Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland

Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 July 2018 at 3pm

Conference Room, The Bungalow, Stormont House

# In Attendance

Madam Justice Denise McBride (Deputy Chair, BCNI)

Dr Bill Smith (Commissioner, BCNI)

Sarah Havlin (Commissioner, BCNI)

Eamonn McConville (Secretary, BCNI)

Michael Harris (Deputy Secretary, BCNI)

Tim Johnston (Office Manager, BCNI)

# Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

Minutes of the 5 June 2018 meeting were formally agreed. Matters arising from that meeting have all been actioned.

# Final Recommendations Report

The latest draft of the Final Recommendations Report was discussed. A number of typos and some alternative wording was discussed and agreed. It was agreed that the fold out map at the back of the Report should set out only the recommended constituencies. The Report could now be sent to the printers for typesetting.

The Secretary explained that a meeting had been held with NIO to understand the process of submitting the Final Recommendations Report in September. Only a small number of reports would eventually be printed, mainly for NI MPs, Westminster and NI Assembly libraries with most people being encouraged to access the report digitally. The Final Recommendations Report cannot be published until after it has been formally laid in Parliament.

# Letter to NIO Permanent Secretary

Those present reviewed and agreed the latest draft of the letter to Sir Jonathan Stephens, regarding BCNI resourcing, and wider succession planning, once the Review completes. It was agreed the letter should now issue, signed on behalf of all three Members.

# Publicising the Final Recommendations Report

It was agreed that BCNI will issue a press release and place a statement on its website at the time of submitting the Final Recommendations Report to the Secretary of State in early September.

# GDPR update

The Secretary updated the meeting on discussions between NIO and its ALBs on the matter of GDPR compliance, particularly should the Boundary Commission go back into abeyance after completion of the 2018 Review.

# Annual meeting of the UK Boundary Commissions

It was confirmed that the annual meeting of all four Boundary Commissions will be held in Edinburgh on 1November and 2 November 2018.

# AOB

There being no further business, the meeting concluded.

**BCNI Secretariat**

**6 July 2018**