



25 September 2024

Embargo until: 00:01am, Thursday, 26 September 2024

**Boundaries Scotland
consults on Further Proposals for constituencies and Provisional Proposals for
regions for the Scottish Parliament**

Boundaries Scotland has today published its Further Proposals for constituency boundaries and Provisional Proposals for new region boundaries for the Scottish Parliament. It marks the start of a public consultation which runs from 26 September 2024 to 26 October 2024.

Constituencies

Boundaries Scotland has already consulted on Provisional Proposals and Revised Proposals for constituencies. After considering useful feedback and alternative suggestions made during the public consultation and at the Falkirk Local Inquiry, we have now produced our Further Proposals for consultation. All consultation responses, transcripts of Local Inquiries and Assistant Commissioners' reports can be viewed on consult.boundaries.scot.

From the Revised Proposals:

- Six constituencies have both new names and changes to their boundaries as consulted on at the Revised Proposals stage (Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald; Glasgow Southside; Linlithgow; Rutherglen and Cambuslang). Falkirk East and Falkirk West have reverted to their existing constituencies names and boundaries.
- 14 constituencies have some changes to their boundaries but retain their names as consulted on at the Revised Proposals stage (Airdrie; Cumbernauld and Kilsyth; Edinburgh Central; Edinburgh Southern; Edinburgh South Western; Edinburgh Northern; Edinburgh North Western; Glasgow Central; Inverness and Nairn; Paisley; Renfrewshire West; Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch; Uddingston and Bellshill). Eastwood has reverted to its existing constituency.
- Nine constituencies have changes to their names but the boundaries remain the same as consulted on at the Revised Proposals stage (Aberdeen Deeside and North Kincardine; Almond Valley; East Lothian Coast and Lammermuirs; Edinburgh North Eastern and Leith; Glasgow Anniesland; Glasgow Baillieston and Shettleston; Glasgow Cathcart and Pollock; Glasgow Easterhouse and Springburn; Glasgow Kelvin and Maryhill).

For the constituencies that are unchanged from the Revised Proposals stage, Boundaries Scotland has agreed to adopt the Revised Proposals as its Final Recommendations, subject to satisfactory constituencies being designed in neighbouring areas. There will be no consultation on these constituencies at this stage.

There will also be no consultation on the Eastwood; Falkirk East; and Falkirk West constituencies as they have reverted to their existing constituency names and boundaries.

Professor Ailsa Henderson, Chair of Boundaries Scotland said: -

“We would like to thank everyone who made submissions to the consultation on Revised Proposals and thank those who participated in the Falkirk local inquiry. This engagement is a vital part of the review process. It helps to ensure that electoral representation is fair across Scotland, but also that the boundaries reflect natural communities as best as possible within the rules that govern our work.

In some areas these suggestions have helped us to identify additional improvements, which appear here as Further Proposals for constituencies. Suggestions have also helped us with our decision to revert to the existing constituencies in Eastwood; Falkirk East; and Falkirk West. We look forward to receiving submissions on the Further Proposals as we prepare for the final submission of our recommendations in May 2025.”

Regions

Boundaries Scotland has also published its Provisional Proposals for region boundaries for the Scottish Parliament. This is the first consultation on regions during this review and Boundaries Scotland is interested in hearing views from the public. The last time regions were reviewed was in the First Review of Scottish Parliament boundaries which reported in 2010.

There are eight Scottish Parliament regions, each returning seven regional MSPs. The rules governing the boundary setting process for regions state “a constituency must fall wholly within a region” and “the regional electorate of a region must be as near the regional electorate of each of the other regions as is practicable, having regard (where appropriate) to special geographical considerations.”

After recognising the special geographical considerations that apply to the Highlands and Islands the Provisional Proposals for regions are:

- One region is unchanged from the existing region (Mid Scotland and Fife).
- Four regions have some changes to their boundaries when compared to the existing regions (Highland and Islands, North East Scotland, Glasgow, West Scotland).
- Three regions have more significant changes to their boundaries when compared to the existing regions (Lothian, Central Scotland and South Scotland)
- All eight regions retain their existing names.

Professor Ailsa Henderson, Chair of Boundaries Scotland, said

“The consultation covers our Provisional Proposals for regions. These boundaries are drawn by their own rules and we have tried to minimise change as much as possible

while acknowledging the necessary rebalancing to reflect movements of the electorate across Scotland. Although some change is necessary to achieve regional electoral parity, we have recognised the special geographical considerations that apply in the Highlands and Islands.

We look forward to receiving submissions to the consultation and encourage the public to share their views. All responses will be considered and, as the constituency consultations demonstrate, they lead to important improvements. Submissions are particularly valuable when they offer alternatives that meet the rules as set out in the legislation.”

This review is of electoral boundaries (constituencies and regions) only and therefore does not affect any other boundaries (UK constituencies, local authorities, community councils, health boards etc). For individuals, this review does not affect the council area in which they live nor the way local services are accessed.

We welcome all comments on our Further Proposals for constituencies and Provisional Proposals for regions on our consultation site at <https://consult.boundaries.scot/>

After the consultation closes Boundaries Scotland will consider all responses received. If changes are made, to the Provisional Proposals for regions or the Further Proposals for constituencies, another one-month consultation will be held.

ENDS

Summary of Further Proposals for constituencies

Our Further Proposals reflect suggestions received during our earlier consultation and at the Falkirk local inquiry and can be summarised as follows: -

Falkirk, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire and West Lothian

The existing constituencies of Falkirk East and Falkirk West are to be retained. To help protect the electoral quota in neighbouring constituencies and reflect local ties the following changes form part of the Further Proposals: -

- The boundary for the existing Cumbernauld and Kilsyth constituency has been extended southwards to include Caldercruix, Plains and surrounding areas. This change affects the Cumbernauld and Kilsyth; and Airdrie constituencies.
- The boundary for the existing Airdrie constituency has been extended eastwards to include Fauldhouse and Whitburn. This change affects the Airdrie and Linlithgow constituencies.
- The boundary for Almond Valley constituency remains the same as consulted on at the Revised Proposal stage (under the name Livingston and Breich Valley) but the existing constituency name of Almond Valley has been retained.

The boundary between the proposed Rutherglen and Cambuslang; and Uddingston and Bellshill constituencies is amended by Blantyre to follow a ward boundary. This was suggested by both South Lanarkshire and North Lanarkshire Councils.

We are proposing the names of Rutherglen and Cambuslang; and Airdrie to differentiate these constituencies from the UK parliament constituencies. All other constituencies in Falkirk, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire and West Lothian retain their existing constituency names.

Edinburgh

The boundary between the proposed Edinburgh North Western and Edinburgh Northern constituencies is amended by Davidson's Mains as suggested during the consultation. This change avoids splitting the Davidson's Mains area between two constituencies and better reflects local ties.

The boundary between the proposed Edinburgh Central and Edinburgh Southern constituencies is amended by Morningside. Consultation responses suggested this improvement to better reflect local ties and to ensure the community of Morningside is not split between two constituencies.

The boundary between the proposed Edinburgh Southern and Edinburgh South Western constituencies is amended by Oxfords/ Colinton Mains. This offers a more recognisable boundary, improves the electoral quota and reflects local ties in this area.

The boundary between the proposed Edinburgh Central and Edinburgh South Western constituencies is amended by Dalry/ Gorgie as suggested during the consultation. This improves the variation from the electoral quota, better reflects local ties between

Dalry and Gorgie and reflects the existing constituency boundaries by Gorgie and Dalry.

The proposed Edinburgh North Eastern constituency is renamed Edinburgh North Eastern and Leith. This change was made in response to the large number of responses asking for the reinstatement of Leith based on historical naming and the strong sense of local identity. The proposed boundary is unchanged from the Revised Proposals.

Glasgow, Renfrewshire and East Renfrewshire

The boundary between the proposed Eastwood and Renfrewshire West constituencies reverts to the existing boundary by Neilston. This change was made on the basis that it maintained local ties in the Lavern Valley.

The boundary between the proposed Paisley and Renfrewshire West constituencies is amended by the Phoenix Retail Park at Paisley to better reflect local ties in the wider area.

The boundary between the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald and Renfrewshire West constituencies is amended to the west of Bishopton. This change was made to better reflect local ties between Bishopton and Erskine and protects the electoral quota.

The boundary between the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald and Glasgow Central constituencies is amended by Shieldhall to align with a ward boundary as suggested during the consultation.

The boundary between the proposed Glasgow Central and Glasgow Southside constituencies is amended to reflect the local ties in the surrounding area and offers a recognisable boundary (River Clyde and the railway line).

We are proposing a number of alternative constituency names in Glasgow and Renfrewshire they include: Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald; Glasgow Anniesland; Glasgow Baillieston and Shettleston; Glasgow Cathcart and Pollok; Glasgow Easterhouse and Springburn; Glasgow Kelvin and Maryhill; and Glasgow Southside. These changes are in response to consultation responses referring to Glasgow constituencies historically being linked with place names rather than compass points.

Highland

The boundary between the proposed: Inverness and Nairn; and Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch constituencies is amended south of Inverness at Strathdearn to align with a ward boundary as suggested during the consultation.

Aberdeen

The Aberdeen South and North Kincardine constituency is renamed Aberdeen Deeside and North Kincardine. This name was suggested during the consultation and adopted as it mirrors the naming of the Aberdeen Donside constituency. The proposed boundary is unchanged from the Revised Proposals.

East Lothian

The proposed Lothian Eastern constituency is renamed East Lothian Coast and Lammermuirs. This name was suggested as an alternative during the consultation and adopted as it helps maintain East Lothian in the title. The proposed boundary is unchanged from the Revised Proposals.

The following table lists all the constituencies and whether any changes have been made to the existing or Revised Proposals boundaries: -

Constituency Name	Electorate	Area km ²	Burgh/ County	Consult - Further Proposals	Chgs from exist	Chgs from revised
Aberdeen Central	55,994	27	Burgh		U	U
Aberdeen Deeside and North Kincardine	61,544	198	County	yes	N	N
Aberdeen Donside	62,531	92	Burgh		U	U
Aberdeenshire East	61,078	1,293	County		B	U
Aberdeenshire West	59,983	3,532	County		U	U
Airdrie	63,563	177	County	yes	BN	B
Almond Valley	65,050	203	County	yes	B	N
Angus North and Mearns	55,006	1,427	County		U	U
Angus South	58,622	1,319	County		U	U
Argyll and Bute	49,535	6,712	County		U	U
Ayr	62,566	49	Burgh		U	U
Banffshire and Buchan Coast	61,591	1,060	County		B	U
Caithness, Sutherland and Ross	56,532	12,792	County		U	U
Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley	59,218	2,083	County		U	U
Clackmannanshire and Dunblane	56,732	261	County		B	U
Clydebank and Milngavie	55,112	69	Burgh		B	U
Clydesdale	61,011	1,573	County		U	U
Coatbridge and Chryston	56,877	63	Burgh		U	U
Cowdenbeath	56,363	135	County		B	U
Cumbernauld and Kilsyth	57,040	171	County	yes	B	B
Cunninghame North	56,604	777	County		U	U
Cunninghame South	59,525	217	County		B	U
Dumbarton	56,129	599	County		B	U
Dumfriesshire	61,848	2,879	County		U	U

Dundee City East	56,030	28	Burgh		U	U
Dundee City West	56,705	35	Burgh		U	U
Dunfermline	62,615	214	County		B	U
East Kilbride	60,763	50	Burgh		U	U
East Lothian Coast and Lammermuirs	57,511	659	County	yes	BN	N
Eastwood	56,258	129	County		U	B
Edinburgh Central	64,114	11	Burgh	yes	B	B
Edinburgh Eastern, Musselburgh and Tranent	57,320	52	Burgh		BN	U
Edinburgh North Eastern and Leith	64,322	16	Burgh	yes	BN	N
Edinburgh North Western	60,313	95	Burgh	yes	BN	B
Edinburgh Northern	63,281	20	Burgh	yes	BN	B
Edinburgh South Western	59,967	88	Burgh	yes	BN	B
Edinburgh Southern	62,177	31	Burgh	yes	B	B
Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald	62,842	65	Burgh	yes	BN	BN
Ettrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire	55,131	3,194	County		U	U
Falkirk East	61,529	206	County		U	BN
Falkirk West	63,861	109	Burgh		U	BN
Fife North East	56,669	774	County		N	U
Galloway and West Dumfries	57,094	3,797	County		U	U
Glasgow Anniesland	60,545	17	Burgh	yes	B	N
Glasgow Baillieston and Shettleston	58,936	27	Burgh	yes	BN	N
Glasgow Cathcart and Pollok	66,213	33	Burgh	yes	BN	N
Glasgow Central	61,723	21	Burgh	yes	BN	B
Glasgow Easterhouse and Springburn	59,829	35	Burgh	yes	BN	N
Glasgow Kelvin and Maryhill	64,836	21	Burgh	yes	BN	N
Glasgow Southside	65,486	15	Burgh	yes	B	BN
Hamilton, Larkhall and Stonehouse	59,596	104	Burgh		U	U
Inverclyde	60,794	174	County		BN	U
Inverness and Nairn	65,464	1,094	County	yes	B	B

Kilmarnock and Irvine Valley	57,515	283	County		B	U
Kirkcaldy	60,642	100	Burgh		U	U
Linlithgow	66,218	200	County	yes	B	BN
Mid Fife and Glenrothes	54,098	150	County		U	U
Midlothian North	53,996	146	County		BN	U
Midlothian South, Tweeddale and Lauderdale	60,183	1,758	County		B	U
Moray	63,123	2,056	County		B	U
Motherwell and Wishaw	57,740	50	Burgh		U	U
Na h-Eileanan an Iar	21,769	3,270	County		U	U
Orkney Islands	17,696	1,087	County		U	U
Paisley	59,748	39	Burgh	yes	B	B
Perthshire North	59,944	3,978	County		B	U
Perthshire South and Kinross-shire	60,095	1,443	County		B	U
Renfrewshire West	60,707	218	County	yes	BN	B
Rutherglen and Cambuslang	62,888	33	Burgh	yes	BN	BN
Shetland Islands	17,965	1,657	County		U	U
Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch	67,222	12,588	County	yes	B	B
Stirling	54,302	2,158	County		B	U
Strathkelvin and Bearsden	63,895	144	County		U	U
Uddingston and Bellshill	58,839	52	Burgh	yes	B	B

B – boundary changed from existing constituency. Name unchanged.

BN – new constituency boundary and new constituency name.

N – name changed. Boundary unchanged from existing constituency.

U – unchanged.

Summary of Provisional Proposals for regions

Changes have been made to the existing regions to reflect the changes in the electorate and to try and achieve electoral parity between regions. The Commission has recognised the special geographical conditions that exist in the Highland and Islands region where the electorate is substantially lower than other regions but the geographical area is vast.

The following table sets out the Provisional Proposals for the eight regions: -

Region	Constituencies	Electorate
Central Scotland	Airdrie; Almond Valley; Coatbridge and Chryston; Cumbernauld and Kilsyth; Falkirk East; Falkirk West; Linlithgow; Motherwell and Wishaw; Uddingston and Bellshill	550,717
Glasgow	Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald; Glasgow Anniesland; Glasgow Baillieston and Shettleston; Glasgow Cathcart and Pollok; Glasgow Central; Glasgow Easterhouse and Springburn; Glasgow Kelvin and Maryhill; Glasgow Southside; Rutherglen and Cambuslang	563,298
Highlands and Islands	Argyll and Bute; Caithness, Sutherland and Ross; Inverness and Nairn; Moray; Na h-Eileanan an Iar; Orkney Islands; Shetland Islands; Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch	359,306
Lothian	East Lothian Coast and Lammermuirs; Edinburgh Central; Edinburgh Eastern, Musselburgh and Tranent; Edinburgh North Eastern and Leith; Edinburgh North Western; Edinburgh Northern; Edinburgh South Western; Edinburgh Southern; Midlothian North	543,001
Mid Scotland and Fife	Clackmannanshire and Dunblane; Cowdenbeath; Dunfermline; Fife North East; Kirkcaldy; Mid Fife and Glenrothes; Perthshire North; Perthshire South and Kinross-shire; Stirling	521,460
North East Scotland	Aberdeen Central; Aberdeen Donside; Aberdeen Deeside and North Kincardine; Aberdeenshire East; Aberdeenshire West; Angus North and Mearns; Angus South; Banffshire and Buchan Coast; Dundee City East; Dundee City West	589,084
South Scotland	Ayr; Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley; Clydesdale; Dumfriesshire; East Kilbride; Ettrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire; Galloway and West Dumfries; Hamilton, Larkhall and Stonehouse; Kilmarnock and Irvine Valley; Midlothian South, Tweeddale and Lauderdale	594,925
West Scotland	Clydebank and Milngavie; Cunninghame North; Cunninghame South; Dumbarton; Eastwood; Inverclyde; Paisley; Renfrewshire West; Strathkelvin and Bearsden	528,772

Central Scotland

The Central Scotland region boundary includes all constituencies within Falkirk, North Lanarkshire and West Lothian Council areas. It also includes Bothwell in South Lanarkshire Council area.

Glasgow

The Glasgow boundary region is similar to the existing boundary except by Renfrew. It now includes an Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency.

Highland and Islands

There is a minor change to the existing Highlands and Islands and North East Scotland region boundaries. They now follow a new constituency boundary where it aligns with a Moray ward boundary by Arradoul. The Commission has recognised the special geographical conditions that exist in the Highland and Islands region where the electorate is substantially lower than other regions but the geographical area is vast.

Lothian

This region includes the whole of Edinburgh Council and East Lothian Council areas as well as part of Midlothian Council area.

Mid Scotland and Fife

The proposals retain the existing Mid Scotland and Fife region.

North East Scotland

There is a minor change to the existing North East Scotland and Highland and Islands region boundaries. They now follow a new constituency boundary where it aligns with a Moray ward boundary by Arradoul.

South Scotland

The South Scotland region boundary is similar to the existing boundary except by East Lothian; East Kilbride / Hamilton; and Stewarton.

West Scotland

The West Scotland region boundary is similar to the existing boundary except by Stewarton and Renfrew.

Background information

Boundaries Scotland

Boundaries Scotland is an independent advisory non-departmental public body sponsored and funded by the Scottish Government. The role of Boundaries Scotland is to review and make recommendations for: constituencies and regions for the Scottish Parliament; the number of councillors on each council in a local government area; the number of wards for local government elections and their boundaries; and the extent of council areas.

For the avoidance of confusion, the Boundary Commission for Scotland is a separate body responsible for reviewing the boundaries of UK Parliamentary constituencies in Scotland.

Background to the review

The Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries is required by the Scotland Act 1998.

Since the last review which reported in 2010 there has been significant change to the electorate, including the extension of the franchise for Scottish Parliamentary elections to those 16 and over. Changes to the population and the electorate have varied across Scotland, with some areas experiencing significant increases and others remaining relatively unchanged or falling. Even areas which have not experienced population growth or reduction may find that the boundaries alter as a result of change required elsewhere to ensure that all constituencies and regions are of a similar electoral size.

The existing boundaries have remained unchanged since 2011 and were used in the 2011, 2016 and 2021 Scottish Parliament elections.

The Boundary Commission for Scotland conducted the First Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries. It reported in 2010. Under the Scotland Act 2016, responsibility for reviews of Scottish Parliament boundaries passed from the Boundary Commission for Scotland to Boundaries Scotland in 2017.

During the First Review only the Orkney Islands and Shetland Island constituencies were protected. Since the last review, the Islands (Scotland) Act 2018 made Na h-Eileanan an Iar constituency a protected constituency as well.

Review timeline

May 2023	Consultation on Provisional Proposals for constituencies
Dec 2023 – Jan 2024	Local Inquiries held
Apr – May 2024	Consultation on Revised Proposals for constituencies
August 2024	Local Inquiry held
Sep – Oct 2024	Consultation on Further Proposals for constituencies Consultation on Provisional Proposals for regions
Early 2025	Further consultation (if required)

1 May 2025 - we will submit a report to Scottish Ministers by 1 May 2025. If subsequently approved by the Scottish Parliament, the new boundaries will be effective at the next Scottish Parliament election, expected in May 2026.

Electorate

The electorate for this review is taken from the electoral register on 1 September 2022.

The average electorate of each Scottish parliament constituencies is 59,902 – the electoral quota. This is calculated by dividing the total electorate of Scotland (less the electorate of the three protected island constituencies) by 70 constituencies (73 less the three protected islands constituencies).

Electorate (1 September 2022)	4,250,563
Less electorate of protected constituencies	57,430
Balance	4,193,133
Divided by total non-protected constituencies	70
Quota	59,902

The electorate quota for regions is 531,320 which is calculated by dividing the total electorate of Scotland (4,250,563) by eight.

Factors we consider

The Scotland Act 1998 states that the electorate of constituencies must be as close to the electoral quota as practicable. In addition, we take into account other factors set out in the Act, namely: local authority areas, special geographical circumstances, maintenance of local ties and any inconveniences caused by the alteration of the existing boundaries.

For regions, a constituency must fall wholly within a region and the electorate of each region must be as near as practicable to the electorate of other regions. In addition, we can take into account special geographic considerations.

Consultation

All comments submitted during our earlier consultations can be viewed on our consultation site. We welcome all comments on our Further Proposals for constituencies and our Provisional Proposals for regions on our consultation site at <https://consult.boundaries.scot/>

Our consultation site allows users to compare the existing and proposed boundaries and draw new boundaries.

Objections accompanied by an alternative proposal are likely to carry more weight than a simple statement of objection.

We also accept comments by email or in writing

- Thistle House, 91 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD
- boundaries.scot@scottishboundaries.gov.uk

We do not accept responses on social media.

The proposals will be on display within each constituency (see our website for the display point locations). We have also shared our proposals with MSPs, MPs, political parties, Councils, Community Councils and advertised in national newspapers and on Facebook.

The consultation runs for a month long period, from 26 September 2024 to 26 October 2024.

Local inquiries

Where representations objecting to our Further Proposals for constituencies are made by a local authority covering the constituency, or by a body of 100 or more electors resident in the proposed constituency, the Commission may hold a local inquiry. The Commission can also decide to hold one where there has been a considerable number of responses to the consultation and where it feels further information would be helpful. For regions, a local inquiry will be held if a local authority wholly or partly included in the region objects or a body of 500 or more electors resident in the region objects. Boundaries Scotland may also hold a local inquiry if there is good reason for doing so.

The Commission does not prioritise information gathered during the inquiries over that submitted during the consultation period (or vice versa).

Notes for Editors:

For further information contact Kirsty Mavor, Secretary to the Commission, 0131 244 2001 / boundaries.scot@scottishboundaries.gov.uk