

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

BOUNDARIES SCOTLAND - REVIEW OF SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT BOUNDARIES: CONSULTATION ON ADDITIONAL CONSTITUENCY PROPOSALS AND REVISED PROPOSALS FOR REGIONS

REPORT BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to advise the Council Executive that Boundaries Scotland are consulting on additional proposals for Scottish Parliamentary constituencies and on revised proposals for regions. The additional constituency proposals represent a change to the previous constituency proposals covering West Lothian.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive is recommended to note and consider the recommendations below

1. Consider the additional proposals for Scottish Parliament constituencies and the revised proposal for regions covering West Lothian
2. Agree any response to Boundaries Scotland consultation on their proposals

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Open, honest and accountable; and collaborate, inclusive and adaptive
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	The Scotland Act 1998
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	
VII Consideration at PDSP	No
VIII Other consultations	

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1 Background to the Review

Boundaries Scotland is undertaking the Second Review of constituencies and regions of the Scottish Parliament, and has published additional proposals for constituencies and revised proposals for regions.

The legislation governing the review is the Scotland Act 1988. There will be no change to the overall number of constituencies or regions, which will remain at 73 and 8 respectively. The review of constituencies covers the 70 mainland constituencies as three island constituencies are protected in legislation.

The aim of the review is to recommend constituencies of similar electorate size while also taking account of local authority areas, special geographical circumstances, local ties and any inconveniences caused by the alteration of the existing boundaries. A constituency must fall wholly within a region and the electorate of a region must be as near to other regions as is practicable, having regard to special geographical considerations

The review is based on electorates as at the start of the review (1 September 2022) There is no provision in the legislation for taking account of any changes in electorate after that date. The Electorate Quota, defined as the average local government electorate of the 70 constituencies under review, is 59,902. The electorate of a constituency must be as near the electorate quota as practicable.

Comments on the additional constituency and revised region proposals can be made on Boundaries Scotland consultation portal consult.boundaries.scot or by email to boundaries.scot@scottishboundaries.gov.uk. The consultation runs until 24 February 2025

More information on the review is available at www.boundaries.scot

D2 Additional Constituency Proposals

Under these proposals, West Lothian has two Scottish Parliament constituencies wholly within the local authority boundary and one shared with Falkirk Council.

Almond Valley (electorate 67,010) comprised of
 Ward 3 Livingston North
 Ward 4 Livingston South
 Ward 5 East Livingston and East Calder
 Ward 6 (Part) Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley (excluding Polbeth)

Bathgate (electorate 68,664) comprised of
 Ward 1 (Part) Linlithgow (excluding Linlithgow)
 Ward 2 Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh
 Ward 6 (Part) Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley (Polbeth)
 Ward 7 Whitburn and Blackburn
 Ward 8 Bathgate
 Ward 9 Armadale and Blackridge

Falkirk East and Linlithgow (electorate 67,341) comprised of
 Ward 1 (Part) Linlithgow (Linlithgow)
 Falkirk Council Wards 1,2,4 (Part),7 (Part),8 and 9

Maps of these constituency proposals are in Appendix 1 of the report

D3 Previous Constituency Proposals

D3.1 There have been three previous proposals. Under the initial proposals West Lothian had two Scottish Parliament constituencies wholly within the local authority boundary and one shared with City of Edinburgh Council. These were:

Bathgate and Almond Valley (electorate 61,527) comprised of
 Ward 6 Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley,
 Ward 7 Whitburn and Blackburn
 Ward 8 Bathgate
 Ward 9 Armadale and Blackridge

Edinburgh Forth and Linlithgow (electorate 55,866) comprised of
 Ward 1 Linlithgow
 Ward 2 Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh
 Part of Edinburgh ward 1 Almond

Livingston (electorate 56,009) comprised of
 Ward 3 Livingston North
 Ward 4 Livingston South
 Ward 5 East Livingston and East Calder

D3.2 Revised proposals were developed and consulted on following consideration of the consultation responses on the initial proposals. West Lothian had two Scottish Parliament constituencies wholly within the local authority boundary and one shared with Falkirk Council. These were:

Bathgate (electorate 65,494) comprised of
 Ward 2 Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh (part)
 Ward 6 Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley (part)
 Ward 7 Whitburn and Blackburn
 Ward 8 Bathgate
 Ward 9 Armadale and Blackridge

Linlithgow and Falkirk South (electorate 65,523) comprised of
 Ward 1 Linlithgow
 Ward 2 Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh (part)
 Wards 1,2,8 and 9 of Falkirk Council area

Livingston and Breich Valley (electorate 65,050) comprised of
 Ward 3 Livingston North
 Ward 4 Livingston South
 Ward 5 East Livingston and East Calder
 Ward 6 Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley (part)

D3.3 Further proposals were developed after consideration of the responses to this consultation. These saw West Lothian with two Scottish Parliament constituencies wholly within the local authority boundary and one shared with North Lanarkshire Council.

Airdrie (electorate 63,563) comprised of
 Ward 6 (Part) Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley (Fauldhouse)
 Ward 7 (Part) Whitburn and Blackburn (Whitburn/East Whitburn)
 North Lanarkshire Council Wards 8 (Part), 9, 12 and 13 (Part)

Almond Valley (electorate 65,050) comprised of
 Ward 3 Livingston North
 Ward 4 Livingston South
 Ward 5 East Livingston and East Calder
 Ward 6 (Part) Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley (excluding Fauldhouse)

Linlithgow (electorate 66,218) comprised of
 Ward 1 Linlithgow
 Ward 2 Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh
 Ward 7 (Part) Whitburn and Blackburn (excluding Whitburn/East Whitburn)
 Ward 8 Bathgate
 Ward 9 Armadale and Blackridge

At the meeting of the Council Executive on 22 October 2024, West Lothian Council agreed to object to these proposals and a Local Inquiry was held on 28 November 2024.

D4 Revised Proposals for Regions

There are eight Scottish Parliament regions, each returning seven regional MSPs. The rules governing the boundary setting process for regions state “a constituency must fall wholly within a region” and “the regional electorate of a region must be as near the regional electorate of each of the other regions as is practicable, having regard (where appropriate) to special geographical considerations.”

In the revised proposals for regions

- Three regions are unchanged (Highlands and Islands; Mid Scotland and Fife (unchanged from existing); and North East Scotland).
- Three regions have had their boundaries amended.
 - Glasgow
 - South Scotland
 - West Scotland
- One region has had both their boundary and name amended. The Central Scotland region is renamed Central Scotland and Lothians West to better reflect the fact that the entire Lothian area is too large to sit within a single region. The Central Scotland and Lothians West region now includes Hamilton, Larkhall and Stonehouse constituency
- One region has had just their name amended. The Lothian region is renamed Edinburgh and Lothians East

The revised proposals place the three constituencies of Almond Valley, Bathgate and Falkirk East and Linlithgow in the Central Scotland and Lothians West Region. This is a change to the current arrangement whereby the West Lothian Scottish Parliament constituencies are in the Lothian Region.

A map of the proposed Central Scotland and Lothians West region are in Appendix 2 of the report.

Full details of the proposals, including maps of all proposed regions are available at: boundaries.scot/reviews/second-review-scottish-parliament-boundaries

D5 Next Steps

After the consultation closes Boundaries Scotland will consider all responses received. Boundaries Scotland are required to hold a local inquiry if representations objecting to the provisional proposals are received either from a local authority for part or all of the area of the affected constituency, or from a body of 100 or more parliamentary electors for the affected constituency.

If changes are made, to the Revised Proposals for regions or the Additional Proposals for constituencies, another one-month consultation will be held. Boundaries Scotland will submit a report to Scottish Ministers by 1 May 2025. If subsequently approved, the new boundaries will be effective at the next Scottish Parliament election, scheduled for May 2026.

E. CONCLUSION

Boundaries Scotland is undertaking the Second Review of Scottish Parliament boundaries and is consulting on additional constituency proposals and revised proposals for regions

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Council Executive 7 June 2023; Boundaries Scotland - Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries: Consultation on Provisional Proposals

Council Executive 7 May 2024 Boundaries Scotland - Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries: Consultation on Revised Proposals

Council Executive 22 October 2024 Boundaries Scotland - Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries: Consultation on Revised Constituency Proposals and Proposals For Regions

Appendices/Attachments: Appendix 1 – Maps of revised proposals for the Almond Valley, Bathgate and Falkirk East and Linlithgow constituencies
Appendix 2 – Maps of proposal for Central Scotland and Lothians West Region

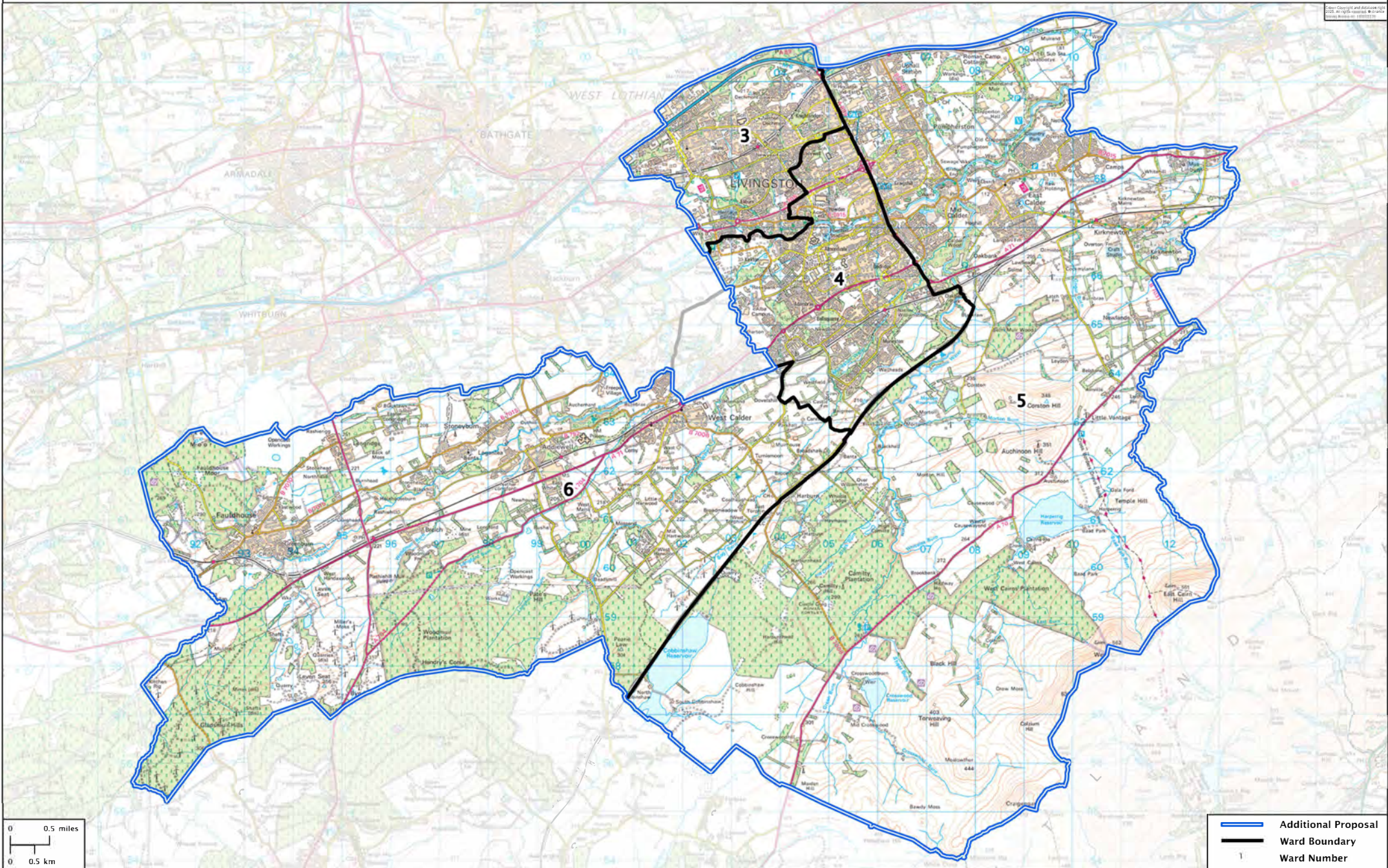
Contact Person: Caroline Burton; 01506 281651; caroline.burton@westlothian.gov.uk

Name of CMT Member: Graham Hope, Chief Executive,

Date: 18 February 2025

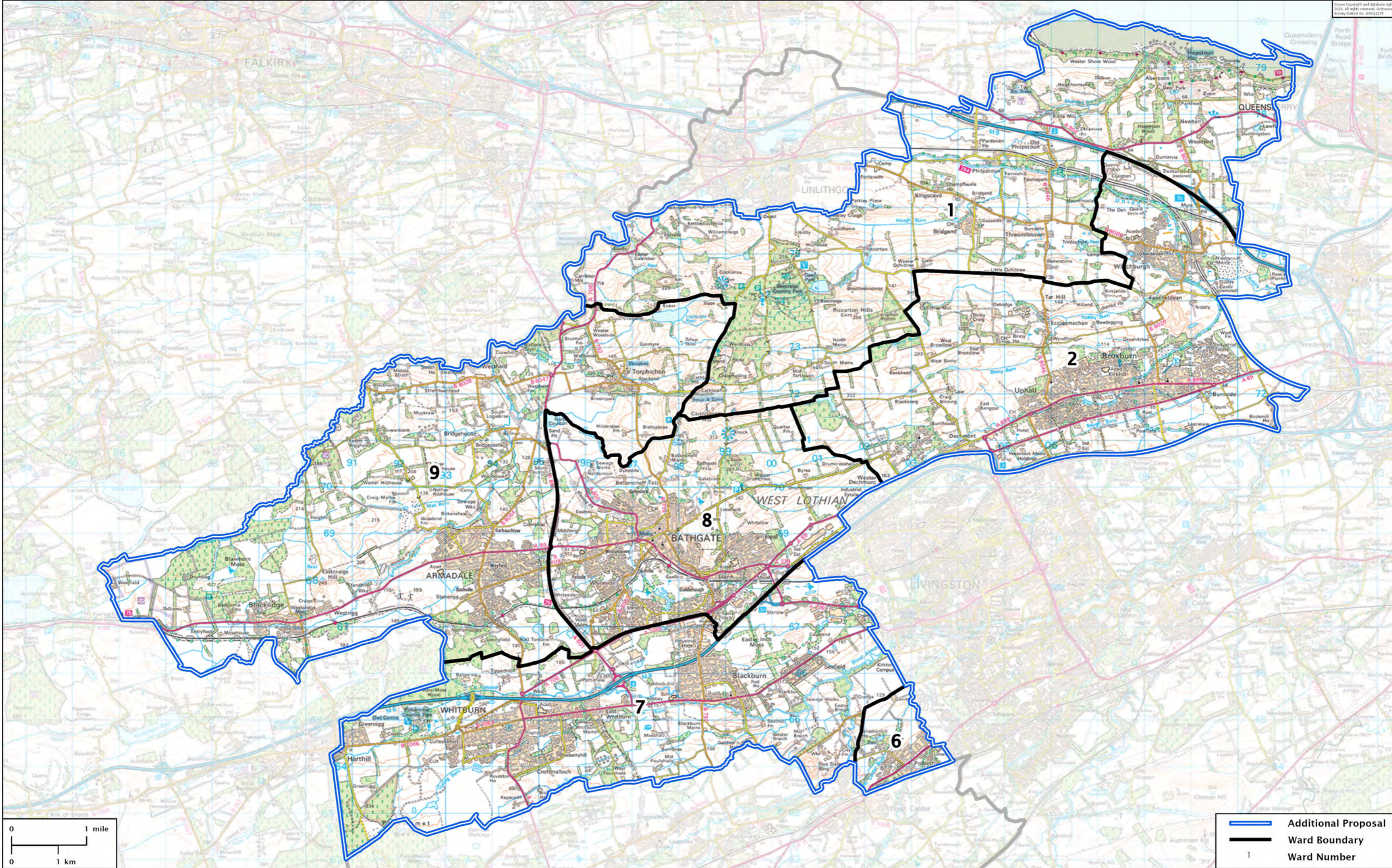
Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries - Additional Proposals

Almond Valley County Constituency - Electorate 67,010

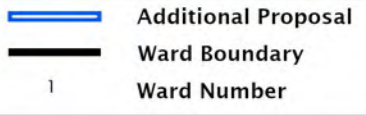
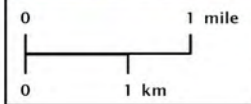


Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries - Additional Proposals

Bathgate County Constituency - Electorate 68,664

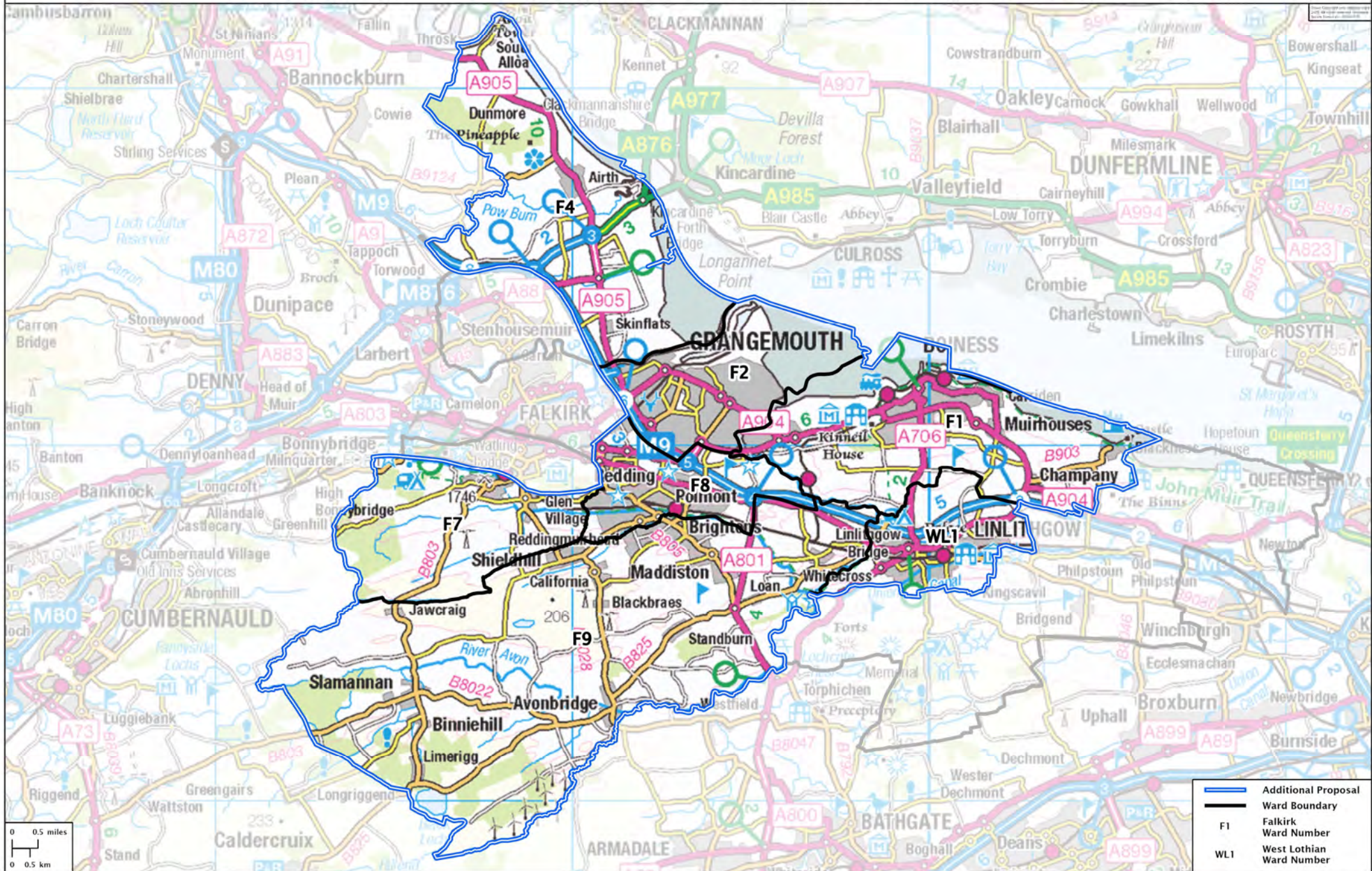




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Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries - Additional Proposals

Falkirk East and Linlithgow County Constituency - Electorate 67,341



	Additional Proposal
	Ward Boundary
F1	Falkirk Ward Number
WL1	West Lothian Ward Number



Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries - Revised Proposals

Proposed Central Scotland and Lothians West Region and Constituencies - 610,313 Electors

Number	Constituency Name
1	Airdrie
2	Almond Valley
3	Bathgate
4	Coatbridge and Chryston
5	Cumbernauld and Kilsyth
6	Falkirk East and Linlithgow
7	Falkirk West
8	Hamilton, Larkhall and Stonehouse
9	Motherwell and Wishaw
10	Uddingston and Bellshill

