

2023 Review

News coverage following publication of Initial Proposals

Background

1. The Commission is invited to note the news coverage following the publication of its Initial Proposals. The initial consultation period runs from 14 October to 8 December 2021.
2. The Commission were sent an interim update summarising media articles published until 20 October 2021. This paper summarises the published articles from 20 October to 14 November 2021.
3. The news coverage has been collated from the Google Alert service. These alerts highlight any mention of the Commission or key words relating to the Commission's work.

Media Coverage

4. During the consultation there were 21 articles in various local newspapers and news outlets that mentioned the 2023 Review. Links to the news articles can be found in Appendix A.
5. Three of the articles concentrate on the overall proposed changes within the whole of Scotland, in particular, the number of constituencies dropping to 57.
6. Four articles mention changes specific within Inverclyde and Renfrewshire. The main issues raised were opposition to adding Houston to an Inverclyde constituency.
7. Two reports state that the proposals will break local community ties in Clackmannanshire and Falkirk.
8. Two reports state that the proposals will break local community ties in Moray.
9. Two articles focus on changes within Fife. The main issue raised was concern with Kinross being added to a Fife constituency.
10. Three articles report on changes in Argyll And Bute. The main issues raised were the loss of Bute from the constituency name and the size of the constituency.
11. The other articles focus on the following areas: East Lothian; Ayrshire; Angus; Lanarkshire and Highland.

Conclusion

12. The Secretariat will continue to monitor news coverage during the public consultation stage of the reviews and will keep the Commission informed of any significant issues raised.

Secretariat
November 2021

Appendix A – Media coverage on Initial Proposals**All Scotland general comments**

[Changes to Scotland's boundary reveal the reality of the Union | HeraldScotland](#)
[Views wanted on boundary voting proposals - DNG Online Limited \(dng24.co.uk\)](#)
[Tweaking Scotland's constituency boundaries is a painful waste of time \(pressandjournal.co.uk\)](#)

Inverclyde / Renfrewshire comments

[Consultation launched on plans to redraw electoral boundaries | Barrhead News](#)
[Plans to change Renfrewshire parliamentary constituencies "will drown out voices" in Houston - Daily Record](#)
[Renfrewshire: Calls for U-turn over boundary carve-up | The Gazette \(the-gazette.co.uk\)](#)
[Plans to change constituency's boundary lines: MP concerned | Greenock Telegraph](#)

Argyll and Bute comments

['Vast' new Argyll constituency attacked by MP Brendan O'Hara - The Lochside Press](#)
[Have your say in 'significant' MP boundary changes - The Oban Times](#)
[Have your say in 'significant' MP boundary changes - Argyllshire Advertiser](#)

Fife comments

[Proposals to change Dunfermline MP's constituency area | Dunfermline Press](#)
[Locals are being invited to have their say on possible changes to Fife's UK parliamentary constituencies | Fife Today](#)

Moray comments

['Moray is an identity': Labour opposes Boundary Commission reshuffle that would wipe region off map \(pressandjournal.co.uk\)](#)
[Moray councillors oppose 'unbelievably stupid' boundary change proposals \(pressandjournal.co.uk\)](#)

Clackmannanshire/Falkirk comments

[New boundary plans 'will tear Falkirk Council area apart' as area would be split | Falkirk Herald](#)
[Clacks MP seeks views on proposed boundary changes | Alloa and Hillfoots Advertiser \(alloaadvertiser.com\)](#)

Ayrshire comment

[Ayrshire residents urged to have a say on plans to cut Scottish MPs | InYourArea Community](#)

East Lothian comment

[Proposal to split Musselburgh in two for elections 'makes no sense whatsoever' | East Lothian Courier](#)

Angus comment

[Angus Council group to look at Westminster boundary change plans \(thecourier.co.uk\)](#)

Highland comment

[Cairnness folk are proud of their county – just part of the vast tapestry of communities in the Highlands \(johnogroat-journal.co.uk\)](#)

Lanarkshire comment

[Monklands MPs criticise electoral map boundary proposals - Daily Record](#)