

## Interim Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries at Cardowan, Stepps

### Purpose

1. The Commission is invited to consider conducting an Interim Review of the Scottish Parliament constituency boundary between Glasgow Provan constituency and Coatbridge and Chryston constituency, and the Scottish Parliament region boundary between Glasgow region and Central Scotland region, at Cardowan, Stepps.

### Background

2. The Commission completed an administrative area boundary review between Glasgow City and North Lanarkshire council areas at Cardowan, Stepps in April 2018 (Report no A18001).
3. The Commission recommended amending the council area boundary at Cardowan, Stepps, because “the proposed revision to the boundary will rectify the anomalous situation whereby a small area of a large estate is effectively an enclave of Glasgow City Council with no direct road links to the remainder of the council area in which it sits and is further separated from the nearest housing in Glasgow City council area by the greenbelt...”
4. Scottish Ministers made an Order (SSI 2018/308) implementing the recommended changes, which came into force on 1 April 2019.
5. A review of the Scottish Parliament constituency and region boundary would transfer approximately 300 electors from the Glasgow Provan constituency (57,131 electors<sup>1</sup>) and Glasgow region (522,028 electors<sup>1</sup>) to the Coatbridge and Chryston constituency (53,471 electors<sup>1</sup>) and Central Scotland region (505,115 electors<sup>1</sup>).
6. Rule 1 of the constituency rules set out in the Scotland Act 1998 requires that “So far as is practicable, regard must be had to the boundaries of the local government areas...”. There are no strict electorate limits for Scottish Parliament constituencies or regions but Rule 2 states that “The electorate of a constituency must be as near the electoral quota as practicable, having regard to Rule 1”. The electoral quota, which is the total electorate divided by 71, is 55,967<sup>1</sup>.
7. An Interim Review of the Scottish Parliament boundaries by Cardowan, Stepps would allow the Scottish Parliament boundary to be aligned with the council area boundary in this area, and to come into force for the next Scottish Parliament elections in May 2021. The existing Glasgow Scottish Parliament region boundary is coterminous with the council area boundary. The Commission's Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries is not expected to commence until after the May 2021 Scottish Parliament elections.
8. The Secretariat does not expect the proposed Interim Review to face opposition. For electoral administrators, the review is likely to be welcomed as it would result in the alignment of the local authority and Scottish Parliament boundaries. The number of electors involved is relatively small, and therefore it is unlikely that a review will be seen as controversial by political parties. Local residents were

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<sup>1</sup> \* *Electorate figures based on NRS December 2018 electorate data*

generally in favour of the revised local authority boundary at the time of the administrative area review.

9. Appendix A shows Cardowan's location in relation to the recently amended council area boundary, together with the constituency and region boundaries. Appendix B is a detailed map showing the position of the existing Scottish Parliament boundaries within the Cardowan estate (Area A, Appendix B) and how they differ from the ward and council area boundaries.
10. The Boundary Commission for Scotland, who were responsible for reviews of Scottish Parliament boundaries until 2017, conducted a similar Interim Review by Robroyston in 2013. This Interim Review was a result of an administrative area boundary review between Glasgow City and East Dunbartonshire council areas, which came into force in 2011. The Commission commenced its review in April 2013 and submitted its recommendations in October 2013. The review affected approximately 20 electors.

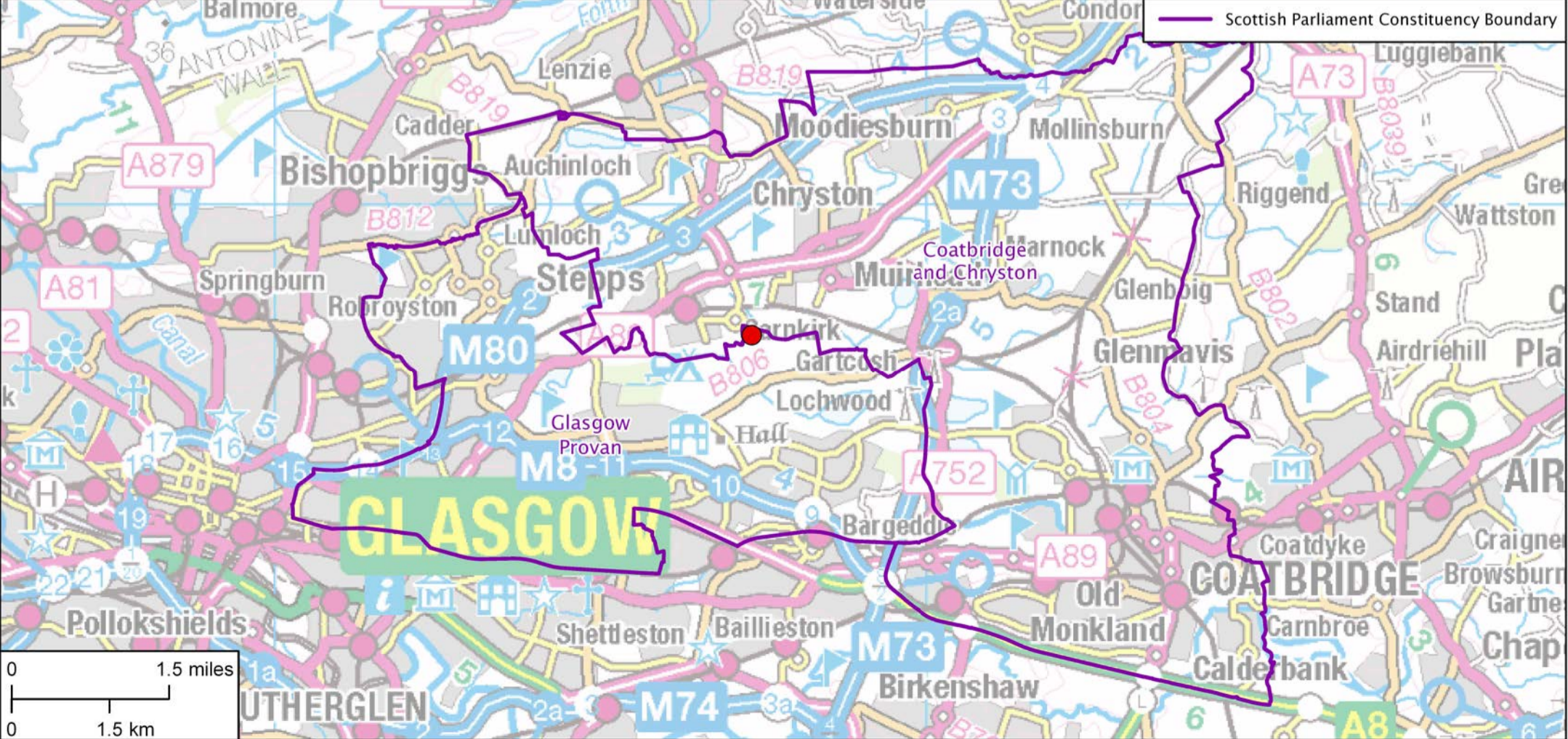
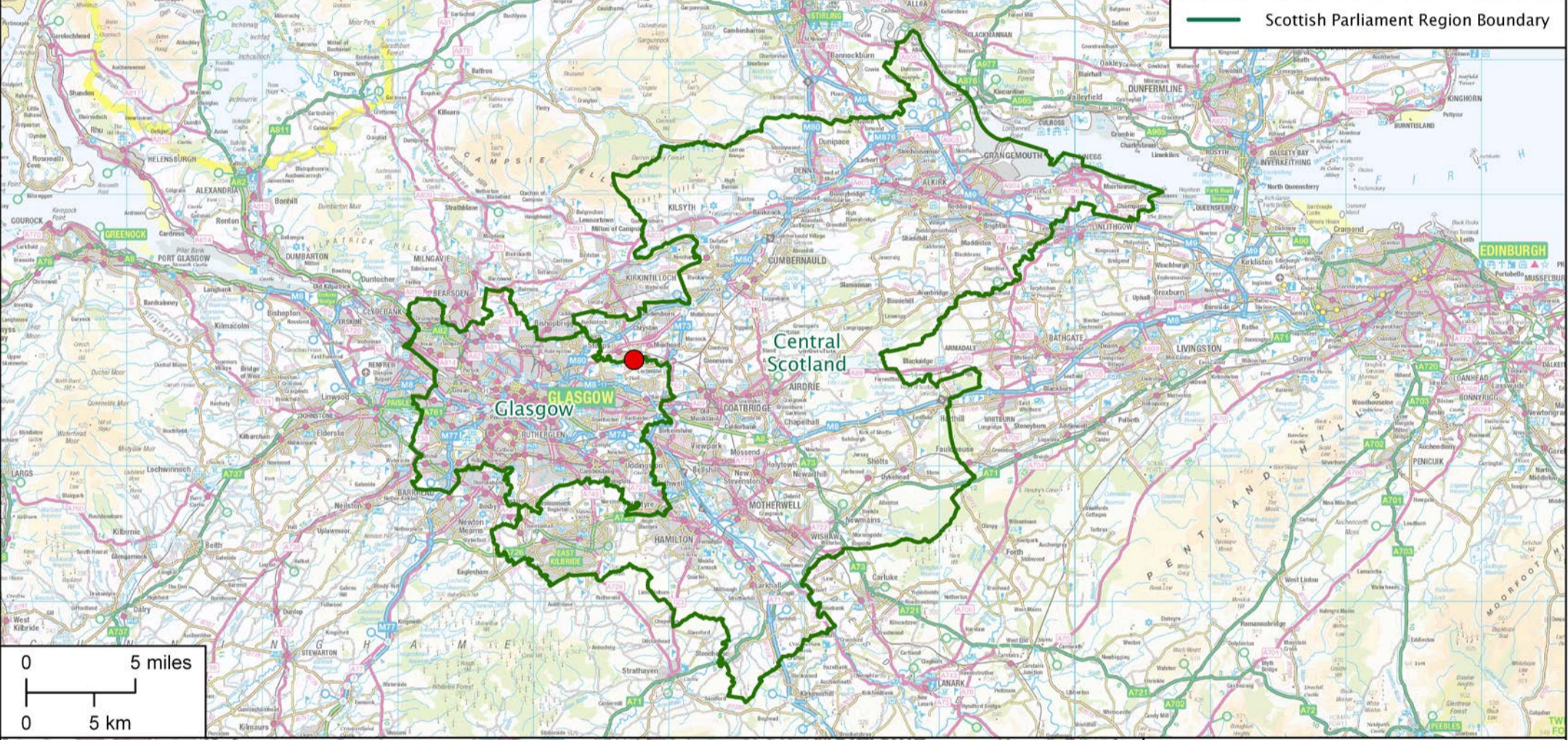
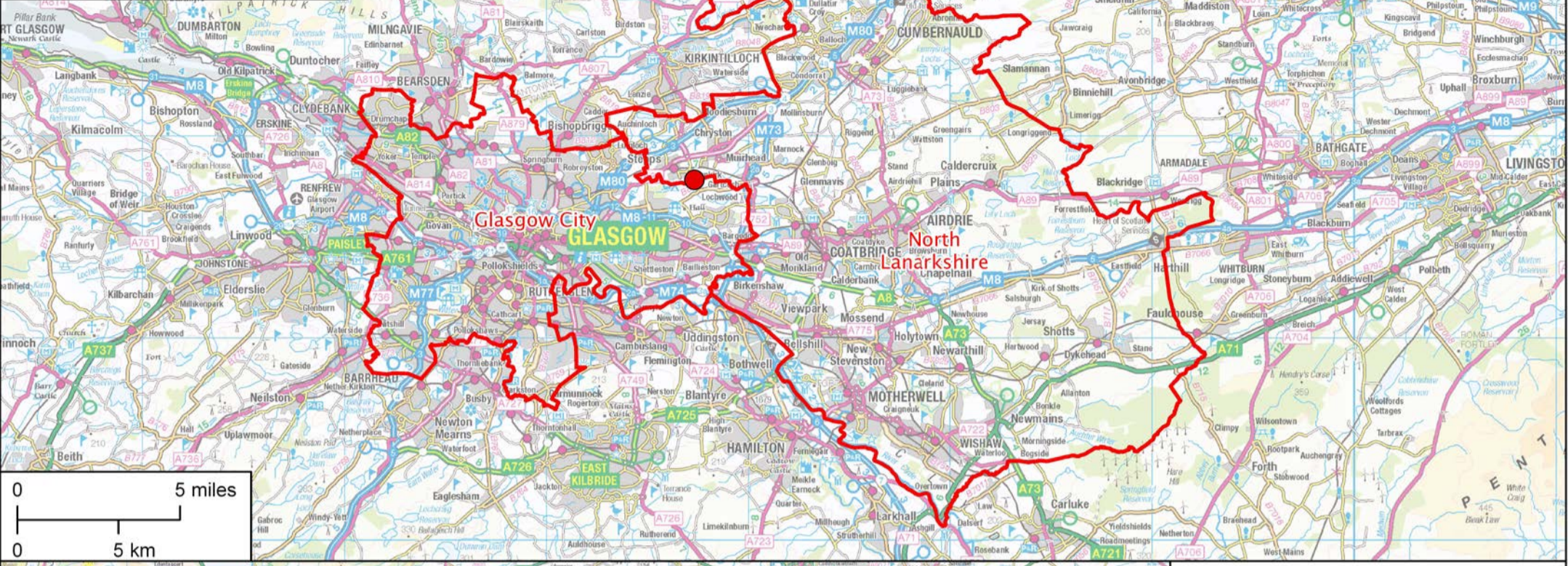
### **Recommendations**

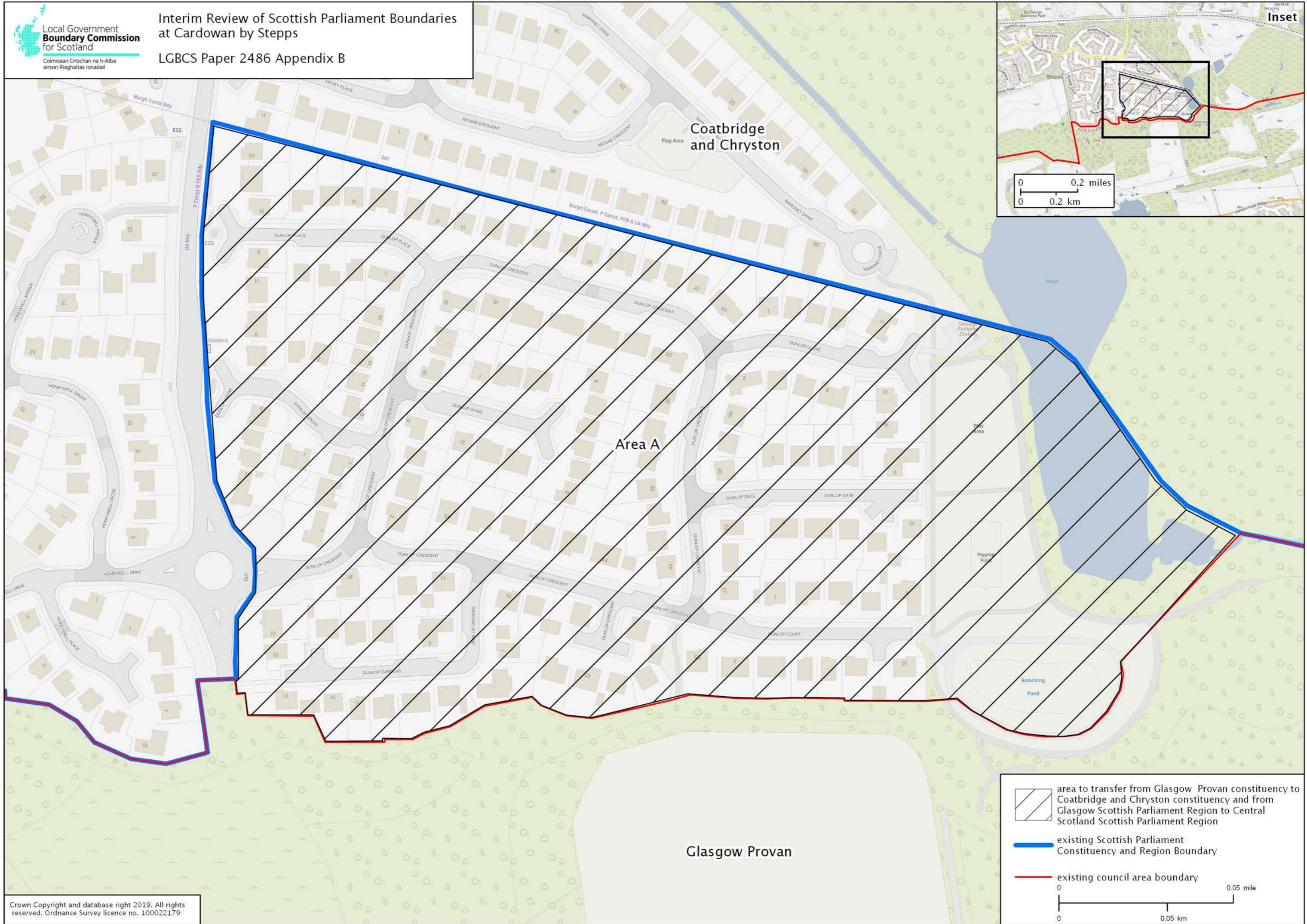
11. The Secretariat recommends that the Commission:
  - agrees to an Interim Review of the Scottish Parliament boundaries at Cardowan, Stepps, to commence during 2019;
  - agrees Provisional Proposals to amend the Scottish Parliament constituency and region boundary so that it aligns with the revised local authority boundary; and
  - requests the Secretariat publish the Provisional Proposals for consultation at a suitable point in 2019.

Secretariat  
June 2019

Interim Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries  
at Cardowan by Steps  
LGBCS Paper 2486 Appendix A

● Location of proposed boundary review








**Inset**

0 0.2 miles  
 0 0.2 km

Area A

Glasgow Provan

 area to transfer from Glasgow Provan constituency to Coatbridge and Chryston constituency and from Glasgow Scottish Parliament Region to Central Scotland Scottish Parliament Region  
 existing Scottish Parliament Constituency and Region Boundary  
 existing council area boundary

0 0.05 mile  
 0 0.05 km