

The Secretary  
Boundary Commission for Scotland,  
3 Drumsheugh Gardens,  
Edinburgh  
EH3 7QJ

5<sup>th</sup> September 2008

Dear Sir,

**Boundary Commission Proposal / Largo / Mid Fife and Glenrothes**

I was born and brought up in North East Fife and have lived in five different North East Fife communities. For the past 28 years I have lived in Upper Largo.

I was absolutely astounded when the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland ignored strong opposition and opted to place Largo in Fife Council Ward 22. Now to discover that this is the basis for the Boundary Commission proposed inclusion of Largo in the Scottish Parliament constituency of Mid Fife and Glenrothes compounds the initial error in a way which has raised the wrath of the community to fever pitch.

There was no obvious reason for the Ward 22 proposal even in numerical terms.

- Largo / Lundin Links has a population of 2,483, a figure which has edged downwards over the years 2001/6.
- The population of Ward 20 East Neuk is 13,274. This is the Ward in which the people of Largo thought they would be placed for Fife Council purposes.
- Ward 22, Leven, Kennoway, Largo has a population of 18,425.
- Adding Largo to Ward 20 gives a total of 15,575.
- Deducting Largo from Ward 22 gives a total of 15,942.
- The average population in Fife Council Wards is 15,605.

So where is the logic in the decision which triggered the Holyrood proposal?

Lundin Links is where rural East Fife begins. It is absolutely clear in every visual respect never mind the other issues of heritage, culture, tourism, transport links and education. This is a rural community in a rural setting and a rural environment.

It transpires that the Boundary Commission has already breached its population and Ward splitting guidelines with their provisional proposal for East Highland Holyrood constituency.

The same common sense must be applied in this instance. There is a wrong here which must be corrected otherwise people in vulnerable small communities like Largo will have their faith in having the democratic will of the people recognised well and truly shattered.

Yours faithfully