

# Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland



## MEETING OF BCNI COMMISSIONERS AND ASSESSORS

**Date:** 11 June 2018 at 3.45pm

**Location:** The Bungalow, Stormont Estate, Belfast

### In attendance:

The Hon Madam Justice McBride (Deputy Chairperson, BCNI)  
Dr Bill Smith (Commissioner, BCNI)  
Sarah Havlin (Commissioner, BCNI)  
Alan Bronte, Commissioner of Valuation, LPS (Assessor)  
Virginia McVea, Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland (Assessor)  
Jim Lennon, Chief Survey Officer, LPS (Assessor)  
Jos Ijpelaar, NISRA  
Eamonn McConville (Secretary, BCNI)  
Michael Harris (Deputy Secretary, BCNI)  
Tim Johnston (Office Manager, BCNI)

**Apologies:** Siobhan Carey, Registrar General, (Assessor) – represented by Mr Ijpelaar

### Welcome

1. The Deputy Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting, which would likely be the last time the Commissioners and Assessors would meet during this 2018 Review.
2. The meeting had been called to allow the Commissioners to take the Assessors through the proposed Final Recommendations (that will be presented to the Secretary of State in September) addressing any issues that might arise.

### Final Recommendations Report

3. The Assessors were briefed on the detailed analysis undertaken following the consultation on the Commission's Revised Proposals and the conclusions reached by the Commission.
4. In summary, the Commission has decided that the changes to be applied to the Revised Proposals following the last consultation are:
  - a. Dungiven ward relocated into the Sperrin constituency from Causeway;
  - b. Mallusk ward relocated into South Antrim constituency from Belfast North; and
  - c. The former West Tyrone constituency, as amended, to be renamed Sperrin.

5. After some discussion, the Commissioners and Assessors agreed that the Final Recommendations Report should proceed to printing stage. The secretariat will now work with the official printers to have the Final Recommendation Report produced within the statutory timeframe.
6. The Secretary explained that it is hoped that all four Boundary Commissions will be in a position to report in the early part of September. It will then be for Government to determine what happens next. Parliamentary convention dictates that the Report must be laid before Parliament by the Secretary of State. Only once all four Final Recommendations Reports have been laid can they be made public.

### **Closing**

7. The Deputy Chair, on behalf of the Commission, offered thanks to all the Assessors and their staff not only for the expertise brought to the Review but for the cooperation received at all levels throughout the process. This will formally be recognised in the Final Report but she asked that this be passed on to the staff concerned.
8. There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 4.45pm.

**Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland**  
**June 2018**