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**Kilmory
Lochgilphead
PA31 8RT**

Joe Fitzpatrick MSP
Minister for Parliamentary Business
The Scottish Government
T4.22, The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Date : 30th June 2016

Dear Mr Fitzpatrick

**Local Government Boundary Commission – Fifth Electoral Review, 2016
Unified Representation from the Elected Members of Argyll and Bute Council**

We, the undersigned, are all elected members of Argyll and Bute Council.

We acknowledge the work of the Local Government Boundary Commission in reviewing and making proposals for revised electoral arrangements for Argyll and Bute.

We note the opposition to the Commission's draft proposals from the council and the near unanimous rejection of those proposals from communities and individuals in the council area.

We are now concerned that the final proposals would, if implemented, fail to provide an effective arrangement for the efficient delivery of local services, undermine democratic accountability and have a detrimental impact on natural communities in Argyll and Bute.

We also understand that the Scottish Government intends to bring forward proposals for more community empowerment during this Scottish Parliamentary term, but are concerned that the proposals for electoral arrangements run counter to that ethos.

Accordingly, we ask the Scottish Government to set aside the Commission's proposals for Argyll and Bute in their entirety.

(List of names and signatures to be appended here)