

Boundaries Scotland – Framework Document

Action Required

1. The Commission is invited to consider the draft Framework Document at Appendix A. Initial comments on the scope and detail would be helpful before a final version for sign off is brought to the August meeting.

Background

2. All public bodies have a Framework Document which sets out the respective roles and responsibilities of the organisation, the Scottish Ministers and sponsor teams.
3. The current Framework Document for Boundaries Scotland is overdue for updating and since its creation there have been changes to the model document issued by Scottish Government.

Discussion

4. The model document published by Scottish Government, and most recently update in January this year, covers all advisory NDPBs and some of the content does not reflect the existing relationship with Boundaries Scotland. The Commission is therefore asked to consider if any of what is set out seems inappropriate in particular with regard to ensuring the independence of the Commission.
5. A few areas remain highlighted in the draft document. This reflects ongoing discussion with our Sponsor Team over issues such as audit arrangements and the use by the Secretariat of services provided by SG such as procurement.
6. The Secretariat is also keen to agree with the Sponsor Team clear timelines for things such as submission of the Corporate Plan and the period of its coverage.
7. The existing Framework document is out of date but is on the Boundaries Scotland website and may be useful for reference: [Existing Framework Document](#)

Conclusion

8. The Commission is invited to offer any initial thoughts on the draft Framework. A revised document will then be brought to the August meeting for sign off.