

CONFIDENTIAL—FINAL REVISE

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THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Second Supplementary Report of the European Parliamentary Constituencies

CONSTITUTION OF COMMISSION

In accordance with paragraphs 1-5 of Schedule 1 of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 the Commission was constituted as follows:

Ex-Officio Member

The Speaker of the House of Commons, Chairman.

And 3 other Members

The Honourable Lord Davidson, Deputy Chairman—appointed by the Lord President of the Court of Session.

Dr Charles M Glennie—appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland.

Professor Urlan A Wannop—appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland.

Assessors

The Registrar General for Scotland.

The Director General of Ordnance Survey.

Secretary

Mr David K C Jeffrey—appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland.

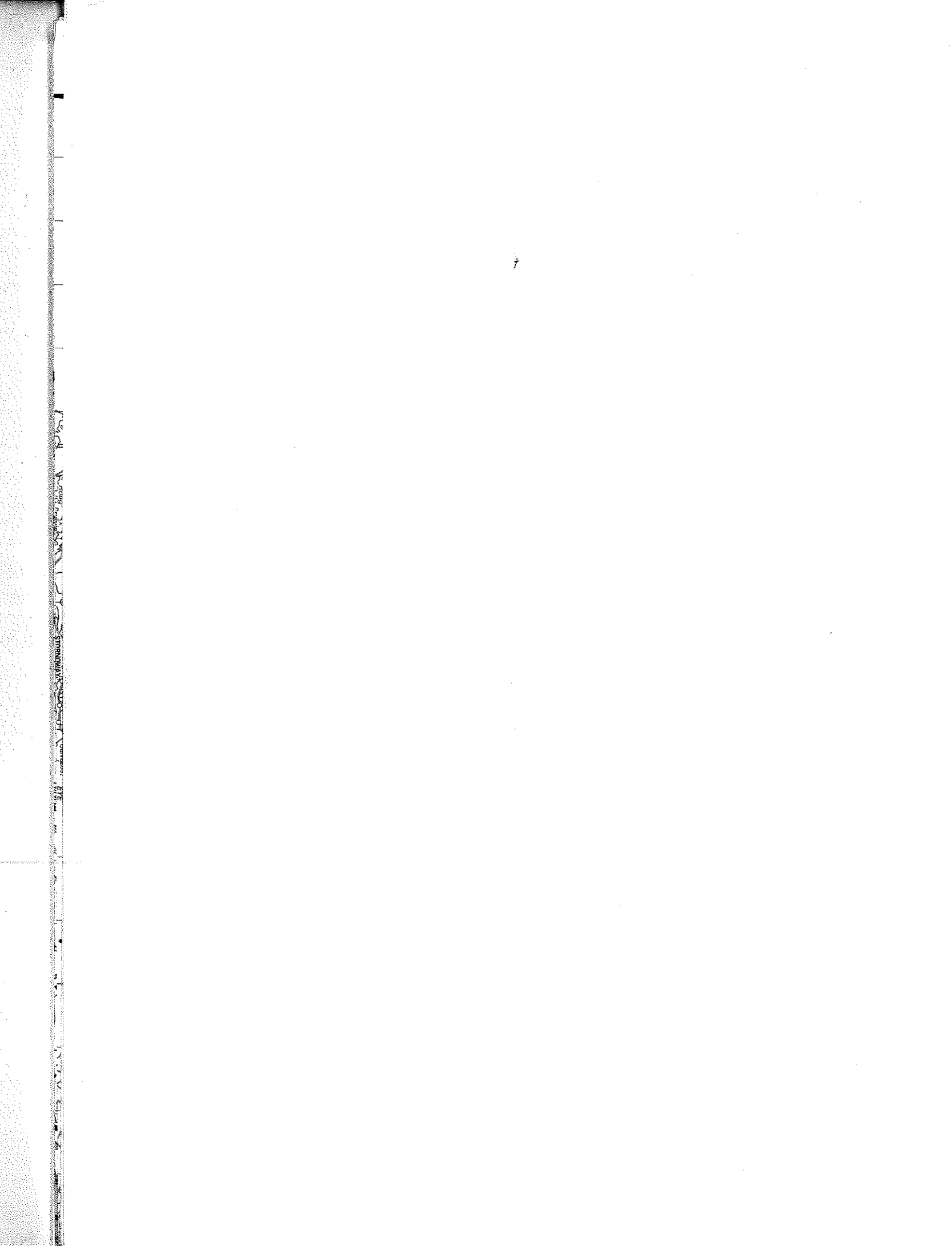
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BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND REPORT

on the Second Supplementary Review of European Parliamentary Constituencies in Scotland to the Right Honourable Michael Forsyth MP, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Scotland.

We, the Boundary Commission for Scotland, constituted in accordance with the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 have the honour to submit in terms of paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Act 1978, as amended, our supplementary report on European parliamentary constituencies for Scotland.



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1. As a consequence of the creation of new UK parliamentary constituencies in Scotland in 1995 (which will come into effect at the next general election) we were required to review the European parliamentary constituencies which have been in place since 1984. These European parliamentary constituencies were based on the UK parliamentary constituencies which are to be replaced. This chapter provides the statutory background to a review of European parliamentary constituency boundaries and describes the procedures followed during the review.
2. The present arrangements for determining European Parliamentary constituency boundaries in Scotland were set out in the European Assembly Elections Act 1978 (since re-titled European Parliamentary Elections Act 1978), as originally enacted. The original Act provided that Scotland should be divided into 8 European Assembly constituencies and set out the requirements to be observed by the Commission in preparing recommendations to the Secretary of State for Scotland. The Act was amended in 1981 to ensure that the Commission would undertake a review of these 8 constituencies as a direct consequence of Parliament altering UK parliamentary constituencies in Scotland. The recommendations of this first supplementary review were contained in the Commission's report of 17 March 1984 (Cmnd 9176) and were given effect by The European Parliamentary Constituencies (Scotland) Order 1984 (SI 1984/ 548).
3. We completed our Fourth Periodical report of UK parliamentary constituency boundaries in Scotland in December 1994. While we did not recommend a change to the number of constituencies in Scotland we did recommend a number of alterations to the existing constituency boundaries. Parliament subsequently approved our recommendations on 11 April 1995 and the new constituencies were given effect by The Parliamentary Constituencies (Scotland) Order 1995 (SI 1995/ 1037).
4. We were therefore charged under the 1978 Act, as amended, with reconsidering the representation of Scotland in the European Parliament, to take account of the new UK parliamentary constituencies, and submitting a supplementary report to the Secretary of State for Scotland. Paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the 1978 Act requires this supplementary report either:
 - a. to show the European parliamentary constituencies into which we recommend that Scotland should be divided in order to give effect to the

provisions of paragraph 1(2) of Schedule 1 to the 1978 Act and Part II of Schedule 2 to the 1978 Act; or

- b. to state that no alteration is required to be made to the European parliamentary constituencies in Scotland in order to give effect to those provisions.

5. The requirements for a supplementary report are set out in Appendix A. Unlike the review of UK parliamentary constituencies, where there is limited flexibility in the number of constituencies in Scotland, paragraph 1(2) of Schedule 1 to the 1978 Act states that there shall be 8 European parliamentary constituencies in Scotland. This is a fixed number which we are not allowed to alter.

6. With the changes made to the UK parliamentary constituencies we recognised that alterations would have to be made to some of the current European parliamentary constituencies in order to give effect to the statutory provisions set out in Appendix A. This was because some of the new UK parliamentary constituencies straddle the boundaries of the current European parliamentary constituencies. We were also of the opinion that, as there had been significant changes in the electorates in the Grampian and Glasgow areas, which had resulted in increased representation in the House of Commons for the former and reduced representation for the latter, some changes might also be required to the European parliamentary constituency boundaries to take account of these demographic changes.

7. On 15 May 1995 we gave your predecessor as Secretary of State for Scotland formal notice of our intention to proceed with a review of the European parliamentary constituency boundaries. We were also required under paragraph 4A(1)(b) of Schedule 2 to the 1978 Act to have a statutory notice published in the *Edinburgh Gazette* intimating our intention to proceed with a review and to prepare a supplementary report under the terms of the 1978 Act. The statutory notice was published in the *Edinburgh Gazette* on 2 June 1995.

8. To assist all interested parties with the procedures and statutory requirements laid down for the review we produced an explanatory leaflet which we made available at the same time as we published our provisional recommendations. A copy of the explanatory leaflet forms Appendix B. Appendix C sets out the number of European parliamentary electors in the existing European parliamentary constituencies in 1983 and 1995. Appendix D lists the European parliamentary constituencies we recommend, along with their component parliamentary constituencies and electorates on 2 June 1995. A list, in alphabetical order, of UK parliamentary constituencies in Scotland showing the European parliamentary constituency into which we recommend each should be placed is at Appendix E. A map showing our recommended European parliamentary constituencies for the whole of Scotland accompanies this report.

Procedure

9. Under the terms of the statute we are required to conduct our review of European parliamentary constituencies on the basis of the electorate which was in place on the date (termed the enumeration date) when we announced our intention to conduct a review in the *Edinburgh Gazette*. As this date was 2 June 1995 we were unable to rely on the electorate data contained in the 1995 electoral register. The electoral registration officers kindly supplied the electorate figures we required, ie. the number qualifying for inclusion in the electoral register as at 2 June 1995. We take this opportunity to thank the electoral registration officers for their assistance in providing this information.

10. As with the review of UK parliamentary constituencies, we are not required to enter into consultation with Members of the European Parliament, Members of Parliament, political parties, local authorities or other bodies prior to forming our provisional recommendations. We considered that our initial proposals could best be arrived at without regard to conflicting suggestions made to us beforehand. The statute allows for a period of public consultation and incorporates a facility for local inquiries which, in our opinion, provides the appropriate means for counter-proposals to be considered.

11. When we had reached our decision on the provisional recommendations, we were required to announce these by way of a statutory notice. As the number of European parliamentary constituencies in Scotland is set at 8 we considered it reasonable to announce our recommendations using a single statutory notice to cover the whole of Scotland. The statutory notice was published in the Press on 24 August 1995 and invited any person who wished to make a representation, whether in support of or objecting to our provisional recommendations, to do so within one month of the notice appearing in the Press. During the review of UK parliamentary constituencies in Scotland we published our recommendations in the national newspapers and the local newspapers affected by the proposals. As European parliamentary constituencies, in general, cover a far greater geographical area we decided to confine the publication of our proposals to the *Aberdeen Press & Journal*, *Dundee Courier*, *The Herald*, *The Scotsman* and the *Daily Record*. To supplement the statutory notice we also issued a press release to all media sources detailing our proposals. Copies of our provisional recommendations for each European parliamentary constituency, along with the explanatory leaflet setting out the procedures of the review and an illustrative map showing the recommendations for the whole of Scotland, were made available for public inspection in at least one local authority office or public library in each UK parliamentary constituency in Scotland. The addresses of the premises where the documents could be inspected were included in the statutory notice. We are grateful for the co-operation we received from the local authorities with these arrangements.

12. We also sent copies of our provisional recommendations and other documents

to the headquarters of the 4 main political parties in Scotland. In addition, the Members representing the 8 current European parliamentary constituencies, the 72 Scottish Members of Parliament and the chief executives of all the local authorities in Scotland (including the new unitary authorities) were individually informed of the provisional recommendations. Copies of the statutory notice, map and the explanatory leaflet were also deposited for inspection in the libraries of both Houses of Parliament.

13. A number of the representations we received, particularly from local political parties, contended that the statutory period of one month did not allow enough time for detailed consideration of our provisional recommendations. We took account of all the representations received during the statutory consultation period and also all those which were made right up until the date of the public inquiry.

14. We have held 4 meetings since the notice to commence our review was published. These were all held under the chairmanship of our Deputy Chairman. We also kept our ex-officio chairman, Madam Speaker, informed of the course of our deliberations.

Public Inquiry

15. Paragraph 5 of the 1978 Act, as amended, places a requirement on us to arrange a public inquiry to consider our provisional recommendations when objections are received from an interested local authority or from a body of electors numbering 500 or more. This condition was met by the representations we received and a public inquiry was held into our provisional recommendations. As with our review of UK parliamentary constituency boundaries, however, we are not obliged to hold a public inquiry in respect of objections to revised recommendations, although we may do so if we consider it necessary to obtain more information on certain matters. In the event, no subsequent inquiry took place.

16. We decided, primarily because any alterations might have implications for neighbouring areas, that the balance of advantage lay in arranging a single inquiry to cover the whole of Scotland. To reflect the interest generated in the various parts of the country by our initial proposals we considered that the inquiry should be held in 2 stages. The inquiry was planned to take place from 4-6 December 1995 in the University of Glasgow, Glasgow and the Town House, Aberdeen. This inquiry had to be postponed, however, due to the ill-health of the Assistant Commissioner, Sheriff Principal Robert C Hay CBE WS, whom you appointed, at our request, to conduct the inquiry. We are pleased to say that Sheriff Principal Hay was well enough to conduct the re-arranged inquiry on 17 and 18 January 1996 in Glasgow and 22 January 1996 in Aberdeen. An additional day, 25 January 1996, was also required in Glasgow. We would like to record our thanks to Sheriff Principal Hay for the diligent way in which he conducted the public inquiry and for submitting his full and informative report (to which we refer in greater detail in Chapter 3) within

a short timescale. We found his report to be of considerable assistance in reaching our conclusions.

17. We published our statutory notice advertising (and later, readvertising) the holding of the public inquiry in the same national newspapers which advertised our provisional recommendations. A press release announcing the dates and venue of the public inquiry was also released. Copies of the representations we had received were sent to the headquarters of the 4 main political parties in Scotland and copies were also made available for public inspection at the same locations used for publicising our provisional recommendations. A copy of the statutory notice and a summary of the representations were sent to all those who had responded to the consultation process and to the 8 Members of the European Parliament and the 72 Members of Parliament in Scotland. Sets of these documents were also placed on deposit in the libraries of both Houses of Parliament. At the outset of the public inquiry the Assistant Commissioner was requested to read out a statement on behalf of the Commission. This statement explained our reasons for the provisional recommendations and also the factors we had to take into account in making our provisional recommendations. To ensure that interested parties were aware of the reasoning behind our proposals before the inquiry commenced we sent a copy of our statement to everyone who received notification of the holding of the inquiry. The statement was also placed on deposit at the same local authority offices and libraries as the copies of the representations. A full set of the documents relating to the public inquiry was also made available to the Assistant Commissioner.

18. At the public inquiry it was open to anyone, either as a representative of an organisation or as an individual, to make a statement regardless of whether or not that person had previously made a representation to us. To assist the Assistant Commissioner with the preparation of his report, shorthand writers were engaged to provide a transcript of the proceedings.

19. In accordance with normal practice we were not represented at the public inquiry and did not take part in the discussion about the provisional recommendations, but a member of the secretariat attended to observe and to assist with the practical arrangements.

20. We decided, after detailed consideration of the Assistant Commissioner's report, to adhere to our provisional recommendations. Copies of the Assistant Commissioner's report were made available for public inspection, and were sent to all those who attended the inquiry and requested a copy of the report and also to other interested parties when we announced our decision following the public inquiry.

Discussion with the political parties

21. We followed the procedure which we had adopted during previous reviews of parliamentary constituencies when we arranged meetings, to take place after initial

recommendations had been published, with representatives nominated by the political parties in Scotland which currently had Members of Parliament in the House of Commons. We held a meeting with representatives of the political parties on 5 October 1995 to discuss the arrangements for a public inquiry. We found this meeting particularly helpful when considering the locations for each stage of the public inquiry.

CHAPTER 2

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF THE REVIEW

The Statutory Requirements

1. In forming our recommendations for European parliamentary constituency boundaries we are required to observe the statutory requirements set out in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 and paragraphs 9 and 10 of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Act 1978 (the 1978 Act). This Act has been amended by the European Assembly Elections Act 1981, the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1986, the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 and the European Parliamentary Elections Act 1993.

1.1 Paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 of the 1978 Act provides that there shall be 8 European parliamentary constituencies in Scotland.

1.2 Paragraph 9 of Schedule 2 of the 1978 Act provides that

- a. each European parliamentary constituency shall consist of an area that includes two or more parliamentary constituencies; and
- b. no parliamentary constituency shall be included partly in one European parliamentary constituency and partly in another.

1.3 Paragraph 10 of Schedule 2 of the 1978 Act provides that the electorate of any European parliamentary constituency shall be as near the electoral quota as is reasonably practicable having regard where appropriate, to special geographical considerations.

The Electoral Quota

2. As we have already indicated in paragraph 9 of Chapter 1, we are required to base our recommendations on the parliamentary electorate in Scotland as at the date our notice of intention to commence the review was published, which was 2 June 1995. The electoral quota is calculated by dividing the total Scottish parliamentary electorate on that date (3,967,929) by the number of European parliamentary constituencies in Scotland (8). This produces an electoral quota of 495,991.

General Principles of the Review

3. We considered that the primary requirement in the review of European parliamentary constituencies would, as far as is reasonably practicable be electoral parity for each

constituency taking into account special geographic considerations. The low density of population in the geographically vast Highlands and Islands European parliamentary constituency was accepted as being an outstanding geographical consideration when the European parliamentary constituency boundaries were initially delineated in 1978. We considered it sensible to continue this arrangement when we published our provisional recommendations. We were also conscious, however, that while minimal disruption as a result of changes made following the creation of new parliamentary constituency boundaries might be feasible in some areas, that could not be achieved in other parts of the country.

4. Unlike the rules laid down for the review of UK parliamentary constituencies, those governing a review of European parliamentary constituency boundaries do not require us to consider the crossing of local government boundaries or the breaking of community ties. We were prepared to have regard to these factors in our deliberations, but we believed that we might have been in default of our statutory duties had we put them before the pursuit of electoral parity. We considered that with an electoral quota of almost 500,000 for a European parliamentary constituency it would be unlikely that arguments on the grounds of local ties and community of interest could be satisfied consistently throughout the country. We had also recommended, during our review of UK parliamentary constituencies, that some of these constituencies should cross regional council boundaries. In view of this, and with a greater number of local authorities than European parliamentary constituencies, we considered that it would be most unlikely that we would be able to respect regional council boundaries during this review.

5. We also considered the question of local government reorganisation which, at the start of the review, was scheduled to take effect on 1 April 1996. We had been required, however, to conduct our earlier review of UK parliamentary constituency boundaries, which form the basis of European parliamentary constituencies, on the local government arrangements which were in place on 1 June 1994. No account had therefore been taken of the new local government boundaries, and there were examples of the new UK parliamentary constituencies comprising parts of 2 or more new local authorities, the effects of which were inevitably carried forward to our review of European parliamentary constituency boundaries.

Naming of European Parliamentary Constituencies

6. We are also required, under paragraph 4 of Schedule 2 to the 1978 Act, to include a recommendation as to the name by which the European parliamentary constituency should be known. As far as was possible we sought to retain the existing name which people could easily identify with. We considered, however, that the current names of Strathclyde East and Strathclyde West were no longer appropriate, because Strathclyde was a name which would no longer be used at local government level. In addition, the Strathclyde East constituency would now contain the area around Falkirk. We therefore thought that a more apt name for this constituency would be Central Scotland. We also considered that the Strathclyde West constituency should be renamed West of Scotland.

Timing

7. There is no formal deadline laid down in the statute for the completion of this review. In commencing it on 2 June 1995, however, we were confident of completing the review and reporting to you in enough time for our recommendations, if approved, to be put in place for the next elections to the European Parliament due to be held in June 1999.

European Funding Areas

8. Following publication of our provisional recommendations we received a number of representations relating to the European funding of certain areas. These considered that some of the alterations we were proposing for the European parliamentary constituencies might prejudice the claims of certain areas in regard to the arrangements for European structural funding. We took advice on these points from the Scottish Office. We were informed that European parliamentary constituency boundaries play no part in the delineation of either the assisted area status or European structural funding of a particular part of the country. This question was also discussed at length during the public inquiry, where many arguments and counter-arguments were led in respect of its significance for various parts of the country. In his report to us the Assistant Commissioner did not accord this issue special significance in terms of the determination of arrangements for representation in the European Parliament nationally, but he did indicate, in the context of assessing our initial proposals as they related to the Falkirk constituencies, that he did not consider that the changes would “adversely affect the ability of the MEP and others to represent their (the constituencies) economic and other interests in European terms”.

CHAPTER 3

THE REVIEW

AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. In this chapter we describe in detail our review of the European parliamentary constituency boundaries and set out our final recommendations.

Current Arrangements

2. The 8 current European parliamentary constituencies comprise the following parliamentary constituencies whose electorates, based on the 1995 electoral register, were as follows :

Current European Parliamentary Constituency	Contents in Terms of Existing Parliamentary Constituencies	Electorate (1995)
Highlands and Islands	Argyll and Bute Caithness and Sutherland Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber Moray Ross, Cromarty and Skye Orkney and Shetland Western Isles	333,294
North East Scotland	Aberdeen North Aberdeen South Banff and Buchan Gordon Kincardine and Deeside Angus East Dundee East Dundee West North Tayside	579,442
Mid Scotland and Fife	Clackmannan Falkirk East Falkirk West Stirling Central Fife	

	Dunfermline East	
	Dunfermline West	
	Kirkcaldy	
	North East Fife	
	Perth and Kinross	553,962
Lothians	Edinburgh Central	
	Edinburgh East	
	Edinburgh Leith	
	Edinburgh Pentlands	
	Edinburgh South	
	Edinburgh West	
	Linlithgow	
	Livingston	
	Midlothian	527,424
South of Scotland	Ayr	
	Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley	
	Clydesdale	
	Cunninghame South	
	Dumfries	
	Galloway and Upper Nithsdale	
	East Lothian	
	Roxburgh and Berwickshire	
	Twceddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale	506,627
Strathclyde East	Cumbernauld and Kilsyth	
	East Kilbride	
	Glasgow Rutherglen	
	Hamilton	
	Kilmarnock and Loudoun	
	Monklands East	
	Monklands West	
	Motherwell North	
	Motherwell South	499,667
Strathclyde West	Clydebank and Milngavie	
	Cunninghame North	
	Dumbarton	
	Eastwood	
	Greenock and Port Glasgow	
	Paisley North	
	Paisley South	
	Renfrew West and Inverclyde	
	Strathkelvin and Bearsden	495,144

Glasgow	Glasgow Cathcart	
	Glasgow Central	
	Glasgow Garscadden	
	Glasgow Govan	
	Glasgow Hillhead	
	Glasgow Maryhill	
	Glasgow Pollok	
	Glasgow Provan	
	Glasgow Shettleston	
	Glasgow Springburn	466,006

Minimal Change Option

3. We observed at the outset that it would not be possible to retain the precise composition of the current European parliamentary constituencies, because eleven of the new UK parliamentary constituencies were contained partly in one European constituency and partly in another. We began by assessing the effects of adjusting the boundaries of the present European constituencies by the minimum necessary to accommodate the new UK parliamentary constituencies. We eventually decided against this option because it produced an electorate for the North East Scotland constituency of 18.3% above the electoral quota and an electorate for the Glasgow constituency of 5.5% below the electoral quota. As explained in paragraph 1 of Chapter 2, the electorate of each European constituency is required to be as near the electoral quota as is reasonably practicable having regard, where appropriate, to special geographical considerations. We did not consider that special geographical considerations justified this option.

Provisional Recommendations

4. We decided, as did our predecessors, that the special geographical considerations which applied in the Highlands and Islands European constituency warranted an exception to the objective of electoral parity. After considering the options open to us to make modifications to the Highlands and Islands constituency we considered that the current composition of the constituency was the most appropriate, notwithstanding that at 34% below the electoral quota the electorate of this constituency would be considerably smaller than that of the other constituencies. We also took the view that no other constituency in Scotland justified similar treatment.

5. Having decided on our proposals for the Highlands and Islands European constituency, we were aware that this would leave 65 UK parliamentary constituencies to be divided among the other 7 European constituencies in Scotland. This would probably result in two European constituencies containing 10 UK constituencies while the remaining 5 European constituencies would comprise 9 UK constituencies each. Following our review of UK parliamentary constituencies there were now 9 of them within the Glasgow European constituency. We noted that allocating an additional UK

constituency to the Glasgow European constituency would bring the electorate of that European constituency closer to the average. We were of the opinion that the most appropriate UK constituency to transfer into the Glasgow European constituency was Glasgow Rutherglen, as it was within the City of Glasgow District. We were aware that under the new local government arrangements this would alter. The majority of the electors in the Glasgow Rutherglen constituency would come under the new South Lanarkshire Council; the minority would remain in the City of Glasgow. We did not believe, however, that this consideration justified a departure from our attempt to achieve the statutory objectives. The proposed transfer of the Glasgow Rutherglen constituency would, however, have the effect of reducing the number of UK constituencies in the Strathclyde East European constituency to 8; and bring it to 11% below the electoral quota.

6. Since the last review was undertaken in 1983, the electorate of the North East Scotland European constituency had grown. This constituency is made up of 10 UK constituencies at present and has the highest electorate of all the European constituencies in the United Kingdom. We therefore agreed that one of the UK constituencies in the North East Scotland constituency should transfer to another European constituency. After detailed consideration, we decided that the North Tayside constituency offered the most viable option. As we had already decided that the Highlands and Islands European constituency should retain its status quo, it followed that the only alternative was for the North Tayside constituency to transfer to the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency. We were aware from our predecessors' report that representations had been made during the last review for the North Tayside constituency to be included in the Mid Scotland and Fife constituency rather than in the North East Scotland constituency.

7. The transfer of the North Tayside constituency to the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency increased the electorate of the European constituency to 24% above the electoral quota. It also increased the number of UK constituencies contained within the boundaries of this constituency from 10 to 11. As explained in paragraph 5, however, the Strathclyde East European constituency was below the electoral quota. We therefore decided to transfer part of the area covered by Mid Scotland and Fife to Strathclyde East. After careful examination of the options available we decided to transfer both the Falkirk East and the Falkirk West UK constituencies. This option also had the advantage of maintaining these 2 neighbouring constituencies covering a distinct community within the same European constituency.

8. Given our decision on the Highlands and Islands European constituency, we considered that our proposals combined a close adherence to the electoral quota with minimal disturbance. We also thought it inappropriate for a European constituency containing Falkirk to be called Strathclyde East, especially when 'Strathclyde' would no longer be the name of any local government area. We therefore also proposed that this constituency be renamed Central Scotland and the Strathclyde West constituency be renamed West of Scotland.

Publication of Our Provisional Recommendations

9. On 24 August 1995 we published our provisional recommendations for the whole of Scotland as follows :

Name of Constituency	Contents of Constituency Comprising Parliamentary Constituencies	Electorate as at 2 June 1995
Central Scotland	Airdrie and Shotts Coatbridge and Chryston Cumbernauld and Kilsyth East Kilbride Falkirk East Falkirk West Hamilton North and Bellshill Hamilton South Kilmarnock and Loudoun Motherwell and Wishaw	552,230
Glasgow	Glasgow Anniesland Glasgow Baillieston Glasgow Cathcart Glasgow Govan Glasgow Kelvin Glasgow Maryhill Glasgow Pollok Glasgow Rutherglen Glasgow Shettleston Glasgow Springburn	520,518
Highlands and Islands	Argyll and Bute Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber Moray Ross, Skye and Inverness West Orkney and Shetland Western Isles	327,310
Lothians	Edinburgh Central Edinburgh East and Musselburgh Edinburgh North and Leith Edinburgh Pentlands Edinburgh South Edinburgh West	

	Linlithgow	
	Livingston	
	Midlothian	526,669
Mid Scotland and Fife	Central Fife	
	Dunfermline East	
	Dunfermline West	
	Kirkcaldy	
	North East Fife	
	North Tayside	
	Ochil	
	Perth	
	Stirling	504,764
North East Scotland	Aberdeen Central	
	Aberdeen North	
	Aberdeen South	
	Angus	
	Banff and Buchan	
	Dundee East	
	Dundee West	
	Gordon	
	West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine	525,598
South of Scotland	Ayr	
	Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley	
	Clydesdale	
	Cunninghame South	
	Dumfries	
	East Lothian	
	Galloway and Upper Nithsdale	
	Roxburgh and Berwickshire	
	Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale	508,936
West of Scotland	Clydebank and Milngavie	
	Cunninghame North	
	Dumbarton	
	Eastwood	
	Greenock and Inverclyde	
	Paisley North	
	Paisley South	
	Strathkelvin and Bearsden	
	West Renfrewshire	501,904

Representations on Our Provisional Recommendations

10. During the statutory consultation period 53 representations were received. These included submissions from a number of district councils namely : City of Aberdeen, Clackmannan, East Kilbride, Kilmarnock & Loudoun, Kirkcaldy, Motherwell, Renfrew and Wigtown as well as Central, Tayside and Fife regional councils. Views on our proposals were also expressed by one community council and several new unitary authorities including Angus, Falkirk, Fife, North Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire. Representations were also received from 3 Members of the European Parliament and 19 Members of Parliament. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association also submitted its views. The Association supported our provisional recommendations with one exception. It suggested that the Cunninghame South UK constituency should be transferred from the South of Scotland European constituency to the West of Scotland European constituency. This view was also supported by a number of individuals. Other issues which gave rise to comment were as follows :

10.1 The proposed transfer of North Tayside from the North East Scotland European constituency to the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency.

10.2 The proposed transfer of Falkirk East and Falkirk West from the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency to the Central Scotland European constituency.

10.3 The proposed transfer of Glasgow Rutherglen from the Strathclyde East European constituency to the Glasgow European constituency.

11. The Scottish Labour Party submitted a comprehensive counter-proposal which suggested changes to six of our proposed European constituencies. The Party was content with our initial recommendations for the South of Scotland and the Lothians European constituencies but considered that :

11.1 the Argyll and Bute UK constituency should be transferred from the Highlands and Islands European constituency to the West of Scotland European constituency;

11.2 the Gordon and Banff & Buchan UK constituencies should be transferred from the North East Scotland European constituency to the Highlands and Islands European constituency. This constituency should be renamed "North of Scotland";

11.3 the Eastwood UK constituency should be transferred from the West of Scotland European constituency to the Glasgow European constituency. This constituency should be renamed "Glasgow and Eastwood";

11.4 the Glasgow Rutherglen, Falkirk East and Falkirk West UK constituencies should not be transferred; and

11.5 The North Tayside UK constituency should remain in the North East Scotland European constituency and the Perth UK constituency should be transferred from the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency to the North East Scotland European constituency.

12. The effect of the Scottish Labour Party's counter-proposal would be to produce European parliamentary constituencies with electorates (supplied by the Scottish Labour Party) as follows :

Central Scotland	493,455
Glasgow and Eastwood	535,025
Lothians	526,669
Mid Scotland and Fife	494,154
North of Scotland	396,108
North East Scotland	527,980
South of Scotland	508,936
West of Scotland	485,605

Announcement of the Public Inquiry

13. As a consequence of the objections received, we recognised that we had a statutory duty to hold a public inquiry. The organisation of the public inquiry is explained in paragraph 16 of Chapter 1.

14. In the period between the announcement of the public inquiry and the start of the inquiry the number of representations increased to 127. A further 21 representations were submitted during the period of the inquiry. This increase in the number of representations received was due mainly to the interest generated by the publication of the counter-proposal submitted to us by the Scottish Labour Party.

Public Inquiry

15. In this section we shall describe the representations made in person and also in writing to the Assistant Commissioner about the proposals for each European constituency.

Highlands and Islands European constituency

16. At the inquiry the Scottish Labour Party put forward its arguments for a new North of Scotland European constituency. The Party accepted that special geographical considerations existed in the Highlands and Islands, but submitted that wherever possible a low electorate should be increased to a level closer to the electoral quota. In its view the existing Highlands and Islands European constituency was too large in geographical terms and too small in electorate; both these deficiencies would be addressed under the counter-proposal. The Party argued, in support of the transfer of the Argyll and Bute UK constituency, that, having been part of Strathclyde Region for over 20 years, Argyll and Bute now had closer links, in terms of transport, communications, health and education, with the area covered by the present Strathclyde West European constituency than with the other parts of the Highlands and Islands European constituency. Supporting the transfer of the Gordon and Banff & Buchan UK constituencies, the Party claimed that there was an affinity between these two constituencies and the other areas on the south side of the Moray Firth which currently form part of the Highlands and Islands European constituency.

17. Mr Philip Bonsell, a resident of Perth, supported the transfer of the Gordon and Banff & Buchan UK constituencies from the North East of Scotland European constituency. He argued that in geographic terms the south eastern boundary of the Highlands is usually defined as the Highland Fault Line which extends from Stonehaven through Dunkeld to Helensburgh, then across the Firth of Clyde passing to the north of Arran, across the Mull of Kintyre and into Northern Ireland. Using this boundary, the Gordon and Banff & Buchan UK constituencies should be included as part of the Highlands.

18. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association supported our provisional recommendations for the Highlands and Islands European constituency. As part of its submission, the Association led evidence from Dr. J F Loader, a lecturer in Geography at the University of Aberdeen, whose opinion was that the provisional recommendations made greater sense than any counter-proposal. His view was that, in terms of human and social geography, Argyll and Bute was part of the Highlands and Islands while, as far as links to population centres were concerned, the areas covered by the Banff & Buchan and Gordon UK constituencies had traditionally been solidly towards Aberdeen.

19. The Scottish Liberal Democrats also supported our initial proposals for the Highlands and Islands European constituency. Mrs Ray Michie, the Member of Parliament for Argyll and Bute, considered that the local government links between Argyll and Bute and central Scotland were on their way out. She stated that like the rest of the Highlands, Argyll and Bute was a largely rural area which also formed part of the Highlands and Islands Enterprise area. In Mrs Michie's opinion, Banff and Buchan had no affinity with the existing UK constituencies which comprise the Highlands and Islands European constituency. Representing the Liberal Democrats Highlands and Islands Euroconstituency Co-ordinating Committee, Mr J M Melling referred to the geographical and cultural affinities that existed throughout the area covered by the existing Highlands and Islands European constituency.

20. On behalf of the Scottish National Party, Dr Winifred Ewing, the Member of the European Parliament for the Highlands and Islands constituency, supported our proposals. She objected to the counter-proposal put forward by the Scottish Labour Party and considered the suggested alteration to the name of the constituency would be unacceptable to the electorate in both the Highlands and the Islands. Dr Ewing expressed the view that Argyll and Bute was both historically and culturally part of Gaeldom, with much of its economy related to crofting as in other parts of the existing European constituency. She also raised concerns that, if the counter proposal put forward by the Scottish Labour Party were accepted, it was possible that the Argyll and Bute UK constituency, being no longer a part of the Highlands and Islands European constituency, might not qualify for European Objective 1 funding at the end of the current funding programme. In relation to the proposed transfer of the Gordon and Banff & Buchan UK constituencies, Dr Ewing accepted that part of the existing Banff & Buchan constituency had, in the past, formed part of the Highlands and Islands European constituency. She

believed, however, that the people living in these constituencies had a different culture from those living in the existing Highlands and Islands European constituency. Councillor Rhona Paterson, the regional councillor for Keith and Strathisla and convenor of the Keith branch of the Scottish National Party, put forward a special case, supported by Moray District Council, that Keith and Strathisla should remain in the Highlands and Islands European constituency while the rest of the Gordon constituency should stay in the North East Scotland constituency. This option is not available to us, however, under the terms laid down in the statute.

21. Councillor Alison Hay appeared at the inquiry on behalf of the Argyll and Bute District Council and the Argyll and Bute Council. Both councils supported our provisional recommendations for the Highlands and Islands European constituency. The unitary council had noted that the eastern part of its area, which forms part of the Dumbarton UK constituency, would remain as part of the West of Scotland European constituency.

22. The Association of Argyll and Bute Community Councils was represented by Mr Hew Service. In support of our provisional recommendations, the Association had collected over 1,000 signatures on a petition opposing any proposal to remove the Argyll and Bute UK constituency from the Highlands and Islands European constituency. The Cowal Community Council Platform and Mull Community Council also made written representations to the Assistant Commissioner opposing any counter-proposal which affected the Argyll and Bute UK constituency.

23. Written submissions were received in support of our recommendations for this constituency, including one from the sitting Member of Parliament for the Western Isles, Mr Calum Macdonald, and one from the Western Isles Constituency Labour Party. In his submission, Mr Macdonald argued that the Highlands and Islands form a distinct region and the traditional boundary encompasses the crofting counties which include Argyll. He contended that the interests of Argyll converge with the rest of the Highlands in a number of crucial aspects (eg. remoteness, sparseness of population, island communities, Gaelic usage and tradition, crofting, inshore fishing etc.) which are not shared by the area covered by the Gordon and the Banff & Buchan UK constituencies. Highland Regional Council and the new Highland Council also supported the provisional recommendations.

North East Scotland European constituency

24. The Scottish Labour Party proposed that, to counter-balance the transfer of the Gordon and Banff & Buchan UK constituencies from the North East Scotland European constituency to the Highlands and Islands European constituency, the North Tayside UK constituency should remain as part of the North East Scotland constituency and the Perth UK constituency should also transfer to the North East Scotland constituency from the Mid Scotland and Fife constituency. This was supported by the City of Aberdeen Council. The Party submitted that this would establish homogeneity as most

of Tayside Region would be in the same constituency along with the city of Aberdeen and its surrounding environs. Evidence led by the Party pointed out the close affinities between all these areas in terms of transport, communications, agriculture and culture.

25. The former Member of the European Parliament for the North East Scotland constituency, Mr Henry McCubbin, also spoke in support of the counter proposal put forward by the Scottish Labour Party. Mr McCubbin accepted that, based on electorate figures, the existing North East Scotland constituency would have to be reduced. He considered, however, that if one of the effects of this was to transfer the two Falkirk UK constituencies from Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency to the Central Scotland European constituency, it would have an adverse effect on the established pattern of European funding in Scotland.

26. Angus Council, represented by Councillor Rob Murray, objected to the removal of the North Tayside UK constituency from the North East Scotland European constituency. This would divide the area covered by the Council between 2 European constituencies. Councillor Murray contended that North Tayside had a greater affinity with the area comprising the North East Scotland constituency. This view was also supported in writing from Aberlemno Community Council and by the Tayside North Constituency Association and the Newtyle, Kettins and Sidlaw Branch of the Scottish National Party. Angus Council accepted that if North Tayside remained in the North East Scotland European constituency the electorate of the latter would be above the electoral quota, but considered that this was acceptable on the grounds of geographical, social and economic links. Angus District Council and Perth and Kinross Council also supported the retention of North Tayside in the North East Scotland European constituency. It was argued that if the Highlands and Islands European constituency was treated as a special case and its electorate removed from the calculation to ascertain the electoral quota, the existing North East Scotland constituency would only be 12.8% above the revised electoral quota of 520,088, which would be acceptable.

27. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association supported the provisional recommendations for the North East Scotland European constituency. The Association considered that the counter-proposal submitted by the Scottish Labour Party for this constituency was untenable in terms of local affiliations. Dr Loader contended that a large part of North Tayside, as the old Perthshire, had always looked to the south east, not to the north east.

28. Evidence was also put forward on behalf of the Aberdeen Central Constituency Association of the Scottish National Party in support of the provisional recommendations for the North East Scotland European constituency. Further support for the provisional recommendation came from Dr Allan Macartney, Member of the European Parliament for the constituency, who pointed out that the counter proposals put forward by the Scottish Labour Party would divide the key industries of oil and fishing, and from Mr Alex Salmond, Member of Parliament for Banff and Buchan, Mr Malcolm Bruce,

Member of Parliament for Gordon and Mr Alasdair Morgan, the National Secretary of the Scottish National Party. Aberdeenshire Council and Mr Kevin Stewart, a resident of Aberdeen, also spoke at the inquiry in support of the provisional recommendations. In addition, a number of community councils and individual electors submitted written representations objecting to any counter proposal to transfer the Gordon and Banff & Buchan UK constituencies.

Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency

29. The Scottish Labour Party considered that, under our initial proposals, the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency would suffer most change because of the increase in electorate in the North East Scotland European constituency. The Party argued that the cohesiveness of the existing Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency was based on the linkage of the identifiable units of Central Region and Fife Region which, under our proposals, would be lost. The Party also pointed out that with the transfer of the North Tayside UK constituency from the North East Scotland European constituency, towns such as Brechin and Forfar would be placed in a central belt constituency. In a written submission Ms Rachel Squire, Member of Parliament for Dunfermline West, considered that in economic and political terms the North Tayside UK constituency had little in common with most of the areas covered by the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency. In opposing the transfer of the two Falkirk UK constituencies from the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency, she contended that this gave rise to concerns in her constituency similar to those being felt in the Falkirk area. Mr Michael Connarty, Member of Parliament for Falkirk East, also objected to the provisional recommendations. He claimed that no affinity existed between the Falkirk and the Kilmarnock and Loudoun UK constituencies but a close working relationship had been forged between social, political and economic groups in his constituency and local authorities in the existing Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency. He quoted the East of Scotland European Consortium as an example. These points were reiterated in a submission from the Falkirk Council and in the evidence presented to the inquiry on behalf of Central Regional Council by its Depute Leader, Councillor Tom Coll. Councillor Coll said that the natural interest of Falkirk lay to the east and that the existing boundary of the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency should be preserved. He pointed out that Falkirk had links with large east coast based units such as the East of Scotland Water Authority and the Forth River Purification Board.

30. Both the Fife Council and Fife Regional Council considered that the UK constituencies making up the existing Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency were homogeneous, with the electorate living mainly in large towns, whereas the population of the North Tayside UK constituency is mainly rural. They considered that employment patterns were also markedly different, with high unemployment in the Fife and Falkirk UK constituencies but less in the North Tayside area. The councils submitted that the area covered by the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency had a much closer affinity with the Falkirk area than the North Tayside UK constituency in social,

economic and political terms, and that it was therefore advantageous for one Member of the European Parliament to represent both the Fife and the Falkirk UK constituencies. This view was supported by Clackmannan District Council.

31. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association supported the provisional recommendations for the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency. Evidence was led emphasising the advantage of the Perth and Ochil UK constituencies being in the same European constituency and pointing out the common agricultural interests which existed throughout the proposed Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency. In his submission to the public inquiry, Mr Bill Walker, Member of Parliament for North Tayside, supported the inclusion of his constituency in the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency. Mr Walker considered that the most travelled routes in his constituency were southwards towards Perth and Forfar and not to the north east. Mr John Purvis, the former Member of the European Parliament for Mid Scotland and Fife, did not consider that a close relationship existed between the area covered by the two Falkirk UK constituencies and Clackmannan and Fife.

32. The Scottish Liberal Democrats also supported the provisional recommendations in respect of the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency, although they contended that it would be difficult to sustain the contention that the area represented any distinct regional identity. They argued that Fife had its own regional identity and that the old counties of Clackmannan and Stirling were identifiable. Moving the North Tayside UK constituency into Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency would also bring back together the two parts of Perthshire.

33. Perth and Kinross District Council were content that under the provisional recommendations the UK constituencies covering the Council's area would be represented by one Member of the European Parliament.

Lothian European constituency

34. All the representations received in respect of the Lothians European parliamentary constituency supported our provisional recommendations.

Central Scotland European constituency

35. The Scottish Labour Party considered that the electorate of the proposed Central Scotland European constituency (552,230) was too large. The Party proposed that a more reasonable balance could be achieved, while at the same time causing minimal disruption to the existing Strathclyde East European constituency, by retaining the two Falkirk UK constituencies in the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency and by transferring the Glasgow Rutherglen UK constituency from the proposed Glasgow European constituency to the Central Scotland European constituency.

36. South Lanarkshire Council considered that the provisional recommendations conflicted with the statutory requirement of electoral parity. The Council put forward a

counter-proposal in line with the Scottish Labour Party's proposal for the constituency. North Lanarkshire Council supported the status quo for the existing European constituency, but suggested as an alternative that the Clydesdale UK constituency instead of the two Falkirk UK constituencies should be included in the Central Scotland European constituency. Councillor McCabe, the Deputy Leader of North Lanarkshire Council, argued that the 2 Falkirk UK constituencies have neither traditional nor current links with Lanarkshire whereas the Clydesdale UK constituency has.

37. In support of the provisional recommendations for the Central Scotland European constituency, the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association stated that Falkirk was equidistant from both Glasgow and Edinburgh and could therefore be regarded as being in the centre of Scotland. It was contended that the River Forth provided a natural boundary, and as the two Falkirk UK constituencies were both contained within the boundaries of Falkirk Council, the area could be transferred with minimal disruption. The Association also claimed that Falkirk had as much in common with the towns of Airdrie, Cumbernauld and Motherwell as it did with those in Fife.

38. The Scottish Liberal Democrats also supported the provisional recommendations for the Central Scotland European constituency on the grounds of minimal change and involving the lowest degree of disturbance. They accepted the argument that the links between Falkirk and North Lanarkshire were not strong, but considered that these links were no less than the links between many parts of other European constituencies.

Glasgow European constituency

39. The Scottish Labour Party in its counter proposal for the Glasgow European constituency submitted that the Glasgow Rutherglen UK constituency should form part of the Central Scotland European constituency. This was supported at the inquiry by Councillor Mrs May Caldwell, representing the Rutherglen Constituency Labour Party who referred to the status of Rutherglen as a Royal Burgh until 1975 and its historical links with Lanarkshire.

40. Mr Thomas McAvoy, Member of Parliament for Glasgow Rutherglen, supported the Scottish Labour Party's counter proposal. He also informed the inquiry of the historical links which Rutherglen had with Lanarkshire rather than with the city of Glasgow and pointed out the possible difficulties the Member of the European Parliament could have under the provisional recommendations in having to represent UK constituencies making up the whole of the City of Glasgow Council area and only part of the South Lanarkshire Council area.

41. Glasgow City Council accepted that the electorate of the Glasgow European constituency had to be increased. The Council did not consider, however, that the best solution would be to bring in the Glasgow Rutherglen UK constituency. It should form part of the Central Scotland European constituency and the Eastwood UK constituency should be included in the Glasgow European constituency instead. This was also the

view of the North Lanarkshire Council, South Lanarkshire Council, Cambuslang Community Council and Mr Douglas Cousins, a resident of Cambuslang.

42. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association and the Scottish Liberal Democrats, however, supported the provisional recommendation to include the Glasgow Rutherglen UK constituency in the Glasgow European constituency. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association's view was that while the larger part of the area covered by the Glasgow Rutherglen constituency would be in the South Lanarkshire Council area, some would remain within the City of Glasgow Council area. In order to acknowledge local feelings, however, the Association suggested the constituency be renamed Glasgow and Rutherglen.

43. Mrs Angela Houston from King's Park also appeared at the inquiry in support of the initial proposals. She considered that all her links were with Glasgow and neither she, nor her neighbours, had any affinity with the area covered by the Central Scotland European constituency.

West of Scotland European constituency

44. As part of its counter-proposal for the whole country the Scottish Labour Party suggested the transfer of the Argyll and Bute UK constituency from the Highlands and Islands European constituency to the West of Scotland European constituency (see paragraphs 16 – 23 above). The Party accepted, however, that this transfer would increase the electorate of the West of Scotland European constituency considerably above the electoral quota. The Party accordingly suggested that the Eastwood UK constituency should transfer from the West of Scotland European constituency to the Glasgow European constituency which should be renamed Glasgow and Eastwood. The Party accepted that this would produce the constituency with the highest electorate in Scotland, but submitted that this was appropriate in terms of the declining electorate in the city of Glasgow. The Party also pointed out that the Member of the European Parliament for this constituency would have the benefit of dealing with two distinct local authorities.

45. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association supported the inclusion of the Eastwood UK constituency in the West of Scotland European constituency as provisionally recommended. The Association argued that the Eastwood constituency contained a large rural area which has no affinity with urban Glasgow. In evidence led by the Association it was contended that the Eastwood constituency has its origins firmly in Renfrewshire.

46. The argument of historic ties with Renfrewshire was also submitted in writing by Mr J.Allan Stewart, the Member of Parliament for Eastwood, who also supported his constituency's inclusion in the West of Scotland European constituency. Mr Stewart pointed out that for local government purposes the entire electorate of the Eastwood UK constituency was, and would continue to be, outwith the city of Glasgow and that the

electors of his constituency had made clear that they did not want to be absorbed into Glasgow.

47. Councillor Mrs Barbara Grant represented Eastwood District Council at the inquiry. The Council supported the provisional recommendation to include the Eastwood UK constituency in the West of Scotland European constituency. This view was also supported in writing by East Renfrewshire Council and Renfrew District Council.

South of Scotland European constituency

48. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association submitted a counter-proposal to transfer the Cunninghame South UK constituency from the South of Scotland European constituency to the West of Scotland European constituency. The Association pointed out that since the previous review the electorate of the South of Scotland constituency had grown while the electorate of the West of Scotland constituency had decreased. In the Association's view this trend was likely to continue. The Association accepted that this counter-proposal would reduce the electorate of the South of Scotland constituency below the electoral quota. It argued, however, that this was justified given the large geographical area of the constituency, extending from Dunbar to Stranraer, and its low population density. The Association also submitted that its proposal would improve the boundary between the South of Scotland and West of Scotland constituencies as the whole area of the North Ayrshire Council, including in particular the towns of Ardrossan, Salcoats and Stevenston, would be in the same European constituency. These towns, in addition to the New Town of Irvine, had little in common with the remainder of the area covered by the South of Scotland constituency. This counter-proposal was also supported in a written submission from Mr Phil Gallie, Member of Parliament for Ayr.

49. The Scottish Labour Party supported the provisional recommendations as they related to the South of Scotland constituency and contended that the existing arrangements are well known. Support was also given for the provisional recommendations in written submissions from Mr Brian Donohoe, Member of Parliament for Cunninghame South, Mr George Foulkes, Member of Parliament for Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley, Mr James Hood, Member of Parliament for Clydesdale and from Clydesdale District Council and Wigtown District Council. The Scottish Liberal Democrats also supported the provisional recommendations in respect of the South of Scotland constituency.

Assistant Commissioner's report

50. In his report to us, the Assistant Commissioner commented that it was unlikely that any scheme for the division of Scotland into 8 European constituencies would attract universal support. Our provisional recommendations did, however, have considerable public and political support. His conclusions were that the recommendations should stand. Both the Scottish Liberal Democrats and the Scottish National Party supported

our proposals and they were, with one exception, acceptable to the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association. The Scottish Labour Party on the other hand, with support from a number of local authorities and councillors, had submitted detailed counter-proposals.

51. The Assistant Commissioner considered that we were well founded in our view that special geographic considerations should apply to the Highlands and Islands European constituency. Under the counter-proposal from the Scottish Labour Party the electorate of the new North of Scotland European constituency would be greater, by almost 69,000, than the electorate of our provisionally recommended Highlands and Islands European constituency. The Assistant Commissioner noted, however, that the counter-proposal did not have the support of the Member of Parliament for the Western Isles nor of the constituency Labour Party. With regard to the counter-proposal to transfer the Argyll and Bute UK constituency to the West of Scotland European constituency, the Assistant Commissioner mentioned in his report that the evidence clearly indicated that representative local interests did not wish to be linked with the UK constituencies forming the West of Scotland European constituency, although during the inquiry Argyll and Bute Council had recognised that the eastern part of its administrative area, comprising part of the Dumbarton UK constituency, will remain in the West of Scotland European constituency. The Assistant Commissioner was therefore satisfied that the weight of evidence was in favour of our provisionally recommended Highlands and Islands European constituency and concluded that it should form part of our final recommendations.

52. The Assistant Commissioner also considered that the weight of evidence supported our proposals for the North East Scotland European constituency. As the electorate of the existing constituency considerably exceeded the electoral quota, he considered it inevitable that one UK constituency would have to be transferred from it and he agreed that the North Tayside UK constituency was the most suitable.

53. The Assistant Commissioner reported that our provisional recommendation to transfer the two Falkirk UK constituencies from the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency to the renamed Central Scotland European constituency had met with considerable opposition. Substantial arguments had been put forward in support of the Scottish Labour Party's counter proposal for both UK constituencies to remain in the Mid Scotland and Fife European constituency. The Assistant Commissioner came to the view, however, that this counter proposal would not provide as effective a solution as our provisional recommendations. He commented that as the existing arrangements worked well it was unfortunate to have to alter them, but he did not think that any serious problems of incompatibility would arise between the 2 Falkirk constituencies and the other UK constituencies making up the proposed Central Scotland European constituency. Also, the Assistant Commissioner did not think that the changes would adversely affect the ability of the Member of the European Parliament and others to represent the economic and other interests of the Falkirk area in European terms.

54. In considering the counter-proposal to transfer the Glasgow Rutherglen UK constituency to the Central Scotland European constituency and to link the Eastwood UK constituency to the Glasgow European constituency, the Assistant Commissioner noted that this would be as unpopular in Eastwood as our provisional recommendation had been in Rutherglen. The evidence indicated, however, that the Glasgow Rutherglen UK constituency was a mainly urban constituency which included a number of electors who resided in the area of the new City of Glasgow Council. Eastwood, on the other hand, contained a significantly larger rural and agricultural area and had no electoral connection with Glasgow. The Assistant Commissioner therefore concluded that the Glasgow Rutherglen UK constituency was the one which could be more appropriately linked with the other Glasgow UK constituencies. He added, however, that he saw merit in the proposal put forward that the Glasgow European constituency should be renamed Glasgow and Rutherglen.

55. In the opinion of the Assistant Commissioner the evidence supporting the counter proposal to transfer the Cunninghame South UK constituency from the South of Scotland European constituency to the West of Scotland European constituency disclosed no compelling argument to justify creating an electoral imbalance between these two European constituencies. The counter-proposal was not widely supported and had also attracted some opposition. The Assistant Commissioner therefore concluded that the provisional recommendations for these two European constituencies should stand.

Consideration of the Assistant Commissioner's report

56. In considering the Assistant Commissioner's report we were of the view that events justified our decision to hold a single public inquiry in two locations. The Assistant Commissioner's report was very helpful to us in detailing all the arguments submitted in writing and presented at the inquiry.

57. We considered that the counter-suggestions which had been put forward, particularly by the Scottish Labour Party, had had the beneficial effect of subjecting our initial proposals to a very extensive scrutiny by a wide range of interested parties. We were gratified that this had taken place in the public domain in front of an independent third party, as the statute intends. As we had indicated at the outset, we considered that one of the key issues in this review was the determination of the boundary of the Highlands and Islands constituency. This was always going to be the exceptional constituency, in terms of its smaller electorate and its much greater geographic coverage. We recognised that the counter-proposal submitted by the Scottish Labour Party represented an improvement on both these counts, but we accepted the Assistant Commissioner's findings that the changes would be very unpopular in many of the areas affected. We were also persuaded by the many representations that our proposed boundary of this constituency provides a better configuration of the Highlands and Islands, as a community as well as a territory, than the alternative proposals, and that it is justified by special geographical considerations.

58. We accordingly agreed with the Assistant Commissioner's conclusions that our initial proposals for the Highlands and Islands constituency should stand. Having reached this key decision, the rest of the provisional recommendations, given the statutory objectives, followed almost automatically. We recognised that many of the Scottish Labour Party's alternative proposals were attractive in isolation, but we agreed with the Assistant Commissioner's assessment that when they were considered for the country as a whole they had a number of disadvantages. They would also have created distortions in electoral parity to an extent which, given our decision on the delineation of the Highlands and Islands constituency boundary, we considered was not acceptable within the statutory framework with which we had to comply. Also, although it did not have the same far-reaching effects, we agreed with the Assistant Commissioner's conclusion that our original proposal in respect of the boundary between the South of Scotland and the West of Scotland constituencies was better than the counter proposal from the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association. We did not consider that the disparity in electorate, which would have resulted from adopting the proposal, would have been justified by what is proportionally a very small adjustment to the territorial area of the South of Scotland constituency.

59. Our deliberations accordingly concluded with our accepting the recommendations and reasoning of the Assistant Commissioner in respect of the boundaries of the 8 European parliamentary constituencies in Scotland.

60. In his report, the Assistant Commissioner had also seen merit in renaming the Glasgow European constituency "Glasgow and Rutherglen". We decided that to adopt this alteration would be inconsistent with the principles which we had applied in the choice of constituency names. We were therefore satisfied that the existing name of "Glasgow" was acceptable.

61. We issued a news release on 11 April 1996 announcing our decision to adopt our provisional recommendations as our final recommendations.

CHAPTER 4

THE EFFECTS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommended European parliamentary constituencies

1. The contents and electorates of the 8 European parliamentary constituencies which we have recommended are set out in Appendix D.
2. The special conditions which apply in the case of the Highlands and Islands European constituency, which is unique in the United Kingdom, have a tendency to distort any comparison of the outcome of the review across all 8 constituencies. It is accordingly preferable to leave the Highlands and Islands constituency aside for such purposes, while noting that its electorate is 34% below the electoral quota. The electorates of the other 7 existing European constituencies at the start of the review ranged from 6% below to 17% above the electoral quota, ie. a range of 23%. If our recommendations are accepted the electorates of these constituencies will range from 1% to 11% above the electoral quota, ie. a range of 10%.

Conclusion

3. This concludes the report of our second general review of European parliamentary constituency boundaries in Scotland.
4. We would wish to record our gratitude for the help and guidance we received from Mr J Meldrum as Assessor in his capacity as Registrar General for Scotland and from Mr D G Combe, Regional Manager, Ordnance Survey as Assessor representing the Director General of Ordnance Survey. We also extend warm thanks to Mr D K C Jeffrey, who acted as our Secretary throughout the period of this review, whose experience and judgement were of immense value. In addition we are grateful to Mrs S J McIntosh and Mr H W Williams of the Secretariat for their quiet efficiency in collating and presenting the extensive documentation created by the review.

C K Davidson
(Deputy Chairman)

C M Glennie
U A Wannop

D K C Jeffrey
(Secretary)

6 June 1996

APPENDIX A

REQUIREMENTS IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS ACT 1978 AS AMENDED

SCHEDULE 1

European Parliamentary constituencies

1. – (2) There shall be a total of 85 European Parliamentary constituencies of which –
- a. 71 shall be in England ;
 - b. 8 shall be in Scotland ;
 - c. 5 shall be in Wales ;
 - d. 1 shall be in Northern Ireland.

SCHEDULE 2

PART II

Division of Great Britain into European Parliamentary constituencies

9. In Great Britain –
- a. each European Parliamentary constituency shall consist of an area that includes 2 or more Parliamentary constituencies.
 - b. no Parliamentary constituency shall be included partly in one European Parliamentary constituency and partly in another.
10. The electorate of any European Parliamentary constituency in Great Britain shall be as near the electoral quota as is reasonably practicable having regard, where appropriate, to special geographical considerations.

PART III

Interpretation

11. In this Schedule –
- “The 1986 Act” means the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986.

“Boundary Commission” means a Boundary Commission provided for by the 1986 Act other than the Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland.

12. In Part 11 of this Schedule and this paragraph in their application to a part of Great Britain for which there is a Boundary Commission –

“Electoral Quota” means the number obtained by dividing the electorate of that part of Great Britain by the number of European Parliamentary constituencies specified for that part in paragraph 1(2) of Schedule 1 to this Act ;

“Electorate” means –

- a. In relation to a European Parliamentary constituency, the number of persons whose names appear on the relevant registers for that European Parliamentary constituency in force on the enumeration date ;
- b. In relation to that part of Great Britain, the number of persons whose names appear on the relevant registers for that part of Great Britain in force on the enumeration date ;

“Enumeration Date” means –

- a. In relation to any supplementary report of a Boundary Commission under this Schedule the date on which the notice with respect to that report is published in accordance with paragraph 4A of the Act ;
- b. In relation to any supplementary report of a Boundary Commission under paragraph 2 or 3 of the Act, the date on which the notice with respect to that report is published in accordance with paragraph 4A above ;

“The relevant registers” means the following registers under the Representation of the People Acts namely -

- a. In relation to a European Parliamentary constituency, the registers of the Parliamentary electors to be used at a European Parliamentary election in that European Parliamentary constituency ;
- b. In relation to that part of Great Britain, the registers of Parliamentary electors for the Parliamentary constituencies in that part.

TEXT OF THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION'S EXPLANATORY LEAFLET

This leaflet describes the procedures to be followed in a review of European parliamentary constituency boundaries. It applies to the second general review which commenced on 2 June 1995. The provisions under which the Commission operates are set out in the European Parliamentary Elections Act 1978, as amended.

The Boundary Commission

1. There are 4 Boundary Commissions (for Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland) and by law they are required to keep under review the boundaries of Westminster parliamentary constituencies and European parliamentary constituencies in their respective parts of the United Kingdom and, periodically to conduct a general review. The Speaker of the House of Commons, The Rt Hon Betty Boothroyd MP, is the Chairman, in an ex-officio capacity of each of the 4 Commissioners. The Boundary Commission for Scotland, henceforth referred to as "the Commission", also has a Deputy Chairman, the Hon Lord Davidson, who is a Judge of the Court of Session appointed by the Lord President of the Court of Session; there are 2 other members of the Commission, Dr C M Glennie CBE and Professor U A Wannop, both appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland (after consultation with the leaders of the political parties in Scotland which are represented in Parliament). There are also 2 Assessors – Mr J Meldrum, Registrar General for Scotland, and the Director General, Ordnance Survey, represented by Mr D Combe.
2. The Commission has recently completed its fourth general review of parliamentary constituency boundaries¹. Parliament has approved the recommendations made by the Commission and the new constituencies will come into effect at the next general election.
3. When an Order in Council establishing new Westminster constituencies is made (as in the Parliamentary Constituencies (Scotland) Order 1995), the Commission is required, under the European Parliamentary Elections Act 1978, as amended, to submit

¹ Fourth periodical report (Cm 2726), printed by HMSO.

a supplementary report to the Secretary of State for Scotland showing how the Commission recommends the European Parliamentary constituencies in Scotland should be divided. Under section 2(b) of the 1978 Act, as amended, the number of European parliamentary constituencies in Scotland is fixed at 8.

Provisional Recommendations

4. In the case of a European parliamentary constituency review the Commission first determines on a provisional recommendation for the whole of Scotland. The Commission's established practice is to publish provisional recommendations without prior consultation with local authorities and other interested parties. The Commission considers that it should take the initiative in preparing provisional recommendations from all the information available to it. In this way, it is not influenced by any particular viewpoint. These provisional proposals are then available for public comment.

Notice

5. The Commission publishes its provisional recommendations, by way of a statutory notice, in national newspapers to achieve as much publicity as possible. The notice lists one or more specified places within each parliamentary constituency included in that European parliamentary constituency at which the proposals can be inspected. These proposals are supported by maps to help make the public more aware of the effect of the Commission's proposals.

Objections and Representations

6. The notice also states that representations may be made to the Commission within one month of its publication. That is the period prescribed by law, but the Commission may grant a reasonable extension of that period to assist local authorities or others who wish to make representations to do so.

Local Inquiry

7. The Commission is required to hold a local inquiry when representations objecting to the proposed recommendation are received from an interested local authority (that is the council of a region, islands area, district or unitary authority for the area lying wholly or partly in the affected constituency) or a body of 500 or more European parliamentary electors for such a constituency.

8. A local inquiry is conducted by an Assistant commissioner appointed by the Secretary of State at the request of the Commission. No statutory procedure is prescribed for the conduct of the local inquiry. The purpose is :

- to get to know local opinions,
- to hear criticisms of provisional recommendations,
- to receive counter-proposals and to enable everyone who wishes to comment on these, or on the Commission's proposals, to do so.

The Commission is not represented at the local inquiry, although a member of the Secretariat may be present as an observer. Those who wish to express their views may do so in person, or through a representative, even though they may not have filed written representations.

9. The Assistant Commissioner makes his report directly to the Commission. Besides commenting on the various objections received he is fully at liberty to suggest amendments or alterations to the Commission's proposals – or even to substitute completely different proposals if these appear to him to command wider acceptance than the original proposals.

Final Recommendations

10. The Commission then considers the Assistant Commissioner's report and the matters discussed at the inquiry, together with any relevant information, when forming its final recommendations. If the Commission decides to alter the provisional recommendations the revised proposals are published in at least one newspaper and made available, as before, for public inspection. If there had been a local inquiry, a copy of the Assistant Commissioner's report is also made available and those who took part in the inquiry each receive a copy of the report. Representations about these further proposals may then be made within a one month period. The Commission is not obliged to hold a further inquiry in respect of a constituency, but may do so if it considers it necessary to obtain more information or local opinion on certain matters. If the Commission decides to modify its revised recommendations before finally submitting them to the Secretary of State, the revised proposals are once again published and representations invited.

Order in Council

11. The Secretary of State is under a duty to lay the Commission's report before Parliament. As the report is certain to recommend alterations to the present pattern of European constituencies (because the Parliamentary Constituencies (Scotland) Order 1995 has generated changes), the Secretary of State must accompany it with a draft Order in Council either giving effect to, or modifying, the proposals. If the Secretary of State decides to modify the recommendations he must also lay, with the draft Order, a statement of the reasons for the modifications. The Order must be approved by both Houses of Parliament and, if approved, takes effect at the next European parliamentary election.

Rules

12. The rules to be observed by the Commission in forming recommendations for European parliamentary constituencies, are set out in paragraphs 9 and 10 of Part II of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Act 1978, as amended. Paragraph 9 provides in Great Britain that :

- (a) each European parliamentary constituency shall consist of an area that includes 2 or more parliamentary constituencies; and

- (b) no parliamentary constituency shall be included partly in one European parliamentary constituency and partly in another.

Paragraph 10 provides that the electorate of any European parliamentary constituency shall be as near the electoral quota² as is reasonably practicable having regard, where appropriate, to special geographical considerations.

² For the purpose of the current European parliamentary constituency review this is 495,991 ie the total electorate on the enumeration date (2 June 1995) 3,967,929 divided by the existing number (8) of European parliamentary seats in Scotland.

APPENDIX C

CONTENTS AND ELECTORATES OF EXISTING EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES IN 1983 AND 1995

European parliamentary constituency	Contents in terms of UK parliamentary constituencies	* 1983 Electorate	* 1995 Electorate
Glasgow		526,589	466,006
	Glasgow Cathcart	51,683	44,277
	Glasgow Central	51,749	48,638
	Glasgow Garscadden	51,281	41,310
	Glasgow Govan	52,401	45,059
	Glasgow Hillhead	57,495	59,483
	Glasgow Maryhill	52,537	49,499
	Glasgow Pollok	54,089	45,223
	Glasgow Provan	48,566	34,525
	Glasgow Shettleston	52,658	51,778
	Glasgow Springburn	54,130	46,214
Highlands and Islands		307,543	333,294
	Argyll and Bute	48,101	49,885
	Caithness and Sutherland	31,203	31,298
	Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber	64,277	72,378
	Moray	61,657	65,625
	Orkney and Shetland	30,401	32,411
	Ross, Cromarty and Skye	48,883	58,393
	Western Isles	23,021	23,304
Lothians		528,480	527,424
	Edinburgh Central	57,373	59,201
	Edinburgh East	51,605	46,346

*These are electorates which applied on the enumeration dates for the respective reviews. They are accordingly slightly different from the electorates on the day (16 February) in that year when the electoral registers were first published.

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Edinburgh Leith	61,044	56,694
Edinburgh Pentlands	59,983	55,910
Edinburgh South	63,071	62,668
Edinburgh West	61,719	59,442
Linlithgow	58,661	62,825
Livingston	53,854	63,325
Midlothian	61,170	61,013
Mid Scotland and Fife	529,609	553,962
Central Fife	55,088	57,412
Clackmannan	48,193	50,413
Dunfermline East	50,459	52,374
Dunfermline West	49,633	52,203
Falkirk East	52,668	52,280
Falkirk West	49,924	49,822
Kirkcaldy	53,649	53,328
North East Fife	51,018	58,332
Perth and Kinross	62,039	67,985
Stirling	56,938	59,813
North East Scotland	548,840	579,442
Aberdeen North	63,811	59,389
Aberdeen South	58,091	60,612
Angus East	59,868	64,745
Banff and Buchan	61,194	67,769
Dundee East	63,482	57,292
Dundee West	63,348	56,822
Gordon	66,259	84,897
Kincardine and Deeside	60,325	70,116
North Tayside	52,462	57,800
South of Scotland	486,830	506,627
Ayr	65,828	67,258
Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley	56,785	55,712
Clydesdale	61,123	63,652
Cunninghame South	49,370	49,774
Dumfries	58,285	61,591
East Lothian	63,283	68,714
Galloway and Upper Nithsdale	52,445	54,882
Roxburgh and Berwickshire	42,176	44,163
Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale	37,525	40,881

Strathclyde East	503,407	499,667
Cumbernauld and Kilsyth	44,873	47,857
East Kilbride	62,466	66,772
Glasgow Rutherglen	60,082	52,314
Hamilton	62,388	62,866
Kilmarnock and Loudoun	62,249	62,555
Monklands East	49,883	49,132
Monklands West	51,135	49,850
Motherwell North	57,332	58,157
Motherwell South	52,999	50,164
Strathclyde West	504,131	495,144
Clydebank and Milngavie	51,605	48,768
Cunninghame North	53,889	56,026
Dumbarton	58,105	57,497
Eastwood	60,287	64,814
Greenock and Port Glasgow	60,387	50,935
Paisley North	51,104	46,448
Paisley South	52,855	48,037
Renfrew West and Inverclyde	54,355	60,616
Strathkelvin and Bearsden	61,544	62,003

APPENDIX D

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES

European parliamentary constituency	Contents in terms of UK parliamentary constituencies	1995 Electorate
Central Scotland		552,230
	Airdrie and Shotts	59,047
	Coatbridge and Chryston	52,645
	Cumbernauld and Kilsyth	47,895
	East Kilbride	65,519
	Falkirk East	56,993
	Falkirk West	53,558
	Hamilton North and Bellshill	53,970
	Hamilton South	47,146
	Kilmarnock and Loudoun	62,610
	Motherwell and Wishaw	52,847
Glasgow		520,518
	Glasgow Anniesland	53,574
	Glasgow Baillieston	51,158
	Glasgow Cathcart	50,578
	Glasgow Govan	50,339
	Glasgow Kelvin	55,722
	Glasgow Maryhill	53,193
	Glasgow Pollok	50,729
	Glasgow Rutherglen	51,782
	Glasgow Shettleston	49,845
	Glasgow Springburn	53,598
Highlands and Islands		327,310
	Argyll and Bute	49,981
	Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross	41,801
	Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber	64,755

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

	Moray	59,401
	Orkney and Shetland	32,421
	Ross, Skye and Inverness West	55,638
	Western Isles	23,313
Lothians		526,669
	Edinburgh Central	62,072
	Edinburgh East and Musselburgh	59,640
	Edinburgh North and Leith	60,715
	Edinburgh Pentlands	59,265
	Edinburgh South	62,522
	Edinburgh West	61,682
	Linlithgow	53,674
	Livingston	59,226
	Midlothian	47,873
Mid Scotland and Fife		504,764
	Central Fife	58,680
	Dunfermline East	51,481
	Dunfermline West	53,255
	Kirkcaldy	52,018
	North East Fife	58,390
	North Tayside	61,166
	Ochil	57,191
	Perth	59,995
	Stirling	52,588
North East Scotland		525,598
	Aberdeen Central	56,278
	Aberdeen North	54,869
	Aberdeen South	61,296
	Angus	60,219
	Banff and Buchan	59,781
	Dundee East	58,569
	Dundee West	57,340
	Gordon	58,998
	West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine	58,248
South of Scotland		508,936
	Ayr	56,138
	Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley	66,967
	Clydesdale	63,781
	Cunninghame South	49,826
	Dumfries	63,149

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East Lothian	57,232
Galloway and Upper Nithsdale	53,440
Roxburgh and Berwickshire	47,318
Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale	51,085
West of Scotland	501,904
Clydebank and Milngavie	52,245
Cunninghame North	56,073
Dumbarton	57,569
Eastwood	66,280
Greenock and Inverclyde	50,300
Paisley North	49,548
Paisley South	53,467
Strathkelvin and Bearsden	63,495
West Renfrewshire	52,927

APPENDIX E

LIST OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES AND THEIR RECOMMENDED EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES

Parliamentary constituency	European parliamentary constituency
Aberdeen Central	North East Scotland
Aberdeen North	North East Scotland
Aberdeen South	North East Scotland
Airdrie and Shotts	Central Scotland
Angus	North East Scotland
Argyll and Bute	Highlands and Islands
Ayr	South of Scotland
Banff and Buchan	North East Scotland
Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross	Highlands and Islands
Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley	South of Scotland
Central Fife	Mid Scotland and Fife
Clydebank and Milngavie	West of Scotland
Clydesdale	South of Scotland
Coatbridge and Chryston	Central Scotland
Cumbernauld and Kilsyth	Central Scotland
Cunninghame North	West of Scotland
Cunninghame South	South of Scotland
Dumbarton	West of Scotland
Dumfries	South of Scotland
Dundee East	North East Scotland
Dundee West	North East Scotland
Dunfermline East	Mid Scotland and Fife
Dunfermline West	Mid Scotland and Fife
East Kilbride	Central Scotland
East Lothian	South of Scotland
Eastwood	West of Scotland
Edinburgh Central	Lothians
Edinburgh East and Musselburgh	Lothians

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Edinburgh North and Leith	Lothians
Edinburgh Pentlands	Lothians
Edinburgh South	Lothians
Edinburgh West	Lothians
Falkirk East	Central Scotland
Falkirk West	Central Scotland
Galloway and Upper Nithsdale	South of Scotland
Glasgow Anniesland	Glasgow
Glasgow Baillieston	Glasgow
Glasgow Cathcart	Glasgow
Glasgow Govan	Glasgow
Glasgow Kelvin	Glasgow
Glasgow Maryhill	Glasgow
Glasgow Pollok	Glasgow
Glasgow Rutherglen	Glasgow
Glasgow Shettleston	Glasgow
Glasgow Springburn	Glasgow
Gordon	North East Scotland
Greenock and Inverclyde	West of Scotland
Hamilton North and Bellshill	Central Scotland
Hamilton South	Central Scotland
Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber	Highlands and Islands
Kilmarnock and Loudoun	Central Scotland
Kirkcaldy	Mid Scotland and Fife
Linlithgow	Lothians
Livingston	Lothians
Midlothian	Lothians
Moray	Highlands and Islands
Motherwell and Wishaw	Central Scotland
North East Fife	Mid Scotland and Fife
North Tayside	Mid Scotland and Fife
Ochil	Mid Scotland and Fife
Orkney and Shetland	Highlands and Islands
Paisley North	West of Scotland
Paisley South	West of Scotland
Perth	Mid Scotland and Fife
Ross, Skye and Inverness West	Highlands and Islands
Roxburgh and Berwickshire	South of Scotland
Stirling	Mid Scotland and Fife
Strathkelvin and Bearsden	West of Scotland
Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale	South of Scotland
West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine	North East Scotland
West Renfrewshire	West of Scotland
Western Isles	Highlands and Islands

APPENDIX F

ELECTORATES IN 1995 OF EXISTING AND RECOMMENDED EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES AND PERCENTAGE VARIATIONS FROM THE ELECTORAL QUOTA

European parliamentary constituency	Existing constituency		Recommended constituency	
	Electorate	% Variation	Electorate	% Variation
Central Scotland	499,667	+ 0.9	552,230	+ 11.3
Glasgow	466,006	- 5.9	520,518	+ 4.9
Highlands and Islands	333,294	- 32.7	327,310	- 34.0
Lothians	527,424	+ 6.5	526,669	+ 6.2
Mid Scotland and Fife	553,962	+ 11.9	504,764	+ 1.8
North East Scotland	579,442	+ 17.0	525,598	+ 6.0
South of Scotland	506,627	+ 2.3	508,936	+ 2.6
West of Scotland	495,144	0	501,904	+ 1.2
Total *	3,961,566		3,967,929	

*The difference of 6,363 arises from the existing electorate being based on the date of publication of the 1995 electoral register (16 February) and the recommended constituency electorate being based on the enumeration date (2 June 1995). Accordingly, the electoral quota differs slightly : 495,196 for the existing constituencies and 495,991 for the recommended constituencies.