

**Local Government Boundaries Commissioner
for Northern Ireland**

Your Transcript
Thank You.

Transcript Details					
	Assistant Commissioner		Bill Smith		
Consultation Details					
Date:	28/11/08	Time:	am	Duration:	2 mins 57 secs
Location	Templepatrick	District	Antrim and Newtownabbey		

Transcript begins on following page.

**Assistant
Commissioner**

It is now ten o'clock and I am pleased to reopen this public hearing into the proposed Local Government District of Antrim and Newtownabbey. Welcome to the one person who has shown up for the second day, and without further ado I will hand over to Mr Ford to add to the evidence that you gave us yesterday please.

David Ford

Thank you, Assistant Commissioner. I do not wish to detain the enquiry long this morning. I did yesterday state, on the potential change of the boundary between Ballymena, Larne, Carrickfergus and Antrim/Newtownabbey in the Tildarg area, that I had received one representation strongly arguing the case for that change. I simply wish to place on record that I received two other messages on my office answerphone, one of which was against the change suggesting that public services were not as good in Newtownabbey as in Ballymena. The other message strongly supported the change on the same basis as previously expressed yesterday, that it was logical that the two sides of the road should be within the one council area.

**Assistant
Commissioner**

Thank you very much. Nothing else?

David Ford

No, just to clarify that point.

**Assistant
Commissioner**

Well, I appreciate your coming in to do that and thank you again. Since there is no-one else here who wishes to speak, I declare this hearing closed, which means that I cannot receive any further evidence. Before I formally wind down the proceedings, I would like to place on record my thanks to everyone who attended yesterday and today, and particularly the people who made representations. Everyone gave their views, I thought, in a frank way and kept to the point, and I appreciate that because it makes my job much easier. I would also like to thank my support team, who I introduced yesterday, and the transcribers and audio engineers for the help they have given me in preparing for and conducting this hearing. I will now consider carefully all the evidence I have heard, as well as the written representations that were received in advance and prepare a report for the Commissioner within the next four weeks. My report will be made publicly available

together with the Commissioner's revised recommendations report, if he decides to produce one, or with his final recommendations report. My understanding is that a copy of my report will be sent to everyone who has requested a copy when they registered at this hearing. It will ultimately be a matter for the Commissioner to decide whether to accept any or all of my recommendations. Should he decide to publish a revised recommendations report, written representations will be invited within a specified period, but there will not be any further public hearings. The Commissioner is to submit his final report to the Department of the Environment by 30 June 2009. Thank you very much for coming here today and please have a safe journey home.

ENDS
