

## 2018 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies Issues raised during public consultation (Secondary)

### For information

1. This paper summarises the responses and main issues which have emerged during the secondary public consultation on the Commission's Initial Proposals for constituencies. The Paper also provides a schedule for discussing its Revised Proposals.

### Initial consultation

2. During the initial consultation on the initial proposals (from October 2016 to January 2017), the Commission received nearly 1,500 responses. The main issues raised during the initial consultation were:
  - Support for the proposed Ayr and Carrick constituency which links Ayr, Troon and Prestwick;
  - Opposition to the proposals in Aberdeenshire which created a constituency that split Banchory from other communities in the Dee Valley;
  - Opposition to the proposals in Bearsden;
  - Opposition to the proposals in Perthshire that link rural Perthshire with coastal Fife;
  - Suggestions to amend the boundary by Dumfries; and
  - A number of responses in City of Edinburgh, opposing the proposals and supporting Ian Murray's suggestion.

### Secondary consultation

3. The secondary consultation period was from 28 February 2017 to 27 March 2017. The Commission received 429 responses during the secondary public consultation period, 194 of which were submitted directly to the consultation portal.
4. A table showing the responses by council areas over the two stages of consultation can be found at Appendix A.
5. 93 representations were considered to be in support of the proposals and 287 in opposition. The remaining 49 neither supported nor opposed the Commission's proposals. There was one petition/letter writing campaign by residents in Dumfries and Galloway who objected to the Commission's proposals for the area and this was supported by approximately 110 respondents.
6. The main themes from the secondary consultation were:
  - Further opposition to the Commission's proposals in Banchory, Bearsden, and Dumfries and Galloway.
  - Support for the Commission's proposals in East Renfrewshire and opposition to the counter-proposals for the area made by Kenneth Gibson MSP. There has also been support for a suggestion to rename the proposed Cunninghame East constituency as Eastwood and Loudoun.
  - Support for the Commission's proposals within Edinburgh and opposition to the counter-proposals for the area made by Ian Murray MP.

7. As in the Initial Consultation stage the majority of responses were from individual members of the public, the breakdown of responses are:
- 303 from members of the public
  - 58 official responses from a National Political Party
  - 35 from Community Groups
  - 12 from Local Councillors or elected officials
  - 8 from Members of Scottish Parliament
  - 5 from Members of the UK Parliament
  - 3 on behalf of an organisation (private or public)
  - 2 on behalf of a local authority
  - 1 official response from a Local Political Party
  - 1 on behalf of a parish or town council
  - 1 from a Peer from House of Lords
8. The Scottish Labour Party responded to the consultation but made no further comments or suggestions. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party submitted a response commenting on all the groupings and responses. There were no formal responses from the Scottish National Party or the Scottish Liberal Democrats.
9. The Secretariat placed a promoted tweet ad through Twitter that was targeted at Twitter users in Scotland with a potential interest in the 2018 Review. This was designed to drive traffic to the consultation portal. Whilst Twitter analytics suggested a large increase in clicks through to our portal, Portal data suggest that these visits did not result in representations being made. The promoted tweet ran for 8 days towards the end of the secondary consultation period but was curtailed following Cabinet Office advice after the attack in Westminster on 22 March.
10. The Commission may be interested to note that it received 49 responses during its secondary consultation on Initial Proposals for 6<sup>th</sup> Review of UK Parliament constituencies.

### **Consideration of representations**

11. The Secretariat suggests that it will prepare a series of papers which discuss the representations relating to the groups of council areas, subject to any changes that are required to the groups of council areas.
12. Reviewing the representations received so far, the Secretariat suggests scheduling papers on the different areas of Scotland as follows:

#### *April meeting*

- Aberdeenshire, Aberdeen City, Angus, Dundee City
- East Lothian
- Midlothian, Scottish Borders

#### *May meeting*

- City of Edinburgh and West Lothian
- East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, Inverclyde, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire

*June meeting*

- Glasgow City
- East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire
- Highland, Moray, Argyll and Bute
- Dumfries and Galloway, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire

*July or August meetings*

- Clackmannanshire, Falkirk, Fife, Perth and Kinross, Stirling

**Conclusion**

13. The Commission is invited to note this paper, provide any comments on the secondary consultation and note the intended schedule for consideration of different areas of Scotland.

Secretariat,  
April 2017

## Appendix A

## Summary of Responses by Council Area and Consultation Stage

Council Area	Initial Consultation	Secondary Consultation
Dumfries and Galloway	156	152
East Renfrewshire	23	63
East Dunbartonshire	200	62
Glasgow City	38	19
East Ayrshire	29	15
City of Edinburgh	136	14
Stirling	27	14
Aberdeenshire	243	11
North Lanarkshire	46	8
North Ayrshire	21	6
Highland	104	6
Argyll and Bute	23	5
Perth and Kinross	164	4
South Ayrshire	423	4
Falkirk	21	4
Renfrewshire	21	4
Aberdeen City	17	4
West Dunbartonshire	19	4
West Lothian	21	4
Clackmannanshire	17	4
Fife	31	3
South Lanarkshire	22	3
Angus	17	3
Scottish Borders	25	3
Dundee City	20	2
East Lothian	18	2
Moray	19	2
Midlothian	19	2
Inverclyde	18	2
Grand Total	1938*	429

\*Paper BCS 2017/51 listed this figure as 1471. That was the total number of discrete responses at the time Paper BCS 2017/51 was prepared. This increased as responses covering multiple areas were added individually for each council area to assist further consultation through the portal.