



2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies

Report on progress during 2022

January 2023

Boundary Commission for Scotland

2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies

Report on progress during 2022

Presented to Parliament pursuant to Section 3(2C) of the
Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986, as amended

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The Speaker
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

31 January 2023

Dear Speaker

1. As required by section 3(2B)(a) of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (as amended by the Parliamentary Voting System Act 2011 and Parliamentary Constituencies Act 2020), hereafter referred to as 'the Act', we are required to submit to you as Chair of the Boundary Commission for Scotland a report setting out the progress we have made on the current boundary review. As you will be aware, you are required by section 3(2C) to lay our report before Parliament.

Previous report

2. We submitted our previous progress report in January 2022, in which we reported that we had published our Initial Proposals, completed the initial eight-week public consultation on them and were preparing the 1,100 comments which we had received for publication for the statutory secondary consultation period.

Since our last report

3. The statutory six-week secondary consultation period ran from 10 February 2022 to 23 March 2022. We undertook a publicity campaign which included press advertising and social media advertising.
4. We published the written representations made during the initial consultation period and invited comments on them.
5. We held five public hearings across Scotland, the maximum number permitted, in: Edinburgh on 16 February; Perth on 18 February; Glasgow on 23 February; Inverness on 25 February; and Oban on 1 March. Each hearing was chaired by a Sheriff Principal and lasted a single day.
6. A total of 12 people made representations at the public hearings. One in Edinburgh, three in Perth, three in Glasgow, four in Inverness and one in Oban. Adverse weather conditions on some of the public hearings dates may have affected the number of individuals attending them. If changes to the background legislation permit it, we may consider holding public hearings in person or by video-conference in the future.
7. We received just over 180 responses during this stage. 84% of the representations were made through our online consultation website.
8. The statutory four-week revised consultation period ran from 8 November 2022 to 5 December 2022. We followed a similar publicity campaign.
9. We received over 860 responses to our revised consultation. The Commission are in the process of considering all representations and will consider their Final Recommendations early in 2023.

Final report

10. We will submit our final recommendations by 1 July 2023.

The Hon Lord Matthews
Deputy Chair of the Commission

Professor Ailsa Henderson
Boundary Commissioner

Dr Susan Walker
Boundary Commissioner

Isabel Drummond-Murray
Secretary to the Commission

