

2018 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies Final recommendations – East Lothian council area

Action required

1. The Commission is invited to agree paragraphs 2 to 16 of this report as part of the text for its Final Report. It is also invited, in paragraph 17 to agree its Final Recommendations, for a constituency in East Lothian council area.

Constituencies at the start of this review

2. At the start of this review, East Lothian council area was covered by a single constituency wholly within the council area. The constituency is shown in Table 1.

Table 1 – Constituencies at the start of this review

Current constituency	Council areas	Designation	Electorate
East Lothian	East Lothian	County	76,153
Total			76,153

Initial Proposals

3. We designed constituencies for this area within our overall approach to grouping council areas for constituency design. Our proposed grouping for this area included a single constituency exactly covering the extent of East Lothian council area.
4. We discussed our Initial Proposals for this council area in Paper 2016/32. Our discussion and conclusions are recorded in the minutes of our meeting of 5 September 2016. We agreed proposed constituency names and designations after considering Paper 2016/34. Our discussion and conclusions are recorded in the minutes of our meeting of 5 September 2016.
5. In deciding upon our Initial Proposals for East Lothian we acknowledged that the existing East Lothian UK Parliament constituency boundary is coterminous with East Lothian council area and within the electorate quota for this review. Therefore we agreed that retaining the existing constituency maintained a constituency that is easily recognised by the electorate.
6. Our Initial Proposals were as shown in Table 2. The proposed constituency contained all wards within East Lothian council area.

Table 2 – Initial Proposals

Constituency name	Council areas	Designation	Electorate
East Lothian	East Lothian	County	76,153
Total			76,153

7. On 20 October 2016 we published our Initial Proposals for this council area for the specified initial consultation period of 12 weeks.
8. We received 3 representations in response to the initial consultation on our Initial Proposals for East Lothian council area.

9. On 28 February 2017 we published the representations we received during the consultation for the specified secondary consultation period of 4 weeks. In response, we received a further 2 representations concerning East Lothian council area.

Revised Proposals

10. We considered the representations received on our Initial Proposals in this council area in Paper 2017/60. Our discussion and conclusions are recorded in the minutes of our meeting of 13 April 2017.
11. The responses directly referencing East Lothian council area all supported the Commission's Initial Proposals.
12. Some representations contained suggestions that did not comply with the statutory rules governing this review. We did not consider those suggestions further.
13. We received no opposition or alternative constituency designs in East Lothian, so agreed to adopt our Initial Proposals as our Revised Proposals for East Lothian council area.
14. We agreed revised constituency names and designations after considering Paper 2017/79. Our discussion and conclusions are recorded in the minutes of our meeting of 8 August 2017. We decided to retain East Lothian as a constituency name because the constituency and council area boundary are coterminous.
15. Our Revised Proposals are shown in Table 3. Details of the wards contained within each constituency in the Revised Proposals were included in the maps of our Revised Proposals which are available on our website.

Table 3 - Revised Proposals

Constituency name	Council areas	Designation	Electorate
East Lothian	East Lothian	County	76,153
Total			76,153

16. On 17 October 2017 we published our Revised Proposals for a constituency in East Lothian council area for the specified consultation period of 8 weeks.

Draft Final Recommendations

17. The Commission is invited to consider the representations received, agree if any changes are required to its Revised Proposals and agree its Final Recommendations.

Responses to Revised Proposals Public Consultation

18. One response (see Annex 1) was received during the consultation on the Revised Proposals for East Lothian council area.

19. Some representations were made, both within this grouping and nationally, that contained suggestions that did not comply with the statutory rules governing this review or which reflected general opposition to the 2018 Review.

Consideration of Representations

20. Only the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party responded during the consultation to support the Revised Proposals for East Lothian.
21. As such there were no responses in opposition to the proposals for East Lothian council area nor were there any alternative proposals offered.

Constituency Names

22. There were no alternative constituency names suggested for this grouping.
23. The Commission will have the opportunity to review all constituency names and designations prior to the publication of its Final Recommendations.

Conclusion and Recommendations

24. Taking into account all of the evidence arising from the public consultation on the Revised Proposals, the Secretariat invites the Commission to decide to adopt without amendment the Revised Proposals for East Lothian council areas as its Final Recommendations, subject to consideration of all other constituencies (see Appendix A).

**Annex 1 – Summary of Representations received during public consultation
on Revised Proposals**

National political parties

1. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party (10814) support the Revised Proposals for this grouping.

Others

2. There were approximately 180 local and nationwide responses that made general comments regarding the review or made comments out-with the legislation for this review.

