



FORUM MEETING

THURSDAY 24TH JANUARY 2013 @ 11AM

Stormont Hotel, Belfast

MINUTES

In Attendance

Michael Arlow	Stephen Gault	Irene Kerrigan
Alan Brecknell	Eibhlin Glenholmes	John Loughran
Mitch Bresland	Geoffrey Hamilton	Errol McDowell
Alex Bunting	Peter Heathwood	Jennifer McNern
Lesley Carroll	Roberta Holmes	David Scott
Liz Clarke	Elaine Johnson	Ann Travers
Violet Craig	Fiona Kelly	Jude Whyte

Present

Kathryn Stone (Chair, Commissioner CVS) Tina McCann (Forum Manager, CVS)

Adrian McNamee (Head of Policy and Research, CVS)

Neil Foster (Research Officer, CVS)

Apologies

Alana Burke	Jeff Smith	Sandra Peake
Briege Voyle	Doreen McGee	

1. Introduction and Welcome

Kathryn thanked all those in attendance and introduced Michael Arlow as a new Associate Member of the Forum. Michael will be facilitating the Building for the future Working Group.

Apologies were noted and Sandra Peake had to leave on urgent business. Kathryn also informed the Forum that the Maze Long Kesh Limited had sent apologies at the last minute and could not attend today and give a presentation as planned.

2. Minutes from Last Meeting

The minutes were checked and verified and no amendments were made. Kathryn gave an update on the status of all action points from the last meeting.

3. Matters Arising

Adrian provided some feedback on the seminar held on January 18th on Services for victims and survivors. This was the first seminar in the monthly series which the Commission is hosting. The attendance at his event was very good and feedback was very positive.

The next seminar will be on Historical Inquiries and Information Recovery and is scheduled for the 14th February, Hilton Hotel Belfast. Tina will forward the information when finalised

AP1: TMcCann to forward invite and information to Forum members on seminar series.

A lengthy discussion followed on the engagement between the VSS and the Services Sub Group. The Services Working Group has met with Anne Dorbie, Chief Executive of VSS on 2 occasions now and a number of issues were raised and discussed. It was agreed that the Commission would send a letter to Anne to seek clarification on these issues;

AP2: A McNamee to draft and issue letter to A Dorbie seeking clarification on points raised by Forum members.

The Services Working Group has devised a brief template for those who have gone through the VSS assessment process and wish to work with CVS to circulate this and coordinate responses.

AP3: Services Working Group to liaise with CVS on feedback template.

Adrian advised Forum members that the Commission has to submit a Quarterly Report to OFMDFM on the VSS. A Memorandum of Understanding is currently being devised between the VSS and CVS and they meet on a monthly basis.

4. AOB

Tina advised the members that the Forum residential has been approved by the Commission and it will be held on Wednesday 20th March – Thursday 21st March, venue to be confirmed.

Kathryn advised that the Steering Committee would be meeting on Thursday 7th February and the forthcoming residential will be discussed.

The Forum members broke into their working groups and prepared for a feedback and information session to the full Forum. On their return they gave a brief status update of each group.

5. Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 21st February 2013, City Hotel Derry/Londonderry.