

2018 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies
Constituency considerations for East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde council areas

Action required

1. The Commission is invited to consider alternative designs of constituencies for East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde council areas in furtherance of its 2018 Review of UK Parliament constituencies.

Background

2. On 24 February 2016, the Commission began its 2018 Review of UK Parliament constituencies with a view to making its recommendations by October 2018 in tandem with the other UK parliamentary boundary commissions.
3. The review is being undertaken in compliance with the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986, as amended. The Act stipulates a UK electoral quota of 74,769.2 electors and use of the parliamentary electorate figures from the December 2015 Electoral Register. The 5% electorate limits in the Act correspond to an electorate of no less than 71,031 and no more than 78,507.
4. The Act requires the Commission to recommend the name, extent and designation of constituencies in Scotland, of which there are to be 53 in total. 2 Scottish constituencies are prescribed in the Act: Orkney and Shetland Islands constituency and Western isles constituency.
5. The Act provides some discretion in the extent of the Commission's regard to the size, shape and accessibility of constituencies, existing constituencies and the breaking of local ties. As this review is considered to be the first following enactment of the legislation (the 6th Review was ended before completion in 2013 following enactment of the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013) the Commission need not have regard to the inconveniences attendant on changes to constituencies.
6. At its meeting of 16 May 2016, the Commission adopted groupings of council areas as part of its approach to constituency design for the 2018 Review, which included a group comprising East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde council areas. This paper offers some options for constituencies within these groups.
7. The 2015 parliamentary electorate of the council areas in this group is as shown in the table:

Council area	Parliamentary electorate	Constituency entitlement
East Ayrshire	89,709	1.20
East Renfrewshire	67,706	0.91
Inverclyde	56,956	0.76
North Ayrshire	101,916	1.36
Renfrewshire	123,049	1.65
South Ayrshire	86,518	1.16
Total	525,854	7.03

Table 1: 2015 parliamentary electorates of council areas in the group.

8. The total electorate for East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde council areas is 525,854 with an entitlement of 7.03 constituencies.
9. The existing constituencies in the group and their 2015 parliamentary electorates are as shown in Table 2 below:

Constituency	Electorate
Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock	69,299
Central Ayrshire	66,870
East Renfrewshire	67,706
Inverclyde	56,956
Kilmarnock and Loudoun	71,195
North Ayrshire and Arran	70,779
Paisley and Renfrewshire North	64,246
Paisley and Renfrewshire South	58,803

Table 2: 2015 parliamentary electorates of existing constituencies in the group.

10. A map of existing constituencies and council areas in the group can be found at Appendix A.
11. There is one existing constituency within the electoral quota: Kilmarnock and Loudoun.
12. The constituency names in this paper are provisional. The Commission will have the opportunity to review all constituency names and designations prior to the publication of its Initial Proposals.

Options

13. Four options have been designed.
14. Option 1 comprises:
- 1 constituency wholly contained within East Ayrshire council area;
 - 1 constituency wholly contained within Renfrewshire council area;
 - 1 constituency combining parts of East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire council areas;
 - 1 constituency combining parts of North Ayrshire and South Ayrshire council areas;
 - 1 constituency combining parts of North Ayrshire and Inverclyde council areas;
 - 1 constituency combining parts of Renfrewshire and Inverclyde council areas; and
 - 1 constituency combining parts of East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire council areas.
15. Option 2 comprises:
- 1 constituency wholly contained within Renfrewshire council area;
 - 1 constituency combining parts of East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire council areas;
 - 1 constituency combining parts of North Ayrshire and South Ayrshire council areas;

- 1 constituency combining parts of East Renfrewshire and East Ayrshire council areas;
- 1 constituency combining parts of North Ayrshire and Renfrewshire council areas;
- 1 constituency combining parts of Renfrewshire and Inverclyde council areas; and
- 1 constituency combining parts of East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire council areas.

16. Option 3 comprises:

- 1 constituency wholly contained within South Ayrshire council area;
- 1 constituency wholly contained within North Ayrshire council area;
- 1 constituency combining parts of East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire council areas;
- 1 constituency combining parts of Renfrewshire and East Renfrewshire council areas;
- 1 constituency combining parts of Renfrewshire and North Ayrshire council areas;
- 1 constituency combining parts of North Ayrshire and Inverclyde council areas; and
- 1 constituency combining parts of East Ayrshire and East Renfrewshire council areas;

17. Option 4 comprises:

- 1 constituency wholly contained within East Ayrshire council area;
- 1 constituency wholly contained within Renfrewshire council area;
- 1 constituency combining parts of East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire council areas;
- 1 constituency combining parts of East Ayrshire and East Renfrewshire council areas;
- 1 constituency combining parts of North Ayrshire and South Ayrshire council areas;
- 1 constituency combining parts of Renfrewshire and Inverclyde council areas; and
- 1 constituency combining parts of North Ayrshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde council areas.

Option 1 – Appendix B1-B3

18. Option 1 proposes to retain the only existing constituency within the electoral quota, Kilmarnock and Loudoun. Option 1 proposes a Kilmarnock and Loudoun constituency based on ward boundaries. The existing Kilmarnock and Loudoun constituency boundary is not exactly coterminous with ward boundaries but the differences are minor.

19. Option 1 also proposes to create a constituency similar to the existing Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock constituency. However retaining the existing boundary divides local ties between Ayr and Prestwick.

20. Option 1 creates an East Renfrewshire and Paisley South constituency and a Paisley and Johnstone constituency that partly divides Paisley between two constituencies.

21. Option 1 links Gourock with Ardrossan, Arran and Saltcoats in North Ayrshire, along the Firth of Clyde, to create a North Ayrshire and Arran constituency. However local ties may be broken between Gourock and Greenock in Inverclyde council area.
22. Option 1 proposes a Greenock and Erskine constituency that includes Greenock and Port Glasgow from Inverclyde council area with Erskine and Lochwinnoch from Renfrewshire council area. However local ties may be broken by Lochwinnoch as there are few road links between Lochwinnoch and communities in Inverclyde.
23. Option 1 also proposes a Central Ayrshire constituency that includes Kilwinning, Irvine, Troon and Prestwick.
24. Option 1 only splits two existing wards within the grouping: Renfrewshire wards 6 (Paisley South West) and ward 8 (Johnstone North, Kilbarchan and Lochwinnoch). The proposed boundaries follow historic ward boundaries.

Proposed constituencies	Electorate	Wards
Kilmarnock and Loudoun	71,101	East Ayrshire 1-7
Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock	72,079	East Ayrshire 8-9 South Ayrshire 3-5, 7-8
Central Ayrshire	74,862	South Ayrshire 1, 2, 6 North Ayrshire 1-3
North Ayrshire and Arran	76,827	North Ayrshire 4-8 Inverclyde 5, 6
East Renfrewshire and Paisley South	77,341	East Renfrewshire (all) Renfrewshire 6 (part)
Greenock and Erskine	75,951	Inverclyde 1-4 Renfrewshire 9-11, 8 (part)
Paisley and Johnstone	77,693	Renfrewshire 1-5, 7, 6 (part), 8 (part)

25. The advantages of Option 1 are:
- it retains the existing Kilmarnock and Loudoun constituency;
 - creates a constituency similar to the existing Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock constituency;
 - creates constituencies covering no more than two council areas; and
 - divides only two existing wards.
26. The disadvantages of Option 1 are:
- local ties may be broken in Paisley; Lochwinnoch; between Gourock and Greenock; and between Ayr and Prestwick.

Option 2 - Appendix C1-C3

27. Option 2 is similar to Option 1 as it proposes the same Central Ayrshire and Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock constituencies. Option 2 aims to improve local ties in Paisley and Inverclyde.
28. Option 2 proposes a Kilmarnock and Loudoun constituency that also includes Eaglesham from East Renfrewshire.

29. Option 2 proposes an East Renfrewshire and Elderslie constituency that links Barrhead and Newton Mearns in East Renfrewshire with Elderslie in Renfrewshire. The proposed constituency enables Paisley to be placed within a single constituency (Paisley and Renfrew), however it may break local ties by Elderslie and Johnstone.
30. Option 2 proposes an Inverclyde and Erskine constituency that includes the whole of Inverclyde council area with Bishopton, Bridge of Weir and Erskine in Renfrewshire. These communities are linked by the main A8/M8 and A761 roads.
31. Option 2 also proposes a North Ayrshire and West Renfrewshire constituency that includes Largs, Saltcoats with Kilbirnie and partly Johnstone. The proposed constituency boundary by Johnstone follows a ward boundary, this is also a railway line but may split local ties in Johnstone, as Johnstone sits within two wards.
32. Option 2 divides three existing wards within the grouping: Renfrewshire wards 9 (Houston, Crosslee and Linwood) and 11 (Erskine and Inchinnan) and East Renfrewshire ward 6 (Busby, Clarkston and Eaglesham). The existing Erskine and Inchinnan ward is split by following a historic ward boundary, however this boundary may break local ties between Erskine and Inchinnan. The existing Houston, Crosslee and Linwood ward is split by also following a historic ward boundary, it also partly follows the River Gryffe, separating Houston from Linwood. The existing Busby, Clarkston and Eaglesham ward is split by following the A726 dual-carriageway road, to create an easily recognisable constituency boundary.

Proposed constituencies	Electorate	Wards
Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock	72,079	East Ayrshire 8-9 South Ayrshire 3-5,7-8
Kilmarnock and Loudoun	73,654	East Ayrshire 1-7 East Renfrewshire 6 (part)
Central Ayrshire	74,862	North Ayrshire 1-3 South Ayrshire 1-2, 6
North Ayrshire and West Renfrewshire	75,365	North Ayrshire 4-8 Renfrewshire 8, 9 (part)
East Renfrewshire and Elderslie	77,437	East Renfrewshire 1-5, 6 (part) Renfrewshire 7
Paisley and Renfrew	76,245	Renfrewshire 1-6, 11 (part)
Inverclyde and Erskine	76,212	Inverclyde (all) Renfrewshire 10,9(part),11(part)

33. The advantages of Option 2 are it:
- creates constituencies covering no more than two council areas;
 - places Paisley within a single constituency; and
 - aims to create a constituency similar to the existing Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock constituency.
34. The disadvantages of Option 2 are:
- local ties may be broken between: Erskine and Inchinnan; Eaglesham and Newton Mearns; Ayr and Prestwick; and by Johnstone.
 - the existing UK Parliament constituency is not preserved.

Option 3 - Appendix D1 - D3

35. Option 3 proposes a grouping of constituencies that do not consider any of the existing constituencies, however Option 3 does aim to retain local ties in Ayr, Kilmarnock and Paisley.
36. Option 3 proposes an Ayr, Troon and South Ayrshire constituency that contains South Ayrshire council area, except ward 6 (Kyle). The proposed constituency links Ayr with Troon, Prestwick and communities in south Ayrshire.
37. Option 3 proposes a Kilmarnock, Cumnock and Doon Valley constituency based on existing ward boundaries in East Ayrshire and also South Ayrshire ward 6 (Kyle).
38. Option 3 proposes a Cunninghame South constituency that sits within North Ayrshire council area and contains Arran, Ardrossan, Dalry, Irvine and Kilwinning.
39. Option 3 proposes an East Renfrewshire and Irvine Valley constituency that links communities north of Kilmarnock in East Ayrshire with Newton Mearns in East Renfrewshire, by following the A77/M77 roads.
40. Option 3 places Paisley within a single constituency, Paisley and Barrhead. However this constituency may break local ties by Renfrew as it is also partly included within a West Renfrewshire constituency.
41. The proposed West Renfrewshire constituency includes communities within Renfrewshire council area with Beith and Kilbirnie from North Ayrshire.
42. Option 3 proposes an Inverclyde and Largs constituency that contains Inverclyde council area with Largs and West Kilbride from North Ayrshire. These communities are linked by the A78 road and a railway line.
43. Option 3 also proposes a Cunninghame South constituency within North Ayrshire council area and includes Ardrossan, Dalry and Irvine.
44. Option 3 divides two existing wards within the grouping. North Ayrshire ward 6 (Dalry and West Kilbride) is split by following a community council boundary, (between the proposed Inverclyde and Largs constituency and Cunninghame South constituency). The proposed boundary also follows higher ground above West Kilbride, dividing the ward between coastal and inland areas. East Renfrewshire ward 1 (Neilston, Uplawmoor and Newton Mearns North) is also split by following a community council boundary. It retains Newton Mearns within a single constituency and places the communities of Barrhead, Neilston and Uplawmoor, who are all linked by the A736, within a Paisley and Barrhead constituency.

Proposed constituencies	Electorate	Wards
Ayr, Troon and South Ayrshire	77,352	South Ayrshire 1-5, 7-8
Kilmarnock, Cumnock and Doon Valley	78,250	South Ayrshire 6 East Ayrshire 2-5, 7-9

East Renfrewshire and Irvine Valley	71,432	East Renfrewshire 3-6, 1 (part) East Ayrshire 1, 6
Paisley and Barrhead	75,331	Renfrewshire 2-6, East Renfrewshire 2, 1 (part)
Cunninghame South	74,566	North Ayrshire 1-5, 6 (part)
West Renfrewshire	74,958	North Ayrshire 7 Renfrewshire 1, 7-11
Inverclyde and Largs	73,965	Inverclyde (all) North Ayrshire 8, 6 (part)

45. The advantages of Option 3 are:

- creates constituencies that do not split Ayr, Kilmarnock or Paisley between constituencies;
- places Ayr and Prestwick within a single constituency; and
- creates a number of constituencies with strong local ties.

46. The disadvantages of Option 3 are:

- local ties may be broken north of Renfrew and;
- the existing UK Parliament constituency is not preserved.

Option 4 - Appendix E1-E3

47. Option 4 is similar to Option 3 as it proposes a grouping of constituencies that do not consider any of the existing constituencies, but it does aim to retain local ties in Ayr, Kilmarnock and Paisley.

48. Option 4 proposes an Ayr, Carrick and Doon Valley constituency that links Ayr, Prestwick and South Ayrshire with the Doon Valley in East Ayrshire.

49. Option 4 proposes a Kilmarnock and Cumnock constituency that sits within East Ayrshire council area. East Ayrshire ward 1 (Annick) is divided by following a community council boundary to create a better shaped constituency boundary and place Kilmaurs with Kilmarnock in the proposed Kilmarnock and Cumnock constituency.

50. Option 4 proposes an East Renfrewshire and Stewarton constituency that joins Stewarton in East Ayrshire with East Renfrewshire council area. The proposed constituency is linked by the A736 road.

51. Option 4 proposes a Central Ayrshire constituency that contains Troon, Irvine, Kilwinning and Saltcoats. However local ties could be broken between Ardrossan and Saltcoats. Ardrossan is placed within a North Ayrshire and Johnstone constituency that contains communities within three council areas (Inverclyde, North Ayrshire and Renfrewshire). However there are strong links between these areas as they are linked by the A737 road between Renfrewshire and North Ayrshire and the A78 road between Inverclyde and North Ayrshire.

52. Option 4 proposes a Greenock and West Renfrewshire constituency. Inverclyde ward 6 (Inverclyde South West) is divided by following a community council boundary south of Gourock, so that Gourock and Greenock are placed within the same constituency. (Wemyss Bay from Inverclyde ward 6 is included within the proposed North Ayrshire and Johnstone constituency). The proposed Greenock and West Renfrewshire constituency includes Bridge of Weir and Erskine from Renfrewshire, but there are good road links between these communities and

Greenock in Inverclyde. This constituency also adopts the same boundary as Option 2 by Erskine, and therefore may break local ties between Erskine and Inchinnan.

53. Option 4 also places Paisley within a single constituency, named Paisley and Renfrew.
54. Option 4 divides three existing wards within the grouping by Gourock (Inverclyde ward 6 (Inverclyde South West)), Kilmarnock (East Ayrshire ward 1 (Annick)) and Erskine (Renfrewshire ward 11 (Erskine and Inchinnan)).

Proposed constituencies	Electorate	Wards
Ayr, Carrick and Doon Valley	73,853	South Ayrshire 2-5, 7-8 East Ayrshire 9
Central Ayrshire	77,412	South Ayrshire 1, 6 North Ayrshire 1-4
Kilmarnock and Cumnock	74,075	East Ayrshire 2-8, 1 (part)
East Renfrewshire and Stewarton	75,037	East Renfrewshire (all) East Ayrshire 1 (part)
Greenock and West Renfrewshire	77,462	Renfrewshire 9-10, 11 (part) Inverclyde 1-5, 6 (part)
Paisley and Renfrew	76,245	Renfrewshire 1-6, 11 (part)
North Ayrshire and Johnstone	71,770	Renfrewshire 7-8 Inverclyde 6 (part) North Ayrshire 5-8

55. The advantages are:

- it creates constituencies that do not split Ayr, Kilmarnock or Paisley between constituencies; and
- creates a number of constituencies with strong local ties.

56. The disadvantages are:

- it creates a constituency covering three council areas but there are good links within the proposed constituency;
- local ties may be broken between by Erskine and Ardrossan; and
- the existing UK Parliament constituency is not preserved.

Discussion

57. There is one existing constituency within the electoral quota for this council area grouping: Kilmarnock and Loudoun. Option 1 aims to retain the existing Kilmarnock and Loudoun constituency but, partly as a consequence, Paisley is split between constituencies in Option 1.

58. Paisley is currently divided between two constituencies. Options 2 – 4 place Paisley within a single constituency.

59. All four options place Kilmarnock and Ayr within a single constituency.

60. Ayr and Prestwick are currently divided between two constituencies but Options 3 and 4 place Ayr and Prestwick within a single constituency to improve local ties.

61. Options 1 - 3 propose constituencies that cover no more than two council areas.

62. Options 1, 3 and 4 all contain two constituencies wholly within a single council area. Option 2 only contains one constituency within a single council area.
63. Option 4 proposes a constituency that covers three council areas however there are good links within the proposed constituency.
64. All four options aim to create constituencies based on existing ward boundaries. Options 1 and 3 only divide 2 existing wards. Option 2 and 4 divide 3 existing wards. The wards are divided by following recognised boundaries (community councils or historic ward boundaries) or identifiable features.

Conclusion

65. The Commission is invited to agree its initial proposals for public consultation, subject to satisfactory constituencies elsewhere in Scotland.

Secretariat,
July 2016

Boundary Commission for Scotland

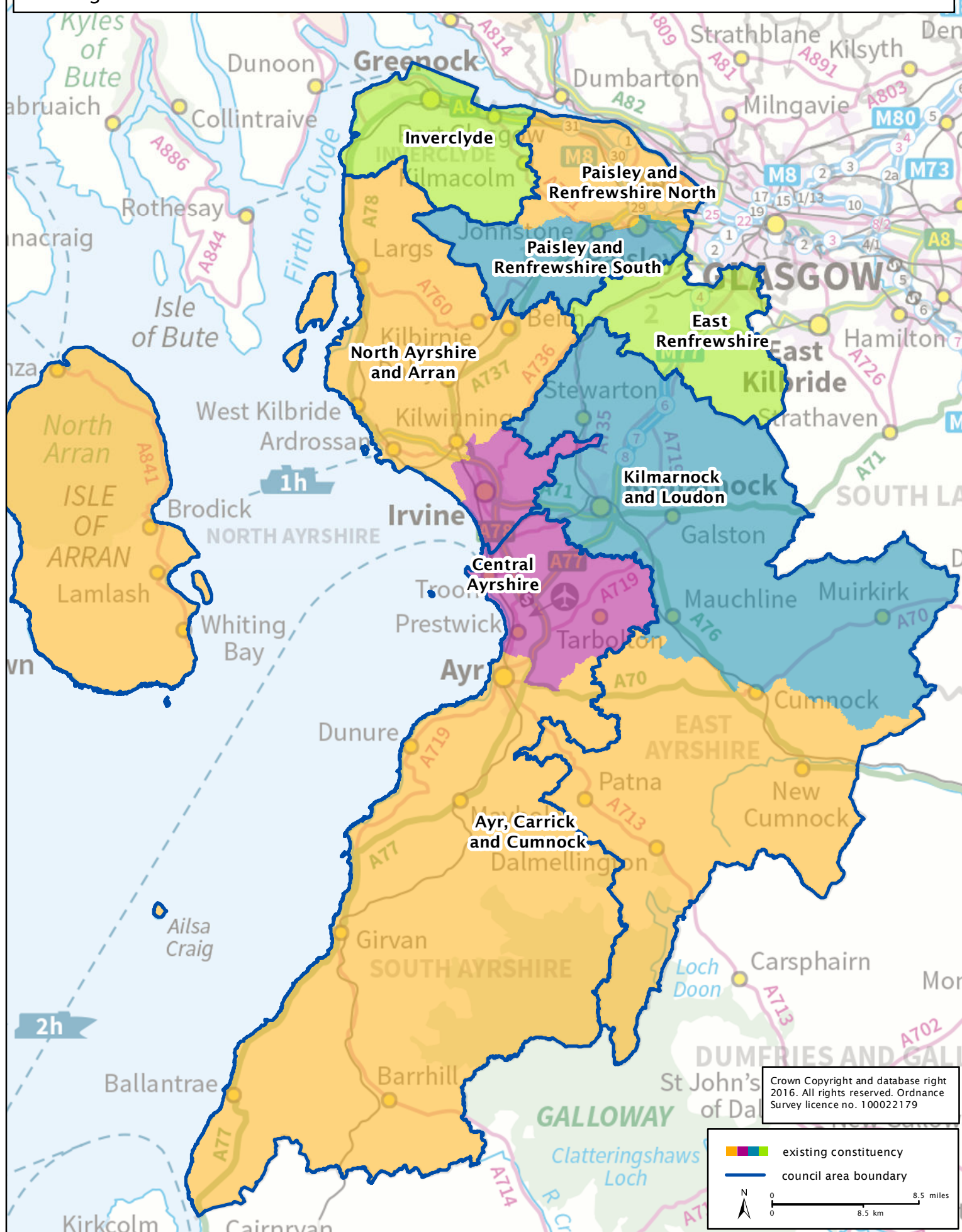
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Existing Constituencies

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Appendix A



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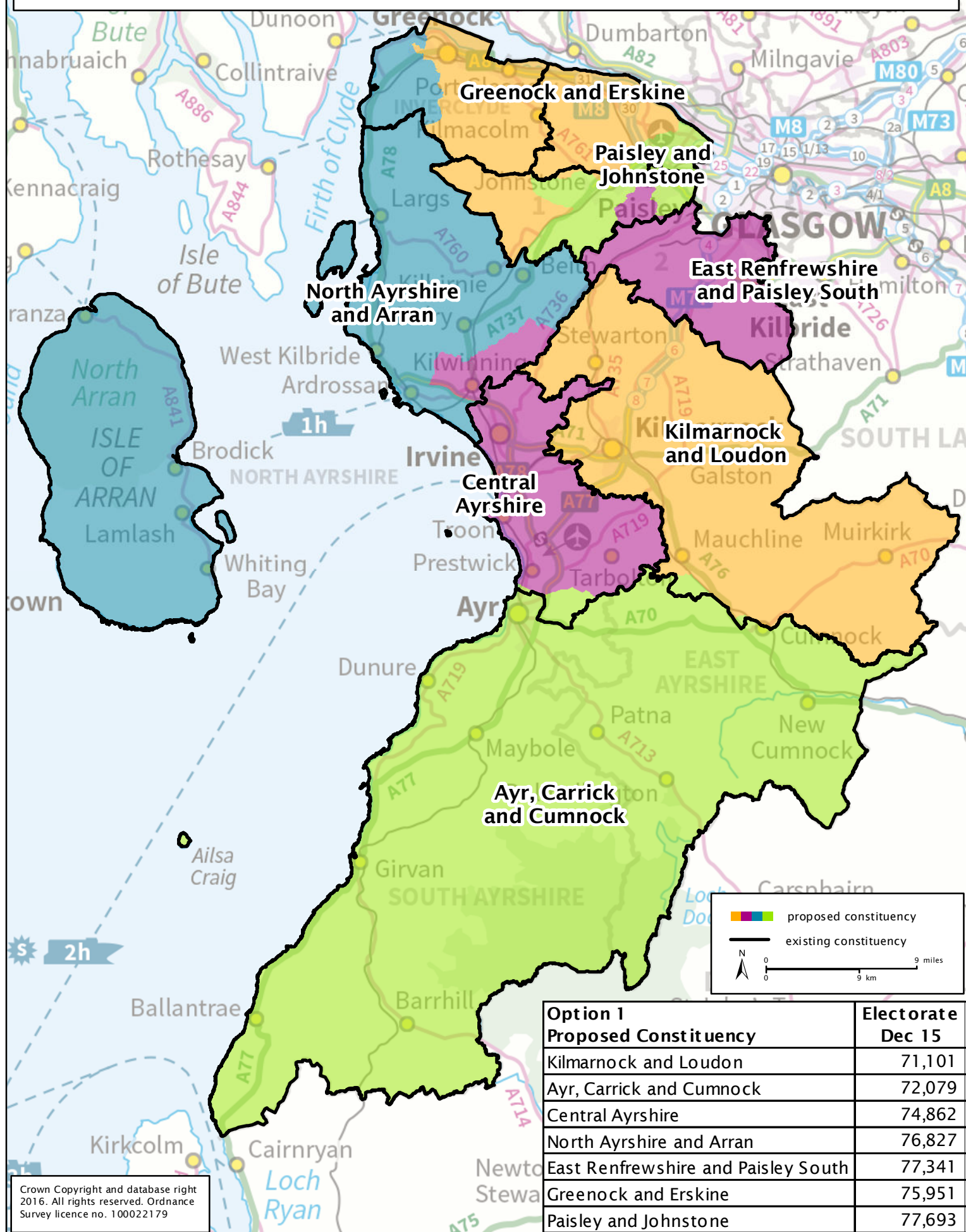
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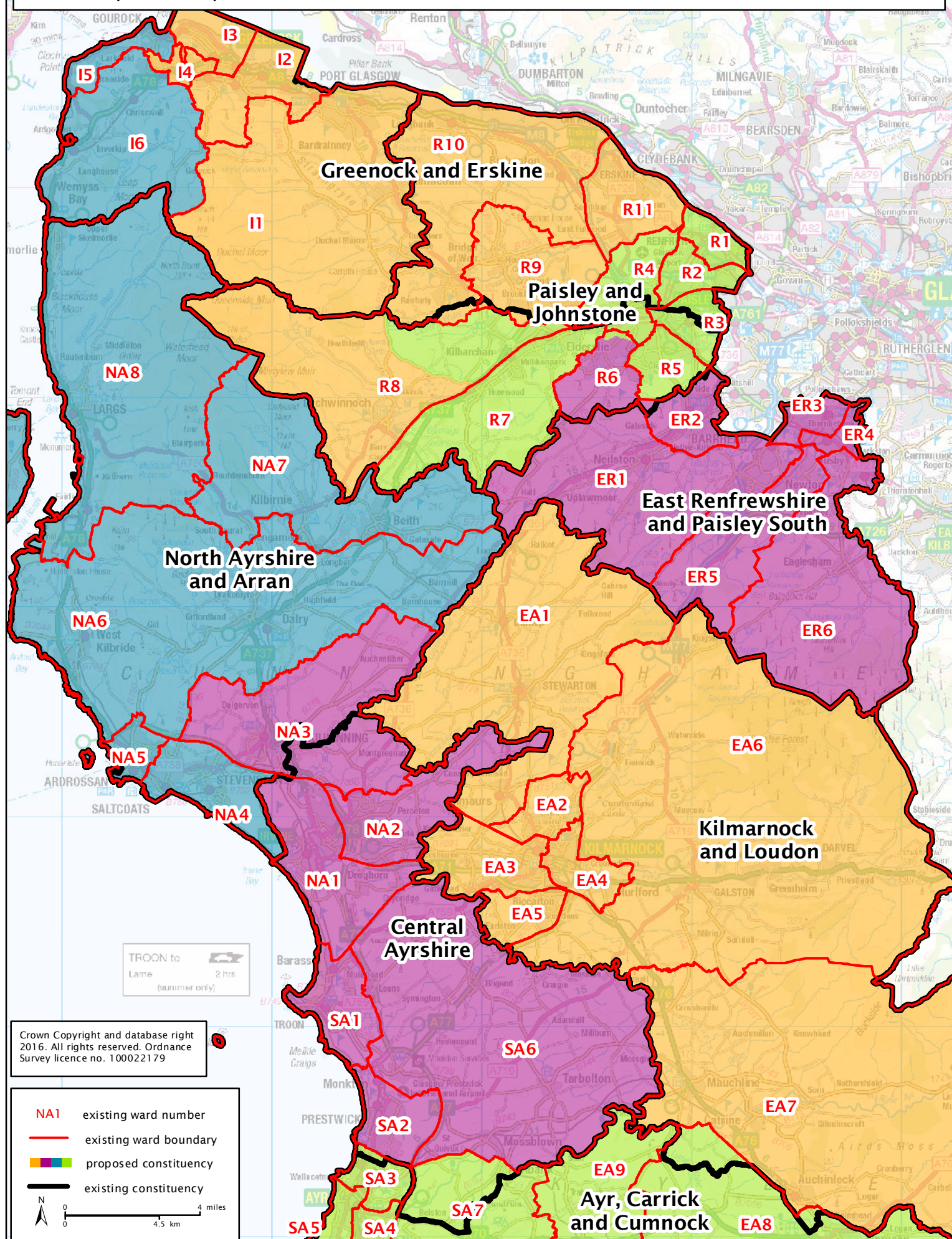
East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire,
Renfrewshire and Inverclyde council areas

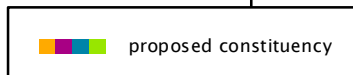
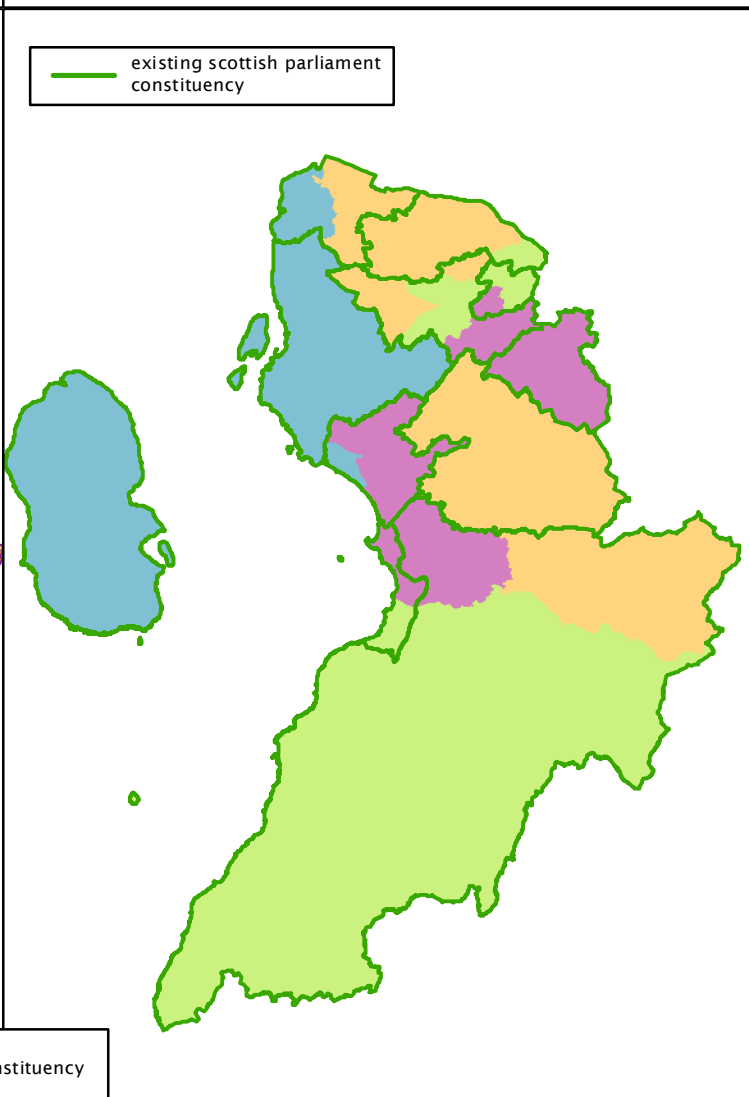
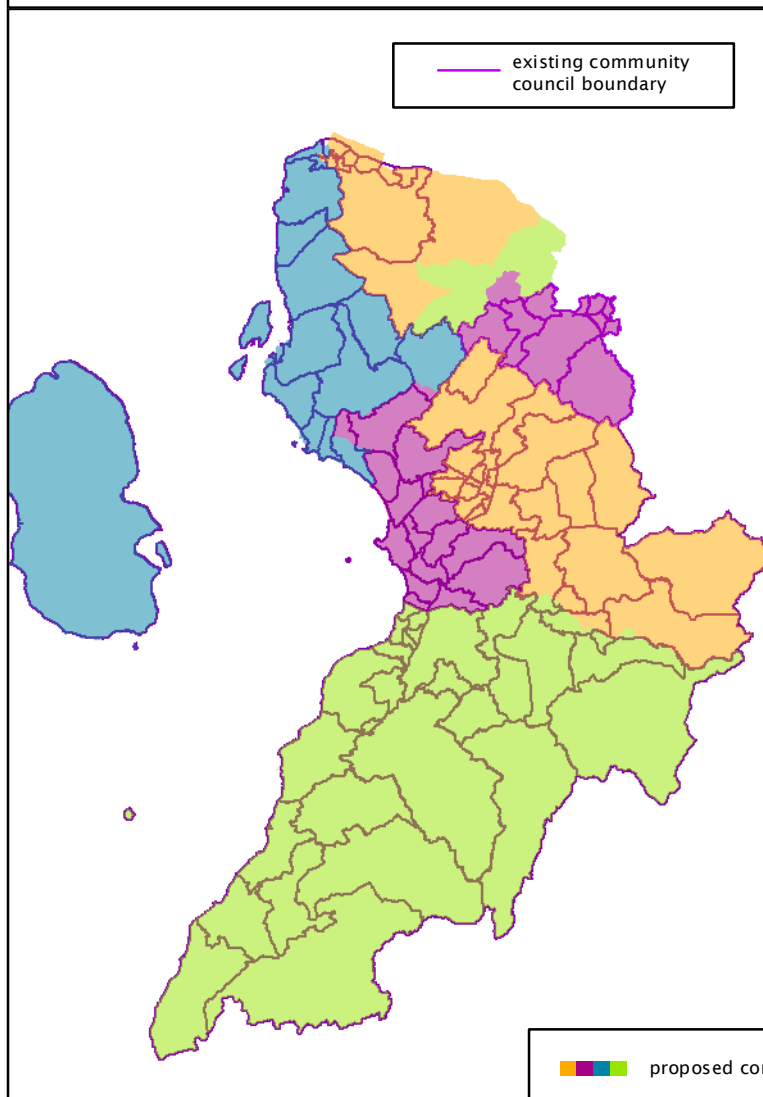
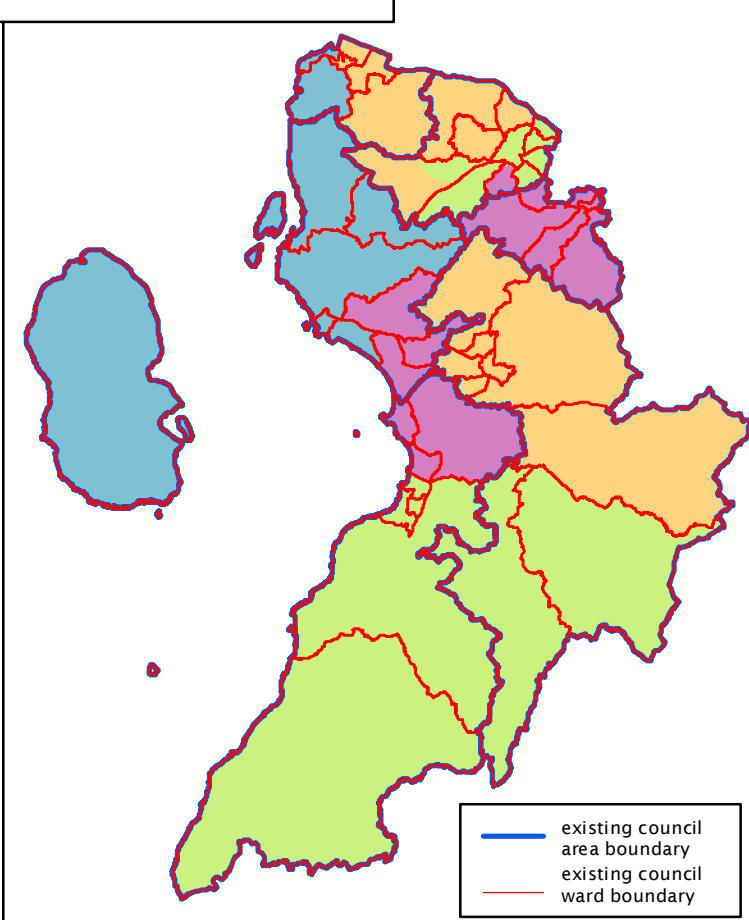
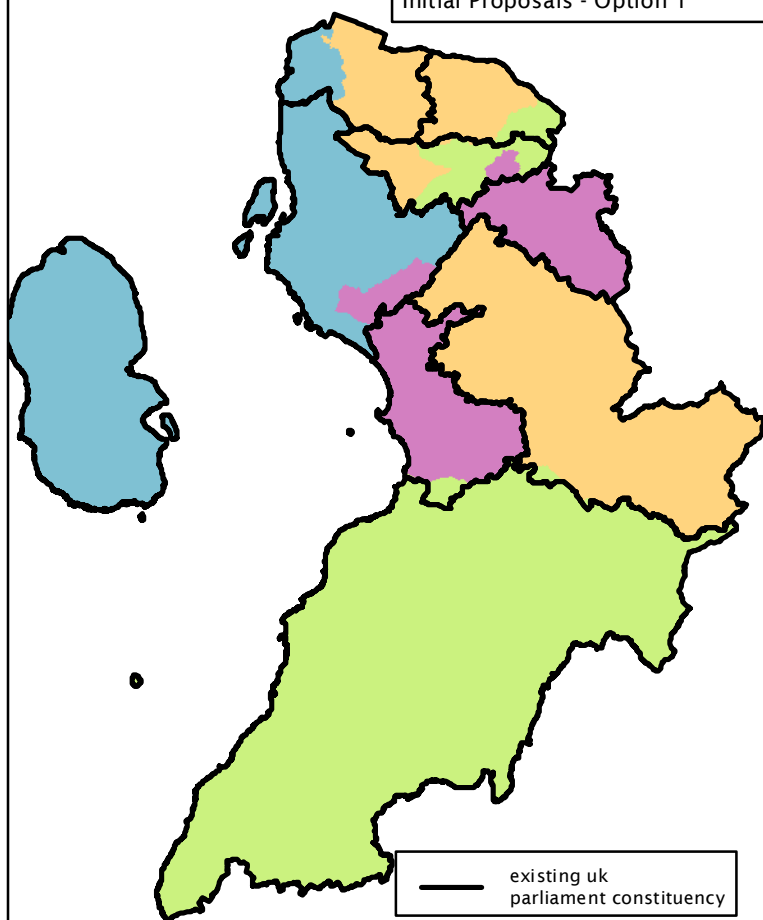
Initial Proposals - Option 1

BCS Paper 2016/26

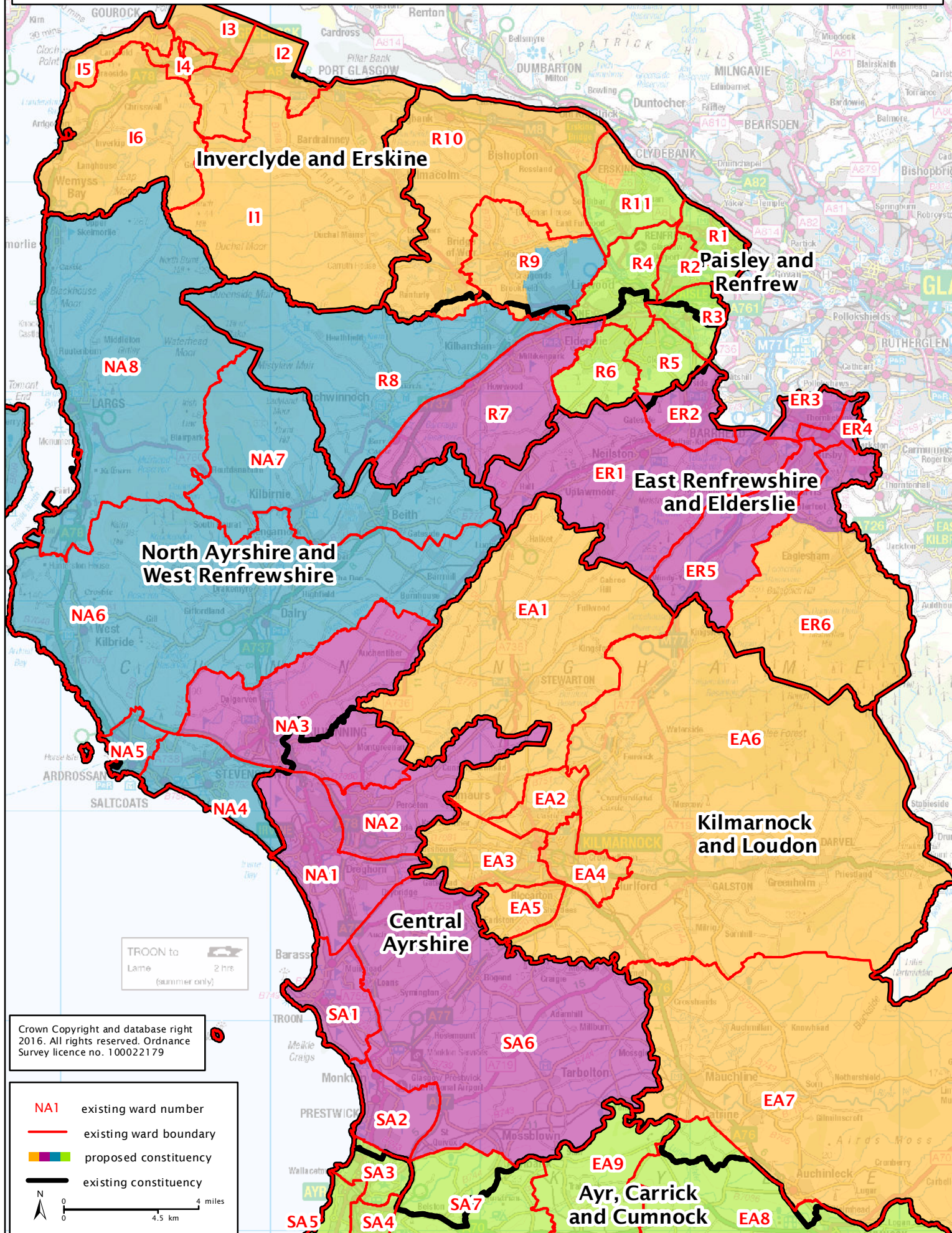
Appendix B1

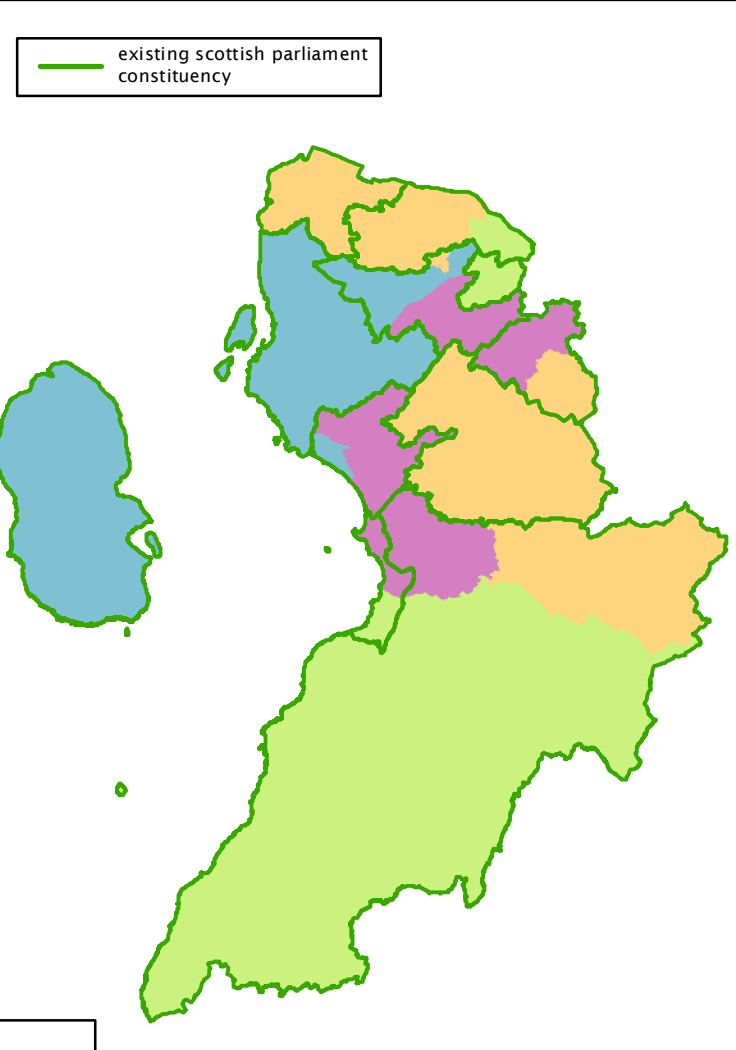
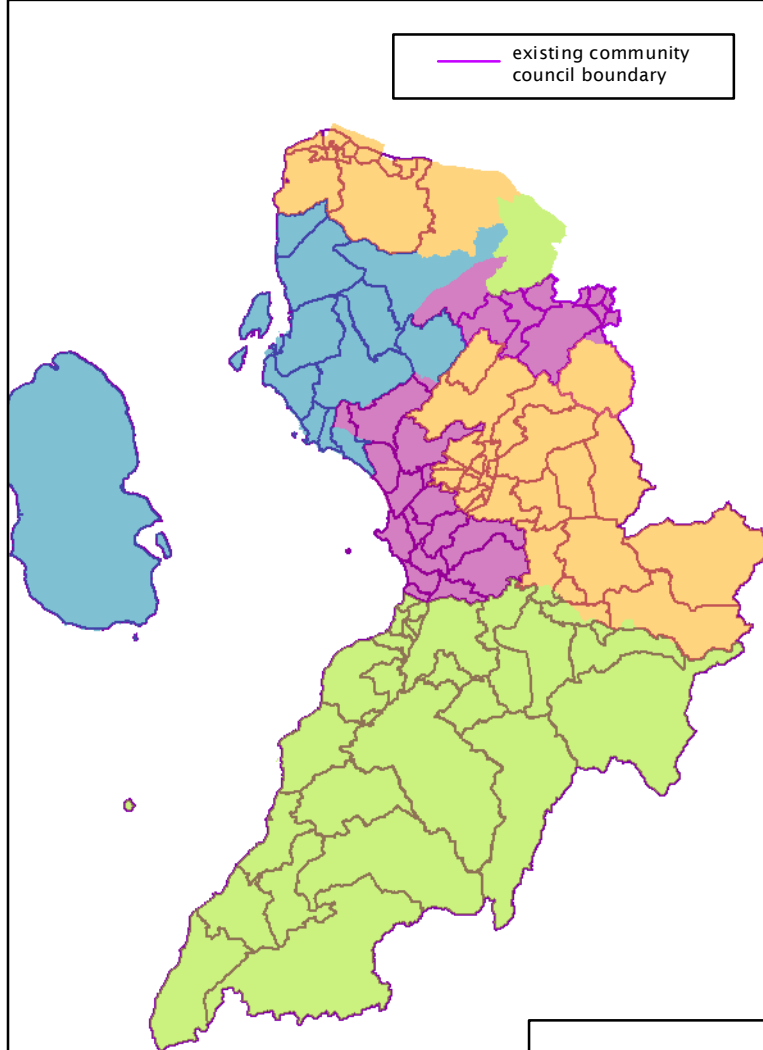
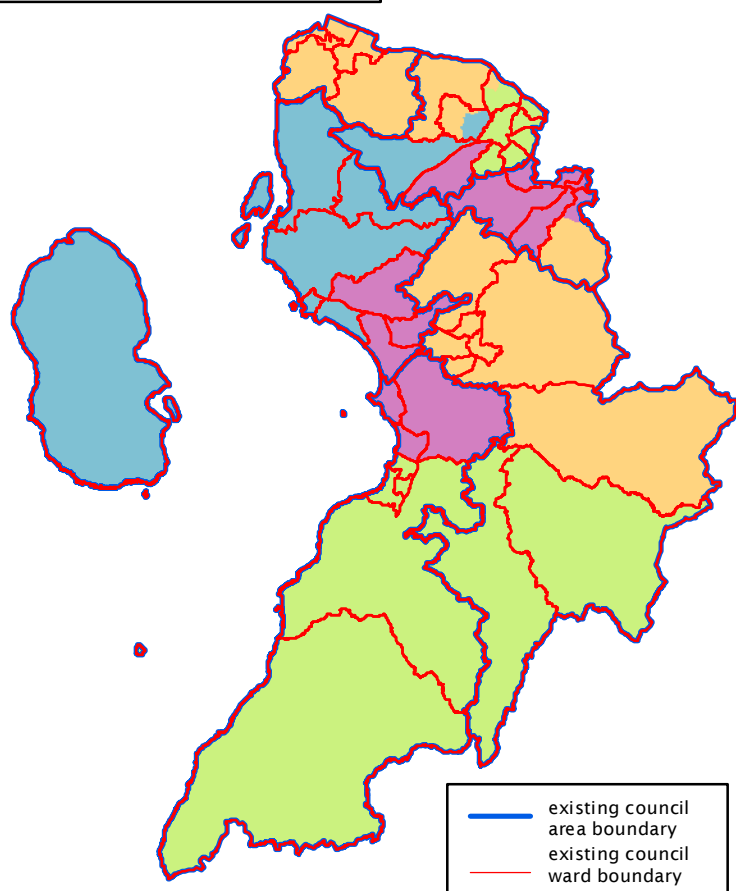
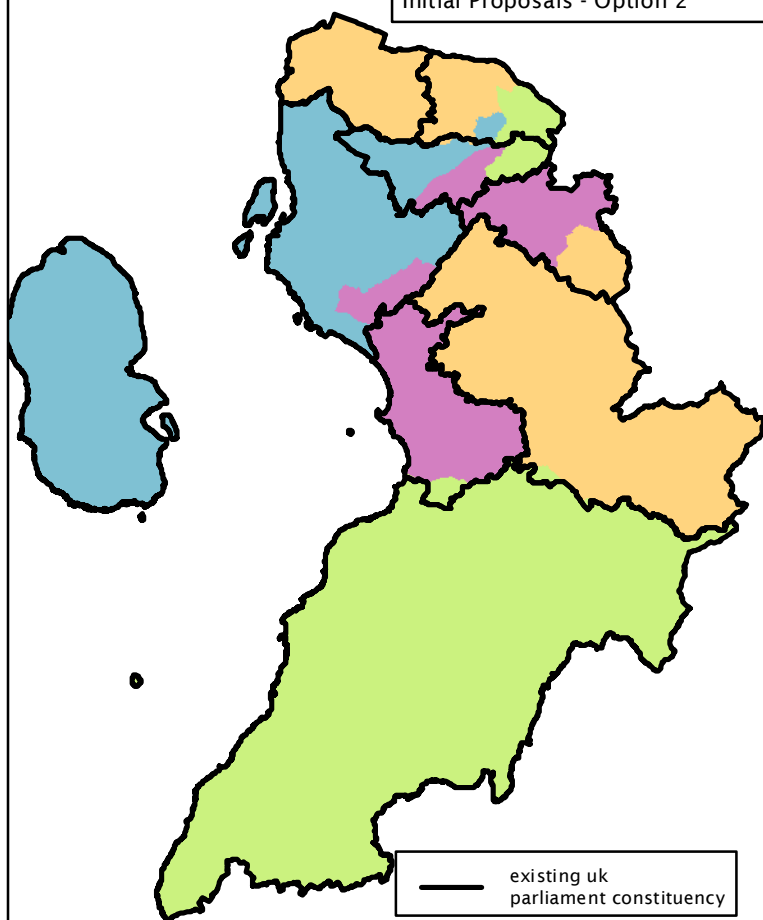






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proposed constituency

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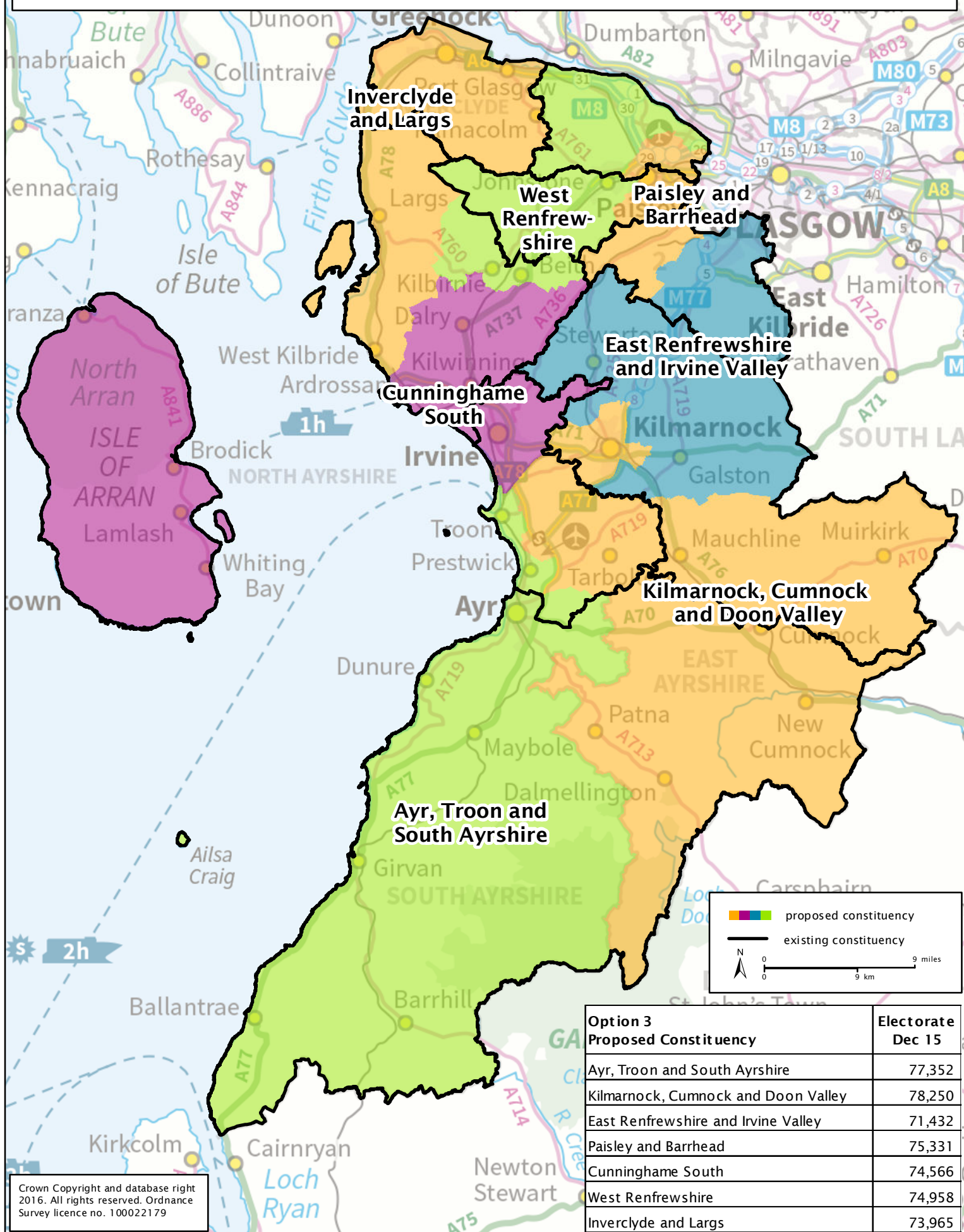
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Initial Proposals - Option 3

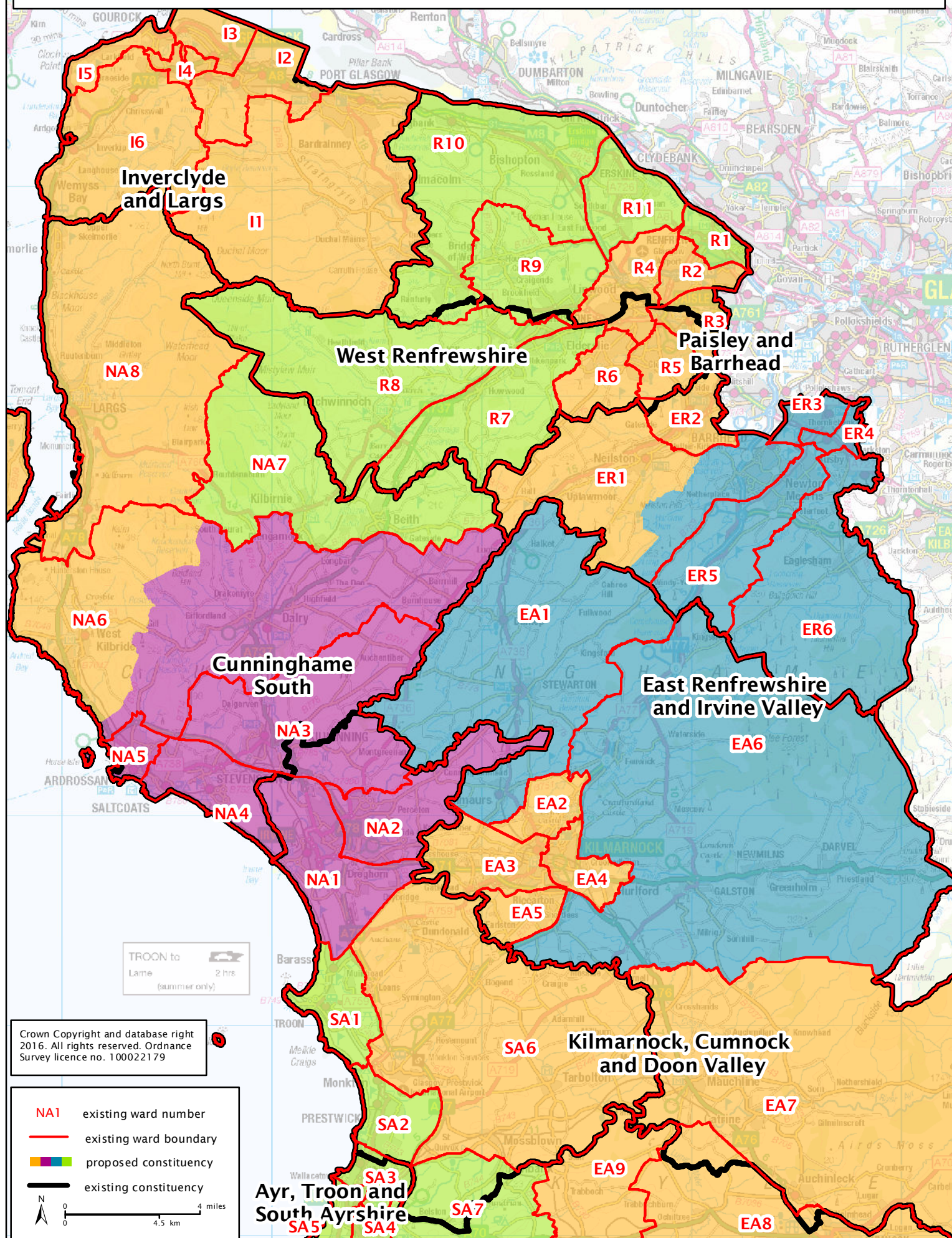
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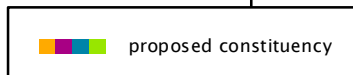
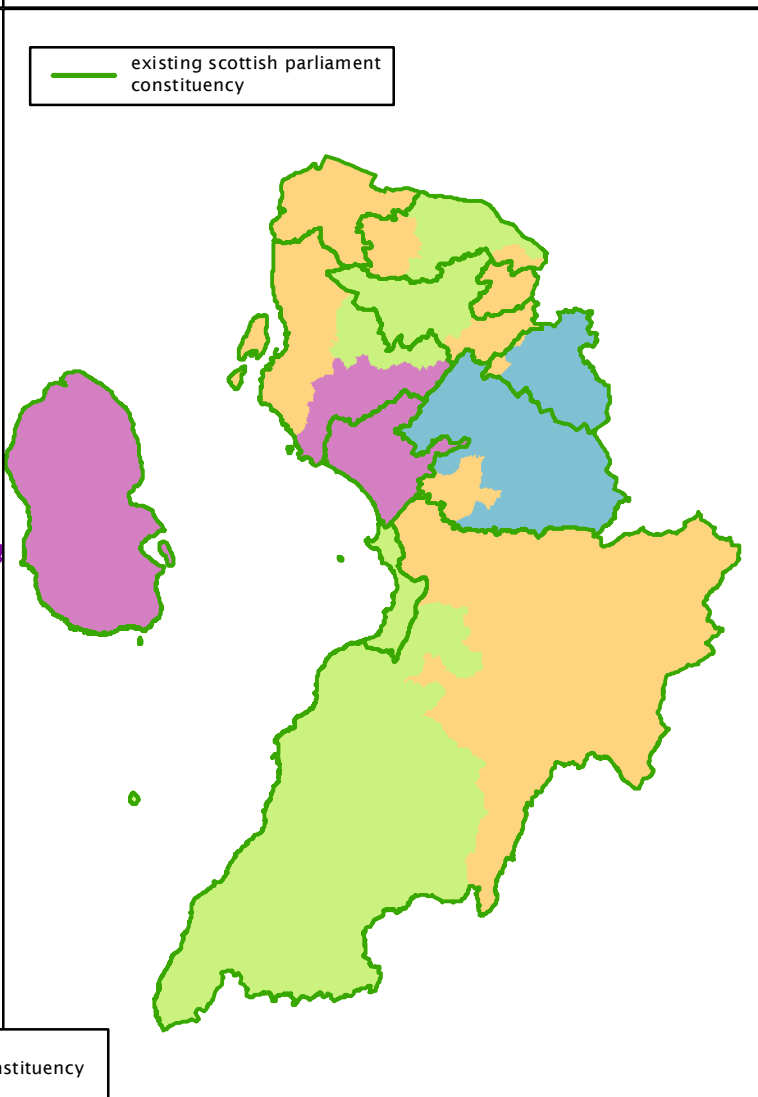
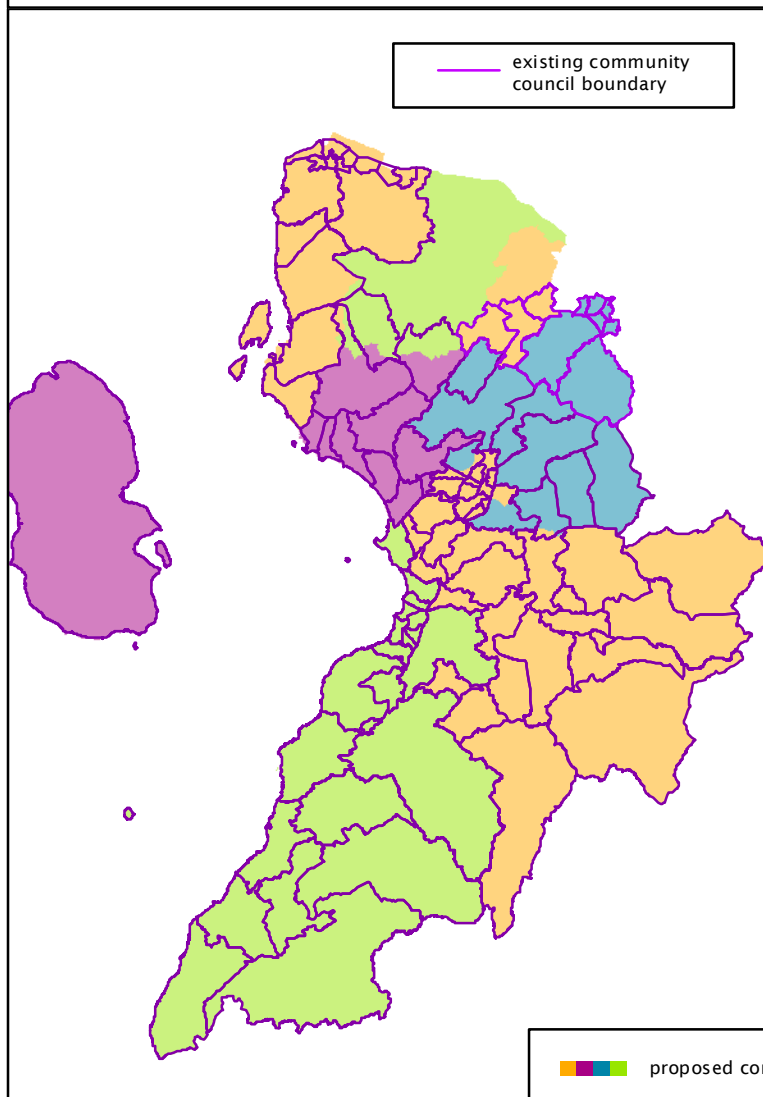
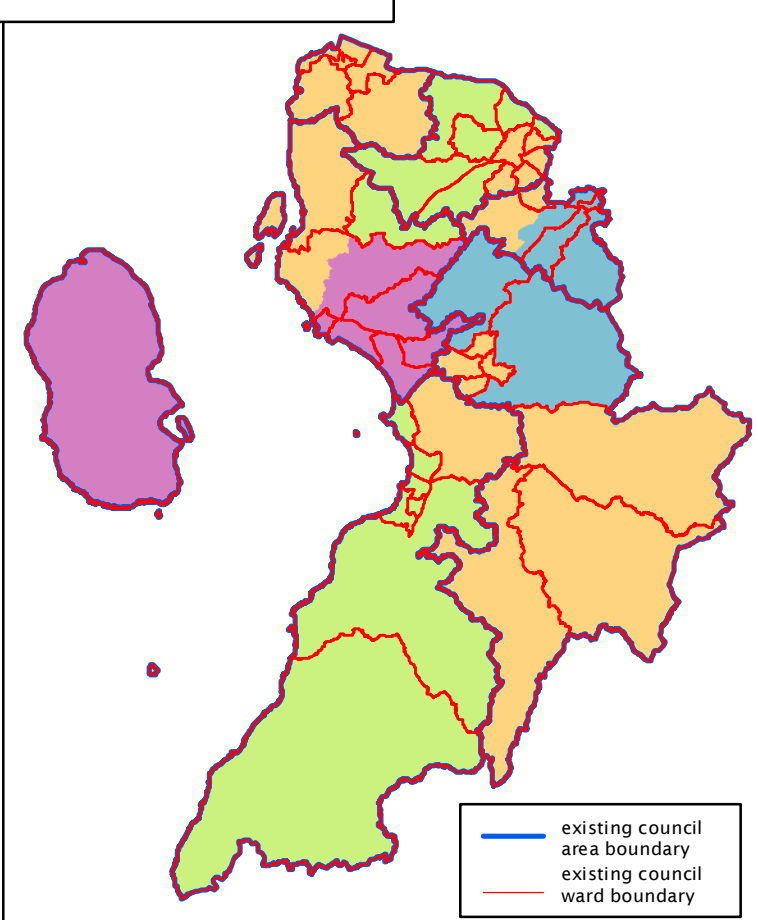
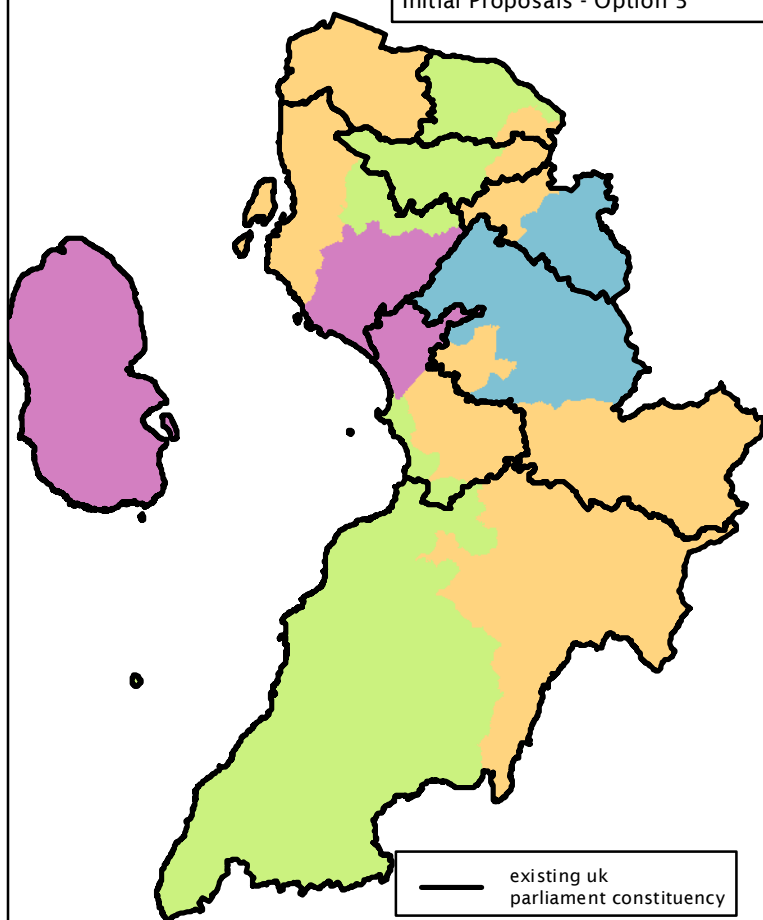
Appendix D1



East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde

Initial Proposals - Option 3 - Inset





Boundary Commission for Scotland

2018 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies

East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde council areas

Initial Proposals - Option 4

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Appendix E1

