

POLICY NOTE

THE FIFE COUNCIL AREA AND PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL AREA (KELTYBRIDGE AND FIFE ENVIRONMENTAL ENERGY PARK AT WESTFIELD) BOUNDARIES AMENDMENT ORDER 2017

SSI 2017/430

Policy Objectives

The purpose of the instrument is to give effect to recommendations for changes to the local government administrative boundary between the Fife council area and the Perth & Kinross council area at Keltybridge and Fife Environmental Energy Park at Westfield submitted to the Scottish Ministers by the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland (“the Commission”) following completion by the Commission of its Administrative Review of this boundary.

The Commission is an advisory non-departmental public body created by the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (“the 1973 Act”). It is an independent body that is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations for:

- the number of councillors on each council in a local government area;
- the number of wards for local government elections, their boundaries, designations and the number of councillors for each ward; and
- the extent of council areas.

The legislation which sets out the rules for administrative area reviews is the 1973 Act. When making recommendations the Commission must consider the criteria set out in section 13 of that Act which sets out an overall aim of making changes in the interests of "effective and convenient local government". Once the Commission has submitted its final recommendations arising from such reviews it is for Scottish Ministers to decide whether to implement those recommendations.

An administrative area review can recommend the alteration, creation or abolition of a local authority area. In practice the administrative area reviews that have been undertaken so far have led to only minor adjustments to boundaries and this is no different. Several administrative reviews have been undertaken since the current council structure was established in 1996.

The Commission’s administrative area recommendations will determine the council area where local residents live, and as a result may affect the level of council tax they pay. However, reviews do not result in changes to electors’ addresses or postcodes. This review has no practical effect on any local residents.

Scottish Government decisions

In considering whether to implement the Commission's recommendation the Scottish Ministers have paid close attention to the representations received by the Commission. No representations were made to Ministers directly. As a result of that consideration Ministers have decided to accept the Commission's recommendation for this Administrative Review.

Consultation

The recommendation that is being implemented by this instrument was produced by the Commission. The Scottish Government has not carried out its own consultations although it is aware of the responses that the Commission received to its consultations, and has not received any representations before or after submission of the Commission's final recommendation. The Commission conducted consultations with both councils and then with the public on its proposal before finalising its recommendation: all in accordance with the provisions governing the conduct of reviews set out in section 18 of the 1973 Act. All responses received were in agreement to the proposed change. The Commission's final report summarises the responses it received to its proposals. Details of the consultation conducted by the Commission, including copies of the responses it received to the consultations, are available on the Commission's website.

Impact Assessments

The instruments will not have any impact on Child Rights and Wellbeing, Equality, Privacy or the environment.

Financial Effects

The instrument will have no financial effects on the Scottish Government or on business.

Scottish Government
Local Government and Communities Directorate

Environment Boundary Commission for Scotland
the administrative boundary between Fife and Perth & Kinross council areas
Perth and Westfield, Fife
Recommendations Map 2 – Kelttybridge



