

STATUTORY REPORT TO THE SPEAKER

1. Section 3(2B) of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (as amended) requires that:-

(2B) In relation to any report which a Boundary Commission are required by subsection (2) above to submit before a particular date but have not yet submitted (a “pending boundary report”), the Commission shall submit to the Speaker of the House of Commons-

(a) during the January that begins one year and nine months before that date, and

(b) during each subsequent January,

a report setting out what progress they have made with the preparation of the pending boundary report, with particular reference to the requirements in subsection (2) above.

2. Therefore, the Commission is required to submit the report to the Speaker before 31 January 2012. Section 3(2C) of the 1986 Act confirms that:-

(2C) On receiving a report under subsection (2B) above, the Speaker shall lay it before Parliament.

3. The Secretariat has prepared a draft (see Appendix A) of the statutory report to be submitted to the Speaker, for Members’ consideration. The draft was sent out to Members in electronic form on Monday 28 November 2011 so that any amendments required could be made by means of track changes and submitted to the Secretariat ahead of the meeting. The draft report placed before the meeting contains the amendments requested by Members.

4. Prior to the draft report being sent to Members for early consideration, the Secretary liaised with the Secretaries of the other three UK Boundary Commissions about the submission of their reports. Whilst it was not considered necessary to co-ordinate the content of the four reports, it was thought prudent to informally discuss the content of each. It is understood that the other three reports will be very similar in content and length to the report attached at Appendix A. However, there will be small differences to reflect local circumstances.

5. It is proposed that all four reports should be submitted to the Chairman (the Speaker) on Tuesday 24 January 2012.