

## Website Refresh

### Action required

1. The Commission is invited to consider a refresh or redesign of its website.

### Background Information

2. The Commission's website was last updated in 2009. The refresh will improve accessibility and compatibility for users.
3. The Scottish Boundary Commissions Secretariat maintain 3 websites:
  - Boundary Commission for Scotland (BCS) - <http://www.bcomm-scotland.independent.gov.uk>
  - Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland (LGBCS) - <http://www.lgbc-scotland.gov.uk>
  - Scottish Boundary Commissions (SBC) - <http://www.scottishboundaries.gov.uk>. This website was established to redirect users to the LGBCS and BCS sites. There is little content on this website and depending on usage statistics will consider removing this site.
4. Both the BCS and LGBCS websites have a similar design and structure but use a different colour scheme. It is expected that both the BCS and LGBCS websites will be updated at the same time and redesign costs shared between the Commissions; this may offer some cost savings. LGBCS may also consider a new name given the new responsibilities LGBCS has assumed.
5. It is estimated that the cost to redesign/ refresh will be approximately £10,000. However there may be additional costs for the Commission to ensure effective consultation capability, GIS and search functionality; and to incorporate a new logo.
6. It is expected the refresh will take 4-5 months and could be completed within the current financial year.
7. The refresh will be managed by the Secretariat and supported by Scottish Government IT team. External developers will update the webpages, GIS and provide other technical input.
8. The new website will utilise a content management system where it is simple for all staff within the Secretariat to update and maintain the site with no technical experience required. This will offer considerable advantage over the current system.

### Logo

9. The Secretariat would also like to consider updating the Commission's logo as part of a rebranding exercise. The current logo is based on a similar design to the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland's seal (a coat of arms). Costs for designing a simple new logo is expected to be in the region of £2,500 - £4,000. A design team would be employed to undertake this work and present options for the Commission's consideration.

**Examples of websites**

10. The following public bodies have recently updated their websites and the Commissions website could have a similar style. They include:

- <https://www.scotlandsfinancialhealthservice.gov.uk/> (incorporates GIS)
- <https://www.aib.gov.uk/>
- <https://www.judicialappointments.scot>

**Conclusion**

11. The overall objectives of the refresh are to:

- improve design and accessibility for users;
- ensure it is easy to maintain and update;
- include some consultation functionality;
- ensure compatibility with technology eg GIS and possibly video;
- integrate social media; and
- have the Boundary Commissions websites/ webserver hosted within the Scottish Government SCOTS network to ensure cost-effective security, resilience and support;

12. Full costs will be worked up but are expected to be met within the existing budget for 2017-18.

13. The Commission is not expected to be directly involved in the project but will be invited to review progress at key stages of the project and test and preview sites before launch.

14. The Commission is invited to:

- approve plans to progress the refresh of its website and logo.

Secretariat  
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