

Report

By

Sheriff Principal N.A Ross

On an Inquiry into Boundaries Scotland's Further Proposals relating to Scottish Parliament Constituency of Airdrie and Provisional Proposals relating to the Scottish Parliament Regions of Central Scotland and Lothian

11 December 2024

1. On 1 September 2022 Boundaries Scotland (the "Commission") commenced the Second Review of the constituencies and regions of the Scottish Parliament, in accordance with its obligations under Schedule 1 of the Scotland Act 1998. The Commission published their proposals, which can be found at www.boundaries.scot. Responses were invited from the public. All representations were considered. The Second Review relates only to boundaries for Scottish Parliament elections, and does not alter the boundaries of local government areas, or affect present arrangements such as council services, health services, council tax, school catchments or community councils.
2. Following responses to the proposed boundary changes to the constituency of Airdrie, and to the regions of Central Scotland and Lothian, the Commission arranged for a Local Inquiry to be held. I am appointed in terms of Schedule 4, paragraph 4 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to act as Assistant Commissioner for the purposes of hearing submissions at that Inquiry.

3. The Local Inquiry was held at the Whitburn Partnership Centre, East Main Street, Whitburn on 3 December 2024. Members of the public and representatives of interested bodies attended and made submissions. A full list of those who made submissions is contained in the Appendix to this report. The evidence at the Inquiry was recorded by shorthand writers. The transcript of the evidence has been made available to me for the purposes of preparing this report.
4. This report is prepared in terms of section 21(2) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

Further Proposals for the Airdrie constituency and Provisional Proposals for the Central Scotland and Lothian region

5. In its statement read out at the start of the Inquiry, the Commission noted it had consulted on Provisional Proposals for constituencies between May and June 2023. There was strong opposition to an Edinburgh Forth and Linlithgow constituency on the basis there were few ties between Linlithgow and the more urban areas to the west of Edinburgh. A local inquiry was held in the north-west of Edinburgh. The transcript and Assistant Commissioner's report from that inquiry is available on the Commission's website.
6. Between April and May 2024 the Commission published and consulted upon revised proposals for constituencies. These addressed the concerns from the earlier consultation, including linking West Lothian with Falkirk rather than Edinburgh, and proposing constituencies for Livingston and Breich Valley, Bathgate, Linlithgow and Falkirk South. Falkirk Council objected to the proposals, and there were several other responses opposing the proposals in Falkirk. The Commission held a local

inquiry in Falkirk in August. The transcript and Assistant Commissioner's report from that inquiry is available on the Commission's website.

7. Following that inquiry, further proposals for constituencies, and provisional proposals for regions, were published. They proposed an Airdrie constituency which included Fauldhouse and Whitburn from West Lothian. The boundary was also amended to the north of Airdrie by Caldercruix. The proposals also placed West Lothian in a Central Scotland region. West Lothian was previously in the Lothian region. The Lothian region now includes East Lothian, which until now has been in the South of Scotland region.

Responses to consultation

8. During the one-month public consultation in September 2024, West Lothian Council objected to the further proposals for an Airdrie constituency on the basis that it disregarded council area boundaries and the strong existing local ties between Fauldhouse and Whitburn with the rest of West Lothian. West Lothian Council also objected to West Lothian in a Central Scotland region on the basis of stronger links with the wider Lothian region. Under the terms of the legislation, if a council objects to a proposed constituency and/or region within its area, then a local inquiry must be held.
9. There were over 50 further responses opposing both the proposed Airdrie constituency and Central Scotland region boundary, many raising similar concerns to West Lothian Council. There was also strong opposition to the proposed Airdrie constituency from those in North Lanarkshire, which included a petition with 200 signatures opposing the breaking of local ties north of Airdrie by Caldercruix and

opposing a constituency crossing two local authorities. That was on the basis that there are few local ties connecting West Lothian with North Lanarkshire.

Statutory Framework

10. The Commission has a statutory duty to apply the provisions of the Scotland Act 1998, Schedule 1, as amended. Schedule 1, paragraph 3(2) sets out four rules for conducting the present review of constituencies. These rules can be paraphrased as follows:-

Rule 1 - So far as is practicable, regard must be had to the boundaries of local authority areas;

Rule 2 - The electorate of each constituency is to be as near the electoral quota as is practicable, while having regard to Rule 1. The Commission may depart from Rule 1 if it thinks that it is desirable to do so to avoid an excessive disparity between the electorate of a constituency and the electoral quota or between the electorate of a constituency and that of neighbouring constituencies;

Rule 3 - The Commission may depart from the strict application of the preceding rules if it considers that special geographical considerations, including the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency, make a departure desirable;

Rule 4 - The Commission must take account, so far as it reasonably can, of inconveniences attendant on altering constituencies and of any local ties which would be broken by doing so.

11. These rules will inevitably sometimes conflict. The Commission must exercise its discretion in deciding the appropriate weight of each rule in any given constituency.

The approach of the Commission has been to seek a balance between these rules, and to apply the same, so far as practicable, in a consistent way.

12. For regions, the Commission must take into account two rules. Rule 1 is that a constituency must fit wholly within a region. Rule 2 is that 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 geographic considerations.

Submissions made at the local Inquiry

13. West Lothian Council made a submission by their solicitor, Mr Greig, and Councillor Fitzpatrick. Mr Grieg stated that the Council object to the proposals. They submit that the Airdrie proposals disregards Rules 1 and 4, relating to council boundaries and local ties and identity. They have submitted a detailed written response. Fauldhouse and Whitburn have strong links to West Lothian, and their employment, transport, leisure, educational and health links are to the east, not to North Lanarkshire. These proposals appear to accommodate other local authorities. A similar proposal was rejected in 2008. The Council proposal is that the status quo be maintained, and that Whitburn and Fauldhouse remain in West Lothian. As for regions, West Lothian has strong historic and present ties with the wider Lothian area. It does not have such ties to the west. These ties should be respected.
14. Councillor Fitzpatrick referred to his own local roots, and spoke to the concerns of many local residents who had challenged him on these changes. They objected to their communities being placed in Airdrie. A similar scenario was mooted in the 1970s, which led to local residents blocking the A8 and stopping traffic. There is a very distinct culture in West Lothian compared to North Lanarkshire. There was a

high level of concern at the perceived breaking of strong historic local ties within West Lothian. It would no longer be simple for the residents of Fauldhouse and Whitburn to contact their MSP, who would now most likely to be based in Airdrie. There are few transport links, and the trip would require a train to Glasgow and another train back to Airdrie. There was a big disconnect.

15. Gregor Poynton, MP for Livingston constituency, was represented by John Erskine. He expressed strong opposition to Fauldhouse being moved into a constituency with communities in North Lanarkshire. The changes would have a significant detrimental effect on the community. Fauldhouse had always been integral to West Lothian as a hub for nearby villages, and is key to the social, economic and cultural fabric of the area. The proposals disregarded deep-rooted connections. The concerns included a disconnect between NHS Lothian and the constituency of Airdrie, which could directly affect quality of care for Fauldhouse residents. Transport links with West Lothian may also be disrupted. Community safety was also critical, as the area is served as part of West Lothian's police arrangements, which may be disrupted. Community ties may be eroded by losing links with West Lothian. He emphasised the confusion likely to arise about political representation. Constituents would be unclear about who represented them. Mr Poynton would strongly agree with West Lothian Council's position in opposing these changes. He suggested an alternative, including Fauldhouse in Almond Valley constituency.
16. Mr Tatton made submissions on behalf of Linlithgow Constituency Association, SNP. He is a local resident. His Association has been represented at all the nearby inquiries. They preferred the maintenance of local ties. West Lothian had an existing election arrangement with Falkirk Council. The previous proposals by Boundaries

Scotland were preferable. The existing arrangements allowed similar representation for both Scottish and UK elections. Political engagement was threatened where people were uncertain who represented them, with a recent local election showing a 20 per cent turnout. There was great strength of feeling about the severing of local ties, and a feeling that these changes were to accommodate other constituencies.

17. Robert Cook, a local resident, had ties with the Answer Project, a day care centre, and Whitburn Football Club, and a local church. He felt some concerns had been answered, in that the local authority would still be West Lothian Council. Any change would be disruptive to all these organisations. There was a concern about the area being represented by people outside the area.
18. Dave Huddlestone, a local resident, had ties with IJB and the local young offenders group. His concern was the change of services, which were already difficult to access. He was also concerned about windfarms, which were mostly in North Lanarkshire. If the area was no longer part of West Lothian, the revenue would go to North Lanarkshire. Any boundary change would threaten existing funding. Political representation would be an issue, where an Airdrie MSP would be limited to issues in that constituency, and could not deal with complaints about wider West Lothian services, such as St John's Hospital.
19. Robert Welsh is on a number of local committees. He noted that local concerns had centred around a change of services, which was not going to happen as a result of these boundary changes. There was a lack of support by the existing council for local services, particularly transport, and these should be improved. The opposition to boundaries changes did not make up for the lack of action in improving services.

20. Tam Lynch, a resident who is on a number of local committees commented on West Lothian Council's provision of local services and the fact Boundaries Scotland's review would not change this.
21. Rab Lamont is vice-chair of the Greenrigg Community Council. They were opposed to the changes. There was a good relationship with West Lothian Council but people had no interest in going to Airdrie.
22. Sandra Traynor from Longridge pointed out that they did not have a shop, pub or good transport links. She just wanted to clarify that these changes would not change local service providers, such as St John's Hospital. She proposed another MSP for West Lothian and one fewer for Airdrie.
23. James Ford opposed the change on the basis that voting for an MSP would be for North Lanarkshire, and not for an MSP who knew the local area. They would have no knowledge or ties with the area.
24. Brian Harley from Fauldhouse asked that the Commission listen to the people, not officials. The people of Fauldhouse were unanimous in opposing the moving of boundaries. There were no local connections at all with North Lanarkshire.
25. June Close is on Fauldhouse Community Council which opposes the changes. They fully support West Lothian Council's stance. There was no affinity with Lanarkshire or Airdrie. It was disappointing that this hearing was not held in Fauldhouse, which reflected how they were treated in general.
26. Alistair Fenton queried what the Commission were considering by way of evidence, as the proposals had been described as silly. He wanted to know what had been considered.

27. Jim Dickson is a local councillor for Whitburn and Blackburn. He had had a long career as a councillor, and was very proud of local connections, which did not include Airdrie. The area was West Lothian, and he was strongly in favour of staying within West Lothian. His wife, Mary Dickson, is also a councillor, and added her agreement, pointing out the number of people present who opposed the changes. She wished information about what evidence would be taken into account by the Commission.
28. Josh Kendrick operates a local social media group with 5,000 members. He had not seen one comment which was in favour. The historic links were with Lothians, Midlothian and West Lothian. It was worrying when councillors stated that services may change. It seemed silly to be changing regions, as they were in West Lothian.
29. James McEwan suggested that the number of Airdrie electors, which was 63,563, might be close to the number reached if the areas of Blackburn, Fauldhouse, Greenrigg and Longridge were put together. He asked if those numbers were sufficient to make up a constituency. Otherwise it was not clear why areas needed to be hived off to North Lanarkshire.
30. Alison Shaw sought clarification that the change of boundary would not alter the Westminster constituency boundaries.
31. Agnes Waddell noted that the lands of Fauldhouse used to belong to the monks at Torphichen. Historically a great deal of money was spent in taking the area into Lothian Region, and a great deal spent taking it back out. West Lothian was famous for its question. She was not clear if the numbers were changed due to an influx of people. She wondered what difference a consultation would make.

32. Andrew Devlin was concerned about the MSPs and local community. The area had been neglected for years. Services were poor. He was worried that the present changes would lead to a change of district, change of post codes, driving licences being invalid, insurances becoming invalid. They should remain in West Lothian.
33. Suzanne Ford queried why Fauldhouse and Whitburn could not be moved along with the rest of West Lothian into Central. There were large local housing developments. The whole of West Lothian could be moved together. Local areas were growing in size, and in 10 years it would all have to be looked at again.
34. Margaret Hendry queried why, if things were not broken, they were being changed.
35. Councillor Pauline Clark is a councillor for Fauldhouse and Breich Valley. She was concerned that there would be three health boards within one region. Her experience was that it was quite difficult to make representations to one health board, and three would be difficult to manage for a single MSP's office. It was important to consider the role of an MSP in Central, who also required to take on part of West Lothian. It meant that representation would not be as strong. It would be spreading the work very thin.
36. In the evening session, further submissions were made from a number of speakers, as follows:
37. Fiona Hyslop MSP has been an MSP since 1999, formerly for Lothian region, now for Linlithgow constituency. She spoke to considerable public concern about these changes of boundary. The Linlithgow constituency was the biggest in Scotland, at around 76,000 electors. She had engaged direct with the Commission to find solutions for the area, which was challenging as every change had an effect elsewhere. A large constituency meant a considerable amount of extra work for the

MSP's office. Whitburn had no connection with Airdrie, but if brought into North Lanarkshire it would be a challenge to deal with two sets of health boards, of councils and so on. It was necessary to trade off area against size, and to find a way of keeping Whitburn in West Lothian, leaving Airdrie as it is, and allow a very small constituency in Cumbernauld and Kilsyth. The Commission had come up with a good solution with its previous proposals which allowed three MSPs for West Lothian. The numbers justified that. It was also necessary to consider local ties, and names. She recommended a Livingston constituency, Bathgate or West Lothian Central, and West Lothian North. There were challenges in engaging with people if their strong local ties were not reflected. In terms of region, West Lothian was very much part of Lothian region, with local health, police, historical and other ties reflecting that. It was possible for Whitburn to remain part of West Lothian, even if it resulted in a very big seat. The real solution was an extra MSP for West Lothian.

38. Neil Gray MSP represents Airdrie and Shotts. He noted that nobody from his own constituency had been able to travel to the Inquiry, which illustrated the lack of transport and other links. It was not for lack of engagement, as 200 Airdrie constituents had signed a petition opposing boundary change. He supported Ms Hyslop's case which mirrored his own. He was disappointed that the Commission had not fixed an Inquiry in Airdrie North. He understood the challenge faced, but the best solution was one which allowed boundaries to remain unchanged. Identity and local ties were important, even though service providers remain unchanged. His own constituency orientated towards Airdrie, and that reflected political representation. Travel took minutes, whereas travel to Cumbernauld took much greater time and expense. Travels links were sparse. Rule 4, relating to geographical

ties, could justify no change being made. He later made the further point that notification of the Inquiry had been poor, and enquired what locus would be given to those constituents both in Airdrie and in West Lothian who had not had an opportunity to attend the Inquiry. He wanted to make sure those representations were given due weight.

39. Eleanor Bowden, a local resident of Greenrigg, recalled protests blocking the A8 during a former review of boundaries. She thought people had lost that strength of feeling, as politics felt very remote. Two authorities could not provide the same local representation. Public transport links were poor, even without involving two other authorities. The Scottish Parliament was meant to provide closer local links. She later added that it had not been made clear on what basis the Commission would make their decision.
40. Andy Anderson criticised the publicity surrounding the Inquiry, noting a limited attendance from Whitburn.
41. Geraint Evans from Faulhouse agreed with the poor publicity for the Inquiry. He asked if anybody represented Fauldhouse. He was comforted that this was about representation and not post codes or services. His local ties were almost exclusively eastward-looking, and not to North Lanarkshire.
42. Jan Harvey noted that West Lothian had always been a large county, and noted the history of the counties. North Lanarkshire had no connection with them. Transport links were very poor. West Lothian had an increasing population, with Winchburgh attracting people from Edinburgh. Whitburn had always been a West Lothian community, and that should not change.

43. Alan Rowden suggested that the constituencies could be back to historical parishes of Cumbernauld in Dumbartonshire and Kilsyth in Stirlingshire.
44. William Kerr noted that the Commission had a difficult task because West Lothian had a growing population. That expansion would continue. West Lothian also had strong ties to the other Lothian regions. He would expect a Central MSP to speak to NHS Lothian or Lothian Buses. He agreed that the Inquiry had been insufficiently advertised. He agreed that the boundaries should be left as they are.
45. Mr Kendrick noted that the proposed changes would take the electorate up to around 66,000. He proposed that a new constituency be formed, to reflect the growing population, historic ties and local pride. Almond Valley could be kept as it was, the same for Linlithgow, and some of the electorate could be realigned with a constituency called West Lothian. That would leave Airdrie as it was.
46. Lorna Kerwin asked what would happen 10 years down the line, and would the council become part of North Lanarkshire Council. Even though the Inquiry did not affect council areas, she was concerned that might occur. She was concerned that local councils had refused planning permission for housing which had been thereafter granted by the Scottish Parliament. She later asked whether the Westminster and Scottish constituencies could be kept the same, to avoid confusion.
47. Dawn Cherry works in the health sector, and was concerned that reallocating health areas to North Lanarkshire would end in children's services falling through the net. She was concerned that local service users would require to use services outside their own community. NHS Lothian may not cover areas reallocated to other constituencies. She later also added that she was concerned that an MSP who

covered North Lanarkshire would not properly represent her or people using West Lothian health services.

48. Sue Summerville noted that the reason the Inquiry was being held was that West Lothian Council had objected and so the Inquiry was compulsory. She also feared that there would be problems with education, as residents would be reallocated to a new constituency. She wondered why Fauldhouse and Whitburn had been picked. She thought that not a lot of thought had gone into it.
49. Mr Evans raised a question about whether parliamentary boundary changes had ever led to council boundary changes.
50. Ruth Blair raised a point about NHS and education, which would affect where the boundaries are. Voting for MSPs who were not in the same area would not help.
51. Mr McCarr asked what would be done if the boundaries were redrawn but the local community were still not happy with them. It was noted that the recommendations would go to the Parliament, where any remedy would lie. He was concerned that the boundaries had been drawn up prior to consulting.
52. Kenny Anderson represented the SNP Linlithgow Constituency Association. They had made three recommendations to the Commission and had tried to act objectively and offer solutions. He referred to another Inquiry where Falkirk Council's views have been given more weight. He was reassured by the point that the Commission take into account written submissions throughout the whole process.
53. John Devlin is the chair of Whitburn Community Development Trust. He enquired why local people were not being represented by their councillors, who ought to be out canvassing about this Inquiry and appearing. Notification of the Inquiry was not all down to the Commission, but was the councillors' responsibility also.

Overview of issues

54. Both the afternoon and the evening sessions of the Inquiry were well-attended, and there was an overwhelmingly negative view of the proposed boundary changes.
55. There was almost universal opposition to the allocation of Whitburn, Fauldhouse and Greenrigg areas to the constituency of Airdrie. The opposition was led by West Lothian Council, who founded primarily on Rules 1 (regard to local authority boundaries) and 4 (inconveniences and breaking of local ties). These points really stem from the same practical objection, namely that there are very few ties of any kind between the west of West Lothian and the constituency of Airdrie. There was strong support at the Inquiry for the boundaries remaining unchanged. The one speaker who represented constituents within Airdrie, namely Neil Gray MSP, gave evidence that the same view was taken by those from the Airdrie constituency. There was strong support for the Airdrie constituency not being altered. Lack of transport links had meant that there was no presence from Airdrie constituents at the Inquiry sessions.
56. There are two aspects to this, namely the positive case that there are strong links amongst all the West Lothian communities, and the negative case that there are practically no such links with North Lanarkshire. Those appearing almost all spoke to there being strong and long-standing historical ties amongst the communities in West Lothian. These ties are cultural and social, and are not shared with North Lanarkshire. The culture is distinct between those areas. There was strong local feeling about the perceived severing of local ties.

57. Separately, but no doubt related, to the foregoing, there are relatively strong transport links within West Lothian, albeit many of those attending considered they might be improved. Fauldhouse and Whitburn were hubs for nearby villages, and there were deep-rooted links. By contrast, travel to Airdrie was lengthy and expensive, and public transport links were very poor. Local ties were almost exclusively eastward-looking.
58. Many of those attended were apprehensive about a change of service provider. They were reassured to learn that the proposed boundary changes did not change their service provider for transport, waste, educational, medical, policing or other services, and would not result in a change of post code, or invalidation of driving licences or insurances.
59. A related point arose, which was that although the service providers would not change, the local population would be represented by a non-resident MSP. They would lose a local MSP and require to approach a different MSP, who did not live locally, in order to speak to the service providers. If that MSP were in Airdrie, there were considerable transport difficulties in doing so. It would mean voting for an MSP who had no knowledge of or ties to the area.
60. As well as the difficulty of dealing with a distant MSP, there was a further challenge for that MSP in dealing with West Lothian services. There was concern about a disconnect between NHS Lothian and the constituency of Airdrie, which could affect the quality of care of local residents, for example at St John's Hospital in Livingston. Similarly, these communities were under the West Lothian policing arrangements which would not be familiar to an Airdrie MSP.

61. As well as the issue of distant representation, there was also the issue of parliamentary boundaries straddling more than one health board district. As presently proposed, an Airdrie-based MSP's office would require to deal with constituent complaints and requests in relation to three separate health boards, covering North Lanarkshire and West Lothian. Experience of local representatives showed that dealing with even a single health board could be challenging, and dealing with three would be very difficult. This could only harm the level of representation which an MSP could provide across the constituency. The same point applied to dealing with different local authority areas, and different educational establishments, within the same constituency.
62. There was also resistance to change because of disruption and disengagement. There had been a recent local by-election where it was felt that voter disengagement had resulted in a turnout of around 20 per cent. People had expressed confusion about the present proposals, and who would now be representing them. Those speaking agreed that the boundaries should remain unaltered.
63. There were a number of alternative proposals. Some speakers expressed a preference for the original proposals by the Commission, which had the effect of more closely mirroring UK election constituencies. Others preferred the previous proposals which linked West Lothian with Falkirk. Alternative solutions included: keeping Fauldhouse within an Almond Valley constituency; leaving Almond Valley and Linlithgow as they are but realigning some constituents with a West Lothian constituency; and detailed proposals submitted in writing by the SNP Linlithgow Constituency Association. One speaker proposed that the populations of Blackburn,

Fauldhouse, Greenrigg and Longridge might be sufficient to meet the electoral quota and form a constituency.

64. Fiona Hyslop MSP, with support from those present, proposed an additional constituency for West Lothian, justified by there being a high population. It was necessary to keep Whitburn and Fauldhouse within West Lothian, even if that resulted in a larger constituency. Experience with Linlithgow showed that representing a large constituency, while a challenge, could still be done. She recommended a Livingston constituency, a Bathgate or West Lothian Constituency, and a West Lothian North constituency. The solution was a new, third MSP for West Lothian.
65. In relation to the proposed incorporation of West Lothian constituencies within Central Scotland Region, there was little support. The overwhelming sentiment was that the ties of West Lothian are with Lothian region, and not elsewhere. One speaker proposed that, if this were to happen, then all the West Lothian constituencies could be moved together. That was justified because West Lothian was currently growing in size.
66. As an addendum, while not part of this report, a number of speakers complained that no Inquiry had been held in Fauldhouse or Airdrie. A number of speakers felt that publicity for the Inquiry had been inadequate, which they felt reflected an overall neglect of services and recognition of those West Lothian areas. They did recognise, however, that constituents were able to make their views known by email or other correspondence.
67. Overall, there is no clear solution which suggests itself. As was recognised by the attendees, the Commission has a challenging task to identify constituencies which

are within a reasonable range of the electoral quota, while maintaining existing local ties and the other requirements of the rules. Altering one constituency has a consequential effect on surrounding constituencies. While the suggestion of a third MSP in West Lothian may make sense from the perspective of West Lothian, the effect on surrounding constituencies would require careful consideration, bearing in mind that there is a statutory maximum of 70 mainland constituencies. It is not presently possible for me to recommend that as a solution, because the consequential adjustment to other constituencies is beyond the scope of the present Inquiry. Similar comment can be made on the other proposals. These proposals risk causing the same issues in other constituencies, all of which have their own strong ties, geographical considerations and varied electorates. The Commission can only consider elector numbers identified at September 2022, and may not take account of changing numbers after that date. Accordingly, while it is recognised that there is significant population change, driven by housing development, within West Lothian, any new post-September 2022 electorate cannot be reflected in the proposed boundaries.

68. I have considered whether to make recommendations, but there is no clear mechanism which reconciles these conflicting aims of grouping wards together on the basis of historic ties and shared interests, and keeping the electoral quota within a permissible range of the 59,902 elector figure for Scottish constituencies. There is also no clear solution to keeping West Lothian in its entirety in the Lothian region. It is ultimately for the Commission to exercise their statutory discretion to identify a practical solution. The Commission has already made provisional, revised and further proposals for constituencies, and it is for the Commission to identify whether

any further revisions to proposals for constituencies and regions would be effective in meeting the concerns expressed at the Inquiry.

REPORTED BY

N.A. Ross

Appendix

List of those giving evidence at the Inquiry (in order of presentation)

Mr Greig and Councillor Fitzpatrick, West Lothian Council

John Erskine, on behalf of Gregor Poynton MP

Mr Tatton, Linlithgow Constituency Association, SNP

Robert Cook

Dave Huddleston

Robert Welsh

Tam Lynch

Rab Lamont, Greenrigg Community Council.

Sandra Traynor

James Ford

Brian Harley

June Close, Fauldhouse Community Council

Alistair Fenton

Jim Dickson, Councillor, Whitburn and Blackburn

Mary Dickson, Councillor, Whitburn and Blackburn

Josh Kendrick

James McEwan

Alison Shaw

Agnes Waddell

Andrew Devlin

Suzanne Ford

Margaret Hendry

Pauline Clark, Councillor, Fauldhouse and Breich Valley

Fiona Hyslop MSP

Neil Gray MSP

Eleanor Bowden

Andy Anderson

Geraint Evans

Jan Harvey

Alan Rowden

William Kerr

George Kendrick

Lorna Kerwin

Dawn Cherry

Sue Summerville

Ruth Blair

Mr McCarr

Kenny Anderson, Linlithgow Constituency Association, SNP

John Devlin, Whitburn Community Development Trust