

## **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

**Islands have unique problems and advantages and should be kept together and treated as one body. Islands understand that they have particular differences whereas within South West Scotland this would not be the case. I can't understand the logic in the proposed changes, as they are islands, so it makes sense for them to be included in Highlands and Islands.**

**Please leave us as we are and do not move us but leave us with those who share our problems, advantages and culture. Thank you.**

**Allen Goldie**

**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**

