

## ANNEX E - CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

NUTS boundaries are used for reporting of regional statistics to Eurostat and those statistics are used to inform regional policy. The Scottish Government is proposing to make minimal changes beyond aligning existing NUTS boundaries to Local Authority Boundaries.

**Do you have any comments on the Scottish Governments proposals for NUTS 2 regions?**

Comments

**This proposal seems based solely upon numbers with no regard to the people. As an island community Cumbrae fits perfectly under H&IE. We have the same issues, needs and priorities as any other island community. Indeed HIE classified Cumbrae as a 'fragile' island. Other than our latitude, we have nothing in common with South West Scotland. SWS has an entirely different demographic with socio-economic priorities that bear no relation to those on Cumbrae.**

**With the recently announced closure of the Marine Station, Cumbrae is an island community on the edge of sustained existence. This proposal will push us over that edge and into being a solely residential ageing community with no prospect of new business willing to invest in our future.**

**Do you have any comments on the Scottish Governments proposals for NUTS 3 regions?**

Comments

NONE

Eurostat have requested we consider merging the Highlands & Islands with North Eastern Scotland to create a new area that's closer to the recommended population thresholds. The Scottish Government plan to request that these areas should be allowed an exemption under Article 3 (5) of the NUTS Regulations, i.e. because of particular geographical, socio-economic, historical, cultural or environmental circumstances, especially in the islands and the outermost regions.

**Please provide any evidence in favour of or against an exemption under Article 3 (5) of the NUTS Regulations for Highlands & Islands and North Eastern Scotland NUTS 2 areas?**

Comments

NONE

Eurostat have suggested that the Scottish Governments proposals for NUTS 3 should include merging Moray with Argyll & Bute Local Authority to create an area that meets their recommended population ranges.

**Please provide any evidence in favour of or against an exemption under Article 3 (5) of the NUTS Regulations for the proposed Moray and Argyll & Bute NUTS 3 areas?**

Comments

NONE

