BCS Paper 2022/17

2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies
Consideration of Revised Proposals for Glasgow City, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire council areas

Action required

1. The Commission is invited to consider responses to the initial and secondary consultations on its initial proposals and whether it wishes to make changes to its proposals for Glasgow City, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire council areas.

Background

2. The total electorate for Glasgow City, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire council areas is 645,131 giving a theoretical entitlement of nine constituencies.

3. The Commission's initial proposals for this grouping proposed nine constituencies one less than the existing number of constituencies. A map of the proposed constituencies is at Appendix A.

Proposed constituencies	Electorate	Wards
Inverclyde and Bridge of Weir	70,476	Inverclyde – all Renfrewshire 10 (part), 11 (part)
Renfrew South	69,899	Renfrewshire 4 (part), 5 - 9, 10 (part)
Renfrew North	69,797	Renfrewshire 1–3. 4(part), 11(part), 12 Glasgow 4 (part)
Glasgow East	72,384	Glasgow 18 - 21
Glasgow South West	71,584	Glasgow 3, 4(part), 5, 6(part), 8(part)
Glasgow South East	70,191	Glasgow 1, 2, 6(part), 7, 8(part)
Glasgow West	71,493	Glasgow 12, 13(part), 14, 23(part)
Glasgow North West	73,316	Glasgow 10(part), 11, 15, 16, 23(part)
Glasgow North East	72,600	Glasgow 8(part), 9, 10(part), 17, 22

Representations received

4. 89 responses were received during the two consultation periods that related solely to Glasgow City (38 Initial /7 Secondary), Inverclyde (5 Initial /1 Secondary) and Renfrewshire (24 Initial /14 Secondary) council 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:
    - opposition to the proposed boundaries breaking local ties in Strathbungo, Glasgow;
    - opposition to the proposed boundary at Cardonald with a constituency over-lapping the Glasgow-Renfrewshire boundary;
    - comments regarding the proposed constituency names in Renfrewshire; and
    - opposition to the proposed boundary by Bridge of Weir and Inverclyde.

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.

Glasgow City Consultation Responses and Analysis

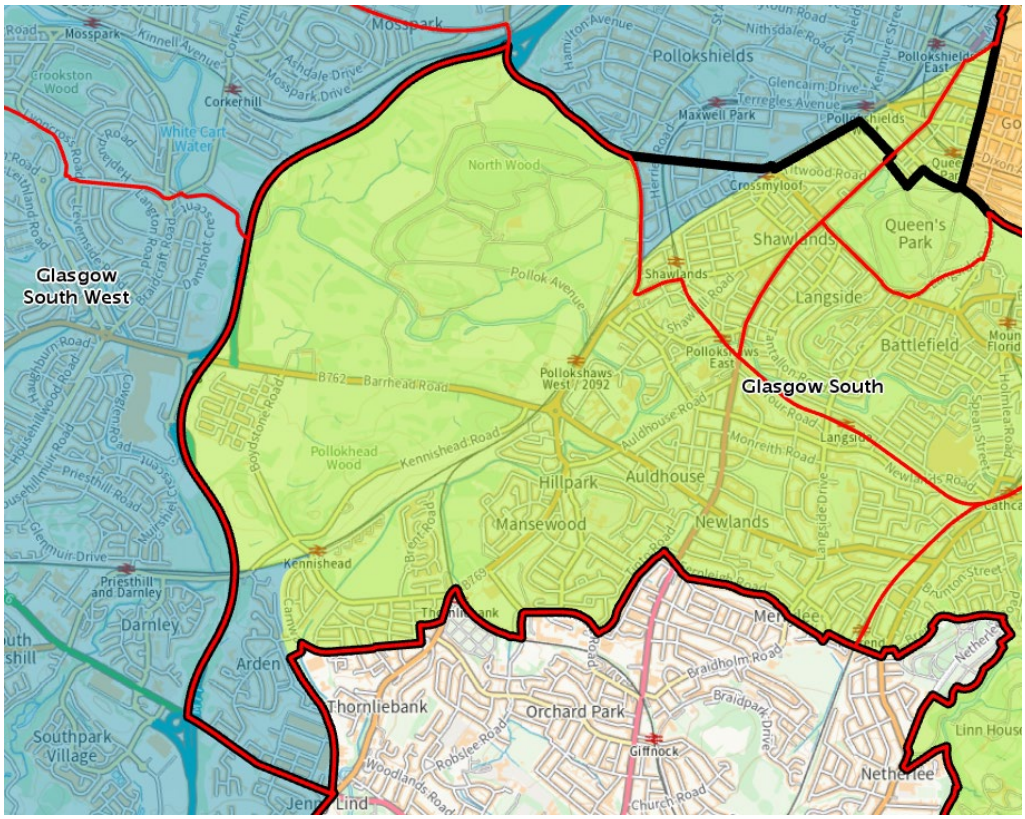
7. There were 45 responses regarding the initial proposals for Glasgow City council area.

8. By respondent type, they were broken down as follows: 37 responses from members of the public, three from community groups, two from MPs and one each from local councillors, local political parties and local authorities.

9. Two responses were broadly supportive of the initial proposals (12040,12047).

10. 12 responses suggested the community of Strathbungo should not be split between constituencies (11939, 11468, 11473, 11520, 11528, 11634, 11658, 11659, 11660, 12027, 12028, 12031). One stated it splits the Alexander Thompson-based conservation area, created 50 years ago and will break local community ties. They suggested an alternative boundary further south along Pollokshaws Road to the railway line at Coplaw Street and then along the line of the railway to the proposed boundary running along Moray Place, thus keeping the Strathbungo area within a single constituency.

11. This suggestion would propose a Glasgow South constituency outwith the electorate quota. However, the Secretariat have developed an alternative option which would keep Strathbungo within a single constituency. This alternative option requires minor changes between the proposed Glasgow South and Glasgow South West constituencies at Strathbungo as the boundary follows the Shawlands and Strathbungo community council boundary and the changes in electorate totals are accommodated by a consequential change that retains the long standing, existing constituency boundary by Arden following the railway line further south. The suggested boundaries by Arden and Strathbungo are shown in the map below.



Constituency	Electorate
Glasgow South West	70,531
Glasgow South	71,244

12. The advantages of this suggestion are it:
    - retains the existing community council of Shawlands and Strathbungo in a single constituency; and
    - minimises change whilst retaining community ties.

13. The disadvantages of this suggestion are it makes changes to the proposed Glasgow South West constituency which had not been commented upon.

14. South Cardonald and Rosshall community council and seven members of the public opposed the proposed boundary in the south west of Glasgow where part of the constituency boundary crosses into Renfrewshire (11100, 11198, 11375, 11384, 11076, 11769, 12072, 11954). They argued Glasgow residents wish to remain within a Glasgow constituency, they have little in common with areas in Renfrewshire such as Bishopton and Langbank and they have a desire to retain local community ties by Cardonald.

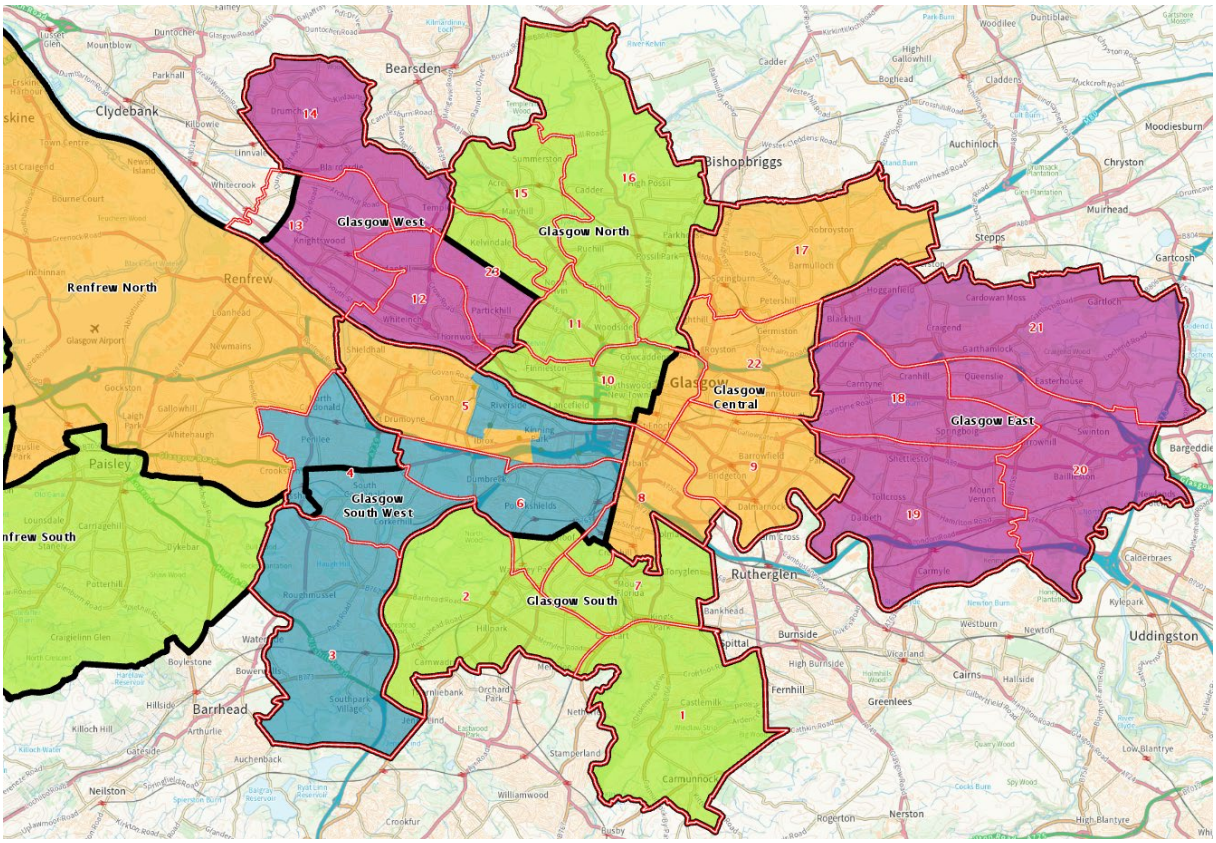
15. A member of the public (12072) suggested Rosshall, including Cairnhill circus, which sits south of Crookston train station should still sit within a Glasgow South West constituency. They stated that they are proud Glaswegians and do not want to lose their identity.

16. Chris Stephens, MP for Glasgow South West (11946) opposed the proposals and the division of the Cardonald ward between constituencies. He argued the Commission should use population rather than electorate data because there are a number of asylum seekers not on the electoral roll who need support from an MP. He argued: there are no historical links or transport links between Cardonald and Renfrew; the initial proposals do not consider recognised boundaries such as Scottish Parliament (both constituency and region), council wards, community council areas or polling districts; Glasgow wards 3 (Greater Pollock) and 4 (Cardonald) have for many years worked closely together with community groups and for council services; ward 8 (Southside Central) should be split between two rather than three constituencies; avoid ward 6 (Pollokshields) being split; and place ward 5 (Govan) within a single constituency.

17. The Secretariat examined ways in which more, or all, of Glasgow ward 4 could be retained within a Glasgow constituency. If Glasgow is grouped with Renfrewshire and Inverclyde, due to the very low electorate across the grouping the only way to retain ward 4 whole would be to place another ward or part ward from the south west of Glasgow City council area in the proposed Renfrew North constituency. Even to attempt to retain South Cardonald and Crookston community council area wholly in a Glasgow constituency as per the respondent's request is not possible given the distribution of the electorate in the area.

18. The example in the map below shows part of Glasgow ward 5 (Govan) added to a Renfrewshire constituency. Whilst the boundary is convoluted it follows community council boundaries in Govan and transfers the community council areas of Drumoyne, Govan and Ibrox & Cessnock from Glasgow South West to

Renfrew North. However there is an industrial area between Glasgow and Renfrewshire by Govan which creates a boundary between the two council areas. This alternative constituency design may simply raise concerns elsewhere and the respondent wished the Govan ward to be placed within a single constituency.



19. The Glasgow City Council SNP Group (11948) responded to the consultation and made a number of points regarding the legislation governing the review including opposition to the use of the electoral register rather than population to determine constituency size and also the failure of the Commission to give weight to social deprivation in its considerations. They opposed the splitting of wards in particular that Glasgow City Council wards 4 (Cardonald) and 13 (Garscadden/Scotstounhill) because they are being linked with neighbouring council areas. This would make the work of local councillors more difficult, liaising with different MPs stretching the resources they have at their disposal, and who are likely to give different amount of attention to core parts of their constituency. They suggested:
    - ward 4 (Cardonald) and ward 13 (Garscadden/Scotstounhill) be wholly retained in Glasgow;
    - that the Commission give due regard to the economic and social challenges Glasgow faces;
    - that an equalities approach also informs the proposed boundaries of Glasgow Central, and that;
    - overall the Commission embrace their previous approach and adopt Population Estimates by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD).

20. Some of the comments raised by the Council SNP Group appear to relate to Boundaries Scotland's Fifth Reviews of Electoral Arrangements which partly used

SIMD data but recommended the number of councillors and wards within the Council as well as ward boundaries.

21. A member of the public wished no change to the existing boundaries (10950, 11426, 12049). Two wished to retain seven Glasgow constituencies (10908,10909).

22. Six of the seven existing Glasgow constituencies are below the electorate quota for the 2023 Review.

23. Blairdardie and Old Drumchapel Community Council (11966) and a member of the public (10941) stated that electors in North East Glasgow should not be voting for a West Dunbartonshire MP and suggested that the Glasgow West constituency could be altered to avoid part of Glasgow being in a constituency with West Dunbartonshire council area.

24. A Glasgow City Councillor (10929) suggested the proposed Glasgow Central constituency is unwieldy and splits the city centre in two and also joins together areas not previously aligned such as Govanhill and Robroyston. They also opposed the reduction of constituencies in Glasgow City and made comments regarding the electoral register. They also opposed East Dunbartonshire constituencies named Kelvin because Kelvin relates to Glasgow.

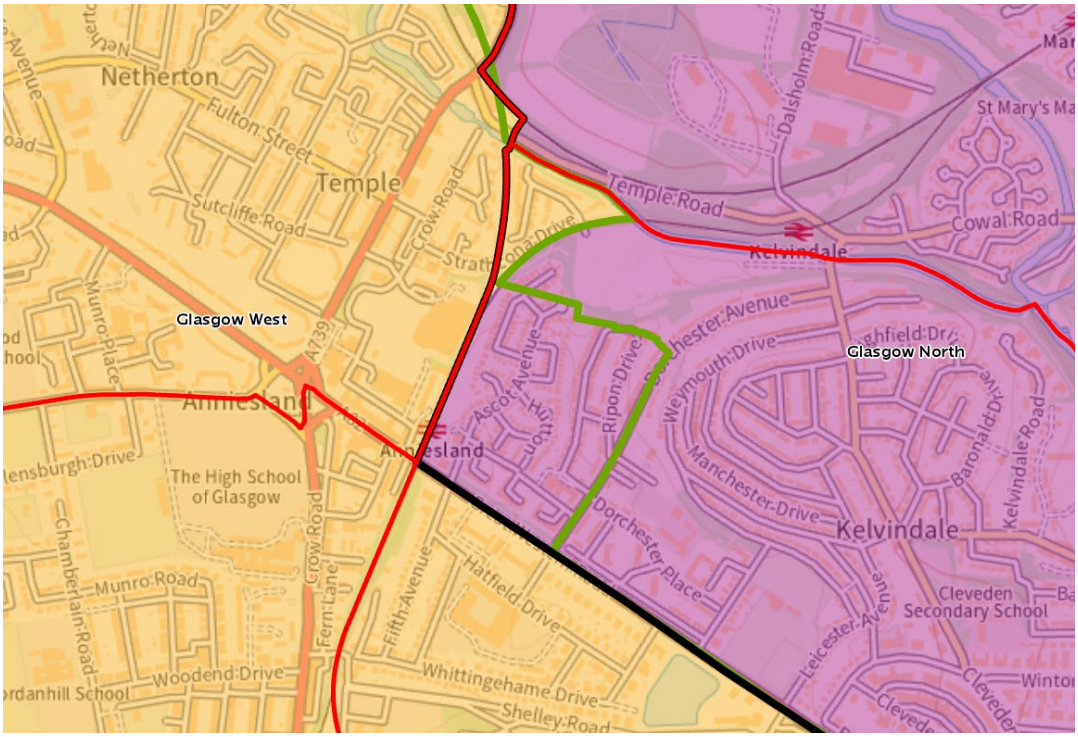
25. Glasgow City Council (11912) noted that the initial proposals had not proposed six Glasgow constituencies which could fit within their council area boundary. They noted the initial proposals linked Glasgow with Renfrewshire and West Dunbartonshire due to the low electorates in those neighbouring areas. They stated the proposals take no account of the disruption and inconvenience to the communities that would be affected by these proposals, as well as the cross boundary challenges to elected members and community councils. The Council raised concerns with substantial changes to the existing Glasgow Central constituency boundary in the city centre because it would cause significant confusion amongst the electorate. The initial proposals would present a number of additional administrative challenges for the Returning Officer in managing UK Parliament elections due to the extent of the cross border boundaries. The Council did not include any alternative suggestions.

26. Glasgow City council area has a theoretical entitlement of six constituencies (446,575 ÷ 6 = 74,429).

27. There are currently two UK Parliament constituencies which overlap the Glasgow City council area boundary, Glasgow East and Glasgow North East at Stepps and Robroyston. However these were the result of administrative area reviews conducted by Boundaries Scotland in 2010 and 2018 where the council area and ward boundaries were amended due to new housing developments. The Commission cannot undertake an interim review of UK Parliament boundaries so the council area and constituency boundaries will be aligned in these areas during the 2023 Review.

28. A member of the public (12082) suggested that Strathcona Gardens should sit within a Glasgow West rather than Glasgow North constituency because their development is separated from Kelvindale by a railway line, gasholders and a canal in the area.

29. The proposed boundary by the Strathcona development follows a ward boundary and also a railway-line. The Strathcona development is bounded by a railway line and canal. The boundary could be altered by following a railway line and canal as it does at present by Strathcona Drive. It would transfer approx. 100 electors and both the proposed Glasgow West and Glasgow North constituencies would remain within quota. This suggestion minimises change and follows an existing constituency boundary and recognised features (canal, railway-line). The existing constituency boundary is shown in green on the map below.



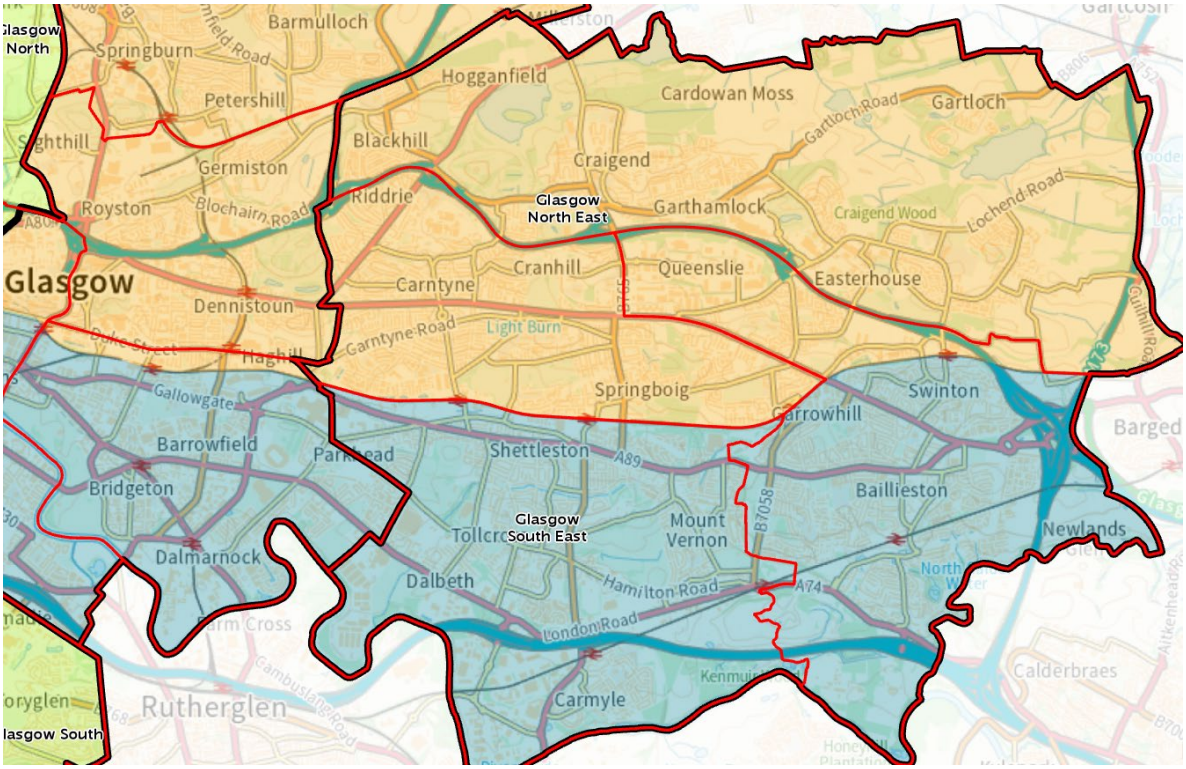
Constituency	Electorate
Glasgow North	73,212
Glasgow West	71,597

30. A member of the public (10982) suggested two 'west to east' rather than 'north to south' constituencies in east Glasgow. They mention the fact that two Holyrood constituencies (Glasgow Provan and Glasgow Shettleston) currently straddle most of this area and have a similar composition to that suggested. The respondent also suggested that transport links; buses, rail, the M8 tend to run along east-west arteries and that traversing north to south in this part of the city is more difficult.

31. Two other members of the public made similar suggestions. One (11716) suggested that if the boundaries between the proposed Glasgow Central and Glasgow East constituencies followed London Road and Springfield Road, instead of Tollcross Road and Muiryfauld Road, the close communities of Tollcross and Parkhead could remain whole. Another (11123) suggested that Springfield Road and Dalmarnock Road should sit within a Glasgow East constituency. They suggested the M8 motorway should be used as a clear boundary.

32. This alternative suggestion would not meet the electoral quota. A boundary along the M8 motorway would present a "Glasgow North East" constituency with approx 38,000 electors and a Glasgow South East constituency with approx 107,000 electors.

33. However it is possible to create two north-south constituencies by following the North Clyde railway line, also an existing ward boundary, rather than the M8. This is similar to the boundary between the Glasgow Shettleston and Glasgow Provan UK Parliament constituencies in place between 1983 and 1997 and the current Scottish Parliament boundary between Glasgow Shettleston and Glasgow Provan, see map below.



Constituency	Electorate
Glasgow North East	75,203
Glasgow South East	69,781

34. The advantages of this suggestion are it:
    - partially follows existing ward boundaries, Scottish Parliament boundaries and historical UK Parliament boundaries;
    - addresses concerns raised regarding local ties in the proposed Glasgow Central constituency; and
    - minimises change elsewhere by amending only two constituency boundaries.

35. There are no obvious disadvantages of this suggestion.

36. A member of the public (11849,11850) submitted two responses which suggested the areas of Possilpark and Springburn should be in the same constituency as they are at present. The responses suggested there are many community ties between Possilpark and Springburn and that separating them

would divide the communities. They are concerned Possilpark would be ignored if placed in a constituency with Kelvindale and Kelvingrove.

37. This suggestion is partially addressed in an all-Scotland suggestion (11844) and this is considered in the all-Scotland section later.

Inverclyde Initial Consultation Responses

38. There were six responses to the initial proposals for Inverclyde council area, five from members of the public and a response from Inverclyde Council.

39. Three stated the initial proposals break community ties as they will be incorporating two local authority areas (11221, 11566, 12004).

40. One (11428) stated the proposed Inverclyde and Bridge of Weir constituency covers too large an area.

41. One (11511) stated Bridge of Weir, Houston and surrounding areas have nothing in common with Inverclyde and also cited poor transport links between the areas as reasons they should not be placed in the same constituency.

42. Alternative boundaries which link Inverclyde with Langbank and Bishopton are discussed below under Renfrewshire Initial Consultation Responses.

43. The response from Inverclyde Council (11951) contained suggestions from each of their political groups within the Council.
    - The Labour Group suggested a constituency based on the council area would be ideal whilst accepting the existing legislation will not allow that given the Inverclyde electorate is below quota (61,096).
    - The SNP group would prefer to retain an Inverclyde constituency, but if not to link it with Skelmorlie (North Ayrshire) and Langbank (Renfrewshire);
    - The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Group agreed with the proposals; and
    - The Scottish Liberal Democrats Group suggested including Skelmorlie in an Inverclyde constituency.

44. The SNP group and the Scottish Liberal Democrat group suggested linking Inverclyde with North Ayrshire rather than Renfrewshire because the areas share leisure facilities and access to local hospitals. There are 61,096 electors in Inverclyde, therefore to create a Inverclyde constituency within the electorate quota it would have to include both Skelmorlie and Largs from North Ayrshire with approximately. 11,100 electors. However this would make it challenging to maintain four Ayrshire constituencies (total Ayrshire electorate of 290,225 less 11,100 = 279,125 ÷ 4 = 69,781). Skelmorlie with approximately 1,800 electors could be added to Inverclyde with Langbank and Bishopton (approximately 7500 electors) however this would create a constituency covering three council areas.

Renfrewshire Initial Consultation Responses

45. There were 38 responses to the initial proposals for Renfrewshire council area, 33 from members of the public, four from local councillors and a response from Renfrewshire Council. There was a single response in support of the

Commission's initial proposals for Renfrewshire. No alternative boundary suggestions were submitted.

46. The main issues identified by respondents in this particular council area were: a lack of ties between Inverclyde and Bridge of Weir, Houston or Crosslee; and opposition to the names for the proposed constituencies, in particular the use of "Renfrew".

47. There was a single response in support of the initial proposals (10991) although the respondent made suggestions for alternative constituency names.

48. 16 responses argued Inverclyde and Bridge of Weir, Houston or Crosslee have no ties. Some respondents cited historical links in Renfrewshire and others mentioned a loss of access to local services as reasons to oppose the initial proposals. Most respondents wished no change to the existing arrangements (10981, 11346, 11352, 11380, 11387, 11458, 11515, 11531, 12015,12098,11905, 11909, 11933, 11942, 11988, 11989).

49. Historically a West Renfrewshire constituency (1997-2005) included Port Glasgow (Inverclyde) with Renfrewshire communities such as: Lochwinnoch, Bridge of Weir, Erskine, Bishopton. Prior to this a Renfrew West and Inverclyde constituency (1983-1997) included Gourock and Wemyss Bay (Inverclyde) with Renfrewshire communities such as: Lochwinnoch, Bridge of Weir, Erskine, Bishopton.

50. Two members of the public (10981, 11531) opposed the initial proposals and suggested the A78 / M8 roads better links communities between Renfrewshire and Inverclyde. They suggested connecting Inverclyde with the whole of Bishopton, Bridge of Weir and Langbank ward giving an electorate of 73,071 or take in part of Erskine ward as well in exchange for removing Bridge of Weir. They stated Bridge of Weir or Houston are more closely linked to Paisley and Johnstone than Greenock.

51. No workable alternative suggestions were submitted. Combing Inverclyde with Langbank or North Ayrshire is discussed earlier under Inverclyde. Due to the low average electorate for this grouping it is not possible to accommodate a constituency that includes a greater part of the Clyde Coast by Langbank, Bishopton and Erskine. The other Renfrewshire constituencies would be below the electorate quota.

52. A member of the public (10962) opposed a constituency that extended from Cardonald in Glasgow to Langbank on the Clyde Coast.

53. A member of the public (11379) suggested a single Paisley constituency.

54. There are approximately 60,000 Paisley electors so the Commission could create a Paisley constituency with a neighbouring area. Paisley has been split between north-south constituencies since 1983. The respondent offered no suggested boundaries.

55. A member of the public suggested that Crookston, Penilee, areas sit within Glasgow, rather than Renfrewshire (12050).

56. Penilee sits within Renfrewshire council area and Crookston partly overlaps the Glasgow-Renfrewshire boundary.

57. A member of the public (11079) stated Brookfield has closer links with Johnstone than with Houston.

58. The initial proposals placed Brookfield in a Renfrew South constituency with Johnstone and Linwood.

59. A Renfrewshire Councillor (11838, 11856) opposed the initial proposals because they breach rule 5 by splitting ward boundaries and cover two council areas. They oppose the proposed constituency names because they exclude both Paisley and Renfrewshire. They argue the proposed Inverclyde and Bridge of Weir constituency will confuse residents when trying to contact their local representatives. However they supported Renfrewshire ward 3 (Paisley Northeast and Ralston) being included in a Renfrew North constituency.

60. Renfrewshire Council (11959) questioned the logic in grouping Renfrewshire with Inverclyde and Glasgow. They suggested that Inverclyde has better links with North Ayrshire. They opposed East Renfrewshire's retention as a single constituency. They argued the Commission's approach excludes several of the factors established by rules for the distribution of seats namely 5(a), (c) and (e). They reasoned the initial proposals excludes the existing Scottish Parliamentary boundaries between East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire Councils. They also questioned why Glasgow is being linked with Renfrewshire and suggested linking Glasgow with one of its other neighbouring council areas.

61. Renfrewshire has been linked with Inverclyde and Glasgow because of its low electorate. There are 137,460 Renfrewshire electors, too few for two constituencies (137,460 ÷ 2 = 68,730). Therefore Renfrewshire must be linked with at least one other council area. Renfrewshire is bounded by the river Clyde to the north, and East Renfrewshire, Glasgow, Inverclyde and North Ayrshire. Inverclyde with 61,096 electors is also below quota. North Ayrshire has retained the existing constituency boundaries with little opposition.

62. Glasgow is bounded by six council areas: East Dunbartonshire; West Dunbartonshire; East Renfrewshire; Renfrewshire; North Lanarkshire; and South Lanarkshire council areas. There are few bounding features between Glasgow and its neighbours, the only exception is the South Lanarkshire boundary which follows the River Clyde. In recent years Boundaries Scotland have undertaken two administrative area boundary reviews with Glasgow and its neighbours due to new housing developments creating communities overlapping the council area boundary.

63. Renfrewshire has a clearer boundary, open land, with its neighbours in Inverclyde and North Ayrshire but there are few bounding features between Renfrewshire and Glasgow.

64. West Dunbartonshire is in a similar position with 67,795 electors, it has a clearer boundary with its neighbours except Glasgow therefore the initial proposals combined West Dunbartonshire with Glasgow.

All Scotland Consultation Responses that apply to this grouping and Analysis

65. There were approximately 140 general responses to the initial consultation opposing the 2023 Review or making comments outwith the legislation for the review.

66. A member of the public (12161) 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 suggested constituency names based on the principle of a main area or town and a subsidiary area.

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

68. A member of the public (11844) submitted an all Scotland suggestion which they believe would improve upon the Commission's initial proposals because only one constituency is composed of areas within three local authorities and outside the four large cities, only the towns of Paisley and Bearsden are split between constituencies. Despite an effort to avoid splitting wards this suggestion still splits six wards across the grouping, one in Renfrewshire and five in Glasgow City council area. In order to avoid crossing the council area boundary elsewhere it places the whole of Glasgow City ward 5 (Govan) within a North Renfrewshire constituency. A map of the suggestion and a table of the proposed constituencies is shown below. The figures in the table are approximate as although the response was detailed and described numbers of ward electors to be split between constituencies no split ward boundaries were provided. See Appendix B.

Constituency	Wards	Electorate
Glasgow East	Glasgow wards 18, 19(part),20,21	69,734
Glasgow North East	Glasgow wards 8(part),9,16(part), 17,19(part),22	69,907
Glasgow South East	Glasgow wards 1,2(part),7,8(part)	75,826
Glasgow North West	Glasgow wards 12,13,14,23(part)	70,623
Glasgow South West	Glasgow wards ,2(part),3,4,6	72,188
Glasgow North	Glasgow wards 10,11,15,16 (part), 23(part)	69,741
South Renfrewshire	Renfrewshire wards 3(part), 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	72,343
North Renfrewshire	Renfrewshire wards 1,2,3(part), 4, 12 Glasgow ward 5	71,698
Inverclyde and West Renfrewshire	Inverclyde wards 1-7 Renfrewshire ward 11	73,071

69. The advantages of this suggestion are it:
    - minimises split wards across the grouping with six rather than 10 split wards in the initial proposals.

70. The disadvantages of this suggestion are it:
    - places the whole of Glasgow City ward 5 (Govan) within a North Renfrewshire constituency, creating an elongated constituency;
    - constituency boundaries where wards are split do not follow established and recognised boundaries;

- creates east-west constituencies in the east of Glasgow where there has been support for north-south constituencies; and
- does not consider West Dunbartonshire within this council area grouping.

71. A member of the public (11876) submitted an all Scotland suggestion. The suggestion is focussed on reducing the number of wards that are divided between constituencies as the respondent states they believe more emphasis should be placed on electoral wards rather than existing UK Parliament boundaries. The suggestion only splits two wards in Glasgow and a further ward in Renfrewshire. However this suggestion did not group Glasgow with Renfrewshire and Inverclyde, it grouped Inverclyde and Renfrewshire with North Ayrshire. This suggestion did however also include part of Glasgow ward 13 with West Dunbartonshire. This suggestion is outlined in the table below and map at Appendix C.

Constituency	Wards	Electorate
Glasgow Central	Glasgow wards 8,9,10,22	70,615
Glasgow East	Glasgow wards 18,19,20,21	72,384
Glasgow North	Glasgow wards 11,15,16,17	71,087
Glasgow North West	Glasgow wards 12,13(part),14,23	75,982
Glasgow South	Glasgow wards1,2,6(part),7	74,658
Glasgow South West	Glasgow wards 3,4,5,6(part)	76,392
Inverclyde and Largs	Inverclyde wards 1-7 North Ayrshire ward 8	74,573
North Ayrshire and Arran	North Ayrshire wards 1-6 and 9	73,672
Paisley North and Renfrew	Renfrewshire wards 1-3, 4(part), 10-12	74,667
Paisley South and Johnstone	North Ayrshire ward 7 Renfrewshire wards 4(part), 5-9	73,158
West Dunbartonshire	Glasgow ward 13(part) West Dunbartonshire wards 1-6	73,252

72. The advantages of this suggestion are it:
    - splits fewer wards than the initial proposals. Three wards are split in Glasgow and Renfrewshire. The initial proposals split nine wards.

73. The disadvantages of this suggestion are it:
    - proposes alternative groupings to the initial proposals where there has been some support and little opposition to the initial proposals.

74. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party (11960, 12170) supported the initial proposals in this grouping and suggested alternative constituency names.

75. The Scottish Labour Party (11802, 12174, 12147) accepted that, with just 67,795 electors, West Dunbartonshire can no longer be coterminous with its local authority but believe the initial proposal break local ties by Yoker. They believe there may be merit in any alternative suggestion which allowed Yoker to remain within a Glasgow constituency.

Constituency names

76. A Glasgow City Councillor (10929) suggested Glasgow Inner East instead of Glasgow Central.

77. 15 responses opposed Renfrew South and Renfrew North as constituency names because no part of Renfrew is in one of the constituencies and that 'Paisley' or 'Renfrewshire' should be in the names instead (10899,10931,10968,10973, 10991, 11005, 11190, 11490, 11506, 11539, 11688, 11838, 11856, 12127, 11959). Two suggested North Renfrewshire or South Renfrewshire.

78. A member of the public (11531) suggested South Clyde would be a better name for an Inverclyde and Langbank constituency.

79. A member of the public (11005) suggested Inverclyde and Strathgryffe because Strathgryffe is the historical name for Bridge of Weir, Houston and Crosslee.

80. Renfrewshire Council (11959) considered the Scottish Parliamentary constituency names (Renfrewshire North and West, Renfrewshire South and Paisley) and suggested "Paisley and Renfrewshire South West" and "Paisley and Renfrewshire North" They oppose a Renfrew South constituency where no part of Renfrew is included in the constituency.

81. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party (11960) suggested the constituency names of Paisley and Renfrewshire North and Paisley and Renfrewshire South may be more appropriate than Renfrew.

82. The Scottish Labour Party (12174) opposed the proposed Glasgow Central name and suggested they would support something more representative of the geographical area.

83. 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).

84. 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

85. There was little support for the initial proposals in this constituency grouping but few offered alternative suggestions to resolve their concerns.

86. There are currently seven constituencies within Glasgow, two constituencies within Renfrewshire and one in Inverclyde. Only two existing constituencies are within the electorate quota Glasgow South (69,956 electors) and Paisley and Renfrewshire North (72,576 electors). All other existing constituencies are below the electorate quota.

87. There are 446,575 Glasgow electors providing a theoretical entitlement of six constituencies (446,575 ÷ 6 = 74,429). However there is a low electorate in the neighbouring areas. Renfrewshire and Inverclyde have a theoretical entitlement of 2.71 constituencies, too few for three constituencies. West Dunbartonshire with 67,795 electors also has too few electors for one constituency. Glasgow and its neighbours electorates are shown in the table below.

Council Area	Electorate March 2020	Constituency Entitlement
East Dunbartonshire	85,039	1.16
East Renfrewshire	72,959	0.99
Glasgow City	446,575	6.08
Inverclyde	61,096	0.83
North Lanarkshire	258,240	3.52
Renfrewshire	137,460	1.87
South Lanarkshire	252,855	3.45
West Dunbartonshire	67,795	0.92

88. The initial proposals proposed nine constituencies, one less than the existing number, proposing changes throughout the grouping.

89. In Inverclyde there were some suggestions to link Inverclyde with Skelmorlie in North Ayrshire rather than linking it with Renfrewshire. Inverclyde with only 61,096 electors would require the addition of both Skelmorlie and Largs to meet the electorate quota but this would make it challenging to maintain four Ayrshire constituencies. The initial proposals retained the four existing Ayrshire constituencies and received little opposition.

90. There was a suggestion to link Inverclyde with Langbank, rather than Bridge of Weir, because there is some connectivity between these areas that follow the A8/ M8 road. The railway line also follows a similar route. Inverclyde plus Langbank and Bishopton are below the electorate quota, so this would require adding part of Erskine as well. However, this would split Erskine and makes it challenging to propose two Renfrewshire constituencies within quota due to the low average electorate of this grouping. The Commission could consider and Inverclyde, Langbank, Bishopton and Skelmorlie constituency but this would cover three council areas.

91. In Renfrewshire there are too few electors to retain two Renfrewshire constituencies. The initial proposals aimed to retain north and south Renfrewshire constituencies but there was opposition to linking Bridge of Weir with an Inverclyde constituency and also to linking Renfrewshire with Cardonald in Glasgow. Unfortunately there were no workable alternative suggestions to resolve the issues raised.

92. Renfrewshire is bounded by East Renfrewshire, Glasgow, Inverclyde and North Ayrshire council areas. There are few bounding features between Renfrewshire and Glasgow in comparison to the other areas. At Cardonald the council area boundary splits two housing developments. The Commission could consider an alternative boundary by Govan but an industrial area and dock bounds Govan and Renfrewshire. An alternative boundary by Govan may simply raise concerns there instead of Cardonald.

93. In Renfrewshire a number of respondents opposed the constituency names because the town of Renfrew only sits within a Renfrew North constituency. Some also opposed the loss of Paisley from the proposed constituency names. The Commission will discuss constituency names at a later meeting.

94. With Glasgow losing one constituency and necessitating significant changes to existing boundaries there has been a relatively limited response regarding the initial proposals in Glasgow.

95. There was opposition to the initial proposals by Cardonald because it was added to a Renfrewshire constituency, this is discussed above.

96. A number of responses suggested the community of Strathbungo in the south of Glasgow had been split by the initial proposals. Although their alternative suggestion did not meet the electorate quota the Secretariat developed an alternative option which would keep Strathbungo within a single constituency. It requires minor changes between the proposed Glasgow South and Glasgow South West constituencies at Strathbungo as the boundary follows the Shawlands and Strathbungo community council boundary and the change in electorate totals are accommodated by a consequential change that retains the long standing, existing constituency boundary by Arden following the railway line further south.

97. A number of suggestions were made regarding the proposals for the east of Glasgow where respondents felt some neighbourhoods had been split and the proposed Glasgow Central constituency did not adequately reflect the communities encompassed by it. These suggestions have been incorporated in an alternative option for the east of the city which presents Glasgow North East and Glasgow South East constituencies that run east to west rather than north to south. The boundaries follow the North Clyde railway line, also an existing ward boundary in a similar way to the boundary between historical UK Parliament constituencies and Scottish Parliament boundaries.

98. The Commission may wish to consider the alternative suggestion that makes minor changes at Strathcona Drive at the boundary between the proposed Glasgow North and Glasgow West constituencies. This alternative would only affect 100 electors whilst following existing constituency boundaries and strong bounding features on the ground rather than the initial proposals. This suggestion could be accommodated alongside the alternatives outlined above.

99. There were two all Scotland alternative suggestions which both aimed to minimise the number of split wards. One combined this council area grouping with North Ayrshire but there was some for the initial proposals in Ayrshire which retained the existing constituency boundaries. The other suggestion added the whole of the Glasgow Govan ward to a Renfrewshire North constituency. The Commission may wish to evaluate the strength of Glasgow ward boundaries in representing local community ties.

Recommendations

100. 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;
- to amend its proposals for constituency names; or
- to adopt without amendment the initial proposals for Glasgow, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire council areas as the Commission's revised proposals (as in Appendix A), subject to consideration of all other constituencies.

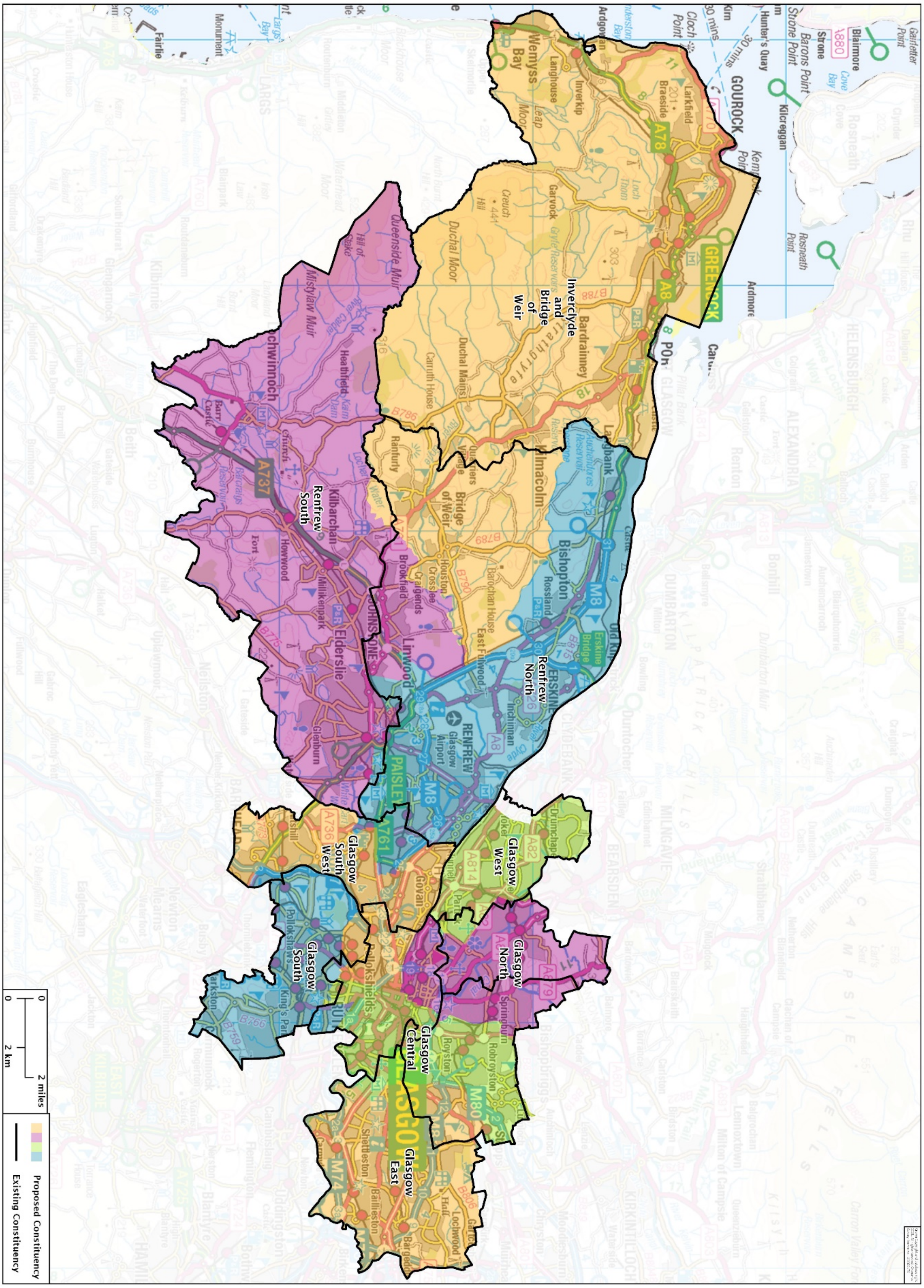
BCS Paper 2022/17

Secretariat
May 2022

BCS Paper 2022/17

Appendix A

Initial proposals – Glasgow City, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire council areas



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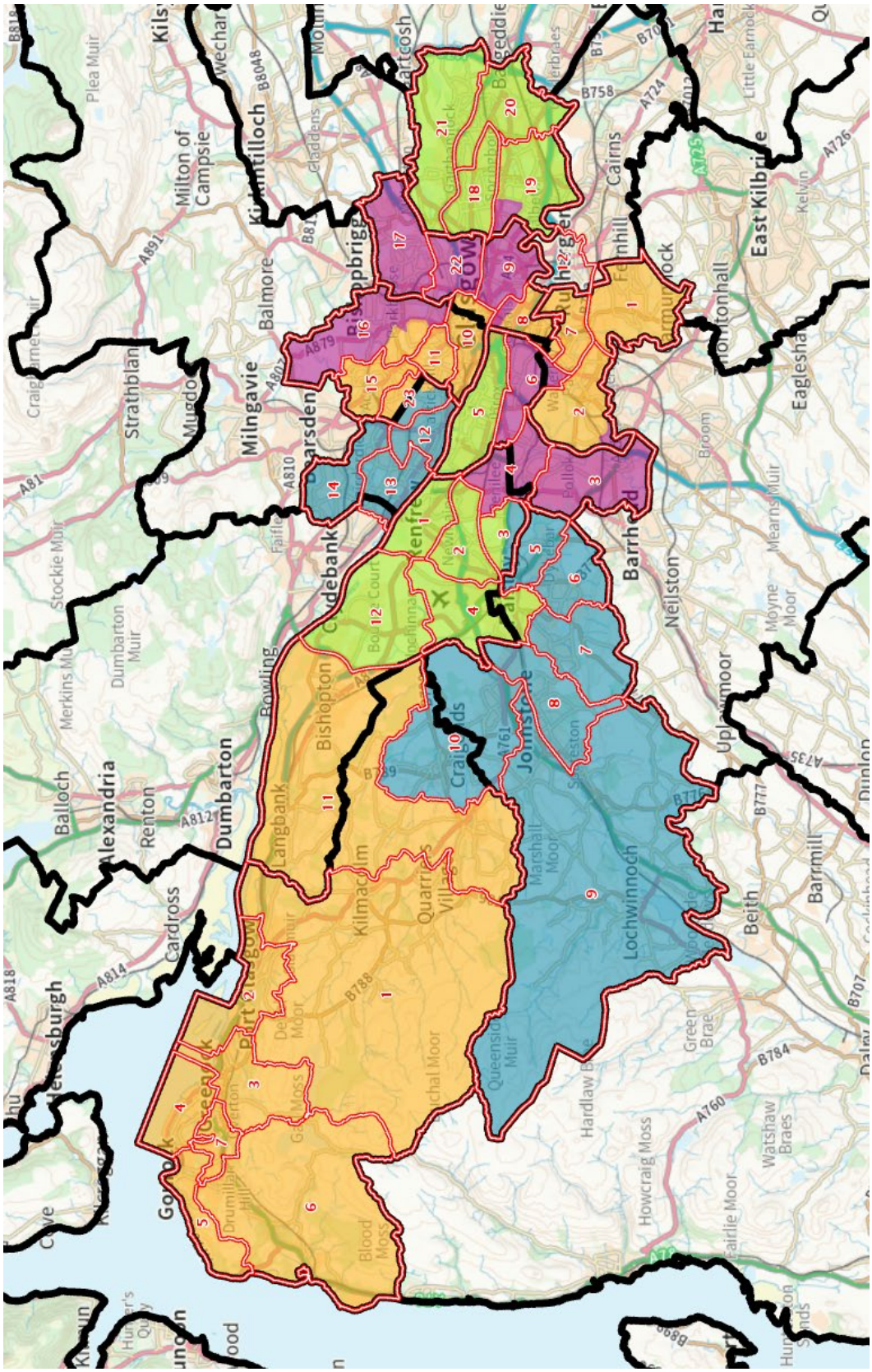
Appendix B

Response 11844 – Suggested alternative grouping Glasgow City, Inverclyde, Renfrewshire, West Dunbartonshire and North Ayrshire council areas



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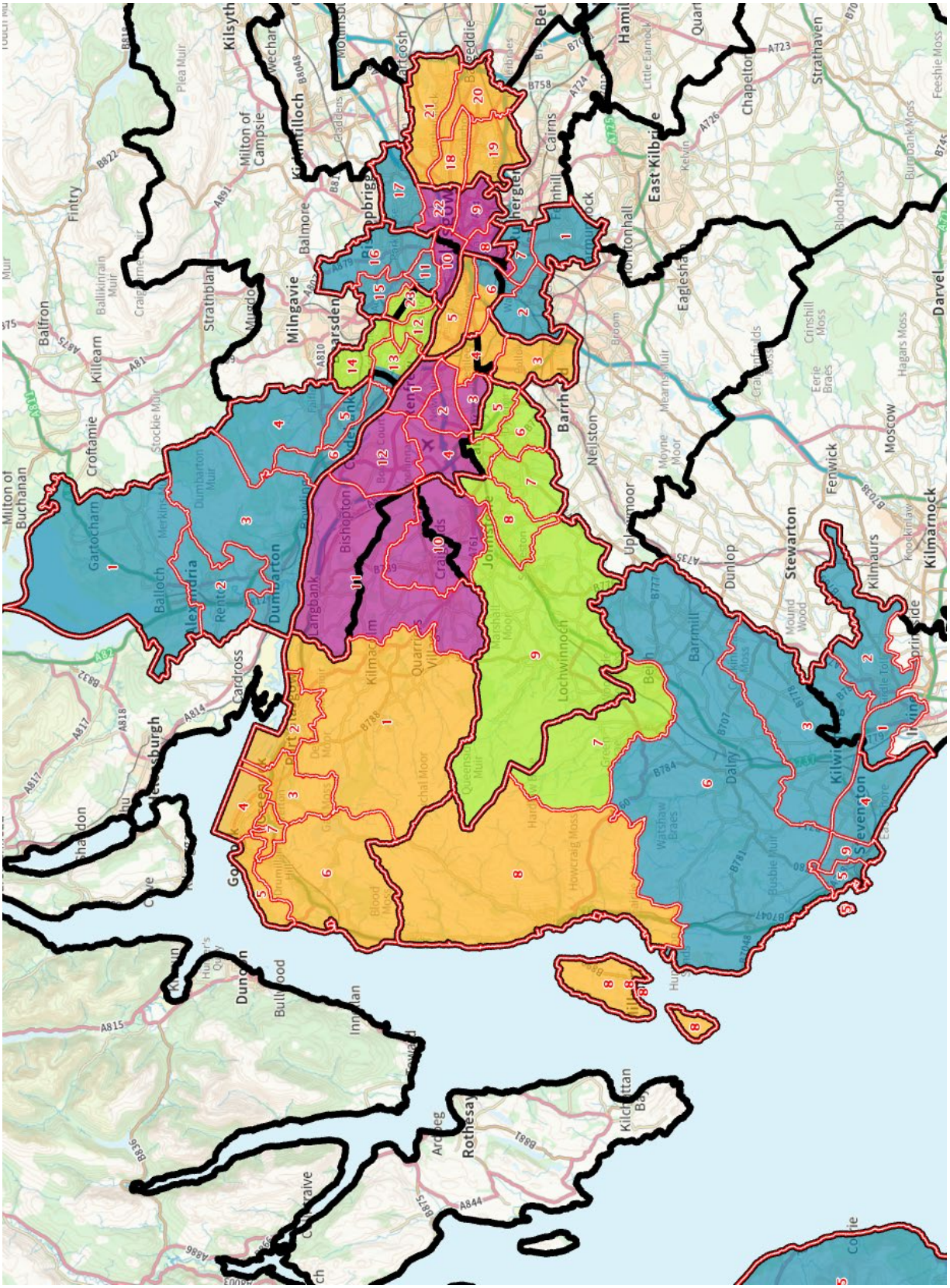
Appendix C

Response 11876 – Suggested alternative grouping Glasgow City, Inverclyde, Renfrewshire, West Dunbartonshire and North Ayrshire council areas



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