

Edinburgh Pentlands MSP stepping down at next election

Gordon MacDonald who has represented Edinburgh Pentlands since 2011 has announced he is stepping down at the next Scottish Parliamentary election.

He has issued a letter to constituents saying that it has been an honour and a privilege to represent the constituency for the last fourteen years.

He explains that the Boundary Commission has decided to retire the name of the constituency in May 2026 and as it coincides with his own retirement age he has decided it is the right time to step down.

Gordon said: "I have worked tirelessly for 50 years to achieve independence and will continue to campaign for Scotland to join the family of nations. The members of my local branch have been informed of my decision."



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

28th February 2025

Dear Constituent,

It has been an honour and a privilege to represent the Edinburgh Pentlands constituency over the last fourteen years. The Boundary Commission has decided to retire the name of the constituency in May 2026; this will coincide with reaching my own retirement age which I believe is the right time for me to step down from the Scottish Parliament at the forthcoming election. I have during my time in office tried to serve you diligently and I am deeply thankful for the trust and support you have extended to me over the years.

Since my election in 2011, I have strived to be a voice for our community, working on issues ranging from the need for local affordable housing to national policy that affects our daily lives. Whether it was advocating for local retail businesses, pushing for better health services, or ensuring our education system serves every child, I have sought to represent the spirit and needs of Edinburgh Pentlands with integrity and passion.

I want to express my thanks to my office team and party activists, past and present, who have been tireless in their support, and to all the residents, community groups, and stakeholders I have had the pleasure of working with. Your engagement has been the cornerstone of my work here.

As I prepare to leave this role, I commit to using my remaining time to ensure a smooth transition and to continue addressing the issues that matter to us all.

I have worked tirelessly for 50 years to achieve independence and will continue to campaign for Scotland to join the family of nations. The members of my local branch have been informed of my decision.

Thank you, once again, for the privilege of serving as your MSP.

Yours sincerely,

Gordon MacDonald MSP



Gordon Macdonald MSP for Edinburgh Pentlands and a candidate in the 2021 Scottish Parliamentary Election PHOTO ©2021 The Edinburgh Reporter