

Middlesbrough Council

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CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE 27th JULY 2005

PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY REVIEW

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To report the revised recommendations put forward by the Boundary Commission for England in their review of the Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries in Middlesbrough.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Committee notes the new recommendations. A copy of the Boundary Commission's recommendations are attached to this report, which includes a map showing the new constituency boundaries.

REASON

3. The new recommendations are in accord with the proposals agreed at a meeting of this committee held on the 20 April 2004.

BACKGROUND

4. (a) The Boundary Commission for England is an advisory body funded by the government. The Commission is required to keep the parliamentary constituencies in England under continuous review and periodically, every 8 to 12 years, conduct a general review of all the constituencies in England at the same time and submit a report showing their recommendations to the Secretary of State. The present constituencies took effect at the General Election on the 1 May 1997. The current review started in 2000.

b) The Boundary Commission decided to review the four unitary authorities of Middlesbrough, Hartlepool, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees at the same time. This has resulted in an electoral quota of 69,934 for each of six constituencies.

- (c) The Boundary Commission do not divide borough wards between constituencies.
- (d) The Boundary Commission's recommendations realign the current constituency boundaries with the new ward boundaries, which came in to effect in May 2003, with the minimum of change.
- (e) The new constituencies will come in to force at the next General Election following the completion of the review nationally.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

5. Boundary Commission for England News Release, 15 June 2005.

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