

# Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland



## MEETING OF BCNI COMMISSIONERS AND ASSESSORS TO DISCUSS PROVISIONAL PROPOSALS

**Date:** 21 June 2016 at 2.00pm

**Location:** LPS Conference Room, Lanyon Plaza, 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)  
John Deyermond, Chief Survey Officer - LPS (Assessor)  
David Marshall, Director of Sources - NISRA (Assessor)  
Eamonn McConville (Secretary, BCNI)  
Michael Harris (Deputy Secretary, BCNI)  
Tim Johnston (Office Manager, BCNI)

**Apologies:** Mr Graham Shields, Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland (Assessor)

### **Welcome and Introductions**

1. The Deputy Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked LPS for hosting the meeting. She explained that the main purpose of the meeting was to secure agreement on the Provisional Proposals in order to progress to public consultation.

### **Matters arising from previous meeting (February 2016)**

2. The Secretary provided an update on matters arising from the previous meeting of Commissioners and Assessors held in February including the Shared Portal project; the meeting with the political parties on 27 May; and the planned arrangements for public consultation which was likely to commence in early September and run for 12 weeks. Locations for public hearings have still to be confirmed but will be spread across

Northern Ireland. The Deputy Chairperson confirmed that she was due to meet shortly with the Senior District Judge to agree participation by District Judges as chairs of the public hearings.

### **Approval of Provisional Proposals**

3. The Commissioners and Assessors reviewed the draft Preliminary Proposals for revised constituencies, including the rules and general principles applied. Changes to existing constituencies had been minimised where possible but all had been affected in some way due to the reduction from 18 to 17 constituencies.
4. Wider discussion followed on the proposed changes for each constituency including where name changes were felt to be necessary. The Commissioners and Assessors agreed the Provisional Proposals and instructed the Secretariat to proceed to have materials printed and make arrangements for the public consultation.

### **Date of next meeting**

5. It was agreed that the next meeting of Commissioners and Assessors should take place after the public consultation on the Provisional Proposals has ended. A date in early January 2017 was proposed. Should any matters arise in the interim, these can be handled by correspondence or a meeting convened if required.

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**June 2016**