



24 January 2022

Boundary Commission for Scotland confirms public hearing timetable as it enters the next stage of its 2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies

The Boundary Commission for Scotland has today confirmed that it plans to hold five public hearings throughout Scotland. We encourage the public to share their views in person on its initial proposals for new UK Parliament constituencies in Scotland.

The hearings will form part of the secondary consultation period, where the public are encouraged to make comments on the representations already received during the initial consultation as well as give oral evidence on the initial proposals for Scotland's new parliamentary constituencies.

Public hearing venues and dates are as follows:

Location	Venue	Date
Edinburgh	Apex Hotel, Waterloo Place, Edinburgh EH1 3BH	16/02/2022
Perth	Joan Knight Studio, Perth Theatre, Mill Street, Perth PH1 5HZ	18/02/2022
Glasgow	Doubltree by Hilton, 36 Cambridge Street, Glasgow G2 3HN	23/02/2022
Inverness	Jury's Inn Hotel, Millburn Road, Inverness IV2 3TR	25/02/2022
Oban	Corran Halls, 54 Corran Esplanade, Oban PA34 5AB	01/03/2022

Each hearing will begin at 10am and include three sessions depending on demand. These sessions will run from 10am - 12pm, 2pm - 4pm and 6pm - 8pm.

The public are asked to email bcs@scottishboundaries.gov.uk to book a speaking slot. Please note that the Commission cannot guarantee you a speaking slot at your preferred time and you may be asked to choose a different slot or submit your representation in writing. The Commission

reminds those wishing to take part in the public hearings to ensure they are fully compliant with all applicable Covid-19 related guidance.

The six-week secondary consultation period will run from 10 February to 23 March 2022.

During the secondary consultation stage of the review, the Commission will publish all of the comments received during its initial consultation stage for further comment. These can be viewed on our consultation site www.bcs2023review.com and further comments can be made there. Responses to the initial consultation will be available to view on the Commission’s website just prior to the secondary consultation.

The Commission will consider all comments submitted during its initial and secondary consultation stages before developing revised proposals for consultation later in 2022.

Lord Matthews, Deputy Chair of the Boundary Commission for Scotland, said

“Public hearings are an important part of the public consultation process, and we welcome comments on any of our proposals at any of our hearings Scotland. We will reflect on responses to the consultation and make changes if appropriate, where the legislation allows us to do so. ”

Those people who wish to comment at a hearing but cannot do so are invited to submit their comments in writing by email, letter or on the Commission’s interactive consultation portal www.bcs2023review.com between 10 February and 23 March 2022.

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Background information

The Boundary Commission for Scotland

The Boundary Commission for Scotland is an independent advisory non-departmental public body sponsored and funded by the Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland. The role of the Commission is to review the boundaries of UK Parliament constituencies.

For the avoidance of confusion Boundaries Scotland (formerly the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland) is a separate commission which is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations for: constituencies and regions for the Scottish Parliament; the number of councillors on each council in a local government area; the number of wards for local government elections and their boundaries; and the extent of council areas.

Background to the review

The 2023 Review of UK Parliamentary constituencies is required by the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (as amended). It is being conducted simultaneously and independently by the four Boundary Commissions in Scotland, England, Northern Ireland and Wales in their respective countries. Reviews are required to take account of changes in population size and distribution.

The existing constituencies have remained unchanged since 2005 and were used in the 2005, 2010, 2015, 2017, 2019 General Elections.

2023 BCS Review timeline

January 2021 – the electorate at 2 March 2020 is published and the four UK Boundary Commissions calculate the electorate quota and develop initial proposals for the 2023 Review.

October to December 2021 – Commission conducts an eight week public consultation on its initial proposals.

10 February – 23 March 2022: Commission conducts a six-week ‘secondary consultation’ when it publishes consultation responses from the initial consultation for public scrutiny. The Commission must hold between two and five public hearings around Scotland.

Late 2022: Commission conducts a four-week public consultation on its revised proposals.

Commission submits its recommendations by 1 July 2023.

Electorate and Allocation of constituencies

The electoral quota for the review, which is the average electorate per constituency across the UK, is 73,393, with the electorate of each constituency having to be within five per cent of that i.e. between 69,724 and 77,062.

In Scotland, exceptions to these electorate limits apply to the two protected island constituencies Na h-Eileanan an Iar (the Western Isles), and Orkney and Shetland.

An exception to the minimum electorate requirement can be made if a constituency is larger than 12,000 square kilometres which can only occur in very sparsely populated areas.

The electorate for this review is taken from the electoral register on 2 March 2020, published in December 2020.

Factors we consider

Subject to the above requirements, the legislation states that we may take into account, as we think fit, other factors, namely:

- special geographical considerations, including the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;
- boundaries of council areas and electoral wards;
- existing Westminster constituency boundaries; and
- any local ties which would be broken by changes in constituencies.

Factors we do not consider

This Review is concerned solely with UK Parliament constituency boundaries and whilst we consider existing local boundaries in developing our proposals, this Review has no impact on council area boundaries, Scottish Parliament constituency boundaries, polling districts or school catchment areas.

Existing constituencies

Based on the March 2020 electoral register 18 existing constituencies lie within the electoral quota. These are shown below:

Central Ayrshire	69,779	Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath	73,288
Glasgow South	69,956	Edinburgh South West	73,315
Stirling	70,085	Perth and North Perthshire	73,523
Midlothian	71,210	North Ayrshire and Arran	73,588
Moray	71,537	West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine	73,634
Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock	72,057	Coatbridge, Chryston and Bellshill	73,996
Paisley and Renfrewshire North	72,576	Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk	74,687
East Renfrewshire	72,959	Kilmarnock and Loudoun	74,801
Edinburgh West	73,102	Dumfries and Galloway	75,332

Constituency design approach

The Commission developed its initial proposals in council area groupings. These included:

- One constituency wholly within East Renfrewshire council area
- Four constituencies wholly within East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire and South Ayrshire council areas
- Seven constituencies wholly within City of Edinburgh, East Lothian and Midlothian council areas
- Nine constituencies wholly within Glasgow City, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire council areas
- Nine constituencies wholly within Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, Argyll and Bute, Highland and Moray council areas

- Twelve constituencies wholly within Dumfries and Galloway, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire and Scottish Borders council areas
- Thirteen constituencies wholly within Fife, Perth and Kinross, Clackmannanshire, Falkirk, Stirling, Angus, Dundee City and West Lothian council areas

Proposed Constituencies:

Constituency Name	Electorate	Area (sq. km)	Designation
Aberdeen North	76,895	104	Burgh
Aberdeen South	76,560	102	Burgh
Airdrie and Shotts	72,775	239	County
Angus and Strathmore	74,051	2891	County
Argyll	71,442	9294	County
Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock	72,057	1636	County
Banff and Buchan	72,837	1451	County
Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk	73,779	3764	County
Central Ayrshire	69,779	237	County
Coatbridge and Bellshill	72,332	69	Burgh
Dumfries and Galloway	74,916	3844	County
Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale	73,593	4809	County
Dundee East and Arbroath	75,706	184	County
Dundee West and Gowrie	76,771	181	County
East Kilbride and Strathaven	75,161	305	County
East Lothian Coast	73,939	693	County
East Renfrewshire	72,959	174	County
Edinburgh East	73,187	32	Burgh
Edinburgh North and Leith	76,543	20	Burgh
Edinburgh South	70,893	31	Burgh
Edinburgh South West	73,315	90	Burgh
Edinburgh West	76,903	108	Burgh
Forth Valley South	76,431	182	County
Glasgow Central	72,600	26	Burgh
Glasgow East	72,384	42	Burgh
Glasgow North	73,316	28	Burgh
Glasgow South	70,191	27	Burgh
Glasgow South West	71,584	29	Burgh
Glasgow West	71,493	19	Burgh
Glenrothes and Loch Leven	74,155	368	County
Gordon and Moray South	73,121	3151	County
Hamilton and Clyde Valley	74,577	258	County
Highland Central	75,651	8717	County
Highland East and Elgin	72,038	3570	County
Highland North	76,654	12781	County
Inverclyde and Bridge of Weir	70,476	218	County
Kelvin North	70,773	202	County
Kelvin South	74,905	94	Burgh
Kilmarnock and Loudoun	74,801	702	County
Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath	74,637	154	County
Linlithgow and Bathgate	73,710	233	County

Livingston	73,394	232	County
Mid Forth Valley	74,126	263	County
Midlothian	71,210	355	County
Motherwell and Clydesdale North	70,138	214	County
<i>Na h-Eileanan an Iar</i>	21,177	3267	County
North Ayrshire and Arran	73,588	834	County
North East Fife	70,452	824	County
<i>Orkney and Shetland</i>	34,824	2744	County
Perth and Tay	74,589	4156	County
Renfrew North	69,899	79	Burgh
Renfrew South	69,797	150	County
Rutherglen	71,612	41	Burgh
Stirling	70,085	2255	County
West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine	73,634	3272	County
West Dunbartonshire	71,186	184	County
West Fife	70,011	299	County

The initial proposals retain nine existing constituencies

Central Ayrshire	69,779	Kilmarnock and Loudoun	74,801
Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock	72,057	North Ayrshire and Arran	73,588
Stirling	70,085	West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine	73,634
Midlothian	71,210	East Renfrewshire	72,959
Edinburgh South West	73,315		

The range of electors per constituency was 41,582. The constituency with the smallest electorate was Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross (46,924 electors). The constituency with the largest electorate was Linlithgow and East Falkirk (88,506 electors).

The range of electors per constituency under the initial proposals will be 7,124, from Central Ayrshire with 69,779 electors to Edinburgh West with 76,903 electors.

The largest proposed constituency by area is Highland North, at 12,781 square kilometres (currently Ross, Skye and Lochaber at 12,768 square kilometres).

The smallest proposed constituency is Glasgow West, at 19 square kilometres (currently Glasgow North at 17 square kilometres).

One constituency covers three council areas: Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale. It follows a similar boundary to the existing Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency.

Constituency Summary

The Commission developed its initial proposals in council area groupings. These included:

East Renfrewshire council area

The existing East Renfrewshire constituency is unchanged.

East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire and South Ayrshire council areas

The four existing Ayrshire constituencies (Central Ayrshire, North Ayrshire and Arran, Ayr, Carrick & Cumnock and Kilmarnock and Loudoun) are unchanged.

City of Edinburgh, East Lothian and Midlothian council areas

This grouping proposes no change to the overall number of constituencies – 7.

The existing Midlothian constituency is unchanged.

In Edinburgh, the existing Edinburgh South West constituency and the existing constituency names are unchanged. There are minor changes to the boundary between the Edinburgh West and Edinburgh North and Leith constituencies at Craighleith and the Dean Village. The boundary between the Edinburgh East and Edinburgh South constituencies has been amended at Prestonfield. The Edinburgh East constituency now includes the western half of Musselburgh.

In East Lothian, due to the electorate growth, part of Musselburgh has been added to an Edinburgh East constituency. The constituency is named East Lothian Coast as it no longer follows the East Lothian council area boundary.

Glasgow City, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire council areas

There are currently ten constituencies within this grouping, the Initial Proposals propose nine constituencies.

The proposed Inverclyde and Bridge of Weir constituency includes the whole of Inverclyde council area, Bridge of Weir and Houston.

The proposed Renfrew North and Renfrew South constituencies maintain a north-south split of Paisley. The Renfrew North constituency includes part of Cardonald from Glasgow City council area.

Glasgow City council area contains six constituencies wholly within the council area. The proposed Glasgow West constituency is similar to the existing Glasgow North West constituency except for minor changes to the boundary by Anniesland and Partick. The proposed Glasgow North constituency includes the city-centre, Maryhill and Possilpark. The proposed Glasgow Central constituency extends from Govanhill to Robroyston. The proposed Glasgow South constituency includes Castlemilk and Shawlands. The proposed Glasgow South West constituency extends from Govan to Nittshill. The proposed Glasgow East constituency follows ward boundaries and includes Shettleston and Easterhouse. A small area by Yoker is added to a West Dunbartonshire constituency.

Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, Argyll and Bute, Highland and Moray council areas

There are currently ten constituencies within this grouping, the Initial Proposals propose nine constituencies.

The existing West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine constituency is unchanged.

Two constituencies sit wholly within the Aberdeen City council area boundary. The proposed boundary between the Aberdeen North and Aberdeen South constituencies follows ward boundaries, except by Rosemount.

The proposed Argyll constituency contains the whole of Argyll and Bute council area, Ardnamurchan, Glen Coe and Loch Leven.

The proposed Highland Central constituency includes Inverness, Fort William and Skye.

The proposed Highland North constituency contains the northern half of Highland council area.

The proposed Highland East and Elgin constituency includes Badenoch and Strathspey, Nairn and Elgin.

The proposed Banff and Buchan constituency follows Aberdeenshire ward boundaries and is similar to the existing constituency as it follows the Aberdeenshire north coast.

The proposed Gordon and Moray South contains Ellon, Huntly and Glenlivet.

Dumfries and Galloway, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire and Scottish Borders council areas

This grouping proposes no change to the overall number of constituencies – 12.

The proposed Dumfries and Galloway constituency is similar to the existing constituency except for minor changes to the boundary by Dumfries.

The proposed Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk constituency is similar to the existing constituency except for minor changes to the boundary by Galashiels.

The proposed Dumfriesshire, Tweeddale and Clydesdale constituency is similar to the existing constituency except for minor changes to the boundary by Lanark.

The boundaries of both the proposed East Kilbride and Strathaven constituency and Rutherglen constituency follow ward boundaries within South Lanarkshire council area.

The proposed Hamilton and Clyde Valley constituency extends from Hamilton to Lanark and Lesmahagow.

The proposed Motherwell and Clydesdale North constituency includes Motherwell, Wishaw, Carluke and Forth.

The proposed Airdrie and Shotts constituency is similar to the existing constituency except for minor changes to the boundary by Cleland.

The proposed Coatbridge and Bellshill constituency is similar to the existing Coatbridge, Chryston and Bellshill constituency but doesn't include Chryston.

The proposed Kelvin South constituency includes Cumbernauld, Stepps and Kirkintilloch.

The proposed Kelvin North constituency includes Kilsyth, Bishopbriggs and Bearsden.

The proposed West Dunbartonshire constituency includes the whole of the council area and a small area by Yoker.

Angus, Clackmannanshire, Dundee City, Falkirk, Fife, Perth and Kinross, Stirling and West Lothian council areas

This grouping proposes no change to the overall number of constituencies – 13.

The existing Stirling constituency is unchanged.

The proposed Livingston constituency contains Livingston and Whitburn.

The proposed Linlithgow and Bathgate constituency also includes Bo'ness from Falkirk council area.

The proposed Forth Valley South constituency contains Falkirk, Grangemouth and Bonnybridge.

The proposed Mid Forth Valley constituency contains Clackmannanshire council area and Denny and Stenhousemuir from Falkirk council area.

The proposed West Fife constituency is similar to the existing Dunfermline and West Fife but the boundary follows the M90 and includes Crook of Devon from Perth and Kinross council area.

The proposed Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath constituency follows ward boundaries within Fife council area.

The proposed North East Fife constituency is similar to the existing constituency except for minor changes to the boundary by Leven. It follows ward boundaries within Fife council area.

The proposed Glenrothes and Loch Leven constituency follows ward boundaries in Fife and includes Kinross.

The proposed Perth and Tay constituency follows ward boundaries within Perth and Kinross council area.

The proposals retain an east-west split in Dundee City council area where the constituency boundaries follow Dundee ward boundaries. The proposed Dundee West and Gowrie constituency splits the Perth and Kinross Carse of Gowrie ward by following higher ground above the A90 road. The proposed Dundee East and Arbroath constituency includes the coastal Angus towns of Arbroath, Carnoustie and Monifieth.

The proposed Angus and Strathmore constituency includes the Angus Glens, Forfar, Montrose and Blairgowrie from Perth and Kinross council area.

Other

The existing Na h-Eileanan an Iar and Orkney and Shetland Islands constituencies are both protected by legislation and unchanged.

Notes for Editors:

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