

2023 Review: Policies and Procedures Booklet

For discussion

Background

1. At its meeting on 18 January 2021, the Commission considered the Policies and Procedures booklet contained in Paper 2021/02 and agreed a number of amendments. The Secretary agreed to produce a further draft for approval. This is now attached at Appendix A.

Issues

2. The Commission may particularly want to consider if the booklet requires any further clarification of its approach in light of consideration of constituency designs for groupings across Scotland.
3. The Secretariat had now finalised its contract for legal advice. If the Commission would like the booklet to be considered by solicitors then there is sufficient time to do that. The Secretariat suggests this may be desirable with a particular view to ensuring the Booklet accurately reflects the legislative changes introduced since the 2018 review.

Publication date

4. There is no particular pressure to publish the booklet but it would probably be helpful to do so well in advance of the consultation on Initial Proposals in the Autumn.

Conclusion

5. The Commission is invited to:
 - offer any further comments on the draft booklet;
 - consider if it wishes to take legal advice; and
 - agree that it be published online in August or September.

**Secretariat
July 2021**

A final version of the Policies and Procedures booklet will be published on our website <https://www.bcomm-scotland.independent.gov.uk/?q=reviews/2023-review-uk-parliament-constituencies>