

**LGBCS Paper 2474****Seaward Extensions of Local Authority areas and the impact of the 2018 Islands Bill's Shetland Mapping Requirement****Purpose**

1. This paper provides an explanation of the background and impact of two mapping technicalities that have been noted by the Commission at previous meetings: the Seaward Extensions of Local Authority areas and wards; and the impact of the 2018 Islands Bill's Shetland Mapping Requirement.

**Discussion****Seaward Extensions of Local Authority areas and wards**

2. At its meeting of 3 December 2018 the Commission noted that some of the maps for Shetland Islands council area were unclear and stated it was difficult to identify the ward boundary between the mainland and the North Isles ward.
3. In Shetland the boundary between the mainland and North Isles ward follows the centre of Yell Sound rather than the coastline.
4. The extent of a local government area normally ends at the low water mark. In a small number of cases, a local government area has been extended by legislation around a port or harbour into the surrounding sea beyond the low water mark. The largest of these seaward extensions is Yell Sound in the Shetland Islands. There are also substantial extensions at Aberdeen and Greenock, these boundaries are defined in legislation (eg Aberdeen Act 1934).
5. Maps of the boundaries in these areas are shown in Appendix A, B and C. The Commission uses the Ordnance Survey depiction of these seaward extensions in its maps.
6. To clarify the ward boundary in the Yell Sound, the Secretariat could add a dashed or dotted line. See Appendix D.

**Shetland Mapping Requirement**

7. The Commission is also invited to note Section 17 of the Islands (Scotland) Act 2018 which sets out:
  - s.17 (1) There is to be a Shetland mapping requirement.
  - (2) When publishing in any form a document that includes a map of Scotland, the Scottish Ministers, a local authority and any other Scottish public authority with mixed functions or no reserved functions must—
    - (a) comply with the Shetland mapping requirement, or
    - (b) where Ministers or, as the case may be, the authority consider that there are reasons not to comply, provide in such

manner as they consider appropriate, information about those reasons.

(3)The Shetland mapping requirement is that, in any map of Scotland, the Shetland Islands must be displayed in a manner that accurately and proportionately represents their geographical location in relation to the rest of Scotland.

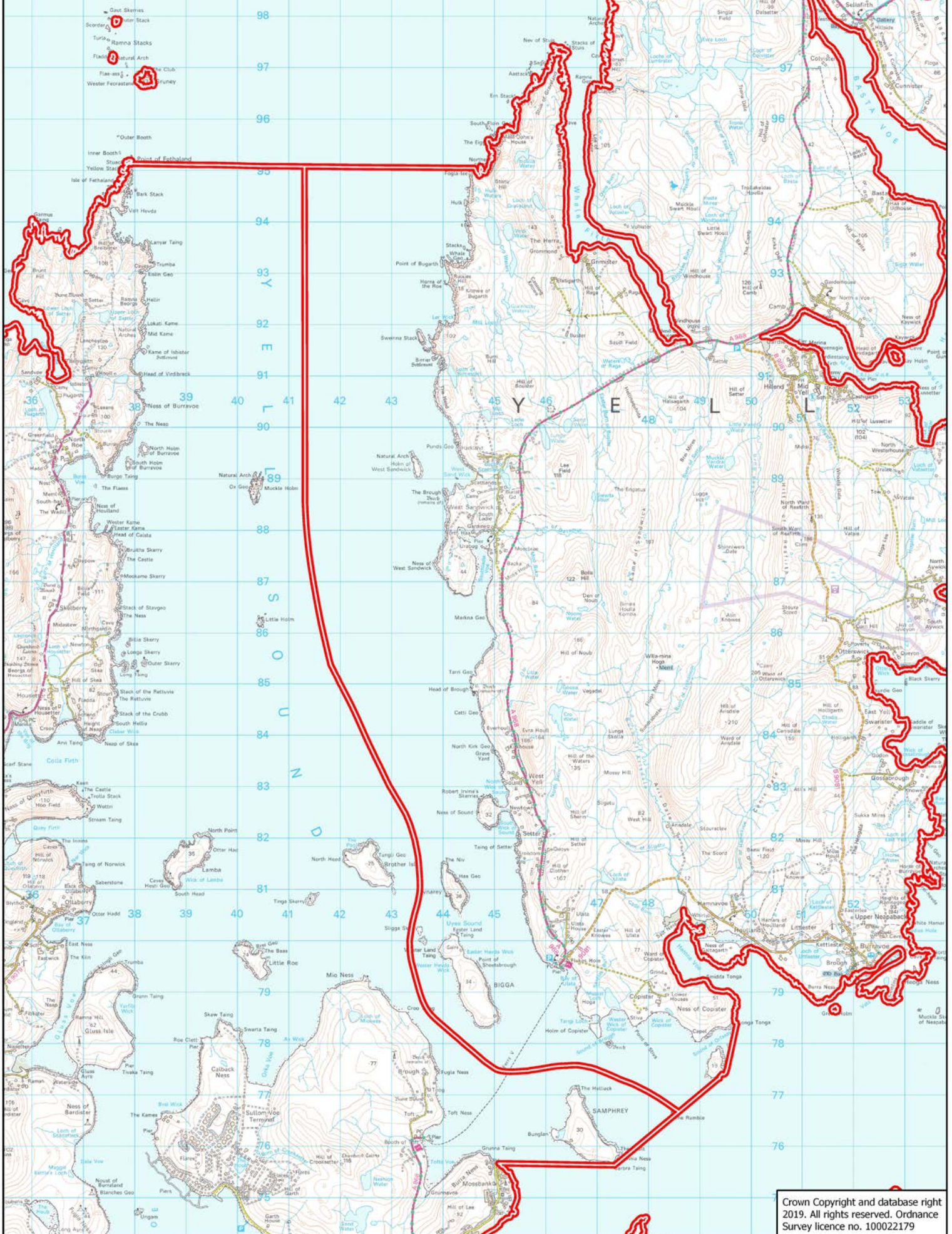
8. The practical impact of application of this legislative requirement is demonstrated in Appendices E and F which show that, when mapping Scotland as a whole, to include the Shetland Islands on the map in their accurate geographical position has a significant impact on the scale of the map, the amount of detail it is possible to show and the amount of sea that is consequently represented on the map.

### **Conclusion**

9. The Commission is invited to consider the legislative requirement of the Shetland Mapping Requirement and whether it wishes to adopt a policy regarding the Shetland mapping requirement.
- 10.The Commission is invited to note the depiction of seaward extensions of council area boundaries in its maps.

**Secretariat**  
**February 2019**

# LGBCS Paper 2474 Appendix A Seaward Extension of Shetland Islands Council Wards



# LGBCS Paper 2474 Appendix B

## Seaward Extension of Aberdeen City Council Wards

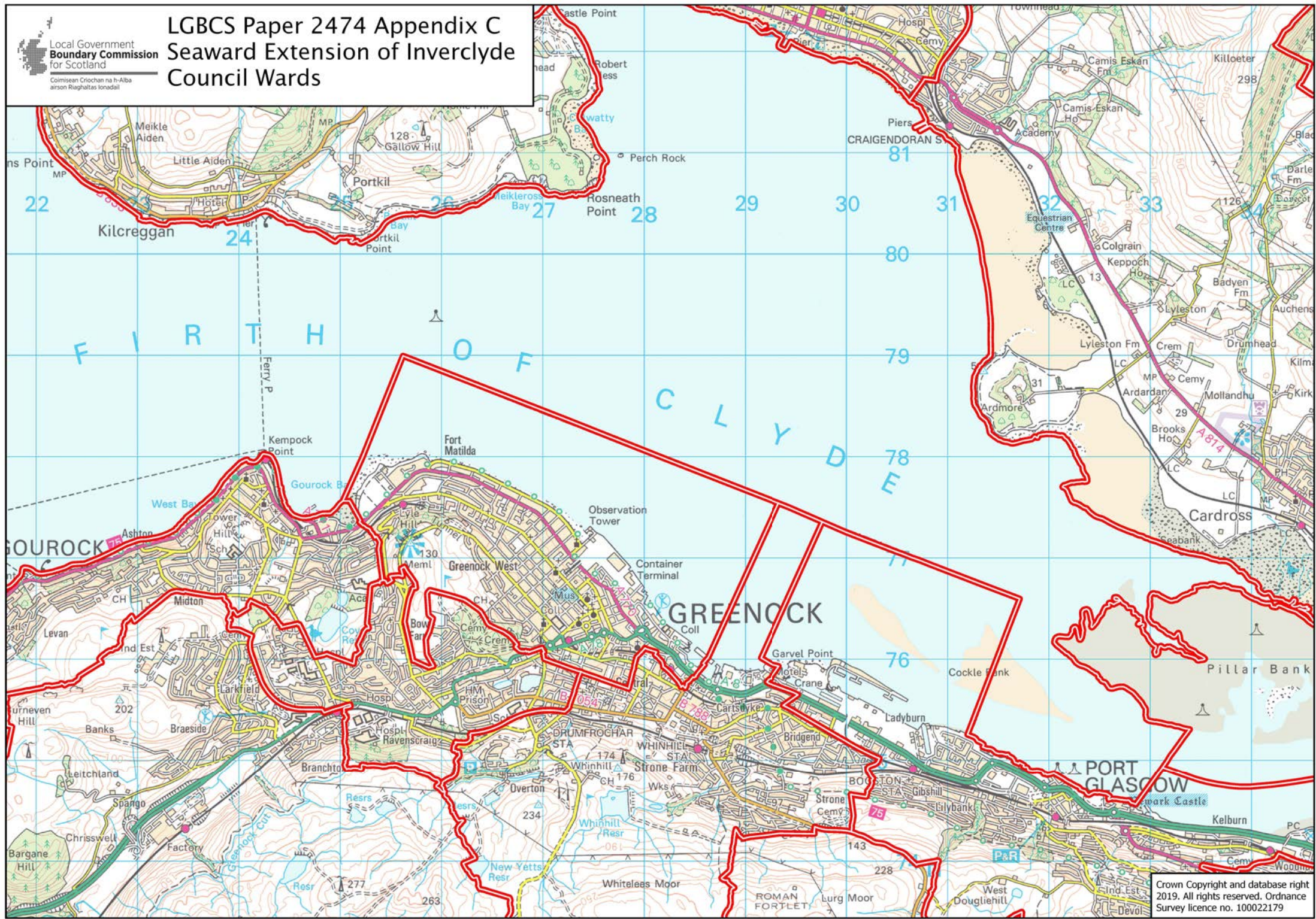


VEHICLE FERRY FROM ABERDEEN TO

Lerwick	14 Hrs
Kirkwall	6-7 Hrs

**ABERDEEN**

# LGBCS Paper 2474 Appendix C Seaward Extension of Inverclyde Council Wards



# LGBCS Paper 2474 Appendix D

## Seaward Extension of Shetland Islands Council Wards





