



Parliamentary Constituencies Act 2020

2020 CHAPTER 25

Reports of the Boundary Commissions

4 Publicity and consultation

- (1) Section 5 of the 1986 Act (publicity and consultation) is amended as follows.
- (2) In subsection (1)(a)(iii) (length of initial consultation period), for “12 weeks” substitute “eight weeks”.
- (3) Omit subsections (1)(b) and (3) (duty to hold public hearings during initial consultation period and related provision).
- (4) In subsection (4)(a) (duty to publish information after the initial consultation period), omit “and records of public hearings held under subsection (1)(b) above”.
- (5) In subsection (4)(b) (the secondary consultation period)—
 - (a) for “things” substitute “representations”, and
 - (b) for “four weeks” substitute “eight weeks”.
- (6) After subsection (4)(b) insert—
 - “(c) shall cause public hearings to be held at such times during the secondary consultation period as they think fit.”
- (7) After subsection (4) insert—
 - “(4A) Schedule 2A contains further provision about public hearings under subsection (4)(c).
 - (4B) After the end of the secondary consultation period, the Commission—
 - (a) must publish, in such manner as they think fit, records of public hearings held under subsection (4)(c), and
 - (b) must take such steps as they think fit to inform people in the proposed constituencies that written representations with respect to those records may be made to the Commission during a specified period of eight weeks (“the third consultation period”).”

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (8) In subsection (5) (requirements if revised proposals)—
- (a) after “revised proposed constituencies” insert “before the beginning of the third consultation period”, and
 - (b) in paragraph (c), for “a specified period of eight weeks” substitute “the third consultation period”.
- (9) In subsection (7) (the taking of steps), after “(4)” insert “, (4B)”.
- (10) In subsection (8) (duty to consider certain matters)—
- (a) in paragraph (a), after “(4)(b)” insert “, (4B)(b)”, and
 - (b) in paragraph (b), for “(1)(b)” substitute “(4)(c)”.
- (11) In subsection (10)(b), after “(4)” insert “, (4B)”.
- (12) After subsection (10) insert—
- “(11) If the report mentioned in subsection (1) is a 2023 report, this section applies in relation to that report as if—
- (a) in subsection (4)(b), the reference to eight weeks were a reference to six weeks, and
 - (b) in subsection (4B)(b), the reference to eight weeks were a reference to four weeks.
- (12) In subsection (11), a “2023 report” means a report that is required by section 3(2) to be submitted before 1 July 2023.”