

= Peterborough (UK Parliament constituency) =

Peterborough is a borough constituency represented in the House of Commons of the Parliament of the United Kingdom , sharing the name of a smaller constituency represented in the Parliament of England until 1707 and then in that of Great Britain until 1800 . It elects one Member of Parliament by the first past the post system of election .

The serving Member is Conservative Stewart Jackson . He defeated Labour 's Helen Clark in 2005 , and was re @-@ elected in 2010 with an increased majority . In 2015 , he held the seat with a reduced majority .

= = Boundaries = =

1918 @-@ 1950 : The administrative county of the Soke of Peterborough , the Urban District of Oundle , the Rural Districts of Easton @-@ on @-@ the @-@ Hill and Gretton , and parts of the Rural Districts of Oundle and Thrapston .

1950 @-@ 1974 : The Municipal Borough of Peterborough , the Urban District of Oundle , the Rural Districts of Barnack and Peterborough , and part of the Rural District of Oundle and Thrapston .

1974 @-@ 1983 : The Municipal Borough of Peterborough , and the Rural Districts of Barnack , Peterborough , and Thorney .

1983 @-@ 1997 : The City of Peterborough wards of Bretton , Central , Dogsthorpe , East , Fletton , North , Orton Longueville , Orton Waterville , Park , Paston , Ravensthorpe , Stanground , Walton , and West .

1997 @-@ 2010 : The City of Peterborough wards of Bretton , Central , Dogsthorpe , East , North , Park , Paston , Ravensthorpe , Walton , Werrington , and West .

2010 @-@ present : The City of Peterborough wards of Bretton North , Bretton South , Central , Dogsthorpe , East , Eye and Thorney , Newborough , North , Park , Paston , Ravensthorpe , Walton , Werrington North , Werrington South , and West .

The City of Peterborough formed a parliamentary borough returning two Members in 1541 . The rest of the Soke of Peterborough was part of the Northamptonshire parliamentary county , except the area south of the River Nene in the historic county of Huntingdonshire and Thorney , which was considered part of Cambridgeshire . Until 1832 when the whole of the parish of Saint John the Baptist was encompassed , the boundary , as far as is known , excluded the villages of Longthorpe , Dogsthorpe and Newark with Eastfield . The Great Reform Act did not affect the borough , while the rural portion of the Soke was included in the northern division of Northamptonshire . New Fletton was transferred from Huntingdonshire in 1868 and in 1918 the parliamentary borough was abolished and replaced with a new division of the parliamentary county of Northampton with the Soke of Peterborough , including the whole of the Soke and neighbouring parts of the administrative county of Northamptonshire , extending down to and beyond Thrapston and Corby . This became a county constituency under the 1948 revisions , when the boundaries of the constituency were adjusted to correspond to those of the Soke and they remained much the same until 1970 . Peterborough became a county constituency in 1974 .

Following their review of parliamentary representation in Cambridgeshire in 2005 , the Boundary Commission for England made minor alterations to the existing constituencies to deal with population changes . The electoral wards used to create the modified Peterborough constituency fought at the 2010 general election are : Bretton North , Bretton South , Central , Dogsthorpe , East , Eye and Thorney , Newborough , North , Park , Paston , Ravensthorpe , Walton , Werrington North , Werrington South , and West . These changes increased the electorate from 64 @,@ 893 to 70 @,@ 640 . On the enumeration date of 17 February 2000 , the electoral quota for England was 69 @,@ 934 voters per constituency .

The Peterborough wards of Barnack , Fletton , Glinton and Wittering , Northborough , Orton Longueville , Orton Waterville , Orton with Hampton , Stanground Central , and Stanground East form part of the North West Cambridgeshire constituency created in 1997 from parts of Peterborough and Huntingdon constituencies . The serving member for North West Cambridgeshire

is the Conservative , Shailesh Vara MP , who succeeded Sir Brian Mawhinney , former Secretary of State for Transport and Chairman of the Conservative Party , in 2005 . Mawhinney , who had previously served as Member of Parliament for Peterborough from 1979 , was created Baron Mawhinney , of Peterborough in the county of Cambridgeshire in 2005 . Eye and Thorney was previously included in the North East Cambridgeshire (prior to 1983 Isle of Ely) constituency .

= = Franchise = =

In the unreformed House of Commons to be either a candidate or an elector for a county seat , a man had to own (not rent) freehold property valued for the land tax at two pounds a year (women could neither vote nor stand for election) . This was known as the 40 / - freehold . The franchise for borough seats varied enormously . Originally in Peterborough the dean and chapter had claimed the franchise and held that only residents of Minster Precincts were burgesses . By the interregnum , the city was one of 37 boroughs in which suffrage was restricted to those paying scot and lot , a form of municipal taxation . In 1800 there were 2 @, @ 000 registered voters in Northamptonshire and 400 in Peterborough . By 1835 this was 576 , or about one per cent of the population . Bribery was general until the introduction of the secret ballot under the Ballot Act 1872 . Votes were cast by spoken declaration , in public , at the hustings , erected on the Market Place (now Cathedral Square) .

In 1832 the Great Reform Act enfranchised those who owned or leased land worth £ 10 or more and the Second Reform Act extended this to all householders paying £ 10 or more in rent per annum , effectively enfranchising the skilled working class , so by 1868 the percentage of voters in Peterborough had risen to about 20 % of the population . The Third Reform Act extended the provisions of the previous act to the counties and the Fourth Reform Act widened suffrage further by abolishing practically all property qualifications for men and by enfranchising women over 30 who met minimum property qualifications . This system , known as universal manhood suffrage , was first used in the 1918 general election . However , full electoral equality wouldn 't occur until the Fifth Reform Act ten years later .

According to the 2001 census , the population count of Peterborough constituency is 95 @, @ 103 persons , comprising 46 @, @ 131 males and 48 @, @ 972 females . 67 @. @ 56 % of those aged 16 ? 74 are economically active , including 5 @. @ 92 % unemployed ; a further 12 @. @ 26 % are retired and 3 @. @ 08 % students . Of a total 39 @, @ 760 households , 63 @. @ 80 % are owner occupied , fewer than the regional (72 @. @ 71 %) and national (68 @. @ 72 %) averages . Turnout at the 2005 general election was 41 @, @ 194 or 61 @. @ 0 % of those eligible to vote , below the regional (63 @. @ 6 %) and national (61 @. @ 3 %) figures .

= = Members of Parliament = =

Peterborough sent two members to parliament for the first time in 1547 . Before the civil war , many were relatives of the clergy ; then for two hundred years after the restoration there was always a Fitzwilliam , or a Fitzwilliam nominee , sitting as member for Peterborough , making it a Whig stronghold . Representation was reduced to one member under the Redistribution of Seats Act 1885 . From the formal merger of the breakaway Liberal Unionists with the Conservatives in 1912 and the absorption of rural North Northamptonshire in 1918 , Peterborough has been predominantly Conservative . The growth in the New Town from 1967 may in part account for Labour 's victory here in 1974 . Since its formation in 1997 , North West Cambridgeshire has been one of the safest Conservative seats in the country . At the election which followed , Peterborough was ranked 93rd in the Conservatives 's one hundred most vulnerable seats (the ones which the other parties must take if there is to be a change of government) and 73rd on Labour 's target list .

In 1966 , the closest poll in UK history , Sir Harmar Nicholls held the seat by three votes after seven recounts . Nicholls was the Conservative member from 1950 to 1974 , when he lost in the October election of that year to Labour 's Michael Ward , having held on by just 22 votes after four recounts in the election eight months earlier . After he lost his seat he was created Baron Harmar @-@

Nicholls , of Peterborough in the county of Cambridgeshire and served , from 1979 to 1984 , as Member of the European Parliament for Greater Manchester South . David Cecil , 6th Marquess of Exeter , winner of 400m hurdles at the 1928 Summer Olympics , member of the International Olympic Committee for 48 years and chairman of the organising committee of the 1948 Summer Olympics , was the Conservative member from 1931 to 1943 . Lord Burghley , as he then was , succeeded the socialist writer and illustrator , Frank Horrabin , who was born in the city and elected under the leadership of Ramsay MacDonald in 1929 .

The most recent Labour MP for Peterborough , Helen Clark (née Brinton) , won the seat in 1997 . She was defeated at the 2005 general election , following which it was widely reported that Clark was planning to defect to the Conservative Party , an announcement which was not popular locally . However , by early June it emerged that while she had left the Labour Party , she had not in fact joined the Conservatives and did not intend to .

One of the earliest incumbents , Sir Walter Mildmay , member for Peterborough from 1553 to 1554 , subsequently became Chancellor of the Exchequer from 1559 to 1589 . Later , in the nineteenth century , William Elliot , Whig member from 1802 until his death in 1819 , was Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland between 1806 and 1807 ; the Hon. William Lamb (later the 2nd Viscount Melbourne) , Whig member from 1816 to 1819 , became Home Secretary in 1830 then Prime Minister from 1834 to 1841 ; and Sir James Scarlett (later the 1st Baron Abinger) , Whig member from 1819 to 1830 , was , from 1827 , Attorney General for England and Wales .

= = = Parliamentary Borough 1547 ? 1918 = = =

= = = = MPs 1542 ? 1660 = = = =

= = = = MPs 1660 ? 1883 = = = =

The Tories (or Abhorrrers) and Whigs (or Petitioners) originated in the Court and Country parties that emerged in the aftermath of the civil war , although it is more accurate to describe them as loose tendencies , both of which might be regarded as conservative in modern terms . Modern party politics did not really begin to coalesce in Great Britain until at least 1784 .

= = = = MPs 1885 ? 1918 = = = =

In 1832 the Tory Party evolved into the Conservative Party and in 1859 the Whig Party evolved , with Radicals and Peelites , into the Liberal Party . In opposition to Irish home rule , the Liberal Unionists ceded from the Liberals in 1886 , aligning themselves with the Conservatives . The Labour Party was later founded , as the Labour Representation Committee , in 1900 .

= = = Division and County Constituency = = =

The parliamentary borough of Peterborough was abolished under the Representation of the People Act 1918 , and the name was transferred to a division of the new parliamentary county of Northampton with the Soke of Peterborough . The Peterborough division became a county constituency in 1950 .

= = = = MPs 1918 ? 1974 = = = =

= = = Borough Constituency = = =

Peterborough was redefined as a borough constituency with effect from the February 1974 general

election . Successors of the historic parliamentary boroughs , the spending limits for election campaigns are slightly lower than in county constituencies .

===== MPs since 1974 =====

== Election results ==

===== Elections in the 2010s =====

===== Elections in the 2000s =====

===== Elections in the 1990s =====

===== Elections in the 1980s =====

===== Elections in the 1970s =====

===== Elections in the 1960s =====

===== Elections in the 1950s =====

===== Elections in the 1940s =====

General Election 1939 / 40 Another general election was required to take place before the end of 1940 . The political parties had been making preparations for an election to take place from 1939 and by the end of this year , the following candidates had been selected :
Conservative : David George Brownlow Cecil , Lord Burghley
Labour : Samuel Bennett

===== Elections in the 1930s =====

===== Elections in the 1920s =====

===== Elections in the 1910s =====

? denotes a candidate endorsed by the Coalition Government