**Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland**

Note of Meeting held on 19 October 2021 at 3.30pm

Via video link

**In Attendance:**

Mr. Justice Michael Humphreys, Deputy Chair to the Boundary Commission (MH)

Sarah Havlin, Boundary Commissioner (SH)

Vilma Patterson, Boundary Commissioner (VP)

Angela McGrath, Commissioner of Valuation, LPS (AMcG)

Jim Lennon, Chief Survey Officer, LPS (JL)

Virginia McVea, Chief Electoral Officer (VMcV)

Heather McKinley, Secretary to the Boundary Commission (HMcK)

Andrea Richardson, Deputy Secretary to the Boundary Commission (AR)

Lisa Hay, Office Manager to the Boundary Commission (LH)

Lyn McBride, Support Officer to the Boundary Commission (LMcB)

**Apologies:**

Siobhan Carey, Registrar General of Births, Deaths and Marriages in Northern Ireland

David Marshall, Director of Census and Population Statistics, NISRA (DM)

1. **Welcome and Declarations of Interest**

Attendees were welcomed to the meeting. There were no declarations of interest.

# Note of Previous Meeting

Members agreed the note of the BCNI meeting held on 21st September 2021.

# Summary of Initial Proposals

# The Initial Proposals Report and accompanying maps were circulated to attendees prior to the meeting. Final updates to the proposed map scheme were noted by those attending. It was also noted that the Commission’s Initial Proposals would be published at lunchtime on Wednesday 20th October 2021 and the Deputy Chair offered his thanks to the Secretariat for their work in preparing for the consultation launch.

# Overview of Consultation

Attendees were provided with details of the operational timetabling leading to the launch of the consultation, including media and the publication of online resources, (e.g. the proposals, interactive map, consultation portal, and supporting materials).

A demonstration of the public-facing Spatial NI interactive map for the Initial Proposals was given and it was noted that this resource included useful functionality, (including layering the current (2008) and proposed boundaries, and the ability to create a PDF map output) to support the public in engaging with the detail of the proposals. It was also noted that an A1 size map and poster will be displayed at Public Display Points in libraries and council buildings across Northern Ireland during the initial consultation period.

Attendees were also given a demonstration of the Citizen Space online consultation response portal. This portal includes key information about the review and consultation process, as well as links to relevant resources, such as a copy of the report and accompanying static maps, and the Spatial NI interactive map. It was agreed that both the interactive map and online consultation portal were valuable resources to support public engagement with the Review. There was also discussion about wider publicity for the consultation.

# Next Steps

The date of the next meeting was set for 30th November 2021.