

Minutes of Meeting held by video conference at 10am on 31 January 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
David Logue

Apologies

Mr Paul Lowe, National Records for Scotland, Assessor

Minutes of previous meeting

1. The Commission approved the minutes of the meeting on 22 November 2021 without amendment.

Matters Arising

2. The Secretary updated the Commission that she has a meeting with Lawrence Rockey from the Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland (OSSS) on 2 February 2022 and will give an update at the next Commission meeting.
3. The Secretary reported that she had contacted OSSS to seek clarification about emergency legislation to hold hybrid public meetings given the unknown situation with Covid-19. OSSS advised that emergency legislation was not required for the public hearings.
4. The Commission were informed that the Corporate Plan was sent to OSSS for agreement and following a number of minor amendments and it has now been published on the Commission's website.

Business Update

5. The Secretary advised that Scottish Government had announced that the requirement to work from home is to be relaxed from 1 February. The Secretariat will follow Scottish Government guidance regarding a phased return to office working.

UK Commissions meeting (oral)

6. The Secretary and Professor Henderson provided an update on the annual meeting of the UK Boundary Commissions that took place by videoconference on 26 January 2022.

2023 Review: Summary of responses to Initial Consultation (Paper 2022/01)

7. The Commission noted the preliminary summary of responses that were received during the Initial Proposals public consultation that ran from 14 October to 8 December 2021.

8. The Commission asked the Secretariat to circulate an edited version of Paper 2022/01 to the Sheriffs Principal in advance of chairing the public hearings.

2023 Review: Preparations for Secondary Consultation and Public Hearings (Paper 2022/02)

9. The Commission discussed the progress of arrangements for its secondary consultation and the holding of its five public hearings.
10. The Commission reflected that the legislation governing the Review does not allow it to hold public hearings remotely or in any hybrid fashion making attendance challenging for those living in more remote areas.

Website traffic analysis (Paper 2022/03)

11. The Commission noted the analysis of traffic to its website during 2021 as outlined in Paper 2022/03.

Finance Update (Paper 2022/04)

12. The Commission noted the finance update and were reminded to submit any outstanding claim forms as soon as possible.

Future meetings (oral)

13. The Commission agreed to meet again in April, May, June and July 2022 and the Commission were content for the Secretariat to canvass for suitable dates.

Any other business

14. There was no other business.

Secretariat

January 2022