



Public Appointment Assistant Local Government Boundaries Commissioners

The Department of the Environment invites applications for Assistant Local Government Boundaries Commissioners. It is anticipated that eleven Assistant Commissioners will be required.

The role

The role of Assistant Commissioners will be to consider representations and conduct public hearings in relation to representations made in response to the Local Government Boundaries Commissioner's Provisional Recommendations regarding the names and boundaries of the eleven new local government districts and their constituent wards, and to submit reports to the Commissioner.

Selection Criteria

The principles of public life, established by the Commission for Public Appointments, apply to these appointments. No specific professional qualifications are required for the positions. It should be noted that the criteria for the posts may be enhanced to facilitate shortlisting.

Essential Criteria

Successful candidates must demonstrate:

- clear political impartiality;
- experience of participating in public hearings, tribunals or planning appeals, preferably as chair or inspector;
- a track record of analysing complex, and sometimes conflicting, arguments and of producing coherent reports on the basis of evidence received; and
- an understanding of the geography and demography and social and settlement patterns of Northern Ireland.

Desirable Criteria

Successful candidates should be:

- aware of normal public service standards and procedures in matters of accountability; and
- familiar with the considerations which determine local government boundaries.

Disqualification

For reasons of ensuring public confidence, the Assistant Commissioners are required to be impartial and be seen to be so. Current membership of, and/or canvassing for, a political party or standing for election at local, regional or national level, or engagement in other activities, within the past 10 years, which risk a public perception of prejudice, will be reasons for non-selection.

Remuneration and Period of Commitment

The posts are part-time and attract remuneration of £259 per day plus travelling and subsistence at Northern Ireland Civil Service approved rates.

Each Assistant Commissioner will be required to commit to engagement from November 2008 to December 2008, on the basis of holding one hearing within a period of a week and reporting within four weeks, excluding statutory holidays, of the close of the hearing. The hearings are likely to be held between 20 and 28 November 2008.

Applicants must have a full, current driving licence and the use of a car for official business or access to a form of transport that will permit them to meet the requirements of the job in full.

How to Apply

Those wishing to apply for the posts of Assistant Commissioner should request an Information Pack which will include an Application Form. The Information Pack may be obtained from

Local Government Policy Division, Department of the Environment, 6th Floor Goodwood House, 44 - 58 May Street, Belfast BT1 4NN Telephone: 028 9025 6068

or

online at www.doeni.gov.uk/index/localgovernment.htm

Email requests for Information Packs should be sent to lgpd@doeni.gov.uk

Supplementary material such as CVs or testimonials **will not** be considered and should not be provided.

Completed Application Forms must be returned to the above address no later than **4.00pm on Wednesday 17 September 2008**. Forms received after this date will not be accepted by the Department

The Department of the Environment is committed to the principles of public appointments based on merit, with independent assessment, openness, and transparency of process. The Department is committed to providing equality of opportunity for all individuals. Expressions of Interest are welcomed, regardless of age, gender, religious belief, disability, political opinion, marital status, ethnic origin, sexual orientation or whether or not they have dependants.

