

Consultation regarding the redraw of Data Zones



Angus Council Response

Question 1: Are you content with the proposed 2011 Data Zones?

In Angus, the expansion of towns caused by new housing developments on their periphery is pushing the boundaries of the urban areas outwards into otherwise rural areas. Data zone boundaries that may have represented the urban/town/burgh boundary may now be obsolete. Housing development to the north of Carnoustie and at Brechin Road Montrose are good examples.

In addition some previous/current data zone boundaries are unsatisfactory for although the intention is to aim for a consistency in population/household content, these boundaries may include a small part of the town area with a significant rural area. This does not help the calculation of small area statistics for either rural or urban areas without manipulation of data. East Kirkton Road, Arbroath and parts of Brechin are good examples of this. It is clear that some data zone boundaries require review as a result of new developments on the ground and some require review through original flaw.

The data zone is part of a hierarchy of geographies used to provide small area statistics from central government. This might be:-

- Scottish index of multiple deprivation
- Mid-year population estimates
- Unemployment data
- 2011 Census data

The aim is to "nest" geographies within larger geographies.

Components of this hierarchy are:-

- Post code
- Census output areas
- Data zone
- Intermediate areas

Angus Council recognises the benefits of this approach as data zones are large enough to present accurate data without fear of disclosures. However they are currently not well aligned to natural settlement boundaries and communities which makes them of limited use in supporting community planning, development planning, and service planning.

For example, they do not offer a reasonable fit to local boundaries such as:

- Community Councils
- School catchment areas
- Rural settlement units

We accept that data zone boundaries are, inevitably, a compromise between competing objectives but without some adjustment of the draft boundaries their value will be limited to Angus Council and we will need to invest significant staff resources to approximate neighbourhood statistics to geographies which are more relevant for planning purposes.

The following proposed changes to the draft data zone boundaries will go a long way to ensuring that we can make best use of data zone level statistics.

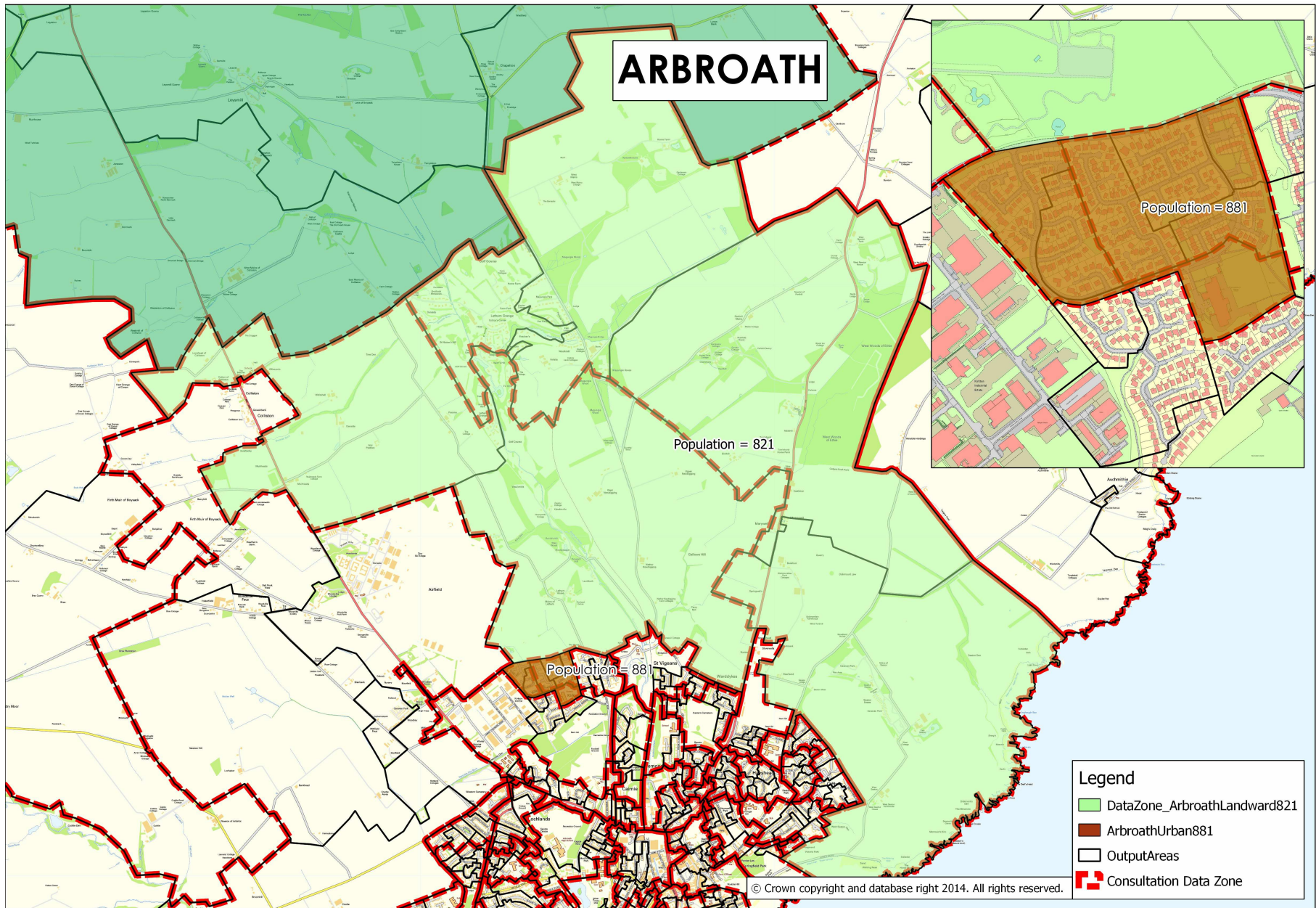
Arbroath Settlement Boundary

The proposed amendments will serve to align the data zones to the current settlement boundary and also create a single rural data zone covering the hinterland of the town.

Proposals:

OA S00093080 and OA S00093082 should be moved from DZ410056 to DZ410074.

The reduced data zone DZ410056 should be combined with DZ410079 to form a new data zone.



Brechin Settlement Boundary

Over recent years there has been significant expansion of Brechin to the west. The draft boundaries incorporate this area within a rural data zone, incorporate two further small residential areas to the north in a second rural data zone, and include a substantial segment of the town in a rural data zone which lies south of the river.

The proposals below will maintain the integrity of the current settlement boundary while creating a single rural data zone which reasonably represents the immediate hinterland of the town.

Proposals:

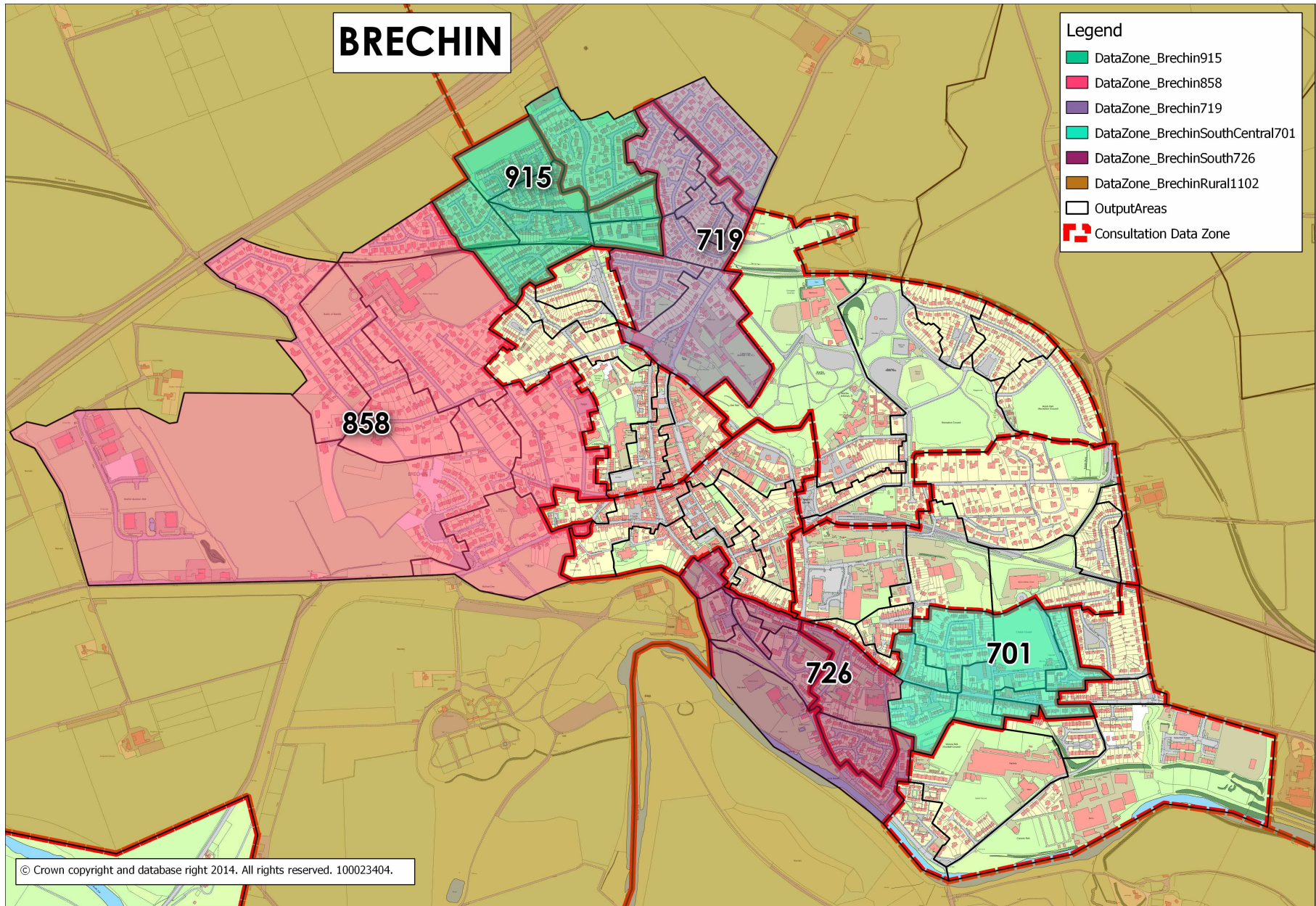
OAs S00093815, S00093681, S00093696, S00093680, S00093678, S00093682, and S00093683 should be removed from DZ410143 and formed into a new data zone.

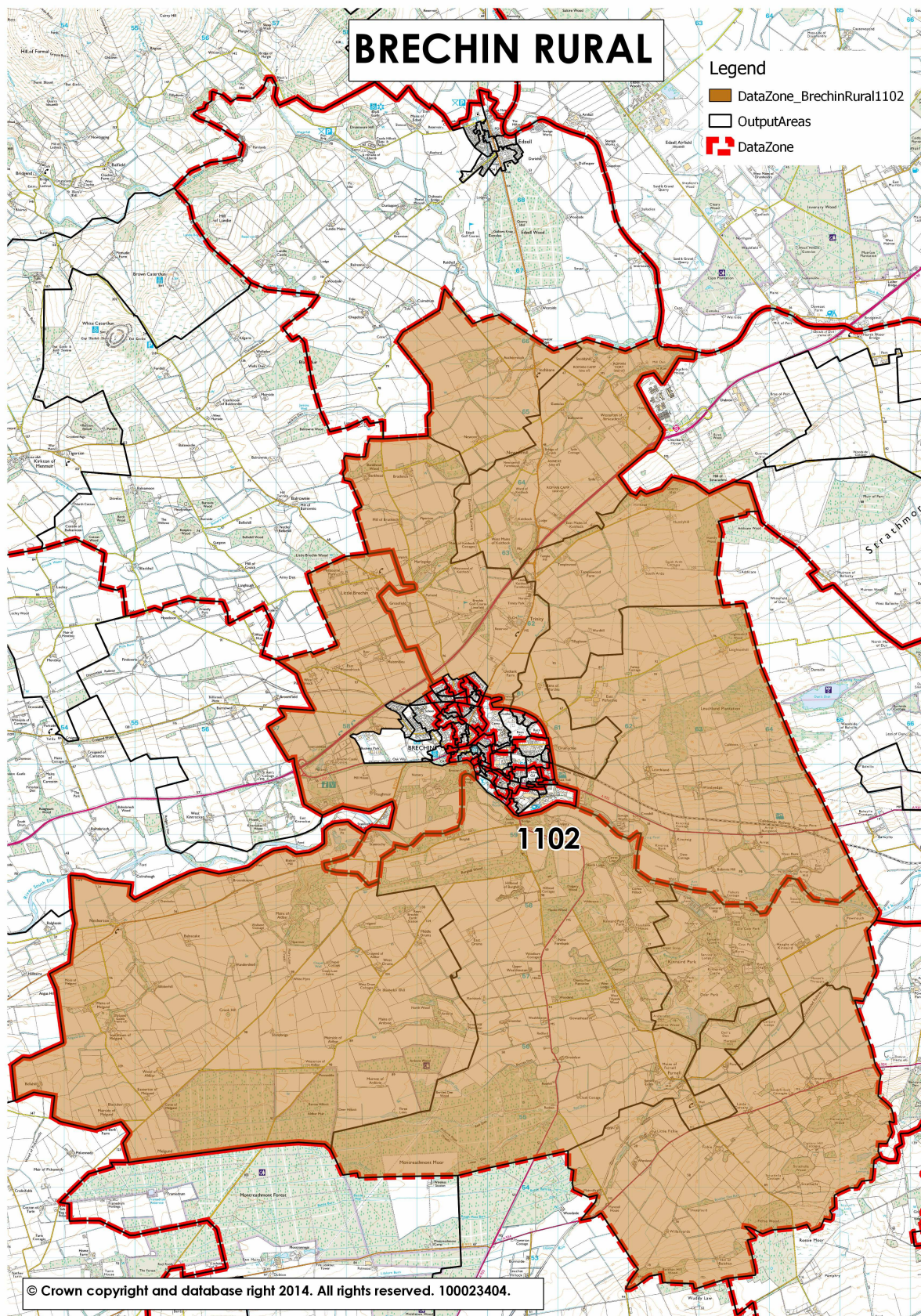
OA S00093816 should be removed from DZ410149 and combined with DZ410145.

OA S00093691 should be removed from DZ410149 and combined with DZ410144.

OA S00093669, S00093667, S00093813, S00093668, and S00093962 should be removed from DZ410119, OA S00093818 and OA00093963 should be removed from DZ410135, and these 7 OAs combined to form a new data zone.

The remainder of data zones DZ410143, DZ410149 and DZ410119 should be combined into a new data zone.



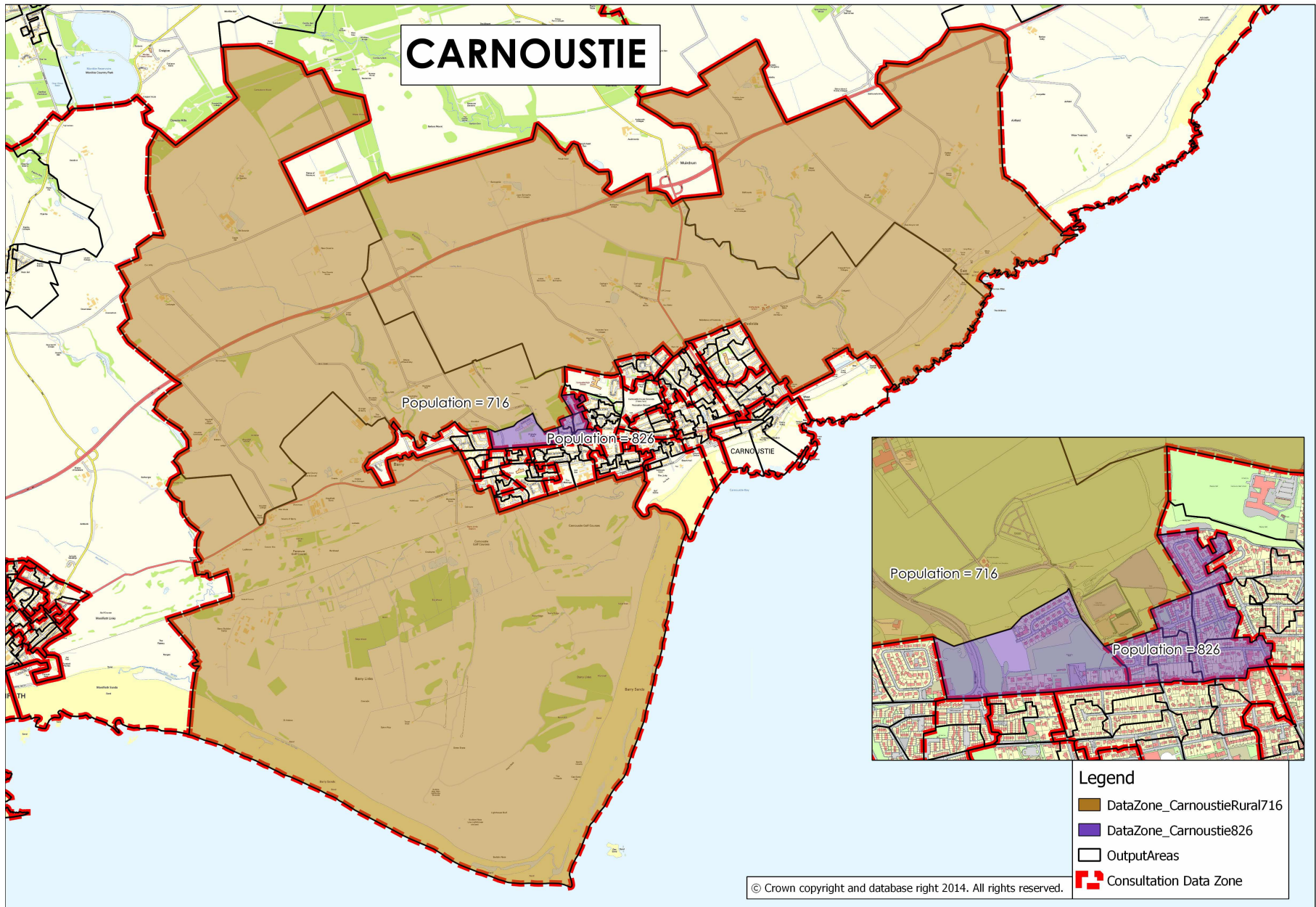


Carnoustie Settlement Boundary

A small area of recent settlement expansion is included within the draft boundary of a rural data zone rather than as part of the urban settlement. Our proposal will restore the integrity of the settlement boundary.

Proposal:

OA S00093983 should be removed from DZ410026 and combined with DZ410020.

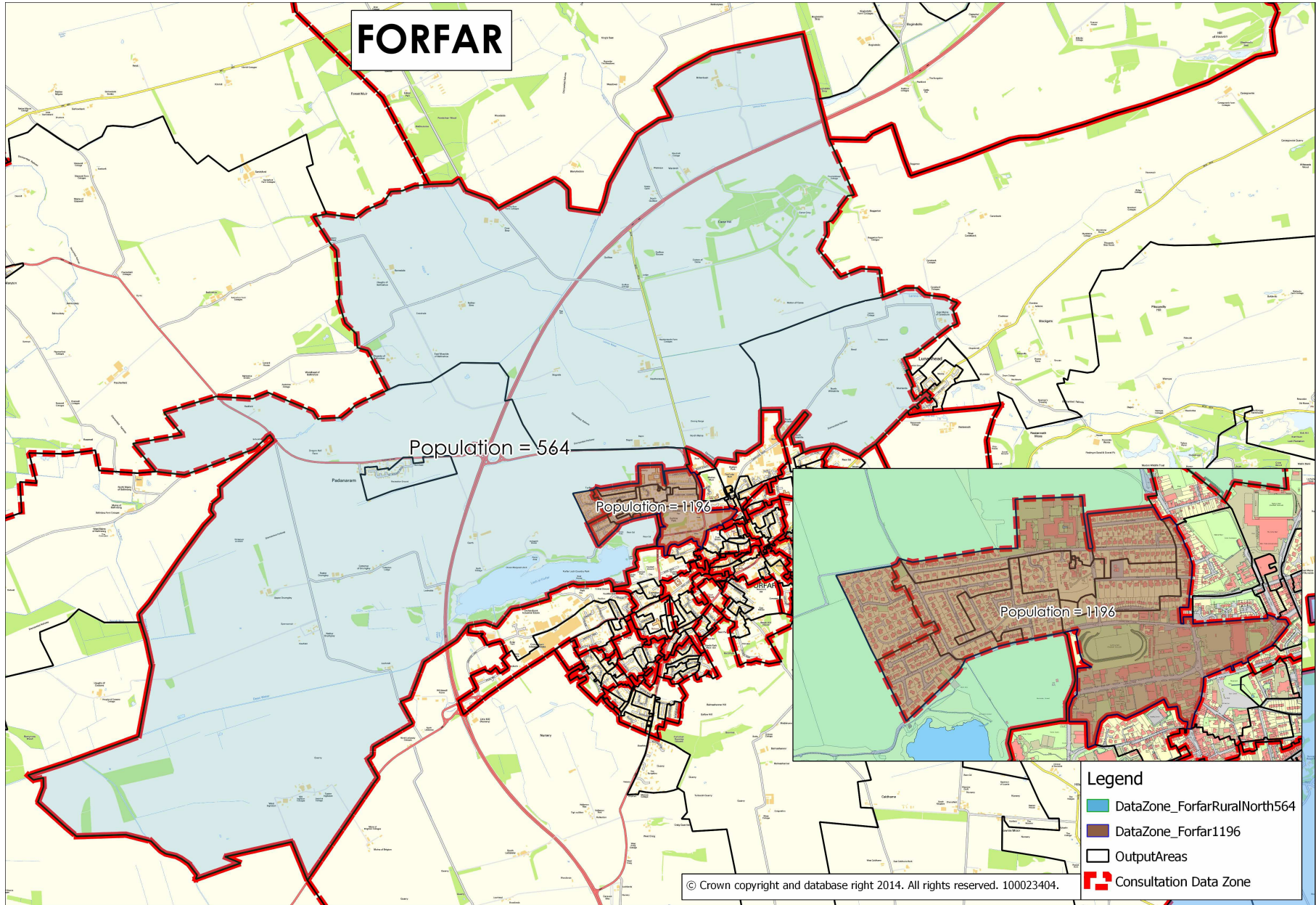


Forfar Settlement Boundary

A small area of recent settlement expansion is included within the draft boundary of a rural data zone rather than as part of the urban settlement. Our proposal will restore the integrity of the settlement boundary.

Proposal:

OA S00093005 should be removed from DZ410104 and added to DZ410102.



Montrose Settlement Boundary

The proposed boundaries around Montrose are more problematic. A large section of development to the north west of the town has been included in a rural data zone and around half of the Ferryden area to the south of the town has also been included in a rural data zone.

Our proposals will restore the integrity of the settlement boundaries.

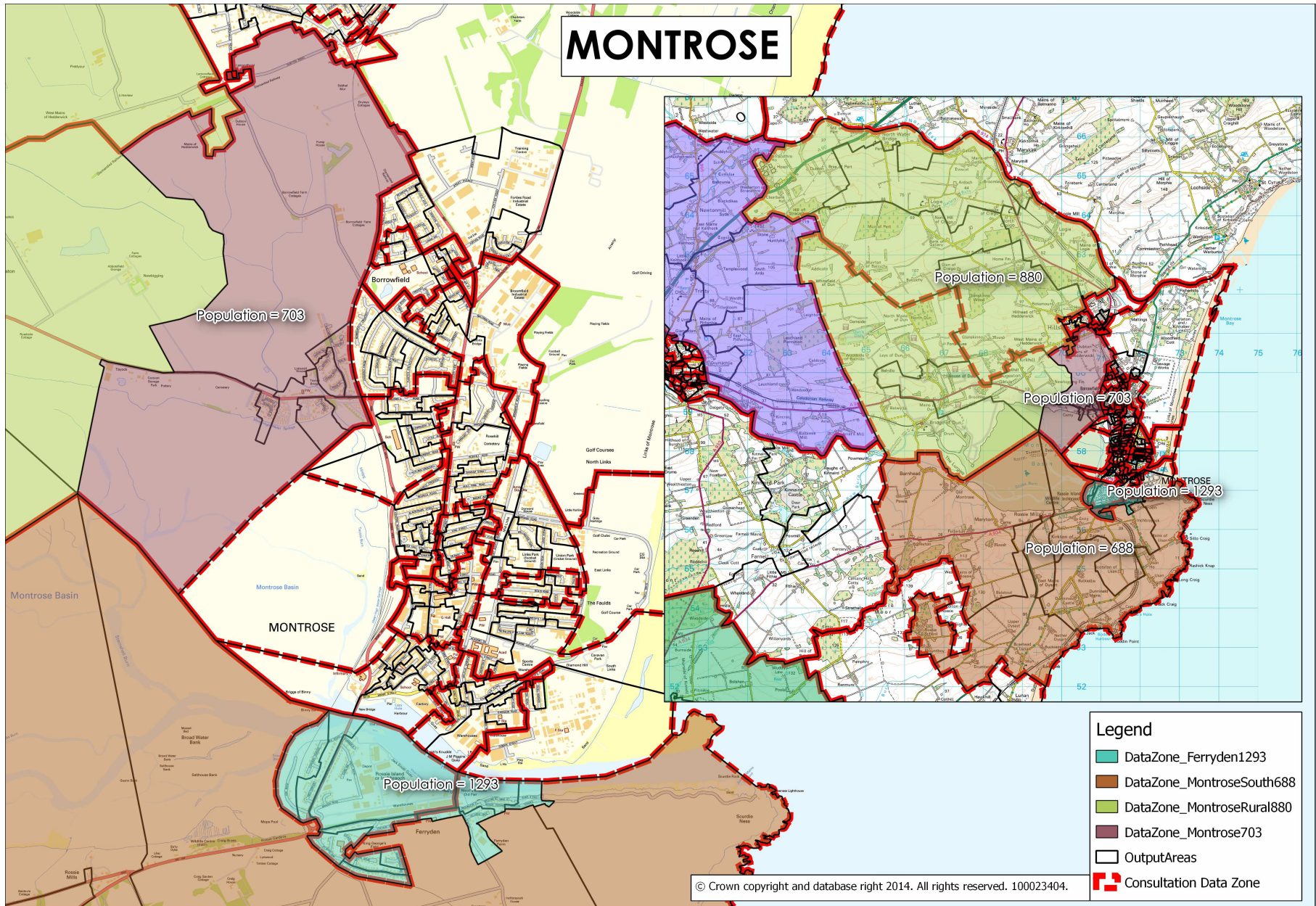
Proposal:

OAs S00093743, S00093845, S00093846, S00093843, S00093844, and S00093842 should be removed from DZ410139 and formed into a new data zone.

The remainder of DZ410139 should be combined with DZ410150 to form a new data zone.

OAs S00093573, S00093574, S00093580, and S00093579 should be removed from DZ410116 and combined with DZ410120.

MONTROSE



Friockheim Settlement Boundary

The draft boundaries bisect the village with each part being incorporated into a rural data zone. Our proposals will create two data zones, one contiguous with the settlement boundary and the other covering the rural hinterland of the village.

Proposals:

OAs S00093798, S00093529, S00093530, and S00093528 should be removed from DZ410083, OAs S00093532, S00093751, S00093533, S00093531, and S00093799 should be removed from DZ410106, and these 9 OAs should be combined into a new Data zone.

The remainder of DZ410083 and DZ410106 should be combined into a new data zone.

Letham Settlement Boundary

The draft data zone splits the village between a settlement data zone and three rural data zones.

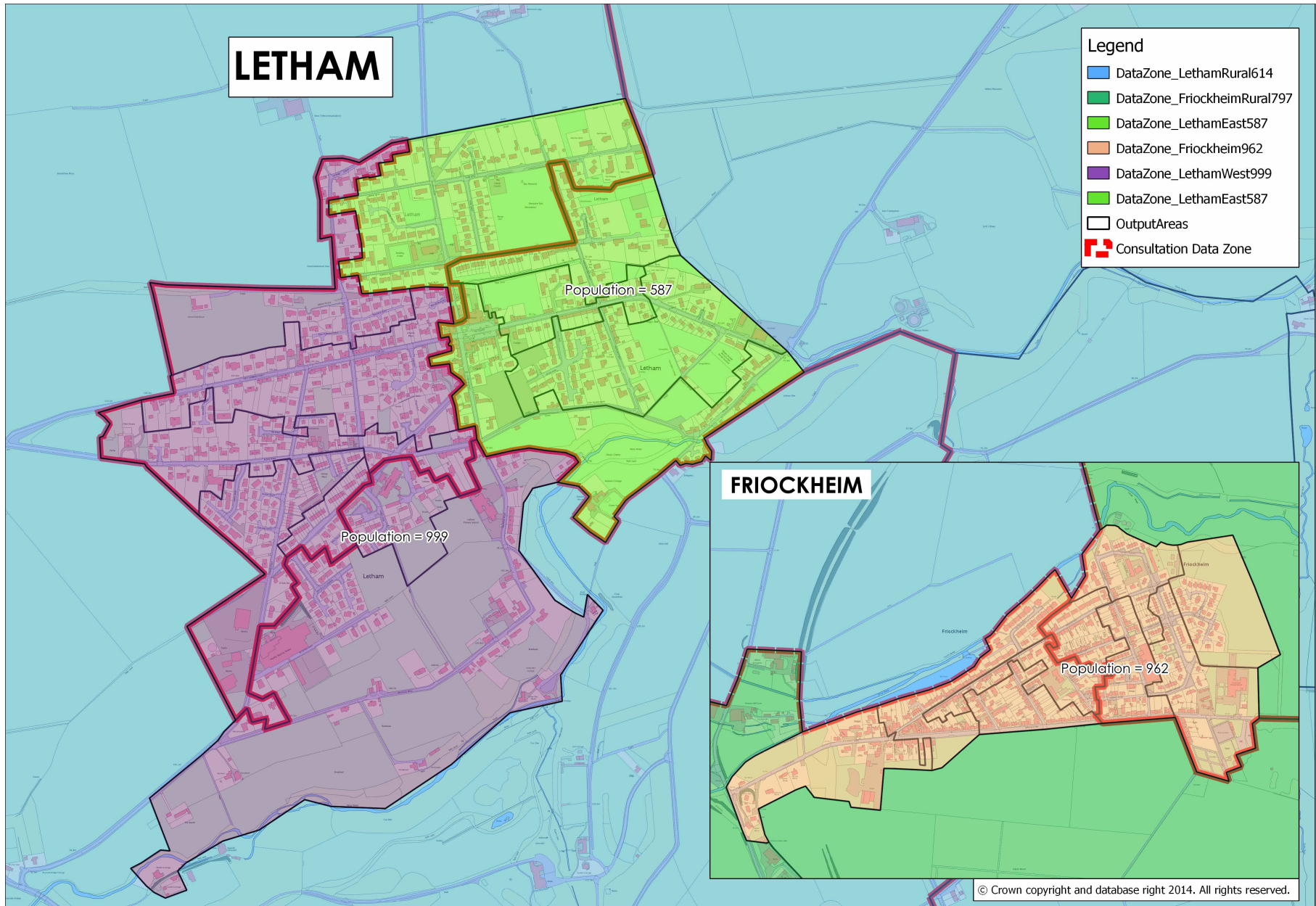
Our proposals will split the village into two data zones contiguous with the settlement boundary and one rural data zone broadly covering the village hinterland.

Proposal:

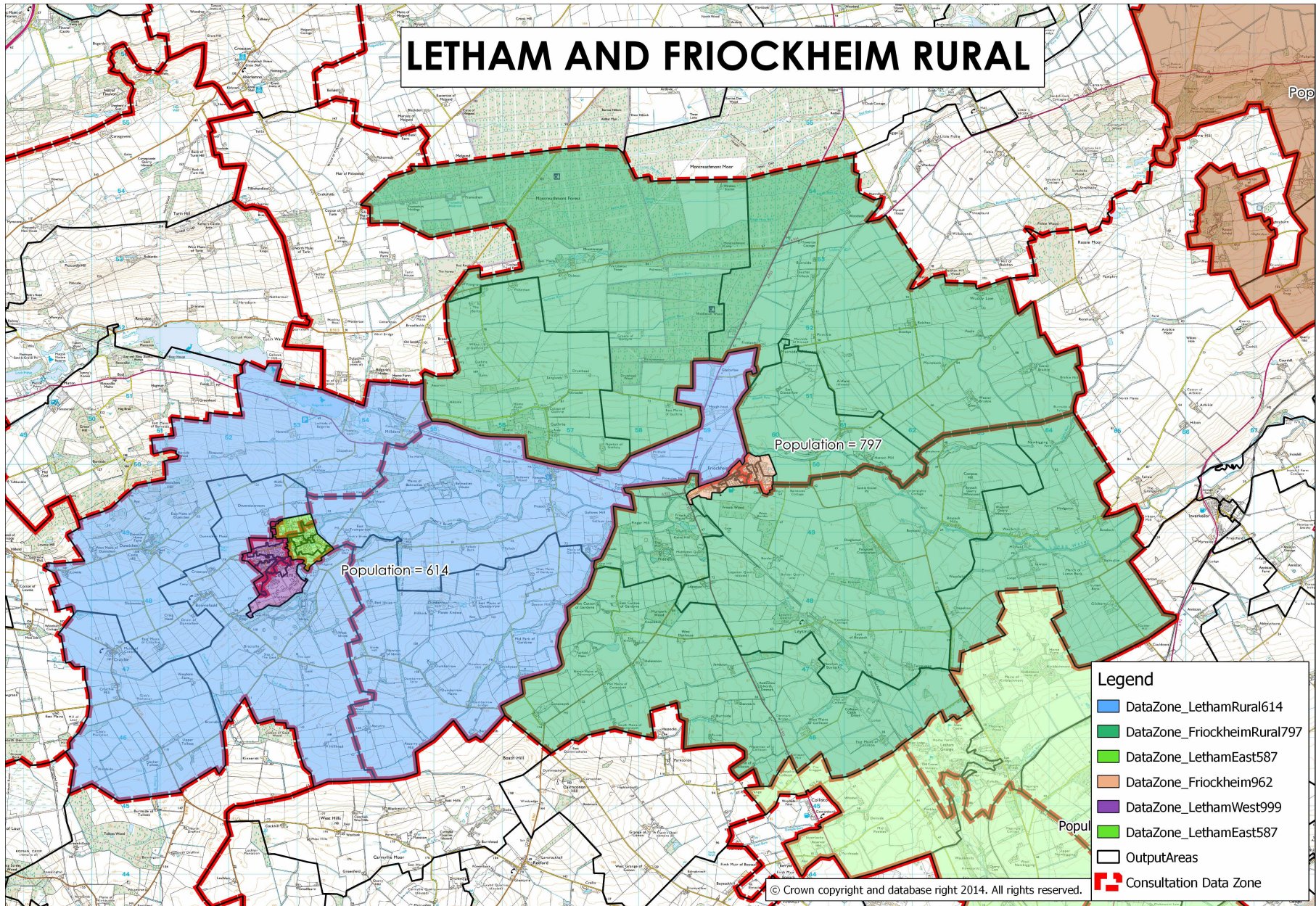
OA S00093787 and OA S00093971 should be removed from DZ410082 and combined with DZ410085.

OAs S00093786, S00093433, S00093432 and S00093785 should be removed from DZ410084, OA S00093431 should be removed from DZ410082, and these 5 OAs combined to form a new data zone.

The remainder of DZ410082 and DZ410084 should be combined to form a new data zone.



LETHAM AND FRIOCKHEIM RURAL



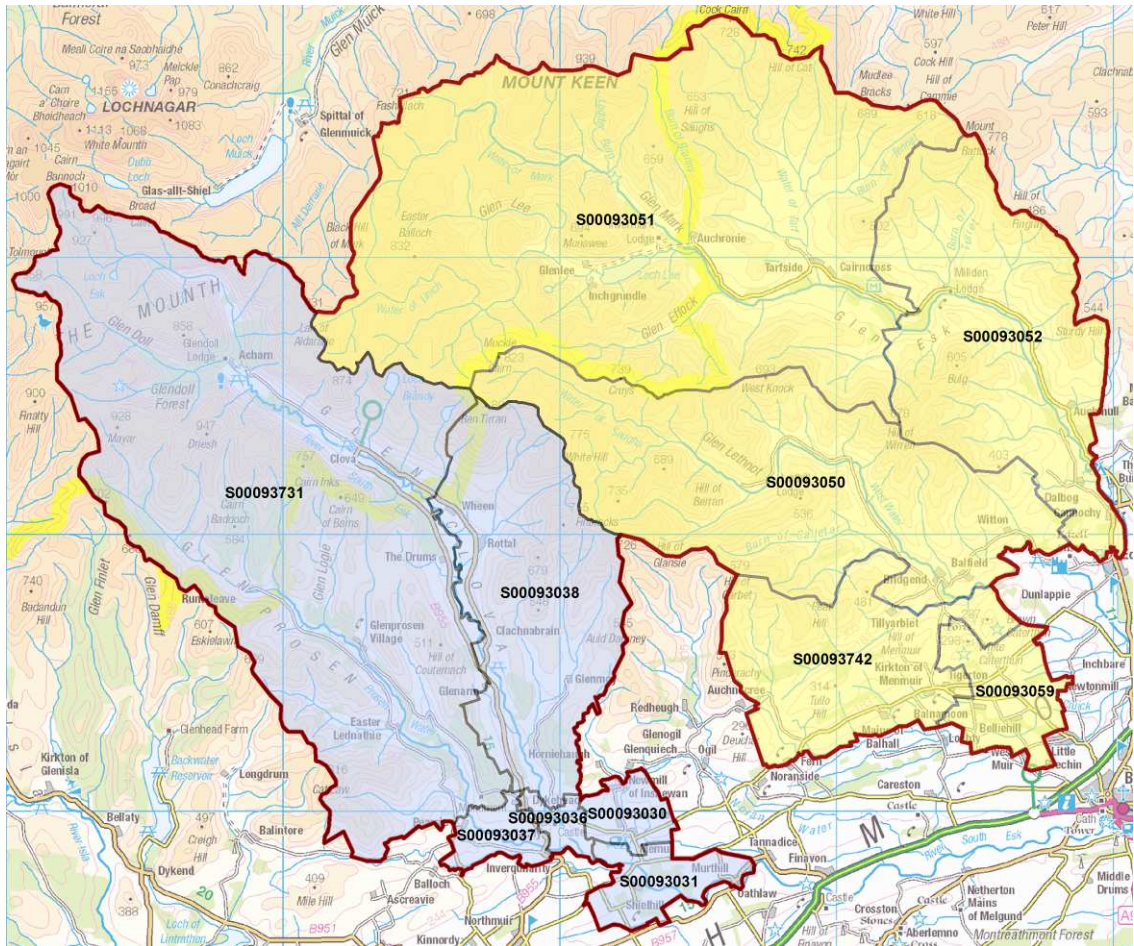
Angus Glens

In community planning terms the western and eastern Angus Glens have a distinct identity, and this is reflected in development and service planning locally.

Our proposal will split the draft data zone into two data zones to better align with our community planning areas.

Proposal:

DZ410153 is split into two new data zones with OAs S00093051, S00093052, S00093050, S00093742 and S00093059 forming a new eastern data zone and OAs S00093731, S00093038, S00093037, S00093036, S00093030 and S00093031 forming a new western data zone.



Question 2: Do you agree that 2011 Data Zones should use the median methodology for the calculation of centroids?

We do not have any objection to the adoption of the median centroid methodology.

Question 3: Are you content with the proposed best fit 2011 Intermediate Zones?

The intermediate geographies for Angus are currently of limited value. We would propose two changes to improve the relevance of this geography for us.

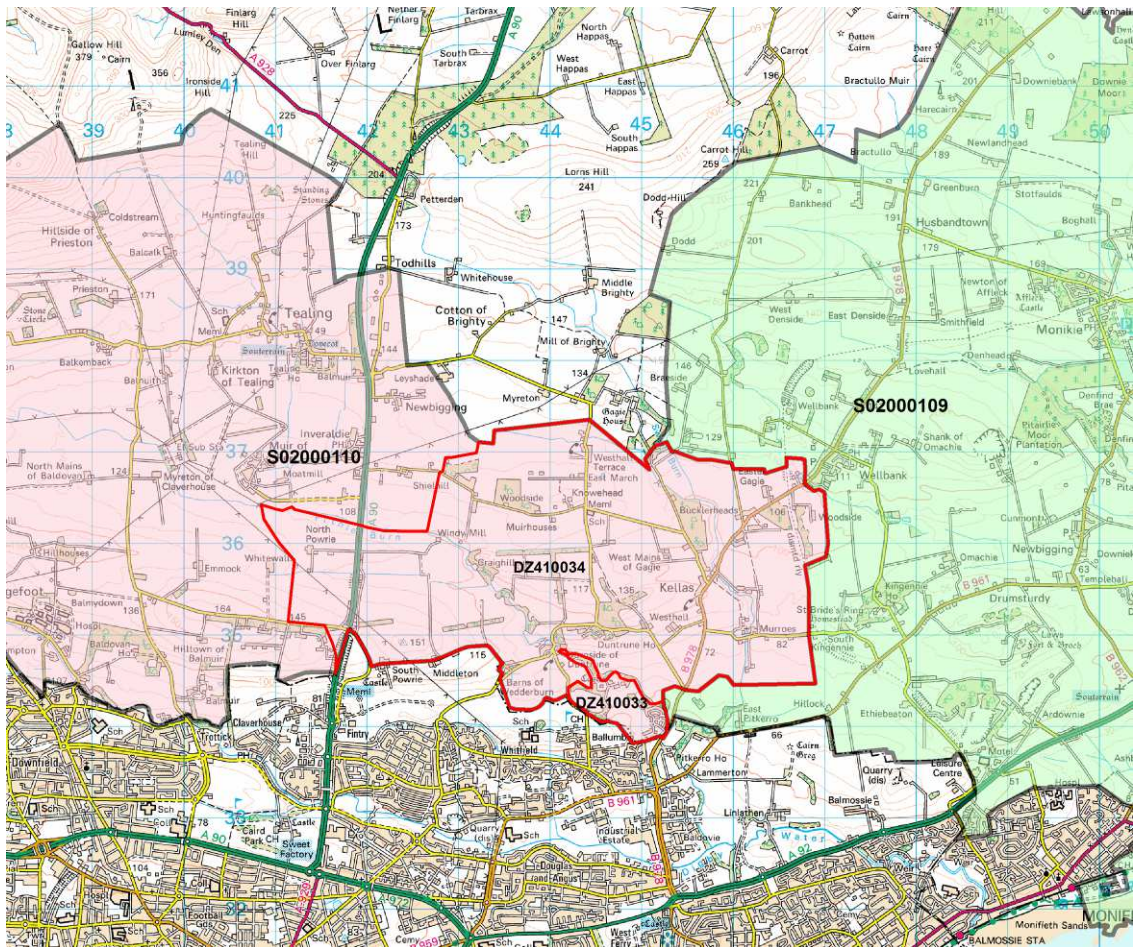
The proposals would of course be based on the revised data zone boundaries described above.

Intermediate Zones S02000109 (Monikie) and S02000110 (South Angus)

The current boundaries of these contiguous intermediate zones do not best reflect logical planning and service delivery boundaries between East and West Angus which are marked by the A90 trunk road.

South Angus intermediate zone has by far the highest intermediate zone population in Angus at 6,899.

We would therefore propose that DZ310033 and DZ410034, which currently lie within the S02000110 intermediate zone, are reallocated to intermediate zone S02000109.



The reallocation of these data zones will also serve to rebalance the population coverage of the two intermediate zones. South Angus would be reduced from 6,899 to 5,551 and Monikie increased from 4,684 to 6,032.

Splitting of Intermediate Zone S02000122 (Frickheim)

This intermediate zone covers too large and disparate an area, stretching from Stracathro on the north eastern boundary of Angus to the settlement boundary of Carnoustie in the South.

We would propose that this large area (population 6,822) be split into two intermediate zones as shown below.



The northern intermediate zone should retain the name "Fröckheim" and we would suggest the southern zone be named "Arbroath Landward".