**Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland**

Note of Meeting held on 21 September 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)

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

Peter Mullan, Electoral Office for Northern Ireland (PM)

Rico Santiago, Senior Map and Charting Officer, LPS (RS)

Evelyn Lowndes, OSNI GI Manager, LPS (EL)

Katie Tener, OSNI Mapping and Charting Officer, LPS (KT)

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 in Northern Ireland

Virginia McVea, Chief Electoral Officer

1. **Welcome and Declarations of Interest**

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

1. **Update from Secretary**

Attendees were provided with updates on a number of operational and financial matters. There was discussion about the preferred approach to publication of the Initial Proposals report/maps and the benefits of online resources, including interactive mapping.

It was also welcomed that local libraries and local councils had agreed to act as public display points (as per the Act) for the Initial Proposals. It was agreed that the Commission should adopt a ‘digital first but not digital only’ approach, providing hard copies on request. There was also discussion about alternative formats for the report and guidance material, and how the Commission might best facilitate broad engagement with the statutory process.

# Map Scheme

Ahead of the meeting, attendees had received Commissioners’ proposed constituency map scheme. It was noted that the Commission had explored a range of options in the development of these initial proposals, which had been developed taking into account a balancing of factors. The benefit that public input would offer during the consultation process was also noted. Assessors welcomed the information and following discussion, noted the detail presented around the scheme.

# 4. AOB

There was no additional business. The date of the next meeting was set for 19th October 2021.