

31 August 2022

Dear Minister

Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries

I am writing to let you know that Boundaries Scotland will be announcing the start of the Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries on 1 September 2022. The Review is required under Schedule 1 of the Scotland Act 1998 and the Commission will make recommendations from this review in May 2025.

The Commission expects to publish its initial proposals for public consultation in Spring 2023.

Yours sincerely
Ronnie Hinds
Chair

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14 September 2022

Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries

Thank you for your letter 31 August announcing the start of the Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries. I look forward to reading the Commission's initial proposals when they are published in 2023.

As you are aware I have recently taken policy on electoral boundaries into my portfolio of responsibilities, whilst the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Covid Recovery temporarily takes on some of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy's responsibilities.

In his letter to you of 21 June, the Deputy First Minister indicated that he would arrange a meeting with you to discuss the reviews of the Highland Council and Argyle and Bute Council areas. I would therefore be keen to meet with you to discuss this matter and the recently commenced review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries. I have asked my office to get in touch with yours to arrange a mutually convenient date.

Yours sincerely,



GEORGE ADAM

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh EH99 1SP
www.gov.scot

Extract from note of meeting between Minister for Parliamentary Business and Boundaries Scotland – 2 November 2022

3. Review of Scottish Parliament Constituencies and Regions

The Scottish Parliament Review commenced on 1 September. Mr Hinds updated the Minister that Boundaries Scotland plan to publish initial proposals for consultation in early 2023. The final proposals are to be submitted in May 2025 as set out in legislation.

There was a discussion about the importance of a non-partisan approach to the Parliament's consideration of the proposals.

The Deputy First Minister met with the Presiding Officer in March to discuss engaging with MSPs on this and, following that meeting, the clerks of the Standards Committee have made contact with Boundaries Scotland.

Mr Adam will speak to the Chief Executive of the Scottish Parliament, David McGill, to discuss the Parliament's consideration of the Islands Review and look ahead to the legislation for the SP Review.