



# Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986

## 1986 CHAPTER 56

### 6 Local inquiries

- (1) A Boundary Commission may, if they think fit, cause a local inquiry to be held in respect of any constituency or constituencies.
- (2) Where, on the publication of the notice under section 5(2) above of a recommendation of a Boundary Commission for the alteration of any constituencies, the Commission receive any representation objecting to the proposed recommendation from an interested authority or from a body of electors numbering one hundred or more, the Commission shall not make the recommendation unless, since the publication of the notice, a local inquiry has been held in respect of the constituencies.
- (3) Where a local inquiry was held in respect of the constituencies before the publication of the notice mentioned in subsection (2) above, that subsection shall not apply if the Commission, after considering the matters discussed at the local inquiry, the nature of the representations received on the publication of the notice and any other relevant circumstances, are of opinion that a further local inquiry would not be justified.
- (4) In subsection (2) above, "interested authority" and "elector" respectively mean, in relation to any recommendation, a local authority whose area is wholly or partly comprised in the constituencies affected by the recommendation, and a parliamentary elector for any of those constituencies; and for this purpose "local authority" means—
  - (a) in England and Wales, the council of a county, London borough or district,
  - (b) in Scotland, the council of a region, islands area or district, and
  - (c) in Northern Ireland, the council of a district.
- (5) Subsections (2) and (3) of section 250 of the Local Government Act 1972 (which relate to the attendance of witnesses at inquiries) shall apply in relation to any local inquiry which the Boundary Commission for England or the Boundary Commission for Wales may cause to be held in pursuance of this Act.
- (6) In relation to any local inquiry which the Boundary Commission for Scotland may cause to be held in pursuance of this Act, the said subsections (2) and (3) shall apply as if that Act applied to Scotland but with the substitution of references to an order for references to a summons.

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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- (7) In relation to any local inquiry which the Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland may cause to be held in pursuance of this Act, sections 19 and 20 of the Poor Relief (Ireland) (No. 2) Act 1847 shall apply.