



28 June 2023

**2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies
Boundary Commission for Scotland Final Recommendations laid before
Parliament**

The Boundary Commission for Scotland today published its 2023 Review Final Recommendations for United Kingdom Parliament constituencies in Scotland.

The Commission's 2023 Review Report was submitted to the Speaker of the House of Commons and to the Secretary of State for Scotland on 27 June 2023 and laid before the UK Parliament today, 28 June 2023.

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

"The Commission would like to thank all those who participated in our 2023 Review by responding to our consultations and providing feedback to enable us to develop our Final Recommendations.

We listened carefully to comments made on our proposals during the 2023 Review and made a number of changes to boundaries and to constituency names. We believe our Final Recommendations meet the requirements of the legislation governing the review and within those constraints fairly reflect the views expressed to us during our consultations".

Based on the UK electorate, Scotland was allocated 57 constituencies for the 2023 Review, two fewer than at present. Two of these 57 constituencies are defined in the legislation and were not subject to review (Na h-Eileanan an Iar and Orkney and Shetland). Of the remaining 55, 8 remain unchanged from existing arrangements.

The UK Government is now required within a four month period to submit to the Privy Council an Order that gives effect to recommendations of the four UK Commissions. In drawing up that Order, the Government may not modify any of the recommendations made, unless specifically requested to do so by the relevant Commission. After the Privy Council approves the Order, the new constituencies will take effect at the next General Election.

Information on the 2023 Review, including the final report, maps of the recommended constituencies can be found on the Commission's website:

www.bcomm-scotland.independent.gov.uk/

** ENDS **

Notes for Editors

The 2023 Review commenced in January 2021.

Based on its share of the UK electorate, Scotland was allocated 57 constituencies for the 2023 Review, two fewer than at present. England was allocated 543 (+10), Northern Ireland 18 (no change) and Wales 32 (–8). This reflects changes in the population across the UK. The UK Parliament has retained 650 constituencies.

Two of Scotland's 57 constituencies are defined in the legislation and were not subject to review (Na h-Eileanan Siar and Orkney and Shetland).

As set out in legislation, each of the remaining 55 constituencies must:

- not exceed the maximum permitted area of 13,000 square kilometres; and
- be within five per cent of the UK electoral quota of 73,393 (ie to have between 69,724 and 77,062 electors), except where a constituency is larger than 12,000 square kilometres when it may have fewer than the minimum allowed.

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 existing council areas and electoral wards;
- existing Westminster constituency boundaries; and
- any local ties which would be broken by changes in constituencies.

The Commission agreed its Final Recommendations after considering responses to public consultations held on its Initial Proposals in 2021 and 2022 and on its Revised Proposals later in 2022. All comments received during these consultation periods can be viewed on our consultation site www.bcs2023review.com/

Of the 55 mainland constituencies recommended by the Commission:

- eight existing constituencies remain unchanged: Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock; Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk; Central Ayrshire; East Renfrewshire; Kilmarnock and Loudoun; Midlothian; North Ayrshire and Arran; and West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine constituencies.
- The largest recommended constituency by area is Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross, at 11,798 square kilometres (previously Ross, Skye and Lochaber at 12,768 square kilometres).
- The smallest recommended constituency by area is Glasgow West, at 19 square kilometres (previously Glasgow North at 17 square kilometres).
- The recommended constituency with the fewest electors, at 69,734, is Glenrothes and Mid Fife (previously Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross at 45,898).
- The recommended constituency with most electors, at 77,008, is Stirling and Strathallan (previously Linlithgow and East Falkirk at 83,593).
- 37 of the recommended mainland constituencies are within a single council area; (17 cover two council areas. One covers three council areas).
- 38 of the recommended mainland constituencies are designated as county constituencies and 17 as burgh constituencies.

The Commission designed constituencies by combining or grouping council areas. The recommendations result in one fewer constituency than at present within each of the

following council area groupings: Glasgow City, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire Council areas; and Aberdeenshire, Argyll & Bute, Highland and Moray Council areas.

For further information on the review process please contact Isabel Drummond-Murray, Secretary to the Commission, 0131 244 2001 / isabel.drummond-murray@scottishboundaries.gov.uk

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 constituencies at the UK Parliament.

Background to the 2023 Review:

The 2023 Review of UK Parliamentary constituencies is required by the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (as amended). The 2023 Review was conducted simultaneously by the four Boundary Commissions in Scotland, England, Northern Ireland and Wales.

The four Boundary Commissions have submitted their final recommendations at the same time.

Across the UK, the number of constituencies is being maintained at 650. In Scotland there will be a decrease from 59 to 57 constituencies. England will have 543 in place of the current 533; Wales 32 in place of the current 40; and Northern Ireland unchanged with 18.

The new constituencies will be available for use in the next General Election.

Further details:

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.

That means the smallest permitted electorate for a constituency is 69,724 and the largest permitted electorate is 77,062. In Scotland, exceptions to these electorate limits apply for Na h-Eileanan an Iar constituency (the Western Isles), and Orkney and Shetland constituency, each of which are defined in the legislation. 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.

In England, the legislation specifies that the Isle of Wight will have two constituencies and in Wales, Ynys Môn (Anglesey) will have a single constituency.

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

All burgh constituencies cover an area of 107 square kilometres or less. All county constituencies cover an area of 142 square kilometres or more.

The next review must report before 1 July 2031.

Final Recommendations for UK Parliament constituencies

Constituency name	Electorate (2 Mar 20)	Area (sq. km)	Designation
Aberdeen North	76,895	104	Burgh
Aberdeen South	76,560	102	Burgh
Aberdeenshire North and Moray East	71,485	1,343	County
Airdrie and Shotts	70,420	238	County
Alloa and Grangemouth	72,265	184	County
Angus and Perthshire Glens	77,006	5,532	County
Arbroath and Broughty Ferry	76,810	422	County
Argyll, Bute and South Lochaber	71,707	9,303	County
Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock	72,057	1,636	County
Bathgate and Linlithgow	71,650	221	County
Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk	74,687	3,842	County
Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross	75,173	11,798	County
Central Ayrshire	69,779	237	County
Coatbridge and Bellshill	72,507	69	Burgh
Cowdenbeath and Kirkcaldy	70,329	154	County
Cumbernauld and Kirkintilloch	70,579	142	County
Dumfries and Galloway	76,863	4,110	County
Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale	70,738	4,465	County
Dundee Central	75,298	42	Burgh
Dunfermline and Dollar	70,725	279	County
East Kilbride and Strathaven	75,161	305	County
East Renfrewshire	72,959	174	County
Edinburgh East and Musselburgh	75,705	34	Burgh
Edinburgh North and Leith	76,770	20	Burgh
Edinburgh South	70,980	31	Burgh
Edinburgh South West	73,315	90	Burgh
Edinburgh West	76,723	107	Burgh
Falkirk	75,067	202	County
Glasgow East	69,748	28	Burgh
Glasgow North	73,210	28	Burgh
Glasgow North East	75,236	39	Burgh
Glasgow South	71,344	27	Burgh
Glasgow South West	70,431	30	Burgh
Glasgow West	72,499	19	Burgh
Glenrothes and Mid Fife	69,734	173	County
Gordon and Buchan	70,238	2,083	County
Hamilton and Clyde Valley	74,577	257	County
Inverclyde and Renfrewshire West	70,418	208	County
Inverness, Skye and West Ross-shire	76,903	9,688	County
Kilmarnock and Loudoun	74,801	702	County
Livingston	75,454	244	County
Lothian East	71,287	690	County
Mid Dunbartonshire	75,099	154	County
Midlothian	71,210	355	County
Moray West, Nairn and Strathspey	76,237	4,748	County
Motherwell, Wishaw and Carluke	72,318	214	County

Constituency name	Electorate (2 Mar 20)	Area (sq. km)	Designation
Na h-Eileanan an Iar	21,177	3,268	County
North Ayrshire and Arran	73,588	834	County
North East Fife	70,452	824	County
Orkney and Shetland	34,824	2,744	County
Paisley and Renfrewshire North	69,941	89	Burgh
Paisley and Renfrewshire South	69,813	150	County
Perth and Kinross-shire	76,320	1,453	County
Rutherglen	71,612	41	Burgh
Stirling and Strathallan	77,008	2,492	County
West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine	73,634	3,272	County
West Dunbartonshire	70,286	183	County