

2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies
Consideration of Revised Proposals for Dumfries and Galloway, East
Dunbartonshire, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, Scottish Borders and
West Dunbartonshire council areas

Action required

1. The Commission is invited to consider responses to the initial and secondary consultation on its initial proposals and whether it wishes to make changes to its proposals for Dumfries and Galloway, East Dunbartonshire, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, Scottish Borders and West Dunbartonshire council areas.

Background

2. The total electorate for these eight council areas is 872,356 giving a theoretical entitlement of 12 constituencies.
3. The Commission's initial proposals for this area retained 12 constituencies. A map of the proposed constituencies is at Appendix A.

Proposed constituencies	Electorate	Wards
Airdrie and Shotts	72,775	North Lanarkshire 8, 9, 12, 13, 16(part), 18(part), 20(part)
Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk	73,779	Scottish Borders 3-11
Coatbridge and Bellshill	72,332	North Lanarkshire 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16(part),
Dumfries and Galloway	74,916	Dumfries and Galloway 1-6, 8(part), 9(part)
Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale	73,593	Dumfries and Galloway 7, 8(part), 9(part), 10-12 Scottish Borders 1-2 South Lanarkshire 3, 4(part)
East Kilbride and Strathaven	75,161	South Lanarkshire 5-10
Hamilton and Clyde Valley	74,577	South Lanarkshire 1(part), 2(part), 4(part), 17-20
Kelvin North	70,773	East Dunbartonshire 1-5 North Lanarkshire 1
Kelvin South	74,905	East Dunbartonshire 6-7 North Lanarkshire 2-5
Motherwell and Clydesdale North	70,138	North Lanarkshire 17, 18(part), 19, 20(part), 21 South Lanarkshire 1(part), 2(part)
Rutherglen	71,612	South Lanarkshire 11-16
West Dunbartonshire	71,186	Glasgow City 13(part) West Dunbartonshire – all wards

Representations received

4. Over 120 responses were received during the two consultation periods commenting on these areas. All responses have been shared with the Commission. All responses to the initial consultation stage are available on the Commission's consultation site www.bcs2023review.com. Each response has been allocated a reference number from the consultation site.

Summary of responses

5. Suggestions and comments received during the initial consultation included:
 - Tweed Valley electors stating they have little in common with Clydesdale and Dumfriesshire;
 - comments regarding the proposed Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale or Tweeddale constituency boundary at both Dumfries and Lanark;

- opposition to the proposed Kelvin North and Kelvin South constituency names;
 - breaking of local ties in North and South Lanarkshire; and
 - little opposition to the initial proposals in West Dunbartonshire.
6. The maps in this paper show alternative suggestions in block colours, existing ward boundaries are red and initial proposal boundaries are a black line.

Scottish Borders Consultation Responses and Analysis

7. There were 14 responses from members of the public regarding the initial proposals for Scottish Borders council area, with most comments relating to the Tweed Valley. They stated:
- Biggar has closer links with Midlothian than with Dumfries and Galloway (12136);
 - there are no links between Peebles and Moffat, Lockerbie or Annan (11222, 11236, 12103);
 - Innerleithen has closer links with Edinburgh and the Scottish Borders than with Dumfriesshire (11235, 12008);
 - Tweeddale has close historical, commercial and cultural ties within the Borders than with Dumfriesshire and Clydesdale (11258); and
 - opposition to a reduction in the number of MP's and stated Walkerburn, Innerleithen and Peebles are more aligned to Ettrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire than Dumfriesshire and Clydesdale (11540, 12006).
8. The initial proposals placed Biggar, Innerleithen, Peebles and Walkerburn within the proposed Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency. Biggar, Innerleithen, Peebles and Walkerburn also currently sit within a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency which includes parts of Dumfries and Galloway, South Lanarkshire and Scottish Borders council areas.
9. A member of the public supported the initial proposals but suggested placing Clovenfords in a constituency with Galashiels rather than Peebles (11331).
10. Clovenfords currently sits within a Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk constituency with Galashiels. The initial proposals placed Clovenfords within a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency, separate from Galashiels. There are approx. 700 electors by Clovenfords so the Commission could consider adding Clovenfords to a Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk constituency.
11. A member of the public (12017) suggested a single Scottish Borders constituency. Another stated the Scottish Borders have their own identity and little in common with Dumfriesshire or Clydesdale (11389).
12. There are 90,667 electors within the Scottish Borders, too many for a single constituency.
13. A member of the public stated small rural populations are subsumed into the nearest largest conurbation and wished solely rural constituencies because they have common interests (10970).

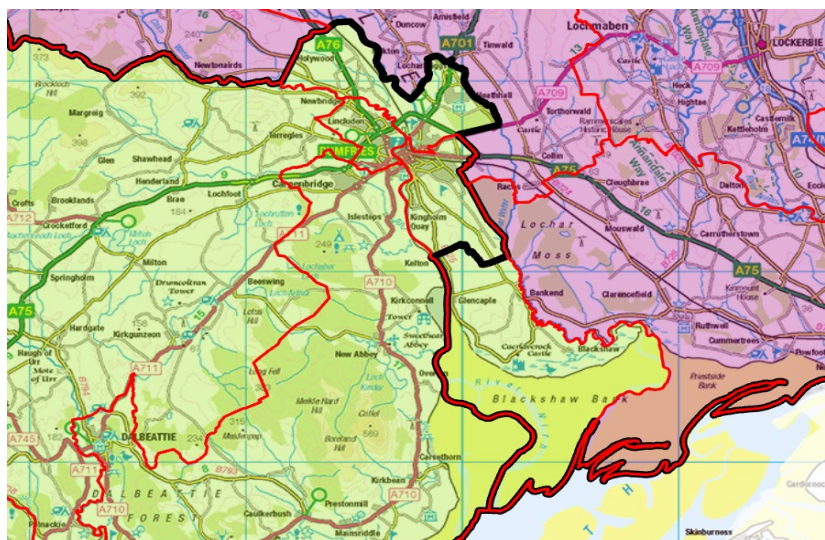
14. A member of the public supported the proposed Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk constituency because it considers local communities and is within quota (11878).

Dumfries and Galloway Consultation Responses and Analysis

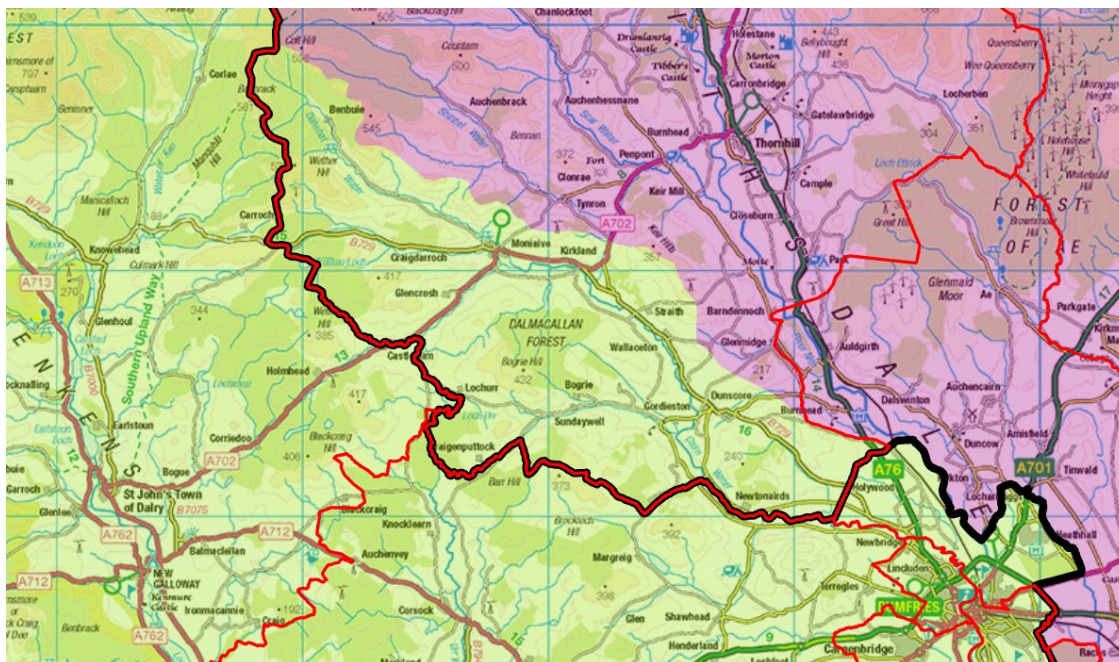
15. There were 26 responses to the initial proposals for Dumfries and Galloway council area. Most responses opposed the proposed boundary by Dumfries.
16. The comments from members of the public opposing the proposed Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency and boundary by Dumfries included:
- the initial proposals do not consider the Commission's policies design as many constituencies as practicable that do not cross a council area boundary; recognise existing community ties; take into consideration local geography (for example transport links, other electoral boundaries, administrative boundaries and natural features); or consider special geographical considerations where appropriate (12134, 11525, 11503).
 - the constituency has little in common with communities on the outskirts of Dumfries and Edinburgh. They also question the constituency names due to a Dumfriesshire constituency not including Dumfries and a Dumfries and Galloway constituency that does not follow the council area boundary (12069, 11525, 11503).
 - A suggestion to include Georgetown within a Dumfries and Galloway constituency because it is 200m from the Dumfries town limits (11606).
 - It covers too large an area and includes a number of disparate communities, divided by the Moffat Hills and Southern Uplands (12079). They further state the proposals do not consider the local geography. Thornhill has closer affinities with Dumfries and Galloway than Carstairs, Innerleithen or Carlisle and the constituency does not reflect consider the Commission's policies by covering three council areas (11090, 11569, 11327).
17. The proposed Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency is the only constituency that covers three council areas. The existing, very similar Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency also covers three council areas. It also includes open moorland and the Southern Uplands between Dumfries and Lanark.
18. The initial proposals placed Georgetown within a Dumfries and Galloway constituency. The existing constituency boundary splits Georgetown between constituencies.
19. David Mundell, MP for Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale supported the initial proposals because they minimise change to the existing constituency boundary, maintain historical community ties, improve local ties in the Clydesdale East ward by Carnwath and create a better boundary by Dumfries (11884).
20. A member of the public supported the initial proposals because they avoid Dumfries being split between two constituencies (11277).
21. Two members of the public suggested extending the boundary of the proposed Dumfries and Galloway constituency to include the whole of the Nith ward, south

of Dumfries. They believed their suggestion would affect fewer than 500 electors and both constituencies would remain within quota while maintaining local ties by Glencaple (12173, 10903, 10906, 12023).

22. This suggestion would propose a: Dumfries and Galloway constituency with 75,388 electors; and a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency with 73,121 electors. It would avoid a split ward south of Dumfries. See map below.



23. Glencairn Community Council objected to the initial proposals because they break strong cultural and social ties with Dumfries (11094).
24. Glencairn Community Council area includes Wallacetown and Moniaivie and they currently sit within a Dumfries and Galloway constituency but the initial proposals place them within a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency. If the neighbouring community council area of Dunscore was also included to present a more recognisable and cohesive boundary then approx. 1,500 electors in Glencairn and Dunscore could be added to a Dumfries and Galloway constituency and both constituencies would remain within quota, but it is dependent on other suggestions, see map below.



25. Two members of the public suggested that the constituency boundary should follow the council area boundary (11557). One suggested if that was not possible then the eastern part of Dumfries should sit in a different constituency (12115).
26. There are currently 117,760 electors within Dumfries and Galloway, too many for a single constituency.
27. Two members of the public stated Lockerbie has closer ties with Dumfries than Clydesdale and that the proposed Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency is too large (11761, 11741).
28. Lockerbie has sat within a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency since 2005. Prior to that it sat within a constituency with Dumfries.
29. A member of the public suggested that Langholm and Eskdale should sit within a Scottish Borders constituency (11504). A member of the public suggested a Dumfries and Galloway constituency that includes Langholm or creation of a constituency similar to the historical Dumfriesshire, Stewartry and Galloway (11461).
30. Langholm has sat within a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency since 2005. Prior to that it sat within a constituency with Dumfries.
31. A member of the public stated the areas of Dumfries and Galloway have little in common and suggested linking Galloway with an Ayrshire constituency (11210).
32. Since at least 1950 a UK Parliament constituency boundary has followed the boundary between Ayrshire and Galloway.
33. Two members of the public stated public hearings should have been held in the south of Scotland (12108). One suggested following the A74/M74 as a

constituency boundary or considering public transport links which are a good indication of local community links and affinities (11999).

34. The Commission was limited to holding only five public hearings within Scotland.

35. A member of the public stated that if the proposed Dumfries and Galloway constituency loses electors from Dumfries it will become a Conservative constituency (11692).

South Lanarkshire Consultation Responses and Analysis

36. There were 24 responses to the initial proposals for South Lanarkshire council area but there was no strong support or opposition in any specific area.

37. A member of the public supported the initial proposals (11494).

38. A Councillor supported the proposed East Kilbride and Strathaven constituency but suggested re-naming it East Kilbride, Strathaven and Stonehouse (11257).

39. A member of the public wished no change to the existing constituency boundaries (11626).

40. Comments from members of the public regarding the proposed Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency included:

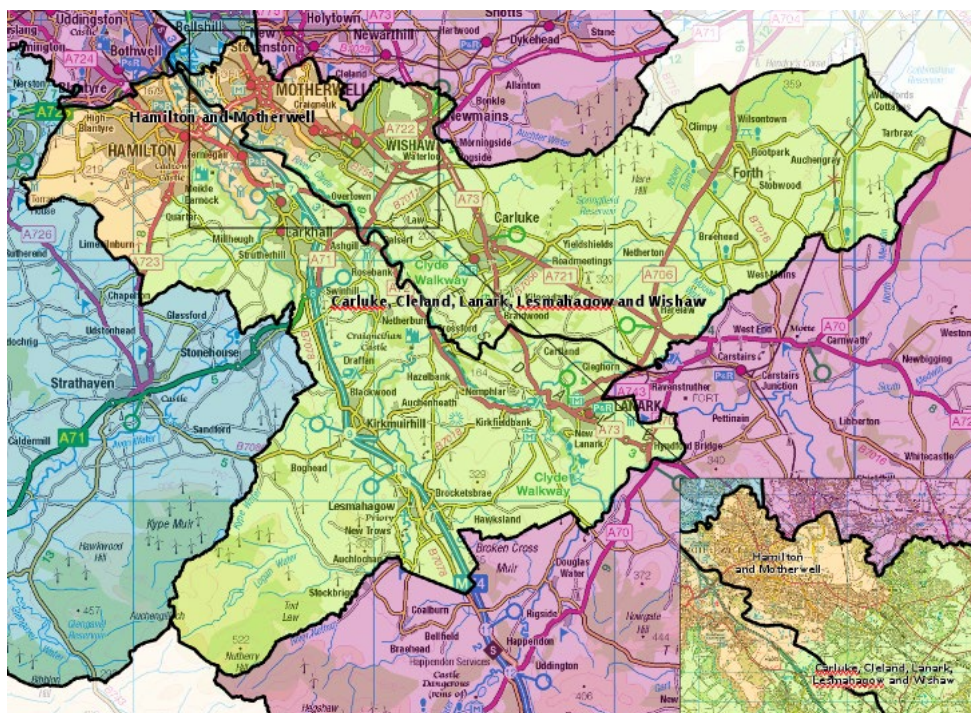
- opposition to a constituency covering three council areas, little to connect the towns and communities within it. It is not a geographically, politically, economically or culturally a cohesive region (11169).
- Clydesdale communities should sit within a Lanark constituency rather than a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency. They advise Lanark, Carluke, Lesmahagow and Biggar have close ties and little in common with Dumfriesshire (11436).
- Carnwath, Carstairs, Forth, Braehead and Lanark are all linked with strong community ties (11395).

41. The proposed Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency is similar to the existing Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency, except by Carnwath, Dumfries and Tweed Valley. Both the proposed and existing constituency cover three council areas and include open moorland and the Southern Uplands between Dumfries and Lanark.

42. The initial proposals have not placed Lanark, Carluke or Lesmahagow in a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency.

43. The initial proposals placed Carnwath in a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency. Since at least the 1950's Carnwath has sat within a Lanark constituency and it currently sits within a Lanark and Hamilton East constituency. There are approx. 3,400 electors by Carnwath and Carstairs. Carnwath/ Carstairs electors could be added to the neighbouring Motherwell and Clydesdale North constituency because it has only 70,138 electors. The neighbouring Hamilton and Clyde Valley constituency (74,577 electors), which includes Lanark, cannot adopt a further 3,400 electors.

44. Biggar currently sits within a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency which includes parts of Dumfries and Galloway, South Lanarkshire and Scottish Borders council areas.
45. The initial proposals have spread Carnwath, Carstairs, Forth, Braehead and Lanark between three constituencies. However it might be possible to include all of these communities in a single constituency if the Commission sees merit in the Secretariat option, discussed in paragraphs 50-52, and dependent on any boundary changes by Dumfries or elsewhere.
46. Three members of the public opposed a Hamilton and Clyde Valley constituency. Two stated Lanark has completely different issues to that of Hamilton and it belongs to the Clydesdale rural hinterland (11394, 11623). Another stated Lesmahagow and Hamilton have very different needs and amenities (11376).
47. Since 2005 there has been a Lanark and Hamilton East constituency.
48. Four members of the public opposed the proposed Motherwell and Clydesdale North constituency. Two suggested a Carluke and Lanark constituency because they are both semi-rural communities (12055, 12077). One stated Wishaw and Tarbrax are different communities and have little in common. They also suggested a Carluke and Lanark constituency or Wishaw and Larkhall constituency (11667). One stated a constituency should not straddle two local authority areas and it contains rural and urban areas with little in common (11618).
49. Cllr David Shearer (11934) opposed the proposals because they included a Clydesdale West ward in a Motherwell and Clydesdale North constituency and do not reflect community links. He advised Clydesdale West has more in common with Clydesdale and Hamilton than it does with Motherwell and Wishaw.
50. The South Lanarkshire Clydesdale West ward includes Carluke. Since at least the 1950's Carluke has sat within a Lanark or Clydesdale constituency and not with any North Lanarkshire communities, such as Motherwell. For at least 70 years there has been an urban Motherwell and Wishaw constituency which has not included more rural areas towards Carluke or Lanark. Carluke and Lanark sit within South Lanarkshire council area, while Motherwell and Wishaw sit within North Lanarkshire council area. The Commission could consider splitting the proposed Hamilton and Clyde Valley and Motherwell and Clydesdale North constituencies to create more rural and urban constituencies, see map and table below.



Carluke, Cleland, Lanark, Lesmahagow and Wishaw			
South Lanarkshire	1	Clydesdale West	15,359
South Lanarkshire	2	Clydesdale North	11,837
South Lanarkshire	4 (part)	Clydesdale South	8,128
North Lanarkshire	20(part)	Murdostoun	11,222
North Lanarkshire	21	Wishaw	13,355
South Lanarkshire	20	Larkhall	14,728
			74,629
Hamilton and Motherwell			
North Lanarkshire	17	Motherwell West	10,451
North Lanarkshire	18 (part)	Motherwell North	2,750
North Lanarkshire	19	Motherwell South East and Ravenscraig	14,716
South Lanarkshire	17	Hamilton North and East	11,743
South Lanarkshire	18	Hamilton West and Earnock	14,257
South Lanarkshire	19	Hamilton South	16,169
			70,086

51. The advantages of this constituency design are:

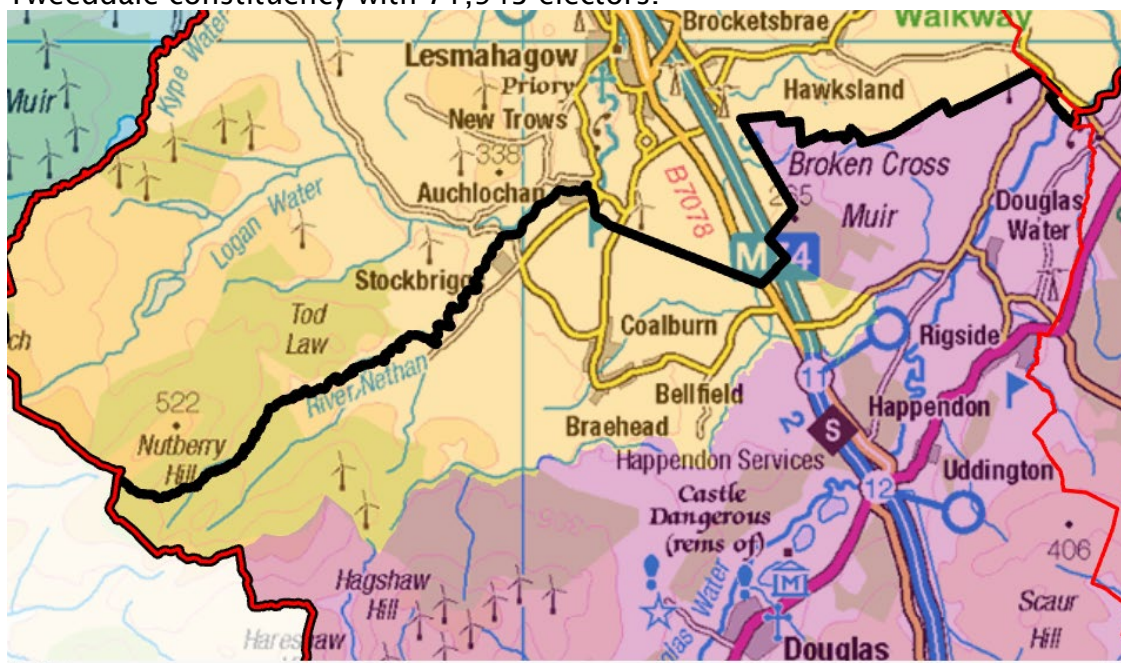
- it proposes an urban constituency and a more rural constituency, creating constituencies with perhaps greater common issues although some rural areas look to the nearest urban area as part of their community; and
- with further changes it could incorporate Carnwath, Carstairs, Forth, Braehead and Lanark in a single constituency, subject to other changes by Dumfries or elsewhere.

52. The disadvantages of this constituency design are:

- Hamilton and Motherwell have never been in the same constituency. There is a clear boundary between these towns: the council area boundary; M74 road; and Strathclyde Park.
- it may break local ties between Motherwell and Wishaw
- it would still create a constituency that included urban Wishaw with areas or rural Lanarkshire.

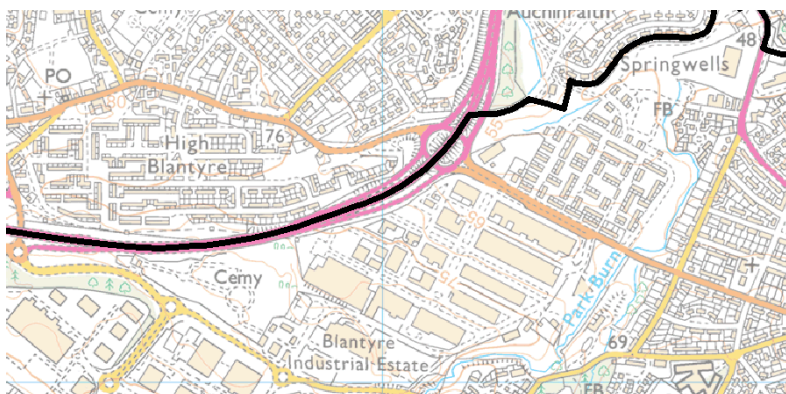
53. Two members of the public stated Carluke has little in common with North Lanarkshire and closer links with Lanark (11062, 10938).

54. The initial proposals placed Carluke in a Mortherwell and Clydesdale constituency. Carluke and Lanark have sat within the same constituency since at least the 1950's, but have sat within separate South Lanarkshire wards since 1995.
55. A possible solution is discussed in paragraphs 50-52.
56. A member of the public stated Lesmahagow, Blackwood, Coalburn and surrounding areas have sat within a Lesmahagow Parish since the 17th century and they all share the same educational, leisure, working environs. They oppose Coalburn sitting within a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency and suggest adding it to a Hamilton and Clyde Valley constituency (11363).
57. Coalburn and Lesmahagow have sat within a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency since 2005. Prior to that Coalburn and Lesmahagow were within a Clydesdale or Lanark constituency. The initial proposals boundary in this area followed a historical ward boundary. There are approx. 1,650 electors by Coalburn who could be added to a Hamilton and Clyde Valley constituency which includes Lesmahagow, dependent on other suggestions, see map below. It would propose a Hamilton and Clyde Valley (inc. Coalburn) constituency with 76,227 electors and a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency with 71,943 electors.



58. A member of the public suggested extending the boundary of the proposed Rutherglen constituency southwards, beyond the A725 Expressway to include High Blantyre communities by Hamilton Drive, Sydes Brae, Auchentiber, Hillhouse Road (including Priestfield cemetery) (11220).
59. There are only around 600 electors in this area, so the boundary could be extended southwards to follow the Park Burn, see map below. The Park Burn was adopted as a UK Parliament constituency boundary from 1974-83. The initial proposals have followed ward boundaries and the A725 dual-carriageway acts as

a strong identifiable boundary. The ward boundaries in this area are relatively unchanged since 1995.



60. A member of the public stated Bothwell has closer links with Hamilton than with Rutherglen (11197).
61. The initial proposals placed Bothwell within a Rutherglen constituency for the first time. Since 1983 Bothwell and Hamilton have sat within the same constituency.
62. Dr Lisa Cameron MP (11978) advised that Stonehouse has closer cultural, transport and amenity links with Larkhall than with East Kilbride or Strathaven and the initial proposals would also break local ties between Stonehouse and Larkhall. She stated the proposed constituency does not consider Scottish Parliament boundaries which better reflect local ties in the area. She suggested Stonehouse be included in the proposed Hamilton and Clyde Valley constituency alongside Larkhall, whilst the rural town of Lesmahagow and village of Sandford remain within the East Kilbride & Strathaven seat.
63. The initial proposals placed Stonehouse within an East Kilbride and Strathaven constituency. Stonehouse currently sits within an East Kilbride, Strathaven and Lesmahagow constituency. Between 1983 and 2005 it sat within a Clydesdale constituency with Larkhall and Lanark. Lesmahagow currently sits within an East Kilbride, Strathaven and Lesmahagow constituency. There are approximately 4,500 Stonehouse electors and 4,000 Lesmahagow electors so these towns could be swapped between the proposed East Kilbride and Strathaven constituency and Hamilton and Clyde Valley constituency although this is subject to alternative boundary changes elsewhere.
64. A member of the public suggested renaming the proposed Rutherglen constituency as Glasgow South East (11637).
65. A member of the public opposed the initial proposals because they do not consider local historical, cultural or community ties (12045).
66. A member of the public opposed the proposals for party political reasons (12094).

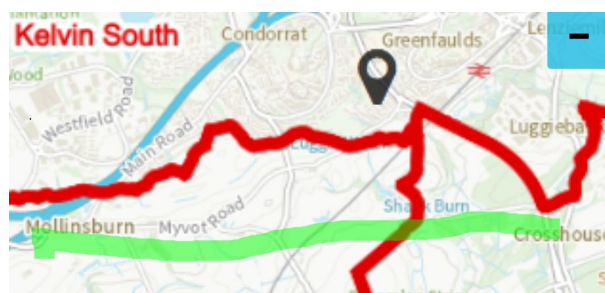
North Lanarkshire Consultation Responses and Analysis

67. There were 37 responses regarding the initial proposals for North Lanarkshire council area. Most responses commented on the Kelvin North and Kelvin South constituency names.

Kelvin North and Kelvin South constituencies

68. A member of the public supported the proposed Kelvin South constituency because it is a geographical, cultural and social fit for Cumbernauld. They explained Cumbernauld has always been more closely linked to Kirkintilloch, Lenzie and onwards to Glasgow. They also suggested incorporating Moodiesburn and Mollinsburn into the constituency (11017).

69. Two members of the public supported the proposed Kelvin South constituency because it separated Chryston from Coatbridge, areas with little in common (11577). Another suggested an alternative boundary (11798), see map below.



70. The initial proposals in this area follow ward boundaries. The alternative suggestion appears to follow open farmland and no natural features.

71. A number of responses from the public opposed the proposed Kelvin South and Kelvin North constituencies because:

- they do not recognise existing community ties, geographical boundaries, transport links or administrative boundaries. Muirhead and Chryston have closer links with Coatbridge, sharing the same local authority and services and it separates them from other areas in the constituency by the M80. They suggested Muirhead and Chryston should remain within a Coatbridge, Chryston and Bellshill constituency (11243).
- they split Stepps, Muirhead and Chryston from Moodiesburn, Mollinsburn and Gartcosh who have close community ties. They wish to retain the existing Coatbridge, Chryston and Bellshill constituency because it sits within a single council area (11646, 10934).
- they split communities in Kirkintilloch, Twechar, Mollinsburn, Moodiesburn and Chryston. They suggested including Cumbernauld in the constituency name because it is more populated than Perth or Stirling (11323).
- the Northern Corridor (Stepps, Chryston, Muirhead, Gartcosh, Glenboig and Moodiesburn) should remain in a single constituency because they share common concerns and there are cultural and historical links (11744).
- Kilsyth looks to Cumbernauld for local amenities and public services (11256).
- they break existing and historic links with between Croy and Kilsyth. They suggested a Cumbernauld, Croy, and Kilsyth constituency that included Cumbernauld in the constituency name (11674, 11315).

- Auchinloch and Lenzie/Kirkintilloch have a shared geography and school catchment areas (11086).
- they merge areas of North Lanarkshire and East Dunbartonshire which have little in common. They suggested constituency boundaries should follow council area boundaries (12034).
- Queenzieburn should remain within a North Lanarkshire constituency. It has no logical or practical connection with Milngavie and Bearsden (11262).
- of the constituency size (11678).

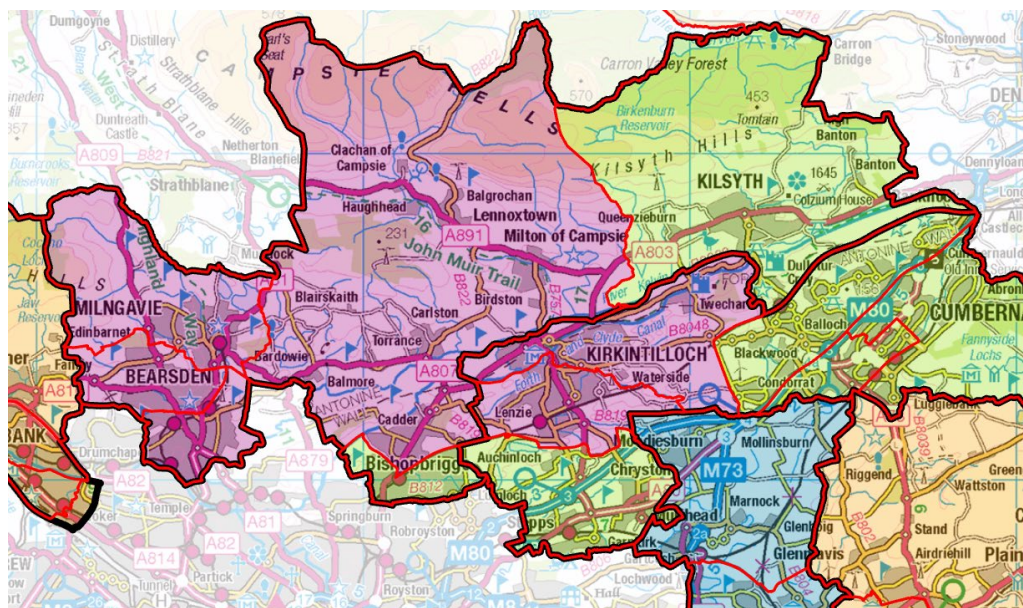
72. Since 1983: Croy and Kilsyth; Kilsyth and Cumbernauld; and Muirhead and Chryston have sat within the same constituency.

73. Since at least the 1950's: Stepps, Chryston, Muirhead and Moodiesburn have sat within the same constituency.

74. Since at least the 1950's Auchinloch has sat within a different constituency to Kirkintilloch.

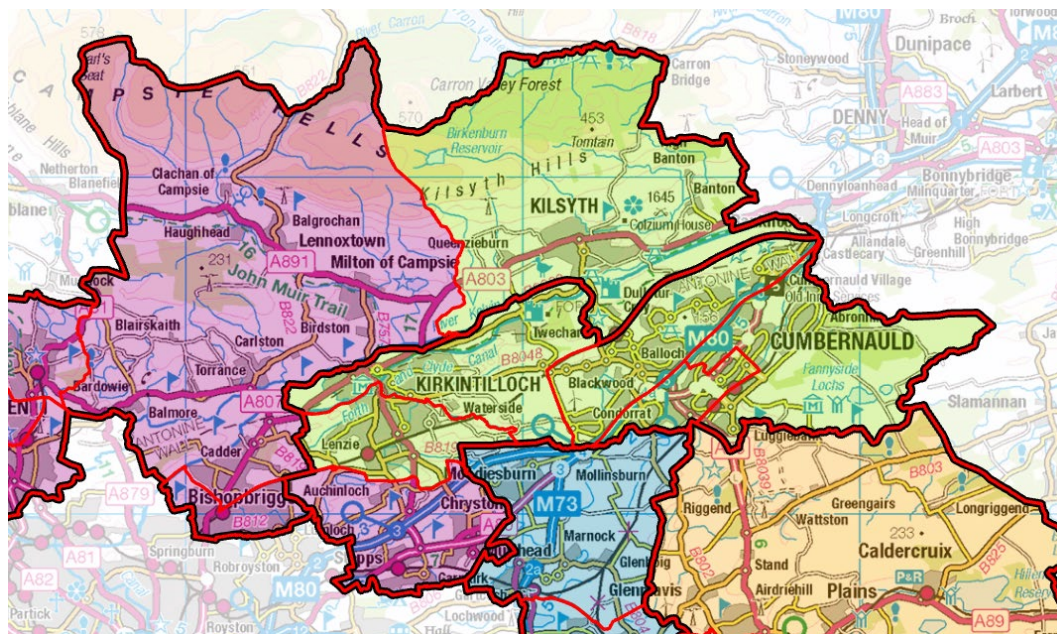
75. Cumbernauld and Kilsyth Constituency Labour Party and three members of the public also opposed the proposed Kelvin South constituency because it splits Cumbernauld and Kilsyth between constituencies. They stated Cumbernauld and Kilsyth have shared a Scottish Parliamentary Constituency since 1999 and a UK Parliamentary Constituency since 1983, the same local authority area since 1975. They suggested a constituency should include Cumbernauld, Kilsyth, Croy, Queenzieburn and Banton because many organisations have operated on these boundaries for decades. They argued there are close geographical, political, familial, educational and cultural connections between these areas. They suggested moving the Kilsyth ward into the proposed Kelvin South Constituency and moving Kirkintilloch East, North and Twechar into the proposed Kelvin North Constituency (Kelvin North = 72,792 and Kelvin South = 72,886). They also suggested extending their suggestion and transferring Stepps, Chryston and Muirhead Ward with Gartcosh, Glenboig and Moodiesburn ward to create neater boundaries. Their third suggestion would be to group the three Cumbernauld wards with Kilsyth ward, Gartcosh, Glenboig & Moodiesburn Ward and Stepps, Chryston and Muirhead Ward for a combined electorate of: 70,747 (11491, 11424, 11549, 11595).

76. The suggestions are within quota but unfortunately all three suggestions create orphan or island constituencies. The map below shows the suggestion to swap the Kilsyth ward with either Kirkintilloch ward between the proposed Kelvin South and Kelvin North constituencies. It creates orphan or island constituencies (Kilsyth/ Cumbernauld and Stepps/ Chryston, shown in green in the map below).



77. An MP suggested Kirkintilloch, Milton of Campsie, Lennoxton and Lenzie should sit within the same constituency. They also suggested Kilsyth and Cumbernauld should remain in the same constituency and be connected to Kirkintilloch. They opposed the proposed constituency names of Kelvin South and Kelvin North because they will be confused with parts of Glasgow. They suggested constituency names that simply refer to the towns within them (12157).
78. Their suggestion for a Milton of Campsie, Lennoxton and Lenzie constituency would create similar orphan or island constituency as shown above. An alternative option with a Kilsyth and Cumbernauld constituency is discussed in paragraphs 81-83.
79. North Lanarkshire Councillor Alan Masterton opposed the proposed Kelvin South and Kelvin North constituencies because they split Cumbernauld from Kilsyth, towns two miles apart. He explained Cumbernauld and Kilsyth have strong local ties stretching back to local Government reorganisation in 1975 when they formed Cumbernauld and Kilsyth District Council. They both sit together within North Lanarkshire Council and the Cumbernauld and Kilsyth Scottish Parliament constituency. He suggested a Cumbernauld, Kilsyth and Kirkintilloch constituency would maintain the historic, social and political ties between Cumbernauld and Kilsyth. He also stated the Kelvin constituency names are confusing (11869).
80. An MSP (anon) stated Cumbernauld, Croy and Kilsyth have historical ties and a large number of shared public services. They suggested adding Kilsyth to a Kelvin South constituency with Cumbernauld and adding Chryston and other nearby villages to a Kelvin North constituency. They believed the Kelvin North and Kelvin South constituency names are confusing, especially with a Glasgow Kelvin Scottish Parliamentary constituency name. They suggested settlement names such as Cumbernauld, Kirkintilloch and Chryston and Strathkelvin, Bearsden and Kilsyth if the boundaries remained unchanged (12156).
81. The Secretariat have developed an option which addresses a number of issues in East Dunbartonshire and North Lanarkshire councils areas. It proposes a

Bearsden, Milngavie, Bishopbriggs and Stepps constituency with 71,195 electors and a Kilsyth, Kirkintilloch and Cumbernauld constituency with 74,483 electors, see map below.



82. The advantages of this are it:

- places Croy, Kilsyth and Cumbernauld in the same constituency; and
- minimises change to the initial proposals.

83. The disadvantages of this are it:

- breaks local ties in the Northern Corridor (Stepps, Chryston and Muirhead and Gartcosh, Glenboig and Moodiesburn).

84. A charity organisation opposed the proposals in the Northern Corridor because it would be detrimental to working partnerships with other organisations who work together in the area on shared issues and do not wish two MP's representing them (11833).

85. The Northern Corridor towns are well connected by the road network. However creating a Northern Corridor constituency would likely split either Cumbernauld, Coatbridge or Airdrie between two constituencies.

86. A member of the public suggested removing Cumbernauld and surrounding villages, including Condorrat, from North Lanarkshire council area because their council offices are in Motherwell and too distant both in terms of distance and the interests of the local people (11751).

Coatbridge and Bellshill, Airdrie and Shotts, Motherwell and Clydesdale North constituencies

87. A number of responses from the public opposed the proposed: Coatbridge and Bellshill; Airdrie and Shotts; and Motherwell and Clydesdale North constituencies because:

- Bellshill is closer to Motherwell than Airdrie and they look to Motherwell for local amenities (11672).

- Bothwell, Bellshill, Uddingston and Viewpark have historical links and suggested they sit within an Airdrie and Coatbridge constituency (12048).
- it breaks local historical ties (transport, schools, shopping, work) between Viewpark and Uddingston. They suggested a boundary similar to the old Sixth District Council (11283).
- an Airdrie and Shotts constituency includes parts of Wishaw and Coatbridge (11205).
- it fails to meet several of the Commission's guidelines by covering two council areas. They stated there are no links between Motherwell and Carluke and its outlying areas. They suggested linking Motherwell with Bellshill or Hamilton (11213).
- Wishaw has closer geographical and social links with Motherwell than with Airdrie and Shotts (11418).
- Carfin, New Stevenston, Holytown and Newarthill have stronger links with Motherwell than Airdrie. The Airdrie and Shotts constituency contains rural areas while they reside in a more urban constituency. They seek no change to the existing Motherwell and Wishaw constituency (12003, 11820, 11762).
- The Motherwell and Clydesdale North constituency straddles two council areas and creates a constituency containing mainly urban areas with rural areas. They stated Carfin, New Stevenston, Mossend, Cleland and Newarthill look towards Motherwell rather than Airdrie (11806).
- Airdrie and Shotts are remote from each other and seek no change to the existing constituencies (11680).

88. Some of the issues raised are similar to those discussed under South Lanarkshire.

89. The existing constituency boundaries currently divide Viewpark/ Bellshill and Uddingston/ Bothwell between constituencies. The initial proposals follow the same boundary here, the M74 motorway and a railway line.

90. Bellshill is currently split between a Coatbridge, Chryston and Bellshill constituency and a Motherwell and Wishaw constituency. The initial proposals place Bellshill within a Coatbridge and Bellshill constituency.

91. The existing constituency boundaries mostly follow the North and South Lanarkshire council area boundaries.

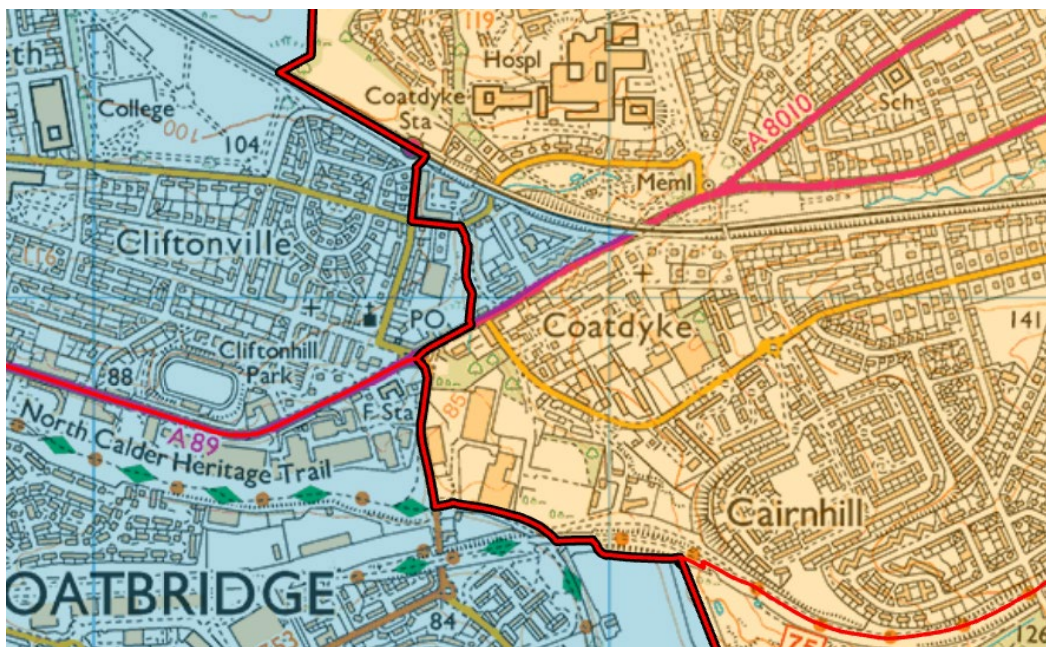
92. Airdrie and Shotts have sat within the same constituency since 1997.

93. New Stevenston and Carfin currently sit within a Motherwell and Wishaw constituency, historically they have sat within a constituency with Bellshill. New Stevenston and Carfin have never been in a constituency with Airdrie.

94. Since at least the 1950s there has been a Motherwell and Wishaw constituency.

95. Two members of the public objected to the proposed boundary between Coatbridge and Airdrie at Coatdyke railway station because it splits the Lomond Court housing development between constituencies and they have experienced issues in contacting their elected representatives. They suggested the boundary should follow the railway line and viaduct instead (11925) or Agnew Avenue and the railway line (11072).

96. The proposed constituency boundary by Lomond Court follows a ward boundary but could follow the railway line and the A89 road, see map below. This would transfer approximately 170 electors between the Airdrie and Shotts and Coatbridge and Bellshill constituencies. Both constituencies would remain within quota.



East Dunbartonshire Consultation Responses and Analysis

97. There were 22 responses to the initial proposals for East Dunbartonshire council area.
98. Some of the issues raised are similar to those discussed under North Lanarkshire.
99. The Scottish Liberal Democrats supported the proposed boundaries but suggested the name Cumbernauld and Kirkintilloch because they are the largest towns. They also suggest East Dunbartonshire and Kilsyth because most of east Dunbartonshire sits within it and is more recognisable than Kelvin North. They also argue Kelvin is more associated with Glasgow (11826, 11827).
100. A member of the public supported the initial proposals because they better reflect the views and needs of the constituents and the existing constituency is too large (11084).
101. Two members of the public argued that the proposed Kelvin North constituency is geographically large and has few community ties or historical ties within it, as Kilsyth and Bearsden/Milngavie have little in common (12030, 11664). Another stated Bearsden and Milngavie have little in common with Bishopbriggs and Kirkintilloch. They suggested following the canal, roads, existing geographical and cultural boundaries (11203).
102. Historically Bearsden and Milngavie have never been in the same UK Parliament constituency as Kilsyth. Bearsden and Milngavie currently sit with an East Dunbartonshire constituency with Bishopbriggs and Kirkintilloch.

103. Four members of the public opposed the proposed Kelvin South constituency because Lenzie and Kirkintilloch have close transport and business links with Bishopbriggs but none with Cumbernauld (12007, 12009, 11604, 11194).
104. Kirkintilloch currently sits within a Cumbernauld, Kilsyth and Kirkintilloch constituency. From at least 1950-1983 Cumbernauld and Kirkintilloch sat within an East Dunbartonshire constituency.
105. A member of the public opposed the proposals because they combine communities with little in common (11754).
106. Two members of the public opposed the proposals and suggested that the constituency boundary follow East Dunbartonshire council area boundary (11628, 10958).
107. There are currently 85,039 electors within East Dunbartonshire, too many for a single constituency.
108. Three members of the public suggested retaining the existing constituency to retain local ties (11260, 11465, 11255).
109. The existing East Dunbartonshire constituency has 67,504 electors, which is below the electorate quota for the 2023 Review.
110. A member of the public queried the Kelvin North electorate. They believe it is above 77,000 or soon will be due to planned housing developments (11522).
111. A member of the public opposed the Kelvin South constituency because it straddles East Dunbartonshire and North Lanarkshire council areas, areas with differing priorities (11201).
112. A member of the public suggested naming the constituency Strathkelvin North because it is similar to the Scottish Parliament constituency and Kelvin relates more to Glasgow (11554).
113. A member of the public suggested naming the proposed Kelvin South constituency as Cumbernauld or Cumbernauld and Kirkintilloch. They argue: Cumbernauld is the tenth most populated town in Scotland; there is no Kelvin Valley, Glen Kelvin or Kelvinside within the area; Kelvinside relates to an area in Glasgow; and people know where Cumbernauld is but not the early course of the River Kelvin (10952, 10948).
114. A member of the public opposed the proposed Kelvin North name as Kelvin refers to the west end of Glasgow (11248).

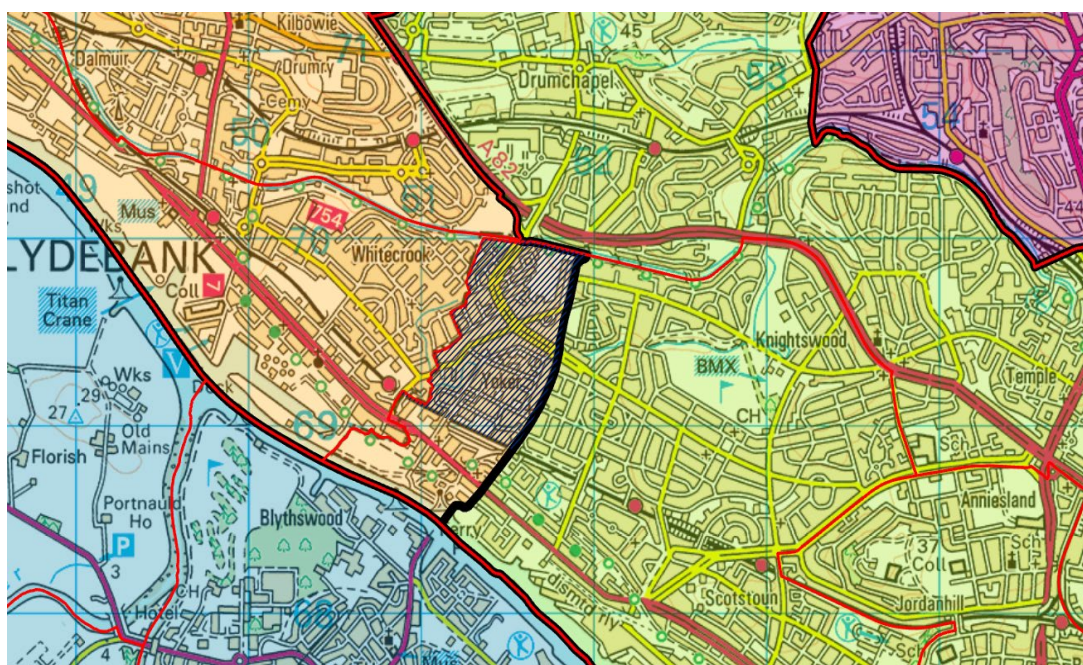
West Dunbartonshire Consultation Responses and Analysis

115. There was one response to the initial proposals for West Dunbartonshire council area.
116. The Returning Officer for West Dunbartonshire Council supported the proposed West Dunbartonshire constituency because it avoids splitting West Dunbartonshire electors between two constituencies. They acknowledge the electorate quota and that West Dunbartonshire has to be linked with a

neighbouring area to meet the quota. They suggested linking West Dunbartonshire with Argyll and Bute or East Dunbartonshire because they share the same Electoral Registration Officer (11886). They further state it would be preferable to avoid splitting polling districts between constituencies whether in Glasgow or other areas.

117. The Commission could create a constituency with East and West Dunbartonshire but it would likely break local ties in Bearsden. Earlier in the review the Commission had also considered linking West Dunbartonshire with Argyll and Bute.

118. The initial proposals follows Kelso Street and partly a polling district boundary. The Commission could consider following a polling district boundary in Yoker, see shaded area in map below. This would add approximately 2,500 electors to a West Dunbartonshire constituency with a total of approximately 70,300 electors.



All Scotland Consultation Responses that apply to this grouping and Analysis

119. There were approximately 140 general responses to the initial consultation opposing the 2023 Review or making comments out-with the legislation for the review.

120. A member of the public suggested that the Commission should not group council areas for designing constituencies because it offers less flexibility in constituency design and may bring political bias. They also suggest constituency names based on the principle of a main area or town and a subsidiary area (12161).

121. A member of the public (11879) suggested smaller constituencies across Scotland.

122. A member of the public (11844) submitted an all Scotland alternative suggestion. It mainly considers the Commission's council area groupings, except at Dunbar, see Appendix B. The suggestion splits wards but does not provide any detailed explanations of where

Suggested Constituency (11844)	Electorate
Berwickshire, Dunbar and Tweeddale	73,312
Annandale and Roxburgh	70,234
Dumfries and Galloway	76,570
Rutherglen and Bothwell	71,612
East Kilbride and Strathaven	75,161
Hamilton and Clydesdale South	76,652
Motherwell, Wishaw and Clydesdale North	74,908
Airdrie and Shotts	74,296
Coatbridge and Bellshill	72,332
Cumbernauld and Kirkintilloch	73,918
Milngavie and Kilsyth	69,720
West Dunbartonshire	69,824

123. The advantages of this suggestion are it:
- retains four constituencies from the initial proposals (Airdrie and Shotts, Rutherglen, East Kilbride and Strathaven, Coatbridge and Bellshill); and
 - may address concerns with the proposed boundary by Dumfries.
124. The disadvantages of this suggestion are it:
- proposes a constituency outwith the electorate quota although this could be amended to meet the quota;
 - it links Dunbar with Tweeddale, creating a new grouping of council areas; and
 - splits Bearsden between two constituencies.
125. A member of the public (11876) submitted an all Scotland alternative suggestion (see Appendix C) but they proposed alternative groupings of council areas including:
- Glasgow City and West Dunbartonshire council areas (7 constituencies);
 - Dumfries and Galloway, the Ayrshires, Inverclyde, Renfrewshire, South Lanarkshire and Scottish Borders (13 constituencies); and
 - Clackmannanshire, East Dunbartonshire, Falkirk, Fife, North Lanarkshire; Perth and Kinross, Stirling and West Lothian council areas (15 constituencies).

Suggested Constituency (11876)	Electorate
Airdrie and Whitburn	76,269
Annandale, Clydesdale and Tweeddale	71,050
Bearsden and Kilsyth	70,773
Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk	73,779
Coatbridge and Bellshill	72,332
Cumbernauld and Kirkintilloch	74,905
East Kilbride and Strathaven	75,161
Hamilton and Carlisle	72,256
Motherwell and Wishaw	71,470
Rutherglen	71,612

Stranraer, Carrick and Cumnock	70,469
West Dunbartonshire	73,252

126. The advantages of this suggestion are it:
- considers the initial proposals by retaining six constituencies (Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk; Kelvin North; Kelvin South; Coatbridge and Bellshill; Rutherglen; East Kilbride and Strathaven); and
 - may address concerns with the proposed boundary by Motherwell as it includes Carfin and New Stevenston in a Motherwell constituency.
127. The disadvantages of this suggestion are it:
- links Galloway with South Ayrshire and North Lanarkshire with West Lothian creating a new grouping of council areas; and
 - creates a constituency that extends from the Solway Coast to the outskirts of Kilmarnock.
128. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party (12170, 11960) comments regarding constituency names are listed below. They were supportive of the proposals because:
- Yoker and Clydebank are closely aligned and have a shared industrial heritage in West Dunbartonshire;
 - The proposed Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale offers a satisfactory boundary by Dumfries and Carnwath/ Carstairs;
 - They support Tweeddale remaining within a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency; and
 - They were content with the proposed boundaries in Lanarkshire and East Dunbartonshire.
129. The Scottish Labour Party opposed the proposed West Dunbartonshire constituency and suggested West Dunbartonshire gain electors from an area other than Glasgow. They stated the initial proposals break local ties between Kilsyth and Cumbernauld and opposed the Kelvin South and Kelvin North constituency names (11802, 12147, 12174).

Constituency names

130. There was no support for the proposed Kelvin South and Kelvin North constituency names because most people relate Kelvin to the west end of Glasgow and there is a Glasgow Kelvin Scottish Parliamentary constituency name. There were suggestions to adopt settlement names instead, such as: Cumbernauld; Cumbernauld and Kirkintilloch; or Strathkelvin North.
131. A member of the public questioned a constituency name that included the name Dumfriesshire but not the town of Dumfries and a Dumfries and Galloway constituency that does not follow the Dumfries and Galloway council area boundary.
132. The Scottish Liberal Democrats supported the proposed Kelvin South and Kelvin North constituency boundaries but suggested alternative names: Cumbernauld and Kirkintilloch and East Dunbartonshire and Kilsyth (12167, 11826, 11827).
133. A member of the public (11874) suggested renaming:

- Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale as Annandale, Clydesdale and Tweeddale;
 - Hamilton and Clyde Valley as Hamilton and Lanark;
 - Kelvin North as Bearsden and Kilsyth;
 - Kelvin South to Cumbernauld and Kirkintilloch;
 - Motherwell and Clydesdale North to Motherwell and Carluke; and
 - Rutherglen to Rutherglen and Bothwell.
134. A member of the public (11921) suggested renaming:
- Kelvin North as Campsie; and
 - Kelvin South to Cumbernauld and Lenzie or Cumbernauld and Kirkintilloch.
135. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party (12170, 11960) supported the Dumfries and Galloway constituency name, but suggested renaming:
- Hamilton and Clyde Valley as Hamilton and Lanark;
 - Kelvin North as Bearsden and Strathkelvin;
 - Kelvin South to Cumbernauld and Kirkintilloch; and
 - Motherwell and Clydesdale North to Motherwell and Carluke.
136. A Councillor suggested re-naming the East Kilbride and Strathaven constituency as East Kilbride, Strathaven and Stonehouse.
137. A member of the public suggested renaming the proposed Rutherglen constituency as Glasgow South East.
138. A member of the public submitted a general comment on constituency names and enclosed an article from Political Quarterly “What’s in a Name? The Length of Westminster Constituency Titles, 1950-2024” (11977).
139. 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 revised proposals.

Summary

140. There was no strong opposition to the initial proposals in one single area and few offered alternative suggestions to resolve their concerns.
141. The Commission’s initial proposals minimised change to the existing: Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk; Dumfries and Galloway; and Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituencies. The proposed and existing Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency covers a large area, including the Southern Uplands, and is the only constituency to cover three council areas although it is well connected by the M74 motorway.
142. Some respondents questioned the Commission’s initial proposals after reading its policies and procedures for the 2023 Review. However it is not possible to create 57 constituencies which do not overlap council area boundaries within quota and the Commission has proposed a single constituency covering three council areas. The policies and procedures booklet stated “subject to the above requirements Rule 5 permits us to take into account, as we think fit, the following factors when we make our recommendations:

- special geographical considerations, including in particular the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;
- boundaries of council areas and electoral wards (existing or prospective) at the start of a review;
- existing UK Parliament constituency boundaries;
- any local ties which would be broken by changes in constituencies; and
- the inconvenience attendant on such changes.”

143. In the Scottish Borders, some respondents stated the Tweed Valley looks towards Edinburgh or the rest of the Borders rather than Clydesdale and/ or Dumfriesshire. Since 2005 Tweeddale has sat within a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency. Prior to that Tweeddale was part of a Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale constituency and before then a Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles constituency. The northern half of the proposed Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency which includes Biggar arguably looks towards Edinburgh rather than southwards but for example it could also be claimed that East Lothian, West Lothian or Fife look towards Edinburgh rather than the main towns within those areas.
144. The proposed constituency boundaries in the Scottish Borders follow ward boundaries. There was a single suggestion to include Clovenfords in a Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk constituency with Galashiels. The approximately 700 Clovenfords electors could be transferred and both of the Borders constituencies would remain within quota but it would split a ward. Clovenfords currently sits within its own community council area, polling district and non-denominational primary school catchment area.
145. The initial proposals split the Nith ward to include the whole of Dumfries within a Dumfries and Galloway constituency but it placed fewer than 500 Nith electors within a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency. Two respondents suggested placing the whole of the Nith ward in a Dumfries and Galloway constituency because it would remain within quota and avoid splitting two wards. It would result in propose a Dumfries and Galloway constituency with 75,388 electors; and a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency with 73,121 electors. The Nith ward boundary follows a river, Lochar Water, a more recognisable boundary than the initial proposals.
146. Some respondents, north of Dumfries, wished to be placed with Dumfries in a Dumfries and Galloway constituency rather than a Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency. Arguably Annan, Moffat and Sanquhar also all look towards Dumfries. The proposed Dumfries and Galloway constituency with 74,916 could accommodate a further 2,000 electors or 1,500 electors if the Commission agreed to the Nith ward suggestion. There are approximately 1,200 electors in the northern half of the Lochar ward which includes Ae, Auldgirth, Duncow and Kirkton, and approximately 1,400 electors in the bottom of the Mid and Upper Nithsdale ward which includes Monaivie, Dunscore and Wallacetown. The existing Dumfries and Galloway constituency boundary generally follows the B729 road, north of Dumfries, which includes Monaivie, Dunscore and Wallacetown.
147. Some respondents stated Carstairs and Carnwath have close ties with Lanark. The proposed Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency follows the existing Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency boundary by

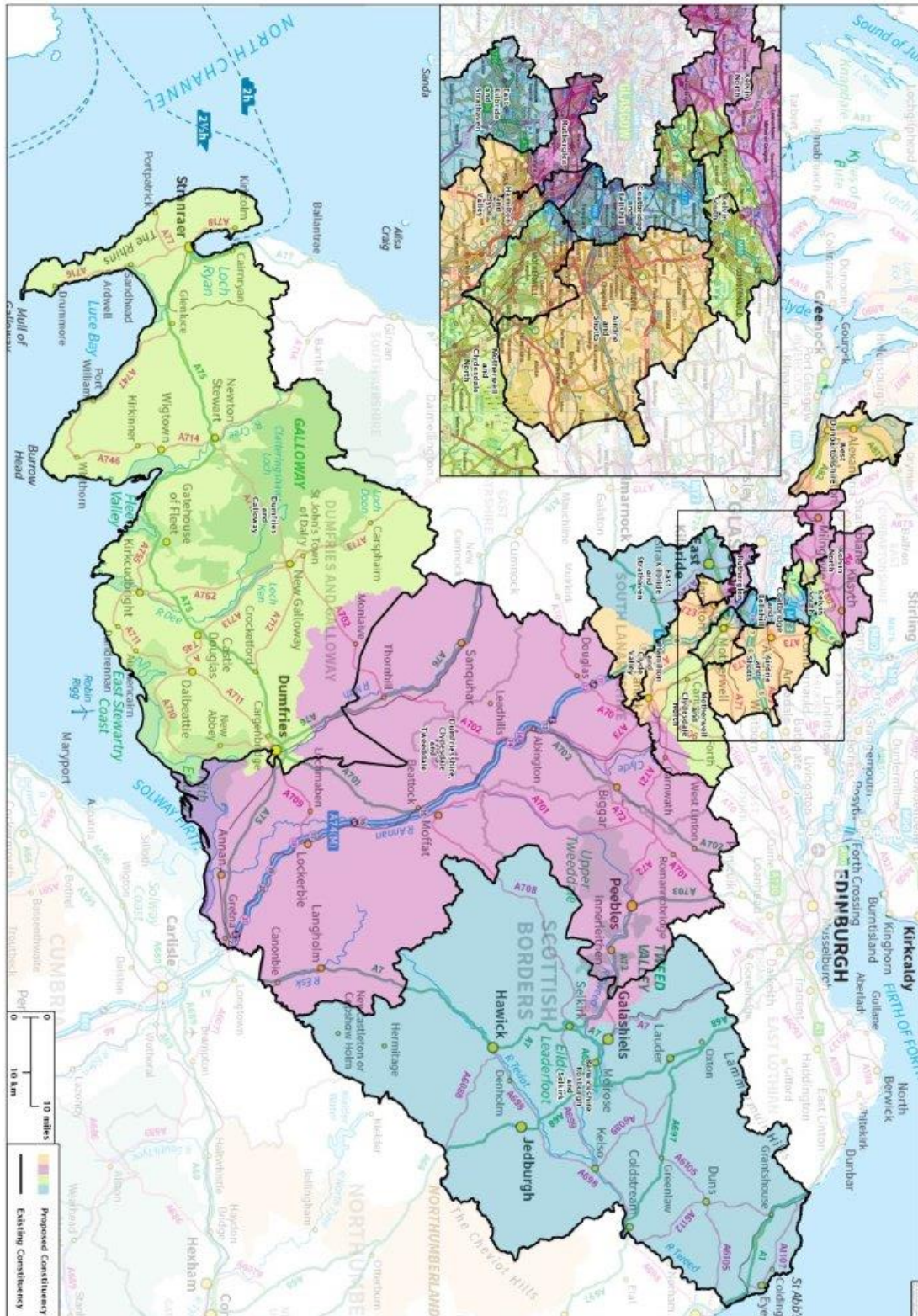
Lanark, except by Carstairs and Carnwath. There are approximately 3,200 electors by Carstairs and Carnwath. The initial proposals followed a ward boundary by Carstairs and Carnwath. The proposed Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale constituency with 73,593 electors could transfer Carstairs and Carnwath electors to the neighbouring Motherwell and Clydesdale North constituency with 70,138 electors. However this is only possible if the Commission retained its proposed boundary by Dumfries. The other neighbouring constituency, Hamilton and Clyde Valley with 74,577 electors could not accommodate Carstairs and Carnwath.

148. In South Lanarkshire there were few comments on the proposed East Kilbride and Strathaven or Rutherglen constituencies. There were suggestions to create a rural Lanark and Carluke constituency which could also include Carnwath and Carstairs, although dependent on changes elsewhere. However this would also create an urban Hamilton and Motherwell with strong bounding features between them such as a motorway.
149. In North Lanarkshire and East Dunbartonshire most comments related to the initial proposals breaking local ties between Cumbernauld and Kilsyth. The Secretariat have developed an option which proposes a Cumbernauld, Kilsyth and Kirkintilloch constituency. It avoids splitting Bishopbriggs and Kirkintilloch between constituencies but does split the Northern Corridor.
150. A number of responses opposed the constituency names of Kelvin North and Kelvin South in East Dunbartonshire. They found the Kelvin names confusing because Kelvin relates to the west end of Glasgow (River Kelvin, Kelvingrove Museum, Kelvinhall tube station etc).
151. In West Dunbartonshire there was a single response suggesting the constituency boundary should follow a polling district boundary in Yoker, Glasgow. This is also discussed in the Glasgow City, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire paper.
152. As stated above 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 revised proposals.

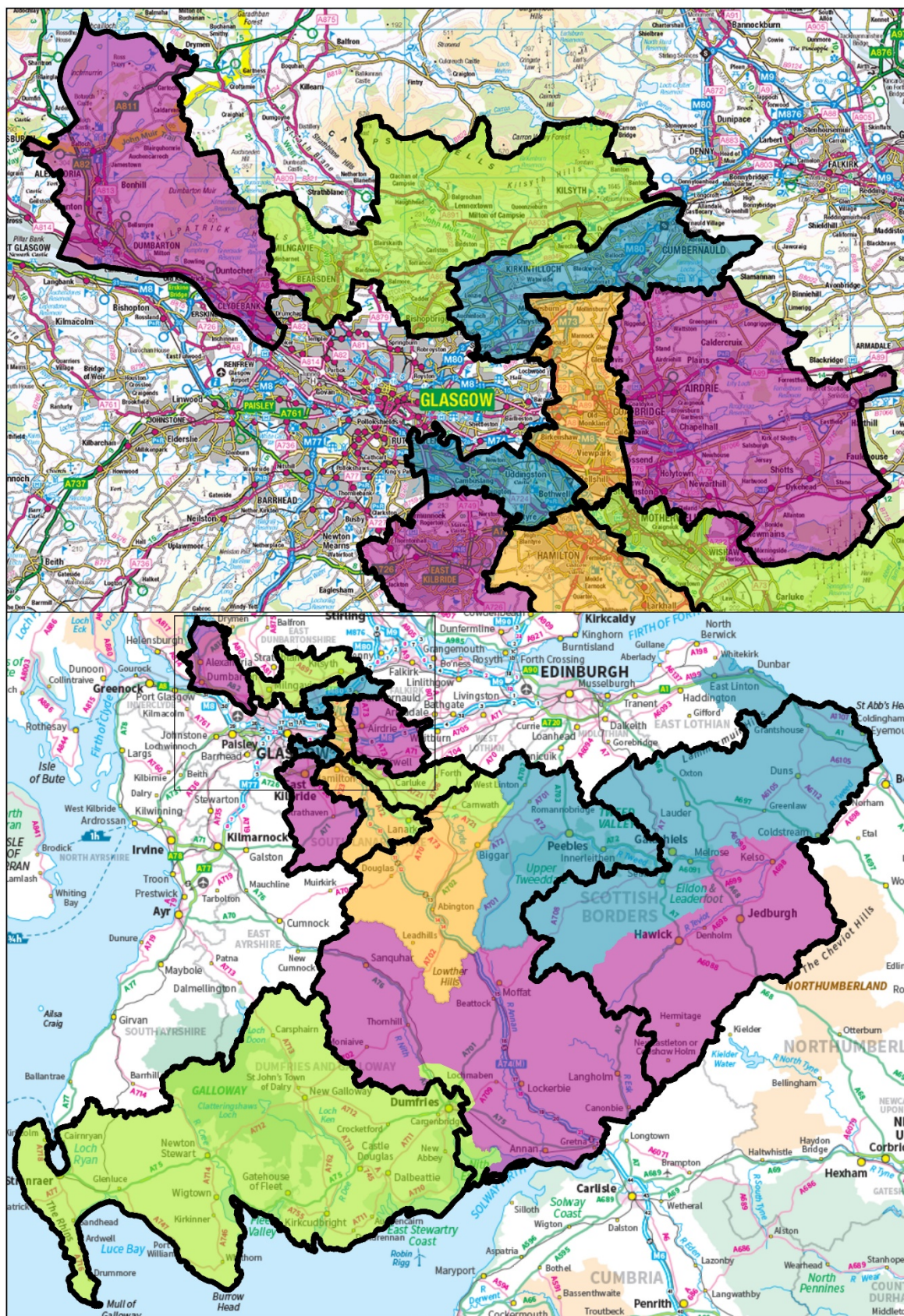
Recommendations

153. Taking into account all of the evidence arising from the public consultations on the initial proposals, the Secretariat invites the Commission to decide whether:
- to adopt any of the alternative suggestions or options;
 - to amend its proposals for constituency names; or
 - to adopt without amendment the initial proposals for Dumfries and Galloway, East Dunbartonshire, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, Scottish Borders and West Dunbartonshire council areas are adopted without amendment as the Commission's revised proposals (as in Appendix A), subject to consideration of all other constituencies.

Initial proposals - for Dumfries and Galloway, East Dunbartonshire, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, Scottish Borders and West Dunbartonshire council areas council areas



Alternative suggestion from respondent 11844



Alternative suggestion from respondent 11876

