

**Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee
Tuesday, 10th June 2025
20th Meeting, 2025 (Session 6)**

Instrument Responses

The Scottish Parliament (Constituencies and Regions) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft)

On 27 May 2025, the Committee asked the Scottish Government:

1. The draft Order is subject to the affirmative procedure which requires approval by resolution of the Scottish Parliament, as noted in the preamble of the instrument. However, the preamble suggests that the report by Boundaries Scotland also requires to be approved in this way. Is this an error?
2. Please advise whether any corrective action is proposed, and if so, what action and when.

On 3 June 2025, the Scottish Government responded as follows:

1. We agree the Boundaries report itself, as opposed to the draft Order implementing it, does not require to be approved by resolution under schedule 1 of the Scotland Act 1998.
2. The Government proposes a minor correction before the instrument is submitted to His Majesty in Council to add “the draft instrument has been” before “approved” in the relevant paragraph of the preamble to make the position clear. While the Government is cautious about any amendment to the preamble, it is not part of the instrument, and in this case the correction could have no adverse impact on the Order as it would merely remove narration of a precondition which does not apply. The position is obvious on the face of schedule 1, and will be placed on the record by this reply.