn constituency is coterminous with both the County of the Isle of Anglesey and the island of Anglesey and that although the electorate is 5,809 (10.4%) below the electoral quota it is 2,614 (5.5%) above the average size of constituency in Gwynedd if three seats are allocated to the preserved county. The Commission have therefore decided to retain the existing Ynys Môn constituency.
- 7.6 The Commission have decided to create the two remaining seats by utilising the Gwynedd County Council Area Committee areas of Arfon, Dwyfor and Meirionnydd (the former District Council areas). One constituency, to be called the Arfon constituency, would consist of the electoral divisions making up the Arfon Area Committee area. The other constituency, to be called the Dwyfor and Meirionnydd constituency, would consist of the electoral divisions making up both the Dwyfor Area Committee and the Meirionnydd Area Committee areas. The Commission acknowledge that this proposal involves a significant alteration to the existing arrangements and may weaken the historic ties between the town of Caernarfon and the former county of Caernarvonshire. Those disadvantages, however, are mitigated by the fact that the proposed constituencies are based on areas currently used for

purposes of local government administration, and the Commission take the view that the proposal produces the best solution for the preserved county of Gwynedd as a whole.

7.7 Accordingly the Commission have provisionally decided to allocate three seats to Gwynedd. The composition of the three constituencies recommended would be (the 2003 electorates are shown in brackets):

ARFON COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (42,998) Gwynedd County electoral divisions: Arllechwedd, Bethel, Bontnewydd, Cadnant, Cwm-y-Glo, Deiniol, Deiniolen, Dewi, Garth, Gerlan, Glyder, Groeslon, Hendre, Hiracl, Llanberis, Llanllyfni, Llanrug, Llanwnda, Marchog, Menai (Bangor), Menai (Caernarfon), Ogwen, Peblig (Caernarfon), Penisarwaun, Pentir, Penygroes, Seiont, Talysarn, Tregarth & Mynydd Llandygai, Waunfawr, Y Felinheli.

DWYFOR MEIRIONNYDD COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (48,823) Gwynedd County electoral divisions: Aberdaron, Aberdovey, Abererch, Abermaw, Abersoch, Bala, Botwnnog, Bowydd & Rhiw, Brithdir & Llanfachreth/Ganllwyd/Llanelltyd, Bryn-crug/Llanfihangel, Clynnog, Corris/Mawddwy, Criccieth, Diffwys & Maenofferen, Dolbenmaen, Dolgellau North, Dolgellau South, Dyffryn Ardudwy, Efail-newydd/Buan, Harlech, Llanaelhaearn, Llanbedr, Llanbedrog, Llandderfel, Llanengan, Llangelynin, Llanuwchllyn, Llanystumdwy, Morfa Nefyn, Nefyn, Penrhyndeudraeth, Porthmadog East, Porthmadog West, Porthmadog-Tremadog, Pwllheli North, Pwllheli South, Teigl, Trawsfynydd, Tudweiliog, Tywyn.

YNYS MÔN COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (49,831) Isle of Anglesey County electoral divisions: Aberffraw, Amlwch Port, Amlwch Rural, Beaumaris, Bodffordd, Bodorgan, Braint, Bryngwran, Brynteg, Cadnant, Cefni, Cwm Cadnant, Cyngar, Gwyngyll, Holyhead Town, Kingsland, Llanbadrig, Llanbedrgoch, Llanddyfnan, Llanelian, Llanfaethlu, Llanfair-yn-Neubwll, Llanfihangel Ysgeifiog, Llangoed, Llanidan, Llannerch-y-medd, London Road, Maeshyfyd, Mechell, Moelfre, Morawelon, Parc a'r Mynydd, Pentraeth, Porthyfelin, Rhosneigr, Rhosyr, Trearddur, Tudur, Tysilio, Valley.

7.8 The electoral divisions named in this document are the electoral divisions which were created by the following Orders:

- The County of Anglesey Electoral Arrangements Order 1994
- The County of Gwynedd (Electoral Changes) Order 2002

8. MID GLAMORGAN

Please see section 6 above for proposals in relation to the preserved county of Mid Glamorgan.

9. POWYS

- 9.1 The preserved county of Powys, as constituted at the time of the last general review, had two constituencies with a 2003 electorate of 98,794. The electorates of the two existing seats are 45,297 in the Montgomeryshire constituency and 53,497 in the Brecon and Radnorshire constituency. As a result of a change brought about by the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994, the area of the present preserved county of Powys has an electorate of 100,152. The total number of electors, when divided by the 2003 electoral quota (55,640), gives a theoretical entitlement to 1.8 seats. The electoral quota is explained in paragraph 15.5 below.
- 9.2 The Commission's proposals leave the boundaries of the Brecon and Radnorshire constituency unchanged, and make minor changes to the Montgomeryshire constituency. The proposed changes are described below.
- 9.3 As mentioned above in the context of Clwyd, there has been a change in the boundary between the preserved county of Clwyd and the preserved county of Powys, in that the Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant/Llansilin electoral division was formerly within Clwyd but was transferred to Powys by the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994. That electoral division is included in the existing Clwyd South constituency. The Commission have decided that it should be removed from the Clwyd South constituency and included within the Montgomeryshire constituency. This would have the further advantage of increasing the electorate of the Montgomeryshire constituency to 46,655 and reducing the disparity between the number of electors in that constituency and the Brecon and Radnorshire constituency.
- 9.4 The Commission have decided against recommending any other changes to the existing constituencies, having regard to the absence of any justification sufficient to outweigh the inconveniences and disruption of local ties if changes were made. They also note that the proposed Montgomeryshire constituency would be coterminous with the area represented by the Powys County Council Montgomeryshire Shire Committee and that the proposed Brecon and Radnorshire constituency would be coterminous with the combined areas of the Brecknockshire Shire Committee and the Radnorshire Shire Committee.
- 9.5 Accordingly the Commission have provisionally decided to allocate two seats to Powys. The composition of the two constituencies recommended would be (the 2003 electorates are shown in brackets):

BRECON AND RADNORSHIRE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (53,497) Powys County electoral divisions: Aber-craf, Beguildy, Bronllys, Builth, Bwlch, Crickhowell, Cwm-twrch, Disserth and Trecoed, Felin-fâch, Glasbury, Gwernyfed, Hay, Knighton, Llanafanfawr, Llanbadarn Fawr, Llandrindod East/Llandrindod West, Llandrindod North, Llandrindod South, Llanelwedd, Llangattock, Llangors, Llangunllo, Llangynidr, Llanwrtyd Wells, Llanyre, Maescar/Llywel, Nantmel, Old Radnor, Presteigne, Rhayader, St.David Within, St.John, St.Mary, Talgarth, Talybont-on-Usk, Tawe-Uchaf, Ynyscedwyn, Yscir, Ystradgynlais.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (46,655) Powys County electoral divisions: Banwy, Berriew, Blaen Hafren, Caersws, Churchstoke, Dolforwyn, Forden, Glantwymyn, Guilsfield, Kerry, Llanbrynmair, Llandinam, Llandrinio, Llandysilio, Llanfair

Caereinion, Llanfihangel, Llanfyllin, Llanidloes, Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant/Llansilin, Llansantffraid, Machynlleth, Meifod, Montgomery, Newtown Central, Newtown East, Newtown Llanllwchaiarn North, Newtown Llanllwchaiarn West, Newtown South, Rhiwceynon, Trewern, Welshpool Castle, Welshpool Gungrog, Welshpool Llanerchuddol.

9.6 The electoral divisions named in this document are the electoral divisions which were created by the following Orders:

- The County of Powys (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998
- The Powys (Llanbadarn Fynydd, Llanbister and Abbey Cwmhir) Order 2003

10. SOUTH GLAMORGAN

- 10.1 The preserved county of South Glamorgan, as constituted at the time of the last general review, had five constituencies with a 2003 electorate of 317,369. The electorates of the five existing seats range from 59,626 in the Cardiff West constituency to 68,698 in the Vale of Glamorgan constituency. As a result of changes brought about by the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 and The Bridgend and The Vale of Glamorgan (Areas) Order 1996, the area of the present preserved county of South Glamorgan has an electorate of 325,150. The total number of electors, when divided by the 2003 electoral quota (55,640), gives a theoretical entitlement to 5.84 seats. The electoral quota is explained in paragraph 15.5 below.
- 10.2 The Commission's proposals leave the boundaries of Cardiff Central and Cardiff North unchanged. Boundary changes have been made to Cardiff West, Cardiff South and Penarth, and the Vale of Glamorgan constituencies. The proposed changes are described below.
- 10.3 The Commission propose to retain the existing five constituencies, subject to the detailed changes described below, notwithstanding that the theoretical entitlement of 5.84 seats for the preserved county would tend to favour an allocation of six rather than five seats. They have given detailed consideration to possible ways of producing a six-seat solution for the preserved county, but have concluded that none would be satisfactory, not least because of the inconveniences and disruption of local ties to which a radical recasting of the South Glamorgan constituencies would give rise. They have decided that the electorates of the five constituencies proposed, although higher than the electoral quota, would each be of an acceptable size and would not give rise to unacceptable disparities as between neighbouring constituencies.
- 10.4 As a result of changes to the local authority and preserved county boundaries brought about by the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 the existing Bridgend constituency crosses the boundary between the preserved counties of Mid Glamorgan and South Glamorgan in the area of the Communities of St. Bride's Major, Wick and Ewenny. So as to ensure that the boundaries of the constituencies are consistent with the local government boundaries in this area, the Commission propose that the electoral division of St. Bride's Major and the whole of the electoral division of Llandow/Ewenny be included within the Vale of Glamorgan constituency.
- 10.5 As a result of the Bridgend and The Vale of Glamorgan (Areas) Order 1996, the Coychurch Lower electoral division of Bridgend is split between the Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan constituencies. As that part of the Coychurch Lower electoral division which falls within the Vale of Glamorgan constituency is also relatively small and has no electors, the Commission propose to include the whole of the Coychurch Lower electoral division within the Bridgend constituency.
- 10.6 As a result of the City and County of Cardiff (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998, the Creigiau/St. Fagans electoral division of Cardiff is split between the Cardiff West and Pontypridd constituencies. In addition, as a result of the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994, the Pentyrch electoral division in the existing Pontypridd constituency is included within the preserved county of South Glamorgan. So as to ensure that electoral divisions are not split between constituencies, the Commission

propose that the Pentyrch electoral division and the whole of the Creigiau/St. Fagans electoral division are both included in the Cardiff West constituency in South Glamorgan.

- 10.7 The Rhondda Cynon Taff and Vale of Glamorgan (Llanharry, Pont-y-clun, Penllyn, Welsh St Donats and Pendoylan) Order 2002 resulted in the Cowbridge electoral divisions being split between the Ogmere and Vale of Glamorgan constituencies (a minor change involving two properties). As a result of the Preserved Counties Order 2003 this also entails a split across the boundary between the preserved counties of Mid Glamorgan and South Glamorgan. So as to ensure that electoral divisions are not split between constituencies, the Commission propose that the whole of the Cowbridge electoral division is included in the Vale of Glamorgan constituency in the preserved county of South Glamorgan.
- 10.8 The Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan (Michaelston and Grangetown) Order 2002 resulted in the Grangetown electoral division being split between the Cardiff South and Penarth and the Vale of Glamorgan constituencies (the small area within the Vale of Glamorgan constituency is uninhabited). The Commission propose that the whole of the Grangetown electoral division be included within the Cardiff South and Penarth constituency.
- 10.9 Following the changes proposed above the number of electors within the five constituencies would be as follows: Cardiff Central (60,864), Cardiff North (63,615), Cardiff South and Penarth (64,566), Cardiff West (64,587) and Vale of Glamorgan (71,518).
- 10.10 In order to address the problem of the disparity between the number of electors in the Vale of Glamorgan constituency and the county average (and electoral quota) the Commission propose in addition that the Sully electoral division be included within the Cardiff South and Penarth constituency rather than the Vale of Glamorgan constituency. The Commission consider that this change would achieve a better parity between the constituency electorates without having a significantly detrimental effect on local ties.
- 10.11 Accordingly the Commission have provisionally decided to allocate five seats to South Glamorgan. The composition of the five constituencies recommended would be (the 2003 electorates are shown in brackets):

CARDIFF CENTRAL BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (60,864) Cardiff County electoral divisions: Adamsdown, Cathays, Cyncoed, Pentwyn, Penylan, Plasnewydd.

CARDIFF NORTH BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (63,615) Cardiff County electoral divisions: Gabalfa, Heath, Lisvane, Llandaff North, Llanishen, Pontprennau/Old St.Mellons, Rhiwbina, Whitchurch and Tongwynlais.

CARDIFF SOUTH AND PENARTH BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (67,855) Cardiff County electoral divisions: Butetown, Grangetown, Llanrumney, Rumney, Splott, Trowbridge. **The Vale of Glamorgan County** electoral divisions: Cornerswell, Llandough, Plymouth, St. Augustine's, Stanwell, Sully.

CARDIFF WEST BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (64,587) **Cardiff County** electoral divisions: Caerau, Canton, Creigiau/St.Fagans, Ely, Fairwater, Llandaff, Pentyrch, Radyr, Riverside.

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (68,229) **The Vale of Glamorgan County** electoral divisions: Baruc, Buttrills, Cadoc, Castleland, Court, Cowbridge, Dinas Powys, Dyfan, Gibbonsdown, Iltyd, Llandow/Ewenny, Llantwit Major, Peterston-super-Ely, Rhoose, St.Athan, St.Bride's Major, Wenvoe.

10.12 The electoral divisions named in this document are the electoral divisions which were created by the following Orders:

- The City and County of Cardiff (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998 (as amended by the Cardiff (Llandaf North, Whitechurch, Llanishen, Lisvane, Ely and St. Fagans) Order 2003)
- The County Borough of The Vale of Glamorgan (Electoral Changes) Order 2002 (as amended by The Rhondda Cynon Taff and Vale of Glamorgan (Llanharry, Pont-y-Clun, Penllyn, Welsh St Donats and Pendoylan) Order 2002)

As both amended by:

- The Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan (Michaelston and Grangetown) Order 2002.

11. WEST GLAMORGAN

- 11.1 The preserved county of West Glamorgan has five constituencies with a 2003 electorate of 283,501. The electorates of the five existing seats range from 50,422 in the Aberavon constituency to 60,524 in the Gower constituency. The total number of electors, when divided by the 2003 electoral quota (55,640), gives a theoretical entitlement to 5.1 seats. The electoral quota is explained in paragraph 15.5 below.
- 11.2 The Commission's proposals make a minor change to the boundaries of the Gower and Neath constituencies and leave the other three constituencies unchanged.
- 11.3 As a result of the the Neath Port Talbot and Swansea (Trebanos and Clydach) Order 2002 a minor change has been made to the Clydach (Swansea) and Trebanos (Neath Port Talbot) electoral divisions resulting in an increase of 11 electors in the Clydach electoral division and a corresponding decrease in the Trebanos electoral division. The result of this change is that the Clydach electoral division is now split between the Gower and Neath constituencies. Since all but a very small part of the Clydach electoral division is within the existing Gower constituency, the Commission have decided to realign the boundary between the Gower and Neath constituencies so as to include the whole of the Clydach electoral division within the Gower constituency.
- 11.4 The Commission have decided against recommending changes to any of the other existing constituencies, having regard to the absence of any justification sufficient to outweigh the inconveniences and disruption of local ties if changes were made.
- 11.5 Accordingly the Commission have provisionally decided to allocate 5 seats to the West Glamorgan. The composition of the five constituencies recommended would be (the 2003 electorates are shown in brackets):

ABERAVON COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (50,422) Neath Port Talbot County electoral divisions: Aberavon, Baglan, Briton Ferry East, Briton Ferry West, Bryn and Cwmavon, Coedffranc Central, Coedffranc North, Coedffranc West, Cymmer, Glyncorwg, Gwynfi, Margam, Port Talbot, Sandfields East, Sandfields West, Tai-bach.

GOWER COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (60,535) Swansea County electoral divisions: Bishopston, Clydach, Fairwood, Gorseinon, Gower, Gowerton, Kingsbridge, Llangyfelach, Lower Loughor, Mawr, Newton, Oystermouth, Penclawdd, Penllergaer, Pennard, Penyrheol, Pontardulais, Upper Loughor, West Cross.

NEATH COUNTY CONSTITUENCY (56,982) Neath Port Talbot County electoral divisions: Aberdulais, Allt-wen, Blaengwrach, Bryn-côch North, Bryn-côch South, Cadoxton, Cimla, Crynant, Cwmllynfell, Dyffryn, Glynneath, Godre'r graig, Gwaun-Cae-Gurwen, Lower Brynamman, Neath East, Neath North, Neath South, Onllwyn, Pelenna, Pontardawe, Resolven, Rhos, Seven Sisters, Tonna, Trebanos, Ystalyfera.

SWANSEA EAST BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (57,226) Swansea County electoral divisions: Bonymaen, Cwmbwrla, Landore, Llansamlet, Morriston, Mynyddbach, Penderry, St.Thomas.

SWANSEA WEST BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY (58,336) **Swansea County** electoral divisions: Castle, Cockett, Dunvant, Killay North, Killay South, Mayals, Sketty, Townhill, Uplands.

11.6 The electoral divisions named in this document are the electoral divisions which were created by the following Orders:

- The County Borough of Neath and Port Talbot Electoral Arrangements Order 1994,
- The City and County of Swansea (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998

both amended by

- The Neath Port Talbot and Swansea (Trebanos and Clydach) Order 2002.

12. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR WALES ELECTORAL REGIONS

12.1 The Commission propose to redefine the North Wales and Mid and West Wales Assembly regions so as to include the proposed Conwy and Arfon constituencies within the North Wales region and the proposed Dwyfor Meirionnydd and Montgomeryshire constituencies within the Mid and West Wales Assembly region. They also propose that the revised Bridgend constituency be included within the South Wales West region and the revised Vale of Glamorgan constituency within the South Wales Central region. The Commission consider that these are the obvious changes to make as a consequence of the proposed changes to parliamentary constituencies.

12.2 The composition of the five Assembly Regions provisionally recommended would be (the 2003 Assembly electorates are shown in brackets):

North Wales (459,718): Alyn and Deeside CC, Arfon CC, Clwyd South CC, Clwyd West CC, Conwy CC, Delyn CC, Vale of Clwyd CC, Wrexham CC, Ynys Môn CC.

Mid and West Wales (426,058): Brecon and Radnorshire CC, Carmarthen East and Dinefwr CC, Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire CC, Ceredigion CC, Dwyfor Meirionnydd CC, Llanelli CC, Montgomeryshire CC, Preseli Pembrokeshire CC.

South Wales West (395,717): Aberavon CC, Bridgend CC, Gower CC, Neath CC, Ogmore CC, Swansea East BC, Swansea West BC.

South Wales Central (480,831): Cardiff Central BC, Cardiff North BC, Cardiff South and Penarth BC, Cardiff West BC, Cynon Valley CC, Pontypridd CC, Rhondda CC, Vale of Glamorgan CC.

South Wales East (470,878): Blaenau Gwent CC, Caerphilly CC, Islwyn CC, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney CC, Monmouth CC, Newport East CC, Newport West CC, Torfaen CC.

12.3 A map of the provisionally recommended Assembly Regions may be found at Appendix 9.

13. PUBLICATION DETAILS

Publication of Provisional Recommendations

- 13.1 Notification of the Commission's provisional recommendations and where they can be seen will be published formally in a notice appearing in newspapers in Wales on 5 January 2003. Local authorities, MPs, AMs, the Political Parties' Headquarters, and others will be sent a copy of the recommendations.
- 13.2 The notice will also be published on the Commission's web site at www.bcomm-wales.gov.uk

Places of Inspection

- 13.3 The notice in local newspapers will also give the addresses within the existing parliamentary constituencies where a copy of the recommendations and a more detailed map illustrating them have been made available for inspection by the public (please note the copyright warning below concerning the map). Those addresses are:

Aberavon	Council Offices, Civic Centre, Port Talbot SA13 1JP
Alyn and Deeside	Public Library, Wepre Drive, Connah's Quay CH5 4HA
Blaenau Gwent	Municipal Offices, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale NP26 6XB
Brecon and Radnorshire	Council Offices, Cambrian Way, Brecon LD3 7HR County Hall, Llandrindod Wells LD1 5LG Knighton Area Office, The Library, Knighton
Bridgend	Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend CF31 4WB
Caernarfon	County Offices, Caernarfon LL55 1SH
Caerphilly	Council Offices, Ystrad Fawr, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed CF82 7SF
Cardiff Central)	City Hall, Cardiff CF10 4UW
Cardiff North)	Whitchurch Library, Park Road, Whitchurch CF14 7XA
Cardiff South and Penarth)	Grangetown Library, Redlaver Street, Grangetown CF11 7LY
)	West House, Stanwell Road, Penarth CF64 2YG
Cardiff West)	Canton Library, Library Street, Canton CF5 1QD
Carmarthen East and Dinefwr	Municipal Offices, Crescent Road, Llandeilo SA19 6HW
Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire	Statutory Services, 1 Spilman Street, Carmarthen SA31 1LE
Ceredigion	Aberaeron Library, County Hall, Market Street, Aberaeron SA46 0AT
Clwyd South	One Stop Shop, Y Capel, Castle St., Llangollen LL20 8NU
Clwyd West	Trem Clwyd, Canol y Dre, Ruthin LL15 1QA
Conwy	Council Offices, Bodlondeb, Conwy LL32 8DU
Cynon Valley	Central Library, High Street, Aberdare CF44 7AG
Delyn	County Hall, Mold CH7 6NB
Gower	Gorseinon Central Information Unit, Lime Street, Gorseinon
Islwyn	Council Offices, Pontllanfraith, Blackwood NP12 2YW
Llanelli	Llanelli Library, Llanelli SA15 3AS
Meirionnydd Nant Conwy	Llanrwst Library, Plas yn Dre, Station Road, Llanrwst LL26 0DF
Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney	Council Offices, Cae Penarlag, Dolgellau LL40 2YB
Monmouth	Civic Centre, Castle Street, Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8AN One Stop Shop, Cross Street, Abergavenny NP7 5HD

		One Stop Shop, The Market Hall, Priory Street, Monmouth NP25 3XA
Montgomeryshire		Welshpool Area Office, Severn Road, Welshpool SY21 7AS Area Office, The Park Offices, Newtown SY16 2NZ
Neath		Council Offices, Civic Centre, Neath SA11 3QZ
Newport East)	Civic Centre, Newport NP20 4UR
Newport West)	Maindee Library, Chepstow Road, Newport NP19 8BY
Ogmore		Maesteg Library, North Lane, Maesteg CF34 9AA Nantymoel Library, Berwyn Centre, Ogwy Street, Nantymoel CF32 7SD
Pontypridd		Electoral Registration Office, 4 – 8 Church Street, Pontypridd CF37 2TH
Preseli Pembrokeshire		Customer Service Centre, North Wing, County Hall, Haverfordwest SA61 1TP
Rhondda		Council Offices, The Pavilions, Cambrian Park, Clydach Vale CF40 2XX
Swansea East)	Morrison Library, Trehaune Road, Swansea SA6 7AA
Swansea West)	The Guildhall, Swansea SA1 4PN
Torfaen		Civic Centre, Pontypool NP4 6YB
Vale of Clwyd		Council Offices, Russell House, Churton Road, Rhyl LL18 3DP
Vale of Glamorgan		Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU Town Hall, Cowbridge CF61 1SD
Wrexham		The Guildhall, Wrexham LL11 1WF
Ynys Môn		Council Offices, Llangefni LL77 7TW

14. PERIOD FOR REPRESENTATIONS: 5 JANUARY 2004 TO 6 FEBRUARY 2004

- 14.1 The Commission are required to consider representations about their provisional recommendations for each review area made within one month of publication on 5 January 2004. Representations should be addressed to the Boundary Commission for Wales, Caradog House, 1-6 St Andrews Place, Cardiff, CF10 3BE, or faxed to 02920 395250, or e-mailed to bcomm.wales@wales.gsi.gov.uk. As provisional recommendations for all eight review areas in Wales have been published at the same time, the Commission ask that all representations make it clear which area or areas they concern. All representations received by the Commission will be acknowledged. The representation period will end on 6 February 2004.
- 14.2 Please note that the Commission are not statutorily required to consider any representations made after 6 February 2004, but will endeavour to take late representations into account. However, the later the representation is made, the more difficult this will be. The Commission therefore ask that all representations be made within the one month period. In the event that a local inquiry is held into the provisional recommendations, all representations will be made public beforehand so that interested persons may prepare for the local inquiry. Any representation received too late to be issued with the other representations before the local inquiry cannot be given the same weight as the other representations because other interested persons will not have had the same opportunity to consider it.
- 14.3 Where representations objecting to the provisional recommendations are made by an interested county council or by a body of 100 or more electors, the Commission cannot

proceed with their final recommendations to the Secretary of State until a local inquiry has been held. If the Commission decide to alter their recommendations as a result of the inquiry, the revised recommendations must also be published and representations invited, but a further local inquiry is not obligatory.

- 14.4 Those who make representations are requested to say whether they approve of, or object to, the Commission's proposals and to give their reasons for their approval or objection. In particular, objectors are advised to say what they propose in place of the Commission's recommendations and should note that an objection accompanied by a counter-proposal is likely to carry more weight than a simple statement of objection.
- 14.5 The Commission wish to stress that their provisional recommendations relate solely to parliamentary constituencies and do not affect unitary authority or community boundaries, taxes or services. The Commission will therefore not take account of any representation made about those local issues.

15. BACKGROUND NOTE

- 15.1 The Commission are constituted under Section 2 and Schedule 1 to the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986. The ex officio Chairman is the Speaker of the House of Commons. The Deputy Chairman, who presides over Commission meetings, is a High Court Judge appointed by the Lord Chancellor. One Commissioner is appointed by the Secretary of State for Wales and the other Commissioner is appointed by the Deputy Prime Minister. The two Assessors to the Commission are the Registrar General of England and Wales and the Director General of Ordnance Survey. Assistant Commissioners are lawyers appointed by the Deputy Prime Minister to conduct local inquiries.
- 15.2 The Commission are required by the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 as amended by the Boundary Commissions Act 1992 to conduct a general review of all the constituencies in Wales every eight to twelve years. The Commission completed their previous general review on 12 April 1995 and must therefore complete the current review after 11 April 2003 and before 12 April 2007. The Commission wish to complete the current review in sufficient time for new constituency boundaries to be approved by Parliament and take effect at any general election held in 2006 or 2007.
- 15.3 The general review started formally with the publication of a notice in the London Gazette on 16 December 2002. The Commission's recommendations throughout the review must by law be based on the numbers of electors on the electoral registers on that date.

Rules

- 15.4 In recommending new constituencies, the Commission are required to give effect to the Rules for Redistribution of Seats which are contained in Schedule 2 to the 1986 Act.
- 15.5 Rule 1 places limits on the total number of constituencies. Rule 2 requires single member constituencies. Rule 3 relates to the City of London. Rule 4 states that county (*preserved county in Wales*) boundaries are to be followed so far as is practicable. Rule 5 states that the electorates of constituencies are to be as nearly equal to the electoral quota as practicable. Rule 6 allows the Commission to depart from rules 4 and 5 if special geographical considerations make a departure desirable. Rule 7 allows the Commission to depart from other rules, and requires them to take account of inconveniences caused by alterations of constituencies (other than alterations made for the purposes of rule 4) or local ties broken by such alterations. Rule 8 defines the electoral quota as the total number of parliamentary electors in Wales (**2,225,599**) divided by the existing number of seats (**40**), and requires the Commission to use the electorates as at the start of a review.

Assembly Electoral Regions

- 15.6 The Assembly constituencies are the parliamentary constituencies in Wales. There are five Assembly electoral regions (North Wales, Mid and West Wales, South Wales Central, South Wales East, South Wales West). In provisionally recommending the alteration of parliamentary constituencies, the Commission are required to consider whether any alteration in the Assembly electoral regions or in the allocation of seats to

the Assembly electoral regions are required to give effect to the rules contained in Schedule 1 to the Government of Wales Act 1998.

- 15.7 Rule 1 requires that each Assembly constituency is wholly included in one Assembly electoral region. Rule 2 requires that the electorates of the Assembly electoral regions shall be as nearly equal as is practicable, having regard (where appropriate) to special geographic considerations. Rule 3 provides that the number of Assembly seats for the Assembly electoral regions shall be either one half of the total number of Assembly constituencies, or, if the total is not divisible by two, one half of the total plus one. Rule 4 provides that the number of Assembly seats for an Assembly region shall be either one fifth of the number calculated under Rule 3 or, if the Rule 3 total is not divisible by five, either one fifth of the highest number that is less than that total number and exactly divisible by five or the number produced by adding one to one fifth of that highest number (the procedures for calculating the number and allocation of residual seats are detailed in sub-paragraphs (2) to (4) of Schedule 1).

Procedures

- 15.8 In conducting a general review of constituencies, the Commission are required by the legislation to follow certain procedures, principally to provide for public consultation.
- 15.9 The Secretary of State must be given notice of a review and that notice must be published in the London Gazette. Provisional recommendations must be published in newspapers in the affected constituencies and, unless the proposals are for no changes to be made, they must also be deposited for public inspection in at least one place in each affected constituency. Representations may be made within one month of publication of the provisional recommendations and the Commission must take any representations into consideration. Where objections are received from a county or district council or a body of 100 or more electors, a local inquiry must be held. If the Commission revise their recommendations as a result of an inquiry, the revised representations must also be published and further representations invited and considered. A second local inquiry cannot be forced by these further representations, but there is discretionary power to hold a second inquiry. Any further modifications, as a result of further representations or a second inquiry, must also be published and representations invited. When the Commission have decided their final recommendations for the whole country, they must submit a report to the Secretary of State.

Implementation of the recommendations

- 15.10 The Secretary of State has a statutory duty to lay the Commission's report before Parliament together with a draft Order in Council giving effect to the Commission's recommendations with or without modifications. If modifications are proposed, the Secretary of State must also lay a statement of reasons for the modifications. The draft Order in Council is submitted to both Houses of Parliament for approval and, after it is made by Her Majesty in Council, it cannot be called into question in any legal proceedings. The new constituencies take effect at the next following general election.
- 15.11 The above information is intended to be a general guide only. For a definitive statement of the law, please refer to the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 – as amended by the Boundary Commissions Act 1992, the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994, the

Government of Wales Act 1998, and the Scotland Act 1998 – together with the Court of Appeal ruling in R v Boundary Commission for England Ex parte Foot [1983] QB 600.

Crown Copyright

15.12 The maps deposited at the addresses listed above were produced for the Boundary Commission for Wales by Ordnance Survey, Romsey Road, Southampton SO16 4GU (telephone 08456 05 05 05 or 08456 05 05 04 for the Welsh language helpline). These maps and the maps that form part of this document are subject to © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction will infringe Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Any newspaper editor wishing to use the maps as part of an article about the provisional recommendations should first contact the Copyright Office at Ordnance Survey.

Enquiries

15.13 Should you require further information about these provisional recommendations or about other aspects of the Commission's work please contact:

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

Telephone: 02920 395031

Fax: 02920 395250

Email: bcomm.wales@wales.gsi.gov.uk

The Internet version of these provisional recommendations and outline maps are now available on:

www.bcomm-wales.gov.uk