



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee

Jamie Hepburn MSP

Minister for Parliamentary Business

Scottish Government

4 April 2025

Dear Jamie

Independent Review of the Process for Determining Electoral Boundaries in Scotland

Thank you for your letter of 18 March outlining the progress in establishing an independent review of the process for determining electoral boundaries in Scotland.

The Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee considered this at its meeting on 25 March. We look forward to engaging with the review.

The Committee would welcome further detail of the terms of reference of the review. You said in your letter of 10 December 2024 the terms of reference "...will focus on making recommendations on how automaticity could work of the approval of changes to electoral boundaries for Scottish Parliament and local government elections."

On 18 March you said—

"The review will consider the process for implementing changes to electoral boundaries in Scotland, in particular options for the introduction of a form to automaticity, taking account of the experience elsewhere in the United Kingdom and internationally".

The Committee seeks details of the terms of reference of the review and in particular how these will take into account the historical, community and geographical links to electoral boundaries which are not determined by population numbers (for example in island and rural communities).

On behalf of the Committee, I request a response by 24 April 2025.

Yours sincerely,

Contact: Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP. Email localgov.committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

Ariane Burgess MSP
Convener