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THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Fourth Periodical Report of the Boundary Commission for Scotland

CONSTITUTION OF COMMISSION

7

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.

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

Mr Adam R Napier—appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland until his death on 20 June 1994.

Dr Charles M Glennie—appointed from 1 November 1994 by the Secretary of State for Scotland.

Assessors

The Registrar General for Scotland.

The Director General of Ordnance Survey.

Secretariat

Mr D K C Jeffrey, The Scottish Office Home and Health Department, appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland, served as Secretary to the Commission throughout the period of the review.

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BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND REPORT

**on the Fourth Periodical Review of Parliamentary Constituencies to the Rt Hon
Ian Lang MP, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Scotland**

We, the Boundary Commission for Scotland, constituted in accordance with the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986, as amended by the Boundary Commissions Act 1992, have the honour to submit in terms of Section 3(1) of the 1986 Act our fourth periodical report on parliamentary constituency boundaries in Scotland.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1. Under the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 we are charged with the duty of keeping the representation of Scotland in the House of Commons under review. We are required under Section 3(1) to submit a report to you with respect to the whole of Scotland showing the constituencies into which we recommend that Scotland should be divided. In addition, under Section 3(3) we may submit recommendations regarding the boundaries of any particular Scottish constituency from time to time between general reviews. In forming recommendations for alterations to or maintenance of existing constituency boundaries we are required to give effect to the rules in the second schedule to the 1986 Act. These rules are reproduced at Appendix A and are referred to as “the Rules” throughout this report.

2. The present arrangements for determining constituency boundaries in Scotland were set out in the Representation of the People Act 1948. Alterations to the boundaries determined at that time were made following reports by the Commission under Section 2(3) of the House of Commons (Redistribution of Seats) Act 1949 (Cmnds 8151, 8164 and 8703). Further alterations were made following the Commission’s periodical reports in 1954, 1969 and 1983 (Cmd 9312, Cmnd. 4085 and Cmnd 8794), the 1983 report altering 68 of the 71 constituencies and creating a 72nd constituency for the first time. Since the Order in Council relating to the 1983 Report was made (SI 1983 No 422) the Commission has submitted 3 further reports under Section 3(3) of the 1986 Act which recommended alterations to 55 constituencies. These alterations were implemented by the Orders in Council listed in Appendix B which also indicates the constituencies affected.

3. An explanatory memorandum on the conduct of the current review which was issued at the start of the review forms Appendix C. Appendix D comprises a second statement which explained our reasons for declining to recommend an increase to the present total of 72 constituencies in Scotland. Appendix E sets out the number of Parliamentary electors in the existing constituencies and Appendix F lists these constituencies in descending order of numbers of electors in 1992. Projected changes in voting age population are shown in Appendix G. Appendix H lists the constituencies we recommended as a result of the review in descending order of numbers of electors in 1992. Maps illustrating the existing parliamentary constituency boundaries in each region in Scotland and illustrating our final recommendations for these areas are contained at the beginning and end respectively of the relevant sections of Chapter 3. Appendix J contains maps showing the boundaries of each of our recommended new constituencies.

Timing of the General Review

4. The Commission's last report, the Third Periodical Report, was submitted to the Secretary of State under Section 2(1) of the 1949 Act in February 1983. Under Section 3(2) of the 1986 Act the Commission was required to submit its fourth report not less than 10 or more than 15 years from the date of submission of the third report, ie between February 1993 and February 1998 (but see paragraph 8 below).

5. In compliance with the Rule which requires that regard shall be had to the boundaries of local authority areas, and for practical reasons concerned with the administration of elections and the local organisation of political parties, we had to prepare proposals on the basis of regions, islands areas and districts. We also decided for similar reasons at the outset of the review, and announced this decision, that we intended to use regional electoral divisions as the basic building blocks for the construction of constituencies, exceptionally using district wards where further sub-division was required. This was in accord with the practice of the preceding review, and in the expectation that within the duration of the review new local electoral boundaries would have been adopted. This was because we were aware that the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland (LGBCS) had embarked in 1989 on a statutory review of the electoral divisions within regions and islands areas and planned to follow this up with a statutory review of district wards. The timing of the review of parliamentary constituencies was accordingly affected by the progress achieved by LGBCS (see also paragraph 8 of Chapter 2.)

6. We were at the same time conscious that some significant disparities in electorate had occurred in some of the current constituencies in Scotland. According to the electoral registers published in February 1991, Gordon county constituency had almost 80,000 electors and Inverness, Nairn & Lochaber and East Lothian county constituencies almost 70,000. At the other end of the scale the burgh constituency of Glasgow Provan had fallen to under 40,000. There was a clear pattern of population movement towards rural areas over the period since the previous review. The reduction in urban population was particularly marked in the Strathclyde area. Population growth in the rural areas took place in all parts of the country, but most notably in the north east.

7. We noted that the Boundary Commission for England had commenced its review in February 1991. While we considered that there would be some advantage in all 4 Commissions in the UK working on an electoral quota calculated by reference to the electoral registers in the same year, we also noted that neither the Welsh nor the Northern Ireland Commissions had embarked on their reviews at the same time as the English Commission. We therefore decided early in 1991, in the light of LGBCS's progress, that to commence the fourth review in February 1991 would leave the Commission open to justifiable criticism that the electoral quota for Scotland would be computed too far in advance of the date when a meaningful start to the review would be made. Having reviewed the matter a year later we decided to commence the fourth general review on 16 February 1992. Formal notice of the start of the general review of parliamentary constituencies was

given to you on 3 February 1992. The statutory notice of the Commission's intention was published in the Edinburgh Gazette on 18 February 1992.

8. Shortly after we gave notice of the start of the review, the Government announced proposals in April 1992 to bring a measure before Parliament to speed up the work of the Boundary Commissions. The Boundary Commissions Act 1992, which received Royal Assent on 12 November 1992, set a deadline of 31 December 1994 for the completion of the statutory review which we had commenced in February 1992. It also provided that the period between the submission of reports in future should be reduced from between 10 to 15 years to between 8 to 12 years. The Act also addressed the implications of local government restructuring on which the Government had embarked and provided that, in Scotland, for the purpose of applying the Rules in relation to local authority boundaries, the Commission should take account only of those boundaries which were in operation on the earlier of the date of the Commission's report and 1 June 1994. We took the view at that stage that it appeared unlikely that we would be in a position to submit our report before 1 June 1994. This meant that 1 June 1994 was likely to be the critical date as far as relevant local authority boundaries were concerned. From such indications as were then available from Government, however, we also took the view that it appeared unlikely that the Government's plans for local government reform in Scotland would be enacted before 1 June 1994. We accordingly concluded that, in forming our initial recommendations in terms of the Rules, we had to take account only of the current local government arrangements of regional, island and district areas. Had this conclusion proved incorrect we recognised that we would have had to reconsider the position in the light of the revised local government arrangements and, as necessary, revise any proposals to take account of the changed circumstances. This would have put the statutory deadline at risk but it was not a matter over which we had any control. In the event, our assessment proved correct. No changes in local authority areas were enacted before 1 June 1994. Our proposals for parliamentary constituencies are therefore based, in accordance with Section 3(2) of the 1992 Act, on the arrangements in place on that date.

Procedure

9. The alteration of the statutory date for completion of the review and submission of the report had another significant effect. As indicated above the reviews of local electoral arrangements by the LGBCS were underway for regional and islands councils when our review started on 16 February 1992; they were not scheduled to be completed, however, until later in 1992 or during 1993. We recognised that it would be inappropriate to prepare proposals based on regional electoral divisions which would be replaced before our review was completed. We therefore decided to await your implementation of the LGBCS reviews. This was done by Orders made as follows:

Borders Region	6 June 1993
Central Region	18 February 1993
Dumfries and Galloway Region	30 March 1993
Fife Region	15 April 1993

Grampian Region	16 April 1993
Highland Region	15 April 1993
Lothian Region	27 April 1993
Orkney Islands Area	13 December 1992
Shetland Islands Area	6 April 1992
Strathclyde Region	7 October 1993
Tayside Region	30 March 1993
Western Isles Islands Area	13 December 1992

10. We took the view that it would not be appropriate to ignore the structure of local electoral arrangements, instead placing parliamentary constituency boundaries wherever we chose. There was no precedent for this. We recognised also, that there were many practical difficulties involved in ignoring local government electoral arrangements. Not only would this put the deadline at risk; but the new regional electoral divisions represented community groupings which had been put in place as a result of a recent review by an independent body which had engaged in extensive local consultation. In addition, the effective administration of parliamentary elections, both for the local authorities which were charged with this duty and the political parties which had to organise themselves for the contest, meant that it would be better to ensure that parliamentary constituency boundaries were based on territorial areas which fitted in with these local structures. We decided there was no practical alternative to proceeding with the issue of provisional proposals based on the new regional electoral divisions.

11. We would have been prepared to follow the example set by our predecessors of using district wards to sub-divide regional electoral divisions, in appropriate cases, had the new district wards been available to us. This did not prove possible however, for reasons which are explained in paragraph 8 of Chapter 2. We very much regret that we were unable to make use of district wards as there are a number of instances in various parts of the country where we believe that we could have improved our recommendations in a manner which would have commanded greater public support. We concluded, however, that there was no consistent and practicable manner in which we could give effect to suggestions that the new regional electoral divisions should be sub-divided without the review taking much longer than the Boundary Commissions Act 1992 allows.

12. The Rules require us to conduct our general review on the basis of the parliamentary electorates existing when we announced our intention to carry out the review (termed the enumeration date). We were supplied with particulars of the electorates of the 9 regions, 3 islands areas and 53 districts as at 16 February 1992. We also required information about the electorates of the new regional electoral divisions to assist us in preparing proposals for constituencies which would not comprise whole districts. This information was not available from the 1992 electoral register, which had been prepared on the basis of the existing electoral areas, but the information was kindly supplied by electoral registration officers as if the new arrangements had been in place on that date. We also obtained estimates from the Registrar General for Scotland showing projections of changes in population of voting

age by local authority area in Scotland over the 10 years to 2001 (Appendix G). We also acquired maps showing the new regional and islands areas electoral arrangements and existing constituency boundaries.

13. We are not required to enter into consultations with political parties, local authorities or any other bodies before forming our provisional recommendations. Indeed, we considered that these provisional recommendations could best be arrived at without regard to conflicting suggestions. The local inquiry procedure provided ample opportunity for the consideration of counter-proposals.

14. As required by Section 5(2) of the 1986 Act, we published our provisional recommendations in newspapers circulating in the areas affected, inviting any persons who wished to do so to make representation to us about our proposals. We gave considerably more publicity to our proposals than the 1986 Act required. All our proposals were advertised in the Herald and the Scotsman and local newspapers circulating in the areas concerned. These were supplemented by press releases describing the general effect of our recommendations. Copies of our proposals, illustrative maps and explanatory memoranda on the conduct of the review (see Appendices C and D) were made available for inspection by the public at local authority offices, public libraries and other suitable places within each constituency affected. The addresses of the premises where the documents could be inspected were included in the statutory notices. We are grateful to the local authorities and their officers for their cooperation in these arrangements.

15. We took care that the political parties in Scotland were kept fully informed of our proposals, and copies of all notices and other documents were sent to them immediately in advance of issue. In addition, Members of Parliament were informed in advance of the provisional recommendations affecting their particular constituencies, and copies of notices and maps were deposited in the Parliamentary libraries for inspection.

16. In view of the limited time available to us for the completion of the review we decided to publish our provisional recommendations as soon as these were available. The sequence was therefore dictated by the order in which the reviews of regional electoral divisions were completed. Provisional recommendations were published as follows:

Islands Areas	18 March 1993
Dumfries and Galloway	15 April 1993
Central and Tayside	22 April 1993
Highland	20 May 1993
Grampian	27 May 1993
Borders and Lothian	8 July 1993
Fife	19 August 1993
Strathclyde	18 November 1993.

17. We recognised that the statutory period of one month might sometimes allow too little time for detailed consideration to be given to the recommendations. We took account of all the representations received, including those received after the statutory period.

18. We have held 23 meetings since the notice to commence our review was published. These were all held under the chairmanship of our Deputy Chairman but we kept our ex-officio Chairman, Madam Speaker, informed of the course of our deliberations.

Local Inquiries

19. Under Section 6 of the 1986 Act we are obliged to arrange for a local inquiry to be held where objections to our provisional recommendations are received from an interested local authority or from a body of electors numbering 100 or more. We are not obliged, however, to hold a local inquiry in respect of objections to revised or modified recommendations, but we may do so if we consider it necessary to obtain more information or to sound out local opinion on certain matters.

20. As a result of such objections several local inquiries were held into our initial provisional recommendations, but no further local inquiries took place into our revised recommendations. At our request you agreed to appoint the Sheriff Principal for the area concerned to act as Assistant Commissioner and, where the Sheriff Principal was not available, you appointed a Sheriff. Under these arrangements the Sheriff Principal of Lothian and Borders conducted the initial inquiry for the combined area of Borders and Lothian Regions, the Sheriff Principal of Tayside, Central and Fife conducted the inquiries for Fife Region and for the combined area of Central and Tayside Regions, the Sheriff Principal of Grampian, Highlands and Islands conducted the inquiries for Grampian and Highland Regions, the Sheriff Principal of North Strathclyde conducted the inquiry for Strathclyde Region and one of the Sheriffs of the Sheriffdom of South Strathclyde, Dumfries and Galloway conducted the inquiry for Dumfries and Galloway Region. We should like to make it clear that the Assistant Commissioners were entirely independent of the Commission and took no part in preparing our provisional recommendations. We refer later to the reports of the Assistant Commissioners but we should like to record here our thanks to them for the careful and constructive way in which they conducted the inquiries, and for the full and informative reports which they made to us. We found their reports of great assistance in reaching our conclusions.

21. Notices advertising the holding of local inquiries were published in national and local newspapers in the same way as notices advertising our provisional recommendations. Copies of the representations addressed to the Commission were sent to the political parties and to the relevant local authorities for public inspection. In addition, summaries of the representations were sent to local authorities for public inspection at local authority offices and public libraries, and to all those who had made representations. Members of Parliament were informed of the holding of local inquiries affecting their particular constituencies and summaries of the representations were sent to them. Statements explaining the reasons for our provisional recommendations were sent to all those who had made representation as

well as to the Members of Parliament, and were made available for public inspection before, and at, the inquiries themselves. These statements were read out by the Assistant Commissioner at the start of the inquiry. Each Assistant Commissioner also received a full set of papers for his inquiry.

22. Where we decided, after considering the report of a local inquiry, to revise our recommendations, it was necessary under the 1986 Act for the revised recommendations to be published in exactly the same way as for the provisional recommendations. Copies of the Assistant Commissioner's reports were deposited for local inspection along with the revised recommendations and maps (where appropriate), and copies of the report were sent to those who had requested a copy at the local inquiry. Where we decided to adhere to our provisional recommendations after holding a local inquiry, we followed a similar pattern of publication of the Assistant Commissioner's report when we announced our decision.

Discussions with Political Parties

23. We considered what form our consultations with political parties should take, having regard to the support which was expressed in the course of the Second Reading Debate on the 1958 Redistribution Bill for the suggestion that each Commission should "hear any representations from the Chief or National Officers of the principal Party organisations with respect to the provisional proposals". We decided to follow the practice of our predecessors during the third periodic review and arrange meetings with representatives nominated by the political parties in Scotland which currently had Members of Parliament in the House of Commons. We held the first such meeting in May 1993 and the second in February 1994. We found these discussions on our procedure and proposals most helpful.

Re-appraisal of Proposals

24. Towards the end of the review we re-appraised our recommendations for the whole of Scotland to ensure fair and consistent treatment of different areas. In doing so we noted the 1994 electorate figures and any further representations we had received following intimation to all interested parties of the decision to adhere to our provisional, revised or modified recommendations, as the case may be, in each area. We took into account all the relevant considerations, in particular the objective of 72 seats in total, the legal requirement to use the 1992 electorates as the basis for our recommendations, and our decision, dictated by circumstances (particularly the revised deadline for submitting our report), to use regional electoral divisions as the building blocks for the formation of constituencies.

CHAPTER 2

THE RULES AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF THE REVIEW

The Electoral Quota

1. Under Rule 8, the electoral quota means the number obtained by dividing the electorate for Scotland by the number of constituencies in Scotland on the enumeration date, ie 16 February 1992. The principal effect of this Rule is that the number of Parliamentary electors on the register in 1992 must be taken as the basis for our recommendations. The electoral quota for the purpose of this review is therefore the total Scottish Parliamentary electorate in February 1992 (3,928,996) divided by the existing number of Scottish constituencies (72), ie 54,569. Since the previous review commenced in 1978 the electorate in Scotland has increased by almost 120,000. As a result there was an increase of 920 in the electoral quota.

The Number of Constituencies

2. Rule 1 provides that the number of constituencies in Great Britain is to be not substantially greater or less than 613 of which not less than 71 are to be in Scotland and not less than 35 in Wales. Provision for 71 seats in Scotland was first made in the Representation of the People Act 1918 which also provided 485 seats in England and 35 seats in Wales, making a total in Great Britain of 591 (excluding University seats). The House of Commons (Redistribution of Seats) Act 1944 laid down a minimum of 71 seats for Scotland (and a minimum of 35 in Wales) out of a total for Great Britain of not substantially greater or less than 591 (excluding University seats). One additional seat beyond the minimum of 35 was allocated to Wales following the initial review in 1947. The House of Commons (Redistribution of Seats) Act 1949 preserved the minimum of 71 seats for Scotland (and 35 for Wales) and increased the number of seats in Great Britain to not substantially greater or less than 613, ie 22 higher than the 1944 Act figure. This arrangement was preserved in the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 although by this time, following the third periodic reviews, the number of constituencies in England, Wales and Scotland had risen to 523, 38 and 72 respectively. A further seat was added to England in 1990 following an interim review. There are now 72 constituencies in Scotland, 38 in Wales and 524 in England, making a total of 634 in Great Britain.

3. Scotland's electorate (3,928,996) was 9.2% of the Great Britain electorate in 1992. Scotland had, however 11.4% of the total number of seats in Great Britain. This treatment

of Scottish seats, and consequently of the Scottish electorate, has been endorsed on successive occasions during the present century by Parliament. It has been justified on 3 grounds, namely that Scotland (like Wales) as a small nation should be given special treatment vis-a-vis her bigger national neighbour; that Scotland has special geographical and topographical characteristics of mountains, lochs and islands which create sparsity of population and difficulties of accessibility which are not found on a comparable scale elsewhere in Great Britain; and that a relatively higher increase in electorate in England does not provide reason to reduce Scotland's historically guaranteed number of seats.

4. When the number of seats in Scotland was considered by our predecessors at the start of the last general review in 1978 they noted that the increase in the Scottish electorate since 1965 had been lower than the increases in England and Wales over that period. Because of this they determined that for the purpose of forming provisional recommendations the number of constituencies in Scotland should remain at 71. At a later stage however, they decided to recommend an increase in the number of constituencies in Scotland to 72.

5. We addressed the question of the total number of constituencies in Scotland as an issue of fundamental importance at the outset of this review. We wished to avoid the complications experienced by our predecessors whereby an extra seat was added at a late stage in the review. We decided to settle on a target number of seats which we considered would be sustainable for the duration of the review, though we recognised the possibility of matters coming to light which might require us to reconsider that objective. The target we set was 72 seats which took account of current circumstances (we did not consider that we would be justified in reverting to 71 seats, as before 1983); conformed to Rule 1(2) which requires the number of seats in Scotland to be not less than 71; and had regard to Rule 1(1) which provides that the number of constituencies in Great Britain shall not be substantially greater or less than 613 - though we recognised that such an inexact provision could not be given an absolute interpretation by any of the Boundary Commissions in isolation. Having determined on this objective before examining proposals for any part of Scotland, we prepared a memorandum (Appendix D) setting out our reasons for doing so and explaining the manner in which we intended to pursue this target. In the course of the review we did not encounter any reason to re-consider this policy, nor was any representation made to us that the total number of seats in Scotland should be altered.

Local Authority Boundaries

6. In its application to Scotland, Rule 4 provides that so far as is reasonably practicable having regard to the foregoing rules (which also require every constituency to return a single member) regard shall be had to the boundaries of local authority areas, ie the boundaries of regions, islands areas and districts. Our predecessors resolved, in pursuance of Rule 4, to avoid making recommendations for constituencies which would cross regional boundaries except in the most exceptional circumstances where special geographical considerations made this desirable. In the event, their final recommendations crossed no regional boundaries, though they did cross islands area boundaries in the amalgamation of Orkney

and Shetland. It appeared to us, in our analysis of the means of achieving a target of 72 seats, that it was necessary to cross regional boundaries to avoid the conditions which would cause an increase in the number of constituencies to 72.

7. After we had decided to cross regional boundaries where we considered it appropriate, a number of objectors protested that we were in breach of our statutory responsibility under Rule 4. Rule 4(1)(b) provides that "in Scotland, regard shall be had to the boundaries of local authority areas". In Scotland, however, it is recognised in law that "having regard to" means "having in view". Therefore, while Rule 4(1)(b) imposes a positive requirement on the Commission to keep in view regional and district boundaries, it does not prohibit the Commission from crossing the boundary of a local authority area. The Commission has a discretion either to take, or to refrain from taking, that course.

8. As mentioned in paragraph 8 of Chapter 1 above, the enactment of the Boundary Commissions Act 1992, which set the deadline of 31 December 1994 for the completion of this review, considerably foreshortened the period available to us and affected our approach to the review. Although we waited for the new regional electoral divisions, on which the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland (LGBCS) was working, to be put in place, we recognised that we could not similarly wait for the new district wards. To do so would jeopardise the statutory deadline. We accordingly proceeded to prepare and issue proposals which were based on regional electoral divisions as sub-divisions of districts where this was necessary. We were not prepared to use the then existing district wards as these did not in every case fit with the new regional divisions. Further, there was no precedent for such a mixture. As the review progressed to local inquiries and we considered the Assistant Commissioners' comments it became increasingly apparent that new district wards would not be available to us in time to go through the necessary steps, including possible second inquiries, over the whole country. We took the view that it would be inconsistent to use them in some cases if we were unable to do so in others. In addition, we later learned in February 1994 that you did not intend to confirm statutorily the new district wards proposed by LGBCS. We were therefore left, as a consequence of the 1992 Act, with regional electoral divisions as our lowest level building blocks throughout the review. We recognised that this limitation might have some unsatisfactory local effects on our recommendations. Where a proposed constituency contained one electoral division less or more than its neighbour a significant disparity of electorate could ensue. This could create different problems in different parts of the country because of the variation in the electorates of electoral divisions. In particular, Strathclyde has an average regional electoral division electorate of over 17,000 and this has given rise to disparities which we would have preferred to avoid.

9. There has been another consequence arising from our reliance on regional electoral division boundaries. In pursuing its statutory obligations, and in particular the requirement to equalise local electorates, the LGBCS on occasion drew boundary lines which divided certain communities. Consequently, we encountered claims by communities that in our proposals they were being separated from their natural and traditional neighbours with

whom they had shared parliamentary representation for many years, and were being associated with communities with whom they had weaker links. These transfers arose directly from adjustments which had been made to regional electoral division boundaries; adjustments which we were unable to redress and which, if we had sought to correct by moving the whole of the electoral division, would have displaced even more electors. Had we been able to use district wards as a sub-division of regional electoral divisions we might have been able to address many, though probably not all, of these concerns. Notwithstanding the size of the electoral units in the unitary authorities planned for the future, our successors may face similar difficulties of sub-division. We accordingly submit that some consideration should be given to reviewing the statutory basis on which LGBCS carries out this part of its remit so that that Commission may make recommendations which include a greater sensitivity to local community considerations at a marginal cost to parity of electorate. We believe that if this were done many of the frustrations which were generated among members of the general public, with which we had considerable sympathy, might be avoided in future.

Size of Electorate

10. Under Rule 5 the electorate of any constituency is to be as near the electoral quota (54,569) as is practicable having regard to the foregoing rules, already referred to. The second part of this Rule provides that the Commission may depart from the strict application of Rule 4 if it appears to the Commission that a departure is desirable to avoid an excessive disparity between the electorate of any constituency and the electoral quota, or between the electorate of the constituency and that of neighbouring constituencies. We believe, however, that this provision does not apply so strongly in Scotland. Rule 4 imposes a stricter limitation in England, Wales and Northern Ireland than it does in Scotland; the terms of Rule 4(1)(b), as explained in paragraph 7, are expressed differently for Scotland. Rule 6 provides that the Commission may depart from the strict application of Rules 4 and 5 if special geographical considerations, including in particular the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency, appear to the Commission to render departure desirable. We consider that Rule 6 has a special, but not exclusive, relevance to Scotland. Inevitably the exercise of this discretion results in some constituencies having electorates greater or smaller than the average.

11. Paragraph 7 of Schedule 2 to the 1986 Act relieves the Commission of the obligation to give full effect in all circumstances to the Rules but provides that the Commission shall take account, so far as they reasonably can, of the inconveniences attendant on alterations of constituencies, other than alterations made for the purpose of Rule 4 (which requires regard to be had to the boundaries of local authority areas), and of any local ties which would be broken by such alterations. The third general review had taken place against the background of the major reform of local government which had occurred in 1975. Hence its conclusions were radically different from the pattern of constituencies existing at that time. Although ideas for further reform of local government were under consideration when we embarked on the current review, these reforms have only recently been enacted and, as explained in paragraph 8 of Chapter 1, could not be taken into account during the review.

This means that although there is the prospect that the inter-relationship between Parliamentary constituencies and the structure of local government will shortly be broken in many parts of the country, at present that inter-relationship remains broadly the same as it was in 1983. Accordingly, we recommend fewer changes than occurred following the third review.

12. As regards the size of the electorates in the existing Scottish constituencies, we were aware of many major departures from the electoral quota (see Appendix E). Where the electorate of an existing constituency was well above, or below, quota we saw it as the primary objective of the review to recommend, where practicable, a constituency with an electorate much nearer to the quota. It was inevitable that many existing constituencies would have to be altered because of this objective, and because of the “knock on” effect which the alteration of one constituency has on neighbouring constituencies. It is also the case that unfortunately certain communities tend to find themselves more likely to be affected by these alterations and even to alternate between constituencies in successive reviews.

Population Movement

13. As paragraph 12 of Chapter 1 indicated, the Rules require the use of the electorate on the enumeration date, ie 16 February 1992, and they do not provide for forecast changes in electorate to be taken into account. At the same time, agreeing with our predecessors, we thought it reasonable to have regard to factors which might produce constituencies either above or below the electoral quota for Scotland when deciding between alternative schemes. We had in mind that, in many areas, population movement had been the major cause of change in electorate since the last review. We therefore wished to be able to have regard to such factors where appropriate. We therefore obtained from the Registrar General for Scotland estimates of changes in population of voting age during the present decade. These are shown at Appendix G.

Theoretical Entitlement and Allocation of Seats

14. At the outset we calculated the “theoretical entitlement” of seats for each region and islands area. This was done by dividing the electorate in 1992 of each region and islands area by the electoral quota. The results of this calculation are shown in Table 1. While these results have a certain illustrative and practical value they have no status in law. This Table also shows the comparison between the theoretical entitlement, rounded to the nearest whole number, and the current number of constituencies in the region or islands area. In the case of the islands we rounded the theoretical entitlement up as it is not possible to be without representation in Parliament. We decided, for the reasons given in paragraph 5, that it would not be appropriate to allocate the full rounded entitlement to each area as this would lead to more than 72 seats for the whole of Scotland. We were therefore faced with the prospect of cutting back on the rounded entitlement of certain regions, a course which presented certain difficulties. These difficulties were compounded by the circumstances of the islands areas. We recognised that it would be possible to reduce the Scotland total by one by repeating the current practice of treating the Orkney and Shetland Islands

areas as a single constituency. By allocating a separate seat to the Western Isles, however, we would be allocating 2 seats to parts of Scotland which, in electorate terms, had an aggregate entitlement to only one seat. The effect of this would be that we would be left with having to allocate 70 seats to the mainland area of Scotland which in aggregate had a theoretical entitlement of 71 seats. We concluded, however, that there was no realistic option other than to allocate 2 seats to the islands areas. Geographical considerations of distance and remoteness dictated that it would be totally inappropriate to suggest that they should form a single constituency; stretching for over 400 miles (the equivalent distance from Edinburgh to Brighton) from its north-eastern to south-western tips. Nor would it be appropriate to link the Western Isles with part of Highland Region. Consideration had been given to such a proposal during the third general review but after public inquiry this had not been pursued.

Table 1

<i>Region/ Islands Area</i>	<i>1992 Electorate</i>	<i>Theoretical Entitlement</i>	<i>Rounded* Theoretical entitlement</i>	<i>Current Number of seats</i>
Borders	53,908	1.54	2	2
Central	211,205	3.87	4	4
Dumfries & Galloway	116,750	2.14	2	2
Fife	264,644	4.85	5	5
Grampian	397,741	7.29	7	6
Highland	157,449	2.89	3	3
Lothian	591,070	10.83	11	10
Strathclyde	1,745,847	31.99	32	33
Tayside	305,530	5.60	6	5
Orkney	15,404	0.28	1	1
Shetland	16,433	0.30	1	
Western Isles	23,015	0.42	1	
	3,928,996	72.00	75	72

* Adjusted to allow minimum level of representation, as no area can have zero representation in Parliament.

15. While our predecessors had indicated that their reason for aiming for a restricted number of Scottish seats (at 71) owed more to comparison of electoral quotas between Scotland, England and Wales than the implementation of the provision in Rule 1 wherein the number of constituencies in Great Britain should not be substantially greater than 613, we considered that the implications of Rule 1 were now stronger. As indicated in paragraph 2 above the total number of constituencies in Great Britain has been growing steadily. We also considered that Rule 4(1)(b) did not prevent us from crossing regional boundaries. We decided that, if it was necessary to give effect to other aspects of the Rules, particularly Rule 5 which seeks to minimise disparity in electorates, we should make proposals which crossed regional boundaries. We concluded that it would be possible to group some neighbouring regions together in a way which would produce an entitlement for the whole area which would be less than the sum of the separate entitlements. This would produce a total number of 72 seats. We decided to pursue these possibilities in our assessment of arrangements for these areas.

16. In the event we decided that the most practical pairings occurred between Central and Tayside Regions and Borders and Lothian Regions. Table 1 shows that Central and Tayside together had a rounded entitlement of 9 seats compared with 10 (4 plus 6 respectively) taken separately. Similarly for Borders and Lothian together the rounded entitlement was 12 compared with 13 (2 plus 11 respectively) separately. We recognised that this would fulfil our objective of 72 seats. The consequences of pursuing these proposals are addressed in sections 1 and 2 of Chapter 3.

Special Geographical Considerations

17. Other than the case of the islands areas referred to in paragraph 14 above, we did not consider that there were any special geographical considerations which would persuade us to depart from the broad allocation of 72 seats upon which we had decided. There were, however, instances within different regions where geographical considerations had a bearing on the recommendations we make for these areas (see Chapter 3).

Naming and Designation of Constituencies

18. Under section 3(4) of the 1986 Act the Commission's recommendations for each constituency must include the name by which it should be known and whether it should be a county constituency or a burgh constituency. In most cases the existing county constituencies carry the name of the district or districts in which they are based, eg Argyll & Bute, Stirling and Tweeddale, Ettrick & Lauderdale, but there are some where the names are based on the central town within the constituency, eg Dumfries. Burgh constituencies normally carry the name of the former burgh in which they are based. In many cases in both county and burgh constituencies the name is preceded or followed by a compass-point reference, eg Aberdeen North. Constituencies in Edinburgh and Glasgow have suffixes, some of which relate to compass-points, but others reflect a local name, eg Edinburgh Pentlands and Glasgow Springburn. We felt that as many constituency names were new in 1983 we should not be seeking to alter them. We recognised, however, that there were cases where we were recommending such a change in the constituencies that the old name would not be appropriate, though there were others where the name remained apt despite alterations. As a consequence of this approach 52 constituency names are continued in unaltered form, though the areas they cover may not be exactly as before.

19. While the boundaries of most of our proposed constituencies are different from the current ones we did not consider that these changes significantly affected the designation (county or burgh) of the constituency. In fact, we altered only one of the designations. We considered that the new Greenock and Inverclyde constituency was sufficiently different in character from the previous Greenock and Port Glasgow one to justify an alteration in designation from a burgh constituency to a county one. In addition, one burgh constituency fewer has been allocated to Glasgow, one more to Aberdeen.

Final Recommendations

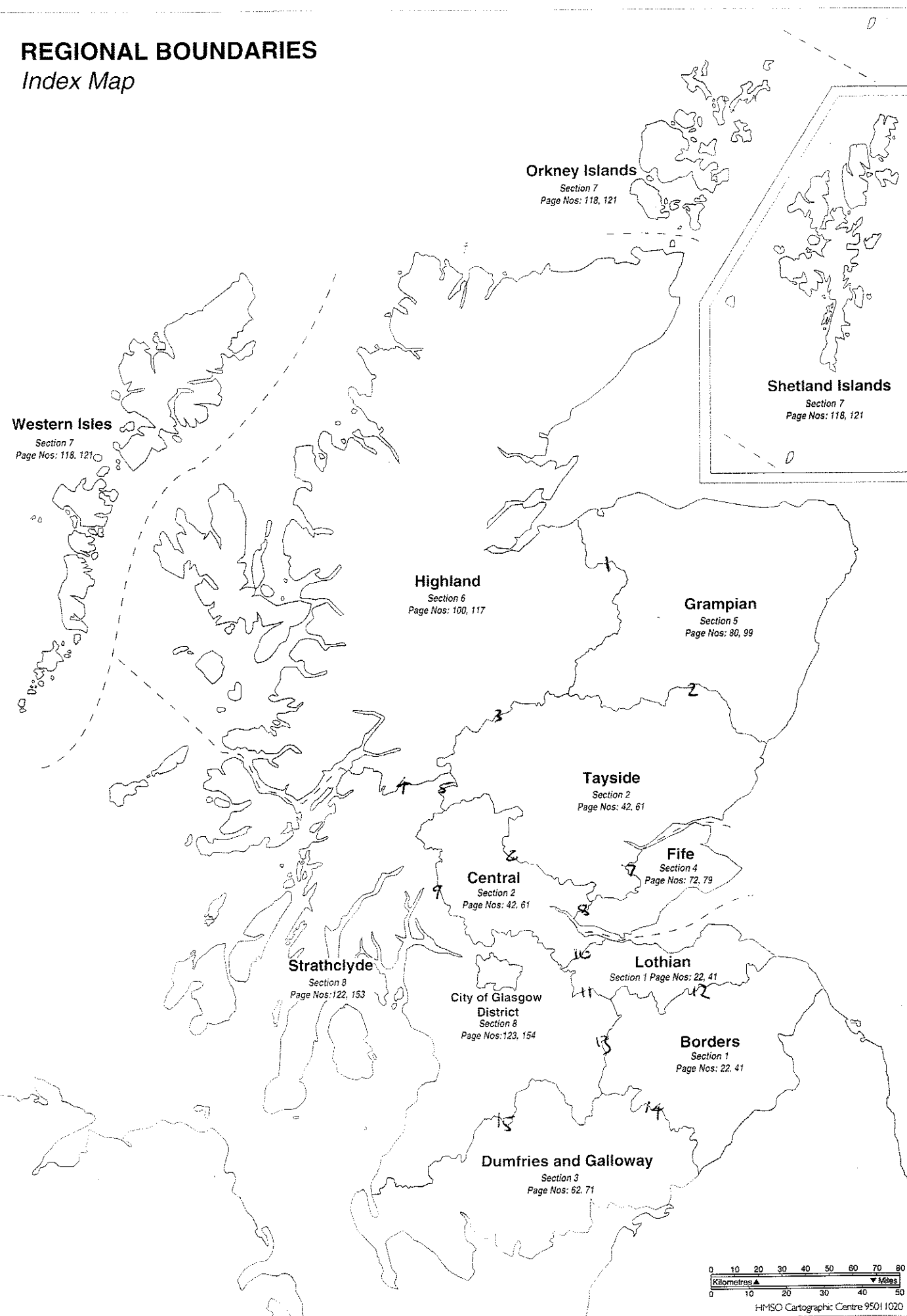
20. Following the local inquiries which were held into our provisional recommendations we carefully considered the reports of the Assistant Commissioners. We accepted most, but not all, of their recommendations. As a result of our consideration of their reports we

published revised recommendations for Borders and Lothian, Central and Tayside, Dumfries and Galloway, Grampian, Highland and Strathclyde. We decided, however, not to revise our recommendations for Fife.

21. Once we had determined our final recommendations for the last region, Highland, we reviewed all of our recommendations for consistency. We concluded that our target of 72 seats in Scotland which we had pursued was the correct objective. We were also satisfied that having regard to the practical constraints under which we had to operate, our conclusions were fair and consistent.

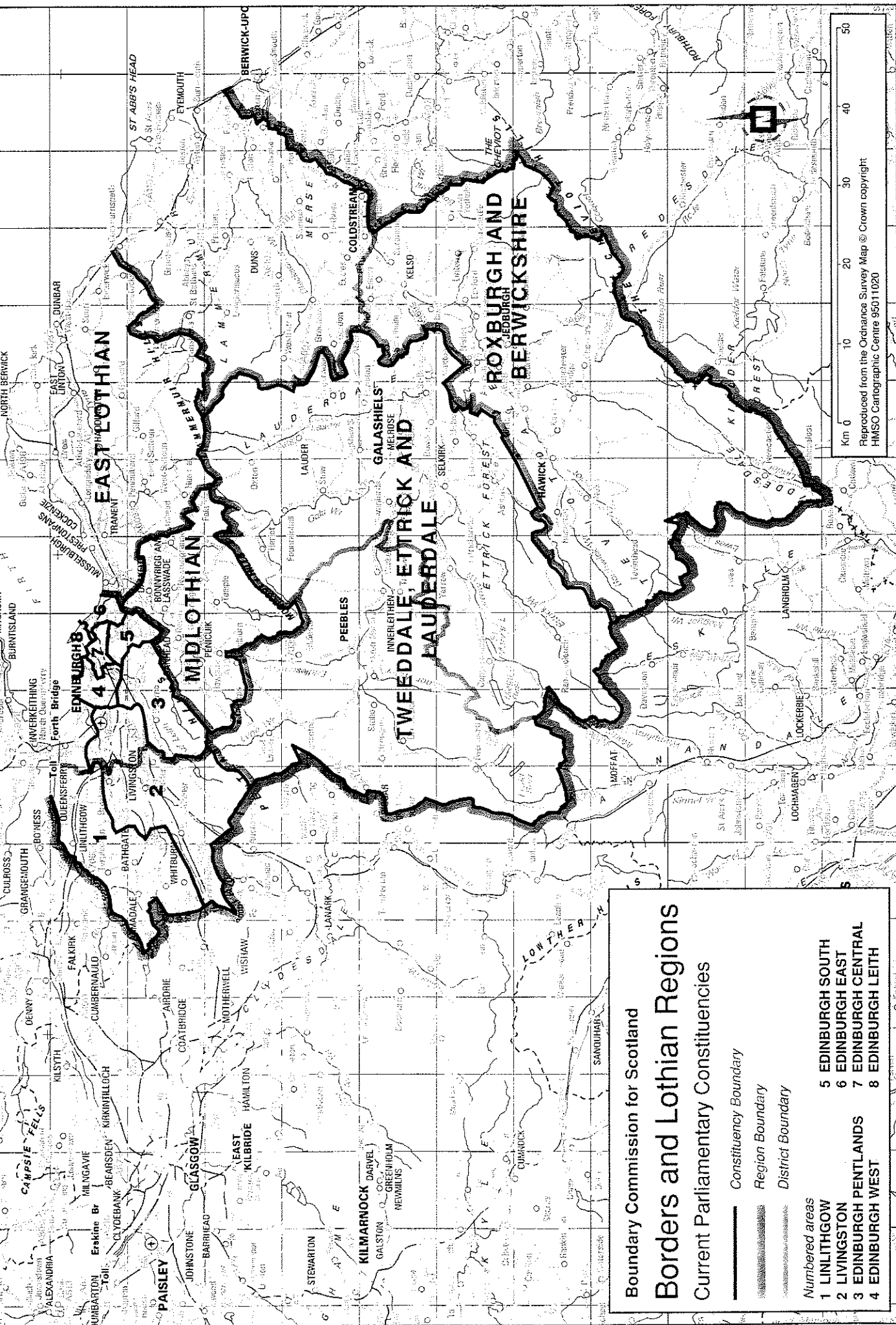
REGIONAL BOUNDARIES

Index Map



CHAPTER 3

THE REVIEW AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS



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SECTION ONE

BORDERS AND LoTHIAN REGIONS

Introduction

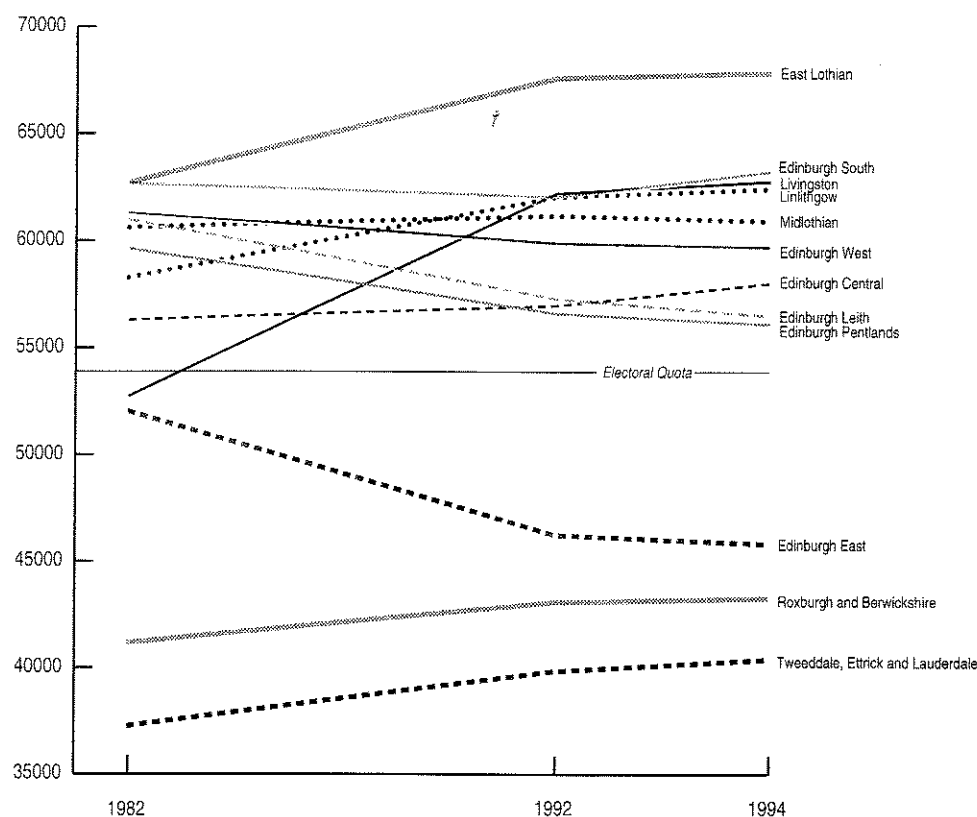
1. The regions comprise the following 6 burgh and 6 county constituencies, whose electorates at the start and finish of the previous and current reviews were as shown in Table 2 and Figure 1 below:

Table 2

Current Constituency	Electorates			
	Previous Review*		Current Review	
	Start (1978)	End (1982)	Start (1992)	End (1994)
<i>Burgh Constituencies</i>				
Edinburgh Central	57,400	56,200	56,839	57,954
Edinburgh East	52,200	51,900	46,157	45,740
Edinburgh Leith	62,900	60,800	57,073	56,399
Edinburgh Pentlands	57,700	59,600	56,433	56,111
Edinburgh South	60,800	62,500	61,999	63,060
Edinburgh West	57,700	61,100	59,702	59,545
<i>County Constituencies</i>				
East Lothian	60,200	62,600	67,588	67,844
Linlithgow	54,500	58,100	61,979	62,252
Livingston	46,200	52,600	62,122	62,620
Midlothian	59,300	60,700	61,178	60,905
Roxburgh & Berwickshire	41,800	42,100	44,001	44,239
Tweeddale, Ettrick & Lauderdale	36,300	37,300	39,907	40,543
Total	647,000	665,500	674,978	677,212

*As published in third periodical report

Figure 1



2. In forming our initial proposals for the combined regions we had in mind the following considerations:-

2.1 The parliamentary electorate of Borders Region on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) was 83,908, giving the region a theoretical entitlement to 1.54 seats which rounds to 2 seats.

2.2 The parliamentary electorate of Lothian Region on the enumeration date was 591,233, giving the region a theoretical entitlement to 10.83 seats which rounds to 11 seats.

2.3 The parliamentary electorate of the combined regions of Borders and Lothian on the enumeration date was 675,141, giving the combined area a theoretical entitlement to 12.37 seats which rounds to 12 seats. The rounded theoretical entitlement for Borders and Lothian as a combined area was therefore one less than the aggregate of the rounded theoretical entitlements considered separately.

2.4 To achieve our target of no more than 72 for the total number of constituencies in Scotland it would be necessary for some constituencies to cover parts of more than one region.

Note: The parliamentary electorate of these local government areas (which provided the electorate on the enumeration date) was not identical to the parliamentary electorate of the constituencies in the area as the local authority and parliamentary constituency boundaries were not the same.

Combination of Regions

3. We recognised that recommending constituencies which crossed regional boundaries would be an innovation and could also have the disadvantage of grouping areas within which no civic ties or affinities presently exist. We considered, however, that this approach was necessary and that Borders and Lothian were among the most suitable regions to amalgamate. By doing this our objective of recommending no more than 72 seats overall would be more likely to be achieved. We also considered that by combining Borders and Lothian a more even representation of the electorate throughout the regions could be achieved and we had in mind that there had been constituencies in the past which had included territory from these two regions.

4. Having settled upon this approach we recognised that joining the 2 most heavily populated districts in Borders Region (Ettrick and Lauderdale together with Roxburgh), would create a constituency with an electorate close to the electoral quota. In community terms we were of the opinion that these districts were not dissimilar and had a distinct affinity. This left the 2 smaller districts, in electorate terms, of Berwickshire and Tweeddale. Berwickshire had been joined with East Lothian for parliamentary representation purposes for many decades up until the conclusion of the previous review, and there had been an historical link between the old Peeblesshire and Midlothian. We accordingly decided that possibly the best solution would be to link Berwickshire with East Lothian and Tweeddale with Midlothian.

5. Our approach to the formation of proposals for the 6 constituencies in the City of Edinburgh and the 2 constituencies in West Lothian was to make recommendations which were as near to the status quo as could reasonably be achieved. We also considered that it would be better if each of the constituencies in the city comprised the same number of regional electoral divisions. In addition, we were conscious of the considerable growth which had taken place in the electorate in West Lothian and were aware of the forecasts that this was likely to continue for the remainder of the present decade. We decided, therefore, to restore to the city constituencies those areas in the west of Edinburgh which are at present in the Linlithgow and Livingston constituencies and to add a regional electoral division in Musselburgh as well. This would provide 30 regional electoral divisions to be divided among 6 constituencies, giving 5 to each. A consequence of this was that the proposed 2 West Lothian constituencies would divide 9 regional electoral divisions between them, giving 5 to one and 4 to the other. As there was no practical alternative to this approach, we proposed the division which minimised the variation from current boundaries.

6. The electorates of Berwickshire District and Tweeddale District were comparable with the average electoral division in Lothian Region. Linking Berwickshire District with 3 electoral divisions in East Lothian and Tweeddale District with 3 electoral divisions in Midlothian would leave 2 electoral divisions in each of East Lothian and Midlothian. Linking these residual pairs of electoral divisions together would give 3 constituencies of broadly equal electorate in this area. We recognised that in this part of Borders and Lothian our recommendations generated a number of significant changes from the status quo. We considered, however, that our proposals were consistent with the statutory rules, sought to minimise the disruption to the present boundaries, and reduced the disparity between the largest and the smallest electorates of constituencies in the combined area from 27,500 to 14,500.

Initial Recommendations

7. On 8 July 1993 we published our initial recommendations for 6 burgh and 6 county constituencies for the combined area comprising Borders and Lothian Regions as follows:

Burgh Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Edinburgh Central	regional electoral divisions in the City of Edinburgh District 17 Murrayfield/Dean 23 Moat/Stenhouse 24 Dalry/Shandon 25 Fountainbridge/Tollcross 26 St Giles'/Holyrood	60,023
Edinburgh East	1. regional electoral divisions in the City of Edinburgh District 27 Meadowbank/Mountcastle 28 Links/Restalrig 29 Portobello/Milton 38 Craigmillar/Duddingston 2. regional electoral division in East Lothian District 44 Musselburgh/Fisherrow	59,153
Edinburgh Inverleith	regional electoral divisions in the City of Edinburgh District 14 Granton/Pilton 15 Trinity/Newhaven 18 New Town/Stockbridge 19 Calton/Broughton 20 Lorne/Harbour	60,235

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Edinburgh Pentlands	regional electoral divisions in the City of Edinburgh District	
	10 Balerno/Baberton	
	22 Longstone/Craiglockhart	
	30 Sighthill/Broomhouse	
	31 Colinton/Firrhill	
	35 Braidburn/Fairmilehead	59,432
Edinburgh South	regional electoral divisions in the City of Edinburgh District	
	32 Merchiston/Morningside	
	33 Sciennes/Marchmont	
	34 Prestonfield/Mayfield	
	36 Alnwickhill/Kaimes	
	37 Inch/Gilmerton	61,638
Edinburgh West	regional electoral divisions in the City of Edinburgh District	
	11 Queensferry/Kirkliston	
	12 Cramond/Blackhall	
	13 Drylaw/Muirhouse	
	16 Corstorphine North	
	21 Corstorphine South	61,995
County Constituencies		
East Lothian and Berwickshire	1. Berwickshire District	
	2. regional electoral divisions in East Lothian District	
	47 Luffness	
	48 Haddington	
	49 Tantallon	48,887
Ettrick, Lauderdale and Roxburgh	1. Ettrick and Lauderdale District	
	2. Roxburgh District	56,146
Linlithgow	regional electoral divisions in West Lothian District	
	1 Linlithgow/Winchburgh	
	2 Bathgate West/Armadale	
	3 Whitburn	
	4 Bathgate East/Blackburn	53,066

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Livingston	regional electoral divisions in West Lothian District	
	5 Deans/Knightsridge	
	6 Craigshill/Ladywell	
	7 Dedridge/West Calder	
	8 Broxburn/Uphall	
	9 Murieston/East Calder	58,068
Midlothian	1. regional electoral divisions in Midlothian District	
	42 Dalkeith	
	43 Mayfield/Gorebridge	
	2. regional electoral divisions in East Lothian District	
	45 Preston/Levenhall	
	46 Fa'side	47,490
Tweeddale and the Moorfoots	1. Tweeddale District	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Midlothian District	
	39 Penicuik	
	40 Loanhead	
	41 Bonnyrigg/Newtongrange	49,008

Representations on initial recommendations

8. A total of 1130 representations were received regarding our initial recommendations including submissions from all of the regional and district authorities. Most objections focused on the following proposed constituencies:

- 8.1 that East Lothian and Berwickshire are separate and distinct communities which have few shared interests;
- 8.2 that our proposals for Ettrick, Lauderdale and Roxburgh took no account of local authority boundaries and disrupted historic, social, economic and geographical ties which presently exist;
- 8.3 that our proposals for the Midlothian constituency were unnecessarily radical;
- 8.4 that Tweeddale's cultural, social and historic ties were with the Borders and not with that part of Midlothian with which we proposed it should be linked.

Among those who made representations objecting to our proposals to join Berwickshire with East Lothian and Tweeddale with Midlothian for parliamentary purposes were the Members of Parliament for the present constituencies comprising these areas, and numerous community councils.

9. We also received objections to our proposals for the constituencies within the City of Edinburgh. These were in the main in respect of the composition of the constituencies of Central and Inverleith. Our proposed choice of name for the Inverleith constituency also met with considerable opposition. We received no objections or counter-proposals to our recommendations for Edinburgh Pentlands or Edinburgh South constituencies.

Local Inquiry

10. In view of the number of objections received we recognised that we had a statutory duty to hold a local inquiry. At our request you agreed to appoint Sheriff Principal C G B Nicholson QC, Sheriff Principal of Lothian and Borders as Assistant Commissioner at the inquiry into our initial recommendations.

11. We decided, exceptionally, in view of the number of objections received from the Borders area, that the inquiry should be held in 2 parts. The first part was held at the Scottish College of Textiles, Netherdale, Galashiels on 29 and 30 November and 1 December 1993 and the second part was held on 6 and 7 December 1993 in the City Chambers, Edinburgh.

Representations made to the inquiry in Galashiels

12. At the Galashiels part of the inquiry those who opposed the provisional recommendations founded on 2 main arguments in favour of maintaining the status quo. The first was the weight of public opinion. As evidence of this Mr Archie Kirkwood, Member of Parliament for Roxburgh and Berwickshire, said that in a survey undertaken in November 1993 on behalf of the Scottish Liberal Democrats in the Berwickshire District Council area, 71% of those surveyed strongly disagreed and 14% slightly disagreed with our provisional proposals for a Berwickshire and East Lothian parliamentary constituency. The second was that we had incorrectly applied the Rules by giving primacy to Rule 5 (equality of electorate) rather than Rule 4 (having regard to local authority boundaries). The Rt Honourable Sir David Steel, Member of Parliament for Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale, argued that in the case of the 2 Borders constituencies there were no convincing grounds for departing from the existing boundaries. These had been recommended by our predecessors in their third periodical report, and as there had been an increase in the electorate since then (forecast to continue) which had brought the electorates in the constituencies closer to the electoral quota.

13. There were many arguments and considerable evidence advanced that Berwickshire's affinities lay with the rest of the Borders Region, rather than with East Lothian. The main reason for this was the natural barrier presented by the Lammermuir Hills. It was also widely alleged that Tweeddale had no affinity with those parts of Midlothian with which we proposed it should form the Tweeddale and the Moorfoots constituency.

14. With the exception of the Conservative Associations within Borders and Lothian Regions no other political party or organisation supported our initial proposals. There were, however, a number of private individuals who were in favour of our recommendations. Those who supported our proposals did so on several grounds, particularly the proposition that it was desirable, so far as possible, to achieve equality of electorates in all constituencies. They rejected the view that there were special geographical considerations that made it desirable that Borders Region be regarded as an entity for parliamentary representation purposes. They argued that transport links ran in a north/south direction between the Borders and Lothian areas. Attention was also drawn to the many common characteristics in terms of agriculture, fishing and lifestyles shared by those in Berwickshire and East Lothian.

15. In response to these arguments the Assistant Commissioner was impressed by the sheer number of objections from both Borders and Lothian (but particularly the former) which saw no case for these 2 areas to share parliamentary representation. While this did not itself demonstrate the validity of such objections, the Assistant Commissioner concluded that it did indicate the weight of public opinion and as such had to be taken into account.

16. A considerable amount of legal argument was led about the primacy of Rule 4 over Rule 5. Some contended that our primary objective appeared to have been to create constituencies which were as near to the electoral quota as possible. This therefore meant that we had unduly given primacy to Rule 5 and had failed to attach sufficient weight to Rules 4, 6 and 7.

17. Mr Brian Gill QC, representing Borders Regional Council together with the District Councils of Berwickshire, Ettrick & Lauderdale, Roxburgh and Tweeddale, submitted that Rule 5 was subordinate to Rule 4 and that the proper interpretation of the Rules was as explained by Sir John Donaldson MR in the case of *R v Boundary Commission for England, ex parte Foot and Others* [1983] QB 600. These Councils contended that although the aforementioned decision was by an English court it involved an interpretation of a Great Britain statute by the Court of Appeal, with the decision being given by the Master of the Rolls. It ought therefore to be regarded as being of high persuasive authority. In essence the Master of the Rolls observed that Rule 4 should take precedence over the requirements of Rule 5 as Rule 4 is not qualified by reference to Rule 5, whereas Rule 5 provides that the electorate of any constituency shall be as near the electoral quota as is practicable having regard to the foregoing rules.

Representations made to the inquiry in Edinburgh

18. At the second stage of the inquiry held in Edinburgh our proposals for the constituencies in West Lothian met with no significant level of objection. Although West Lothian District Council together with a few individuals did object to the transfer of ED11 (Queensferry/ Kirkliston) to the Edinburgh West constituency, both the present Members of Parliament who would be ceding electors and territory by this move were satisfied with our proposals for this area.

19. Our proposals for the 6 constituencies in the City of Edinburgh met, with a few exceptions, with a general level of support including from the Members of Parliament representing the City. No objections were advanced against our initial proposals for Edinburgh Pentlands and Edinburgh South. Most of the submissions on the boundaries presented at this stage of the inquiry related to our proposals for the constituencies of Edinburgh Central and Edinburgh Inverleith. The main issues in relation to the Edinburgh Central constituency focused on the inclusion of ED23 (Moat/Stenhouse) and the exclusion of ED18 (New Town/Stockbridge) from this constituency. Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Member of Parliament for Edinburgh West, suggested that while our proposals were better than the present arrangements he believed that the boundaries would serve community interests better if Murrayfield was included in Edinburgh West and the Drylaw/Telford area was transferred to Edinburgh Central. There was a strong body of support for our proposal that ED23 should be included in the Edinburgh Central constituency. In addition to comments made at the inquiry on this point by Mr Alistair Darling, Member of Parliament for Edinburgh Central, Councillors Cavanagh and Mulligan and representatives of Moat/Stenhouse Community Councils, and Lord James Douglas-Hamilton MP, the Assistant Commissioner received a substantial number of petitions, letters and other representations urging him to support our recommendations for this constituency.

20. With regard to ED18 (New Town/Stockbridge) there was both support and objection, of approximately equal magnitude, to our proposal that this area should be transferred from Edinburgh Central to Edinburgh Inverleith. Those who opposed our proposal did so largely on the grounds that they considered that the New Town, as the cultural, architectural and business heart of Edinburgh, should form part of the Edinburgh Central constituency. Those who argued in support of our proposals, however, drew attention to the fact that the New Town had been in the Edinburgh North constituency in the past, that ED18 extends to the north of the New Town, and that only some 800 or so of the electorate actually reside in the area to the south of Queen Street.

21. It was also argued passionately at the inquiry by Councillor Rev Mrs Wardlaw, in support of many representations that had been made and petitions that had been submitted, that Leith Links district ward had always been a part of Leith and should remain a part of the parliamentary constituency which includes Leith.

22. Mr D W McLetchie, on behalf of the Conservative Associations, offered a comprehensive solution to the Edinburgh Central/Edinburgh Inverleith problem. This involved transferring ED26 (St Giles'/Holyrood) from Edinburgh Central to Edinburgh East, and moving ED28 (Links/Restalrig) from Edinburgh East to Edinburgh Inverleith. This would allow ED18 (New Town/Stockbridge) to remain in Edinburgh Central. In countering this proposal, others argued that it appeared wholly arbitrary to move ED26 (St Giles'/Holyrood) from Edinburgh Central.

23. Our choice of name for the Edinburgh Inverleith constituency also gave rise to a considerable number of objections. It did not receive any expressions of support. In develop-

ing our proposals it was our view that a constituency extending south to Princes Street and containing so many areas which had never been part of the former Burgh of Leith could no longer be called “Leith”. We had suggested the name “Inverleith” in the belief that this provided a focus for the territorial expanse of the proposed constituency while also retaining a link with the historic name of Leith.[†]

Assistant Commissioner’s Report

24. In his report to us, the Assistant Commissioner recognised that there were likely to be similarities and shared interests between any 2 adjoining parts of the country, and for that reason he did not reject out of hand what was said by those in support of our provisional proposals to link the 2 constituencies in Borders Region with the constituencies of East Lothian and Midlothian. He went on to say, however, that the overwhelming impression he had gained from the inquiry was that there was a considerable community of interest in the widest sense in Borders Region, and that to a significant degree East Lothian and Midlothian Districts were distinct and self-contained. He was persuaded by the arguments for making minimal changes to the existing 4 county constituencies, and for maintaining constituencies which in the main respected local authority boundaries, though he considered that there was a fundamental need to reduce the size of the electorate of the East Lothian constituency. The Assistant Commissioner was also of the opinion that our provisional recommendations for the Borders constituencies were open to legal challenge, as they involved substantial crossing of local authority boundaries in apparent contravention of Rule 4 without any stated justification for doing so. He remarked that they also represented a radical departure from the approach which commended itself to our predecessors at the last general review, and that no reasons had been given by us for such a departure.

25. The Assistant Commissioner considered that there was a case for retaining the existing county constituency boundaries apart from transferring ED44 (Musselburgh/Fisherrow) from the East Lothian constituency into the Edinburgh East constituency. Alternatively, he suggested enlarging the electorate of the Roxburgh and Berwickshire constituency by transferring ED7 (Scott’s View) from the Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale constituency, and restoring the electors then lost to the Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale constituency by transferring ED39 (Penicuik) from the Midlothian constituency.

26. The Assistant Commissioner accepted that there were clearly social and other links between ED23 (Moat/Stenhouse) and the neighbouring ED24 (Dalry/Shandon), which was already in Edinburgh Central. As a consequence it was wholly appropriate for ED23 to be included in the proposed Edinburgh Central constituency.

27. Had it not been for our stated policy of using whole regional electoral divisions as the basic building blocks in forming proposals, the Assistant Commissioner would have been disposed to suggest that we reconsider the composition of the Inverleith constituency with a view to including the district ward within which Leith Links is presently situated. He rec-

ommended that our proposals for the 2 West Lothian constituencies and the 6 constituencies within the City of Edinburgh should be confirmed as our final recommendations.

28. The Assistant Commissioner recommended that, owing to the strength of feeling in favour of retaining the name “Leith” as the name of the proposed constituency, we should accede to public opinion and rename the constituency Edinburgh North and Leith.

Consideration of the Assistant Commissioner’s recommendations

29. On considering the Assistant Commissioner’s report to us, we respectfully differed from his conclusion that our proposals would be at odds with the Opinion of the Court of Appeal in England delivered by the Master of the Rolls. We believe that there is a significant difference between Scotland and England which is accommodated by the Rules. In particular, the Assistant Commissioner relied upon a passage in the Opinion of the Court at page 622B to E which he quoted at paragraph 34 of his report to us, viz:-

“Rules 4, 5 and 6 are each concerned with separate matters. Rule 4 is concerned with county and London Borough boundaries; Rule 5 is concerned with the size of the electorate of each constituency, considered in relation to the electoral quota for that constituency; and Rule 6 is concerned with the geographical considerations. It is clear, in our judgment, that of these matters, although they may all be properly regarded as interlocking, the requirement in Rule 4 that ‘so far as practicable’ constituencies shall not cross county or London Borough boundaries must be regarded as taking precedence over the requirement in Rule 5 concerning the size of the electorate for each constituency. This appears from the facts that (1) Rule 4 is on the face of it not qualified by reference to Rule 5 whereas Rule 5 provides that the electorate of any constituency shall be as near the electoral quota as is practicable having regard to the foregoing rules, which of course include Rule 4, and (2) the second limb of Rule 5 authorises departure from Rule 4 only in the circumstances where specified..... The requirement of electoral equality is, subject to the second limb of Rule 5, subservient to the requirement that constituencies shall not cross county or London Borough boundaries.”

30. The Rules are set out in Appendix A. In our opinion the first part of Rule 5 requires electoral equality, but subject to 2 qualifications. The first of these is practicability. The second is that the duty imposed by the Rule is qualified by the requirements of the 4 preceding Rules so far as these are applicable. In interpreting the first part of Rule 5 the English Court of Appeal had to consider, among others, Rule 4 (1)(a). Subject to a qualification of practicability, that Rule prohibits constituencies crossing county or London Borough boundaries. In England therefore the first part of Rule 5 has to be applied subject to that qualified prohibition. In Scotland the requirement of electoral equality stated in the first part of Rule 5 is subject to the qualification contained in, among others, Rule 4(1)(b) which provides that “so far as is practicable having regard to Rules 1 to 3 .. regard shall be had to the boundaries of local authority areas ..”. The Assistant Commissioner considered that we appeared not to have had regard to the requirements of Rule 4 which he contended imposes

a duty to have regard to the boundaries of local authority areas. He acknowledged that the terms of the Scottish part of that Rule are less demanding than the equivalent Rule for England and Wales, but concluded that it is none the less plainly a Rule which must be observed so far as practicable. Apart from this acknowledgement, neither the Assistant Commissioner nor any of the parties who made legal submissions before him attempted to interpret that part of the Rules. It is plain that the requirement of electoral equality is qualified by Rules 1 to 4 but qualification is not a synonym for subservience. We consider that the English Court of Appeal gave primacy to Rule 4(1)(a) because it contained an express prohibition. Rule 4(1)(b), on the other hand, prohibits nothing, but is a positive requirement to have regard to the boundaries of local authority areas. The words "having regard to" have on more than one occasion been subject to judicial consideration. In the light of authority, Lord Justice-Clerk Ross summed up the position in *Bearsden and Milngavie District Council v Secretary of State for Scotland* 1992 SLT 917 at 920E as follows:-

"It is well recognised in Scotland that 'having regard to' merely means 'having in view'."

In complying with the duty to keep regional and district boundaries in view, we become aware of disadvantages which are likely to follow if a regional or district boundary is crossed. Compliance with the duty, however, does not bind us to refrain from crossing the boundary of a local authority area. We have a discretion either to take that course or refrain from taking that course. Accordingly, if the requirement of electoral equality in Scotland is made subservient to a requirement that regional or district boundaries shall not be crossed, the latter requirement comes into effect not through the application of a peremptory prohibition contained in Rule 4(1)(b) but rather because in a particular instance we, in exercising our discretion under that Rule, so decide.

31. It is our view, therefore, that in seeking to apply the Rules, we are not bound to accord primacy to Rule 4. We further consider that the discretion allowed by Rule 4(1)(b) allows us either generally or in any particular instance to give primacy to the requirements of Rule 5. For these reasons, we were unable to agree with the Assistant Commissioner's conclusion that our approach to this review was inconsistent with the requirements of the Rule to an extent which would justify a complete reconsideration of our provisional recommendations in respect of the county constituencies in Borders and Lothian Regions, other than those in West Lothian.

32. Nevertheless, while we considered that we were under no obligation to retain the status quo in respect of 2 discrete constituencies within Borders Region, and we were not committed to endorse the decisions of our predecessors, we recognised on consideration of the Assistant Commissioner's report that his alternative recommendations concerning the constituencies of East Lothian, Midlothian, Roxburgh & Berwickshire and Tweeddale, Ettrick & Lauderdale created constituencies with greater adherence to local ties and regional and district boundaries. We also acknowledged that these took proper account of the weight of local opinion which had objected to our original proposals. These were the alternative proposals which had been put forward by, among others, Mr John Home

Robertson, Member of Parliament for East Lothian. Although these recommendations increased the electoral disparity between the smallest and largest constituencies, we decided that Roxburgh and Berwickshire should remain together but with the addition of ED7 (Scott's View) from Ettrick and Lauderdale District. As a makeweight for this loss, and to improve electoral parity generally, ED39 (Penicuik) would be added to the Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale constituency. The residual parts of East Lothian and Midlothian districts would then form discrete constituencies. The Assistant Commissioner had recognised that none of the suggestions advanced regarding the Edinburgh constituencies could be looked at in isolation, since any change in the location of one regional electoral division would have consequences for the locations of others if electoral parity were to be maintained. We therefore accepted his recommendation not to revise our provisional recommendations for the boundaries of the constituencies in Edinburgh. We concluded, however, that the title of the Edinburgh Inverleith constituency should be altered in view of the weight of public opinion and the views and arguments expressed. We accepted the Assistant Commissioner's recommendation that this should be called Edinburgh North and Leith. We saw no justifiable need to alter our provisional proposals for the West Lothian constituencies of Linlithgow and Livingston.

Revised recommendations

33. On 17 February 1994 we accordingly published a notice stating that having considered the Assistant Commissioner's report we had decided to revise some of our recommendations for parliamentary constituencies in the combined regions of Borders and Lothian as follows:

Burgh Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Edinburgh Central	Unaltered from initial proposals.	60,023
Edinburgh East	Unaltered from initial proposals	59,153
Edinburgh North and Leith	Unaltered from initial proposals (previously called Edinburgh Inverleith)	60,235
Edinburgh Pentlands	Unaltered from initial proposals	59,432
Edinburgh South	Unaltered from initial proposals	61,638
Edinburgh West	Unaltered from initial proposals	61,995
County Constituencies		
East Lothian	regional electoral divisions in East Lothian District	
	45 Preston/Levenhall	
	46 Fa'side	
	47 Luffness	
	48 Haddington	
	49 Tantallon	56,283

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Linlithgow	Unaltered from initial proposals	53.066
Livingston	Unaltered from initial proposals.	58.068
Midlothian	regional electoral divisions in Midlothian District	
	40 Loanhead	
	41 Bommyrigg/Newtongrange	
	42 Dalkeith	
	43 Mayfield/Gorebridge	47.952
Roxburgh and Berwickshire	1. Roxburgh District	
	2. Berwickshire District	
	3. regional electoral division in Ettrick and Lauderdale District	
	7 Scott's View	47.068
Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale	1. Tweeddale District	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Ettrick and Lauderdale District	
	5 Old Selkirk	
	6 Forest	
	8 Leaderdale	
	9 Eildon	
	10 Galawater	
	11 Galashiels West	
	12 Galashiels East	
	13 Galashiels South	
	3. regional electoral division in Midlothian District	
	39 Penicuik	50.228

Representations on revised recommendations

34. Following publication of our revised proposals we received 77 representations together with a petition containing approximately 2000 signatures. Some representations remarked on more than one aspect of our revised proposals. The representations fell broadly into the following categories:

Issue	Number of Representations
1. Support for our revised proposals.	19
2. That Musselburgh should be added to the the name of the Edinburgh East constituency.	5

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 3. That ED39 (Penicuik) should be removed from the proposed Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale constituency. | 15 |
| 4. That the 2 Borders constituencies should remain as recommended by our predecessors. | 5 |
| 5. That the district ward of Leith Links should be included in the proposed Edinburgh North and Leith constituency. | 6
(plus petition) |
| 6. That ED18 (New Town/Stockbridge) should remain in the Edinburgh Central constituency. | 27 |

Consideration of representations on revised proposals

35. We considered that the issues relating to the proposed constituencies in Borders and Lothian Regions, and the question of crossing the regional boundary, had been fully discussed at the local inquiry and that the further representations did not advance any new arguments to persuade us to modify our proposals. However, we decided that Edinburgh East should be re-named Edinburgh East and Musselburgh.

36. On 19 May 1994, we accordingly published a notice stating that having considered the further representations received regarding our revised proposals, we had decided to modify these only by amending the name of the Edinburgh East constituency to Edinburgh East and Musselburgh. At the same time we announced that an error had been detected in the maps illustrating both our initial and revised proposals for two of the constituencies in Edinburgh. These maps showed an incorrect boundary line between ED22 (Longstone/Craiglockhart) and ED23 (Moat/Stenhouse) which formed the boundary between Edinburgh Pentlands and Edinburgh Central.

37. Following publication of these further modified proposals we received 6 representations, 2 supported our proposals. We examined the 4 objections carefully but decided against further alteration to our revised proposals.

Final Recommendations

38. We accordingly recommend the adoption of our proposals for 6 burgh constituencies and 6 county constituencies for the combined regions of Borders and Lothian as follows:

Burgh Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Edinburgh Central	regional electoral divisions in the City of Edinburgh District	
	17 Murrayfield/Dean	
	23 Moat/Stenhouse	
	24 Dalry/Shandon	
	25 Fountainbridge/Tollcross	
	26 St Giles/Holyrood	60,023

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Edinburgh East and Musselburgh	1. regional electoral divisions in the City of Edinburgh District	
	27 Meadowbank/Mountcastle 28 Links/Restalrig 29 Portobello/Milton 38 Craigmillar/Duddingston	
Edinburgh North and Leith	2. regional electoral division in East Lothian District	
	44 Musselburgh/Fisherrow regional electoral divisions in the City of Edinburgh District	59,153
Edinburgh Pentlands	14 Granton/Pilton 15 Trinity/Newhaven 18 New Town/Stockbridge 19 Calton/Broughton 20 Lorne/Harbour	60,235
	regional electoral divisions in the City of Edinburgh District	
Edinburgh South	10 Balerno/Baberton 22 Longstone/Craiglockhart 30 Sighthill/Broomhouse 31 Colinton/Firrhill 35 Braidburn/Fairmilehead	59,432
	regional electoral divisions in the City of Edinburgh District:	
Edinburgh West	32 Merchiston/Morningside 33 Sciennes/Marchmont 34 Prestonfield/Mayfield 36 Alnwickhill/Kaimes 37 Inch/Gilmerton	61,638
	regional electoral divisions in the City of Edinburgh District	
Edinburgh West	11 Queensferry/Kirkliston 12 Cramond/Blackhall 13 Drylaw/Muirhouse 16 Corstorphine North 21 Corstorphine South	61,995

SECTION ONE—BORDERS AND LoTHIAN REGIONS

County Constituencies

East Lothian	regional electoral divisions in East Lothian District	
	45 Preston/Levenhall	
	46 Fa'side	
	47 Luffness	
	48 Haddington	
	49 Tantallon	56,283
Linlithgow	regional electoral divisions in West Lothian District	
	1 Linlithgow/Winchburgh	
	2 Bathgate West/Armadale	
	3 Whitburn	
	4 Bathgate East/Blackburn	53,066
Livingston	regional electoral divisions in West Lothian District	
	5 Deans/Knightsridge	
	6 Craigshill/Ladywell	
	7 Dedridge/West Calder	
	8 Broxburn/Uphall	
	9 Murieston/East Calder	58,068
Midlothian	regional electoral divisions in Midlothian District	
	40 Loanhead	
	41 Bonnyrigg/Newtongrange	
	42 Dalkeith	
	43 Mayfield/Gorebridge	47,952
Roxburgh and Berwickshire	1. Roxburgh District	
	2. Berwickshire District	
	3. regional electoral division in Ettrick and Lauderdale District	
	7. Scott's View	47,068
Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale	1. Tweeddale District	

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

2. regional electoral divisions in
Ettrick and Lauderdale District

5 Old Selkirk

6 Forest

8 Leaderdale

9 Eildon

10 Galawater

11 Galashiels West

12 Galashiels East

13 Galashiels South

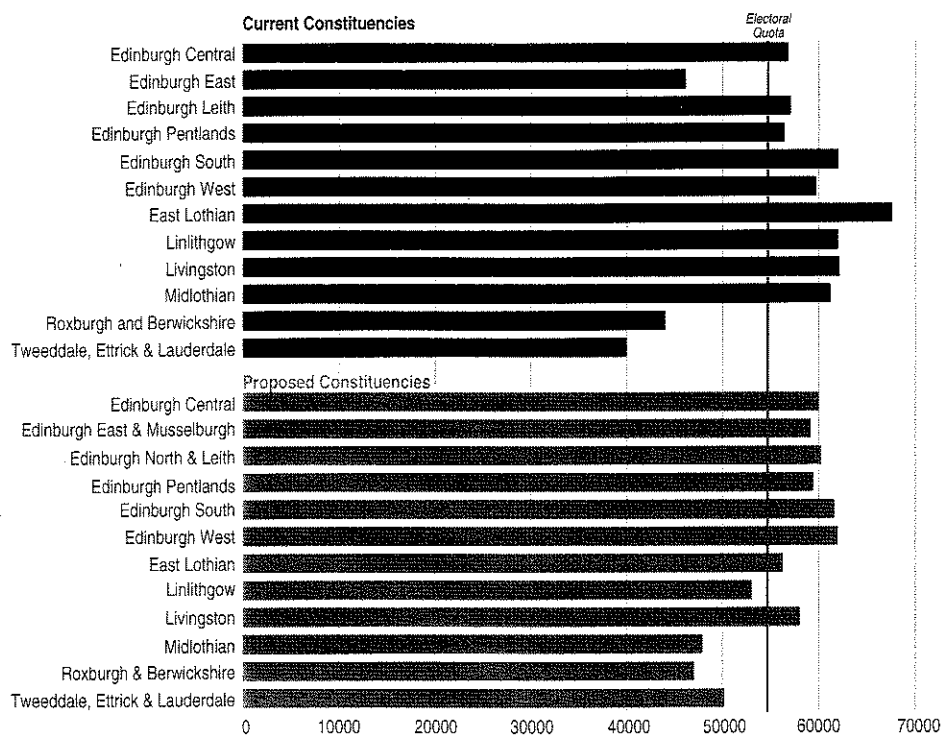
- 3 regional electoral division in
Midlothian District

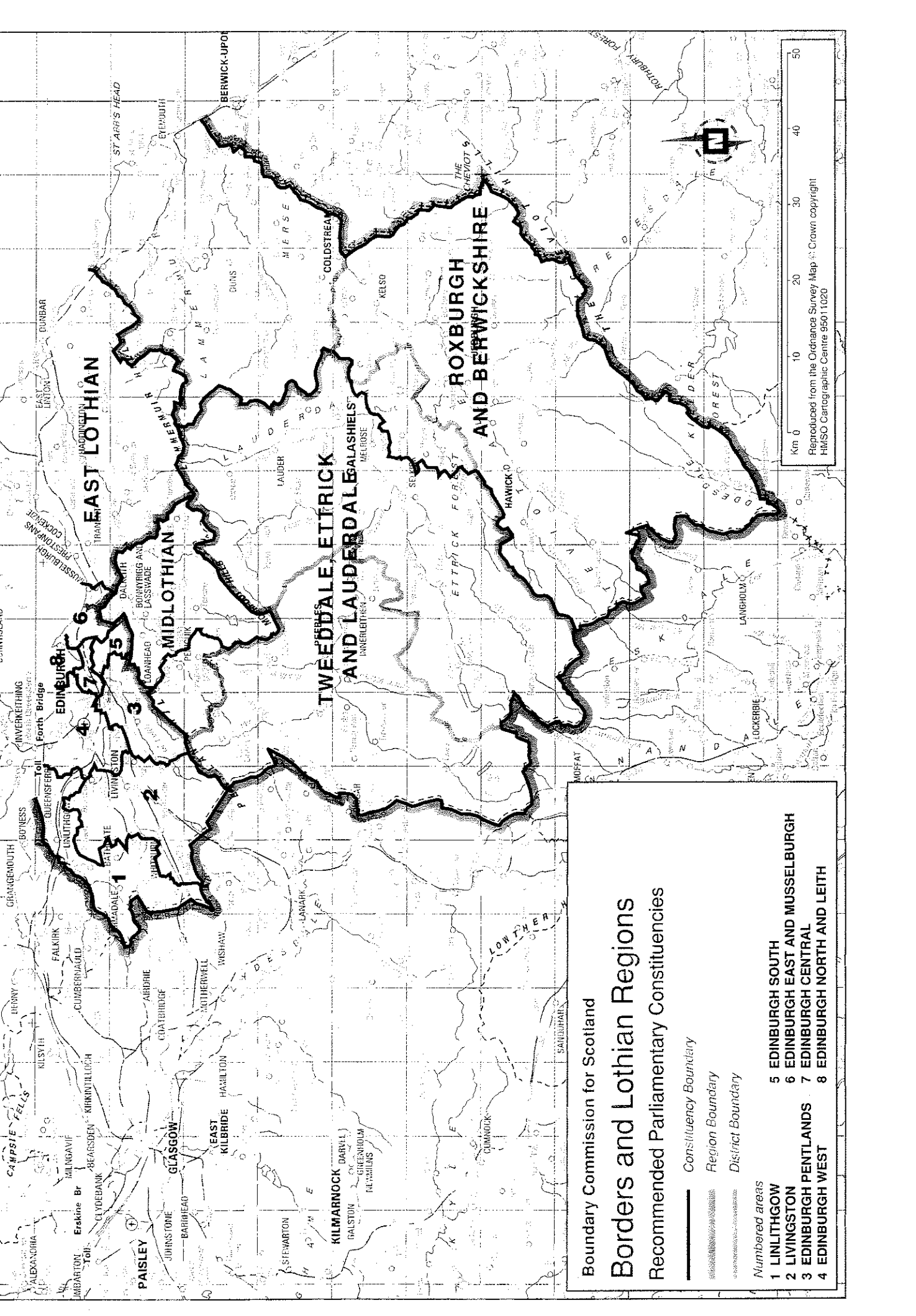
39 Penicuik

50,228

39. The electorates of both the current and the proposed constituencies in Borders and Lothian Region on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) were as shown in Figure 2 below.

Figure 2





Boundary Commission for Scotland

Borders and Lothian Regions

Recommended Parliamentary Constituencies

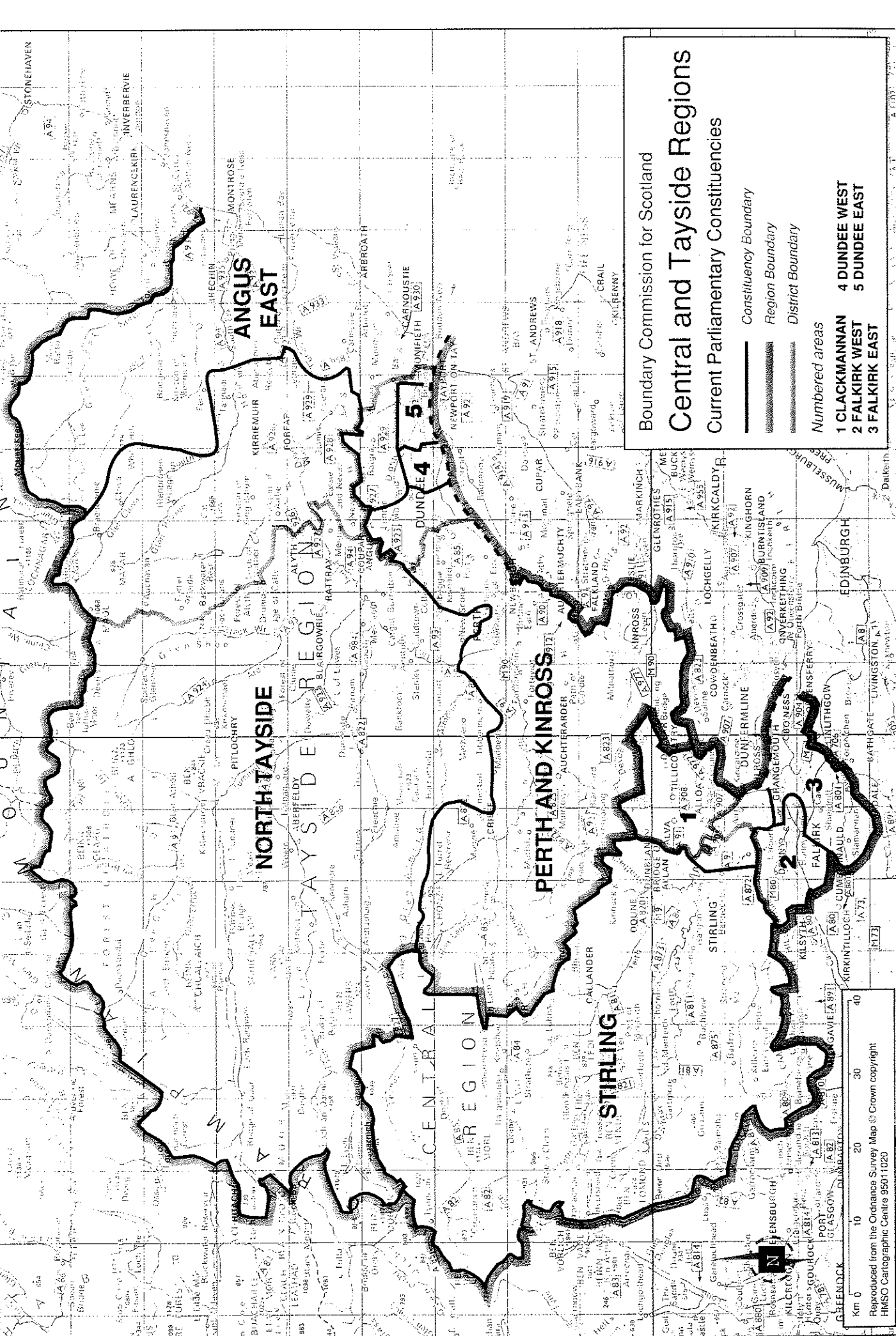
- Constituency Boundary
- Region Boundary
- District Boundary

Numbered areas

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 LINLITHGOW | 5 EDINBURGH SOUTH |
| 2 LIVINGSTON | 6 EDINBURGH EAST AND MUSSELBURGH |
| 3 EDINBURGH PENTLANDS | 7 EDINBURGH CENTRAL |
| 4 EDINBURGH WEST | 8 EDINBURGH NORTH AND LEITH |

Km 0 10 20 30 40 50

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Boundary Commission for Scotland

Central and Tayside Regions

Current Parliamentary Constituencies

Constituency Boundary

Region Boundary

District Boundary

Numbered areas

1 CLACKMANNAN

2 FALKIRK WEST

3 FALKIRK EAST

4 DUNDEE WEST

5 DUNDEE EAST

SECTION TWO

CENTRAL AND TAYSIDE REGIONS

Introduction

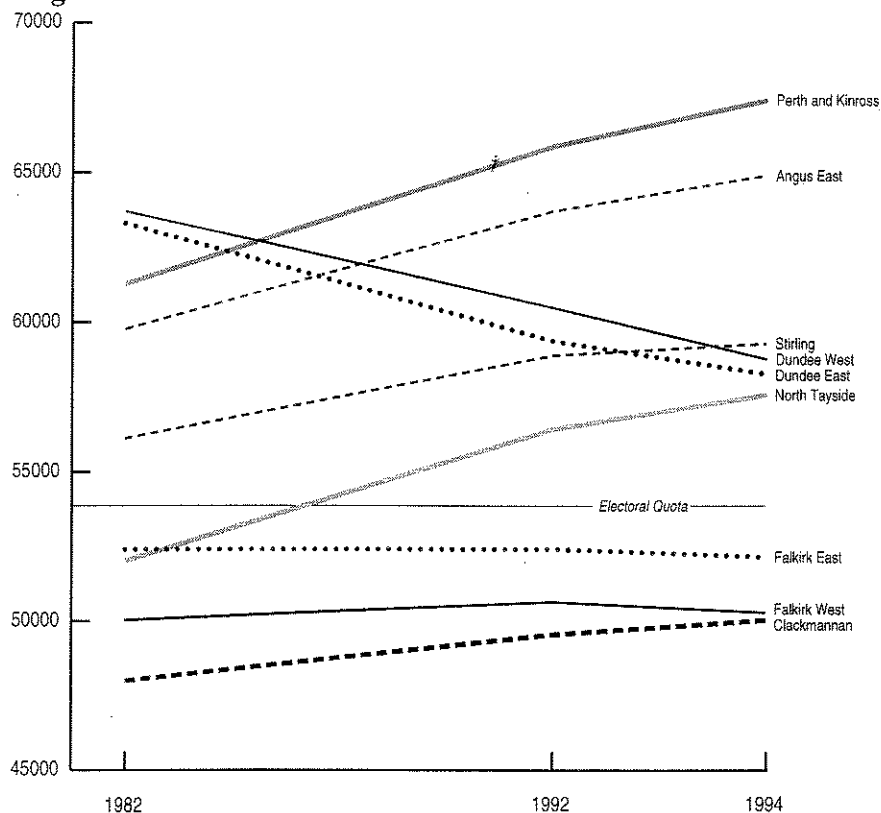
1. The regions comprise the following 2 burgh and 7 county constituencies whose electorates at the start and finish of the previous and current reviews were as shown in Table 3 and Figure 3 below:

Table 3

Current Constituency	Electorates			
	Previous Review*		Current Review	
	Start (1978)	End (1982)	Start (1992)	End (1994)
<i>Burgh Constituencies</i>				
Dundee East	63,500	63,200	59,328	58,207
Dundee West	64,500	63,600	60,386	58,552
<i>County Constituencies</i>				
Angus East	57,100	59,700	63,637	64,776
Clackmannan	47,200	48,000	49,427	49,966
Falkirk East	51,700	52,300	52,381	52,114
Falkirk West	47,600	50,000	50,623	50,183
North Tayside	50,300	52,000	56,353	57,531
Perth and Kinross	60,000	61,200	65,826	67,289
Stirling	52,900	56,100	58,774	59,127
Total	494,800	506,100	516,735	517,745

*As published in third periodical report

Figure 3



2. In forming our initial proposals for the combined regions we had in mind the following considerations:

2.1 The parliamentary electorate of Central Region on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) was 211,205, giving the region a theoretical entitlement to 3.87 seats which rounds to 4 seats.

2.2 The parliamentary electorate of Tayside Region on the enumeration date was 305,526 giving the region a theoretical entitlement to 5.60 seats which rounds to 6 seats.

2.3 The parliamentary electorate of the combined regions of Central and Tayside on the enumeration date was 516,731, giving the combined area a theoretical entitlement to 9.47 seats which rounds to 9 seats. The rounded theoretical entitlement for Central and Tayside as a combined area was therefore one less than the aggregate of the rounded theoretical entitlements considered separately.

2.4 To achieve our target of no more than 72 for the total number of constituencies in Scotland it would be necessary for some constituencies to cover parts of more than one region.

Note: The parliamentary electorate of these local government areas (which provided the electorate on the enumeration date) was not identical to the parliamentary electorate of the constituencies in the area, as the local authority and parliamentary constituency boundaries were not the same.

Combination of Regions

3. We recognised that recommending constituencies which crossed regional boundaries would be an innovation and could also have the disadvantage of grouping areas within which no civic ties or electoral affinities presently exist. We considered, however, that this approach was necessary and that Central and Tayside, which share a lengthy boundary, were among the most suitable regions to amalgamate. By doing this our objective of recommending no more than 72 seats overall would be more likely to be achieved.

4. Given these circumstances, we accepted that the effect would be that some electors in Tayside Region would, for parliamentary purposes, have to join with electors in Central Region. We then considered options for the combined area which equalised electorates and were consistent with our aim of creating constituencies which caused minimum disruption to existing boundaries. We decided that this could best be achieved by including ED39 (Auchterarder) and ED46 (Kinross) in Tayside Region in a constituency otherwise in Central Region. The benefit of this approach was that in Central Region the boundaries of the Stirling constituency would remain unaltered, and ED30 (Kinnaird) on the south bank of the River Forth would be transferred from the current Clackmannan to the proposed Falkirk East constituency. By transferring ED33 (Braes) from Falkirk East to Falkirk West we could address the imbalance of electorate between the Falkirk constituencies. We recognised that the new Ochil constituency produced a contrast in its predominant social and employment characteristics, but we considered that such contrasts were not uncommon in Scottish parliamentary constituencies. We were also of the view that the area had a geographical unity with the Ochil Hills. We decided against revising the boundaries of the 2 Dundee constituencies, despite their slightly higher electorates, because we recognised the discrete nature of the city community and had in mind the forecast that the city electorate will fall by 6.8% over the next 10 years. Within the rest of Tayside Region we sought to achieve a balance of electorate between the 3 remaining rural constituencies after the transfer of ED's 39 and 46 to the proposed Ochil constituency. By transferring ED11 (Breachin and Eastern Glens) in Tayside Region from Angus East constituency to North Tayside constituency (which would still have the smallest electorate) we considered that we had properly taken account of community interest, while at the same time creating constituencies with electorates within an acceptable range around the electoral quota.

5. We considered that our proposals created constituencies which, consistent with our primary objectives, involved minimum disruption to the existing boundaries and were broadly equal in electorate terms.

Initial recommendations

6. On 22 April 1993 we published our initial recommendations for 2 burgh and 7 county constituencies for the combined area of Central and Tayside Regions as follows:

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Burgh Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Dundee East	regional electoral divisions in the City of Dundee District 16 Dens 17 Stannergate 23 Clepington 24 Kingsway East 25 Fintry 26 Whitfield 27 Douglas & Angus 28 Broughty Ferry 29 Barnhill	61,286
Dundee West	regional electoral divisions in the City of Dundee District 12 Central 13 Riverside 14 Lochee 15 Law 18 Ninewells 19 Charleston 20 Kingsway West 21 St Mary's 22 Kirkton	60,353
County Constituencies		
Angus East	1. regional electoral divisions in Angus District 1 Arbroath Central 2 Carnoustie East and Arbroath West 3 Arbroath North & Central Angus 4 Arbroath East 5 Carnoustie West 8 Montrose South 9 Montrose North 2. regional electoral divisions in the City of Dundee District 30 Monifieth 31 Sidlaw	58,883

SECTION TWO—CENTRAL AND TAYSIDE REGIONS

Falkirk East	regional electoral divisions in Falkirk District	
	20 Bainsford	
	23 Dundas	
	24 Kalantyre	
	25 Seacock	
	26 Carriden	
	27 Kinneil	
	30 Kinnaird	
	34 Laurmont	
	35 Avonside	55,582
Falkirk West	regional electoral divisions in Falkirk District	
	18 Callendar	
	19 Grahamsdyke	
	21 Glenfuir	
	22 Carmuir	
	28 Herbertshire	
	29 Tryst	
	31 Carronglen	
	32 Bonnybridge	
	33 Braes	55,102
North Tayside	1. regional electoral divisions in Angus District	
	6 Forfar West	
	7 Forfar East	
	10 Kirriemuir and Western Glens	
	11 Brechin and Eastern Glens	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Perth and Kinross District	
	41 Pitlochry, Aberfeldy and Rannoch	
	42 Dunkeld and Strathhtay	
	43 Blairgowrie and Glenshee	
	44 Alyth and Coupar Angus	53,538

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Ochil	1. Clackmannan District	
	2. regional electoral division in Stirling District	
	13 Carseland	
	3. regional electoral divisions in Perth and Kinross District	
	39 Auchterarder	
	46 Kinross	55,771
	regional electoral divisions in Perth and Kinross District	
	32 Perth St Johnstoun	
Perth	33 Perth Moncreiffe	
	34 Perth Viewlands	
	35 Perth Letham	
	36 Perth Inveralmond	
	37 Bridge of Earn and The Carse	
	38 Glenfarg, Methven and Strathearn	
	40 Crieff	
	45 Scone and St Martins	58,571
Stirling	regional electoral divisions in Stirling District	
	7 Wallace	
	8 Castle	
	9 Viewforth	
	10 St Ninians	
	11 Queensland	
	12 Strathendrick	
	14 Bannockburn	
	15 Airthrey	
	16 Dounebraes	
	17 Menteith	57,756

Representations on initial recommendations

7. A total of 51 representations and various petitions covering 2015 signatures were received regarding our initial recommendations. These included submissions from Angus District Council, Clackmannan District Council, City of Dundee District Council, Falkirk District Council, Perth and Kinross District Council, Central Regional Council and Tayside

Regional Council. Representations were also received from 7 of the present Members of Parliament. The main issues which gave rise to comment were:-

7.1 The inclusion of ED39 (Auchterarder) in Tayside Region in the proposed Ochil constituency rather than the proposed Perth constituency.

7.2 The inclusion of ED33 (Braes) in Central Region in the proposed Falkirk West constituency rather than the proposed Falkirk East constituency.

7.3 The transfer of ED11 (Breachin and Eastern Glens) in Tayside Region from the Angus East constituency to the North Tayside constituency.

7.4 The inclusion of ED13 (Carseland) in Central Region in the proposed Ochil constituency.

Local Inquiry

8. As a consequence of objections received from local authorities in the area, we recognised that we had a statutory duty to hold a local inquiry. At our request you agreed to appoint Sheriff Principal John J Maguire QC, Sheriff Principal of Tayside, Central and Fife to hold an inquiry into our initial recommendations. The inquiry was held in the Lesser City Hall, Perth on 25, 26 and 27 October 1993.

9. In the period between the announcement of the local inquiry and the commencement of the inquiry itself the number of representations increased to 127. This was due mainly to the interest generated by the counter-proposal from the Labour Party Scottish Council that ED15 (Airthrey) should be transferred from the Stirling constituency to the Ochil constituency as part of a series of adjustments.

10. A further point to emerge prior to the holding of the inquiry was a discrepancy, brought to our attention by the Director of Administration and Legal Services of Central Regional Council, in some of the electorates contained in the notice we published when announcing our initial proposals for the area. At the start of the inquiry, the Assistant Commissioner informed those present that some of the electorates on the enumeration date were not quite as intimated in the notice announcing our initial proposals and that the correct electorates were:

Dundee West constituency	60,352
Ochil constituency	55,371
Perth constituency	58,470
Stirling constituency	58,147

11. The focus of greatest contention at the inquiry fell on our proposals for the new Ochil constituency. Perth and Kinross District Council objected to the proposed Ochil con-

stituency on the grounds that it would comprise communities which lacked geographical, social, cultural or historic links. The Council did not agree with our proposal to amalgamate Central and Tayside Regions, contending instead that it was unnecessary to do so. It was feasible, in the Council's opinion, to produce 4 constituencies within Central Region with an average electorate of 52,801 and 5 constituencies within Tayside Region with an average electorate of 61,106. Although the average electorate of the Tayside constituencies would be in excess of the electoral quota, this would not be excessive when considered against the electorates of constituencies elsewhere in the country. The District Council also objected to the inclusion of ED39 (Auchterarder) and ED46 (Kinross) in the proposed Ochil constituency and argued that Kinross looked north to Perth, and south to some extent to Dunfermline, rather than west to Clackmannan.

12. Clackmannan District Council pointed out that our proposed Ochil constituency would cover parts of 2 regions and 3 districts. This would impede efficient links between the Member of Parliament and the local authorities. The Council consequently supported the Labour Party Scottish Council's counter-proposal that ED15 (Airthrey) should be included instead of parts of Tayside in the proposed Ochil constituency.

13. Mr Fisher, of Clackmannan constituency Scottish National Party, argued that as ED13 (Carseland) was situated south of the River Forth it belonged in a Falkirk constituency. He suggested that the part of ED15 (Airthrey) known as Blairlogie should be joined to Clackmannan instead. There were those who were of the contrary view that ED13 belonged to Stirling. Mr Fisher also suggested that a district ward or wards from Fife Region should be included in the Ochil constituency.

14. Nobody at the inquiry supported our proposal to include ED39 (Auchterarder) in the Ochil constituency and many spoke against it. Some contended that an Ochil constituency minus ED39, which would have an electorate of 49,238, would be an acceptable size given the forecast growth and development potential of ED46 (Kinross). Comparisons were drawn between the larger and smaller constituencies throughout Scotland, and it was argued that an Ochil constituency comprising 49,238 electors would be of an acceptable size within the accepted band of disparity. Those who agreed with the Labour Party Scottish Council's suggestion that ED15 (Airthrey) should be included in the Ochil constituency contended that, with an electorate of 55,483, it would be an appropriate size. Stirling constituency would, of course, be smaller at 51,902 electors, but the difference between the 2 constituencies would not be as great as it would be if ED15 remained in Stirling. It was said at the inquiry that 40% of the projected growth in the Stirling area was to take place within ED15, and that if ED15 were to remain in the Stirling constituency the electorate of that constituency would soon reach an unacceptable level. It was also contended that ED15, was not geographically alien to Clackmannan. Airthrey is at the west end of the Ochils and Bridge of Allan is the last in a series of towns strung along the foothills of the Ochils.

15. There was, however, a considerable amount of opposition to the Labour Party's counter-proposal, particularly from Mr Michael Forsyth, Member of Parliament for

Stirling, Stirling Conservative and Unionist Association and many residents of Bridge of Allan. Those opposing the counter-proposal said that the removal of ED15 (Airthrey) from the Stirling constituency would go against Rule 7(b). Mention was made of the history of the parliamentary representation of the area. At the last general review the Commission had initially recommended that Airthrey should form a constituency with Clackmannan District. The Commission had accepted, however, after a local inquiry, the alternative proposal which was put before the inquiry, and endorsed by the Assistant Commissioner, that Airthrey should be transferred to the Stirling constituency.

16. Mr Bell for Clackmannan Liberal Democrats argued for the inclusion of both ED15 (Airthrey) and ED16 (Dounebraes) in the Ochil constituency. He said that this would produce a geographically concise constituency running between the River Forth, the Ochil Hills and the Lomond Hills in the east. This proposal would involve the consequential transfers of ED39 (Auchterarder) to the Perth constituency and ED13 (Carseland) to the Stirling constituency.

17. As stated above, there was unanimity of view among those making representations that ED39 (Auchterarder) should not be included in the Ochil constituency but should remain in the Perth constituency. To address the imbalance in the electorate of the Perth constituency which the inclusion of ED39 would create, it was suggested that ED45 (Scone and St Martins) should be transferred to the North Tayside constituency. An alternative suggestion was that ED40 (Crieff) should be included in the North Tayside constituency. There were those, including Mr Andrew Welsh, Member of Parliament for Angus East, Angus District Council and the local Scottish National Party branches, who objected to our proposal to include ED11 (Brechtin and Eastern Glens) in the North Tayside constituency. Mr Welsh said that previous Boundary Commissions had understood the economic and historic links shared between Brechin and Montrose and had placed these 2 Angus burghs in the same constituency. The local Scottish National Party branches wished to split ED11 so that the Glens went to the North Tayside constituency with Brechin remaining in the Angus constituency. Angus District Council submitted that the links between Brechin and Montrose were so strong that it would be wrong to separate them for parliamentary representation purposes.

18. Our proposal that ED33 (Braes) should be transferred from the Falkirk East constituency to the Falkirk West constituency met with considerable opposition, including representations from various political and community-based organisations. It was demonstrated at the inquiry that this electoral division, which comprises a number of small communities, looked to the landward area of Falkirk rather than to the town of Falkirk itself. No-one argued in favour of the Braes being in the Falkirk West constituency.

19. Our proposals for the 2 constituencies in the City of Dundee met with a wide level of acceptance. Mr Tares, Chairman of the Invergowrie and Kingoodie Community Council, argued, however, that the small communities to the west of Dundee which form part of ED31 (Sidlaw) had no affinity with Dundee or Angus but looked to Perth and should therefore form part of the Perth constituency.

Assistant Commissioner's Report

20. In his report to us the Assistant Commissioner noted that no-one was able to support our proposal that ED39 (Auchterarder) should be included with Clackmannan in an Ochil constituency. He agreed with the views expressed. Apart from being contiguous with Clackmannan, ED39 had nothing in common with that area. The Assistant Commissioner recommended that ED39 should be included in the Perth constituency. In considering the arguments and submissions advanced concerning ED46 (Kinross), he concluded there were sufficient connections along the south side of the Ochil Hills to support our proposal that ED46 should be included with Clackmannan District in the Ochil constituency.

21. The Assistant Commissioner noted the various arguments in support of and against the inclusion of ED15 (Airthrey) in either the Stirling constituency or the Ochil constituency. Having considered the arguments, including those relating to travel to work areas, geographical considerations, social/community ties, transport links, the history of parliamentary representation in the area and the role the University of Stirling plays in the larger community of Central Region, he recommended that ED15 should be transferred from the Stirling constituency to the Ochil constituency. The Assistant Commissioner concluded that the issues were very evenly balanced. The deciding factor was that the disparity of electorate would be less if Airthrey was in the Ochil constituency than if it was in the Stirling constituency.

22. The Assistant Commissioner, in his consideration of the 2 Falkirk constituencies, concurred that the weight of representation was in favour of ED33 (Braes) being transferred from the Falkirk West constituency to Falkirk East with ED20 (Bainsford) being transferred from Falkirk East to Falkirk West. He also recommended that as a consequence of ED39 (Auchterarder) returning to the Perth constituency electoral parity should be maintained by ED45 (Scone and St Martins) being re-instated in the North Tayside constituency. This was the only change he recommended to the North Tayside constituency boundaries. He had a degree of sympathy with the arguments advanced in relation to those small communities which form part of ED31 (Sidlaw) in Tayside Region and accepted that although they were within the boundary of the City of Dundee District Council they were not orientated to the city. He noted, however, that the area in question (Longforgan) involved only part of ED31. In view of our stated policy of using regional electoral divisions as the basic building blocks in forming constituencies, he concluded that the counter-proposal that part of ED31 should be included in the Perth constituency was not a feasible option.

23. The Assistant Commissioner recommended no change to our initial proposals for the boundaries of the Angus East constituency.

24. The names of the constituencies of Stirling, North Tayside, Dundee East and Dundee West were not at issue and the Assistant Commissioner recommended no change to our initial proposals in this respect. It was suggested at the local inquiry that it would be more appropriate if Falkirk East and Falkirk West were renamed Strathavon and Strathcarron respectively (reflecting the areas now covered by the proposed constituencies) and that the

Ochil constituency should retain the name Clackmannan. It was also proposed that the name of the Perth constituency should take cognisance of the fact that it would contain a reasonable portion of the area formerly known as Perthshire and, as the Angus East constituency would include territory to the west of the City of Dundee, its title should either be Angus or Angus South. The Assistant Commissioner concluded that the proposed titles for the 2 Falkirk constituencies were suitable and recommended no change to our provisional proposals. He recommended, however, that the proposed Ochil constituency should be called Clackmannan and Kinross constituency, that the proposed Perth constituency should be called South Perthshire constituency, and that the proposed Angus East constituency should be called Angus South constituency.

Consideration of the Assistant Commissioner's recommendations

25. On consideration of the Assistant Commissioner's report we were impressed by the strength of feeling and the views expressed at the local inquiry that, although contiguous with it, ED39 (Auchterarder) in Tayside Region had little in common with Clackmannan District. We therefore concurred with the Assistant Commissioner's recommendation that it should return to the Perth constituency and with his consequential recommendation that ED45 (Scone and St Martins) should be transferred, to facilitate parity of electorate, from the proposed Perth constituency to the North Tayside constituency to which it at present belongs.

26. We noted the considerable opposition to our provisional proposals in relation to the 2 Falkirk constituencies involving ED20 (Bainsford) and ED33 (Braes) and the various options advanced at the local inquiry to compensate any consequential transfer of electoral divisions between these 2 constituencies. We were persuaded, however, by the representations that ED20 would be better placed in the Falkirk West constituency as this would place the town of Falkirk in one constituency, and allow ED33 to return to the Falkirk East constituency. We supported the Assistant Commissioner's recommendation even although it created a slightly greater disparity of electorate between the 2 constituencies than in our initial proposals.

27. The recommendations in respect of ED15 (Airthrey) caused us considerable difficulty. Like the Assistant Commissioner we considered that the arguments were evenly balanced, as evidenced by our predecessors initial proposal during the last general review that Airthrey should form part of the current Clackmannan constituency. We were also fully seized of the popular expression of support for the status quo by many of the inhabitants of Bridge of Allan. We recognised, however, that the Assistant Commissioner had had the advantage of a detailed and lengthy debate in public on the issue and that circumstances were slightly different from those applying at the previous inquiry in 1981. We agreed with his conclusion, therefore, that in the final analysis of such a finely balanced issue Rule 5 should prevail. This led to ED15 being included in Ochil. We concurred with his view that Airthrey has geographical and other links with other hillfoot towns of the Ochils. We reached the conclusion that the evidence and submissions advanced demonstrated that there were community ties between Airthrey and various other areas within Central Region, and that

like so many other communities in Scotland there was some flexibility over the constituency in which it should be placed.

28. We were persuaded by the arguments advanced in favour of altering the name of the proposed Angus East constituency to Angus but we did not wish to alter any of the other proposed names.

Revised recommendations

29. On 17 March 1994 we accordingly published a notice stating that having considered the Assistant Commissioner's report we had decided to revise some of our recommendations for parliamentary constituencies in the combined regions of Central and Tayside as follows:

Burgh Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Dundee East	unaltered from initial proposals	61,286
Dundee West	unaltered from initial proposals	60,352
County Constituencies		
Angus	unaltered from initial proposals (previously called Angus East)	58,883
Falkirk East	regional electoral divisions in Falkirk District	
	23 Dundas	
	24 Kalantyre	
	25 Sealock	
	26 Carriden	
	27 Kinneil	
	30 Kinnaird	
	33 Braes	
	34 Laurmont	
	35 Avonside	56,737
Falkirk West	regional electoral divisions in Falkirk District	
	18 Callendar	
	19 Grahamsdyke	
	20 Bainsford	
	21 Glenfuir	
	22 Carmuir	

SECTION TWO—CENTRAL AND TAYSIDE REGIONS

	28 Herbertshire	
	29 Tryst	
	31 Carronglen	
	32 Bonnybridge	53,947
North Tayside	1. regional electoral divisions in Angus District	
	6 Forfar West	
	7 Forfar East	
	10 Kirriemuir and Western Glens	
	11 Brechin and Eastern Glens	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Perth and Kinross District	
	41 Pitlochry, Aberfeldy and Rannoch	
	42 Dunkeld and Strathitay	
	43 Blairgowrie and Glenshee	
	44 Alyth and Coupar Angus	
	45 Scone and St Martins	59,626
Ochil	1. Clackmannan District	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Stirling District	
	13 Carseland	
	15 Airthrey	
	3. regional electoral division in Perth and Kinross District	
	46 Kinross	55,483
Perth	regional electoral divisions in Perth and Kinross District	
	32 Perth St Johnstoun	
	33 Perth Moncreiffe	
	34 Perth Viewlands	
	35 Perth Letham	
	36 Perth Inveralmond	
	37 Bridge of Earn and The Carse	
	38 Glenfarg, Methven and Strathearn	
	39 Auchterarder	
	40 Crieff	58,515

Stirling	regional electoral divisions in Stirling District	
	7 Wallace	
	8 Castle	
	9 Viewforth	
	10 St Ninians	
	11 Queensland	
	12 Strathendrick	
	14 Bannockburn	
	16 Dounebraes	
	17 Menteith	51,902

Representations on revised recommendations

30. Following publication of our revised proposals we received 800 representations together with petitions containing 1071 signatures. The revised proposal which generated the greatest number of representations was that ED15 (Airthrey) should transfer from the Stirling constituency to the Ochil constituency. The representations fell broadly into the following categories:

Issue	Number of Representations
1. The removal of ED15 (Airthrey) from the proposed Stirling constituency.	794 (and petitions containing 1071 signatures)
2. That the part of ED31 (Sidlaw) containing Longforgan should transfer from the proposed Angus constituency to the proposed Perth constituency.	1
3. That ED11 (Breachin and Eastern Glens) should transfer from the North Tayside constituency to the Angus constituency.	2
4. That ED46 (Kinross) should be contained in the Perth constituency.	1
5. That the title of the Angus constituency should revert to Angus East.	2

31. There were many representations arguing for a further local inquiry to address the issue of the placement of ED15 (Airthrey). We considered, however, that the issue of whether ED15 should be included in the Stirling constituency or the Ochil constituency

had been fully discussed at the inquiry in Perth and that the representations now received added no new dimension to the arguments presented to the Assistant Commissioner then. We therefore decided against modifying our revised proposals. Nor were we persuaded by the further representations received to amend our proposals for either the Angus constituency or the North Tayside constituency.

Final recommendation

32. We accordingly recommend the adoption of our proposals for 2 burgh and 7 county constituencies for the combined regions of Central and Tayside as follows:

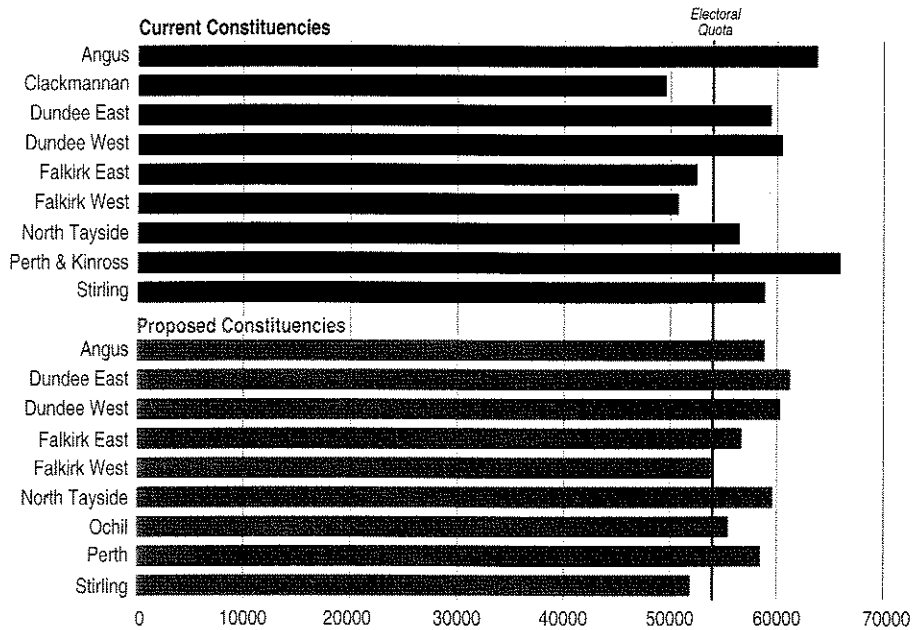
Constituencies Burgh Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Dundee East	regional electoral divisions in the City of Dundee District	
	16 Dens	
	17 Stannergate	
	23 Clepington	
	24 Kingsway East	
	25 Fintry	
	26 Whitfield	
	27 Douglas & Angus	
	28 Broughty Ferry	
	29 Barnhill	61,286
Dundee West	regional electoral divisions in the City of Dundee District	
	12 Central	
	13 Riverside	
	14 Lochee	
	15 Law	
	18 Ninewells	
	19 Charleston	
	20 Kingsway West	
	21 St Mary's	
	22 Kirkton	60,352
County Constituencies		
Angus	1. regional electoral divisions in Angus District	
	1 Arbroath Central	
	2 Carnoustie East and Arbroath West	

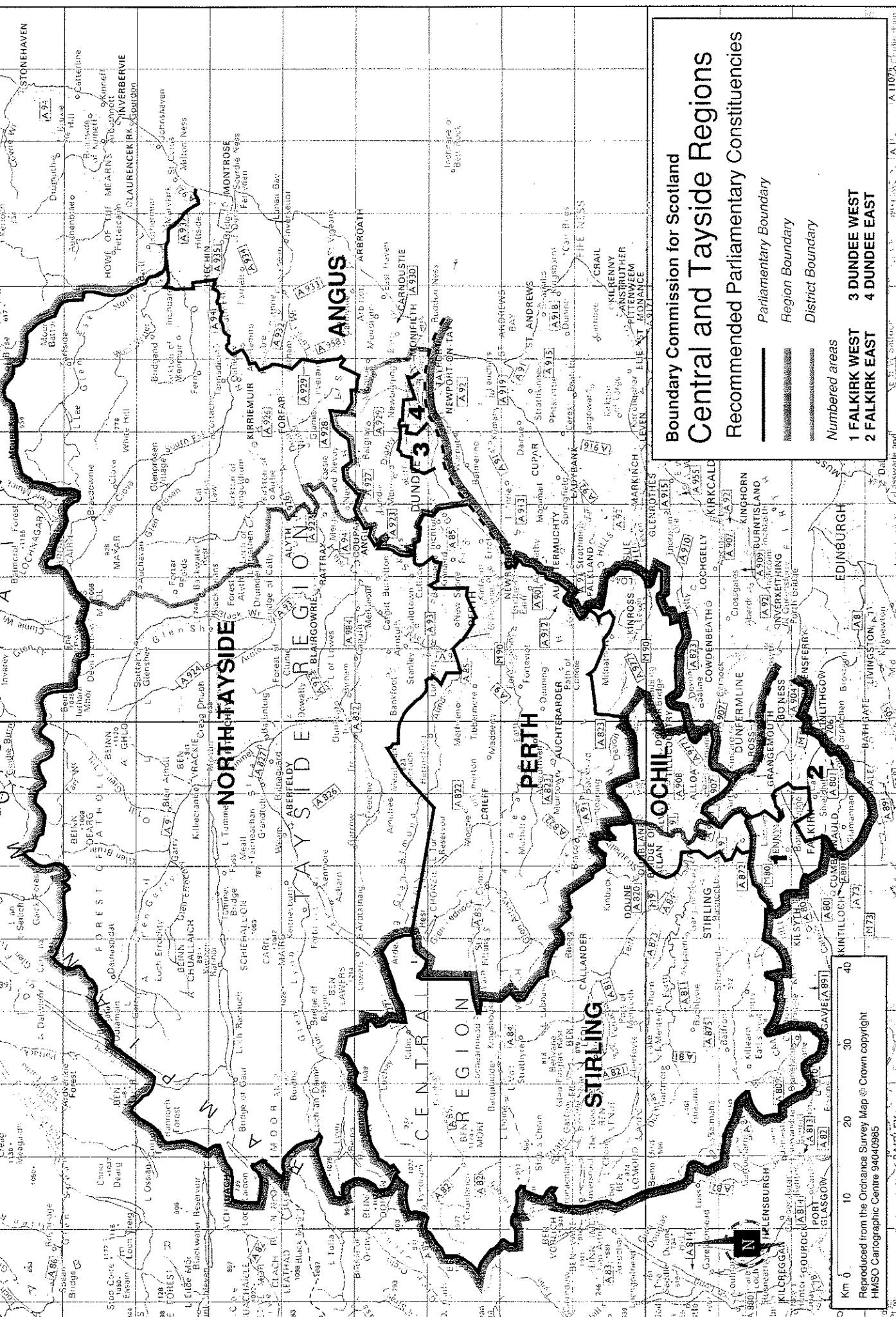
	3 Arbroath North and Central Angus	
	4 Arbroath East	
	5 Carnoustie West	
	8 Montrose South	
	9 Montrose North	
	2. regional electoral divisions in the City of Dundee District	
	30 Monifieth	
	31 Sidlaw	58,883
Falkirk East	regional electoral divisions in Falkirk District	
	23 Dundas	
	24 Kalantyre	
	25 Sealock	
	26 Carriden	
	27 Kinneil	
	30 Kinnaird	
	33 Braes	
	34 Laurmont	
	35 Avonside	56,737
Falkirk West	regional electoral divisions in Falkirk District	
	18 Callendar	
	19 Grahamsdyke	
	20 Bainsford	
	21 Glenfuir	
	22 Carmuir	
	28 Herbertshire	
	29 Tryst	
	31 Carronglen	
	32 Bonnybridge	53,947
North Tayside	1. regional electoral divisions in Angus District	
	6 Forfar West	
	7 Forfar East	
	10 Kirriemuir and Western Glens	
	11 Brechin and Eastern Glens	

	2. regional electoral divisions in Perth and Kinross District	
	41 Pitlochry, Aberfeldy and Rannoch	
	42 Dunkeld and Strathtay	
	43 Blairgowrie and Glenshee	
	44 Alyth and Coupar Angus	
	45 Scone and St Martins	59,626
Ochil	1. Clackmannan District	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Stirling District	
	13 Carseland	
	15 Airthrey	
	3. regional electoral division in Perth and Kinross District	
	46 Kinross	55,483
Perth	regional electoral divisions in Perth and Kinross District	
	32 Perth St Johnstoun	
	33 Perth Moncreiffe	
	34 Perth Viewlands	
	35 Perth Letham	
	36 Perth Inveralmond	
	37 Bridge of Earn and the Carse	
	38 Glenfarg, Methven and Strathearn	
	39 Auchterarder	
	40 Crieff	58,515
Stirling	regional electoral divisions in Stirling District	
	7 Wallace	
	8 Castle	
	9 Viewforth	
	10 St Ninians	
	11 Queensland	
	12 Strathendrick	
	14 Bannockburn	
	16 Dounebraes	
	17 Menteith	51,902

33. The electorates of both the current and the proposed constituencies in Central and Tayside Regions on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) were as shown in Figure 4 below.

Figure 4





Boundary Commission for Scotland
Central and Tayside Regions
Recommended Parliamentary Constituencies

- Parliamentary Boundary
- Region Boundary
- District Boundary

- Numbered areas
- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1 FALKIRK WEST | 3 DUNDEE WEST |
| 2 FALKIRK EAST | 4 DUNDEE EAST |

Boundary Commission for Scotland

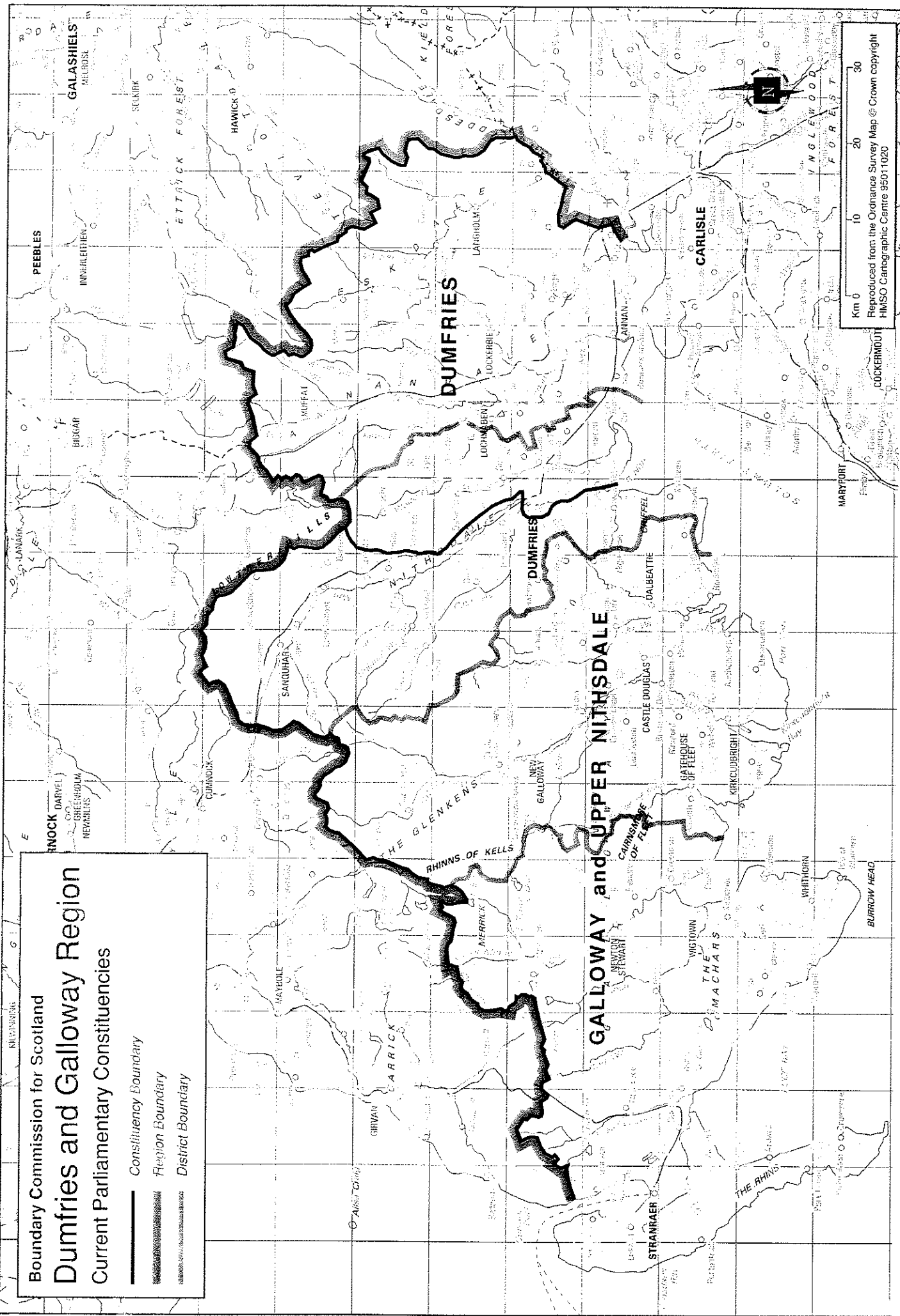
Dumfries and Galloway Region

Current Parliamentary Constituencies

Constituency Boundary

Region Boundary

District Boundary



SECTION THREE

DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY REGION

Introduction

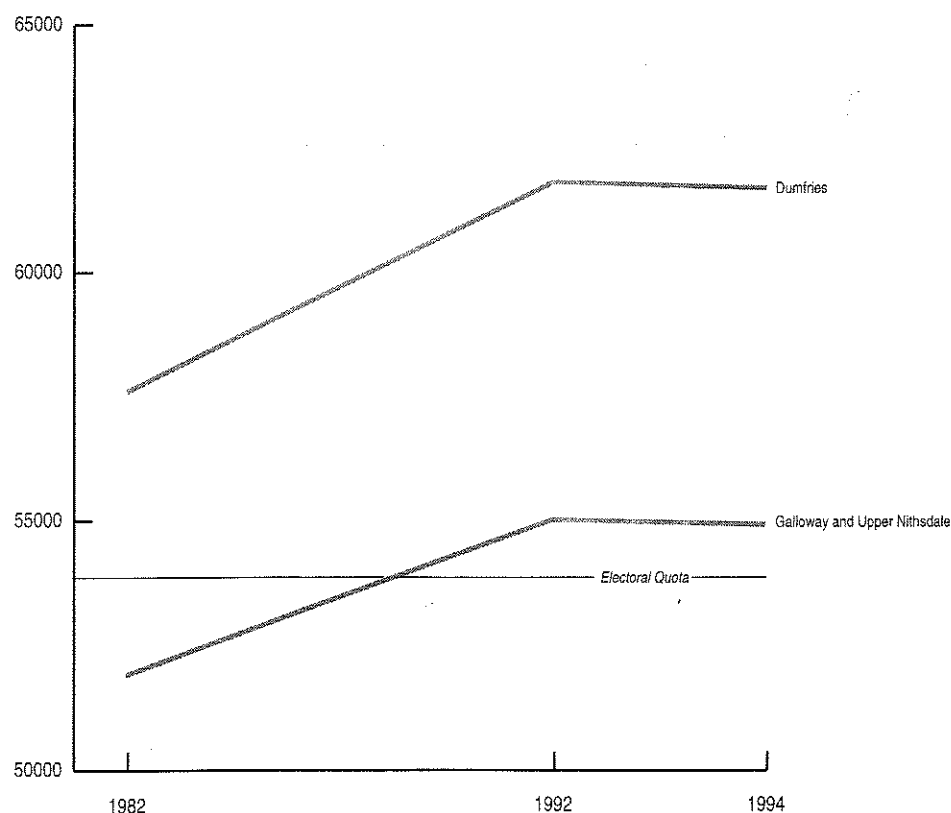
1. The region comprises the following 2 county constituencies whose electorates at the start and finish of the previous and current reviews were as shown in Table 4 and Figure 5 below:

Table 4

Current Constituency	Electorates			
	Previous Review* Start (1978)	End (1982)	Current Review Start (1992)	End (1994)
Dumfries	54,800	57,600	61,773	61,658
Galloway and Upper Nithsdale	50,600	51,900	54,977	54,912
Total	105,400	109,500	116,750	116,570

*As published in third periodical report

Figure 5



2. In forming our initial proposals for the region, we had in mind the following considerations:

2.1 The electorate of Dumfries and Galloway Region on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) was 116,750, giving the region a theoretical entitlement to 2.14 seats which rounds to 2 seats.

2.2 Although there is no statutory requirement to take forecast changes in electorate into account, projections for the area show only a slight increase (0.6%) to the year 2001.

2.3 The Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland (LGBCS) recommended in its review of regional electoral divisions that Nithsdale District should have one electoral division less than before. This altered the map of regional electoral divisions significantly which meant that it was not possible to retain the existing boundaries.

2.4 We considered the case for amalgamation with Borders Region. While this could have produced constituencies closer to the electoral quota in both areas the effect would have been to transfer electors and territory in the eastern part of the Dumfries constituency to the two Borders constituencies. We decided against pursuing this option for two reasons. First, Dumfries was already the smallest territorially of the four constituencies; the resultant structure would probably only make an already lengthy Roxburgh and Berwickshire constituency longer. Secondly, such a move would do nothing to achieve the target of 72 constituencies in total for Scotland. Instead it would prevent us from pursuing the option of an amalgamation involving Borders and Lothian Regions.

Initial recommendations

3. We noted that since the start of the third periodical review the electorate of the Galloway and Upper Nithsdale constituency had increased by 8.7% and the electorate of the Dumfries constituency by 12.8%. In order to counteract the increasing imbalance of electorate between the two constituencies we decided that an electoral division should be transferred from the Dumfries constituency to the Galloway and Upper Nithsdale constituency. We considered all the available electoral divisions, and decided that ED17 (Locharbriggs), with an electorate of 3,463, should be transferred to the Galloway and Upper Nithsdale constituency as it shared a long boundary with this constituency. We concluded that no other electoral division within Nithsdale District could be transferred without intruding into the township of Dumfries, or traversing the estuarial section of the River Nith. The remaining electoral division within the area, ED18 (Tinwald Downs), shared only a small length of common boundary and was therefore considered inappropriate. Although it was acknowledged that transferring ED17 would increase the already large land area of the Galloway and Upper Nithsdale constituency we did not consider it would greatly alter its character. We also recognised that prior to the review there were five constituencies in Scotland which were substantially larger than the proposed Galloway and Upper Nithsdale constituency and had poorer communication arrangements.

SECTION THREE—DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY REGION

4. On 15 April 1993 we published our initial recommendations for the 2 county constituencies in Dumfries and Galloway Region as follows:

Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Dumfries	1. Annandale and Eskdale District	
	2. Regional electoral divisions in Nithsdale District	
	18 Tinwald Downs	
	19 Lochar	
	20 Crichton	
	21 Maryfield	
	22 St Marys	
	23 Rotchell	
	24 Palmerston	
	25 Maryholm	
	26 Lochside	59,805
Galloway and Upper Nithsdale	1. Stewartry District	
	2. Wigtown District	
	3. Regional electoral divisions in Nithsdale District	
	14 Upper Nithsdale	
	15 Queensberry	
	16 West Nithsdale	
	17 Locharbriggs	56,945

Representations on initial proposals

5. A total of 17 representations were received within the consultation period. All those making representations, and 567 petitioners, were opposed to the transfer of ED17 (Locharbriggs) from the Dumfries constituency into the Galloway and Upper Nithsdale constituency. Many of the representations also supported our proposal to include the Cargenbridge area and a part of Lochside in the Dumfries constituency. Dumfries and Galloway Regional Council, Locharbriggs Community Council (supported by 117 petitioners), Kirkmichael Community Council, Dumfries Constituency Conservative Association, Galloway and Upper Nithsdale Conservative and Unionist Association and Mr Donald Grant, a resident of Lockerbie, objected to the transfer of ED17 but at this time offered no alternative proposals. Councillor Cameron JP, a local regional and district councillor (supported by a petition containing 193 signatures) and the Earl of Annandale and Hartfell contended that any transfer of electoral divisions should be made on the western

side of the River Nith. They also proposed that the River Nith should be used as the boundary. Nithsdale District Council and Councillor Mrs Mary Gordon proposed that the status quo should prevail based on the present constituency boundaries. Councillor Kenneth Morton, the regional councillor for Lochaberbriggs, the Labour Party Scottish Council and the Dumfries Constituency Labour Party, suggested that if ED17 remained in the Dumfries constituency the disparity in electorate of nearly 10,000 could be justified in terms of Rule 6 (special geographical considerations) and Rule 7 (local ties). They further suggested that if this proposal was not acceptable an alternative would be to transfer ED31 (Eskdale) and ED33 (Upper Annandale) from the Dumfries constituency to a constituency in Borders Region. Wigtown District Council, in objecting to the proposals, suggested a more radical review to form a "Galloway" constituency. However, the Council did not expand any further on this. Mr Andrew Duncan, a resident of Kirkmahoe, supported by a petition containing 257 signatures, objected to the transfer of ED17 and suggested instead that ED25 (Maryholm) and ED26 (Lochside) should be transferred from the Dumfries constituency to the Galloway and Upper Nithsdale constituency. To counterbalance this, ED15 (Queensberry) should be transferred from the Galloway and Upper Nithsdale constituency into the Dumfries constituency. Finally, Annandale and Eskdale District Council maintained that we had taken little or no account of community ties when trying to achieve equality of electorate.

Local Inquiry

6. As a consequence of objections received from local authorities in the area, we recognised that we had a statutory duty to hold a local inquiry. Our normal policy was to nominate a Sheriff Principal to conduct the local inquiry. In the case of Dumfries and Galloway the Sheriff Principal was due to retire before an inquiry could be held. In the circumstances you appointed Sheriff Dan C Russell to conduct the inquiry which was held in Dumfries and Galloway Regional Council Chambers on 13 October 1993. Prior to the inquiry opening, the Assistant Commissioner received written representations from the Rt Hon Ian Lang, Member of Parliament for Galloway and Upper Nithsdale, and Sir Hector Monro, Member of Parliament for Dumfries. Both wrote in support of the counter-proposals put forward by the constituency Conservative Associations. The Assistant Commissioner also received written representations from Moffat and District Community Council who opposed any counter-proposal to transfer electoral divisions at the eastern part of Dumfries & Galloway Region to a Borders constituency. This view was strongly supported by Annandale and Eskdale District Council and by Mr Grant of Courance and Mr John Thomson of Annan at the inquiry.

7. At the inquiry the Assistant Commissioner heard counter proposals to our initial recommendations. The Labour Party Scottish Council, the two constituency Labour Parties, the Regional Council along with three regional councillors (Kenneth Morton, William Nimmo and Mrs Shiela Howat) spoke for maintaining ED17 (Locharbriggs) within the Dumfries constituency. This would result in the electorate of the Dumfries constituency being somewhat larger than the electoral quota. The main argument in favour of this, however, was that the township of Dumfries which had expanded over the years would

remain intact within one constituency. Those supporting this proposal considered that the disparity in electorate was acceptable.

8. Mrs Hilary Grieve on behalf of the Conservative and Unionist Associations, with the written support of the sitting Members of Parliament, and Mr Peter Trodden representing Nithsdale District Council argued that no alteration should be made to the present constituency boundaries. The Conservative and Unionist Associations, while preferring this option, suggested as an alternative that ED 24 (Palmerston) should be transferred from the Dumfries constituency.

Assistant Commissioner's report

9. In his report to us the Assistant Commissioner, in considering the proposal to maintain ED 17 (Locharbriggs) within the Dumfries constituency, commented that the disparity proposed in this option was not excessive. He concluded that a lower electorate in the proposed Galloway & Upper Nithsdale constituency could be justified by its scattered and rural nature. He considered that the proposal put forward by the Conservative Associations that no alteration should be made to the existing constituency boundaries failed to include areas in the Dumfries constituency, which many people considered part of Dumfries itself. A further disadvantage was that the parliamentary constituency boundary would not be contiguous with the new regional electoral divisions which could possibly lead to some confusion locally.

10. In relation to the alternative suggestion put forward by the Conservative Associations, the Assistant Commissioner considered that no persuasive argument had been put to him other than one based on numbers, to justify the selection of an area on the western suburbs of Dumfries to be included in Galloway & Upper Nithsdale constituency. The Assistant Commissioner also was of the opinion that the proposal to transfer regional electoral divisions to a Borders constituency did not merit consideration. Not only would it mean crossing regional boundaries, but evidence presented to the Assistant Commissioner satisfied him that access between some of the eastern areas of the Dumfries constituency and its neighbouring Borders constituencies was very poor and that community ties were minimal. Also, the views of the people affected in Dumfries and Galloway and Borders Regions had not been sought.

11. Having considered all the written representations and oral evidence given at the inquiry, the Assistant Commissioner recommended that we should reverse our initial recommendation that ED17 (Locharbriggs) should be transferred from the Dumfries constituency to the Galloway and Upper Nithsdale constituency.

Consideration of the Assistant Commissioner's recommendations

12. Having considered the Assistant Commissioner's report we accepted the arguments behind his recommendations.

Revised recommendations

13. On 9 December 1993 we published revised recommendations as follows:

Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Dumfries	1. Annandale and Eskdale District 2. Regional electoral divisions in Nithsdale District 17 Locharbriggs 18 Tinwald Downs 19 Lochar 20 Crichton 21 Maryfield 22 St Marys 23 Rotchell 24 Palmerston 25 Maryholm 26 Lochside	63,268
Galloway and Upper Nithsdale	1. Stewartry District 2. Wigtown District 3. Regional electoral divisions in Nithsdale District 14 Upper Nithsdale 15 Queensberry 16 West Nithsdale	53,482

Representations on revised recommendations

14. On publication of the revised recommendations, 3 representations were received. The Labour Party Scottish Council fully supported the revised recommendations. Sir Hector Monro and the Dumfries constituency Conservative Association also welcomed our revised recommendation to maintain ED17 (Locharbriggs) in the Dumfries constituency. They requested however, that we reconsider the disparity of approximately 10,000 voters. As argued at the inquiry they felt that the status quo option would reduce the disparity of electorate to 6,718 by splitting ED24 (Palmerston), with the proposed district ward of Cargen (DW22) remaining in the Galloway and Upper Nithsdale constituency.

15. We considered that the matter of the boundary around the town of Dumfries had been fully aired at the local inquiry. We also decided, for reasons of consistency, that we could

not deviate from the new regional electoral division boundaries. We therefore decided against further alteration of our revised recommendations.

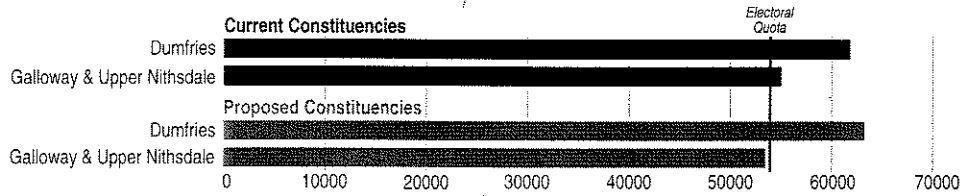
Final recommendations

16. We accordingly recommend the adoption of our revised proposals for two county constituencies in Dumfries and Galloway Region as follows:

Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Dumfries	1. Annandale and Eskdale District 2. Regional electoral divisions in Nithsdale District 17 Locharbriggs 18 Tinwald Downs 19 Lochar 20 Crichton 21 Maryfield 22 St Marys 23 Rotchell 24 Palmerston 25 Maryholm 26 Lochside	63,268
Galloway and Upper Nithsdale	1. Stewartry District 2. Wigtown District 3. Regional electoral divisions in Nithsdale District 14 Upper Nithsdale 15 Queensberry 16 West Nithsdale	53,482

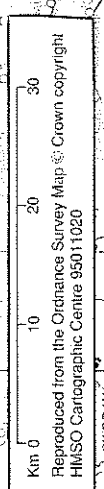
17. The electorates of both the current and the proposed constituencies in Dumfries and Galloway Region on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) were as shown in Figure 6 below.

Figure 6



Dumfries and Galloway Region

District Boundary



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Boundary Commission for Scotland

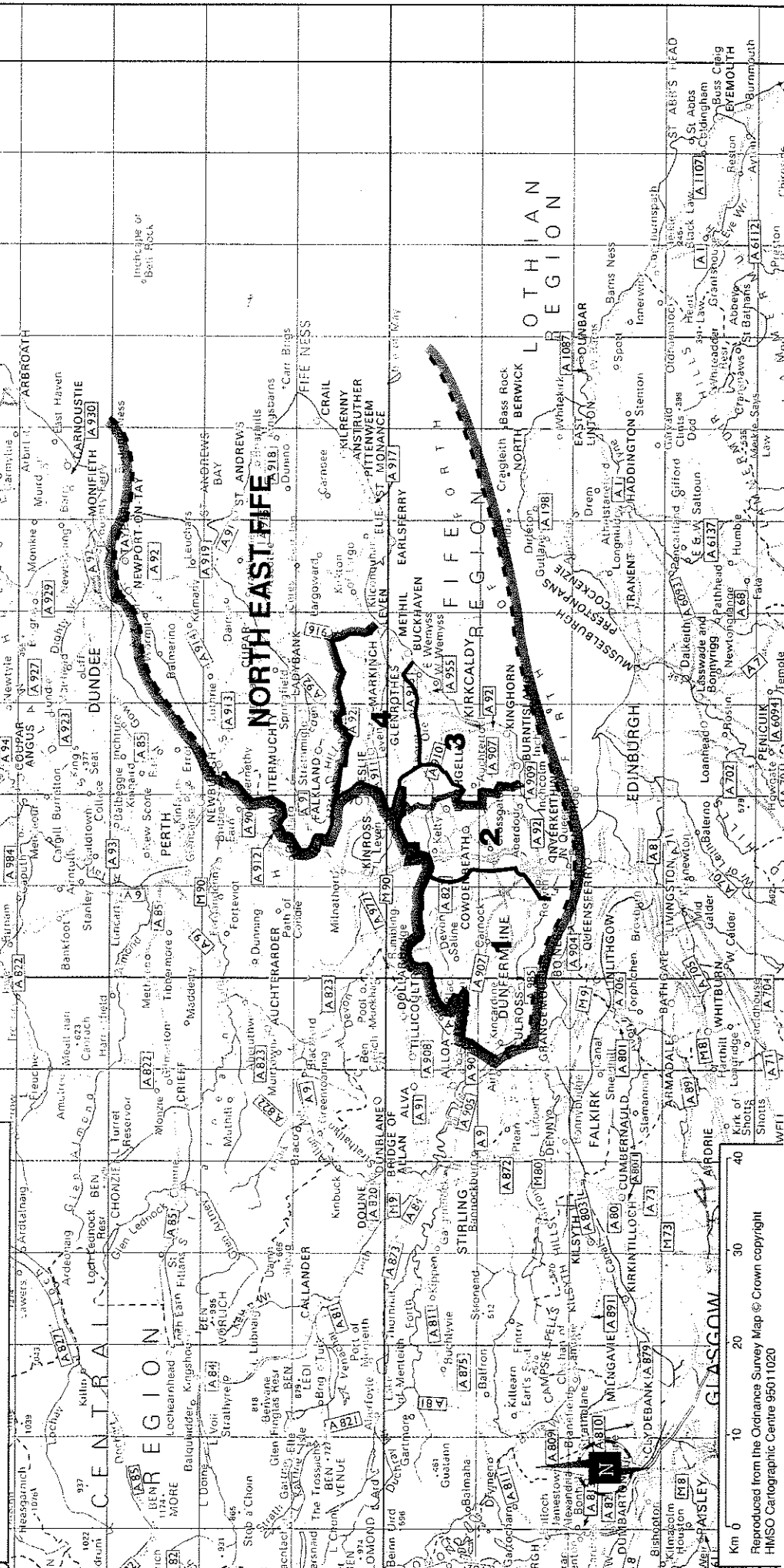
Fife Region

Current Parliamentary Constituencies

— Constituency Boundary
 — Region Boundary
 — District Boundary

Numbered areas.

1 DUNFERMLINE WEST
 2 DUNFERMLINE EAST
 3 KIRKCALDY
 4 CENTRAL FIFE



SECTION FOUR

FIFE REGION

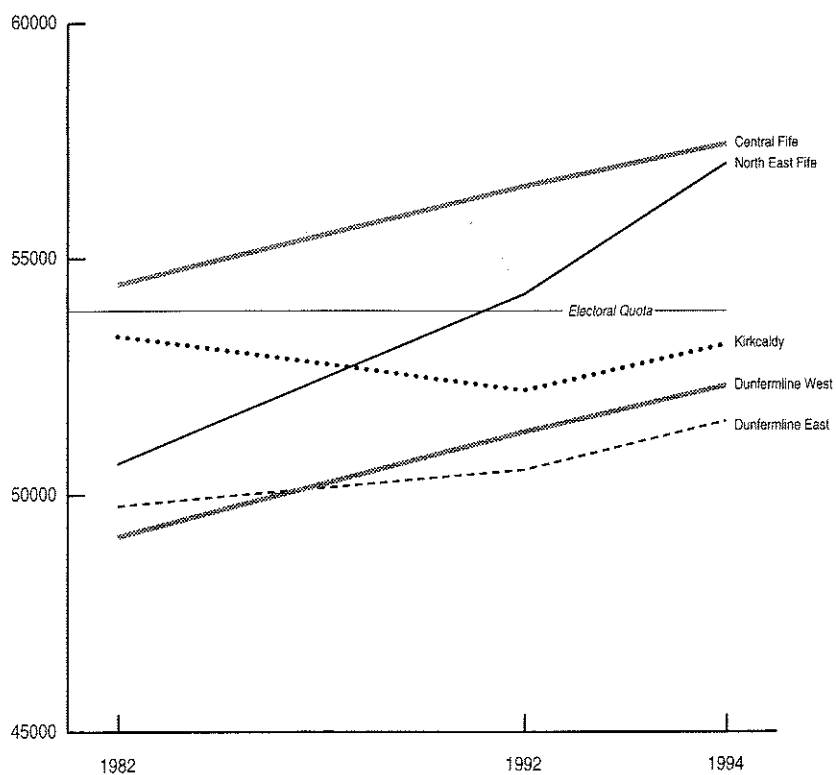
Introduction

1. The region comprises the following 5 county constituencies whose electorates at the start and finish of the previous and current reviews were as shown in Table 5 and Figure 7 below:

Table 5

Current Constituency	Electorates			
	Previous Review*		Current Review	
	Start (1978)	End (1982)	Start (1992)	End (1994)
Central Fife	51,100	54,400	56,495	57,375
Dunfermline East	48,000	49,700	50,452	51,487
Dunfermline West	47,200	49,100	51,310	52,270
Kirkcaldy	52,200	53,300	52,191	53,117
North East Fife	47,700	50,600	54,196	56,971
Total	246,200	257,100	264,644	271,220

*As published in third periodical report

Figure 7

2. In forming our initial proposals for the region we had in mind the following considerations:

2.1 The electorate of Fife Region on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) was 264,644, giving the region a theoretical entitlement to 4.85 seats which rounds to 5 seats.

2.2 The electorate of North East Fife was such as to justify the maintenance of a constituency wholly contained within the district boundary. The 1992 electorates of Kirkcaldy District (114,223) and Dunfermline District (96,177) also suggested the retention of the existing 4 constituencies between those 2 districts.

3. We concluded that Fife Region should continue to be divided into 5 constituencies and that we should address the disparity of electorate in the constituencies covering both Dunfermline and Kirkcaldy Districts. Since the average electorate of the regional electoral divisions was almost 6,000, however, and the geographical shape of the region was long and narrow, the options available to us were limited. Our aim was to achieve minimal disruption to existing constituencies in the region but, in forming our initial proposals, we were aware that the revised regional electoral divisional boundaries, for example, ED34 (Limekilns and Rosyth West) and ED35 (Kelty), meant that some fairly large expanses of territory would have to be transferred to a different constituency. In particular, in the case of ED35 we noticed that the revised western boundary, which at present divides Dunfermline East and Dunfermline West constituencies, had been moved a significant distance westward. The large majority of the electorate, however, resided in the eastern sector. It would affect far fewer electors to retain the whole of ED35 in Dunfermline East than to transfer it to Dunfermline West. In addition, if ED 35 with over 5000 electors were to be included in Dunfermline West, which already had the larger electorate of the 2 proposed constituencies, a compensatory adjustment would have been necessary elsewhere to achieve a better balance. This would have affected a greater number of electors.

Initial recommendations

4. On 19 August 1993 we published our initial recommendations for 5 county constituencies in Fife Region as follows:

Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Central Fife	regional electoral divisions in Kirkcaldy District	
	10 Methil, Denbeath & Muiredge	
	11 Methilhill and Mountfleurie	
	12 Leven	
	13 Kennoway and Windygates	
	14 Markinch, Pitcoudie and Star	
	15 Auchmuty, Woodside and Coaltown of Balgonie	
	16 Pitleuchar and Stenton	

SECTION FOUR—FIFE REGION

	17 Rimbleton and South Parks	
	18 Glenwood and Newcastle	
	19 Leslie and Collydean	57,702
Dunfermline East	1. regional electoral division in Kirkcaldy District	
	20 Cardenden and Kinglassie	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Dunfermline District	
	35 Kelty	
	40 Rosyth East and South	
	41 Benarty and Lumphinnans	
	42 Lochgelly	
	43 Cowdenbeath	
	44 Aberdour and Moss-Side	
	45 Dalgety Bay	
	46 Inverkeithing and North Queensferry	50,674
Dunfermline West	regional electoral divisions in Dunfermline District	
	30 Kincardine and Valleyfield	
	31 Cairneyhill, Oakley and Saline	
	32 Dunfermline North West	
	33 Dunfermline Central and Crossford	
	34 Limekilns and Rosyth West	
	36 Townhill and Halbeath	
	37 Dunfermline, Garvock and Blacklaw	
	38 Dunfermline, Woodmill and Linburn	
	39 Dunfermline Pitcorthie	51,187
Kirkcaldy	regional electoral divisions in Kirkcaldy District	
	1 Burntisland and Auchtertool	
	2 Kinghorn and Linktown	
	3 Dunearn and Torbain	
	4 Dunnikier and Fair Isle	
	5 Raith and Valley	
	6 Hayfield and Bennochty	

	7 Pathhead, Sinclairtown and Smeaton	
	8 Dysart and Gallatown	
	9 Buckhaven, Thornton and Wemyss	50,837
North East Fife	North East Fife District	54,244

Representations on initial recommendations

5. Representations were received from Mr Henry McLeish, Member of Parliament for Central Fife, Ms Rachel Squire, Member of Parliament for Dunfermline West, Mr Alex Falconer, Member of the European Parliament for the constituency of Mid Scotland and Fife, the Labour Party Scottish Council, Dunfermline West Constituency Labour Party, Kirkcaldy Constituency Labour Party, North East Fife Conservative Association and Steelend Village Community Association. All of the representations focused on the village of Steelend being transferred from the existing Dunfermline West constituency to the proposed Dunfermline East constituency. This change arose because, as explained in paragraph 3, the boundary of ED35 (Kelty) had been re-drawn a considerable distance westward following upon the review of regional electoral arrangements. The new boundary had been drawn between the two villages of Steelend and Saline, putting them in separate electoral divisions which resulted in them subsequently being placed in separate parliamentary constituencies.

Local inquiry

6. We considered that representations from a political party constituted a sufficient body of electors to justify the holding of a local inquiry as provided by statute. At our request you agreed to appoint Sheriff Principal John J Maguire QC, Sheriff Principal of Tayside, Central and Fife as Assistant Commissioner at the inquiry into our initial recommendations. The inquiry was held in the City Chambers of Dunfermline District Council on Monday 17 January 1994. Evidence was led at the inquiry that Steelend (with 246 electors) and Saline, which are approximately one mile apart, had developed close community ties and operated as one village. Ms Rachel Squire said that people walked daily between the 2 villages, that there was a regular bus service between them and that the nearest post office and newsagent to Steelend was in Saline. By contrast, Kelty was some 5 miles distant, had no public transport connections with Steelend and the historical, geographical and social links were minimal. Mention was made of the active work of the Saline and Steelend Community Council which was in regular contact with the District Councillor, the Regional Councillor and the Member of Parliament. Our initial recommendations, it was argued, would contribute towards the doubling of the number of representatives that the Community Council would have to deal with. These views were endorsed by Mrs Helen Law, representing Steelend Village Community Association, by the Labour Party Scottish Council and by the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party.

Assistant Commissioner's Report

7. The Assistant Commissioner concluded in his report to us that, as the numbers involved were so small and the evidence so compelling, an exception should be made in the case of Steelend and that the electors there should be returned to Dunfermline West.

Consideration of Assistant Commissioner's recommendations

8. We were impressed by the strength of feeling which existed locally and by the links and interests which have developed between Steelend and Saline over the last 40 years or so. After careful consideration, however, we concluded that we were not prepared to depart at that stage of our review from our policy of using regional electoral divisions as the basic building blocks in forming constituencies. It would be inappropriate to await the outcome of the Local Government Boundary Commission's review of district wards since this would put the statutory deadline for submission of our report in jeopardy. We also concluded that it would not be appropriate to mix new regional electoral divisions and old district wards. Nor were we prepared, for reasons of consistency, to re-align the boundary arbitrarily so as to remove Steelend from Dunfermline East and re-establish it once again with Saline in the Dunfermline West constituency.

Final recommendations

9. We therefore concluded that our initial proposals in respect of the 5 county constituencies in Fife should stand. We accordingly recommend the adoption of our initial proposals for 5 county constituencies in Fife Region as follows:

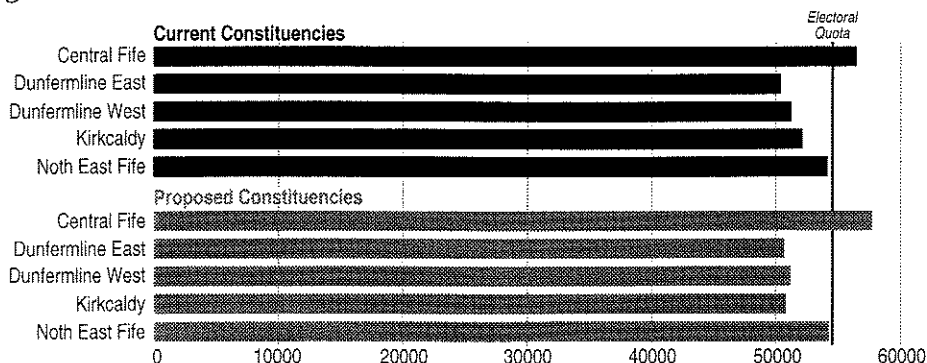
Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Central Fife	regional electoral divisions in Kirkcaldy District	
	10 Methil, Denbeath & Muiredge	
	11 Methilhill and Mountfleurie	
	12 Leven	
	13 Kennoway and Windygates	
	14 Markinch, Pitcoudie and Star	
	15 Auchmuty, Woodside and Coaltown of Balgonie	
	16 Pitleuchar and Stenton	
	17 Rimbleton and South Parks	
	18 Glenwood and Newcastle	
	19 Leslie and Collydean	57,702
Dunfermline East	1. regional electoral division in Kirkcaldy District	
	20 Cardenden and Kinglassie	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Dunfermline District	
	35 Kelty	
	40 Rosyth East and South	
	41 Benarty and Lumphinnans	
	42 Lochgelly	
	43 Cowdenbeath	
	44 Aberdour and Moss-Side	
	45 Dalgety Bay	

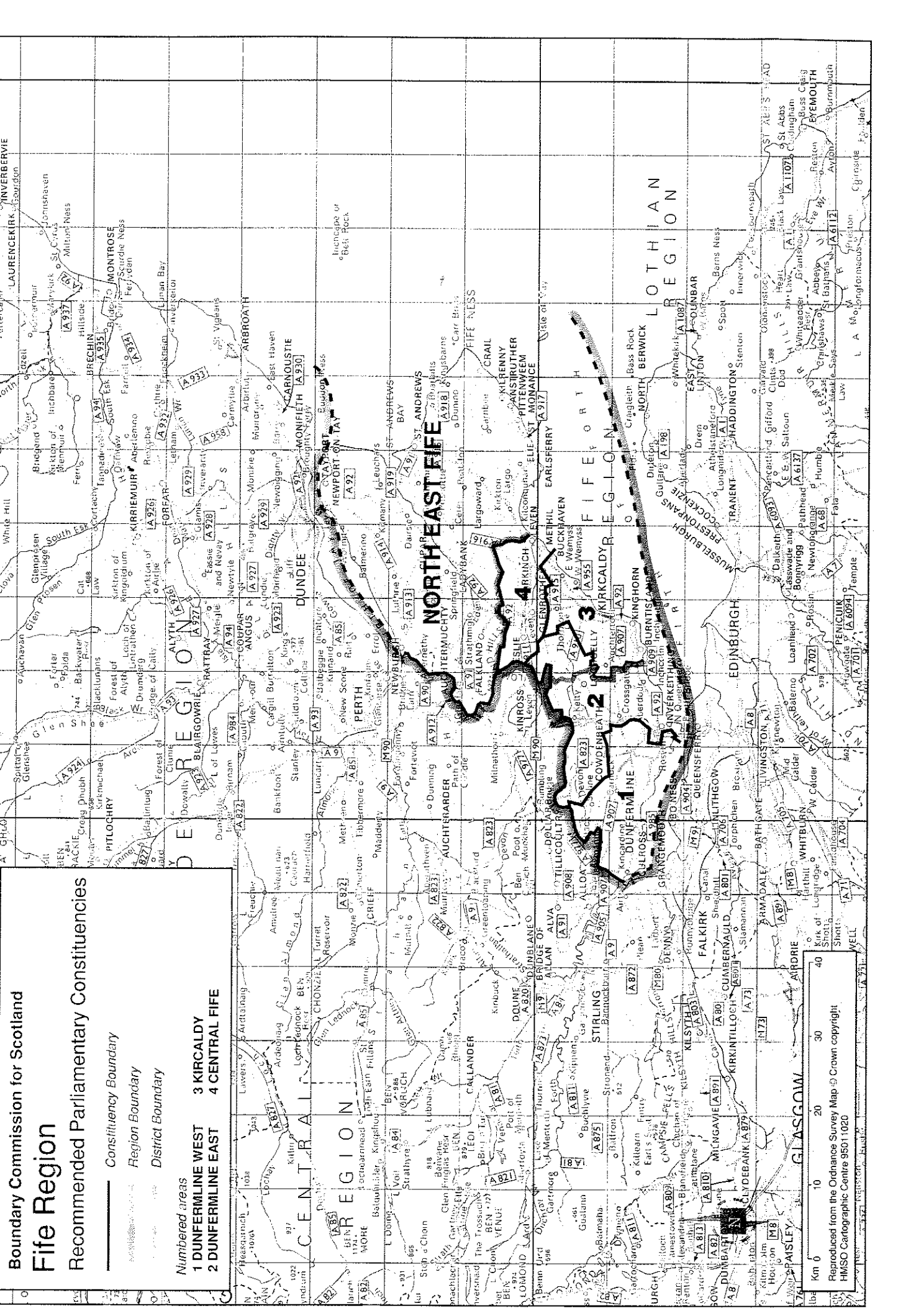
BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

	46 Inverkeithing and North Queensferry	50,674
Dunfermline West	regional electoral divisions in Dunfermline District	
	30 Kincardine and Valleyfield	
	31 Cairneyhill, Oakley and Saline	
	32 Dunfermline North West	
	33 Dunfermline Central and Crossford	
	34 Limekilns and Rosyth West	
	36 Townhill and Halbeath	
	37 Dunfermline, Garvock and Blacklaw	
	38 Dunfermline, Woodmill and Linburn	
	39 Dunfermline Pitcorthie	51,187
Kirkcaldy	regional electoral divisions in Kirkcaldy District	
	1 Burntisland and Auchtertool	
	2 Kinghorn and Linktown	
	3 Dunearn and Torbain	
	4 Dunnikier and Fair Isle	
	5 Raith and Valley	
	6 Hayfield and Bennoch	
	7 Pathhead, Sinclairtown and Smeaton	
	8 Dysart and Gallatown	
	9 Buckhaven, Thornton and Wemyss	50,837
North East Fife	North East Fife District	54,244

10. The electorates of both the current and proposed constituencies in Fife Region on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) were as shown in Figure 8 below.

Figure 8





Boundary Commission for Scotland

Fife Region

Recommended Parliamentary Constituencies

— Constituency Boundary
— Region Boundary
— District Boundary

Numbered areas
1 DUNFERMLINE WEST
2 DUNFERMLINE EAST
3 KIRKCALDY
4 CENTRAL FIFE

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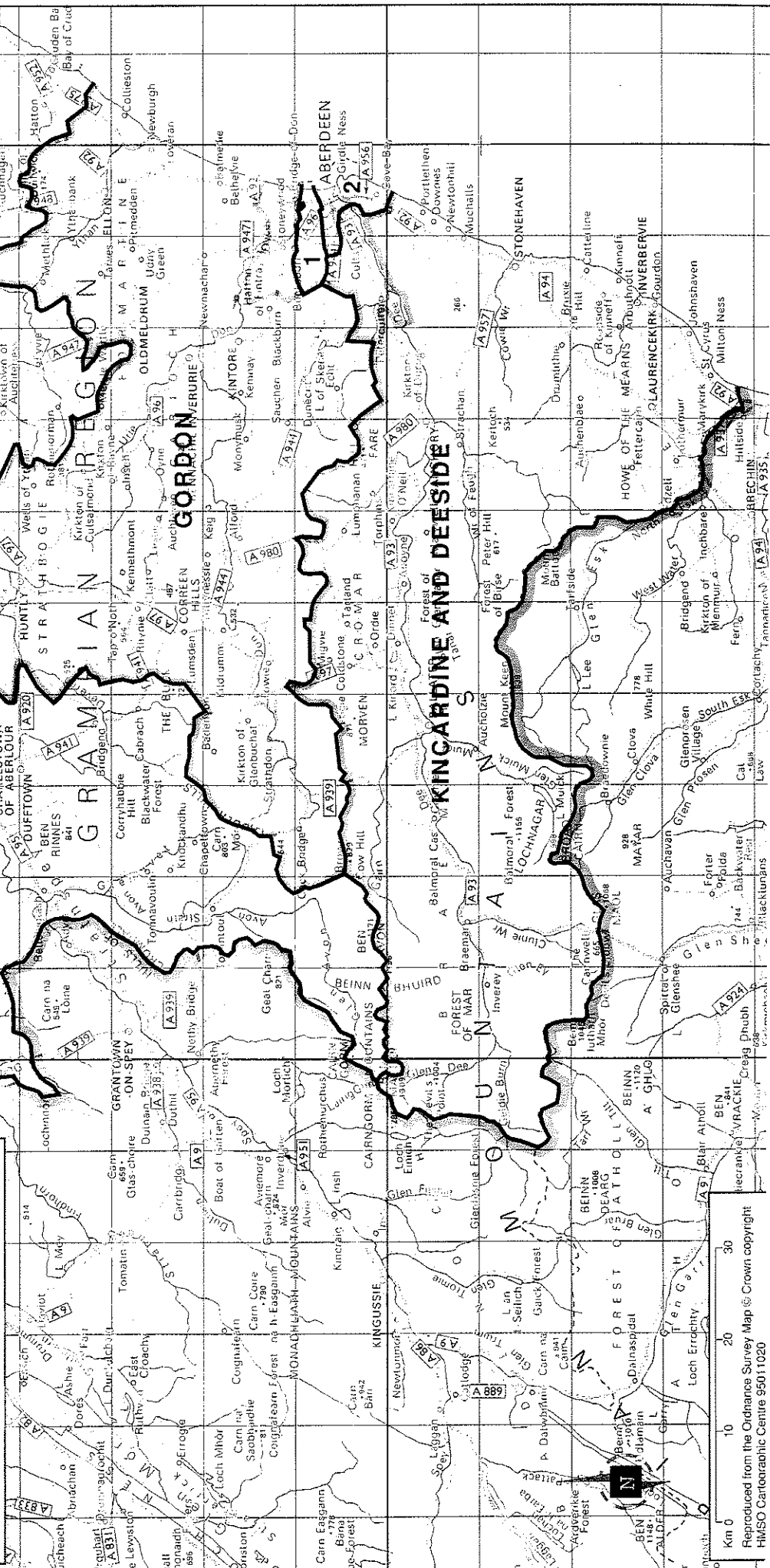
Boundary Commission for Scotland

Grampian Region

Current Parliamentary Constituencies

- Constituency Boundary
- Region Boundary
- District Boundary

Numbered areas
 1 ABERDEEN NORTH
 2 ABERDEEN SOUTH



SECTION FIVE

GRAMPIAN REGION

Introduction

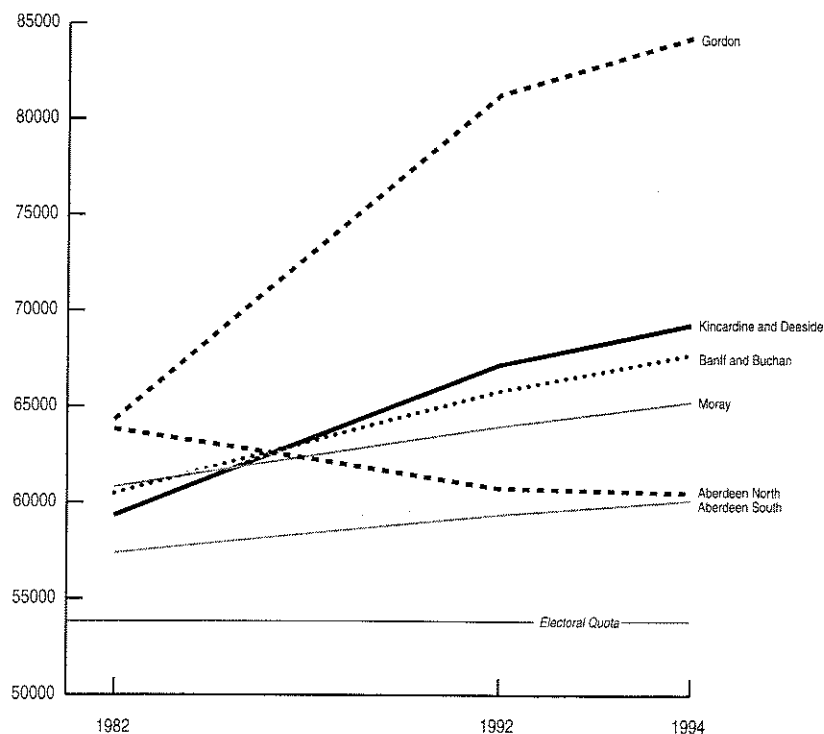
1. The region comprises 2 burgh and 4 county constituencies, whose electorates at the start and finish of the previous and current reviews were as shown in Table 6 and Figure 9 below:

Table 6

Current Constituency	Electoralates			
	Previous Review*		Current Review	
	Start (1978)	End (1982)	Start (1992)	End (1994)
<i>Burgh Constituencies</i>				
Aberdeen North	62,900	63,700	60,623	60,328
Aberdeen South	55,900	57,300	59,230	59,988
<i>County constituencies</i>				
Banff and Buchan	56,900	60,300	65,631	67,574
Gordon	54,500	64,200	81,097	84,070
Kincardine and Deeside	55,700	59,300	67,216	69,213
Moray	56,500	60,600	63,944	65,130
Total	342,200	365,400	397,741	406,303

*As published in third periodical report

Figure 9



2. In making our initial recommendations for the region we had in mind the following considerations:

2.1 The parliamentary electorate of Grampian Region on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) was 397,745, giving the region a theoretical entitlement to 7.29 seats which rounds to 7 seats.

2.2 There are no special geographical considerations which make it desirable that any of the constituencies in Grampian Region should include parts of another region.

2.3 Although there is no statutory requirement to take forecast changes in electorate into account, projections for the region show growth in electorate of 2.8% over the decade ending in 2001.

Note: the parliamentary electorate of Grampian Region (which provided the electorate on the enumeration date) was not identical to the parliamentary electorate of the constituencies in the area, as the local authority and parliamentary constituency boundaries were not the same.

In view of these considerations we decided to recommend that the number of constituencies in the region should increase from 6 to 7.

3. We noted that two of the present constituencies, namely Gordon constituency and Kincardine & Deeside constituency, include at present a significant proportion of electors who reside in the City of Aberdeen District. We also noted that, against the background of our decision to allocate 7 seats to the region, 3/7ths of the electorate (170,178) were contained within Aberdeen District and 4/7ths (227,567) resided in the 4 rural districts of Banff and Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside and Moray. We accordingly decided to propose that 3 of the 7 seats should be within the city boundary and the remaining 4 should be allocated to the rest of the region.

City of Aberdeen

4. The review of the regional electoral divisions by the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland (LGBCS) had resulted in the division of the City of Aberdeen District into 25 regional electoral divisions. This meant that it was not possible to provide three equally sized constituencies within the city based on regional electoral divisions. Nor was it possible at that time to consider sub-dividing divisions into district wards as these were then the subject of review by LGBCS. In view of the size of the electorate in the City of Aberdeen we did not consider that there was a case to include a regional electoral division from the City of Aberdeen District in one of the proposed county constituencies. In terms of electorate, the smaller regional electoral divisions in Aberdeen were in the north east of the city. We therefore decided to allocate nine regional electoral divisions to the proposed Aberdeen North constituency and eight regional electoral divisions each to the proposed Aberdeen Central and Aberdeen South constituencies. We were aware that this

would mean that the electorate of the proposed Aberdeen North constituency would be 9% above the electoral quota, compared with the proposed Aberdeen Central constituency which would be 5% above the electoral quota and Aberdeen South constituency which would be 2% below the electoral quota.

Remainder of Grampian Region

5. When considering the county constituencies, we noted that both the Moray constituency and the Banff and Buchan constituency comprised whole districts, from which they took their names. We considered that adjustments had to be made to these two, however, as both constituencies had an electorate of about 10,000 (almost 20%) above the electoral quota. The average electorate of the new regional electoral divisions in these areas was approximately 7,000. We concluded, therefore, that the withdrawal of one regional electoral division from each of these constituencies would bring the constituencies closer to the electoral quota while causing minimum disruption. Looking at the present Banff and Buchan constituency we took the view that only ED 12 (Lower Deveron and Upper Ythan) or ED 13 (Mid Buchan) could realistically be transferred. In theory, ED 11 (Banff and Portsoy) could also have been considered, but this regional electoral division could only be transferred into the Moray constituency. Given that Moray was already too large, this would have required the removal of a second regional electoral division from Moray. In these circumstances ED 11 could have been linked with ED 8 (Keith - Strathisla) and both transferred to a new constituency. We concluded, however, that to remove ED 11 from the Banff and Buchan constituency would have had the disruptive effect of placing a small part of the Buchan fishing community in a landward constituency. We decided that, because of its position, ED12 could more easily be transferred from the constituency. By removing ED12, the electorate of the new Banff and Buchan constituency would be 58,015 (6% above the electoral quota). In the Moray constituency it was geographically possible to transfer only ED 8 or ED 9 (Speyside - Glenlivet). ED 9 had the stronger case for being retained within Moray constituency as it would have maintained more of the Speyside community within the same constituency. Retaining ED 9 in the Moray constituency would also better balance the territorial areas of the Grampian county constituencies. We therefore decided to transfer ED 8 from the Moray constituency which would result in an electorate of 57,743 (also 6% above the electoral quota) in the proposed Moray constituency.

6. The electorate of Gordon District was 58,006. Adding ED 8 (Keith-Strathisla) from Moray District and ED12 (Lower Deveron and Upper Ythan) from Banff and Buchan District to the whole of Gordon District which is the only part of Grampian Region to which they could transfer, would have produced a Gordon constituency with an electorate of 71,823. This would have been far (32%) in excess of the electoral quota. We therefore decided that to achieve a balance of electorate we had to transfer two regional electoral divisions from the southern boundary of Gordon District. This also made sense given that Kincardine and Deeside District, which was the only part of Grampian Region to which they could transfer, had an electorate of only 39,986 (27% below the electoral quota). We therefore decided that ED 20 (Donside) and ED 21 (South Gordon) should transfer to a new Kincardine and Deeside constituency. This transfer of these two regional electoral

divisions left the proposed Gordon constituency with an electorate of 56,716 (4% above the electoral quota). It also meant that the resultant constituency, made up of the whole of Kincardine and Deeside District together with EDs 20 and ED 21, had an electorate of 55,093 (1% above the electoral quota). As a consequence of these changes, we took the view that, as the territorial coverage of the Kincardine and Deeside constituency had been enhanced, Kincardine and Deeside was no longer an appropriate name for the constituency. As the Howe of Alford was situated in the north of the constituency and the Howe of the Mearns in the south eastern corner with Deeside in between, we proposed that Deeside and the Howes would be a more appropriate name for the new constituency.

Initial recommendations

7. On 27 May 1993 we published our initial recommendations for three burgh and four county constituencies in Grampian Region as follows:

Burgh Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Aberdeen Central	regional electoral divisions in the City of Aberdeen District	
	36 Mastrick	
	37 Cairnry	
	38 Summerfield	
	39 Rosemount	
	40 Causewayend	
	41 Hazelhead	
	42 Rubislaw	
	43 St Nicholas	57,311
Aberdeen North	regional electoral divisions in the City of Aberdeen District	
	27 West Don	
	28 Danestone	
	29 Middleton	
	30 Balgownie	
	31 Brimmond	
	32 Northfield	
	33 Woodside	
	34 St Machar	
	35 Linkfield	59,560
Aberdeen South	regional electoral divisions in the City of Aberdeen District	
	44 Peterculter	
	45 Craigton	

SECTION FIVE—GRAMPIAN REGION

	46 Auchinyell	
	47 Holburn	
	48 Ferryhill	
	49 Torry	
	50 Kincorth	
	51 Nigg	53,307
County constituencies		
Banff and Buchan	regional electoral divisions in Banff and Buchan District	
	10 Deveron	
	11 Banff and Portsoy	
	13 Mid-Buchan	
	14 Peterhead South	
	15 Peterhead North	
	16 Fraserburgh North	
	17 Fraserburgh South	
	18 Ugie, Cruden and Boddam	58,015
Gordon	1. regional electoral division in Moray District	
	8 Keith-Strathisla	
	2. regional electoral division in Banff and Buchan District	
	12 Lower Deveron and Upper Ythan	
	3. regional electoral divisions in Gordon District	
	19 West Gordon	
	22 Kintore and Newmachar	
	23 Inverurie	
	24 Garioch	
	25 East Gordon	
	26 Formartine	56,716
Deeside and the Howes	1. Kincardine and Deeside District	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Gordon District	
	20 Donside	
	21 South Gordon	55,093

Moray

regional electoral divisions in
Moray District

1 Elgin North East

2 Elgin South West

3 Ernedal

4 Innes-Heldon

5 Burghsea

6 Buckie

7 Rathford-Lennox

9 Speyside-Glenlivet

57,743

Representations on initial proposals

8. We received 81 representations to our proposals within the consultation period. Petitions with over 2,300 signatures were also received. We received many representations of support for, and no expressions of dissent from, the allocation of an extra seat to the region. Mr Alex Salmond, Member of Parliament for Banff and Buchan, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Member of Parliament for Moray, Grampian Regional Council, Banff and Buchan District Council, Moray, Badenoch and Strathspey Enterprise and Mrs Norma Edleston, a resident of Portsoy, all submitted that the review of parliamentary constituency boundaries should be postponed pending the outcome of local government reorganisation. Banff and Buchan District Council also contended that by the allocation of three seats to the urban areas of the City of Aberdeen the more rural areas in Grampian Region were effectively losing out. The District Council proposed instead that there should be only two burgh constituencies and five county constituencies. Grampian Liberal Democrats and the City of Aberdeen Liberal Democrats argued that Grampian Region should have been allocated eight parliamentary seats instead of seven to take account of expected growth in the region.

9. Representations to the proposals as they affected Moray constituency were received from Mrs Margaret Ewing, Moray District Council, the Moray constituency association of the Scottish National Party, Keith and Strathisla Community Councils, Royal Burgh of Cullen & Deskford Community Council, National Farmers Union of Scotland (Banff branch) and a number of residents in Moray District. A petition containing 2106 signatures from residents in the Keith and Strathisla area was also received. The objections centred on the proposal to remove ED 8 (Keith - Strathisla) from the Moray constituency. It was submitted that the area around ED 8 identified closely with Elgin, the administrative centre of Moray, and not with Huntly or Inverurie in Gordon District. The proposals would also break up close community ties such as those between Deskford and Cullen. It was pointed out that the Moray constituency shared a common boundary with the district and both were in the same European Parliamentary constituency of Highlands and Islands. By removing ED 8 from the Moray constituency it was argued that Moray District would be divided between two different European Parliamentary constituencies. Moray District Council also proposed that "Moray county constituency" should be renamed Moray District "rural" or

“landward” or “country” constituency to avoid confusion with the territory of the former Moray County Council.

10. Mr Alex Salmond opposed the transfer of ED 12 (Lower Deveron and Upper Ythan) from the Banff and Buchan constituency as he considered it would weaken community links. Banff and Buchan Conservative and Unionist Association proposed that ED 10 (Deveron) and ED 11 (Banff and Portsoy) should be transferred along with ED 12 to the new Gordon constituency. To balance the electorate in the Banff and Buchan constituency the Association suggested that ED 25 (East Gordon) and ED 26 (Formartine) should be transferred from the Gordon constituency. The two constituencies should be renamed East Aberdeenshire and Gordon & Banff.

11. Many representations were received about our proposals for the Gordon constituency. By far the majority of these objected to the area around Kemnay, within ED 20 (Donside), being transferred to the Deeside and the Howes constituency. Letters opposing this move were sent in by Mr Malcolm Bruce, Member of Parliament for Gordon, Grampian Regional Council, Gordon District Council, Kemnay Community Council, which also forwarded a petition containing 145 signatures, Inverurie Community Association, Gordon Constituency Association Scottish National Party, Moray Constituency Association Scottish National Party, the Keith and Strathisla and the Elgin branches of the Scottish National Party, Gordon Liberal Democrats and the City of Aberdeen Liberal Democrats along with a number of individual electors. Support for our proposals came from the Gordon and the Kincardine and Deeside Conservative and Unionist Associations. The main argument against the transfer of ED 20 was the breaking of local ties between Kemnay and Inverurie. It was pointed out that the main shopping centre, hospital and educational facilities for the residents of Kemnay all centred on Inverurie. It was also submitted that no historical, cultural or commercial ties existed between Kemnay and Deeside or its towns. Kemnay Community Council suggested that polling districts should be used to redraw the boundary, thus keeping Kemnay within the Gordon constituency. Counter-proposals were also received from the Gordon constituency Scottish National Party which proposed transferring ED 44 (Peterculter) from the Aberdeen South constituency to the Deeside and the Howes constituency instead of ED 20. It argued that ED 8 (Keith - Strathisla) could then remain in the Moray constituency. Mr Ian Mollison, a resident of Stonehaven, also put forward the proposal that ED 20 and ED 21 (South Gordon) should remain in the Gordon constituency and that ED 44 should be transferred into the Deeside and the Howes constituency.

12. Representations on the Deeside and the Howes constituency centred mainly on the proposed name for the constituency. These came from Grampian Regional Council, Kincardine and Deeside District Council, North Kincardine Rural Community Council, Stonehaven and District Community Council, Grampian Liberal Democrats and a number of individuals. Among the alternative names put forward were (a) Kincardine & West Aberdeenshire, (b) Mar & the Mearns, (c) Dee, Don & Kincardine, and (d) retention of the present name of Kincardine & Deeside.

13. Excepting Banff and Buchan District Council, there was unanimous approval amongst those who made representations on the allocation of an extra seat to the City of Aberdeen. However, the formation of the three constituencies generated many counter-proposals, in particular from residents in the proposed Aberdeen South constituency. Representations were received from Mr Robert Hughes, Member for Parliament for Aberdeen North, Mr Raymond Robertson, Member of Parliament for Aberdeen South, City of Aberdeen District Council, the Labour Party Scottish Council, Aberdeen North and Aberdeen South constituency Labour Parties, Aberdeen North and Aberdeen South Conservative and Unionist Associations, the City of Aberdeen Liberal Democrats, Grampian Liberal Democrats, the Conservative Group on Aberdeen District Council, and a number of regional and district councillors as well as many individual electors. The decision to include ED 41 (Hazelhead) and ED 42 (Rubislaw) within the new Central constituency was opposed from many quarters. It was argued that these two areas, which are largely suburban in character, had strong natural affinities with ED 45 (Craigton) and ED 47 (Holburn) whereas the Central constituency was regarded as more industrialised. The decision to divide the harbour area between two constituencies was considered by some to be illogical. They submitted that one Member of Parliament should look after the interests of the people and businesses in this area. Suggestions were also made regarding the names of the new constituencies with proposals including Aberdeen North being renamed Donside (or Aberdeen Don) and Aberdeen South being renamed Aberdeen Deeside (or Aberdeen Dee).

Local Inquiry

14. As a consequence of objections to our proposals received from local authorities in the area we recognised that we had a statutory duty to hold a local inquiry. At our request you agreed to appoint Sheriff Principal Douglas Risk, QC, the Sheriff Principal of Grampian, Highland and Islands as Assistant Commissioner at the inquiry into our initial recommendations. The inquiry was held in the Town and County Hall, Aberdeen on Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 November 1993.

15. At the inquiry all of the arguments referred to above were reiterated, either by the persons referred to or by those representing the various interested groups. The majority of those attending the inquiry welcomed the proposed increase in the number of constituencies. Banff and Buchan District Council, however, repeated its view that there should be only 2 constituencies covering the City of Aberdeen District with the other 5 constituencies covering the remainder of the region.

16. On the question of the proposed transfer of ED8 (Keith-Strathisla) from the Moray constituency to the Gordon constituency, Mrs Margaret Ewing added to the comments reported above that the importance of electoral parity should not apply in rural areas such as Moray. The issue of identity was, in her opinion, of far greater importance. Mrs Ewing also expressed the view that retaining the area of Keith and Strathisla within the Moray constituency, although it would produce an electorate markedly above the electoral quota, would not hinder her ability to serve the constituency as its Member of Parliament. Moray District Council argued that in the past 18 years it had been successful in integrating those parts of Banffshire, including Keith and Strathisla, which had been transferred in 1975

under local government re-organisation to Moray. Both Moray District Council and Gordon District Council proposed that if ED8 were retained in the Moray constituency the shortfall in the electorate of the proposed Gordon constituency could be made up by the retention of ED20 (Donside) in the Gordon constituency. Gordon District Council put forward an alternative proposal, suggesting that one of the district wards within ED20 should be retained in the Gordon constituency. The Council also argued that the Commission should, as in London, be forbidden from crossing local authority boundaries.

17. Representations in support of our proposals for the Moray constituency were also heard at the inquiry. Mr John Denning representing the Labour Party Scottish Council and the constituency Labour Parties in Grampian Region commended our approach for minimising as much as possible the disruption which a review of boundaries can cause. Mr Denning argued that the area around Keith and Strathisla had only recently been established in the same constituency as the rest of Moray District when both areas were linked following the third general review of parliamentary constituency boundaries in 1983. He considered, therefore, that local ties had not been long established and mentioned that at the last review the majority of the electorate of Keith and Strathisla were opposed to being included in the Moray constituency. The Conservative Associations also supported our proposals for the Moray constituency.

18. Mr Salmond reiterated his opposition to the transfer of any regional electoral divisions from the Banff and Buchan constituency. He accepted, however, that if electoral equity required the withdrawal of a regional electoral division, then ED 12 (Lower Deveron and Upper Ythan) was geographically the logical choice. Banff and Buchan District Council informed the inquiry that the district was unlikely to grow very much, in terms of electorate, in the foreseeable future. The Council contended, therefore, that the current disparity in electorate between Banff and Buchan and the neighbouring constituencies was acceptable.

19. Moray District Council also gave evidence at the inquiry regarding the proposed transfer of Kemnay from the Gordon constituency. The Council suggested that regional electoral divisions should be sub-divided to allow District Ward 4, which covers Kemnay, to remain in the Gordon constituency. Evidence was led on behalf of the Conservative Associations in the region that owing to improved communications the placing of Kemnay in a separate constituency from Inverurie should not affect the links between the two.

20. The main arguments at the inquiry in respect of the constituencies within the City of Aberdeen related to Rule 7 requiring the Commission to take account of local ties. Mr Raymond Robertson, supported by a number of regional and district councillors, said that there were strong links between the communities of Hazellhead and Rubislaw, which were proposed to be in the Aberdeen Central constituency, and the communities of Ferryhill, Holburn and Craigton, which were proposed to be in the Aberdeen South constituency. There were others, however, who presented the opposite point of view.

21. An issue which attracted a number of representations was our proposal to place ED 49 (Torry) in the Aberdeen South constituency, thereby dividing the harbour area between 2 constituencies. The Labour Party Scottish Council supported our proposal, submitting that the River Dee formed a strong natural boundary and that little affinity existed between ED 49 and ED 43 (St Nicholas) in the Aberdeen Central constituency. Mr Robert Hughes pointed out that the area around Torry was one of the last to join the City of Aberdeen. He drew attention to the fact that the area around the harbour was now mainly industrialised with its working population living all over the city. He also considered that there was very little community of interest between the harbour areas of Torry and Footdee which lay in different constituencies. The Conservative Associations argued, however, that it was important for the harbour area and the fish industry around it to be represented by a single member of parliament. They also maintained that there was no significant community of interest between Torry and the remainder of the Aberdeen South constituency.

22. The Liberal Democrats proposed that ED 35 (Linkfield) should be transferred from the proposed Aberdeen North constituency to the proposed Aberdeen Central constituency. The Conservative Associations at the inquiry further proposed that ED 33 (Woodside) and ED 34 (St Machar) should also be transferred along with ED 35 to the new Aberdeen Central constituency. To compensate for this transfer it was suggested that ED 36 (Mastrick) and ED 38 (Summerfield) should be transferred to the Aberdeen North constituency from the Aberdeen Central constituency. The Secretary of the Seaton/Linkfield/Pittodrie Community Council, which covered part of the northern area of ED 35, and Mr David Warrender, a resident of ED 35, opposed any such transfer as it related to Linkfield. It was argued that the community around Linkfield looked towards the north and there was a strong link between Linkfield and St Machar.

Assistant Commissioner's Report

23. In his report to us, the Assistant Commissioner considered that the overwhelming evidence supported our proposal of 3 constituencies for the City of Aberdeen with 4 constituencies covering the landward area of the region. In accepting the proposal that 3 constituencies should be based upon the existing boundary of the City of Aberdeen, the Assistant Commissioner also rejected the suggestions that ED 44 (Peterculter) should be transferred from the proposed Aberdeen South constituency to one of the county constituencies.

24. The Assistant Commissioner noted no support whatsoever, in the written representations or oral evidence led at the inquiry, for our proposed constituency name of "Deeside and the Howes". It was evident from the submissions made that "the Howes" conveyed very little meaning to most people, while some held strong views that the name "Kincardine" should be preserved in the title. The Assistant Commissioner recommended the constituency name of Kincardine and West Aberdeenshire which, in his opinion, appeared both accurate and popular and was understood by the electorate in North East Scotland.

25. In his consideration of the evidence relating to the proposed Moray constituency, the

Assistant Commissioner rejected the arguments put forward by Gordon District Council that Rule 4(1)(b), which requires the Commission to have regard to the boundaries of local authority areas, should be interpreted in the same way as Rule 4(1)(a), which forbids the crossing of county boundaries in England. The Assistant Commissioner considered that as paragraphs 4(1)(a) and 4(1)(b) are couched in different ways this indicates that they call for a different approach. In Scotland, the Commission should consider local authority boundaries, but it is not bound by them. Accordingly, he considered that, subject to Rule 7, the crossing of a district boundary would be justified if it was desirable in order to avoid excessive electoral disparity. If ED 8 (Keith-Strathisla) remained in the Moray constituency, the electorate would exceed the electoral quota by some 17%. The Assistant Commissioner considered this disparity was large enough for us to consider crossing a local authority boundary. He said that since the existing Moray constituency was co-terminous with the existing Moray district, the electorate could only be reduced by placing a regional electoral division from Moray District with regional electoral divisions from some other district, and he agreed with our recommendation that ED 8 was the only division which could sensibly be so placed. The Assistant Commissioner recommended that our initial proposals should be adopted and that ED 8 should be placed in the Gordon constituency. He considered that the alternative proposal submitted by Moray District Council and Gordon District Council, which would have involved keeping ED 8 in the Moray constituency and ED 20 (Donside) in the Gordon constituency was not acceptable. This would have produced an electorate in Moray of 63,946, in Gordon of 64,575 and in Deeside and the Howes of 47,234. Not only would the figures for the Moray constituency have substantially exceeded the electoral quota, but there would also have been a totally unacceptable disparity of electorate between the 3 constituencies.

26. The Assistant Commissioner concluded that similar considerations applied in the case of the Banff and Buchan constituency to those experienced in the Moray constituency. The electorate of the present Banff and Buchan constituency was some 20% above the electoral quota, which was plainly excessive, and we were therefore justified in looking beyond the district boundary to alleviate such a disparity. The Assistant Commissioner said that he received no representation strong enough to suggest that transferring ED12 (Lower Deveron and Upper Ythan) to the Gordon constituency would result in a significant break in local ties.

27. In the Assistant Commissioner's view the proposals to transfer ED 20 (Donside) and ED 21 (South Gordon) from the Gordon constituency to the proposed Deeside and the Howes constituency again produced a conflict between the desirability of electoral parity, the consideration of local authority boundaries, and the breaking of local ties. While there were many objections to the proposed transfer, the Assistant Commissioner also noted that our proposals received some support, including from Mr George Kynoch, Member of Parliament for Kincardine and Deeside. Mr Kynoch, while recognising that the inclusion of EDs 20 and 21 would make the geographical area much larger, accepted that there was no suitable alternative to what we had proposed. While the Assistant Commissioner expressed some sympathy with those who objected to the proposals on the ground of local

ties, he considered that these objections could only be upheld by introducing an excessively wide disparity between the two constituencies. In relation to the proposals submitted by Kemnay Community Council, the Assistant Commissioner did not feel able to make a recommendation involving the breakup of regional electoral divisions.

28. In concluding his consideration of the proposals for constituencies in the rural part of Grampian Region, the Assistant Commissioner commented that while the arguments of local ties were persuasive, our proposals were the only practical solution if anything like electoral parity was to be achieved. The Assistant Commissioner also said that under the terms of Rule 5 we were justified in departing from the strict adherence to local authority boundaries, while Rule 7 does not prohibit us from breaking local ties, but requires us only to take account of them as far as we reasonably can.

29. In the section of his report dealing with the City of Aberdeen the Assistant Commissioner considered that the arguments for transferring ED 41 (Hazelhead) into the Aberdeen South constituency, including the common educational, recreational and shopping interests shared by the communities of both Hazelhead and Craigton, outweighed the reasons for its retention in the Aberdeen Central constituency. He thought that considerable emphasis should be given to natural and physical barriers which, in his opinion, provided distinct boundaries. He considered the River Don to be the natural northern boundary of the city as well as a formidable physical boundary. In addition, he suggested that Anderson Drive, a well known dual carriageway in Aberdeen, which is already used as a boundary between regional electoral divisions, should also be adopted as a parliamentary constituency boundary. Hazelhead, to the west of Anderson Drive, was not, in his opinion, part of central Aberdeen. The arguments for transferring ED 42 (Rubislaw) from the Aberdeen Central constituency to the Aberdeen South constituency were similar to those raised in relation to Hazelhead. The Assistant Commissioner did not consider, however, these arguments to be as convincing. In his opinion, ED 42 had close links with ED 39 (Rosemount) and no party or individual had suggested that ED 39 should lie anywhere other than in the Aberdeen Central constituency.

30. On the question of the division of the harbour area between 2 constituencies, the Assistant Commissioner was of the view that the River Dee was a substantial natural boundary. He was not convinced that the harbour area and the fish industry could not adequately be represented by 2 members of parliament. He concluded that ED 49 (Torry) should remain in the Aberdeen South constituency.

31. Having considered the discussion about Linkfield, the Assistant Commissioner recommended that EDs 33 (Woodside), 34 (St Machar) and 35 (Linkfield) should be transferred from the Aberdeen North constituency to the Aberdeen Central constituency in exchange for EDs 36 (Mastrick) and 38 (Summerfield). He did not consider that there were strong enough reasons for retaining ED 35 in the Aberdeen North constituency if other considerations affecting all 3 city constituencies made such a transfer desirable. He considered that few people in the southern half of ED 35 would claim to be in the north of the city rather than the centre. He also agreed that some natural affinity lay between Linkfield

and St Machar, but as both regional electoral divisions were recommended to transfer to the Aberdeen Central constituency this affinity would remain. The Assistant Commissioner also considered that there was a strong argument in favour of placing the historic centre of Aberdeen in one constituency.

Consideration of Assistant Commissioner's Report

32. Having considered the Assistant Commissioner's report, we accepted most of his recommendations for the reasons he gave. We were not prepared to entertain the proposal (which had not been supported by the Assistant Commissioner) that we should seek the leave of Parliament to postpone the review until the reorganisation of local government had been completed. We were, as explained above, under a statutory obligation to complete the review of parliamentary constituency boundaries and to report to the Secretary of State by 31 December 1994. Also, the Boundary Commissions Act 1992 requires the Commission to have regard to local authority boundaries in place as at 1 June 1994.

33. In accepting the Assistant Commissioner's recommendations relating to the 3 burgh constituencies, we acknowledged that the disparity in electorate in these constituencies would be slightly greater than in the initial recommendations. We considered, however, that the Assistant Commissioner's recommendations would provide more easily recognisable boundaries for the electorate in Aberdeen.

34. As regards the representations about the name of the Moray county constituency, section 3(4) of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 requires the Commission to recommend, together with a proposed name for each constituency, whether it should be a county constituency or a burgh constituency. These terms have a special significance in law in relation to the permitted level of candidates' election expenses when elections take place. We therefore could not accede to the District Council's request as it was outwith the scope of this review and is a matter for Parliament to decide upon. Also, we did not consider that the suggestion to transfer the area around Kemnay into the Gordon constituency by dividing the regional electoral division by polling district was acceptable.

35. Proposals had also been submitted to alter the names of the burgh constituencies. However, the Assistant Commissioner had recommended that the proposed names of Aberdeen North, Aberdeen Central and Aberdeen South constituencies should be retained and we agreed with his recommendations.

Publication of revised recommendations

36. On 29 July 1994 we published our revised recommendations which proposed no further changes to the boundaries of the constituencies of Banff and Buchan, Gordon and Moray. No change to the boundary of the Deeside and the Howes constituency was proposed, but we did revise the constituency name to Kincardine and West Aberdeenshire. Our revised recommendations for the remaining burgh constituencies were as follows:

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Aberdeen Central	regional electoral divisions in the City of Aberdeen District 33 Woodside 34 St Machar 35 Linksfield 37 Cairnery 39 Rosemount 40 Causewayend 42 Rubislaw 43 St Nicholas	55,882
Aberdeen North	regional electoral divisions in the City of Aberdeen District 27 West Don 28 Danestone 29 Middleton 30 Balgownie 31 Brimmond 32 Northfield 36 Mastrick 38 Summerfield	53,944
Aberdeen South	regional electoral divisions in the City of Aberdeen District 41 Hazelhead 44 Peterculter 45 Craigton 46 Auchinyell 47 Holburn 48 Ferryhill 49 Torry 50 Kincorth 51 Nigg	60,352

Representations on revised recommendations

37. On publication of the revised recommendations 59 representations, plus 88 pro forma letters regarding Kemnay, were received. Many of the representations received supported our revised proposals. One of the main objections to our revised recommendations focused on the proposed name of the Kincardine and West Aberdeenshire constituency. Among those objecting was Captain C A Farquharson, the Lord Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire, who

suggested that we modify the name to West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine. Representations were also received suggesting that the names of the constituencies in Aberdeen should be more imaginative. Alternatives proposed included Aberdeen Bon Accord, Aberdeen Deeside and Aberdeen Donside.

38. Mrs Margaret Ewing, Grampian Regional Council, Moray District Council, Gordon District Council, the Keith branch of the National Farmers Union and Ms K Hutchinson re-iterated their earlier representations that ED 8 (Keith-Strathisla) in Moray District should not be included in the Gordon constituency. The Scottish Liberal Democrats, City of Aberdeen Liberal Democrats and Dr Martin Ford supported the transfer of ED 35 (Linkfield) in the City of Aberdeen District to the Aberdeen Central constituency, but did not accept that ED 33 (Woodside) and ED 34 (St Machar) formed part of the traditional centre of Aberdeen. The Scottish Labour Party and Grampian Regional Council opposed the transfer of ED 41 (Hazelhead) from the Aberdeen Central constituency to the Aberdeen South constituency, arguing that insufficient consideration had been given to the relationship between Hazelhead, Rubislaw and Rosemount, the latter two of which are in the proposed Aberdeen Central constituency. Mr Malcolm Bruce, Grampian Regional Council, Kemnay Community Council and a number of individual objectors re-emphasised their objection to our proposal which places Kemnay in a separate constituency from Inverurie. It was argued that greater emphasis should be placed on Rule 7 - the preserving of local ties - rather than on electoral parity. The Community Council re-iterated its original proposal that the polling district covering Kemnay should be transferred to the proposed Gordon constituency.

39. In considering the representations received, we were of the opinion that the issues relating to the boundaries of the proposed constituencies had been fully aired at the local inquiry, and that the further representations received did not provide sufficient evidence to justify any further modification to the proposed boundaries. We did, however, decide to support the suggestion that the Kincardine and West Aberdeenshire constituency should be renamed West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine.

Further revised recommendations

40. We accordingly published a notice on 23 September 1994 stating that, having considered the further representations received regarding our revised proposals, we had decided to modify these only by amending the name of the Kincardine and West Aberdeenshire constituency to West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine.

41. Following publication of this further modified proposal we received 5 representations, all of which objected to our proposal. 3 of the representations requested that we restore the name of the Kincardine and West Aberdeenshire constituency. The other representations received focused on the transfer of ED8 (Keith-Strathisla) to the Gordon constituency. These further representations did not advance any new arguments to persuade us to modify our proposal.

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

42. We accordingly recommend the adoption of our proposals for 3 burgh constituencies and 4 county constituencies for Grampian Region as follows:

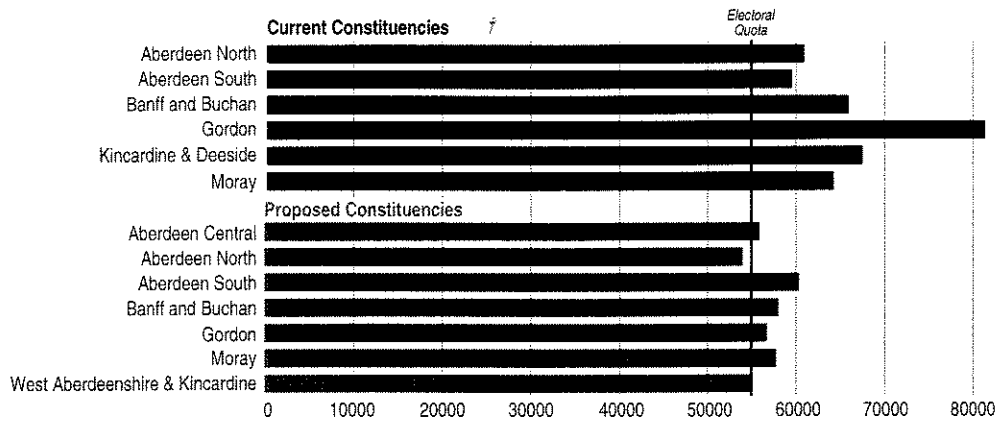
Burgh Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Aberdeen Central	regional electoral divisions in the City of Aberdeen District 33 Woodside 34 St Machar 35 Linksfield 37 Cairnery 39 Rosemount 40 Causewayend 42 Rubislaw 43 St Nicholas	55.882
Aberdeen North	regional electoral divisions in the City of Aberdeen District 27 West Don 28 Danestone 29 Middleton 30 Balgownie 31 Brimmond 32 Northfield 36 Mastrick 38 Summerfield	53.944
Aberdeen South	regional electoral divisions in the City of Aberdeen District 41 Hazelhead 44 Peterculter 45 Craigton 46 Auchinyell 47 Holburn 48 Ferryhill 49 Torry 50 Kincorth 51 Nigg	60.352
County Constituencies		
Banff and Buchan	regional electoral divisions in Banff and Buchan District 10 Deveron	

SECTION FIVE—GRAMPIAN REGION

	11 Banff and Portsoy	
	13 Mid Buchan	
	14 Peterhead South	
	15 Peterhead North	
	16 Fraserburgh North	
	17 Fraserburgh South	
	18 Ugie, Cruden and Boddam	58,015
Gordon	1. regional electoral division in Moray District	
	8 Keith-Strathisla	
	2. regional electoral division in Banff and Buchan District	
	12 Lower Deveron and Upper Ythan	
	3. regional electoral divisions in Gordon District	
	19 West Gordon	
	22 Kintore and Newmachar	
	23 Inverurie	
	24 Garioch	
	25 East Gordon	
	26 Formartine	56,716
Moray	regional electoral divisions in Moray District	
	1 Elgin North East	
	2 Elgin South West	
	3 Ernedale	
	4 Innes-Heldon	
	5 Burghsea	
	6 Buckie	
	7 Rathford-Lennox	
	9 Speyside-Glenlivet	57,743
West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine	1. Kincardine and Deeside District	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Gordon District	
	20 Donside	
	21 South Gordon	55,093

43. The electorates of both the current and the proposed constituency in Grampian Region on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) were as shown as figure 10 below.

Figure 10



Grampian Region

Recommended Parliamentary Constituencies

Constituency Boundary

Region Boundary

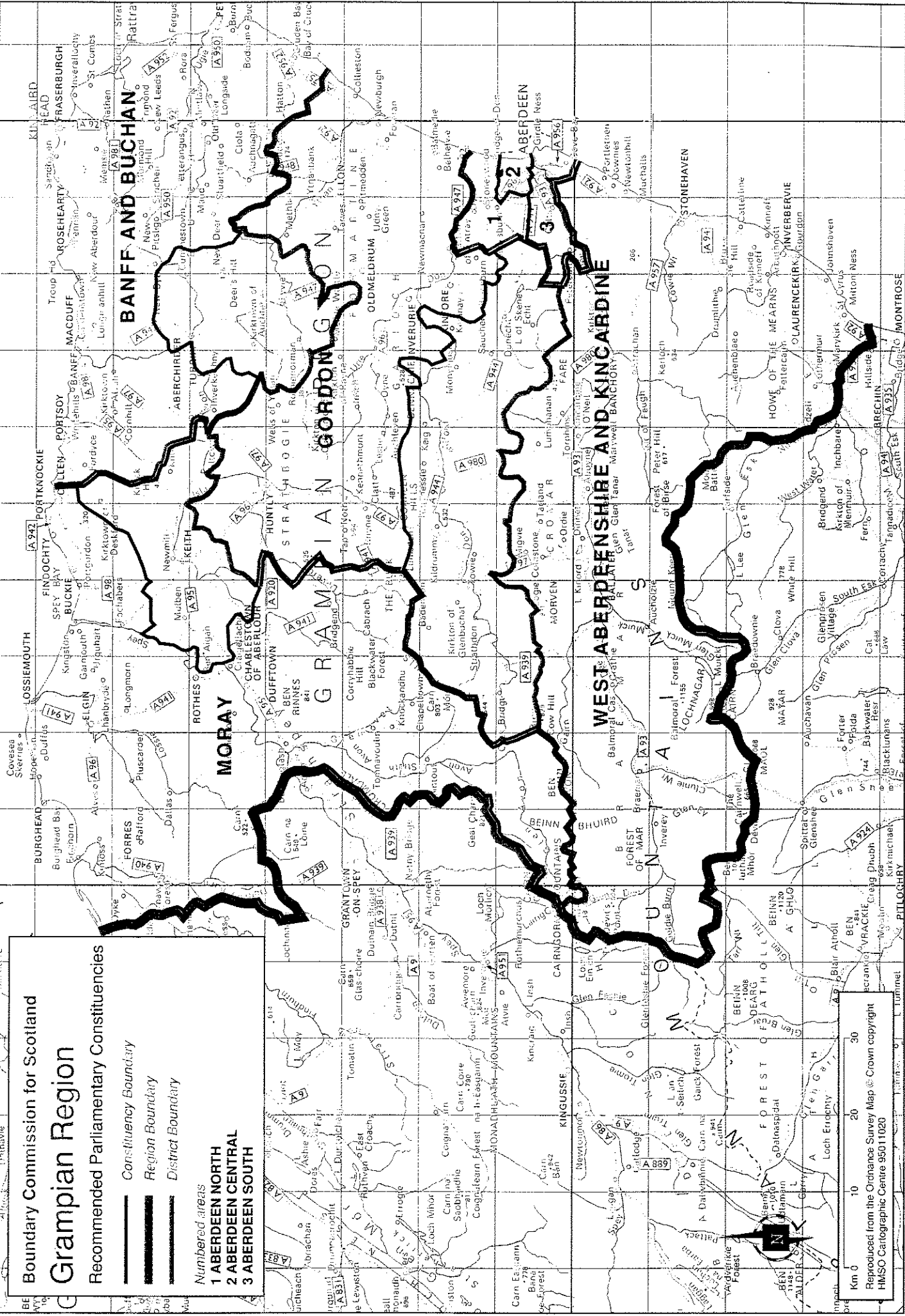
District Boundary

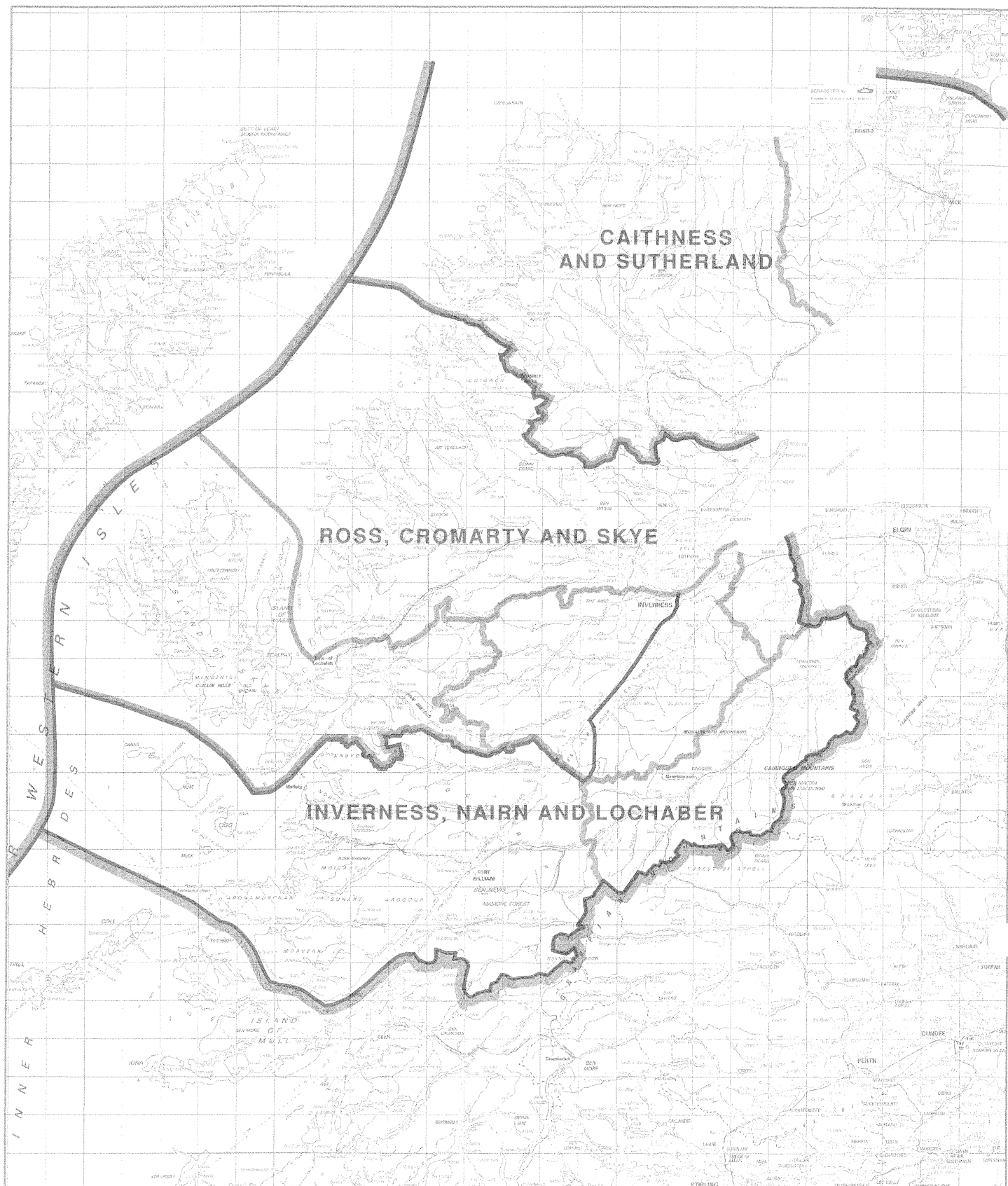
Numbered areas

1 ABERDEEN NORTH

2 ABERDEEN CENTRAL

3 ABERDEEN SOUTH





Boundary Commission for Scotland

Highland Region

Current Parliamentary Constituencies

-  Constituency Boundary
-  Region Boundary
-  District Boundary



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SECTION SIX

HIGHLAND REGION

Introduction

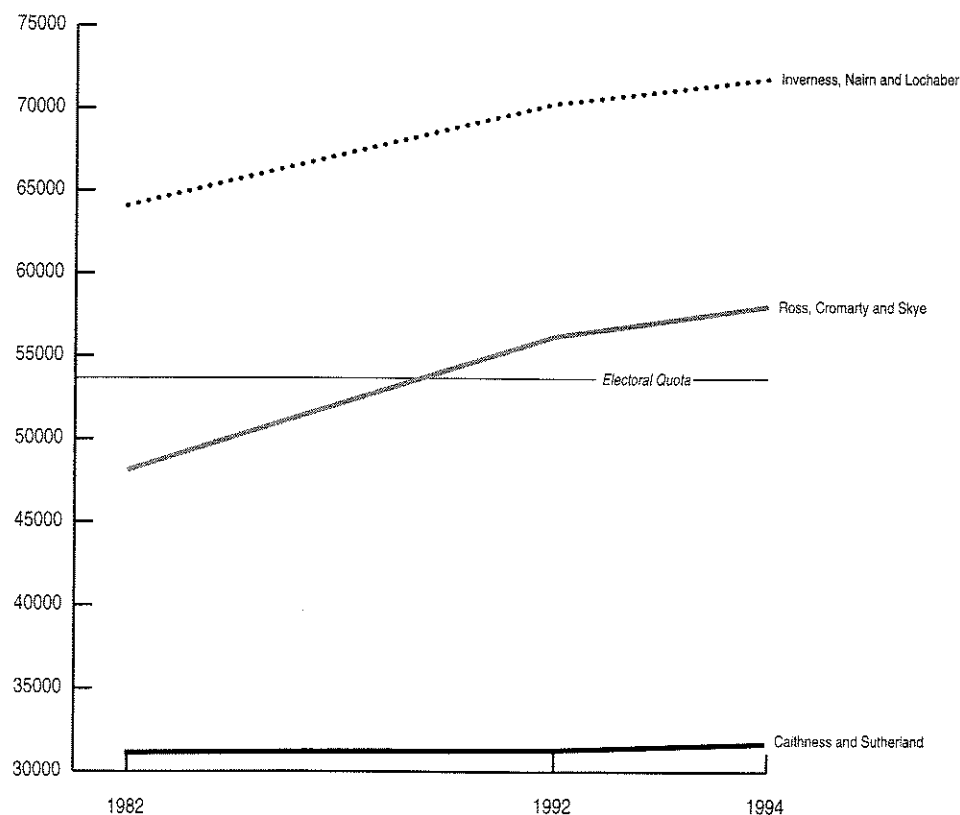
1. The region comprises 3 county constituencies, whose electorates at the start and finish of the previous and current reviews were as shown in Table 7 and Figure 11 below:

Table 7

Current Constituency	Electorates			
	Previous Review*		Current Review	
	Start (1978)	End (1982)	Start (1992)	End (1994)
Caithness and Sutherland	30,100	31,000	31,173	31,471
Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber	61,900	64,000	70,164	71,620
Ross, Cromarty and Skye	44,500	48,000	56,112	57,892
Total	136,500	143,000	157,449	160,983

*As published in third periodical report

Figure 11



2. In making our initial recommendations for the region, we had in mind the following considerations:

2.1 the parliamentary electorate for Highland Region on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) was 157,449 giving the region a theoretical entitlement of 2.88 seats which rounds to 3 seats.

2.2 In terms of geographical area, Highland Region already had the 3 largest constituencies in Scotland.

2.3 The disparity of electorate in the 3 constituencies was far greater than in any other region in Scotland. The largest electorate in the Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber constituency, was $2\frac{1}{4}$ times greater than the smallest in the Caithness and Sutherland constituency.

2.4 Although there is no statutory requirement to take forecast changes in electorate into account, estimated projections for the region show a fairly steady growth of about 5% over the decade ending in 2001. The most significant growth is forecast to take place in Inverness, with the northern part of the region expected to experience a net contraction.

3. In considering the review of Highland Region, we were faced with many difficult decisions, reflecting the special circumstances in the area. Half of the electorate in Highland Region is contained in approximately 5% of the total land area, in areas bordering the Cromarty Firth and the Moray Firth. Against this background we considered that it would not be appropriate to add to the electoral size and coverage of the Highland constituencies by grafting on to them regional electoral divisions in adjacent regions. In addition, from our knowledge of the circumstances in the neighbouring regions we were aware that it would not be practical to transfer parts of Highland Region to neighbouring constituencies. Given this lack of flexibility in the Highland situation, we considered allocating an extra constituency on geographical grounds to Highland Region. This would have produced 3 rural constituencies with electorates markedly below the electoral quota, and a further constituency covering the town of Inverness and its surrounding area. We were conscious, however, that our predecessors had not seen fit to allocate an extra seat to the region during the previous review although their decisions then had the effect of increasing the territory covered by the 3 constituencies. While we noted the increase in electorate since the previous review we were also conscious of improvements in communication which had taken place. We also took the view that allocating an extra seat to Highland while maintaining 72 seats for Scotland in total would generate problems in other parts of the country. The alternative of allowing the total number of seats in Scotland to increase to 73 was contrary to our policy in relation to the review as has been explained in Chapter 2. Given all these considerations we decided that we would not be justified in increasing the number of constituencies in Highland Region beyond 3.

4. A number of changes had been made to the regional electoral divisional boundaries following the review undertaken by the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland (LGBCS). The main change to these boundaries occurred on the west side of the

town of Inverness, affecting some 1800 electors. Because of this, changes to parliamentary constituency boundaries in the region, which we had stated would be based on the new regional electoral divisions, were inevitable, and the status quo for the region as a whole could not be considered an option.

Caithness and Sutherland

5. We considered that the disparity in the electorate between the 3 constituencies, which had increased significantly since the previous review, was unacceptable. In particular, the position of the Caithness and Sutherland constituency with an electorate 43% below the electoral quota needed to be reconsidered. Any landward expansion of the Caithness and Sutherland constituency could only take place in a southerly direction. This expansion could occur to the southwest, southeast or both. Transferring EDs 13 (Lochbroom), 14 (Wester Ross) and 15 (Strathconon) from the southwest would make the new Caithness and Sutherland constituency significantly larger territorially but would only increase its electorate by approximately 7600 to 38,803, still leaving it 29% below the electoral quota. We decided that this was not a feasible option. Transferring EDs 16 (Dingwall), 20 (Ferindonald), 21 (Alness and Ardross), 22 (Invergordon), 23 (Easter Ross) and 24 (Tain) on the north shore of the Cromarty Firth, however, would increase the electorate of the Caithness and Sutherland constituency by 19,568 to 50,741 (7% below the electoral quota), while the territorial area of the constituency would not be greatly increased. We considered this a far more attractive alternative. To take into account the increased area of the constituency we also proposed to change the name of the constituency to Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross.

Remainder of Highland Region

6. We considered that the electorate of the present Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber constituency was, at 70,164, too far (28.5%) above the electoral quota, especially in view of the territorial size of the constituency. The electorate was also still growing. We considered a variety of ways of achieving a better parity of electorate between the 3 constituencies in Highland Region but they all generated disadvantages either of enormous territorial size or major disruption to community ties, or both. We therefore recognised that electoral parity was unachievable, though improvement was possible. With this in view, but also with a mind to keep changes to a modest level, we decided to recommend that Lochaber District should be transferred from the Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber constituency to the Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency. This produced a constituency covering Skye and Lochalsh District, Lochaber District, the western part of Ross and Cromarty District and the western part of Inverness District which we proposed should be called Wester Ross, Skye and Lochaber constituency. This proposed constituency would have an electorate of 49,558 (9% below the electoral quota). The remainder of Highland Region, comprising Badenoch and Strathspey District, Nairn District and a large part of Inverness District, would, with an electorate of 57,150 (5% above the electoral quota), form the third constituency and be called Inverness, Nairn and Badenoch.

Initial recommendations

7. On 20 May 1993 we published our initial recommendations for 3 county constituencies in Highland Region as follows:

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross	1. Caithness District 2. Sutherland District 3. regional electoral divisions in Ross and Cromarty District 16 Dingwall 20 Ferindonald 21 Alness and Ardross 22 Invergordon 23 Easter Ross 24 Tain	50,741
Inverness, Nairn and Badenoch	1. Badenoch and Strathspey District 2. Nairn District 3. regional electoral divisions in Inverness District 33 Merkinch 34 Caledonian Canal 35 Ballifeary-Columba 36 Ness and Muirtown 37 Crown-Raigmore 38 Old Edinburgh 39 Allt na Sgitheach 40 Drummond 41 Hilton 42 Ardersier, Petty and Balloch 43 Inshes 44 Culloden and Smithton 45 Strathdearn, Strathnairn and Loch Ness East	57,150
Wester Ross, Skye and Lochaber	1. Lochaber District 2. Skye and Lochalsh District 3. regional electoral divisions in Inverness District 46 Aird South 47 Scorguie 48 Aird North 4. regional electoral divisions in Ross and Cromarty District	

13 Lochbroom	
14 Wester Ross	
15 Strathconon	
17 Ord and Conon	
18 Black Isle West	
19 Black Isle East	49,558

Representations on the initial proposals

8. Within the one month consultation period we received a total of 66 representations on our provisional recommendations, along with a petition containing 173 signatures. Support for our proposals for the proposed Inverness, Nairn and Badenoch constituency came from Badenoch and Strathspey District Council, Inverness District Council and Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber Conservative and Unionist Association. Requests were made for our review to be postponed pending the outcome of local government reorganisation by Skye and Lochalsh District Council, the Association of Highland District Councils and Dr Michael Foxley, Regional Councillor for Mallaig, Ardnamurchan and Small Isles. Dr David Allison, a resident of Conon Bridge, contended that the law which requires us to take notice of electoral parity should be altered. He proposed that each rural constituency should be of a geographical size which would permit proper representation by the member of parliament regardless of electorate size. Representations were received arguing that Highland Region should, owing to its sheer geographical size, be entitled to four constituencies. These arguments for an extra seat came from Skye and Lochalsh District Council, Caithness and Sutherland Constituency Scottish Liberal Democrats, Ardross Community Council, Dr David Allison and Dr Michael Foxley. Suggestions were offered as to how four constituencies might be formed.

9. The majority of the representations received, however, related to our proposal to transfer the area of Easter Ross, including Dingwall, out of the present Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency and into the proposed Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross constituency. Many representations were also submitted supporting the status quo, including those by a) Mr Charles Kennedy, Member of Parliament for Ross, Cromarty and Skye, b) Mr Robert MacLennan, Member of Parliament for Caithness and Sutherland, c) Caithness and Sutherland Scottish Liberal Democrats, d) Ross, Cromarty and Skye Scottish Liberal Democrats, e) the Conservative and Unionist Associations, f) the Labour Party Scottish Council, g) Highland Regional Council, h) Caithness District Council, i) Sutherland District Council, j) Ross and Cromarty District Council and k) various community councils. Representations were also made by the Ross-shire Boundary Group, Ross, Cromarty and Skye Local Health Council and the Caithness Chamber of Commerce as well as a number of individual electors. One of the main arguments put forward was that as Dingwall was the administrative and county town of Ross and Cromarty it should form part of a Ross and Cromarty constituency with the remainder of the district. Evidence was submitted of the strong historical, geographical, cultural and community ties that existed between Easter Ross and the rest of the Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency. It was also argued that these would have increased with the building of the Cromarty Bridge. Many objectors made the

point that this area had very little in common with Sutherland and practically nothing whatsoever in common with Caithness. It was pointed out in many of the representations that it was already difficult, in terms of communications, for the Member of Parliament in the Caithness and Sutherland constituency to serve the electorate. Adding a further territorial area to the constituency which already had an area of 7,641 square kilometres was wholly unreasonable and would involve the Member having to traverse much greater distances. A further argument put forward was that the economy of Caithness and Sutherland, which faced a challenging future, bore no resemblance to the Easter Ross economy. The status quo should therefore be retained to enable the Member to have specific regard to such problems. As the majority of submissions recommended that the status quo be retained, very few alternatives were proposed. Marybank, Scatwell and Strathconon Community Council suggested that, assuming the status quo to be unacceptable, the areas around Tain and Edderton could be considered if the electorate of the Caithness and Sutherland constituency had to be increased.

10. Lochbroom Community Council argued that the proposed constituency of Wester Ross, Cromarty and Skye was far too large to be represented adequately by a single member of parliament. The communication problems alone made it unrealistic in terms of fair representation. We also received representations from a number of people resident in the current Inverness, Nairn and Badenoch constituency, including three Inverness District Councillors, who considered that the towns of Fort William and Inverness experienced similar problems and should therefore be represented by the same member of parliament. They argued against placing Fort William in the same constituency as Ullapool because this created a territorially vast constituency. Many people also contended that our review should produce constituencies which took account of the road and rail networks in Highland Region which tended to be east to west. Representations were also received which made comments about the town of Inverness. Muirtown Community Council, District Councillor Alex Graham and Ms Katrina Coutts, a resident of Inverness, considered that the built up residential area within ED 47 (Scorguie) to the west of the Caledonian Canal should also be included in the proposed Inverness, Nairn and Badenoch constituency.

Local Inquiry

11. As a consequence of objections received from local authorities in the area we recognised we had a statutory duty to hold a local inquiry. At our request you appointed Sheriff Principal Douglas Risk QC the Sheriff Principal of Grampian, Highland and Islands as Assistant Commissioner at the inquiry into our initial recommendations. The inquiry was held in the Town House, Inverness on Tuesday 5 and Wednesday 6 October 1993.

12. At the inquiry it was suggested that the only way in which satisfactory parliamentary representation could be achieved would be to divide the region into 4 constituencies. Submissions requesting us to consider this proposal included those made by Mr Charles Kennedy and Mr Robert Maclellan. Mr Michael Macmillan representing the Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency Labour Party, in arguing for the status quo, pointed out that Rule 4(b) stated that "in Scotland regard shall be had to the boundaries of local author-

ity areas" from which he deduced that, should local authority boundaries alter under local government reorganisation, a further inquiry would be necessary.

13. Mr Robert Maclellan informed the inquiry that the principal means of travel to his Caithness and Sutherland constituency from London was by air, landing at Wick Airport. Any improvements to the A9 road south of Dornoch were therefore hardly relevant. Mr Maclellan considered that it was already difficult for him to meet his constituents, with many roads in his constituency being single track and badly affected by the weather in winter. He expressed the firm view that if the Caithness and Sutherland constituency was extended to encompass parts of Easter Ross, he would find it impossible to give the necessary level of service expected by his constituents particularly as, under our proposals, we would be increasing the electorate of the Caithness and Sutherland constituency by some 40%. Mr Maclellan pointed out that in 1981 our predecessors conducting the third periodical review had taken the view that, notwithstanding the relatively small electorate, there were special geographical considerations which warranted Caithness and Sutherland Districts forming one complete constituency. Since that time, both the geography and numerical discrepancy in electorate had changed very little. Support for the points made in Mr Maclellan's statement was offered by representatives of the Caithness and Sutherland Liberal Democrats, Highland Regional Council, Caithness District Council, Sutherland District Council, the Ross-shire Boundary Group, the Save Ross-shire Campaign and a number of community councils, including the Royal Burgh of Tain Community Council who informed the inquiry that there was nothing whatsoever in common between the area around Tain and the areas of Caithness and Sutherland Districts.

14. Support for our proposed Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross constituency came from the Conservative and Unionist Associations, who had changed their initial stance of objection. They maintained that links dated back to 1745 between families in Easter Ross and East Sutherland, and that further links had been forged in more recent times with the opening of the Dornoch Bridge. The Labour Party Scottish Council, while opposing our initial proposals, accepted that there should be a modest enlargement of the Caithness and Sutherland constituency.

15. Ross and Cromarty District Council proposed that the Caithness and Sutherland constituency should remain intact, and that a balance should be achieved between the remaining constituencies by transferring ED33 (Merkinch), 34 (Caledonian Canal) and 35 (Ballifeary-Columba) from the current Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber constituency to the current Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency. This would give the Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber constituency an electorate of 63,008 and the Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency an electorate of 63,276. Mr Charles Kennedy considered this alternative scheme unattractive because of the further division of the town of Inverness. He informed the inquiry that the largest single grouping of electors in the present Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency, lived in the Western part of Inverness but it was clearly the least successfully integrated part of the constituency. In his opinion, confusion still existed at election time within Inverness. Opposition to any further division of Inverness was also voiced by

Highland Regional Council and Inverness District Council. Mr Alex Graham, District Councillor for Kinmylies ward, considered that the whole of the urban area of Inverness should be in the Inverness, Nairn and Badenoch constituency. He pointed out that under our proposals the estate of Kinmylies is split between two constituencies. Under the scheme proposed by Ross and Cromarty District Council the transfer of ED 34 (Caledonian Canal) into the Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency would avoid the splitting of Kinmylies estate. The Ross-shire Boundary Group argued strongly in favour of the status quo. If this was not available the Group's preferences would be for, a) a fourth constituency allocated to Highland Region b.) constituencies crossing regional boundaries or, c) the scheme proposed by Ross and Cromarty District Council.

16. There was no support at the inquiry for our provisional recommendation that Lochaber District should form part of a new Wester Ross, Skye and Lochaber constituency. The Labour Party Scottish Council, Ross and Cromarty District Council and the Ross-shire Boundary Group argued that a similar proposal had been rejected at the last review in 1981. Mr Charles Kennedy considered that the proposed constituency would be far more dislocated than the present constituency because while Lochaber District and Skye and Lochalsh District each would have separate administrative focal points in Fort William and Portree, the large area of Wester Ross would lose Dingwall as its focal point.

17. Highland Regional Council proposed that the status quo should prevail for the Caithness and Sutherland constituency with a new constituency created from Ross and Cromarty, Skye & Lochalsh and Lochaber Districts with an electorate of 60,732 (11% above the electoral quota) and a constituency comprising Inverness, Badenoch & Strathspey and Nairn Districts with an electorate of 65,544 (20% above the electoral quota).

18. Inverness District Council supported our provisional recommendations for the Inverness, Nairn and Badenoch constituency and were opposed to any proposed transfer of EDs 33 (Merkinch), 34 (Caledonian Canal) and 35 (Ballifeary-Columba). The Council considered that these three regional electoral divisions had no local or geographical ties with Wester Ross, Skye and Lochaber. The Council also considered that any further splitting of Inverness would cause confusion among the electorate. The Labour Party Scottish Council proposed that if the electorate of the Caithness and Sutherland constituency had to be increased, EDs 21 (Achness and Ardross), 22 (Invergordon), 23 (Easter Ross) and 24 (Tain) could be taken out of the present Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency and transferred to the Caithness and Sutherland constituency. To compensate for the transfer of approximately 12,300 electors they proposed that ED 31 (Mallaig, Ardnamurchan and the Small Isles) and ED 45 (Strathdearn, Strathtnairn and Loch Ness East) should be transferred from the present Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber constituency to the proposed Wester Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency. The transfer of these 2 regional electoral divisions would add some 5,700 to the electorate of the Wester Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency.

Assistant Commissioner's report

19. In his report to us, the Assistant Commissioner did not agree with the view expressed at the inquiry that the implications of Rule 4(b) meant that the Commission should delay

until the reorganisation of local government in Scotland was in place. He considered that the wording of Rule 4(b) is to be contrasted with the much stricter requirements applied to England and Northern Ireland. In Scotland we should have regard to the local authority boundaries, but we are not bound by them.

20. The Assistant Commissioner considered that if we had to enlarge the Caithness and Sutherland constituency it could, in his opinion, only take place in Easter Ross. The Assistant Commissioner noted that in terms of the number of representations received, our proposal to divorce Dingwall and its hinterland from the rest of Ross and Cromarty was the most contentious. He considered that there was a strong argument in favour of the status quo for the Caithness and Sutherland constituency. In his opinion, to make no change to the constituency boundaries could be justified on the basis of Rule 6. Moreover, the electorate of 31,471 (status quo) would compare favourably with that of Orkney & Shetland and the Western Isles. He further considered that Dingwall should not be separated from a Ross and Cromarty constituency as important local ties would be broken. He considered, however, that if the electorate of the Caithness and Sutherland constituency had to be increased, then the transfer of EDs 21 (Ainess and Ardross), 22 (Invergordon), 23 (Easter Ross) and 24 (Tain), as proposed by the Labour Party Scottish Council, might cause less offence, particularly as it returned Dingwall to a constituency comprising most of Ross and Cromarty. In considering the alternatives if the status quo were not considered by us to be the most favourable option, the Assistant Commissioner was attracted by the submission of Ross and Cromarty District Council. He considered that this scheme took account of the special geographical considerations affecting the Caithness and Sutherland constituency and achieved an acceptable parity of electorate between the other two constituencies. Transferring urban regional electoral divisions from Inverness also had an advantage over the transfer of the mainly rural Lochaber District as it increased the electorate of the Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency without materially increasing its area. The Assistant Commissioner also considered that, so far as local ties are concerned, Inverness has much stronger links with Easter Ross and the Black Isle than had Lochaber. Referring to the Labour Party's proposals, the Assistant Commissioner considered the transfer of EDs 31 (Mallaig, Ardnamurchan and The Small Isles) and 45 (Strathdearn, Strathmairn and Loch Ness East) would be unworkable, producing a constituency of an extraordinary size and shape which would again link part of Lochaber with Ross and Cromarty. The Assistant Commissioner added that he considered that the Member for the Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency would find it easier to maintain a constituency containing part of the urban area of Inverness rather than the large territorial area of Lochaber District.

21. The Assistant Commissioner viewed the proposal of Muirtown Community Council that ED47 (Scorguie) should be transferred to the proposed Inverness, Nairn and Badenoch constituency as untenable because this would have increased the electorate of this constituency, which was already greater than the electorates of the other two constituencies. He considered that as the principle of splitting the town of Inverness had been accepted at the last review, the sense of alienation among the electorate of Inverness might be lessened if, as proposed by Ross and Cromarty District Council, the division between the 2

constituencies was to follow the regional electoral division boundaries which in the main, followed the course of the River Ness. The Assistant Commissioner rejected the proposal put forward by Highland Regional Council as it linked Lochaber with Ross and Cromarty which, as he had already indicated, produced a constituency which would be almost impossible to serve. He also considered the disparity of electorate between the three constituencies was much greater than in the scheme advocated by Ross and Cromarty District.

22. In summary, the Assistant Commissioner recommended that the Caithness and Sutherland constituency should remain in its present form; that a new constituency should be created known as Ross, Cromarty and Skye consisting of Ross and Cromarty District, Skye and Lochalsh District and EDs 33 (Markinch), 34 (Caledonian Canal), 35 (Ballifeary, Columba), 46 (Aird South), 47 (Scorguie) and 48 (Aird North) in Inverness District; and that there should also be a constituency known as Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber comprising Lochaber District, Nairn District and Badenoch and Strathspey District as well as EDs 36 (Ness and Muirtown), 37 (Crown-Raigmors), 38 (Old Edinburgh), 39 (Allt na Sgitheach), 40 (Drummond), 41 (Hilton), 42 (Ardersier, Petty and Balloch), 43 (Inshes), 44 (Culloden and Smithton) and 45 (Strathdearn, Strathnairn and Loch Ness East) in Inverness District. If this recommendation was unsuitable he recommended, as an alternative, a similar arrangement but with EDs 21 (Alness and Ardross), 22 (Invergordon), 23 (Easter Ross) and 24 (Tain) being transferred from his recommended Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency to the Caithness and Sutherland constituency.

Related issues

23. A number of submissions had suggested that the review should be postponed pending the outcome of local government reorganisation. As has already been explained, we were conscious of our statutory obligation to report to the Secretary of State by 31 December 1994. It had also been suggested to the Assistant Commissioner that Nairn might be linked with the Moray constituency in Grampian Region, and Lochaber might be linked with the Argyll and Bute constituency in Strathclyde Region. We concluded that, under the current review, this was not a feasible option. The electorate of Moray constituency was already too large. Indeed, under our recommendations for Grampian Region, a regional electoral division was to be transferred out of the current Moray constituency. Also the already large geographical area of the current Argyll and Bute constituency excluded any consideration of its further enlargement.

Consideration of the Assistant Commissioner's report

24. We recognised the strength of feeling which existed in the Highlands in favour of maintaining the present Caithness and Sutherland constituency. We also believed, however, that the imbalance of electorate between the constituencies in Highland Region was too great, and therefore the electorate of the present Caithness and Sutherland constituency should be increased to bring it nearer to the electoral quota. We also recognised the force of the argument that transferring Dingwall and its hinterland comprising ED 16 (Dingwall) and ED 20 (Ferindonald), would leave the Wester Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency without a recognisable centre. We decided in these circumstances to propose, in line with the Assistant Commissioner's alternative recommendation, that the remainder of Easter

Ross, ie EDs 21 (Ainess and Ardross), 22 (Invergordon), 23 (Easter Ross) and 24 (Tain), should be linked with Caithness and Sutherland for parliamentary representation purposes. This would bring closer the territorial sizes of the two constituencies, as well as their electorates.

25. We also accepted the recommendation of the Assistant Commissioner that a constituency combining Lochaber, Wester Ross and Skye would be unmanageable on account of its size. We therefore concurred with the Assistant Commissioner that Lochaber District should, as at present, form part of the Inverness, Nairn and Badenoch constituency. To counter-balance the transfer of Lochaber, we accepted the recommendation that there should be a new division of the town of Inverness. The area to the west of the River Ness, except that part which is in ED 36 (Ness and Muirtown), should be included in the Wester Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency. The remainder of the town, including all of ED 36, should continue to be included in the Inverness, Nairn and Badenoch constituency. We believed that this would reduce the disparity of electorate between the two constituencies and also allow the electorate of the Wester Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency to be increased without excessively enlarging its area. To account for these changes we also decided to adhere to the constituency name of Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross, but to amend the other two constituency names to Inverness, Nairn & Lochaber and Wester Ross, Cromarty & Skye.

Revised recommendations

26. On 29 July 1994 we published our revised recommendations as follows:

Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross	1. Caithness District	43,478
	2. Sutherland District	
	3. regional electoral divisions in Ross and Cromarty District	
	21 Ainess and Ardross	
	22 Invergordon	
Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber	23 Easter Ross	43,478
	24 Tain	
	1. Badenoch & Strathspey District	
	2. Lochaber District	
	3. Nairn District	
	4. regional electoral divisions in Inverness District	

	36 Ness and Muirtown	
	37 Crown-Raigmore	
	38 Old Edinburgh	
	39 Allt na Sgitheach	
	40 Drummond	
	41 Hilton	
	42 Ardersier, Petty and Balloch	
	43 Inshes	
	44 Culloden and Smithton	
	45 Strathdearn, Strathnairn and Loch Ness East	63,321
Wester Ross, Cromarty and Skye	1. Skye & Lochalsh District	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Inverness District	
	33 Merkinch	
	34 Caledonian Canal	
	35 Ballifeary-Columba	
	46 Aird South	
	47 Scorguie	
	48 Aird North	
	3. regional electoral divisions in Ross & Cromarty District	
	13 Lochbroom	
	14 Wester Ross	
	15 Strathconon	
	16 Dingwall	
	17 Ord and Conon	
	18 Black Isle West	
	19 Black Isle East	
	20 Ferindonald	50,650

Representations on revised recommendations

27. Following publication of the revised recommendations 253 representations were received. The majority of the representations objected to the town of Alness being divided between 2 constituencies. In our revised recommendations we had transferred ED 16 (Dingwall) and ED 20 (Ferindonald) from the proposed Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross constituency into the Wester Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency. The effect of transferring ED 20 divided the town of Alness between the two constituencies. Mr Charles Kennedy considered that this division, in a town the size of Alness, would be highly impractical from the point of view of efficient constituency representation.

28. Mr Robert MacLennan, Ross and Cromarty District Council and Sutherland District Council along with a number of others continued to press for the present Caithness and Sutherland constituency to be retained in its present form. The Royal Burgh of Tain Community Council re-iterated its opposition to being placed in the same constituency as Caithness and Sutherland Districts.

29. Representations were also received concerning our revised proposals as they affected the town of Inverness, including one from Inverness District Council who considered our revised recommendations would cause considerable confusion among the electorate. Objections were also received to the proposed constituency names of Wester Ross, Cromarty & Skye and Inverness, Nairn & Lochaber. It was also suggested that as a larger part of Inverness was now part of the Wester Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency a reference to it should also appear in the title. Mr Charles Kennedy suggested that Ross, Skye and Inverness West would be a more appropriate title. He also suggested that the name of the proposed Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber constituency should be altered to Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber.

30. After consideration of all the representations received we accepted that the town of Alness should not be divided between two constituencies. We therefore decided that ED 21 (Alness and Ardross) should be transferred from the proposed Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross constituency to the proposed Wester Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency, placing the whole of Alness in the latter constituency. We did not consider that the representations in respect of Inverness and Tain provided sufficient evidence to justify any further modifications to the boundaries involved. We decided to confirm our view that the electorate of the present Caithness and Sutherland constituency should be increased by the inclusion of part of Easter Ross in that constituency. We did, however, decide to support the suggestions made that the name of Wester Ross, Cromarty and Skye constituency should be amended. We agreed that the constituency should be re-named Ross, Skye and Inverness West. We also agreed that the proposed constituency name of Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber should be altered to Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber.

Further revised recommendations

31. On 23 September 1994 we published our further revised recommendations as follows:

Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross	1. Caithness District	
	2. Sutherland District	
	3. regional electoral divisions in Ross and Cromarty District	

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

	22 Invergordon	
	23 Easter Ross	
	24 Tain	41,318
Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber	Unaltered from initial proposals (previously called Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber)	63,321
Ross, Skye and Inverness West	1. Skye & Lochalsh District	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Inverness District	
	33 Merkinch	
	34 Caledonian Canal	
	35 Ballifeary-Columba	
	46 Aird South	
	47 Scorguie	
	48 Aird North	
	3. regional electoral divisions in Ross & Cromarty District	
	13 Lochbroom	
	14 Wester Ross	
	15 Strathconon	
	16 Dingwall	
	17 Ord and Conon	
	18 Black Isle West	
	19 Black Isle East	
	20 Ferindonald	
	21 Alness and Ardross	52,810

Representations on further modified recommendations

32. On publication of the further modified proposals 16 representations were received. 12 of the representations re-iterated opposition to including part of Easter Ross in the same constituency as Caithness and Sutherland Districts. We also received 2 objections to the division of the town of Inverness and an objection to the proposed constituency name of Ross, Skye and Inverness West. A letter in support of our revised proposals was also received.

33. These representations did not advance new arguments to persuade us to modify our proposals further. We therefore decided against any further alteration.

34. We accordingly recommend the adoption of our further modified proposals for 3 county constituencies in Highland Region as follows:

SECTION SIX—HIGHLAND REGION

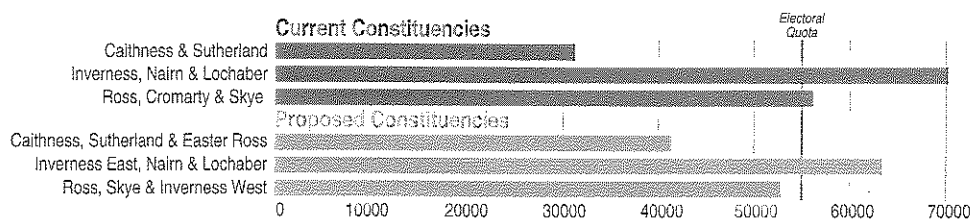
Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross	1. Caithness District 2. Sutherland District 3. regional electoral divisions in Ross and Cromarty District 22 Invergordon 23 Easter Ross 24 Tain	41,318
Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber	1. Badenoch & Strathspey District 2. Lochaber District 3. Nairn District 4. regional electoral divisions in Inverness District 36 Ness and Muirtown 37 Crown-Raigmore 38 Old Edinburgh 39 Allt na Sgitheach 40 Drummond 41 Hilton 42 Ardersier, Petty and Balloch 43 Inshes 44 Culloden and Smithton 45 Strathdearn, Strathnairn and Loch Ness East	63,321
Ross, Skye and Inverness West	1. Skye & Lochalsh District 2. regional electoral divisions in Inverness District 33 Merkinch 34 Caledonian Canal 35 Ballifeary-Columba 46 Aird South 47 Scorguie 48 Aird North	

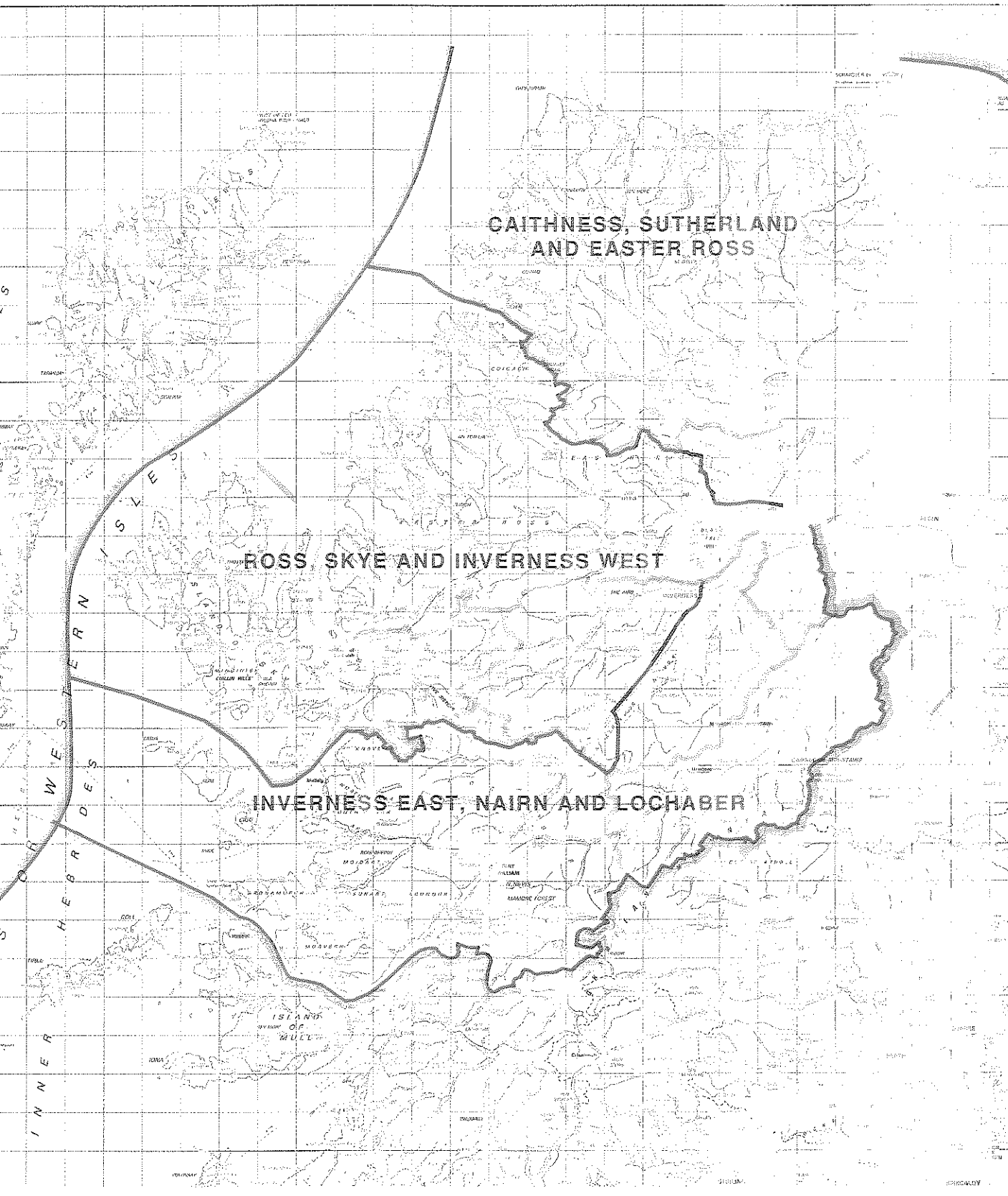
3. regional electoral divisions in
Ross & Cromarty District

13 Lochbroom	
14 Wester Ross	
15 Strathconon	
16 Dingwall	
17 Ord and Conon	
18 Black Isle West	
19 Black Isle East	
20 Ferindonald	
21 Alness and Ardross	52,810

35. The electorates of both the current and the proposed constituencies in Highland Region on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) were as shown in Figure 12 below.

Figure 12





Boundary Commission for Scotland

Highland Region

Recommended Parliamentary Constituencies

Constituency Boundary

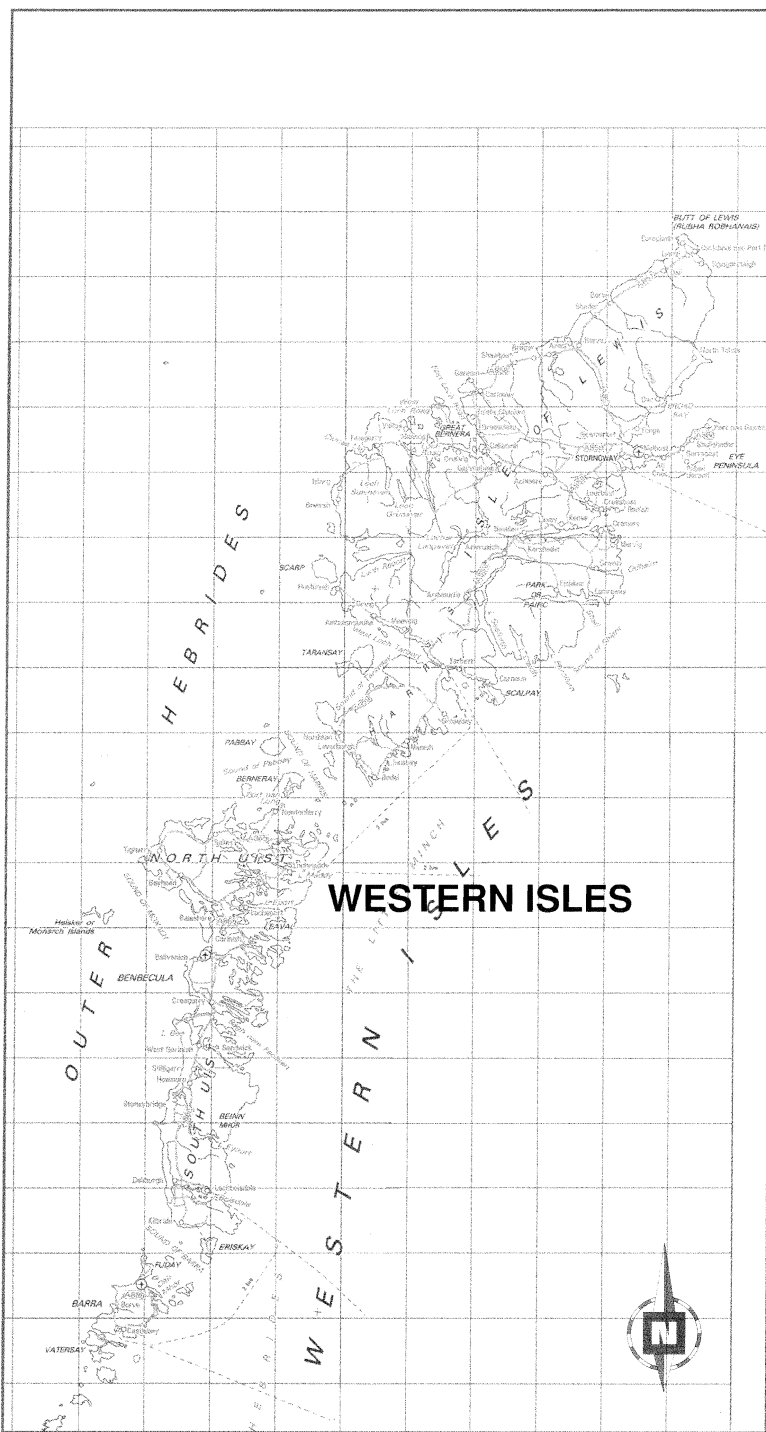
Region Boundary

District Boundary



Km 0 10 20 30 40 50

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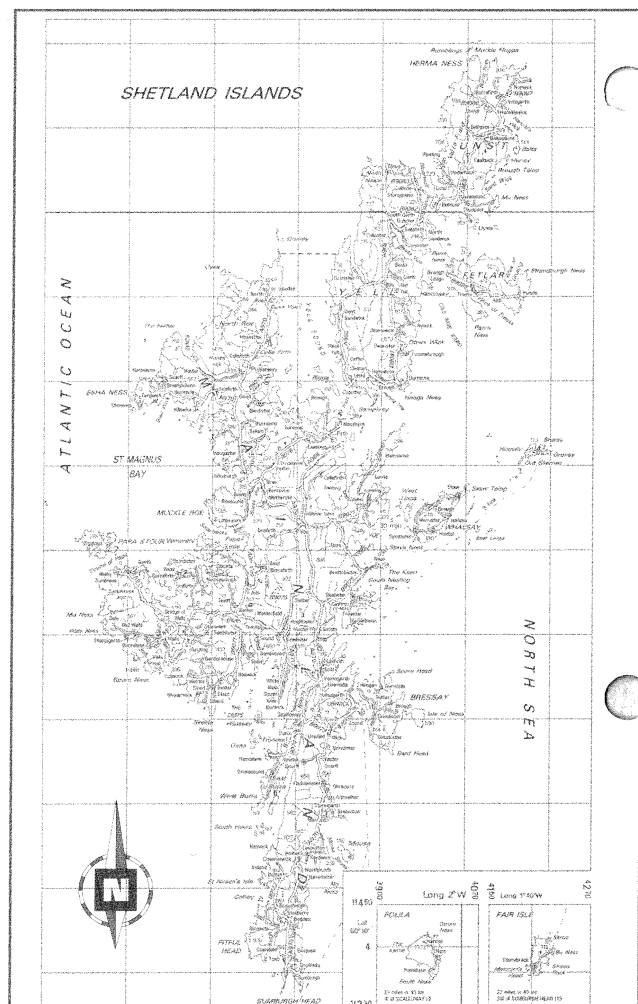


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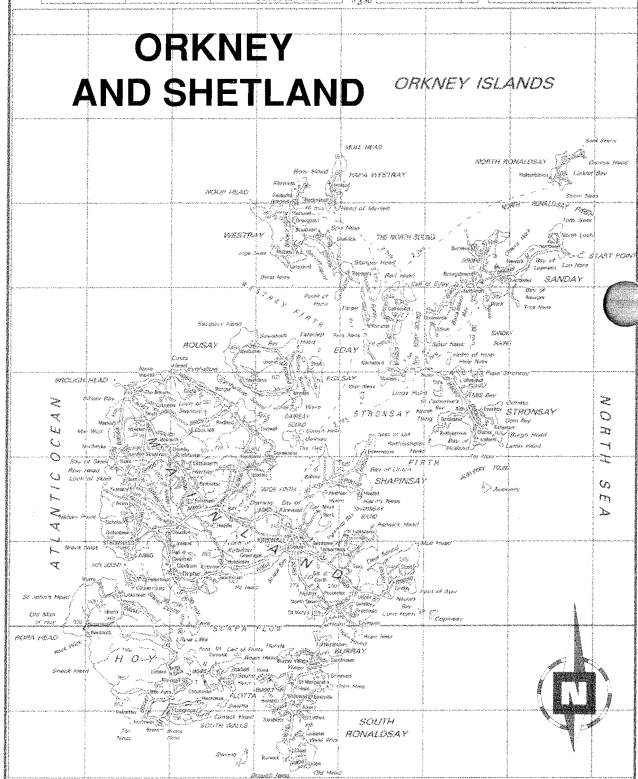
Boundary Commission for Scotland Islands Areas* Current Parliamentary Constituencies

- Constituency Boundary*
- Region Boundary*
- District Boundary*

*Orkney and Shetland Islands Areas form 1 constituency,
Western Isles Island Area forms 1 constituency



ORKNEY AND SHETLAND



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SECTION SEVEN

ISLANDS AREAS

Introduction

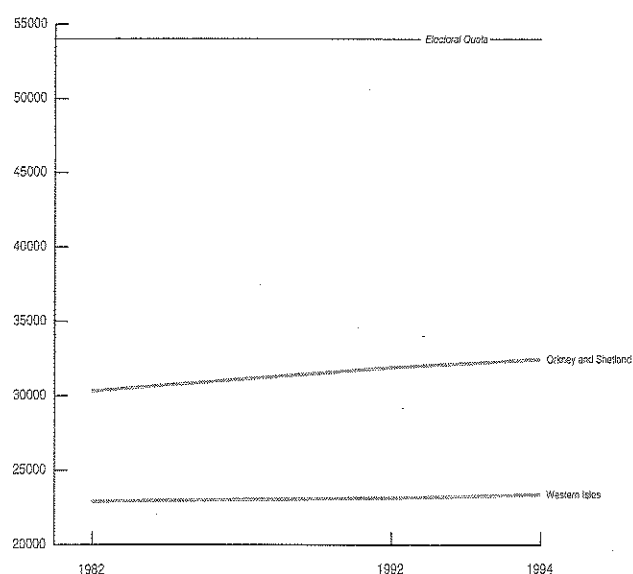
1. The islands areas comprise the following 2 county constituencies whose electorates at the start and finish of the previous and current reviews were as shown in Table 8 and Figure 13 below:

Table 8

Current Constituency	Electorates			
	Previous Review* Start (1978)	End (1982)	Current Review Start (1992)	End (1994)
Orkney and Shetland	28,300	30,200	31,837	32,316
Western Isles	22,700	22,800	23,015	23,318
Total	51,000	53,000	54,852	55,634

*As published in third periodical report

Figure 13



2. In forming our initial proposals for the islands areas we had in mind that the boundaries of both constituencies had remained unchanged since the Representation of the People Act 1948 made provision for them. The Western Isles constituency is the smallest in terms of electorate in the United Kingdom.

3. We recognised that the electorate of both constituencies is well below the electoral quota for Scotland (Orkney and Shetland constituency 42% below and Western Isles constituency 58% below), but we decided nevertheless to propose the retention of the present arrangements of 2 seats for the islands areas because of special geographical considerations. We concluded that despite the islands areas in total having a theoretical entitlement to only one seat, it would be unrealistic to attempt to unite within one constituency such

distant and diverse archipelagos approximately 400 miles from the southern tip of the Western Isles to the northern tip of the Shetland Islands. We also concluded that linking either of the islands areas to a mainland constituency would prove unsatisfactory. The nearest mainland areas were very sparsely populated. Given the geographic characteristics it would be difficult for the local political parties to maintain effective organisations. Communication between the various parts of such constituencies would also provide a problem and the member of parliament would have difficulty visiting all parts of the constituency. We also took into account that a proposal to link Western Isles with part of Highland Region for parliamentary constituency purposes had been proposed during the third periodic review, but had been withdrawn after a local inquiry.

Initial recommendations

4. On 18 March 1993 we published our initial recommendations for 2 county constituencies in the islands areas as follows:

Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Orkney and Shetland	1. Orkney Islands Area	31,837
	2. Shetlands Islands Area	
Western Isles	Western Isles Islands Area	23,015

Representations on initial recommendations

5. Two representations were received to our proposals. Mr Jim Wallace Member of Parliament for Orkney and Shetlands supported our proposals. The Labour Party Scottish Council also wrote in support of the recommendations.

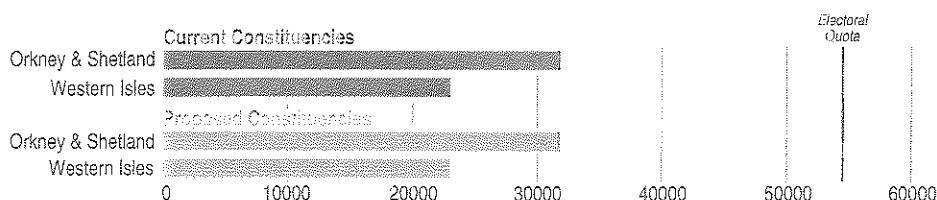
Final recommendations

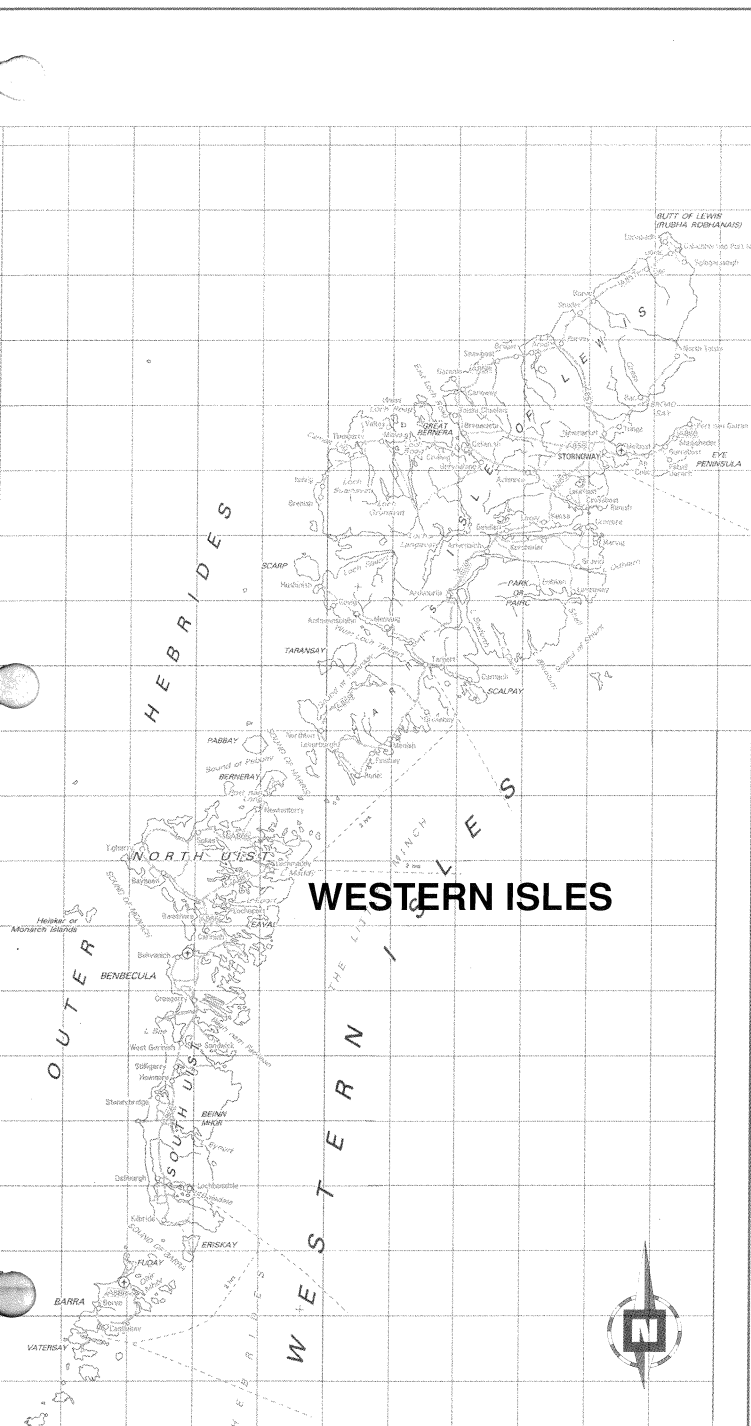
6. We therefore concluded that our initial proposals in respect of the 2 county constituencies in the Islands Areas should stand. We accordingly recommend the adoption of our initial proposals for two county constituencies in the islands areas as follows:

Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Orkney and Shetland	1. Orkney Islands Area	31,837
	2. Shetlands Islands Area	
Western Isles	Western Isles Islands Area	23,015

7. The electorates of both the current and proposed constituencies in the Islands Areas on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) were as shown in Figure 14 below.

Figure 14



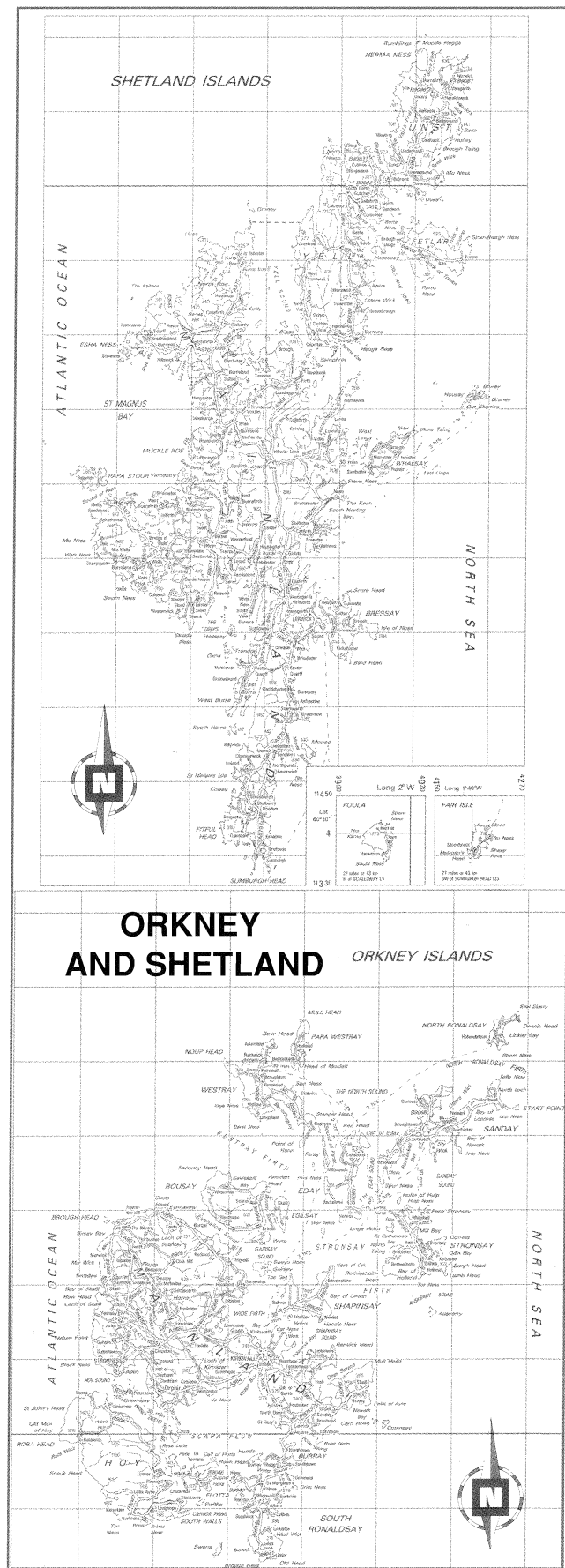


Boundary Commission for Scotland Islands Areas*

Recommended Parliamentary Constituencies

-  Constituency Boundary*
-  Region Boundary*
-  District Boundary*

*Orkney and Shetland Islands Areas form 1 constituency,
Western Isles Island Area forms 1 constituency



Boundary Commission for Scotland

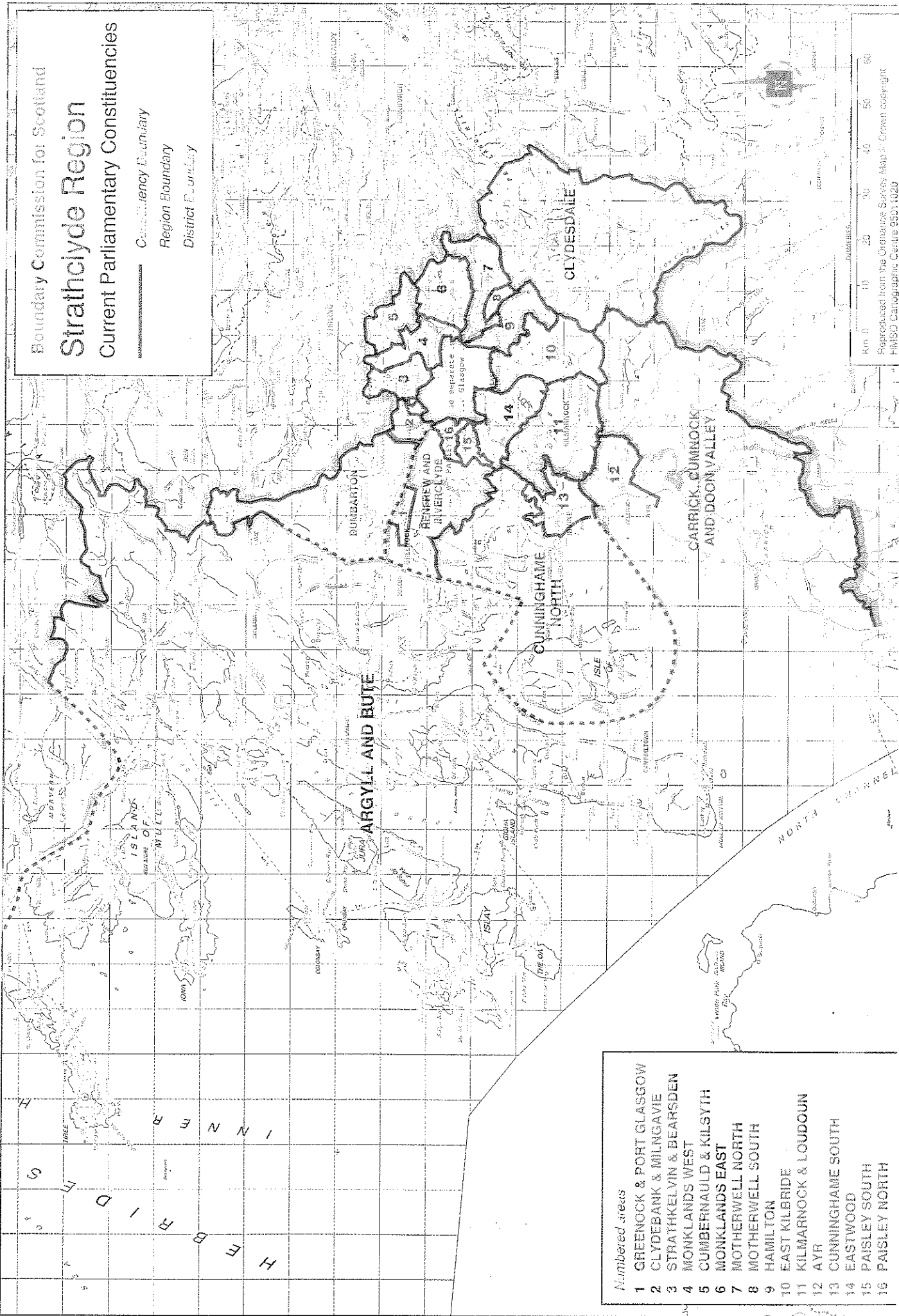
Strathclyde Region

Current Parliamentary Constituencies

Constituency Boundary

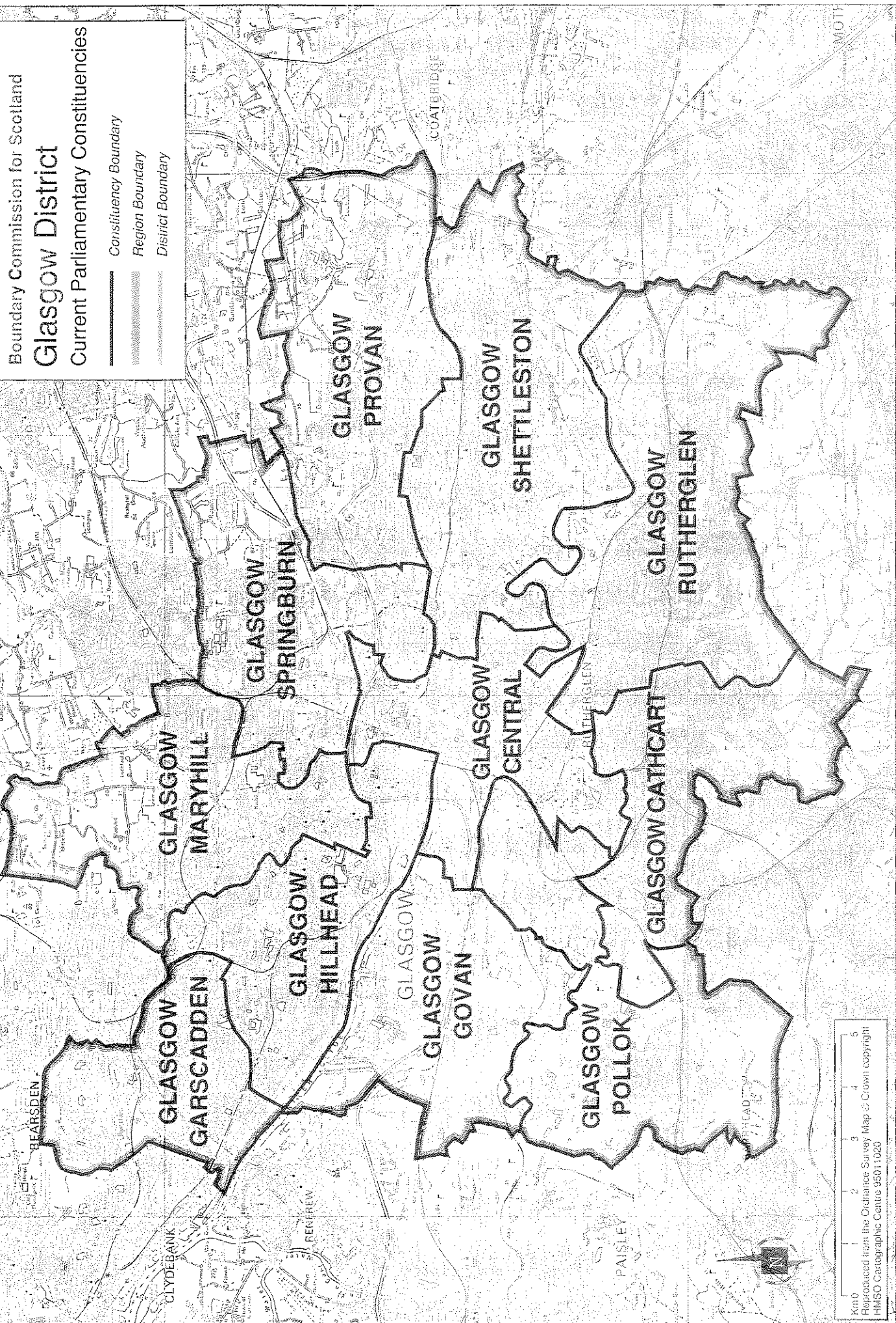
Region Boundary

District Boundary



Boundary Commission for Scotland
Glasgow District
Current Parliamentary Constituencies

Constituency Boundary
Region Boundary
District Boundary



SECTION EIGHT

STRATHCLYDE REGION

Introduction

1. The region comprises 19 burgh and 14 county constituencies, whose electorates at the start and finish of the previous and current reviews were as shown in Table 9 and Figures 15-17 below:

Table 9

Current Constituency	Electorates			
	Previous Review* Start (1978)	End (1982)	Current Review Start (1992)	End (1994)
<i>Burgh Constituencies:</i>				
Glasgow Cathcart	52,600	52,000	45,149	44,374
Glasgow Central	55,700	52,200	48,383	48,185
Glasgow Garscadden	52,700	52,000	41,675	40,794
Glasgow Govan	55,800	52,300	46,199	45,331
Glasgow Hillhead	56,100	57,600	57,586	57,732
Glasgow Maryhill	56,700	52,400	48,791	48,903
Glasgow Pollok	53,500	54,500	46,655	45,809
Glasgow Provan	57,100	49,600	36,986	36,175
Glasgow Rutherglen	57,400	60,400	53,325	52,409
Glasgow Shettleston	52,900	52,700	52,381	52,303
Glasgow Springburn	60,000	54,900	46,216	46,201
Greenock and Port Glasgow	60,200	60,300	52,661	51,370
Hamilton	59,800	62,100	62,347	62,734
Monklands East	47,600	49,900	49,059	48,724
Monklands West	49,300	51,000	49,935	49,698
Motherwell North	55,500	57,200	58,106	57,817
Motherwell South	52,500	53,300	50,674	50,122
Paisley North	48,800	50,900	46,867	46,424
Paisley South	52,200	53,500	48,385	47,862
<i>County Constituencies:</i>				
Argyll and Bute	47,100	48,100	48,436	49,347
Ayr	62,700	65,500	66,284	66,828
Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley	56,300	56,700	56,024	55,746
Clydebank and Milngavie	51,700	51,400	47,773	48,337
Clydesdale	58,400	60,600	62,684	63,229
Cumbernauld and Kilsyth	39,000	44,000	47,155	47,579
Cunninghame North	52,400	53,900	55,490	55,877
Cunninghame South	46,000	48,900	49,745	49,736
Dumbarton	55,900	58,000	57,894	57,614
Eastwood	56,600	59,500	64,560	64,788
East Kilbride	60,100	62,000	64,824	65,368
Kilmarnock and Loudoun	60,900	62,300	62,777	62,547
Renfrew West and Inverclyde	48,400	53,300	58,897	59,894
Strathkelvin and Bearsden	54,100	60,800	61,924	61,633
	1,786,000	1,813,800	1,745,847	1,741,490

*As published in third periodical report.

SECTION EIGHT—STRATHCLYDE REGION

Figure 15

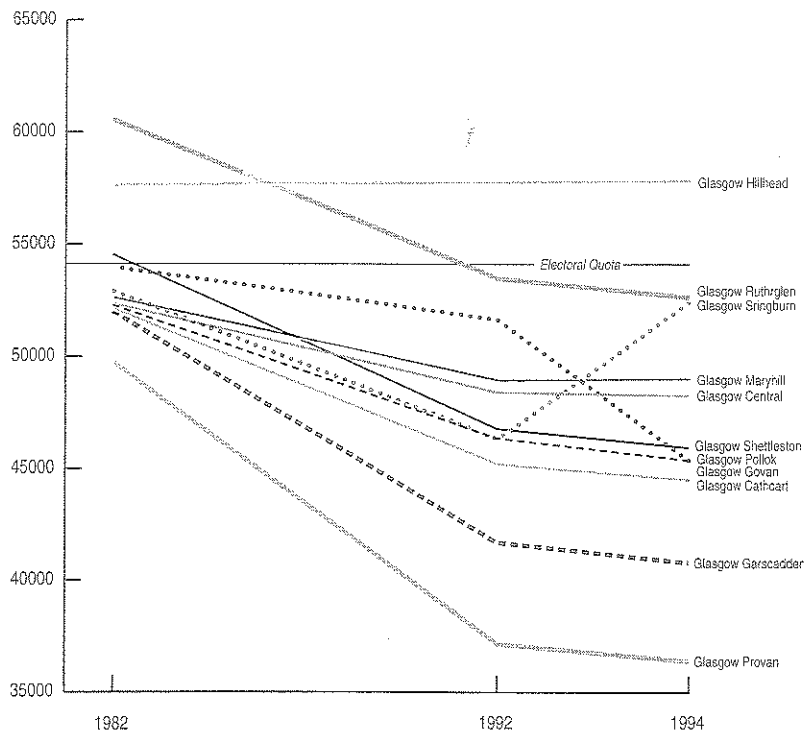


Figure 16

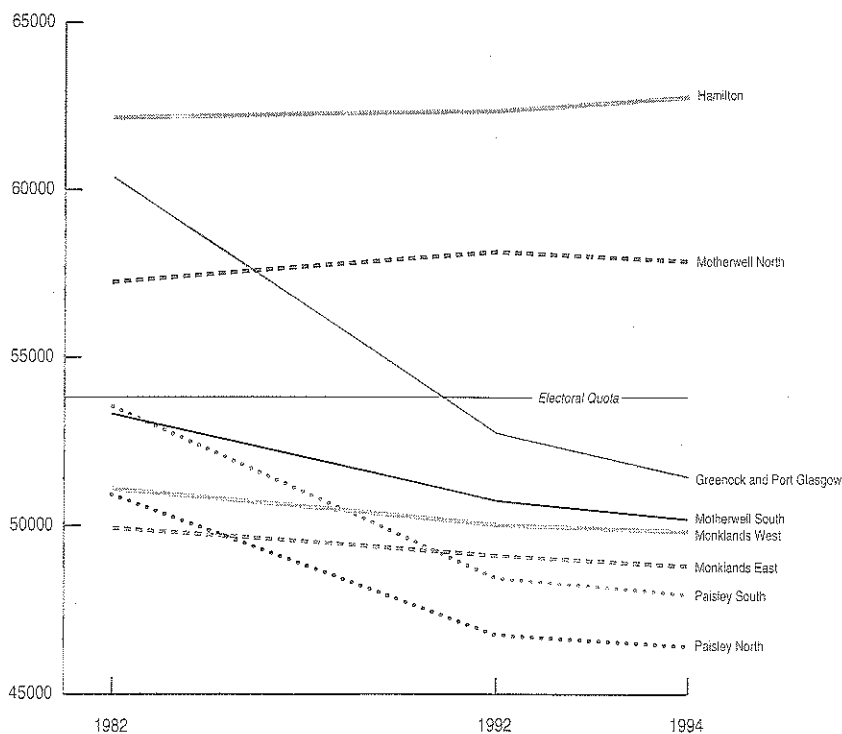
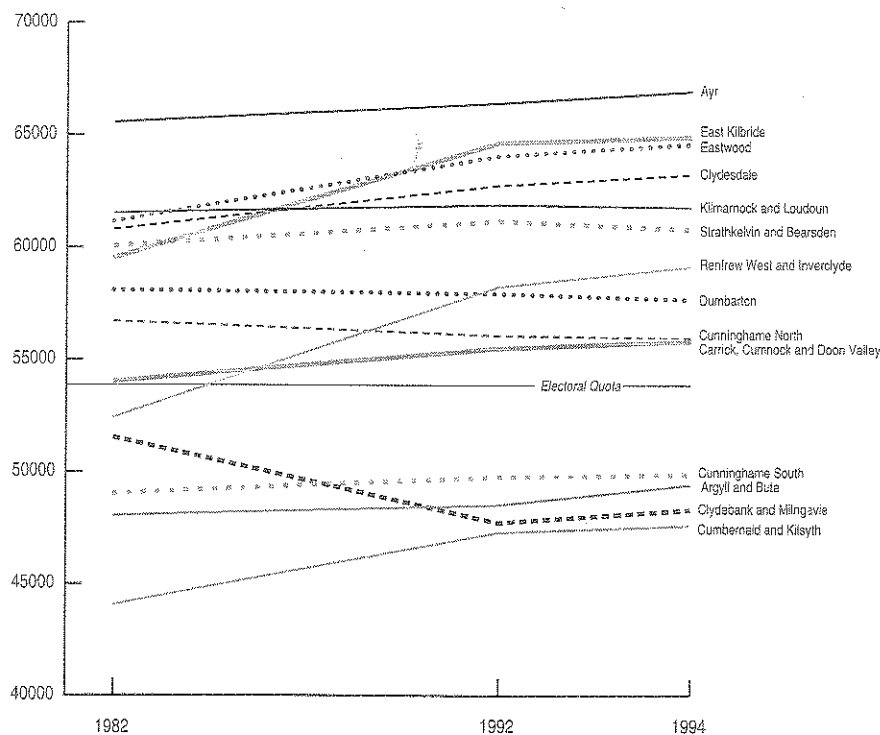


Figure 17



2. In forming our initial proposals for the region we had in mind the following considerations:

2.1 The parliamentary electorate of Strathclyde Region on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) was 1,745,684 giving the region a theoretical entitlement to 31.99 seats which rounds to 32 seats.

2.2 The regional electoral divisions within Strathclyde were considerably larger, in electorate terms, than elsewhere in the country.

Note: The parliamentary electorate of Strathclyde Region (which provided the electorate on the enumeration date) was not identical to the parliamentary electorate of the constituencies in the area as the local authority and parliamentary constituency boundaries were not the same.

City of Glasgow

3. We noted that the reduction in electoral numbers which had taken place since the last review had occurred predominantly in the City of Glasgow, whose electorate on the enumeration date was 523,259 giving a theoretical entitlement of 9.59 seats which rounds to 10 seats. This would mean a reduction of one parliamentary constituency in the city.

4. As the City of Glasgow comprises 30 regional electoral divisions, we considered the implications of forming 7 constituencies wholly within the city, each comprising 4 regional electoral divisions, with the remaining 2 regional electoral divisions being joined with a constituency(ies) outwith the city. We considered this approach to be untenable however, as it would reduce the number of constituencies relative to the City of Glasgow's theoretical entitlement of 9.59 seats by 2. We were also aware that had we proceeded in this vein it could have been contended that we had failed to apply Rule 5 (equality of electorate) properly.

5. For similar reasons we were not attracted to an arrangement of 8 or 9 seats for Glasgow. This would generate significant inequalities of electorate arising from some constituencies comprising of 4 regional electoral divisions while the majority would contain only 3. We therefore decided that the balance of argument lay in favour of retaining the City of Glasgow as a whole for parliamentary constituency purposes and forming 10 city constituencies each comprising 3 regional electoral divisions. We were aware that the average electorate for the Glasgow constituencies would be 52,326 (4.1% below the electoral quota) whereas the average electorates of constituencies in the cities of Aberdeen, Dundee or Edinburgh were all above the electoral quota. We were nevertheless satisfied that the balance of argument, in the absence of revised district wards, favoured pursuing this course. In preparing initial proposals for these 10 constituencies we recognised that with 10 being formed where 11 existed before it would be necessary to deviate significantly from current boundaries, and that some electors would be joined with areas with which they had no previous ties; but we sought to keep such changes to a minimum.

Rest of Strathclyde

6. Having allocated 10 seats to Glasgow we were therefore faced with dividing 74 regional electoral divisions between 22 constituencies in the rest of Strathclyde. We considered that Argyll & Bute constituted a special case. At present it covers the large territorial area of Argyll & Bute District. This comprises 5 regional electoral divisions, although these have a much smaller electorate than average. We did not think that we could increase the size of the constituency, despite its electorate being 11.2% below the electoral quota, partly because of considerations of geography but also because transferring ED7 (Helensburgh), which is the sole regional electoral division adjoining Argyll & Bute, would create a significantly larger constituency in geographic terms which would also have an electorate 24.5% above the electoral quota. We accordingly decided to leave Argyll & Bute unchanged. This left us to divide the remaining 69 regional electoral divisions between 21 constituencies, which meant that 6 of these would each have to include an extra electoral division.

7. One of the main considerations in our approach to this part of the review was to achieve as little disruption to present constituencies as possible, in so far as the new regional electoral divisional boundaries would allow. Thus we sought to retain constituencies which comprised whole districts (Argyll & Bute, Dumbarton, Kilmarlock & Loudoun and East Kilbride) as well as constituencies which, when paired, formed whole districts (Cunninghame North and South and Motherwell North and South). We also noted that it

would be possible to leave Clydesdale constituency as recommended by our predecessors. Pursuit of these objectives under the Rules, however, did not produce an ideal solution. It emerged that there was an inevitable area of difficulty whichever of the various groupings of regional electoral divisions was followed. In our preferred solution we were conscious that the proposals for the northeast area of the region contained points of potential difficulty. We were also conscious that the Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley constituency would become the largest constituency, in terms of electorate, in Scotland. We concluded, however, that our initial recommendations were as near to the status quo as could reasonably be achieved.

Initial recommendations

8. On 18 November 1993 we published our initial recommendations for 17 burgh and 15 county constituencies in Strathclyde Region as follows:

Burgh Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Cumbernauld and Airdrie North	1. regional electoral divisions in Cumbernauld and Kilsyth District 47 Cumbernauld North 48 Cumbernauld South 2. regional electoral division in Monklands District	50,508
Glasgow Baillieston	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District 22 Greenfield/Barlanark 24 Baillieston/Mount Vernon 25 Garthamlock/Easterhouse	52,207
Glasgow Cathcart	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District 31 Carnwadric/Newlands 34 Battlefield/Croftfoot 36 Castlemilk/Carmunnock	51,940
Glasgow Govan	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District 26 Govan/Drumoyne 27 Kingston/Pollokshields 32 Langside/Shawlands	50,351

SECTION EIGHT—STRATHCLYDE REGION

Glasgow Kelvin	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	12 Scotstoun/Broomhill	
	13 Hyndland/Hillhead	
	15 Anderston/City	53,680
Glasgow Knightswood	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	9 Drumchapel/Blairdardie	
	10 Yoker/Knightswood	
	11 Jordanhill/Kelvindale	53,667
Glasgow Maryhill	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	14 Woodside/North Kelvinside	
	16 Milton/Possil	
	17 Summerston/Maryhill	52,291
Glasgow Pollok	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	28 Hillington/Cardonald	
	29 Crookston/Mosspark	
	30 South Pollok/Arden	52,678
Glasgow Rutherglen	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	35 Toryglen/Kings Park	
	37 Rutherglen/Fernhill	
	38 Cambuslang/Halfway	52,265
Glasgow Shettleston	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	21 Calton/Dalmarnock	
	23 Shettleston/Tollcross	
	33 Gorbals/Govanhill	49,358
Glasgow Springburn	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	18 Carntyne/Robroyston	
	19 Royston/Dennistoun	
	20 Springburn/Barmulloch	54,822

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Hamilton	regional electoral divisions in Hamilton District	
	60 Blantyre and Burnbank	
	61 Bothwell and Hamilton North	
	62 Hamilton West	
	63 Hamilton South	62,347
Monklands	regional electoral divisions in Monklands District	
	50 Coatbridge North and East	
	51 Coatbridge South	
	53 Airdrie South	57,106
Motherwell North	regional electoral divisions in Motherwell District	
	57 Fortissat	
	58 Bellshill and Tannochside	
	59 North Calder	55,335
Motherwell South	regional electoral divisions in Motherwell District	
	54 Dalziel	
	55 Wishaw	
	56 Clydevale	53,282
Paisley North	regional electoral divisions in Renfrew District	
	75 Linwood and Paisley North	
	78 Paisley Abercorn	
	81 Renfrew	49,702
Paisley South	regional electoral divisions in Renfrew District	
	76 Paisley Gleniffer	
	77 Paisley Central	
	80 Johnstone	53,800

SECTION EIGHT—STRATHCLYDE REGION

County Constituencies		
Argyll and Bute	Argyll and Bute District	48,436
Ayr	regional electoral divisions in Kyle and Carrick District	
	98 Prestwick and North Ayr	
	99 Ayr Central	
	101 North Kyle	54,009
Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley	1. Cumnock and Doon Valley District	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Kyle and Carrick District	
	100 Ayr South, Coylton and Annbank	
	102 Carrick	68,299
Clydebank and Milngavie	1. Clydebank District	
	2. regional electoral division in Bearsden and Milngavie District	
	41 Milngavie/Kilmardinny	51,276
Clydesdale	1. Clydesdale District	
	2. regional electoral division in Hamilton District	
	64 Larkhall and Stonehouse	62,684
Cunninghame North	regional electoral divisions in Cunninghame District	
	91 Garnock Valley	
	92 Salcoats and Ardrossan	
	93 Largs, West Kilbride and Arran	55,490
Cunninghame South	regional electoral divisions in Cunninghame District	
	88 Irvine Central	
	89 Irvine South	
	90 Kilwinning and Stevenston	49,745

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Dumbarton	Dumbarton District	57,894
East Kilbride	East Kilbride District	64,824
Eastwood	1. Eastwood District	
	2. regional electoral division in Renfrew District	
	79 Barrhead	64,547
Greenock and Inverclyde	regional electoral divisions in Inverclyde District	
	85 Greenock Central East	
	86 Greenock South West	
	87 Inverclyde West	51,442
Kilmarnock and Loudoun	Kilmarnock and Loudoun District	62,777
Kilsyth	1. regional electoral divisions in Strathkelvin District	
	44 Strathkelvin North	
	46 Chryston	
	2. regional electoral division in Cumbernauld and Kilsyth District	
	49 Kilsyth and Condorrat	48,837
Renfrew	1. regional electoral divisions in Renfrew District	
	82 Gryffe	
	83 Bargarran	
	2. regional electoral division in Inverclyde District	
	84 Port Glasgow & Kilmacolm	51,833
Strathkelvin and Bearsden	1. regional electoral division in Bearsden and Milngavie District	
	42 Bearsden	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Strathkelvin District	
	43 Kirkintilloch	
	45 Bishopbriggs	48,252

Representations on initial recommendations

9. A total of 995 representations and various petitions were received regarding our provisional proposals, including representations from 22 of the present Members of Parliament. Most of the representations focused on the following issues:

9.1 that the Garrowhill area in ED 24 (Baillieston/Mount Vernon) would move from the Shettleston constituency into the Baillieston constituency.

9.2 the proposals in respect of the area north and east of Glasgow between Strathkelvin and Monklands.

9.3 that the Alloway and Doonfoot area in ED 100 (Ayr South, Coylton and Annbank) would move from the Ayr constituency into the Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley constituency.

10. Apart from a written representation objecting “to the whole formulation of seats in the West and South West of Scotland” from the Chairman of Pollok Conservative Association, we received no other objections or counter-proposals to our recommendations for the following constituencies:

Argyll and Bute
 Clydesdale
 Cunninghame South
 Dumbarton
 East Kilbride
 Kilmarnock and Loudoun
 Glasgow Kelvin
 Glasgow Maryhill
 Glasgow Pollok
 Glasgow Springburn
 Motherwell South
 Paisley North
 Paisley South

No political party, local authority, organisation or group of individuals opposed our proposal to reduce the overall number of constituencies in Strathclyde Region from 33 to 32. Our proposal to apply this reduction in the City of Glasgow was generally supported.

Local Inquiry

11. As a consequence of the objections to our proposals received from local authorities in the area as well as the number of electors objecting we recognised that we had a statutory duty to hold a local inquiry. At our request you agreed to appoint Sheriff Principal Robert C Hay, CBE, WS, Sheriff Principal of North Strathclyde, as Assistant Commissioner at the inquiry into our initial proposals. The inquiry was held in the City Halls, Candleriggs, Glasgow on 10 to 13 May 1994.

12. In the period up to the start of the local inquiry the number of representations received increased to 1209. All of the representations were seen by the Assistant Commissioner and copies were made available at the inquiry itself.

13. At the opening of the inquiry the Assistant Commissioner informed those present that the electoral registration officer of Strathclyde Region had notified us of an error in the data he had supplied concerning the electorate of ED 99 (Ayr Central) and ED 100 (Ayr South, Coylton and Annbank). Correcting this error had the effect of amending the electorates of our proposed constituencies of Ayr and Carrick, Cumnock & Doon Valley to 55,307 and 67,001 respectively.

Representations to the inquiry about proposals for Glasgow

91 14. Mr Donald Dewar, Member of Parliament for Glasgow Garscadden, expressed broad support of our initial proposals for all the Glasgow constituencies. He contended, however, that the proposed constituency name of Glasgow Knightswood was not entirely appropriate as Knightswood, being a residential area, provided no services to the constituency as a whole. Mr Dewar suggested that Glasgow Anniesland would provide a better choice of constituency name as Anniesland is a well-known point of reference and focal point, with many local services located there and transport routes passing through Anniesland Cross.

73 15. There was a body of opinion which was opposed to our initial recommendations for the Govan constituency. They contended that the areas of Craigton, Cardonald and Penilee, within the constituency, had a natural affinity and family and community links historically with Govan. It was argued that no such links or community of interest existed within the area of Pollokshields, Langside and Shawlands which we had proposed should form part of the re-drawn Govan constituency.

60 16. Mr David Marshall, Member of Parliament for Glasgow Shettleston confirmed at the inquiry that while he regretted that our initial proposals split his present constituency between Glasgow Baillieston and Glasgow Shettleston, he accepted the situation and argued in support of our proposals for both the composition of the Shettleston constituency and the proposed titles of Glasgow Baillieston and Glasgow Shettleston.

50 17. Mrs Nancy Hunter, on behalf of Garrowhill Community Council, said that the Community Council had received many objections but no indication of support, concerning our proposal to transfer the Garrowhill area from the present constituency of Shettleston to the proposed constituency of Baillieston, which would link it with Easterhouse.

18. Our proposals for the Cathcart and Rutherglen constituencies were supported in submissions by Mr John Maxton, Member of Parliament for Glasgow Cathcart, Mr Thomas McAvoy, Member of Parliament for Glasgow Rutherglen, and Councillor Patrick Lally. They were also supported by Glasgow District Council and the Labour Party Scottish Council as well as Rutherglen Constituency Labour Party and various community housing

and tenants associations. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association, however, opposed our recommendations for these constituencies. The Association submitted as a counter-proposal that ED 35 (Toryglen/Kings Park) should be joined with ED 31 (Carnwadric/Newlands) and ED 34 (Battlefield/Croftfoot) to form Glasgow Cathcart constituency, and that ED 36 (Castlemilk/Carmunnock) should be joined with ED 37 (Rutherglen/Fernhill) and ED 38 (Cambuslang/Halfway) to form Glasgow Rutherglen constituency. The arguments advanced for exchanging ED 35 and ED 36 between Glasgow Cathcart and Glasgow Rutherglen were that Toryglen and Kings Park were closer to Cathcart geographically than they were to Rutherglen, and had closer ties with the City of Glasgow. It was also stated that the major lines of communication from the city to Castlemilk passed through Rutherglen. Baillie John Young, in support of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Associations counter-proposal, argued that the Kings Park and Toryglen areas (ED 35) had a much closer affinity with ED 34. Baillie Young also made reference to the Kings Park/Toryglen/Mount Florida local plan prepared in 1993 by the Planning Department of Glasgow District Council which indicated that the District Council recognised the links between these 3 areas.

Representations to the inquiry about proposals for the rest of Strathclyde

19. No-one spoke at the inquiry against our provisional proposals for the constituency of Clydebank and Milngavie. Mr Tony Worthington, Member of Parliament for this constituency, commended in a written submission the inclusion of the area of Kilmardinny, which now forms part of ED 41 (Milngavie/Kilmardinny), in the proposed constituency as it addressed the present imbalance in the size of the electorate.

20. Our proposals for the constituency of Eastwood involved minimal change from the status quo and found a wide level of support including from Mr Allan Stewart, the sitting Member of Parliament.

21. Our provisional proposals for the Strathkelvin and Bearsden constituency were supported by the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association. Sir Michael Hirst (former Member of Parliament for the constituency) also supported our proposals in a written submission. Mr Sam Galbraith, Member of Parliament for Strathkelvin and Bearsden together with Mr Hugh McCartney (former Member of Parliament for the area), Strathkelvin District Council, Kirkintilloch Community Council, the Labour Party Scottish Council, the constituency Labour Party and numerous individuals objected, however, to our proposal to divide the town of Kirkintilloch between two parliamentary constituencies. Their counter-proposal was that ED 44 (Strathkelvin North) should be included in a constituency comprising ED 42 (Bearsden), ED 43 (Kirkintilloch) and ED 45 (Bishopbriggs) with an electorate of 63,483. The Dean of Faculty, representing Strathkelvin District Council, argued that, although the electorate would be above the electoral quota, it would be within the range of electorates which we had proposed elsewhere.

22. Our proposal that Cumbernauld should be split between 2 parliamentary constituencies thus creating a new county constituency which we provisionally proposed should be

called Kilsyth was widely criticised. These criticisms were linked with our initial proposals for the Cumbernauld & Airdrie North and Monklands constituencies. Those who spoke against our proposals at the inquiry included Mr Norman Hogg, Member of Parliament for Cumbernauld and Kilsyth, the late Rt Hon John Smith QC, Member of Parliament for Monklands East, Mr Tom Clarke CBE JP, Member of Parliament for Monklands West, Mr Sam Galbraith, and Councillor Charles Gray. The thrust of the objections was that the current constituency which was created in 1983 should continue in its present form, thus avoiding the proposed division of Cumbernauld. It was argued that the proposed constituency of Kilsyth lacked a clear focal point, whereas the existing parliamentary constituency of Cumbernauld and Kilsyth fitted in well with the administrative framework within which the community is set. It was also argued that there was little community of interest between Cumbernauld and Airdrie. On the other hand there was free movement between the communities of Cumbernauld and Kilsyth in terms of employment, shopping and social facilities. The lines of communication in the area, it was stated, run west to Glasgow and east to Stirling, Falkirk and Grangemouth. It is to these areas not south to Airdrie that residents tend to go for services.

23. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association did not formally object to our provisional proposals for the area although the Association was of the view that there could be other ways of grouping the 9 regional electoral divisions in the north east area of the region. Two alternative proposals were submitted, one involving the division of Coatbridge, the other the division of Cumbernauld. Councillor Gordon Murray alone supported our provisional recommendations at the inquiry.

24. At the inquiry Mr Clarke and Councillor Gray welcomed the inclusion of Coatbridge in a single parliamentary constituency. They argued, however, that our proposal to separate ED 46 (Chryston) from Coatbridge, with which it has strong community ties, by including it in the proposed constituency of Kilsyth, was inappropriate as these areas had few ties or historical or community links. Mention was also made of the poor transport links between Chryston and Kilsyth. The counter-proposal submitted by the Labour Party Scottish Council was that Monklands constituency should comprise ED 50 (Coatbridge North and East), ED 51 (Coatbridge South) and ED 46 (Chryston). Mr Clarke and Monklands West Constituency Labour Party also objected to our choice of name, arguing that it was inappropriate as it did not include Airdrie which is historically part of the Monklands area. They proposed that it should be called Coatbridge and Chryston.

25. Our proposals for the Cumbernauld and Airdrie North constituency generated a considerable number of representations including petitions with approximately 2000 signatures. The most contentious issue was our proposal to divide the town of Airdrie. The Rt Hon John Smith, in support of Monklands District Council and the Labour Party Scottish Council's counter-proposals, suggested that the constituency should comprise ED 52 (Airdrie North), ED 53 (Airdrie South) and ED 57 (Fortissat). He said that our proposal divided the historic town of Airdrie, which has a strong sense of community and identity, almost exactly in half. Evidence was led which gave an account of the historical develop-

ment of Airdrie which since 1832 had been represented by a single member of parliament. The Rt Hon John Smith spoke of the many links between Airdrie and the Fortissat towns and villages which were formerly in the North Lanarkshire constituency which he had represented in Parliament for over 23 years until 1983. He also suggested that Airdrie and Shotts was a more suitable name for the constituency. Similar views were expressed by various local representatives and individuals, though others contended that the Fortissat area's links were with Wishaw and Motherwell. There were also those from the Newmains area who wrote in support of our provisional proposals.

26. To compensate for the effect these changes would have, which would reduce the Motherwell North constituency to only 2 regional electoral divisions and an electorate of 37,306, the Labour Party Scottish Council proposed that ED 61 (Bothwell and Hamilton North) should be transferred from Hamilton constituency to the Motherwell North constituency. This would increase the electorate of the Motherwell North constituency to 52,793 while the electorate of the Hamilton constituency would be reduced to 46,800. Mr D M Williamson JP, who opposed the Labour Party Scottish Council's counter-proposal, described the proposed transfer of ED 61 as little short of absurd. Bothwell Community Council also opposed the proposal that Bothwell might be transferred to a rearranged Motherwell North constituency.

27. Our initial proposals for the adjoining constituencies of Ayr and Carrick, Cummock & Doon Valley were considered together and were supported by Mr George Foulkes JP, Member of Parliament for Carrick, Cummock and Doon Valley, Cummock and Doon Valley District Council, the Labour Party Scottish Council and the constituency Labour Parties. They were opposed by Mr Phil Gallie, Member of Parliament for Ayr, the Rt Hon Lord Younger of Prestwick, KVCO, former Member of Parliament for Ayr, Mr Allan Stewart MP, the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association, Kyle and Carrick District Council and Alloway and Doonfoot Community Council together with over 120 electors from Alloway.

28. The focus of the objections was the inclusion in Carrick, Cummock and Doon Valley constituency of the whole of ED 100 (Ayr South, Coylton and Annbank) which created a constituency with 67,001 electors, the largest in Scotland, and reduced the Ayr constituency to an electorate of 55,307. Those who objected submitted that our proposals created an unreasonable electoral imbalance, especially as the scattered rural constituency of Carrick, Cummock and Doon Valley was so much larger in area than the adjacent constituency of Ayr. Mr Gallie recognised that the current imbalance between the electorates made some boundary changes likely, but challenged both the logic of our provisional proposals and our policy of using whole regional electoral divisions as the basic building blocks in forming our proposals, particularly when the regional electoral divisions would be dismantled in 2 years time. He supported the argument for dividing ED 100 so as to retain District Ward 10 (Alloway) in the Ayr constituency which was, he argued, in keeping with the wishes of the electors of Alloway. The Rt Hon Lord Younger of Prestwick, in a written representation, referred to strong local criticism of our provisional proposals. He said that as Alloway was

186 a part of the town of Ayr he supported the proposal to split ED 100 so as to leave Alloway in the Ayr constituency. Those who supported the proposals were opposed to splitting regional electoral divisions between parliamentary constituencies and recognised that our proposal to include ED 100 in Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley constituency, as opposed to including it wholly in the Ayr constituency, achieved a better balance in terms of electorate. There was also a body of opinion, including Mr Foulkes, who wished the constituency to be known by its former name of South Ayrshire.

128 29. Mr William Galbraith QC, representing Kyle and Carrick District Council, criticised our approach to the formation of constituencies. He contended that using whole regional electoral divisions was not in conformity with the criteria in the Rules. He submitted that we had clearly set ourselves the primary objective of creating constituencies which would, so far as practicable, conform to the electoral quota as required by Rule 5 and by doing so had attached less weight to other factors. Mr Galbraith argued that there was sufficient evidence to justify a departure from our policy of using whole regional electoral divisions as the basic building blocks in forming constituencies, and that in this particular case we should divide ED 100 between the constituencies of Ayr and Carrick, Cumnock & Doon Valley.

50 30. The Dean of Faculty, on behalf of a number of district councils in the region, supported both our provisional proposals and our policy of using regional electoral divisions in forming constituencies since these were the only electoral units reasonably available in the time allocated to us by Parliament to report.

108 31. Our initial recommendations in relation to the constituencies of Paisley North and Paisley South and the constituencies of Renfrew and Greenock & Inverclyde were considered together, and were supported by the respective Members of Parliament as well as Renfrew District Council, the Labour Party Scottish Council and the constituency Labour Parties in Paisley North and Paisley South. Mrs Irene Adams JP, Member of Parliament for Paisley North, suggested that as the town of Renfrew would be in the Paisley North constituency, the proposed name of Renfrew for the adjoining constituency would be confusing and also a source of grievance to people in the town. Mrs Adams suggested a more appropriate name would be West Renfrewshire.

32. Our proposals for the constituencies of Renfrew and Greenock & Inverclyde were opposed by the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association and Councillor James O'Rourke, who produced a petition objecting to our proposal to separate Greenock and Port Glasgow. Inverclyde District Council also made representation that the whole of its area should form a single parliamentary constituency. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association contended that the current pattern of 2 parliamentary constituencies based on Renfrew West & Inverclyde and Greenock & Port Glasgow should be retained. It was argued that the towns of Greenock and Port Glasgow were fused together, and had common problems arising from the decline of traditional industry. In addition both towns were in Inverclyde District, and shared common services. It was submitted that there was a case for retaining the Renfrewshire West and Inverclyde constituency along the lines

of its current boundaries. The argument for retention of 2 parliamentary constituencies organised on the current pattern depended on splitting ED 84 (Port Glasgow and Kilmacolm) between the 2 constituencies and including the Kilmacolm district ward in the Renfrew West and Inverclyde constituency. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Associations' preferred counter-proposal was for constituencies comprising:

Renfrew West and Inverclyde
ED 82 Gryffe
ED 84 Kilmacolm District Ward only
ED 83 Bargarran
ED 87 Inverclyde West

Greenock and Port Glasgow
ED 84 Port Glasgow (less Kilmacolm)
ED 85 Greenock Central East
ED 86 Greenock South West

This was supported by Mr James M Lamb, representing Councillor O'Rourke.

33. Our provisional proposals for the Cunninghame North constituency met with a wide level of acceptance. Regarding our provisional proposals for Renfrew and Greenock & Inverclyde constituencies, the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Associations submitted a second counter-proposal which would have involved a radical change to the Cunninghame North constituency. This counter-proposal was opposed by Mr Brian Wilson, Member of Parliament for Cunninghame North, who pointed out that as far back as the First Statistical Account, Garnock Valley had been regarded as part of Ayrshire, and hence of Cunninghame District.

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523
1883
2206

Assistant Commissioner's Report

34. In his report to us, the Assistant Commissioner was persuaded by the arguments advanced for renaming the proposed Glasgow Knightswood constituency and recommended that it would more appropriately be named Glasgow Anniesland.

35. The Assistant Commissioner was not persuaded by the arguments and submissions advanced at the inquiry in support of amending our initial proposals for the following constituencies:

Clydebank and Milngavie
Eastwood
Glasgow Govan
Glasgow Shettleston
Glasgow Baillieston
Glasgow Cathcart
Glasgow Rutherglen

36. The Assistant Commissioner noted that were Kirkintilloch to be retained in one parliamentary constituency the electorate of the Strathkelvin and Bearsden constituency would exceed the electoral quota by almost 9000 electors. He was, however, persuaded by the arguments advanced and recommended that we consider revising the boundary accordingly. He was also of the view that the alternative proposal to retain the present constituency of Cumbernauld and Kilsyth was soundly based on local considerations. He considered that it had been clearly established that the town of Airdrie should not be divided, as we had proposed, and that the evidence led at the inquiry demonstrated that the Fortissat area (ED 57) has clear historic links with Airdrie. He also suggested that the constituency should be called Airdrie and Shotts. It was his view that a constituency incorporating both Coatbridge electoral divisions viz. ED 50 (Coatbridge North and East), and ED 51 (Coatbridge South), and ED 46 (Chryston) would be more appropriate to local circumstances than our proposed Monklands constituency. The Assistant Commissioner acknowledged that it would inevitably follow that these recommendations would have a knock-on effect elsewhere. This was so in the Motherwell North constituency where he considered that the transfer of ED 61 (Bothwell and Hamilton North) from Hamilton constituency to Motherwell North constituency would, on balance, cause the least disruption to this part of the region.

37. The Assistant Commissioner was not convinced by the submissions made at the inquiry that when forming our initial proposals for the Ayr and Carrick, Cumnock & Doon Valley constituencies we had not paid proper regard to the Rules. He acknowledged that to transfer ED 100 (Ayr South, Coylton and Annbank) from the Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley constituency to the Ayr constituency would produce an even greater imbalance in electorate. In view of our stated policy of using whole regional electoral divisions in forming constituencies, the Assistant Commissioner therefore felt unable to make a positive recommendation that ED 100 should be included in the Ayr constituency rather than in the Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley constituency. He said, however, that had it been open to him he would have suggested that we give favourable consideration to re-drawing the southern boundary of the Ayr constituency so as to incorporate the current district ward of Alloway (DW 10) in the Ayr constituency. He was also attracted by the argument in favour of restoring the former constituency name of South Ayrshire.

38. The Assistant Commissioner considered that our initial proposals for the Paisley North and the Paisley South constituencies did not require modification. While he felt unable to make a positive recommendation in respect of the Greenock & Inverclyde and Renfrew constituencies, he suggested that we might consider dividing ED 84 (Port Glasgow and Kilmacolm), and placing Greenock and Port Glasgow in one parliamentary constituency. The other constituency, he suggested, could comprise Renfrew West and Inverclyde.

39. The Assistant Commissioner was not convinced by the arguments advanced in favour of a Clyde Coast constituency as it would involve inappropriate changes to the pattern of the Renfrewshire constituencies as well as to the Ayrshire constituency of Cunninghame North.

Consideration of the Assistant Commissioner's recommendations

40. On considering the Assistant Commissioner's report to us, we accepted his recommendation not to amend the constituencies within the City of Glasgow, except to change the title of the Glasgow Knightswood constituency to Glasgow Anniesland.

41. In the case of East Kilbride and Eastwood we did not revise our initial proposals, but the boundaries between the local government areas on which the proposed parliamentary constituencies were based had been altered on 1 April 1994 when the Eastwood and East Kilbride Districts (Busby) Boundaries Amendment (No 2) Order 1993 (SI 1993/2192) came into effect.

42. We had recognised that the north east area of the region would be problematic. We accepted that the Assistant Commissioner's recommendations took better account of the long standing links and community ties which existed between the various communities in the north east and east of the region. We therefore decided to transfer:

42.1 ED 44 (Strathkelvin North) from the Kilsyth constituency to the Strathkelvin and Bearsden constituency.

42.2 ED 49 (Kilsyth and Condorrat) from the Kilsyth constituency and ED's 47 (Cumbernauld North) and 48 (Cumbernauld South) from the Cumbernauld and Airdrie North constituency, to form the Cumbernauld and Kilsyth county constituency.

42.3 ED 52 (Airdrie North) from the Cumbernauld and Airdrie North constituency, ED 53 (Airdrie South) from the Monklands constituency and ED 57 (Fortissat) from the Motherwell North constituency, to form the Airdrie and Shotts burgh constituency.

42.4 ED 46 (Chryston) from the Kilsyth constituency and EDs 50 (Coatbridge North and East) and 51 (Coatbridge South) from the Monklands constituency, to form the Coatbridge and Chryston burgh constituency.

43. These revised proposals enabled the towns of Airdrie, Cumbernauld and Kirkintilloch each to lie wholly within individual parliamentary constituencies. We agreed with the Assistant Commissioner that the transfer of ED 57 (Fortissat) from the Motherwell North constituency would leave this constituency with an electorate well below an acceptable level. We therefore decided to accept his recommendation that ED 61 (Bothwell and Hamilton North) should be transferred from the Hamilton constituency to the Motherwell North constituency. As a consequence of these changes we proposed to rename the Hamilton constituency as Hamilton South burgh constituency, the Motherwell North constituency as Hamilton North and Bellshill burgh constituency and the Motherwell South constituency as Motherwell and Wishaw burgh constituency.

44. We recognised the strength of feeling which existed locally in Alloway and Kilmacolm and the wishes of some of the electorate to transfer to adjoining constituencies. We con-

sidered, however, that it was of fundamental importance that our policy of using regional electoral divisions as the building blocks for the formation of constituencies should be carried out consistently across the country as a whole. The new district wards were not available to us at the time and we did not consider it feasible to recommend constituencies which mixed new regional electoral divisions and current district wards, which are based on the old regional electoral divisions. This difficulty was exemplified in the case of Alloway where, contrary to what was argued at the inquiry, the boundary of the current district ward was different from the boundary of the new regional electoral division. We also decided not to change our proposals for the boundaries of Renfrew constituency but we decided to rename this as West Renfrewshire county constituency.

Revised recommendations

45. On 29 July 1994 we accordingly published a notice stating that having considered the Assistant Commissioner's report we had decided to revise some of our recommendations for parliamentary constituencies in Strathclyde Region as follows:

Burgh Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Airdrie and Shotts	1. regional electoral divisions in Monklands District 52 Airdrie North 53 Airdrie South 2. regional electoral division in Motherwell District 57 Fortissat	59,264
Coatbridge and Chryston	1. regional electoral division in Strathkelvin District 46 Chryston 2. regional electoral divisions in Monklands District 50 Coatbridge North & East 51 Coatbridge South	52,830
Glasgow Anniesland	Unaltered from initial proposals (previously called Glasgow Knightswood)	53,667
Glasgow Baillieston	Unaltered from initial proposals.	52,207

SECTION EIGHT—STRATHCLYDE REGION

Glasgow Cathcart	Unaltered from initial proposals.	51,940
Glasgow Govan	Unaltered from initial proposals.	50,351
Glasgow Kelvin	Unaltered from initial proposals.	53,680
Glasgow Maryhill	Unaltered from initial proposals.	52,291
Glasgow Pollok	Unaltered from initial proposals.	52,678
Glasgow Rutherglen	Unaltered from initial proposals.	52,265
Glasgow Shettleston	Unaltered from initial proposals.	49,358
Glasgow Springburn	Unaltered from initial proposals.	54,822
Hamilton North and Bellshill	1. regional electoral divisions in Motherwell District 58 Bellshill and Tannochside 59 North Calder 2. regional electoral division in Hamilton District 61 Bothwell and Hamilton North	52,793
Hamilton South	regional electoral divisions in Hamilton District 60 Blantyre and Burnbank 62 Hamilton West 63 Hamilton South	46,860
Motherwell and Wishaw	regional electoral divisions in Motherwell District 54 Dalziel 55 Wishaw 56 Clydevale	53,282
Paisley North	Unaltered from initial proposals.	49,702
Paisley South	Unaltered from initial proposals.	53,800
County Constituencies Argyll and Bute	Unaltered from initial proposals.	48,436

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Ayr	Unaltered from initial proposals.	55,307
Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley	Unaltered from initial proposals.	67,001
Clydebank and Milngavie	Unaltered from initial proposals.	51,276
Clydesdale	Unaltered from initial proposals	62,684
Cumbernauld and Kilsyth	Cumbernauld and Kilsyth District	47,155
Cunninghame North	Unaltered from initial proposals	55,490
Cunninghame South	Unaltered from initial proposals	49,745
Dumbarton	Unaltered from initial proposals	57,894
East Kilbride	Unaltered from initial proposals	63,525
Eastwood	Unaltered from initial proposals	65,846
Greenock and Inverclyde	Unaltered from initial proposals	51,442
Kilmarnock and Loudoun	Unaltered from initial proposals	62,777
Strathkelvin and Bearsden	1. regional electoral division in Bearsden and Milngavie District 42 Bearsden 2. regional electoral divisions in Strathkelvin District 43 Kirkintilloch 44 Strathkelvin North 45 Bishopbriggs	63,483
West Renfrewshire	Unaltered from initial proposals (previously called Renfrew)	51,833

Representations on revised recommendations

46. Following publication of the revised proposals we received 396 representations which fell broadly into the following categories:

Issue	Number of Representations
1. Support for our revised proposals	63

2. Objection to Garrowhill's inclusion with Easterhouse in the Glasgow Baillieston constituency.	1
3. That Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley constituency should be renamed South Ayrshire.	2
4. Objection to the title of the Greenock and Inverclyde constituency.	1
5. Objections to our proposals for the West Renfrewshire constituency.	184
6. Objections to the division of the town of Hamilton.	22
7. Objections to Alloway's inclusion in the Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley constituency.	119
8. Objections to Newmains inclusion in the Airdrie and Shotts constituency.	2
9. Objection to part of ED 35's (Toryglen/Kings Park) inclusion in the Glasgow Rutherglen constituency.	1
10. Objection to all the revised proposals.	1

Consideration of representations on revised proposals

47. We considered that the issues relating to the proposed West Renfrewshire constituency and Alloway's inclusion in Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley constituency remained unchanged from our initial proposals. These had been fully discussed at the local inquiry. The further representations did not advance new arguments to persuade us to modify our proposals. We recognised the concerns of those electors in Hamilton who objected to our revised proposals which divide the town, but we remained of the view that these would cause the least disruption in the region as a whole. We therefore decided against any further alteration to our revised proposals.

Final Recommendations

48. We accordingly recommend the adoption of our revised proposals for 17 burgh constituencies and 15 county constituencies in Strathclyde Region as follows:

Burgh Constituencies	Comprising	Electorate (1992)
Airdrie and Shotts	1. regional electoral divisions in Mouklands District	
	52 Airdrie North	
	53 Airdrie South	

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

	2. regional electoral division in Motherwell District	
	57 Fortissat	59,264
Coatbridge and Chryston	1. regional electoral division in Strathkelvin District	
	46 Chryston	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Monklands District	
	50 Coatbridge North & East	
	51 Coatbridge South	52,830
Glasgow Anniesland	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	9 Drumchapel/Blairdardie	
	10 Yoker/Knightswood	
	11 Jordanhill/Kelvindale	53,667
Glasgow Baillieston	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	22 Greenfield/Barlanark	
	24 Baillieston/Mount Vernon	
	25 Garthamlock/Easterhouse	52,207
Glasgow Cathcart	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	31 Carnwadric/Newlands	
	34 Battlefield/Croftfoot	
	36 Castlemilk/Carmunnock	51,940
Glasgow Govan	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	26 Govan/Drumoyne	
	27 Kingston/Pollokshields	
	32 Langside/Shawlands	50,351
Glasgow Kelvin	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	12 Scotstoun/Broomhill	

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	13 Hyndland/Hillhead	
	15 Anderston/City	53,680
Glasgow Maryhill	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	14 Woodside/North Kelvinside	
	16 Milton/Possil	
	17 Summerston/Maryhill	52,291
Glasgow Pollok	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	28 Hillington/Cardonald	
	29 Crookston/Mosspark	
	30 South Pollok/Arden	52,678
Glasgow Rutherglen	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	35 Toryglen/Kings Park	
	37 Rutherglen/Fernhill	
	38 Cambuslang/Halfway	52,265
Glasgow Shettleston	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	21 Calton/Dalmarnock	
	23 Shettleston/Tollcross	
	33 Gorbals/Govanhill	49,358
Glasgow Springburn	regional electoral divisions in the City of Glasgow District	
	18 Carntyne/Robroyston	
	19 Royston/Dennistoun	
	20 Springburn/Barmulloch	54,822
Hamilton North and Bellshill	1. regional electoral divisions in Motherwell District	
	58 Bellshill and Tannochside	
	59 North Calder	
	2. regional electoral division in Hamilton District	
	61 Bothwell and Hamilton North	52,793

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Hamilton South	regional electoral divisions in Hamilton District	
	60 Blantyre and Burnbank	
	62 Hamilton West	
	63 Hamilton South	46,860
Motherwell and Wishaw	regional electoral divisions in Motherwell District	
	54 Dalziel	
	55 Wishaw	
	56 Clydevale	53,282
Paisley North	regional electoral divisions in Renfrew District	
	75 Linwood and Paisley North	
	78 Paisley Abercorn	
	81 Renfrew	49,702
Paisley South	regional electoral divisions in Renfrew District	
	76 Paisley Gleniffer	
	77 Paisley Central	
	80 Johnstone	53,800
County Constituencies		
Argyll and Bute	Argyll and Bute District	48,436
Ayr	regional electoral divisions in Kyle and Carrick District	
	98 Prestwick and North Ayr	
	99 Ayr Central	
	101 North Kyle	55,307
Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley	1. Cumnock and Doon Valley District	
	2. regional electoral divisions in Kyle and Carrick District	
	100 Ayr South, Coylton and Annbank	
	102 Carrick	67,001

SECTION EIGHT—STRATHCLYDE REGION

Clydebank and Milngavie	1. Clydebank District	
	2. regional electoral division in Bearsden and Milngavie District	
	41 Milngavie/Kilmardinny	51,276
Clydesdale	1. Clydesdale District	
	2. regional electoral division in Hamilton District	
	64 Larkhall and Stonehouse	62,684
Cumbernauld and Kilsyth	Cumbernauld and Kilsyth District	47,155
Cunninghame North	regional electoral divisions in Cunninghame District	
	91 Garnock Valley	
	92 Saltcoats and Ardrossan	
	93 Largs, West Kilbride and Arran	
		55,490
Cunninghame South	regional electoral divisions in Cunninghame District	
	88 Irvine Central	
	89 Irvine South	
	90 Kilwinning and Stevenston	
		49,745
Dumbarton	Dumbarton District	57,894
East Kilbride	East Kilbride District	63,525
Eastwood	1. Eastwood District	
	2. regional electoral division in Renfrew District	
	79 Barrhead	65,846
Greenock and Inverclyde	regional electoral divisions in the District of Inverclyde	
	85 Greenock Central East	
	86 Greenock South West	
	87 Inverclyde West	
		51,442

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Kilmarnock and Loudoun	Kilmarnock and Loudoun District	62,777
Strathkelvin and Bearsden	1. regional electoral division in Bearsden and Milngavie District 42 Bearsden 2. regional electoral divisions in Strathkelvin District 43 Kirkintilloch 44 Strathkelvin North 45 Bishopbriggs	63,483
West Renfrewshire	1. regional electoral divisions in Renfrew District 82 Gryffe 83 Bargarran 2. regional electoral division in Inverclyde District 84 Port Glasgow and Kilmacolm	51,833

49. The electorates of both the current and proposed constituencies in Strathclyde Region on the enumeration date (16 February 1992) were as shown in Figures 18-20 below.

SECTION EIGHT—STRATHCLYDE REGION

Figure 18

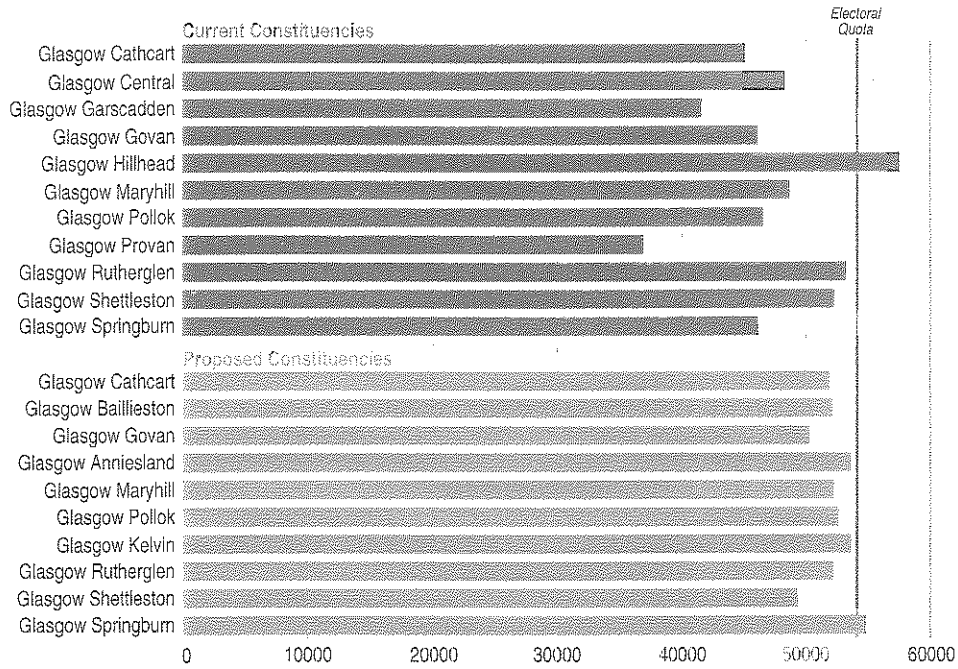


Figure 19

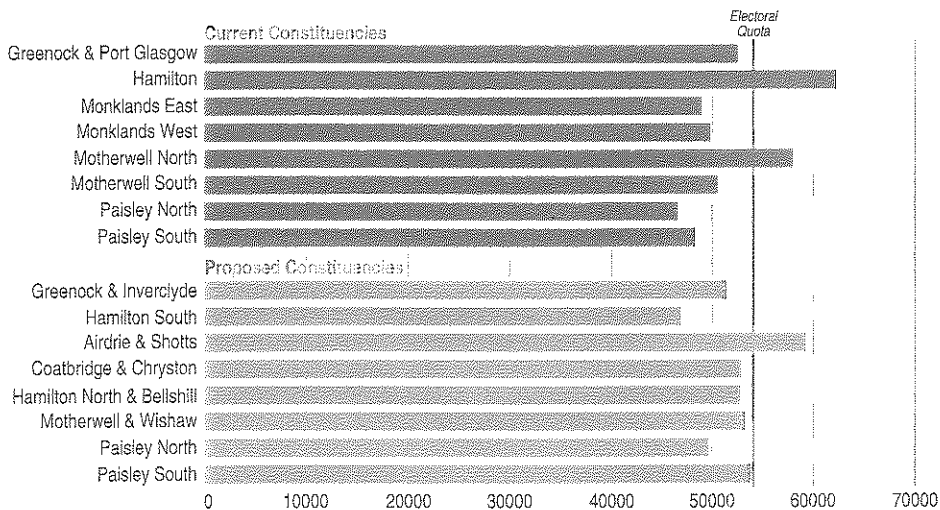
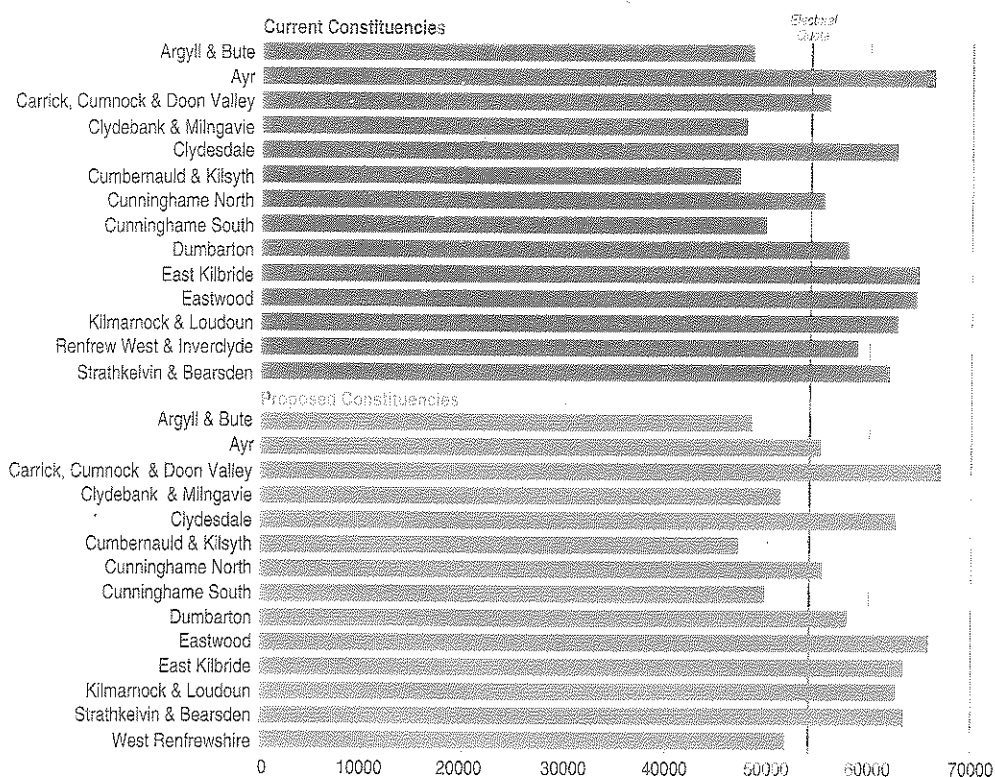
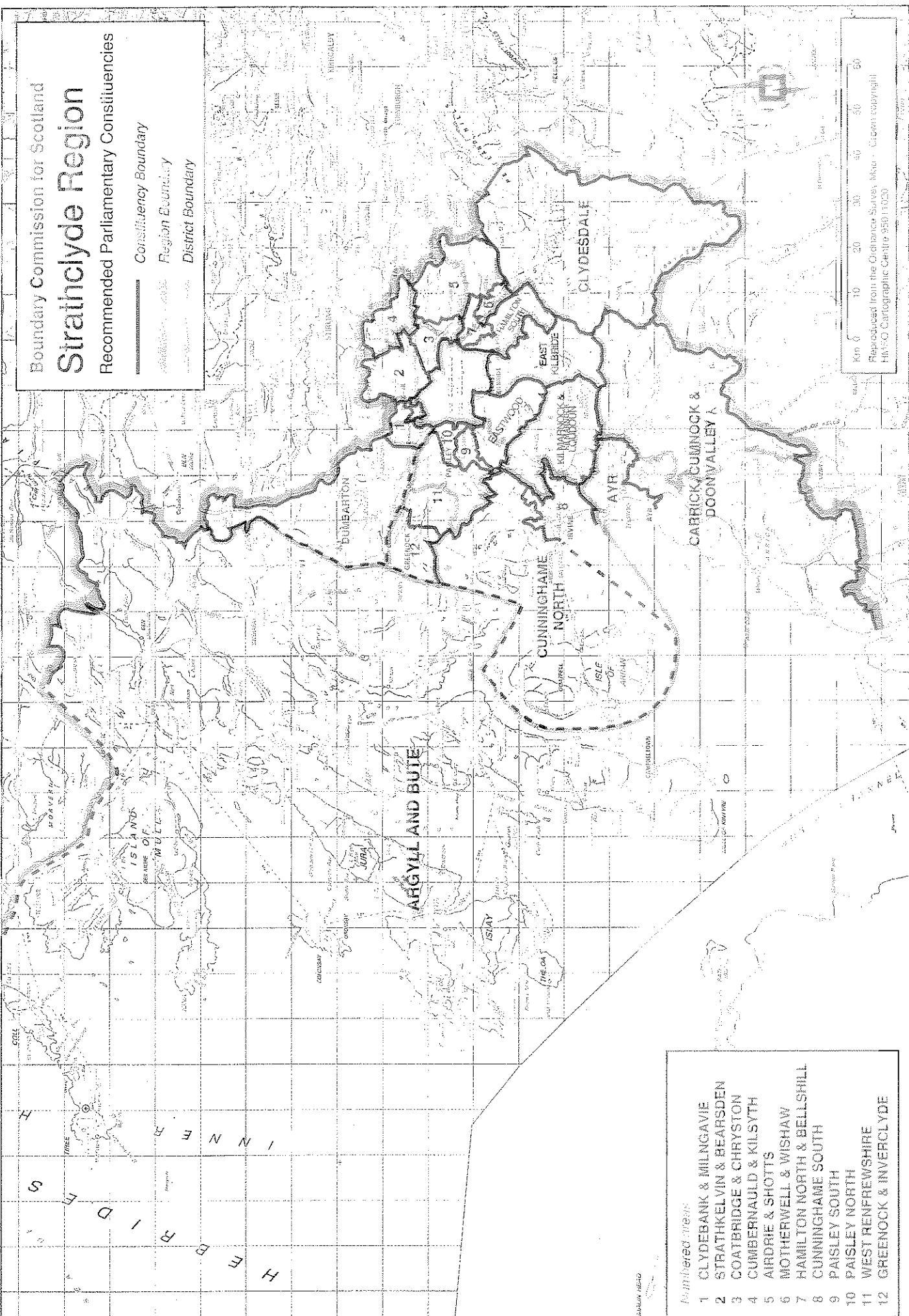


Figure 20



Boundary Commission for Scotland
Strathclyde Region
 Recommended Parliamentary Constituencies

Constituency Boundary
 Region Boundary
 District Boundary



Numbered areas

- 1 CLYDEBANK & MILNGAVIE
- 2 STRATHKELVIN & BEARSDEN
- 3 COATBRIDGE & CHRYSTON
- 4 CUMBERNAULD & KILSYTH
- 5 AIRDRIE & SHOTTS
- 6 MOTHERWELL & WISHAW
- 7 HAMILTON NORTH & BELLSHILL
- 8 CUNNINGHAME SOUTH
- 9 PAISLEY SOUTH
- 10 PAISLEY NORTH
- 11 WEST RENFREWSHIRE
- 12 GREENOCK & INVERCLYDE

Km 0 10 20 30 40 50
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Boundary Commission for Scotland

Glasgow District

Recommended Parliamentary Constituencies

Constituency Boundary

Region Boundary

District Boundary



CHAPTER 4

THE EFFECTS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Total Number of Constituencies

1. We explained in paragraph 5 of Chapter 2 that at the beginning of the review we determined that the total number of constituencies in Scotland should not increase above the present number of 72. Our reasons, and the manner in which we decided to pursue this objective, are explained in Appendix D. In the course of the review various representations urged us to provide additional seats for different parts of the country. We concluded, however, that implementation of these representations would not be justified, partly because they would have made our objective of 72 seats in total much harder to achieve.

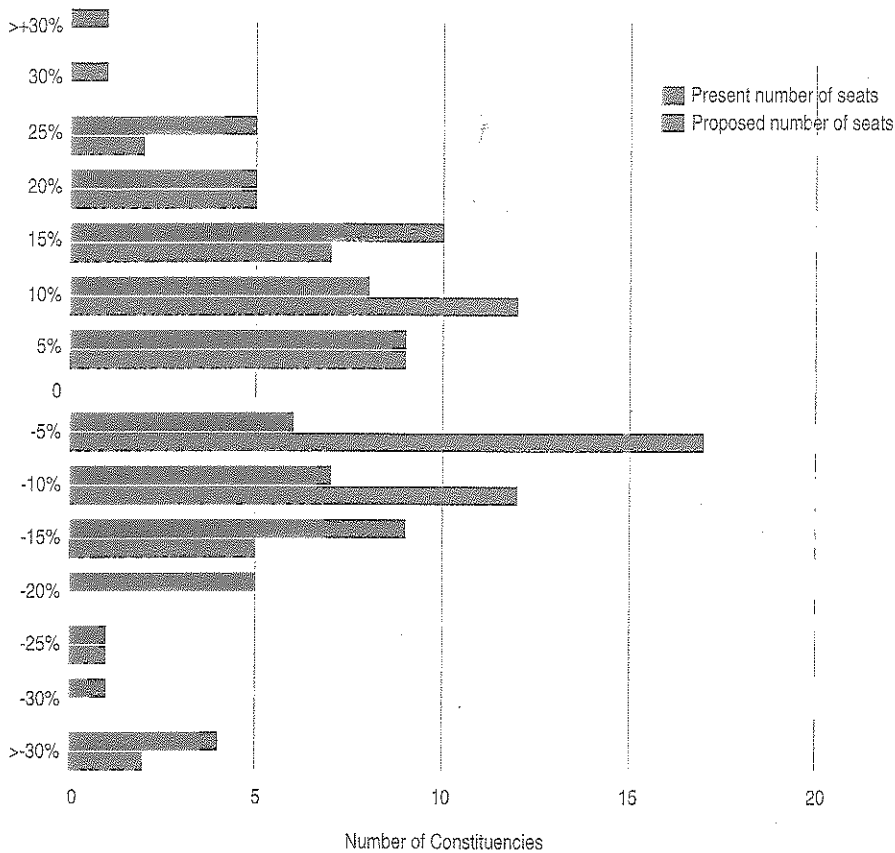
Local Government Reorganisation

2. We are aware that the Local Government Etc (Scotland) Act 1994, which has recently been enacted, will provide new local government areas in 1996 whose boundaries will, in some cases, be quite different from those of the present regional and district councils. It was, of course, apparent to us that this was likely to happen but, as we have explained in paragraph 8 of Chapter 1, we were required by the Boundary Commission Act 1992 to report on the basis of local government boundaries in place on 1 June 1994. The implications of this are that, if our recommendations are implemented, parliamentary elections after 1 April 1996 will take place on boundaries which may not coincide with the new local government arrangements.

The Recommended Constituencies

3. The contents and electorates of the 72 constituencies which we have recommended are set out in the various sections of Chapter 3. Maps of each constituency in alphabetical order are contained in Appendix J.

4. Figure 21 below shows the spread, in terms of the electoral size of the existing constituencies and our recommended constituencies, around the electoral quota.

Figure 21

5. As Figure 21 shows, 26 (36%) of our recommended constituencies were within 5% of the electoral quota of 54,569 on the enumeration date and a further 24 (bringing the total to 69%) were within 10% of the quota. The corresponding figures for the current constituencies were 15 (21%) and 30 (42%). This contrast is maintained in relation to 1994 electorates where the numbers within 10% of the electoral quota increase from 32 (44%) to 51(71%). Our proposals, if accepted, have the effect of reducing the electorates of the largest constituencies and increasing the electorates of many of the smallest constituencies. The main change, however, would be a general reduction in variation from the electoral quota. This is confirmed in Table 10 which contains various measures of variation, following from the review, in relation to the electoral quota. Again, the effect is maintained in terms of 1994 electorates. Appendices F and H set out the electorates of the existing and recommended constituencies in descending order of size of electorate in 1992.

Table 10**Measure of Variation in Electorates in Present and Proposed Constituencies, 1992 and 1994**

Measure	Based on 1992 electorates			Based on 1994 electorates		
	Present	Recommended	Percentage Reduction	Present	Recommended	Percentage Reduction
1. Range in size of electorate	58,082	43,986	24%	60,752	43,552	28%
2. Range, excluding 2 lowest	49,260	23,523	52%	51,754	22,709	56%
3. Standard deviation	9,567	6,853	28%	9,922	6,870	31%
4. Co-efficient of variation	0.175	0.126	28%	0.181	0.125	31%

Conclusion

6. This concludes the report of our fourth periodical review of parliamentary constituency boundaries in Scotland. In terms of the 1986 Act, as amended, our next periodical report must be submitted not less than 8 or more than 12 years from the date of submission of this report (2002-2006). Before this stage is reached, however, we intend to review, once the new authorities are in operation, the implications of local government reform for parliamentary constituency boundaries in Scotland. Any decisions we reach then will be based in the light of events and the circumstances pertaining at that time.

7. We wish to make special mention of the valuable contribution made to our deliberations by our late colleague Mr Adam R Napier, who sadly died on 20 June 1994. Much of our work had by that time been completed and our progress was due in no small measure to Mr Napier's painstaking efforts and careful eye for detail, all the more remarkably maintained when he was far from well. We were pleased that you invited Dr C M Glennie to join us from 1 November 1994, particularly as we had had the benefit of Dr Glennie's valuable advice and assistance as our Assessor in his capacity as Registrar General for Scotland until 31 October 1994. We would wish to record our gratitude to Mr J Meldrum who succeeded Dr Glennie as Assessor; also for the great deal of help and guidance we received from the Assessor who represented the Director General of Ordnance Survey, namely Mr A MacDonald, Director of Surveys and Production until 31 December 1992, followed by Mr M Faulkner, Scottish Regional Manager. Mr D K C Jeffrey acted as our Secretary throughout the period of this review. We have pleasure in recording our appreciation of the enthusiasm and commitment which he brought to the discharge of his duties which, because of the exacting timetable to which we were required to adhere, were particularly heavy. We would also like to add our thanks to Mr R O J Grady, Mrs S J McIntosh and Mr H W Williams of the Secretariat for their sustained diligence and professionalism.

C K Davidson
(Deputy Chairman)

D K C Jeffrey
(Secretary)

U A Wannop
C M Glennie

15 December 1994

RULES FOR REDISTRIBUTION OF SEATS

(SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES ACT 1986)

1.- (1) The number of constituencies in Great Britain shall not be substantially greater or less than 613.

(2) The number of constituencies in Scotland shall not be less than 71.

(3) The number of constituencies in Wales shall not be less than 35.

(4) The number of constituencies in Northern Ireland shall not be greater than 18 or less than 16, and shall be 17 unless it appears to the Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland that Northern Ireland should for the time being be divided into 16 or (as the case may be) into 18 constituencies.

2. Every constituency shall return a single member.

3. There shall continue to be a constituency which shall include the whole of the City of London and the name of which shall refer to the City of London.

4.- (1) So far as is practicable having regard to rules 1 to 3 -

(a) In England and Wales, -

(i) no county or any part of a county shall be included in a constituency which includes the whole or part of any other county or the whole or part of a London borough,

(ii) no London borough or any part of a London borough shall be included in a constituency which includes the whole or part of any other London borough,

(b) in Scotland, regard shall be had to the boundaries of local authority areas,

(c) in Northern Ireland, no ward shall be included partly in one constituency and partly in another.

(2) In sub-paragraph (1)(b) above "area" and "local authority" have the same meanings as in the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

5. The electorate of any constituency shall be as near the electoral quota as is practicable having regard to rules 1 to 4; and a Boundary Commission may depart from the strict application of rule 4 if it appears to them that a departure is desirable to avoid an excessive disparity between the electorate of any constituency and the electoral quota, or between the electorate of any constituency and that of neighbouring constituencies in the part of the United Kingdom with which they are concerned.

6. A Boundary Commission may depart from the strict application of rules 4 and 5 if special geographic considerations, including in particular the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency, appear to them to render a departure desirable.

General and supplementary

7. It shall not be the duty of a Boundary Commission to aim at giving full effect in all circumstances to the above rules, but they shall take account, so far as they reasonably can

- (a) of the inconveniences attendant on alterations of constituencies other than alterations made for the purposes of rule 4, and
- (b) of any local ties which would be broken by such alterations.

8. In the application of rule 5 to each part of the United Kingdom for which there is a Boundary Commission -

- (a) the expression "electoral quota" means a number obtained by dividing the electorate for that part of the United Kingdom by the number of constituencies in it existing on the enumeration date,
- (b) the expression "electorate" means -
 - (i) in relation to a constituency, the number of persons whose names appear on the register of parliamentary electors in force on the enumeration date under the Representation of the People Acts for the constituency,
 - (ii) in relation to the part of the United Kingdom, the aggregate electorate as defined in sub-paragraph (i) above of all the constituencies in that part,
- (c) the expression "enumeration date" means, in relation to any report of a Boundary Commission under this Act, the date on which the notice with respect to that report is published in accordance with section 5(1) of this Act.

9. In this Schedule, a reference to a rule followed by a number is a reference to the rule set out in the correspondingly numbered paragraph of this Schedule.

APPENDIX B

ORDERS IN COUNCIL MADE SINCE 1983 ALTERING CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES IN SCOTLAND

Statutory Instrument

Constituencies Affected

SI 1987 No 469

Ayr
Clackmannan
Clydebank and Milngavie
Cunninghame South
Dumbarton
East Kilbride
East Lothian
Edinburgh South
Hamilton
Midlothian
Perth and Kinross
Roxburgh and Berwickshire
Stirling
Strathkelvin and Bearsden

SI 1988 No 1992

Angus East
Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley
Central Fife
Clackmannan
Clydebank and Milngavie
Clydesdale
Dunfermline East
Dunfermline West
East Kilbride
East Lothian
Edinburgh East
Falkirk East
Galloway and Upper Nithsdale
Glasgow Cathcart
Glasgow Garscadden

Statutory Instrument**Constituencies Affected**SI 1988 No 1992 (*cont.*)

Glasgow Maryhill
 Kincardine and Deeside
 Midlothian
 Monklands East
 North-East Fife
 Perth and Kinross
 Strathkelvin and Bearsden

SI 1990 No 2298

Cunninghame North
 East Kilbride
 East Lothian
 Eastwood
 Edinburgh East
 Glasgow Cathcart
 Glasgow Rutherglen
 Glasgow Springburn
 Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber
 Linlithgow
 Midlothian
 Moray
 Motherwell North
 North East Fife
 North Tayside
 Perth and Kinross
 Stirling
 Strathkelvin and Bearsden
 Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM ISSUED MARCH 1993

Part One: The Boundary Commissions

1. There are 4 Parliamentary Boundary Commissions (for Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland) and by law¹ they are required to keep under review the parliamentary constituencies in their parts of the United Kingdom and, periodically, to conduct a general review. The Speaker of the House of Commons, Miss Betty Boothroyd MP, is the chairman of each of the 4 Commissions; 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, Mr A R Napier and Professor U A Wannop, appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland (after consultation with the leaders of the political parties in Scotland represented in Parliament). There are also 2 assessors - Dr C M Glennie, Registrar General for Scotland, and the Director General, Ordnance Survey, represented by Mr M Faulkner.

2. As a consequence of the Boundary Commissions Act 1992 the Commission's final recommendations must be made in a report submitted to the Secretary of State by 31 December 1994. Thereafter reports have to be submitted between 8 and 12 years from the date of the previous report. Following the third general review a report was submitted in February 1983².

Part Two: Procedure for Review

A. Provisional Recommendations

3. The Commission first determines on a provisional recommendation, usually for a group of constituencies forming a region, though the Commission is not required to be bound by local government areas. The Commission will follow the established practice of publishing provisional recommendations without prior consultation with local authorities and other interests. The Commission considers that it should take the initiative in preparing provi-

¹Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986, which has been amended by the Boundary Commissions Act 1992.

²Third Periodical Report (Cmnd. 8794), Printed by HM Stationery Office.

sional 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.

a. Advertisement

4. The law requires the Commission to publish a notice of its provisional recommendations in at least one newspaper circulating in the constituency. The notice has to specify a place in the constituency where details of the proposals may be inspected. Such proposals are always illustrated by maps to help make the public more aware of the effect of the Commission's proposals.

b. Objections and Representations

5. 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.

c. Inquiry

6. The Commission is required to hold a local inquiry if representations objecting to the proposed recommendation are received from an interested local authority (that is the council of a region, islands area or district for the area lying wholly or partly in the affected constituency) or a body of 100 or more parliamentary electors for such a constituency.

7. The 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 the 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 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.

8. 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 the substitution of completely different proposals if they appear to him to command wider acceptance than the original proposals.

B. Final Recommendations

9. The Commission will then consider the Assistant Commissioner's report and the matters discussed at the inquiry, together with any other relevant information, when formulating its final recommendations. If the Commission decides to alter the provisional recommendations the revised proposals are published in at least one local newspaper and made available for public inspection. If there has 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 fresh proposals will be published and representations invited again, but no further inquiry will be held at that stage.

C. Order in Council

10. The Secretary of State is under a duty to lay the Commission's report of its review before Parliament. If the report recommends alterations the Secretary of State must accompany it with a draft Order in Council giving effect to the proposals. But if the Secretary of State decides to modify the recommendations he must lay a statement of the reasons for the modifications in the draft Order, for consideration with the report. The Order must be approved by both Houses of Parliament and, if approved, takes effect at the next general election.

Part Three: Rules for Redistribution of Seats

A. The Rules

11. In formulating recommendations for constituencies, the Commission is required to observe the rules for redistribution of seats.³ These rules are reproduced in Appendix A. So far as is practicable, in recommending a constituency the Commission must have regard to local government areas. Constituencies must be as near the average electorate⁴ as is practicable, but the Commission has a discretion to depart from this rule particularly where there are special geographical considerations such as the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency. The exercise of this discretion has the consequential effect that some constituencies must have electorates greater or lower than the average.

³Schedule 2 of the Act of 1986.

⁴For the purpose of the current general review this is 54,569 ie the total electorate for 1992 (3,928,996) divided by the existing number (72) of Scottish seats (see Rule 8 of the Redistribution Rules). [The average electorates for England, Wales and Northern Ireland in 1992 were 69,534, 58,383 and 67,145 respectively.]

B. The Commission's Practice

12. The Commission prefers to avoid making recommendations for constituencies which would cross regional boundaries but recognises that this may not always be possible. Where possible the Commission's aim is to produce constituencies which lie wholly within one district or comprise whole districts, but it is clear that the electorates of many of the districts are not of the right size to facilitate the achievement of this result.

13. In principle, the Commission has accordingly decided to use the regional electoral divisions as the basis, or exceptionally the district wards (where these are available), for forming constituencies in the cases where districts must be divided. The regional electoral divisions in question are those brought into operation following the Local Government Boundary Commission's second statutory review of regional and islands areas electoral arrangements under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. The Commission is disposed against any division of the basic local government electoral area between constituencies as this would be likely to break local ties, disrupt political party organisation and be confusing to the electorate.

14. The Commission is not obliged to give full effect to the rules in all circumstances.⁵ It is directed to take account, so far as it reasonably can, of the inconveniences attendant on alterations of constituencies and of any local ties which would be broken by such alterations.

C. Naming and Designation

15. The Commission's recommendations for each constituency must include the name by which it should be known and whether it should be a burgh constituency or a county constituency.⁶ This decision affects the expenses allowable at elections, which differ according to the classification of a constituency as a burgh or county constituency. The Commission considers that where constituencies are composed predominantly of urban areas they will normally be designated as burgh constituencies. However, where constituencies contain more than a token rural electorate they will normally be designated as county constituencies.

D. Other Considerations

16. The Commission may be asked to take account of special considerations other than those specified in the rules which affect an area and which, according to those who make the request, justify more favourable representation than that of other areas. When deciding between alternative schemes the Commission may, in appropriate cases, have regard to perceptible trends in the electorate which would quickly produce constituencies well above or well below the average size electorate for Scotland when deciding between alternative schemes.

⁵Schedule 2, paragraph 7, of the Act of 1986.

⁶Section 3(4) of the Act of 1986.

Part Four: Timing of Reviews

17. The period required for the Commission's review is dictated partly by the size of the task and partly by the statutory procedures which are intended to allow full expression of opinions about the proposals at various stages. Parliament has decided, in the Boundary Commissions Act 1992, to set 31 December 1994 as the deadline for completing the current review. The constituencies, if approved by both Houses of Parliament, come into operation at the general election which next follows the making of the Order in Council providing the new constituencies.

Part Five: Interim Reviews

18. The Commission may also conduct other reviews between its general reviews. These interim reviews have in the past reflected changes in local government boundaries and are intended to produce compatible parliamentary constituency and local government boundaries.

STATEMENT INDICATING 72 CONSTITUENCIES IN SCOTLAND AT CONCLUSION OF FOURTH GENERAL REVIEW ISSUED MARCH 1993

1. The Boundary Commission for Scotland has considered the total number of constituencies in Scotland and has concluded that for the purpose of formulating provisional recommendations in the course of the present review the number should remain at 72. The Commission has been mindful in this context of Rule 1(1) which provides that the number of constituencies in Great Britain shall not be substantially greater or less than 613: the current total is 634. At present, however, the Commission is not minded to recommend a reduction in the total number of constituencies in Scotland from 72 to 71.

2. Between 1918 and the implementation by Parliament of the recommendations in the Commission's Third Periodical Report in 1983, Scotland had been represented in Parliament by 71 MPs. The Third General Review recommended an increase of one, to 72. This was consistent with Rule 1(2) which provides that the number of constituencies in Scotland shall not be less than 71.

3. The purpose of this note is to provide an indication of the approach which the Commission will be adopting towards the review, particularly in respect of the allocation of constituencies to different parts of the country.

Allocation of Seats within Scotland

4. As has been the Commission's practice in the past, the theoretical entitlement (to seats) for each region and islands area (Orkney and Shetland being amalgamated for this purpose) has been calculated by dividing the electorate for the area on the starting date of the review - termed the "enumeration date" - by the electoral quota for Scotland. The electoral quota is 54,569 and is obtained by dividing the total electorate for Scotland (3,928,996) on the enumeration date by the current number of constituencies (72). The theoretical entitlement for each area is thus as follows:-

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Region/Islands Area	1992 Electorate	Theoretical Entitlement
Borders	83,908	1.54
Central	211,205	3.87
Dumfries and Galloway	116,750	2.14
Fife	264,644	4.85
Grampian	397,741	7.29
Highland	157,449	2.89
Lothian	591,070	10.83
Strathclyde	1,745,847	31.99
Tayside	305,530	5.60
Orkney	15,404	0.28
Shetland	16,433	0.30
Western Isles	23,015	0.42
Scotland	3,928,996	72.00

5. Rounding the theoretical entitlement of each area to the nearest whole number produces the following:

Region/Islands Area	Rounded Theoretical Entitlement	Adjusted to Allow Minimum Level of Representation*	Current Number of Seats
Borders	2	2	2
Central	4	4	4
Dumfries and Galloway	2	2	2
Fife	5	5	5
Grampian	7	7	6
Highland	3	3	3
Lothian	11	11	10
Strathclyde	32	32	33
Tayside	6	6	5
Orkney*	0	1	} 1
Shetland*	0	1	
Western Isles*	0	1	1
Scotland	72	75	72

*Although each of the islands areas has a theoretical entitlement of less than 0.5, no area can have zero representation in Parliament.

6. Given the Commission's decision not to recommend more than 72 seats in total for Scotland - and the provisional recommendation to maintain the representation of the islands areas as at present with one constituency for Orkney and Shetland combined and another for the Western Isles - the Commission has considered how the rounded theoretical entitlements should be cut back. At the start of the previous review the Commission proposed that Strathclyde should be allocated 32 seats, compared with the theoretical entitlement at that time of 33.29 seats. When the detailed proposals for Strathclyde were published it was apparent that the Commission had targeted the City of Glasgow for an allocation one seat below its theoretical entitlement. This was based mainly on the grounds that the electorate of the city area was forecast to fall substantially during the 1980s. Although this forecast proved accurate, the Commission was challenged at the time from many quarters over the

decision to reduce Glasgow's representation. The proposal was also criticised by the Assistant Commissioner who conducted the public inquiry on the Glasgow arrangements. The Commission's subsequent decision to restore the seat which had been provisionally deducted from Glasgow caused the total number of constituencies in Scotland to rise to 72.

7. In view of the experience of the previous review the Commission has decided to explore the possibility of grouping regions together in order to provide a means of achieving a total number of constituencies not greater than 72 in circumstances whereby the number of seats allocated to any amalgamated area is not less than that which the electorate of the area justifies.

Development of Proposals

8. The Commission will use, as building blocks for the construction of parliamentary constituencies, the new electoral divisions formulated by the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland in its review of electoral arrangements for regional councils. Not all of these reviews have been completed and in many parts of the country the orders to implement the Secretary of State's decisions on these recommendations are not yet in place. The development of proposals and publication of provisional recommendations will depend on the prior assessment of the various options. The Commission is not, therefore, in a position to indicate at present where amalgamations of areas for parliamentary constituency purposes might take place.

9. The Commission hopes, nevertheless, that it will be useful to interested parties to have this statement of intent as to the approach which the Commission will be adopting in the course of the review.

APPENDIX E

ELECTORATES OF EXISTING CONSTITUENCIES IN 1982, 1992 AND 1994

Parliamentary Constituencies	Parliamentary Electors		
	1982*	1992	1994
SCOTLAND	3,913,400	3,928,996	3,947,157
BORDERS REGION			
<i>County Constituencies</i>			
Roxburgh and Berwickshire	42,100	44,001	44,239
Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale	37,300	39,907	40,543
CENTRAL REGION			
<i>County Constituencies</i>			
Clackmannan	48,000	49,427	49,966
Falkirk East	52,300	52,381	52,114
Falkirk West	50,000	50,623	50,183
Stirling	56,100	58,774	59,127
DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY REGION			
<i>County Constituencies</i>			
Dumfries	57,600	61,773	61,658
Galloway and Upper Nithsdale	51,900	54,977	54,912
FIFE REGION			
<i>County Constituencies</i>			
Central Fife	54,400	56,495	57,375
Dunfermline East	49,700	50,452	51,487
Dunfermline West	49,100	51,310	52,270
Kirkcaldy	53,300	52,191	53,117
North East Fife	50,600	54,196	56,971
GRAMPIAN REGION			
<i>Burgh Constituencies</i>			
Aberdeen North	63,700	60,623	60,328
Aberdeen South	57,300	59,230	59,988
<i>County Constituencies</i>			
Banff and Buchan	60,300	65,631	67,574

APPENDIX E

Parliamentary Constituencies	Parliamentary Electors		
	1982*	1992	1994
GRAMPIAN REGION			
<i>County Constituencies—cont.</i>			
Gordon	64,200	81,097	84,070
Kincardine and Deeside	59,300	67,216	69,213
Moray	60,600	63,944	65,130
HIGHLAND REGION			
<i>County Constituencies</i>			
Caitness and Sutherland	31,000	31,173	31,471
Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber	64,000	70,164	71,620
Ross, Cromarty and Skye	48,000	56,112	57,892
LOTHIAN REGION			
<i>Burgh Constituencies</i>			
Edinburgh Central	56,200	56,839	57,954
Edinburgh East	51,900	46,157	45,740
Edinburgh Leith	60,800	57,073	56,399
Edinburgh Pentlands	59,600	56,433	56,111
Edinburgh South	62,500	61,999	63,060
Edinburgh West	61,100	59,702	59,545
<i>County Constituencies</i>			
East Lothian	62,600	67,588	67,844
Linlithgow	58,100	61,979	62,252
Livingston	52,600	62,122	62,620
Midlothian	60,700	61,178	60,905
STRATHCLYDE REGION			
<i>Burgh Constituencies</i>			
Glasgow Cathcart	52,000	45,149	44,374
Glasgow Central	52,200	48,383	48,185
Glasgow Garscadden	52,000	41,675	40,794
Glasgow Govan	52,300	46,199	45,331
Glasgow Hillhead	57,600	57,586	57,732
Glasgow Maryhill	52,400	48,791	48,903
Glasgow Pollok	54,500	46,655	45,809
Glasgow Provan	49,600	36,986	36,175
Glasgow Rutherglen	60,400	53,325	52,409
Glasgow Shettleston	52,700	52,381	52,303
Glasgow Springburn	54,900	46,216	46,201
Greenock and Port Glasgow	60,300	52,661	51,370
Hamilton	62,100	62,347	62,734
Monklands East	49,900	49,059	48,724
Monklands West	51,000	49,935	49,698
Motherwell North	57,200	58,106	57,817
Motherwell South	53,300	50,674	50,122
Paisley North	50,900	46,867	46,424
Paisley South	53,500	48,385	47,862
<i>County Constituencies</i>			
Argyll and Bute	48,100	48,436	49,347

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Parliamentary Constituencies	Parliamentary Electors		
	1982*	1992	1994
STRATHCLYDE REGION			
<i>County Constituencies—cont.</i>			
Ayr	65,500	66,284	66,828
Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley	56,700	56,024	55,746
Clydebank and Milngavie	51,400	47,773	48,337
Clydesdale	60,600	62,684	63,229
Cumbernauld and Kilsyth	44,000	47,155	47,579
Cunninghame North	53,900	55,490	55,877
Cunninghame South	48,900	49,745	49,736
Dumbarton	58,000	57,894	57,614
East Kilbride	62,000	64,824	65,368
Eastwood	59,500	64,560	64,788
Kilmarnock and Loudoun	62,300	62,777	62,547
Renfrew West and Inverclyde	53,300	58,897	59,894
Strathkelvin and Bearsden	60,800	61,924	61,633
TAYSIDE REGION			
<i>Burgh Constituencies</i>			
Dundee East	63,200	59,328	58,207
Dundee West	63,600	60,386	58,552
<i>County Constituencies</i>			
Angus East	59,700	63,637	64,776
North Tayside	52,000	56,353	57,531
Perth and Kinross	61,200	65,826	67,289
ISLANDS AREAS			
<i>County Constituencies</i>			
Orkney and Shetland	30,200	31,837	32,316
Western Isles	22,800	23,015	23,318

*As published in third periodical report

EXISTING CONSTITUENCIES IN DESCENDING ORDER OF 1992 ELECTORATES

(1994 Electorate in Brackets)

Constituency	Electorate	
1. Gordon CC	81,097	(84,070)
2. Inverness, Nairn & Lochaber CC	70,164	(71,620)
3. East Lothian CC	67,588	(67,844)
4. Kincardine and Deeside CC	67,216	(69,213)
5. Ayr CC	66,284	(66,828)
6. Perth and Kinross CC	65,826	(67,289)
7. Banff and Buchan CC	65,631	(67,574)
8. East Kilbride CC	64,824	(65,368)
9. Eastwood CC	64,560	(64,788)
10. Moray CC	63,944	(65,130)
11. Angus East CC	63,637	(64,776)
12. Kilmarnock and Loudoun CC	62,777	(62,547)
13. Clydesdale CC	62,684	(63,229)
14. Hamilton BC	62,347	(62,734)
15. Livingston CC	62,122	(62,620)
16. Edinburgh South BC	61,999	(63,060)
17. Linlithgow CC	61,979	(62,252)
18. Strathkelvin and Bearsden CC	61,924	(61,633)
19. Dumfries CC	61,773	(61,658)
20. Midlothian CC	61,178	(60,905)
21. Aberdeen North BC	60,623	(60,328)
22. Dundee West BC	60,386	(58,552)
23. Edinburgh West BC	59,702	(59,545)
24. Dundee East BC	59,328	(58,207)
25. Aberdeen South BC	59,230	(59,988)
26. Renfrew West and Inverclyde CC	58,897	(59,894)
27. Stirling CC	58,774	(59,127)
28. Motherwell North BC	58,106	(57,817)
29. Dumbarton CC	57,894	(57,614)
30. Glasgow Hillhead BC	57,586	(57,732)
31. Edinburgh Leith	57,073	(56,399)
32. Edinburgh Central BC	56,839	(57,954)
33. Central Fife CC	56,495	(57,375)
34. Edinburgh Pentlands BC	56,433	(56,111)
35. North Tayside CC	56,353	(57,531)
36. Ross, Cromarty and Skye CC	56,112	(57,892)
37. Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley CC	56,024	(55,746)
38. Cunninghame North CC	55,490	(55,877)
39. Galloway and Upper Nithsdale CC	54,977	(54,912)
ELECTORAL QUOTA 1992	54,569	

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Constituency	Electorate	
40. North East Fife CC	54,196	(56,971)
41. Glasgow Rutherglen BC	53,325	(52,409)
42. Greenock and Port Glasgow BC	52,661	(51,370)
43. Falkirk East CC	52,381	(52,114)
44. Glasgow Shettleston BC	52,381	(52,303)
45. Kirkcaldy CC	52,191	(53,117)
46. Dunfermline West CC	51,310	(52,270)
47. Motherwell South BC	50,674	(50,122)
48. Falkirk West CC	50,623	(50,183)
49. Dunfermline East CC	50,452	(51,487)
50. Monklands West BC	49,935	(49,698)
51. Cunninghame South CC	49,745	(49,736)
52. Clackmannan CC	49,427	(49,966)
53. Monklands East BC	49,059	(48,724)
54. Glasgow Maryhill BC	48,791	(48,903)
55. Argyll and Bute CC	48,436	(49,347)
56. Paisley South BC	48,385	(47,862)
57. Glasgow Central BC	48,383	(48,185)
58. Clydebank and Milngavie CC	47,773	(48,337)
59. Cumbernauld and Kilsyth CC	47,155	(47,579)
60. Paisley North BC	46,867	(46,424)
61. Glasgow Pollok BC	46,655	(45,809)
62. Glasgow Springburn BC	46,216	(46,201)
63. Glasgow Govan BC	46,199	(45,331)
64. Edinburgh East BC	46,157	(45,740)
65. Glasgow Cathcart BC	45,149	(44,374)
66. Roxburgh and Berwickshire CC	44,001	(44,239)
67. Glasgow Garscadden BC	41,675	(40,794)
68. Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale CC	39,907	(40,543)
69. Glasgow Provan BC	36,986	(36,175)
70. Orkney and Shetlands CC	31,837	(32,316)
71. Caithness and Sutherland CC	31,173	(31,471)
72. Western Isles CC	23,015	(23,318)

PROJECTED PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN POPULATION OF VOTING AGE

	% Change Between 1991 and			
	1995	1997	1999	2001
SCOTLAND	-0.5	-0.9	-1.0	-1.2
BORDERS	1.0	1.4	1.9	2.4
Berwickshire	2.7	3.8	4.9	6.1
Ettrick and Lauderdale	0.8	1.0	1.4	1.9
Roxburgh	-0.3	-0.6	-0.8	-1.2
Tweeddale	2.6	4.0	5.6	7.3
CENTRAL	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.0
Clackmannan	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0
Falkirk	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Stirling	1.6	2.1	2.8	3.3
DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.6
Annandale and Eskdale	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1
Nithsdale	0.5	0.8	1.3	1.7
Stewartry	0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1
Wigtown	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
FIFE	0.6	0.7	1.1	1.4
Dunfermline	1.6	2.4	3.4	4.2
Kirkcaldy	-0.3	-0.5	-0.5	-0.7
North East Fife	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5
GRAMPIAN	1.2	1.6	2.3	2.8
Aberdeen City	-0.2	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2
Banff and Buchan	0.9	1.3	1.8	1.8
Gordon	5.0	7.4	10.1	12.5
Kincardine and Deeside	3.9	5.9	7.9	9.8
Moray	0.0	-0.4	-0.7	-1.1
HIGHLAND	2.0	2.9	4.2	5.1
Badenoch and Strathspey	3.7	5.3	7.2	9.1
Caithness	-1.5	-2.4	-2.6	-3.0
Inverness	3.1	4.4	6.1	7.4
Lochaber	1.2	1.8	2.7	3.2
Nairn	1.1	1.5	1.7	2.2
Ross and Cromarty	2.9	4.3	6.0	7.1

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	% Change Between 1991 and			
	1995	1997	1999	2001
HIGHLAND— <i>cont.</i>				
Skye and Lochalsh	2.9	4.5	6.4	7.9
Sutherland	0.5	0.9	1.8	2.3
LOTHIAN	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.8
East Lothian	1.7	2.3	3.2	3.9
Edinburgh City	-1.0	-1.7	-2.0	-2.3
Midlothian	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6
West Lothian	3.8	5.4	7.2	8.8
STRATHCLYDE	-1.8	-2.9	-3.6	-4.3
Argyll and Bute	-0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.7
Bearsden and Milngavie	2.0	2.7	3.0	2.9
Clydebank	-2.4	-3.9	-5.2	-6.4
Clydesdale	-0.3	-0.5	-0.6	-0.7
Cumbernauld and Kilsyth	3.5	5.1	6.7	7.9
Cumnock and Doon Valley	-1.8	-3.1	-4.1	-5.1
Cunninghame	-0.1	-0.3	-0.5	-0.6
Dumbarton	-1.4	-2.3	-2.8	-3.4
East Kilbride	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1
Eastwood	2.2	3.2	4.2	5.0
Glasgow City	-4.7	-6.9	-8.6	-10.2
Hamilton	-0.6	-1.2	-1.4	-1.7
Inverclyde	-3.4	-5.1	-6.5	-8.1
Kilmarnock and Loudoun	-0.5	-1.1	-1.3	-1.5
Kyle and Carrick	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
Monklands	-1.6	-2.7	-3.3	-4.3
Motherwell	-2.2	-3.4	-4.4	-5.4
Renfrew	-1.4	-2.2	-2.9	-3.9
Strathkelvin	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2
TAYSIDE	-0.4	-0.7	-0.7	-0.9
Angus	0.7	1.0	1.4	1.7
Dundee City	-2.7	-4.2	-5.5	-6.8
Perth and Kinross	1.9	2.9	4.1	5.2
ORKNEY	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2
SHETLAND	1.8	2.6	3.7	4.2
WESTERN ISLES	-0.3	-0.5	-0.6	-1.1

Source: Registrar General for Scotland

RECOMMENDED CONSTITUENCIES IN DESCENDING ORDER OF 1992 ELECTORATES

(1994 Electorate in Brackets)

Constituency	Electorate	
1. Carrick, Cumnock & Doon Valley C.C.	67,001	(66,870)
2. Eastwood C.C.	65,846	(64,814)
3. East Kilbride C.C.	63,525	(65,368)
4. Strathkelvin and Bearsden C.C.	63,483	(63,139)
5. Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber C.C.	63,321	(63,982)
6. Dumfries C.C.	63,268	(63,148)
7. Kilmarnock and Loudoun C.C.	62,777	(62,547)
8. Clydesdale C.C.	62,684	(63,229)
9. Edinburgh West B.C.	61,995	(61,730)
10. Edinburgh South B.C.	61,638	(62,695)
11. Dundee East B.C.	61,286	(59,436)
12. Aberdeen South B.C.	60,352	(61,157)
13. Dundee West B.C.	60,352	(58,939)
14. Edinburgh North and Leith B.C.	60,235	(60,227)
15. Edinburgh Central B.C.	60,023	(60,650)
16. North Tayside C.C.	59,626	(60,823)
17. Edinburgh Pentlands B.C.	59,432	(59,329)
18. Airdrie and Shotts B.C.	59,264	(58,645)
19. Edinburgh East and Musselburgh B.C.	59,153	(58,670)
20. Angus C.C.	58,883	(60,270)
21. Perth C.C.	58,515	(59,413)
22. Livingston C.C.	58,068	(58,412)
23. Banff and Buchan C.C.	58,015	(59,582)
24. Dumbarton C.C.	57,894	(57,614)
25. Moray C.C.	57,743	(58,865)
26. Central Fife C.C.	57,702	(58,576)
27. Falkirk East C.C.	56,737	(56,721)
28. Gordon C.C.	56,716	(58,548)
29. East Lothian C.C.	56,283	(56,507)
30. Aberdeen Central B.C.	55,882	(55,933)
31. Cunninghame North C.C.	55,490	(55,877)
32. Ochil C.C.	55,483	(56,577)
33. Ayr C.C.	55,307	(55,704)
34. West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine C.C.	55,093	(57,210)
35. Glasgow Springburn B.C.	54,822	(54,148)
ELECTORAL QUOTA (1992)	54,569	
36. North East Fife C.C.	54,244	(56,971)
37. Falkirk West C.C.	53,947	(53,721)
38. Aberdeen North B.C.	53,944	(55,008)

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

Constituency	Electorate	
39. Paisley South B.C.	53,800	(53,291)
40. Glasgow Kelvin B.C.	53,680	(53,997)
41. Glasgow Anniesland B.C.	53,667	(52,624)
42. Galloway and Upper Nithsdale C.C.	53,482	(53,422)
43. Motherwell and Wishaw B.C.	53,282	(52,737)
44. Linlithgow C.C.	53,066	(53,059)
45. Coatbridge and Chryston B.C.	52,830	(52,421)
46. Ross, Skye and Inverness West C.C.	52,810	(55,081)
47. Hamilton North and Bellshill B.C.	52,793	(53,290)
48. Glasgow Pollok B.C.	52,678	(51,411)
49. Glasgow Maryhill B.C.	52,291	(52,584)
50. Glasgow Rutherglen B.C.	52,265	(51,749)
51. Glasgow Baillieston B.C.	52,207	(52,225)
52. Glasgow Cathcart B.C.	51,940	(50,578)
53. Stirling C.C.	51,902	(51,936)
54. West Renfrewshire C.C.	51,833	(52,359)
55. Greenock and Inverclyde C.C.	51,442	(50,456)
56. Clydebank and Milngavie C.C.	51,276	(51,746)
57. Dunfermline West C.C.	51,187	(52,708)
58. Kirkcaldy C.C.	50,837	(51,813)
59. Dunfermline East C.C.	50,674	(51,150)
60. Glasgow Govan B.C.	50,351	(50,110)
61. Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale C.C.	50,228	(50,868)
62. Cunninghame South C.C.	49,745	(49,736)
63. Paisley North B.C.	49,702	(49,418)
64. Glasgow Shettleston B.C.	49,358	(48,792)
65. Argyll and Bute C.C.	48,436	(49,347)
66. Midlothian C.C.	47,952	(47,632)
67. Cumbernauld and Kilsyth C.C.	47,155	(47,579)
68. Roxburgh and Berwickshire C.C.	47,068	(47,344)
69. Hamilton South B.C.	46,860	(47,085)
70. Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross C.C.	41,318	(41,920)
71. Orkney and Shetlands C.C.	31,837	(32,316)
72. Western Isles C.C.	23,015	(23,318)