



10 September 2018

**2018 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies
Boundary Commission for Scotland submits its Final Recommendations**

The Boundary Commission for Scotland today publishes its Final Recommendations for United Kingdom Parliament constituencies in Scotland marking the final stage of the 2018 Review.

The Commission's Report was submitted to the Secretary of State for Scotland on 5 September 2018 and subsequently laid before the UK Parliament on 10 September 2018.

Lord Matthews, Deputy Chair of the Boundary Commission for Scotland, said:

"The Commission is extremely grateful to all those who assisted us in developing our Final Recommendations by submitting views or attending public hearings.

We listened carefully to comments made on our Revised Proposals and made a number of changes to boundaries and to constituency names. We believe our Final Recommendations meet the requirements of the legislation governing the review and within those constraints fairly reflect the views expressed to us during our consultations".

The 2018 Review commenced in February 2016. The Commission agreed its Final Recommendations after considering responses to public consultations held on its Initial Proposals in 2016 and Revised Proposals in 2017.

The UK Parliament decided to reduce the number of constituencies from 650 to 600. In Scotland this means that 59 constituencies will be reduced to 53.

Two of these 53 (Na h-Eileanan an Iar and Orkney and Shetland) are defined in the legislation and were not subject to review.

As set out in legislation, each of the remaining 51 constituencies must:

- not exceed the maximum permitted area of 13,000 square kilometres; and

- be within five per cent of the UK electoral quota of 74,769.2 (ie to have between 71,031 and 78,507 electors), except where a constituency is larger than 12,000 square kilometres when it may have fewer than 71,031 electors.

Of the 51 mainland constituencies recommended by the Commission:

- East Lothian is the only existing constituency, in addition to the two defined in legislation, retained with boundaries unchanged since 2005. (The East Lothian constituency boundary is coterminous with the East Lothian council area boundary).
- 33 of the recommended mainland constituencies are within a single council area; (16 cover 2 council areas. 2 cover 3 council areas).
- The largest recommended constituency by area is Highland North, at 12,985 square kilometres (previously Ross, Skye and Lochaber at 12,768 square kilometres).
- The smallest recommended constituency by area is Glasgow Central, at 20 square kilometres (previously Glasgow North at 17 square kilometres).
- The recommended constituency with the fewest electors, at 71,118, is Falkirk South (previously Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross at 45,898).
- The recommended constituency with most electors, at 78,477, is Moray and Nairn (previously Linlithgow and East Falkirk at 83,593).

Our recommendations would result in one fewer constituency than at present within each of the following areas:

- Glasgow City council area
- The grouping of Argyll & Bute, Highland and Moray council areas
- The grouping of Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Angus and Dundee City council areas
- The grouping of Inverclyde, East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, Renfrewshire and East Renfrewshire council areas
- The grouping of East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, Dumfries and Galloway, Scottish Borders and Midlothian council areas
- The grouping of City of Edinburgh, West Lothian, Falkirk, Stirling, Clackmannanshire, Fife and Perth & Kinross council areas

Further information on the 2018 Review can be found on the Commission's website: www.bcomm-scotland.independent.gov.uk/

All comments received during these consultation periods can be viewed on our consultation site www.bcs2018.org.uk.

** ENDS **

Notes for Editors

For further information on the review process please contact Isabel Drummond-Murray, Secretary to the Commission, 0131 244 2001 / isabel.drummond-murray@scottishboundaries.gov.uk

For further information on what happens next please contact the Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland on 0131 244 9028

The Boundary Commission for Scotland:

The Boundary Commission for Scotland is an independent advisory non-departmental public body sponsored and funded by the Scotland Office. The role of the Commission is to review the boundaries of constituencies at the UK Parliament.

Background to the 2018 Review:

The 2018 Review of UK Parliamentary constituencies is required by the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (as amended). The 2018 Review was conducted simultaneously by the four Boundary Commissions in Scotland, England, Northern Ireland and Wales.

The four Boundary Commissions have submitted their final recommendations simultaneously.

Across the UK, the number of constituencies is being reduced from 650 to 600. In Scotland there will be a decrease from 59 to 53 constituencies, with similar reductions in each part of the UK: England 501 in place of the current 533; Wales 29 in place of the current 40; and Northern Ireland 17 in place of the current 18.

The new constituencies will be considered for approval by Parliament and be available for use in the next General Election expected in May 2022.

Further details:

The electoral quota for the review, which is the average electorate per constituency across the UK, is 74,769.2, with the electorate of each constituency having to be within five per cent of that.

That means the smallest permitted electorate for a constituency is 71,031 and the largest permitted electorate is 78,507. In Scotland, exceptions to these electorate limits apply for Na h-Eileanan an Iar constituency (the Western Isles), and Orkney and Shetland constituency, each of which are defined in the legislation. An exception to the minimum electorate requirement can be made if a constituency is larger than 12,000 square kilometres which can only occur in very sparsely populated areas.

In England, the legislation specifies that the Isle of Wight will have 2 constituencies.

The electorate for this review is taken from the electoral register published on 1 December 2015

Subject to the above requirements, the legislation states that we may take into account, as we think fit, other factors, namely:

- special geographical considerations, including the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;

- boundaries of existing council areas and electoral wards;
- existing Westminster constituency boundaries; and
- any local ties which would be broken by changes in constituencies.

Changes to Final Recommendations

Following the public consultation on our Revised Proposals 38 mainland constituencies remained unchanged and we made changes to 6 constituency boundaries, 5 constituency names and 2 constituency names and boundaries. From our Initial Proposals 10 mainland constituencies remained unchanged.

For the constituency grouping of Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, Angus and Dundee City council areas we agreed to amend our Revised Proposals in Angus as the alternative suggestion submitted provided an improvement by using ward boundaries which were more likely to reflect local ties and be easily identifiable. We decided to make no changes to the constituency names.

For the constituency grouping of Argyll and Bute, Highland and Moray council areas we agreed to retain the constituency boundaries from our Revised Proposals but renamed Argyll, Bute and Lochaber constituency as “Argyll, Bute and South West Highland”, and Highland South constituency as “Highland Central.”

For the constituency grouping of Clackmannanshire, Falkirk, Fife, Perth & Kinross and Stirling council areas we agreed to rename “Stirlingshire and South Perthshire” constituency: “Stirlingshire, Strathearn and Kinross.”

For the constituency grouping of City of Edinburgh and West Lothian council areas we agreed to amend our Revised Proposals in the New Town and West End of Edinburgh and in Leith to better reflect local ties and follow recognisable boundaries. We accepted the suggestion to rename: Edinburgh Pentland and Livingston as Livingston and Edinburgh Pentland because the majority of the electors in the constituency live in the Livingston area; and Edinburgh Southside as Edinburgh South because its name was consistent with other constituency names in Edinburgh.

For the constituency grouping of East Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, North Ayrshire, Renfrewshire and South Ayrshire council areas we redesigned 4 constituencies in Inverclyde, North Ayrshire and Renfrewshire council areas which addressed issues raised during the consultation. We agreed to name these constituencies: Renfrewshire West and Garnock Valley; Clyde Coast and retained Arran and Cunninghame and Paisley as constituency names.

We made no changes to the East Lothian constituency name and boundary.

We made no changes to the constituency names and boundaries for the constituency grouping of Dumfries and Galloway, North Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire council areas.

We made no changes to the constituency names and boundaries for the constituency grouping of Glasgow City, East Dunbartonshire and West Dunbartonshire council areas.

We made no changes to the constituency names and boundaries for the constituency grouping of Midlothian and Scottish Borders council areas.

Table of constituencies

Constituency	Electorate	Area (sq. km)	Designation
Aberdeen North	77,677	133.2	Burgh
Aberdeen South	77,106	131.4	Burgh
Angus South and Dundee East	72,307	523.4	County
Argyll, Bute and South West Highland	77,661	9,916.70	County
Arran and Cunninghame	73,528	629.2	County
Ayr and Carrick	77,352	1,107.30	County
Banff and Buchan	78,079	1,776.10	County
Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk	73,812	3,992.10	County
Clackmannanshire and Dunfermline	75,735	338.8	County
Clyde Coast	75,475	336.4	County
Dumfriesshire and Lanarkshire South East	78,301	3,722.80	County
Dunbartonshire East	76,393	169.3	County
Dunbartonshire West	72,459	187.9	County
Dundee	76,317	43.4	Burgh
East Lothian	76,153	700.9	County
Eastwood and Loudoun	71,251	436.6	County
Edinburgh East	72,027	37.8	Burgh
Edinburgh North and Leith	73,969	21.8	Burgh
Edinburgh South	76,583	37.8	Burgh
Edinburgh West	77,738	91.5	Burgh
Falkirk South	71,118	189.6	County
Fife South	77,327	226.4	County
Galloway and Dumfries	74,882	4,168.50	County
Glasgow Central	73,735	19.9	Burgh
Glasgow East	75,433	33.3	Burgh
Glasgow North East	71,443	38.1	Burgh
Glasgow North West	75,983	29.8	Burgh
Glasgow South East	73,621	22.8	Burgh
Glasgow South West	76,138	32.6	Burgh
Gordon and Deeside	78,028	3,774.90	County
Highland Central	78,133	10,380.40	County
Highland North	73,147	12,984.70	County
Kilmarnock, Cumnock and Doon Valley	78,431	1,082.30	County
Kincardine and Angus North	72,925	2426.9	County
Lanarkshire North	77,877	188.3	County
Lanarkshire North East	72,316	175.1	County
Lanarkshire North West	74,263	82.7	Burgh
Lanarkshire South West	76,833	403.4	County
Lanarkshire West	76,341	56.7	Burgh
Linlithgow	78,026	289.5	County
Livingston and Edinburgh Pentland	78,164	226.1	County
Mid Fife	75,166	139.1	Burgh
Mid Lanarkshire	76,158	124.9	Burgh
Midlothian and Upper Tweeddale	76,824	1,105.90	County
Moray and Nairn	78,477	2,611.70	County
<i>Na h-Eileanan an Iar</i>	<i>20,887</i>	<i>3,268.60</i>	<i>County</i>
North East Fife	76,900	833.5	County
<i>Orkney and Shetland</i>	<i>33,229</i>	<i>2,742.80</i>	<i>County</i>
Paisley	71,599	57.3	Burgh
Perth and North Perthshire	72,831	3,981.30	County
Renfrewshire West and Garnock Valley	78,218	377	County
Stirling and Falkirk North	71,177	191.6	County
Stirlingshire, Strathearn and Kinross	71,299	3,626.10	County