

## Interim Review of Scottish Parliament Constituencies and Regions at Cardowan by Stepps

### Purpose

1. The Commission is invited to consider the responses to the public consultation on its Interim Review of Scottish Parliament Constituencies and Regions at Cardowan by Stepps, and to comment on the content of the draft final report in preparation for its publication in early 2020.

### Background

2. The Commission agreed to the Interim Review and its Initial Proposals after considering Paper 2486 at its meeting of 17 June 2019.

### Initial Proposals

3. The Initial Proposals amend the constituency and region boundary so that they align with the amended council area boundary. A map of the Initial Proposals is shown in Appendix A.
4. The Initial Proposals were published on 1 October 2019 for the statutory 1 month period of public consultation, lasting until 31 October 2019.
5. To publicise the Initial Proposals, as required by the legislation, the Secretariat notified Scottish Ministers, placed a notice in the Edinburgh Gazette, and placed a notice in the Evening Times and the Kirkintilloch Herald. In addition, the Secretariat wrote to national political parties, MSPs, MPs, local authorities, community councils and local residents.
6. According to the electoral register from the enumeration date in September 2019, the proposed changes will result in the transfer of 319 electors from Glasgow Provan constituency and Glasgow region to Coatbridge and Chryston constituency and Central Scotland region.

Scottish Parliament Constituency	Electorate September 2019	Change	Proposed electorate
Glasgow Provan	55,782	-319	55,463
Coatbridge and Chryston	54,663	+319	54,982

7. The Commission hosted the public consultation via its own online consultation hub. 25 representations were received during the one month period of public consultation.
8. Responses were generally in favour of the Commission's proposals with 15 responses in support of the Commission's proposals. 7 responses opposed the Commission's proposals and three responded "don't know".
9. 23 of the responses were from members of the public, 17 of whom identified themselves as local residents. 10 of those who identified themselves as local residents were in favour of the proposals, 4 were against and the remaining 3 answered don't know. One response in support of the proposals was received from a local councillor and prospective Scottish Parliament candidate for the area. A further response was received from the local health board confirming the boundary change would have no impact on service provision in the area.

10. Of the 15 responses in favour of the proposals, 5 made comments in support of their response. 3 comments cited an improvement in local community ties and 2 responses cited issues regarding education provision as their reasons for supporting the boundary review.
11. Of the 7 responses that opposed the Commission's proposals only four supported their responses with comments. One respondent cited the current over-subscription in local schools as a reason for their opposition. One respondent suggested a large scale reorganisation of local electoral boundaries incorporating previous district council boundaries. One respondent asked "why?" and the final comment was from North Lanarkshire Health Board confirming that the changes would not impact healthcare provision in North Lanarkshire.
12. All responses can be seen in redacted form in Appendix B.

### **Other considerations**

13. Changes to Scottish Parliament constituency and region boundaries as a result of the Interim Review will allow the changes to come into force for the next Scottish Parliament elections in May 2021. The timing of the next full review of Scottish Parliament boundaries is an issue considered in the Scottish Elections (Reform) Bill 2019 which proposes a deadline of May 2024. If 5 year terms are introduced by the Bill that date may move to 2025.
14. The boundary between Coatbridge, Chryston and Bellshill UK Parliament constituency and Glasgow East UK Parliament constituency is also out of alignment with the revised council area boundary in this area. However, under the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986, there is no mechanism for an Interim Review of UK Parliament constituencies. The Boundary Commission for Scotland expects, under current legislation, to commence its next full review of UK Parliament constituencies in 2021.
15. The Secretariat suggests writing to the Boundary Commission for Scotland to ensure that they are aware of the recommended changes prior to the BCS commencing its next Review of UK Parliament Boundaries.

### **Publication of the report**

16. A draft report on the Interim Review is at Appendix C. The Commission is invited to provide any comments on or corrections to the draft report.
17. The Secretariat suggests submitting the report in March 2020.

### **Conclusions and recommendations**

18. The Commission will wish to consider the content of the representations received during the public consultation and note that 60% of responses were in favour of the Initial Proposals and 28% were against the proposals with the remainder undecided.
19. Only one response in opposition presented an alternative proposal and that called for the reinstatement of local district boundaries and changes involving East Dunbartonshire as a way to tackle confusion surrounding council and electoral boundaries in the North Lanarkshire area.
20. The Secretariat recommends that the Commission adopts the changes to the Scottish Parliament boundary between Glasgow Provan constituency and

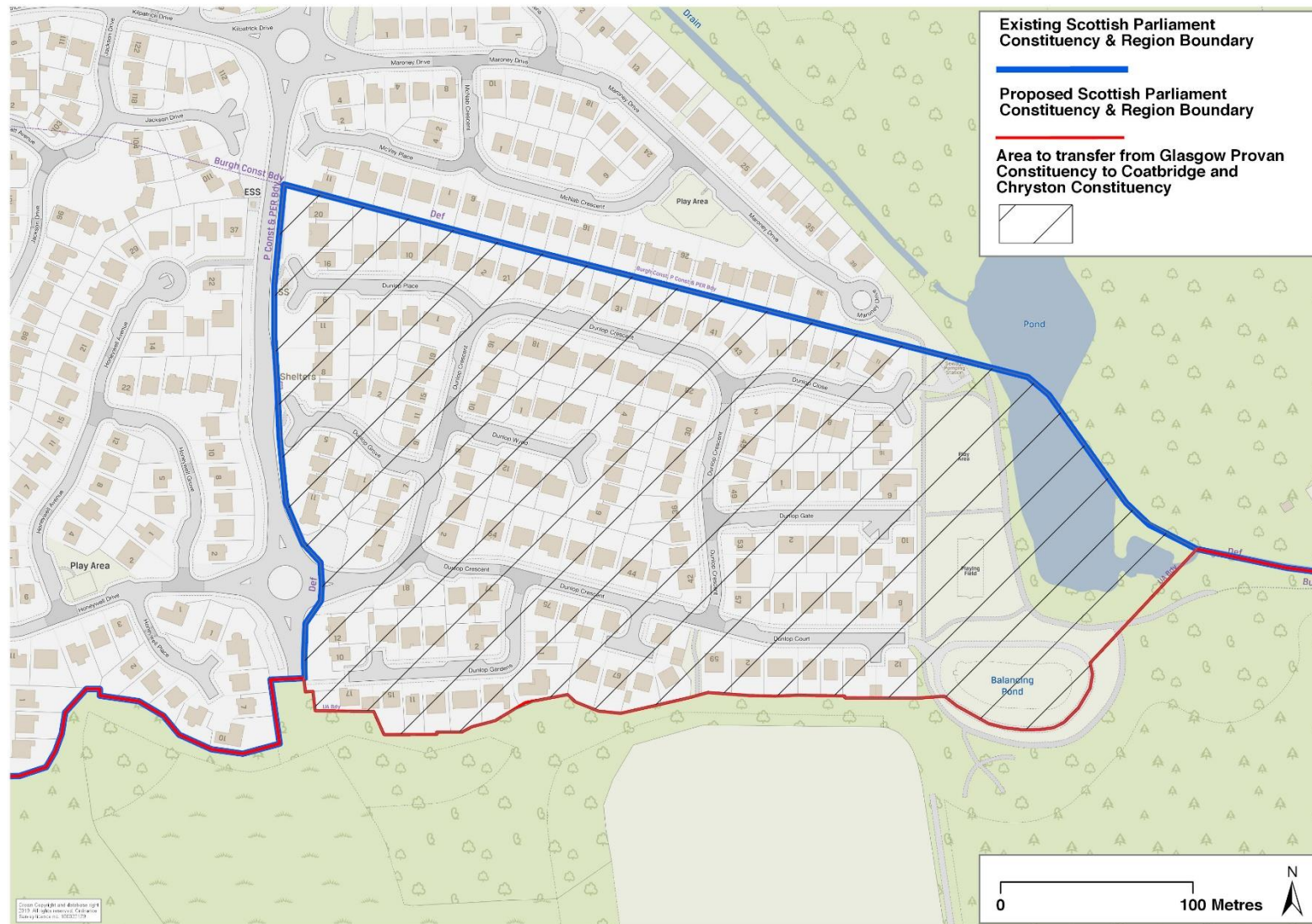
Coatbridge and Chryston constituency, and between Glasgow region and Central Scotland region, as shown in Appendix A.

21. The Secretariat recommends that the Commission agrees the report on the review at Appendix C, subject to any amendments they may wish to make.
22. The Secretariat will liaise with colleagues in the Scottish Government to ensure the correct procedure is followed in the production of the report and to support its subsequent laying.
23. The Secretariat recommends that the Commission agrees to submit its report to Scottish Ministers in March 2020.

Secretariat

December 2019

Appendix A – Proposed Boundary Changes



Appendix B – Redacted Consultation Responses

Response ID	Do you agree with the Commission's proposals: - Views on Proposals	Do you agree with the Commission's proposals: - Views on Proposals	Are you responding to this consultation as: - Type of Respondent -	Are you responding to this consultation as: - Type of Respondent - Other member of the public	Are you responding to this consultation as: - Type of Respondent - Local Councillor	Are you responding to this consultation as: - Type of Respondent - Other	Are you responding to this consultation as: - Type of Respondent - Other
C1	Yes	Will this affect School placements for North Lanarkshire schools as our kids are still stuck in limbo and still do not qualify for school transport which I find absolutely ridiculous!!!!!! We were lead to believe that was one of the main benefits of switching from Glasgow to North Lanarkshire in the first	Local Resident				
C2	No	I feel the confusion over local council boundaries and parliamentary constituencies in N Lanarkshire would be better resolved by removing all areas with G postcodes from N Lanarkshire and creating larger E Dunbartonshire based on old Cumbernauld and Kilsyth and Strathkelvin District Council		Other member of the public			North area of North lanarkshire resident
C3	Yes			Other member of the public			
C4	Yes		Local Resident				
C5	Yes				Local Councillor	Other	Candidate for for The Scottish Parliament
C6	No	Why change	Local Resident				
C7	No	The schools in Stepps are already over capacity, there are many more house builders granted access to build more, Stepps Primary school is less than 10 years old	Local Resident				
C8	Yes		Local Resident				
C9	Yes	The inclusion of these new households make sense as they form part of the local Cardowan and Stepps community.	Local Resident				
C10	Don't know		Local Resident				
C11	Yes	These are sensible proposals. It is important to bring communities together and not divide by arbitrary lines drawn across garden fences.	Local Resident				
C12	Yes		Local Resident				
C13	No	This change will have no impact on the provision of healthcare services in Lanarkshire.				Other	NHS Lanarkshire Board
C14	Yes	I think that the boundaries should be changed and brought in line with all north lanarkshire. We pay NLC council tax and currently having to put in placement requests for our children to attend NLC schools. When I believe a huge amount of our money is used for education and we are being knocked back for services such as school buses to get our children to school.	Local Resident				
C15	No		Local Resident				
C16	No			Other member of the public			Concerned non SNP supporter
C17	Yes		Local Resident				
C18	Yes		Local Resident				
C19	Don't know		Local Resident				
C20	Don't know	As long as it doesn't lead to erosion of local green belt I'd consider other issues. We need to protect our environment, infrastructure and amenities.  I support the Scottish government and am an SNP member, but I'd ditch them in favour of another party if I thought fir a second there was a plan to build a road across to Glasgow Fort. Safety first for our children!	Local Resident				
C21	Yes		Local Resident				
C22	No		Local Resident				
C23	Yes			Other member of the public			
C24	Yes			Other member of the public			
C25	Yes	Makes a lot of sense especially for road maintenance, drains waste disposal, and receiving two council tax demands due to lack of clarity on boundaries.  Shame not on Facebook till 31st October whe that is your end of consultation date ....		Other member of the public			Interested observer