

Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland



MEETING OF BCNI COMMISSIONERS TO DISCUSS PROVISIONAL PROPOSALS

Date: 18 October 2016 at 10.00am

Location: Conference Room, The Bungalow, Stormont House

In attendance:

Dr Bill Smith (Commissioner, BCNI)

Sarah Havlin (Commissioner, BCNI)

Eamonn McConville (Secretary, BCNI)

Michael Harris (Deputy Secretary, BCNI)

Tim Johnston (Office Manager, BCNI)

1. Agenda for Annual General Meeting of the UK Commissions

- The Secretary updated attendees on arrangements for the AGM scheduled for 8/9 December 2016. He confirmed the Stormont Hotel, Belfast as the venue for both the dinner on the 8th and AGM on the 9th. A tour of Parliament Buildings would be offered on the afternoon of the 8th. The NIO PUS, Sir Jonathan Stephens is to be the guest speaker at the dinner.

2. Telephone call with Nicholas Whyte

- Nicholas Whyte joined the meeting at 11.00am to discuss his presentation to the AGM on 9 December. His presentation will not be NI-focused and will cover:
 - A historical perspective of boundary reviews including 'gerrymandering'.
 - How the work of the Commissions has changed over time.
 - European stories of interest e.g how other Commissions undertake reviews and the data they use.

3. Readout of Public Hearings

- The Secretary provided a brief update to the Commissioners on the Ballymena and Omagh public hearings. It was agreed that transcripts of the hearings would be sent to the Commissioners as each became available.

4. Date of next meeting

- The Secretary confirmed that the next meeting of the Commission would be during w/c 9 January 2017. There would also likely be a meeting with the Assessors sometime during the same week.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 12.00pm

**BCNI Secretariat
October 2016**