

## Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries Provisional Proposals – Constituency Names and designations

### Action required

1. The Commission is invited to confirm constituency names and their designation for its constituency provisional proposals for the Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries. Any constituencies not yet agreed can be confirmed by a follow up email later.
2. A list of the agreed provisional proposal boundaries so far is at Appendix A.

### Background

3. The Commission's policy governing the naming of constituencies is detailed in its Second Review Guidance Booklet.
4. The booklet states: "Our recommendations for each constituency must include the name by which it should be known and whether it should be designated as a county constituency or a burgh constituency. The designation of a constituency affects the expenses allowable at elections. The Act does not define the terms burgh constituency or county constituency. We consider that where constituencies include predominantly urban areas, they will normally be designated as burgh constituencies, and where constituencies are predominantly rural, they will normally be designated as county constituencies."
5. The Boundary Commission for Scotland's (BCS) Information Paper "Constituency names in Scotland since 1950" has been printed and is enclosed. The Information Paper includes the names of both UK and Scottish Parliament constituencies. It can also be found on the BCS website in the Information Papers section: [https://www.bcomm-scotland.independent.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Constituency\\_names\\_since\\_1950.pdf](https://www.bcomm-scotland.independent.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Constituency_names_since_1950.pdf)
6. The Commission will be aware that BCS are currently concluding their 2023 Review so some of the existing UK Parliament constituency names are likely to change.

### Designations

7. Whilst legislation does not define the size of a Burgh or County constituency, Burgh constituencies are generally urban and County constituencies are more rural.
8. All of the existing burgh constituencies cover an area of 106 km<sup>2</sup> or less with one exception: Airdrie and Shotts burgh constituency (214 km<sup>2</sup>). All of the existing county constituencies cover an area of 109 km<sup>2</sup> or more with three exceptions: Clydebank and Milngavie county constituency (71 km<sup>2</sup>); Kirkcaldy county constituency (100 km<sup>2</sup>); Cumbernauld and Kilsyth county constituency (105 km<sup>2</sup>).

### Recommendation

9. The Secretariat recommends that the Commission agree its provisional proposals for constituency names and designations.

Secretariat, March 2023