

Minutes of Meeting held by video conference at 10am on 19 December 2022

Present

The Hon Lord Matthews, Deputy Chair
Dr Sue Walker, Commissioner
Professor Ailsa Henderson, Commissioner
Mr Dominic Cuthbert, Ordnance Survey, Assessor

Isabel Drummond-Murray, Secretary
Colin Wilson
Douglas Campbell
Yvonne Croll
Alistair Grant

Apologies

Mr Paul Lowe, National Records for Scotland, Assessor

Minutes of previous meeting

1. The Commission approved the minutes of the meeting on 18 July 2022.

Matters Arising

2. There were no matters arising that would not be covered under the business update on the agenda.

Business Update

3. The Secretary reported that an advert had been placed to replace a member of the Secretariat. The Governance and Policy Officer vacancy closed on 15 December 2022 and the Secretary planned to sift applications before the festive break.
4. The Secretary advised that the Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland (OSSS) were planning an audit of the Commission, to be conducted by auditors from Cabinet Office in January 2023.
5. The Secretary informed the Commission that OSSS has produced a memorandum of understanding that she will circulate by email to Commissioner's for comment.

2023 Review: Consultation on Revised Proposals – News Coverage (Paper 2022/23)

6. The Commission noted the media reports in Paper 2022/23.
7. The Secretary highlighted a submission to the consultation from Highland Council which contained a number of misunderstandings regarding the 2023 Review which suggested both a lack of understanding regarding the legislation underpinning the 2023 Review and also the Commission's role in delivering the Review.

8. The Secretary agreed to share the submission from Highland Council and a draft response with the Commission.

2023 Review: Consultation on Revised Proposals – Summary of Responses (Paper 2022/24)

9. The Commission noted the summary of responses received during the revised consultation which concluded 5 December 2022.

2023 Review: Draft Paper/ Final Report (Paper 2022/25)

10. The Commission considered Paper 2022/25 and suggested minor amendments to the style of its 2023 Review final recommendations meeting papers.

2023 Review: Boundary Alignment (Paper 2022/26)

11. The Commission considered Paper 2022/26 and agreed to align a number of constituency boundaries to other boundaries or natural features and to incorporate them in the final recommendations meeting papers.

2023 Review: Speakers Report (Paper 2022/27)

12. The Commission considered Paper 2022/27 and suggested minor amendments to the draft Progress Report.

Finance Update (Paper 2022/28)

13. The Commission noted the finance update.

Any other business

14. Mr Cuthbert reported that Ordnance Survey will be releasing new mapping products in April 2023. Mr Cuthbert will share more details with the Secretariat closer to the release date.

15. The Commission will meet again on 14 February and 20 March 2023.

Secretariat

December 2022