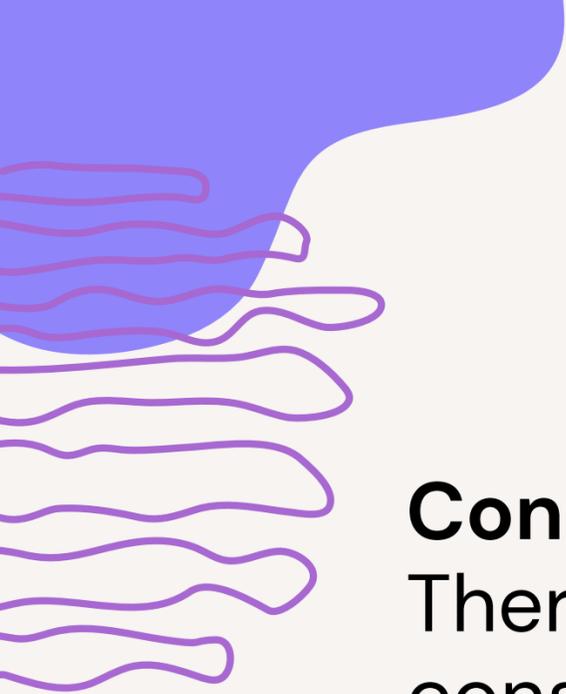


connecting
equalities

Useful Words to Know

<https://otbds.org/projects/connecting-equalities/>





Useful words and phrases

Constituency:

There are 73 areas across Scotland called 'Scottish Parliament constituencies'.

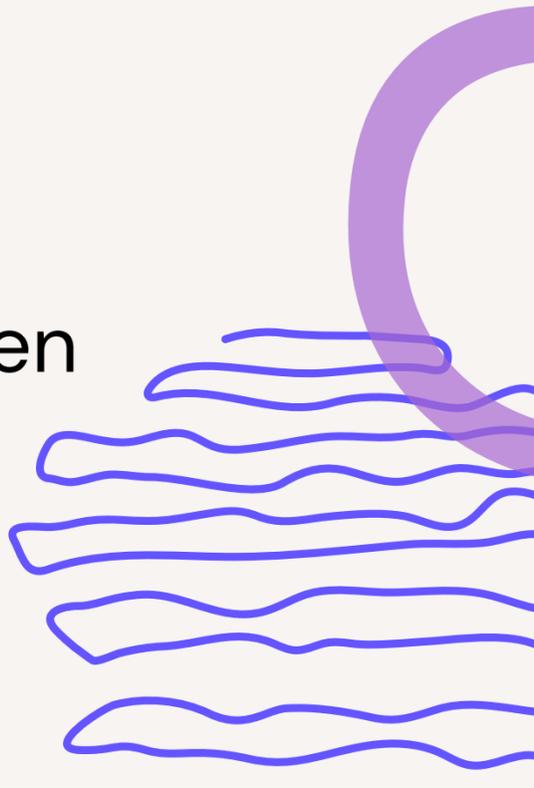
There are 59 constituency areas in Scotland for the UK Parliament.

Constituent:

A constituent is someone who lives in a constituency, each constituency differs in its total amount of constituents.

Region:

Scotland has 8 big areas called Scottish Parliament regions. Seven people are elected as regional MSPs for each region.



Useful words and phrases

MSP:

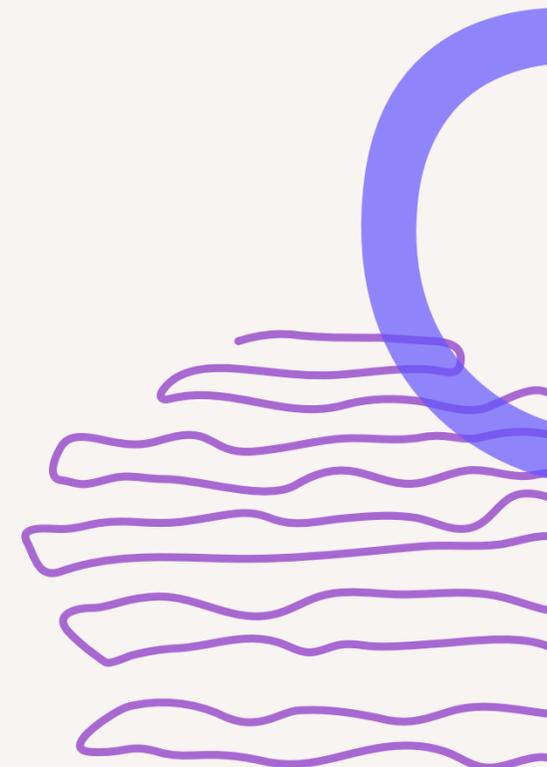
This is short for Member of the Scottish Parliament. People vote for MSPs to speak for them in the Scottish Parliament.

MP:

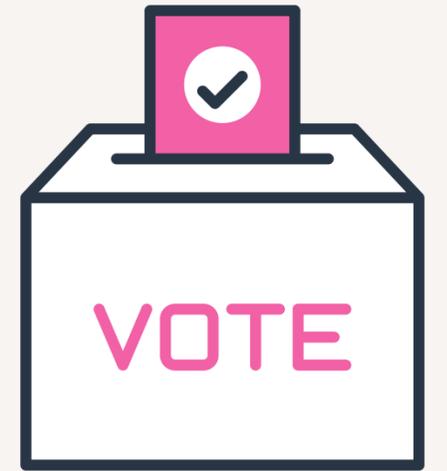
This is short for Member of Parliament. MPs are elected to represent their constituents in the House of Commons.

Councillor:

A Councillor's role is to represent their ward, an area within a constituency. Councillors bridge the gap between the community and the Council.



Useful words and phrases



Election:

This is when people can vote for who they want to run the country or region. There are elections for your MP, MSP and Councillor, elections fall on Thursdays.

Electoral register:

This is a list of people who can vote in an election. You can see the list at your local library.

Polling place:

This is where you can go and vote in person. Polling places are usually primary schools or community halls.

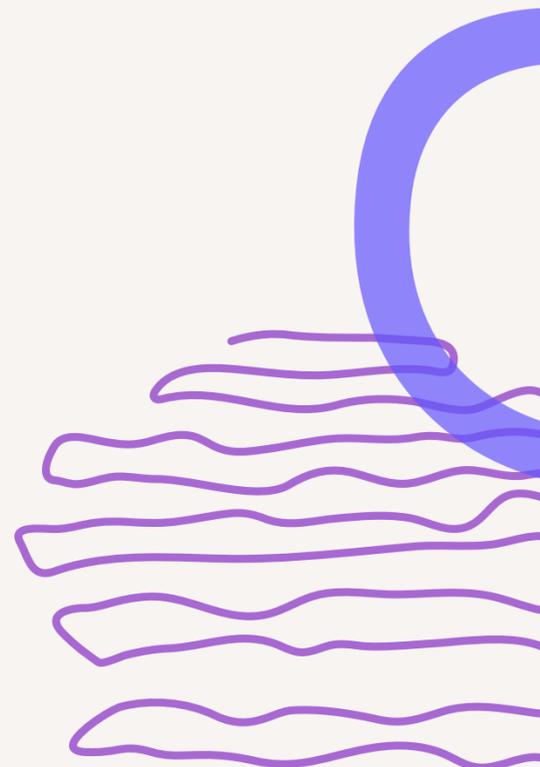
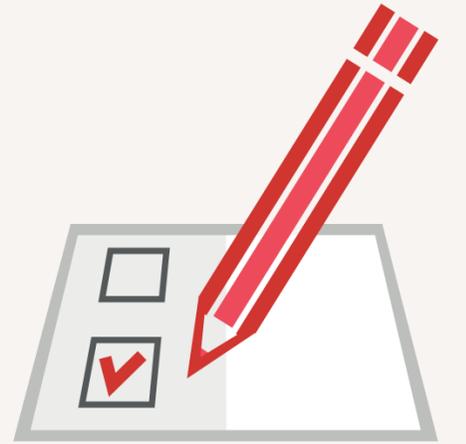
Useful words and phrases

Ballot Paper:

This is the sheet of paper you are given when you enter a polling place where you cast your vote. For each type of election there will be a different type of ballot paper. You will either put a number next to the candidate you wish to vote for or you will mark a cross.

Proxy Vote:

This is when you allow someone else to vote on your behalf. For proxy you will also need to complete an application form and send it to your local electoral registration office by a set deadline.



Useful words and phrases

Reserved matters:

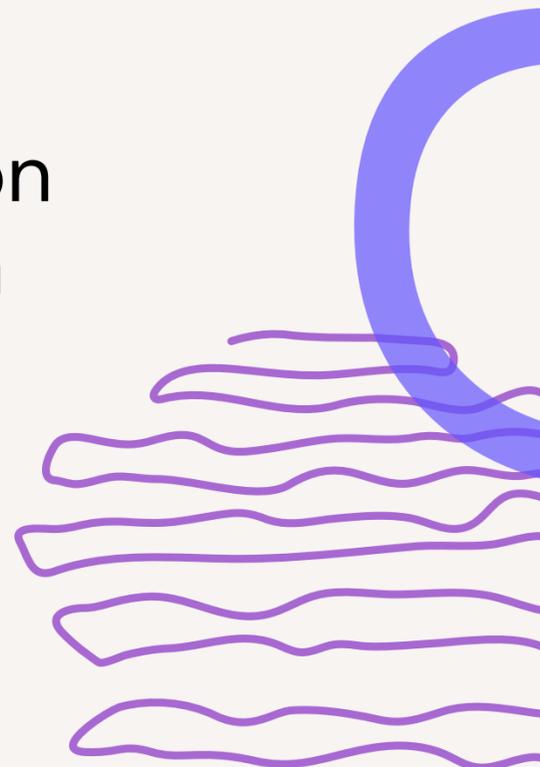
These are things that the Scottish Parliament cannot make laws about, like Immigration

Devolved matters:

These are things that the Scottish Parliament can make laws about like Education.

Consultation:

Consultations are usually open to the public and organisation and take place at a stage when there is scope to influence a policy. Consultations normally last for at least 12 weeks and allows Government to make informed decisions on policy.



Useful words and phrases

Health Boards:

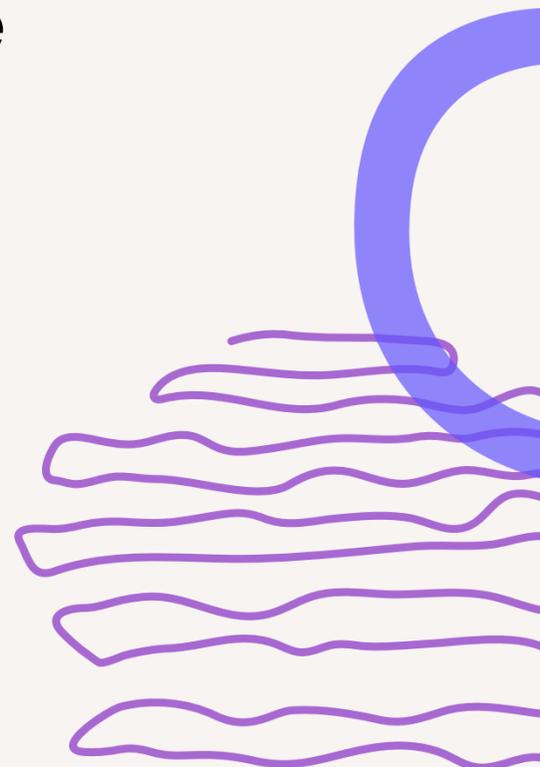
NHS Scotland provides public health care through 14 health boards across Scotland. Each board is responsible for the delivery of health care and services to the local population.

Petition:

You can create or sign a petition that asks for a change of law or policy. After 10,000 signatures the government must issue a response.

CPG:

Cross-party groups (CPGs) are groups of MSPs and other people who are interested in a subject or issue. There are CPGs on a whole host of subjects.





We hope you find
this helpful!

Connecting Equalities

For more information email jill@otbds.org or call
on 07841015949

[https://otbds.org/projects/connecting-
equalities/](https://otbds.org/projects/connecting-equalities/)

outside the box