

Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire Council Areas

Action required

1. The Commission is invited to:
 - Note Renfrewshire Council's objection to the Further Proposals and the Commission's approval for a local inquiry to be held.
 - Consider the consultation responses for East Renfrewshire and Glasgow City Council areas and decide whether to hold a local inquiry.
 - For East Renfrewshire and Glasgow City areas consider whether it wishes to
 - (a) adopt the published Further Proposals and names/designations as Final Recommendations subject to satisfactory design in other groupings being agreed or
 - b) amend its proposals for constituency boundaries or names and consult upon them again.
2. The Commission agreed its Final Recommendations for an Inverclyde constituency at its meeting of 23 July 2024 (Paper BS 116).
3. The Commission has been provided with all the consultation responses relating to Renfrewshire Council area but will wish to defer making any decision until after the local inquiry is held.

Background

4. At the start of the review ten of the existing 13 constituencies within East Renfrewshire, Glasgow, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire Council areas had an electorate below the electorate quota of 59,902. East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire Council areas have an entitlement to 4.6 constituencies while Glasgow 7.7 constituencies.
5. During the consultation on Provisional Proposals for constituencies, both East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire Council objected to the proposals, triggering a local inquiry. There was strong opposition to: a Glasgow Priesthill and Giffnock constituency because there was little to connect communities in East Renfrewshire and Glasgow; splitting Johnstone between constituencies; and a Renfrewshire South constituency with little to connect communities within it. There was support for the proposed Inverclyde constituency and few comments regarding Glasgow.
6. When developing its Revised Proposals the Commission considered various alternative options such as combining this constituency grouping with Ayrshire or South Lanarkshire and alternative constituency boundaries which overlap the Glasgow council area boundary at Govan and Pollok.
7. The Revised Proposals retained an Inverclyde constituency from the Provisional Proposals; considered the existing Eastwood, Paisley, Glasgow Anniesland constituency boundaries as well as the new Paisley and Renfrewshire North UK Parliament constituency which included Bishopton, Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald in Glasgow.
8. There was support for the Revised Proposals in Inverclyde and East Renfrewshire. In Renfrewshire there was strong opposition to breaking local ties in the Levern

Valley, while in Glasgow most comments opposed the use of compass points as constituency names. No Council objected to the Revised Proposals.

9. At its meeting of 19 June and 23 July 2024 the Commission considered Papers BS102 (boundaries.scot/sites/default/files/BS_102_Glw_Rens_Invs.pdf) and BS116 (boundaries.scot/sites/default/files/BS_116_Glw_Rens_Invs.pdf) which discussed the Provisional Proposals and responses to the Revised Proposals consultation for East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire Council areas. The Commission agreed to consult on Further Proposals which
- reverted to retaining the existing Eastwood constituency boundary. This change was made on the basis that it maintained local ties in the Levern Valley.
 - amended the boundary between the proposed Paisley and Renfrewshire West constituencies by the Phoenix Retail Park at Paisley to better reflect local ties in the wider area.
 - amended the boundary between the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald and Renfrewshire West constituencies to the west of Bishopton. This change was made to better reflect local ties between Bishopton and Erskine and protects the electoral quota.
 - amended the boundary between the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald and Glasgow Central constituencies by Shieldhall to align with a ward boundary as suggested during the consultation.
 - amended the boundary between the proposed Glasgow Central and Glasgow Southside constituencies to reflect the local ties in the surrounding area and offer a recognisable boundary (River Clyde and the railway line).
 - proposed a number of alternative constituency names in Glasgow and Renfrewshire they included: 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 were in response to consultation responses referring to Glasgow constituencies historically being linked with place names rather than compass points.

10. The Further Proposals are shown in the table below and map in Appendix A.

Constituency Name	Electorate	Variation from Electoral Quota
Eastwood	56,258	-6.1%
Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald	62,842	4.9%
Glasgow Anniesland	60,545	1.1%
Glasgow Baillieston and Shettleston	58,936	-1.6%
Glasgow Cathcart and Pollok	66,213	10.5%
Glasgow Central	61,723	3.0%
Glasgow Easterhouse and Springburn	59,829	-0.1%
Glasgow Kelvin and Maryhill	64,836	8.2%
Glasgow Southside	65,486	9.3%
Inverclyde	60,794	1.5%
Paisley	59,748	-0.3%
Renfrewshire West	60,707	1.3%

Responses to Further Proposal Consultation

11. Some representations contained suggestions that did not comply with the statutory rules governing this review. We did not consider those suggestions further.

Local Inquiry

12. East Renfrewshire Council and Glasgow City Council did not object to the Further Proposals nor did a body of 100 electors.

13. The Commission has agreed to hold a local inquiry in Renfrewshire as Renfrewshire Council objected to the Provisional Proposals for regions and to the Further Proposals for Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald; and Renfrewshire West. The Commission held a local inquiry in Johnstone in December 2023 because Renfrewshire Council objected to the Provisional Proposals for Glasgow Priesthill and Giffnock; Paisley and Renfrew; Renfrewshire South; and Renfrewshire West constituencies.

All areas

14. A member of the public preferred the Provisional Proposals with regard to Glasgow, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde.

15. A member of the public suggested constituencies should not overlap Council area boundaries.

Glasgow

General

16. A member of the public opposed the Further Proposals because the Glasgow area is losing an MSP and Edinburgh is gaining one. They stated Greater Glasgow contains one third of Scotland's population and is three times larger than Edinburgh. They suggested renaming the Eastwood constituency as "Glasgow Eastwood" and other constituencies in the Greater Glasgow area should include reference to Glasgow such as Glasgow/Rutherglen, Paisley, Hamilton, Bearsden, Milngavie, Bishopbriggs, Clydebank, Kirkintilloch, Coatbridge, Airdrie, Uddingston, Bothwell, Thorntonhall, East Kilbride, Newton Mearns, Giffnock, Clarkston, Barrhead, Neilston, Renfrew, Erskine. They also suggested reviewing Council area boundaries because local services provided in Glasgow are used by residents from the Greater Glasgow area. They suggested six or seven Glasgow boroughs, similar to Greater London, to encourage investment and economic growth.

17. A member of the public objected to constituencies that split wards and community council areas. They would prefer geographically smaller constituencies.

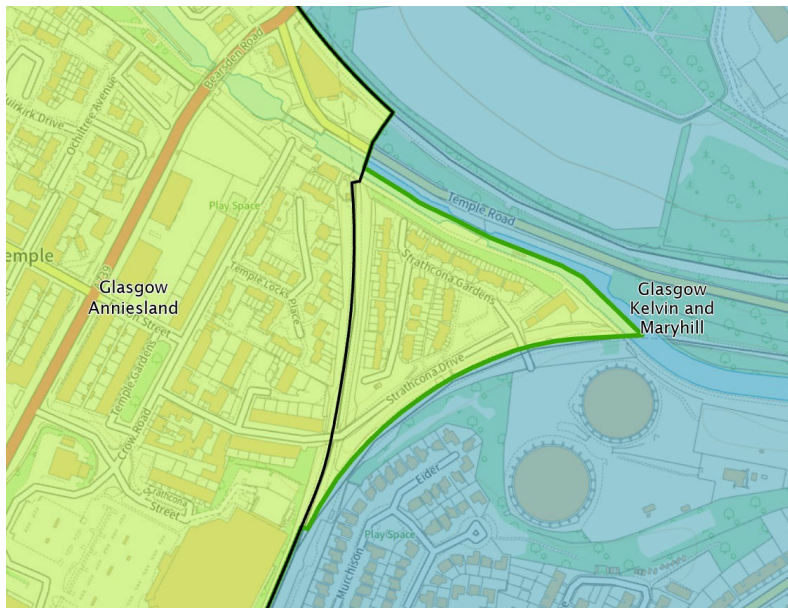
18. Glasgow City Council suggested constituency boundaries should follow polling district boundaries because it will be challenging for councillors and Community Councils to conduct their business.

Glasgow Anniesland

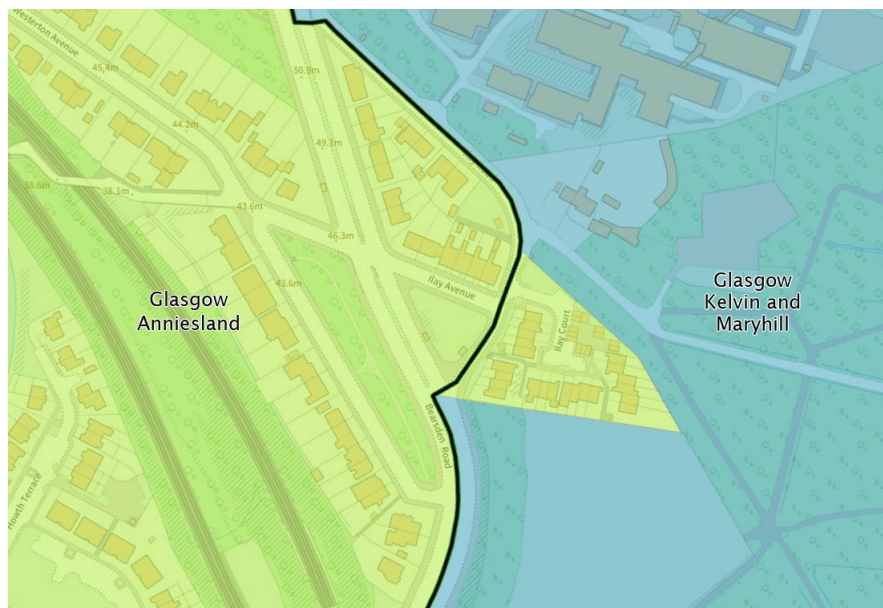
19. A member of the public supported the proposed Glasgow Anniesland constituency.

20. A member of the public supported the proposed Glasgow Anniesland constituency name but suggested including polling district MS4523 within it to consider UK Parliament constituency boundaries. They stated that Strathcona Gardens is physically separated from the rest of the constituency by both a railway line and a canal, whereas it is connected by road to Glasgow Anniesland.

21. A map of the Strathcona suggestion is shown below. In the map the alternative suggestion is in block colours and the black line shows the Further Proposals boundary. The green line shows the recently realigned UK Parliament boundary in the area. This suggestion would transfer 110 electors by Strathcona between constituencies.



22. The respondent raised a similar issue at Ilay Court and this would transfer 33 electors by Ilay Court between constituencies. See map below.



23. A member of the public opposed the proposed constituency name and suggested the areas of Knightswood, Jordanhill, Scotstoun or Whiteinch could be included. They also suggested Glasgow West, Glasgow Western District or North West Glasgow.

Glasgow Baillieston and Shettleston

24. Councillor Declan Blench (Glasgow East Centre ward) stated the proposed constituency name does not reflect the communities north of the railway line and suggested including Carntyne. He also suggested including Cranhill in the name to better describe the extent of the constituency.

25. Councillor Alex Kerr (Glasgow Baillieston ward) supported the proposed constituency name because it avoids confusion with UK Parliament compass point constituency names and it identifies the two main streets on the eastern and western boundaries of the constituency.

Glasgow Cathcart and Pollok

26. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist party suggested renaming the constituency Glasgow Castlemilk and Pollok because most of Cathcart sits within the proposed Glasgow Southside constituency.

Glasgow Central

27. A member of the public opposed the proposed Glasgow Central constituency because it extends from Govan (Ibrox Park) to Parkhead (Celtic Park) and includes communities on both sides of the River Clyde.

28. A member of the public opposed the proposed Glasgow Central constituency because there are no links between communities from the east or west. They suggested including parts of north Glasgow, Gorbals or the west end rather than Dalmarnock and Shieldhall.

29. This is a very broad ranging suggestion and unfortunately no detailed alternative boundaries were provided.

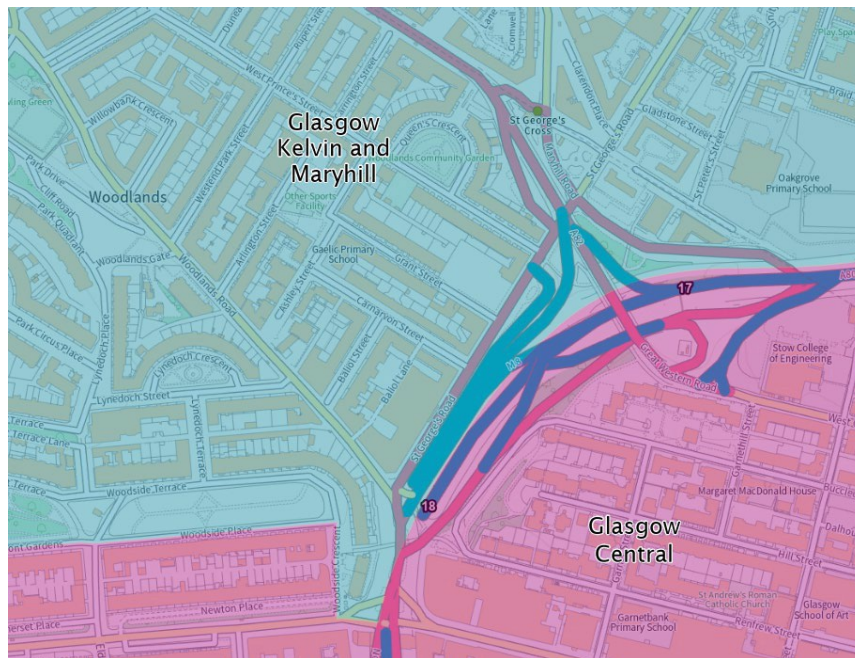
30. A member of the public suggested including Dennistoun in the proposed Glasgow Central constituency.

31. Adding the whole of Dennistoun to a Glasgow Central constituency would result in transferring approximately 12,500 electors from the proposed Glasgow Easterhouse and Springburn constituency and result in wide variations from the electoral quota as shown in the table below.

Dennistoun suggestion Constituency Name	Electorate	Variation from Electoral Quota
Glasgow Central	74,306	24.0%
Glasgow Easterhouse and Springburn	47,246	-21.1%

32. A member of the public suggested including Woodlands in the proposed Glasgow Central constituency because it belongs with the city-centre rather than the west-end.

33. The map below shows the location of Woodlands. The boundary there is unchanged from the Provisional, Revised and Further Proposals. The existing Glasgow Kelvin Scottish Parliament constituency includes Woodlands, the city-centre and Partick.



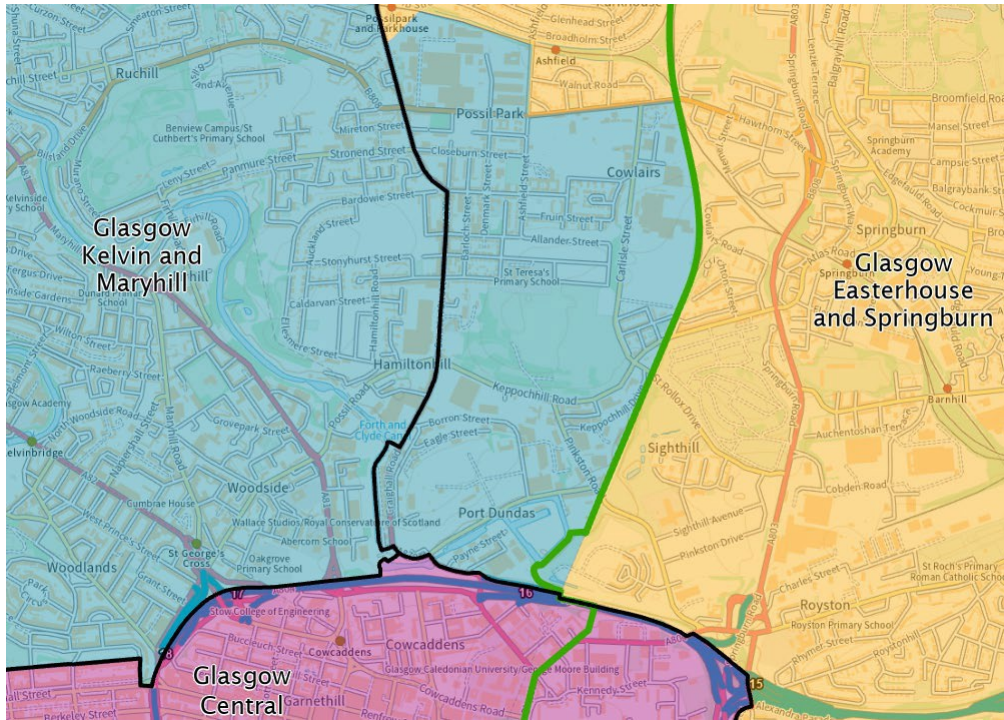
34. The Govan SNP Branch opposed the proposed Glasgow Central constituency because: there are very different socio-economic factors between the communities within it; there are natural or man-made features such as the River Clyde, M8, M74 and railway lines which act as boundaries; there are no transport links within it; there are no community ties; it would require a costly city-centre constituency office; and there are no historical links between Govan and the east-end of Glasgow. They stated the River Clyde acts as a natural boundary and Govan has closer links with the southside of Glasgow.
35. A member of the public stated Pollokshields and Strathbungo do not belong in a Glasgow Central constituency.

36. Pollokshields and Strathbungo are situated in the proposed Glasgow Southside constituency.

Glasgow Easterhouse and Springburn

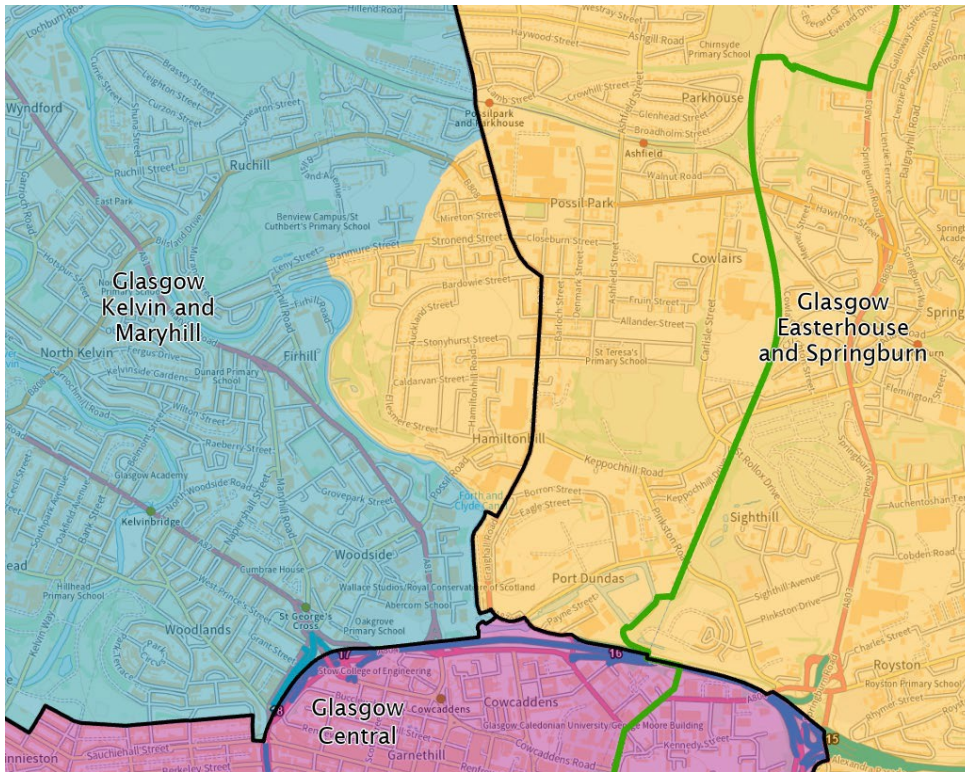
37. A member of the public suggested an alternative constituency name, Glasgow Springburn and Provan. They stated the boundary is incoherent and there is little to connect the north of Glasgow with the east-end.
38. A member of the public suggested an alternative constituency name, Glasgow Springburn and Provan.
39. A member of the public opposed the proposed boundary because it splits Possilpark between two constituencies and will confuse local electors. They suggested including all of Possilpark up to and including the Hamiltonhill Claypits as part of a Glasgow Springburn and Easterhouse constituency, or all of Possilpark up to and including the railway bridge over Hawthorn Street as part of a Glasgow Maryhill and Kelvin constituency.

40. Two options have been developed for this suggestion. The map and table below shows the whole of Possilpark community council area in a Glasgow Kelvin and Maryhill constituency. It follows the current UK Parliament constituency boundary and transfer 1,954 electors between constituencies. The block colours show the alternative suggestions, the black line is the further proposals and green line the UK Parliament boundary.



Possilpark – Option 1 Constituency Name	Electorate	Variation from Electoral Quota
Glasgow Easterhouse and Springburn	57,875	-3.4%
Glasgow Kelvin and Maryhill	66,790	11.5%

41. An alternative option is to add the whole of Possilpark Community Council area to the proposed Glasgow Easterhouse and Springburn constituency and transfer 2,547 electors.



Possilpark – Option 2 Constituency Name	Electorate	Variation from Electoral Quota
Glasgow Easterhouse and Springburn	62,376	4.1%
Glasgow Kelvin and Maryhill	62,289	4.0%

Glasgow Kelvin and Maryhill

42. A member of the public supported the proposed Glasgow Kelvin and Maryhill constituency.

Glasgow Southside

43. A member of the public seeks no change to the existing constituency name or boundary.

44. A member of the public supported the proposed Glasgow Southside constituency because it offers a better boundary by Maxwell Park than the new UK Parliament constituency boundary.

45. A member of the public suggested including Rutherglen in a Glasgow South constituency. They also wish Rutherglen and Cambuslang to remain in a Glasgow region.

Renfrewshire Council area

46. Renfrewshire Council objected to the proposed West of Scotland and Glasgow regions but also commented on the proposed Renfrewshire West and Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituencies.

- The Council has no objection to retaining the existing constituency boundary by Neilston and the inclusion of Bishopton in an Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency because Bishopton and Erskine have close ties. However they also stated that placing Bishopton in a new constituency would break local ties with Langbank.

- They opposed the Johnstone South and Elderslie ward being split between constituencies at Phoenix Retail Park and the Paisley Northwest ward being split between constituencies.
- They wish solely Renfrewshire constituencies but suggested that if an Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency were to include part of Cardonald in Glasgow, it should only include that part within the UK Parliament Paisley and Renfrewshire North constituency.
- They also stated that due to the new housing developments the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency electorate will likely exceed 70,000 electors by the 2026 Scottish Parliament election.

47. The Commission will wish to defer making any decisions in relation to the Renfrewshire Council area until after the local inquiry has been held.

Paisley

48. Councillor Kenny MacLaren, Renfrewshire Paisley Northwest ward, supported the inclusion of Gallowhill in a Paisley constituency because there are strong community and transport links towards Paisley rather than Renfrew. They objected to the Paisley Northwest ward being split between constituencies because a few electors will sit within the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency and Glasgow region, causing voter confusion.

Eastwood

49. Blair McDougall MP for East Renfrewshire, supported the proposed Eastwood constituency but stated the proposed Renfrewshire West constituency is geographically too large.

50. East Renfrewshire Council supported the proposed Eastwood constituency.

Renfrewshire West

51. 1st Neilston Boys' Brigade supported the Further Proposals.

52. The Trustees of Neilston War Memorial Association supported the proposed Renfrewshire West constituency because it maintains the historic, social, geographical, familial and practical ties within the Lavern Valley (Barrhead, Neilston and Uplawmoor).

53. Seven members of the public supported the Further Proposals. Several mentioned the retention of local ties in the Lavern Valley between Neilston and Barrhead.

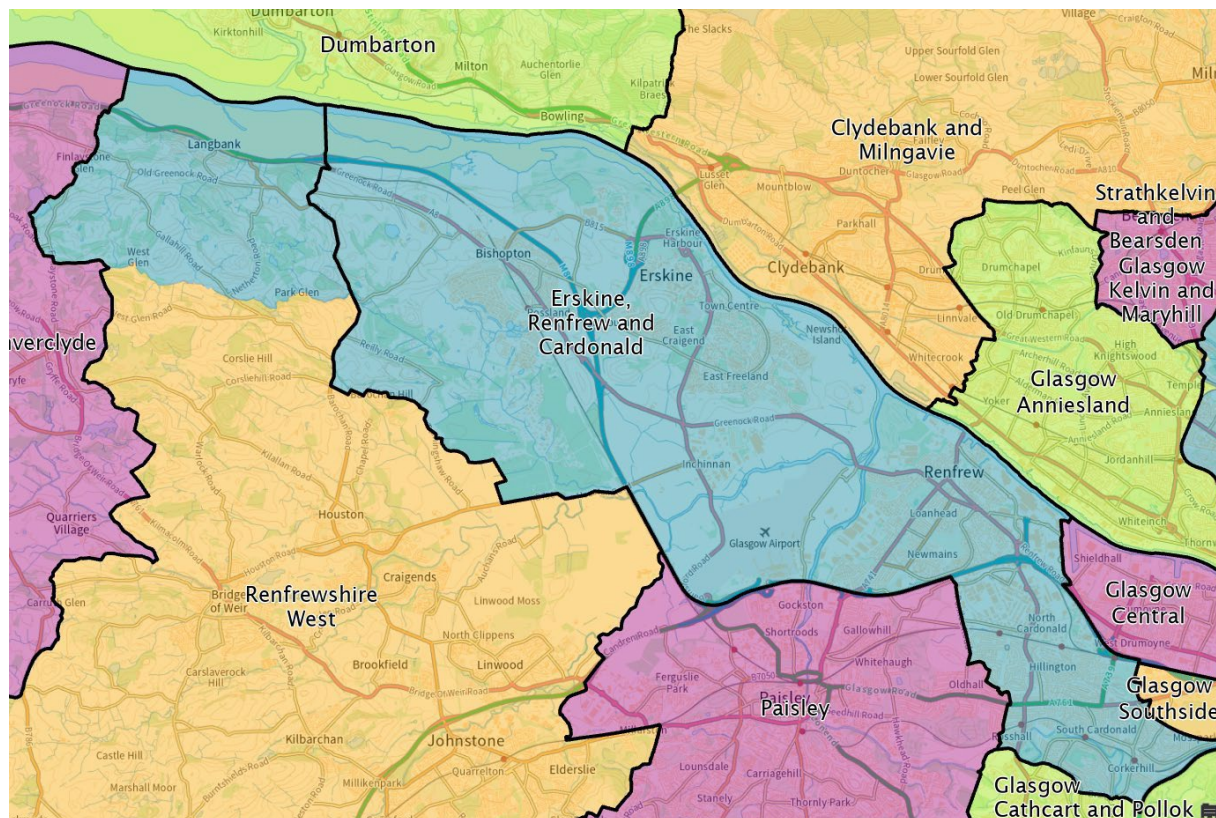
54. Paul O'Kane, MSP for West Scotland (Region) supported the Further Proposals because they maintain local ties in the Lavern Valley. He stated that the proposed Renfrewshire West constituency name does not reflect all of the communities within it and may be confusing for the electorate. He suggested Renfrewshire West and the Lavern Valley as an alternative constituency name because it more accurately describes the area, part of East Renfrewshire (Lavern Valley) and there are other constituencies with similar names such as: Carrick, Cumnock and the Doon Valley; Kilmarnock and Irvine Valley; Hamilton and Clyde Valley or Inverclyde and Renfrewshire West. He also suggested Paisley and Renfrewshire South or Paisley and Renfrewshire North to include a further compass point in a Renfrewshire constituency name. ANON-V1ZY-D3VY-Z

55. A member of the public suggested including Barrhead, Neilston and Uplawmoor in a Glasgow constituency because there is little to connect these communities with the rest of Renfrewshire such as transport links. They also suggested keeping Erskine and Bishopton in a Renfrewshire constituency to better reflect community ties and because Erskine and Bishopton have little in common with Glasgow.
56. Martin McCluskey, MP for Inverclyde and Renfrewshire West, supported the Further Proposals because they retain Houston and Bridge of Weir in the same constituency and retain the existing Eastwood constituency boundary. He stated the proposed Renfrewshire West constituency name does not reflect the area and could be confusing. He suggested renaming the constituency as Renfrewshire West and Levern Valley because it better reflects the area and follows a similar convention to the naming of new UK Parliament constituencies. ANON-V1ZY-D35C-9
57. Two members of the public opposed Barrhead and Neilston being situated in different constituencies.
58. It is assumed these comments relate to the Revised Proposals which divided the Levern Valley.

Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald

- A member of the public opposed the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency because Glasgow and Renfrewshire are very different.
59. A member of the public wished to maintain the existing boundaries and keep Renfrew, Erskine and Glasgow Airport in a Renfrewshire constituency.
60. A member of the public opposed the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency because there is little to connect Glasgow and Renfrewshire. They preferred the proposed Glasgow Cardonald and Pollok constituency from the provisional proposals because it was more cohesive.
61. A member of the public stated including Erskine in an Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency is confusing and nonsensical.
62. A member of the public opposed the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency because it does not consider local authority boundaries.
63. A member of the public opposed the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency because they wish Cardonald to remain in a Glasgow constituency.
64. A member of the public supported the inclusion of Bishopton in an Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency but suggested also including Langbank because they share transport links and school catchment areas. They also suggested alternative constituency names: Renfrewshire North; or Renfrewshire North and Cardonald.
65. This suggestion is shown in the table and map below. In the map the alternative suggestion is shown by block colours and the further proposals are shown by a black line.

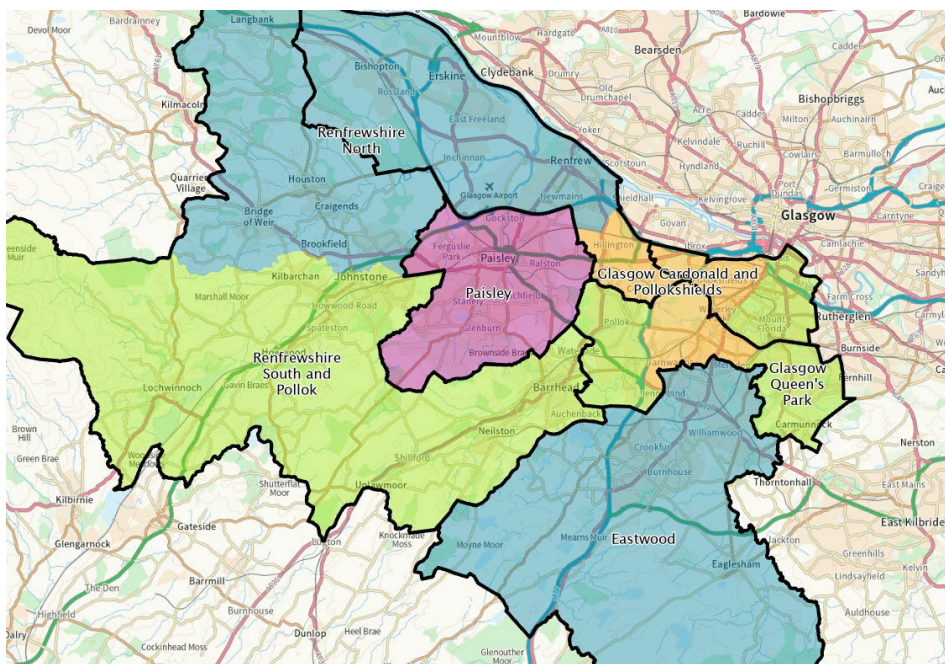
Langbank suggestion Constituency Name	Electorate	Variation from Electoral Quota
Renfrewshire West	59,797	-0.2%
Erskine Renfrew and Cardonald	63,752	6.4%



66. It would be possible to include Langbank in a constituency with Bishopton without adversely affecting the variation from the electoral quota.
67. A member of the public opposed the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency because it does not reflect local ties there. They preferred the Provisional Proposals because there are close links between Priesthill and Giffnock.
68. Councillor Kenny MacLaren (Renfrewshire Paisley Northwest ward) opposed the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency because Erskine and Renfrew – and surrounding villages – have strong community, transport and political links with Paisley and the rest of Renfrewshire rather than Glasgow. He believes the proposals will lead to voter confusion. He wished to retain three Renfrewshire and eight Glasgow constituencies.
69. Councillor Jamie McGuire (Renfrewshire Renfrew North and Braehead ward) opposed the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency because: it includes parts of two Council areas; does not consider local historical and social community ties; and is geographically large with no transport links between Erskine and Cardonald.
70. Councillor Bruce MacFarlane (Renfrewshire Paisley Southeast ward) opposed the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency because it does not

consider rule 1 – regard to local government area boundaries and will confuse the local electorate. He stated that East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde have close ties with each other and little to connect with Glasgow. He suggested an alternative constituency name, Renfrewshire North and Cardonald because the proposed constituency name omits Inchinnan and Bishopton. ANON-V1ZY-D33F-A

- 71. Natalie Don-Innes MSP, Renfrewshire North and West, suggested renaming the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency as Renfrewshire North and Cardonald to reflect the inclusion of Bishopton and Inchinnan within it. She stated Langbank has close ties (education) with Bishopton and suggested including Langbank within the constituency.
- 72. There are approximately 1,000 electors by Langbank and transferring between the Renfrewshire West and Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituencies would have minimal impact on variation from the electorate quota of both constituencies.
- 73. A member of the public opposed the proposed Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald constituency because it stretches from Bishopton to Glasgow and is a consequence of changes in East Renfrewshire. They submitted an alternative suggestion which would retain the proposed Eastwood, Inverclyde and Paisley constituencies and create four new constituencies to better reflect local community or transport links: Renfrewshire South and Pollok; Renfrewshire North; Glasgow Cardonald and Pollokshields; and Glasgow Queen's Park. They acknowledged that the proposed Renfrewshire South and Pollok constituency is above the electorate quota but suggested adding Neilston to an Eastwood constituency to improve variation from the electorate quota. ANON-V1ZY-D3HD-W
- 74. The suggestion is shown in the map and table below, the suggested constituencies are block colours and the further proposals are black lines.



Alternative suggestion	Wards	Electorate	Variation from the electorate quota
Renfrewshire South and Pollok	East Renf. 1, 2(part), Glasgow 3 Renfrewshire 8(part), 9	67,987	13.5%
Renfrewshire North	Renfrewshire 1, 2(part), 4(part), 10, 11, 12	58,276	-2.7%
Glasgow Cardonald and Pollokshields	Glasgow 2, 4, 6	63,123	5.4%
Glasgow Queen's Park	Glasgow 1, 7, 8(part)	65,862	9.9%

75. This suggestion would create a constituency containing parts of three council areas (rule 1). It would create one constituency with a variation from the electoral quota in excess of 10% but the respondent acknowledged the wide variation from the electoral quota and suggested placing Neilston back into the Eastwood constituency, but this would break local ties in the Lavern Valley.

Summary

76. The Commission agreed its Final Recommendations for an Inverclyde constituency at its meeting of 23 July 2024.

77. The Further Proposals reverted to the existing Eastwood constituency boundary, renamed most Glasgow constituencies and amended the proposed boundaries by the southside of Glasgow, Govan, Bishopton and Paisley.

78. Renfrewshire Council opposed the Provisional Proposals for regions and the Further Proposals for Erskine, Renfrew and Cardonald; and Renfrewshire West constituencies. The Commission agreed that a local inquiry should be held in Renfrewshire.

79. East Renfrewshire Council supported the proposed Eastwood constituency.

80. Glasgow City Council suggested constituency boundaries should follow polling districts. There were few other comments regarding the Further Proposals in Glasgow.

Conclusion

81. After considering the consultation responses for East Renfrewshire and Glasgow City Council areas the Commission is asked to confirm whether: -

- it wishes to adopt the Further Proposals as its Final Recommendations for each constituency in East Renfrewshire and Glasgow City Council areas.
- If any changes should be made to any of the constituency boundaries and consulted on further.
- Confirm its earlier decision on names and designations as its Final Recommendations for the constituencies in the East Renfrewshire and Glasgow City Council areas.

82. The Commission will wish to defer agreeing its Final Recommendations or revising proposals for Renfrewshire Council areas until after receiving the Assistant Commissioner's Report from the local inquiry.

Secretariat, November 2024

Appendix A

Further Proposals – East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire Council Areas

