

## **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

I do not live on Cumbrae, but visit frequently, for holidays and to visit a great aunt. I am concerned at the affect on Cumbrae, Bute and Arran if these proposals are passed. Although island life has many advantages it has many financial and commercial disadvantages. Funding which may be available through being part of Highlands and Islands can, to some extent, ameliorate this. I can't see any reason for Cumbrae, Bute and Arran being removed from Highlands and Islands, where they obvioulsy share circumstances and culture with the other islands. After all Skye no longer has the disadvantages of the other islands since the road bridge was built, cutting out the cost of ferry travel and delivery, so it can't be that they are thought to have less problems than other islands.

I would appeal to those making the decision on these matters to vote against implementation of the proposal to remove Cumbrae, Bute and Arran form Highlands and Islands, which would be detrimental to the well being of their communities. Thank you.

Regards

Caroline A. Wilson (Mrs)

**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