

REPRESENTATION BY PENDLE BOROUGH COUNCIL TO THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Pendle Council rejects the Commission's proposal for Pendle. In particular it believes that the proposed Clitheroe and Colne constituency should be rejected due to its long and narrow geographical shape, and lack of affinity and common interests of the communities at the opposite ends of the proposed area. It believes that this particular proposal will receive widespread opposition, not just from within Pendle.

Pendle is a close and cohesive community of towns and villages which has been forged since local government reorganisation in 1974. The Council believes that the best interests of people in Pendle would be met by keeping the whole of the present parliamentary constituency (and the local authority area) within one new enlarged parliamentary constituency.

We have therefore looked at options which would bring in wards from the neighbouring areas of Ribble Valley and Burnley. We have identified three which we submit for the Commission's consideration. All three carry the same weight and we do not prefer one over the others.

We have not felt ourselves competent to comment on the detail of the Commission's proposals for other parts of the North west region or the Lancashire sub-region. Our three options are outlined below with electorate figures in brackets. All three are within the electorate range that the Commission is required to work to.

Option One

The existing 20 Pendle wards (62,891) together with the following Ribble Valley wards:

Gisburn, Rimington (1,083)

Chatburn (1,063)

Wiswell and Pendleton (1,244)

St. Mary's (2,274)

Salthill (2,308)

Littlemoor (2,371)

Primrose (2,501)

Edisford and Low Moor (2,358)

The total electorate is 78,093. Such a constituency would combine the town of Clitheroe with Pendle and retain the mix of urban and rural communities with Pendle Hill as its dominant central feature. We suggest Pendle and Clitheroe for the name of the constituency.

Option Two

The existing 20 Pendle wards (62,891) together with the following Burnley wards

Briercliffe (4,337)

Lanehead (4,416)

Queensgate (3,887)

The total electorate is 75,531. All three wards adjoin the southern end of the present Pendle constituency. They form a contiguous urban area with Nelson, Brierfield and Reedley; and part of Briercliffe also makes a contiguous rural area with the eastern parts of the Southfield and Marsden wards. We suggest Pendle for the name of the constituency.

Option Three

The existing 20 Pendle wards (62,891) together with the following Burnley wards:

Lanehead (4,416)

Queensgate (3,887)

Daneshouse with Stoneyholme (3,685)

The total electorate is 74,879. All three wards adjoin the southern end of the present Pendle constituency. They form a contiguous urban area with Nelson, Brierfield and Reedley. We suggest Pendle for the name of the constituency.

Philip Mousdale
Corporate Director
Pendle Borough Council
17th November 2016.