



Forum Meeting

Thursday 22nd November 2012, Canal Court Hotel Newry

In Attendance

Alan Brecknell	Eibhlin Glenholmes	Jennifer McNern
Mitch Bresland	Peter Heathwood	Sandra Peake
Alex Bunting	Roberta Holmes	Jeff Smith
Alana Burke	Fiona Kelly	Ann Travers
Lesley Carroll	Irene Kerrigan	Briege Voyle
Violet Craig	John Loughran	Jude Whyte
Stephen Gault	Errol McDowell	

Present

Kathryn Stone OBE: Commissioner CVS (Acting Chair)	Neil Foster: Research Officer, CVS
Adrian McNamee: Head of Policy, Research and Development, CVS	Tina McCann: Forum Support Manager, CVS

Apologies

Liz Clarke	Doreen McGee
Geoffrey Hamilton	David Scott
Elaine Johnston	

Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes were checked for accuracy and actions. No amendments were noted and the minutes will be put on CVS website.

AP1: Secretariat to put Forum minutes to CVS website.

Matters Arising

Kathryn briefed Forum members on her recent engagements with Vernon Coaker MP, Shadow Secretary of State and Lawrence Robinson MP, Chair of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee. It was agreed that they will be invited to meet the Forum in early 2013.

AP2: CVS to invite Laurence Robertson MP and Vernon Coaker MP to a Forum Meeting in early 2013.

Civil Service (Special Advisers) Bill

Kathryn gave an overview of the evidence session given by the CVS to the Department of Finance and Personnel on November 14th. Those Forum members who watched and heard the evidence session agreed this was an accurate reflection of their views. The submission is to be forwarded to all members.

The members were informed that Dominic Bradley MLA had requested further information from Forum members. The deadline for responses is Wednesday 27th November at 5pm.

AP3: Forum members to receive copy of Dominic Bradley question and forward responses to Secretariat by 5pm 27th November.

AP4: Hansard report of evidence to be forwarded to all Forum members.

A discussion was held on the press attention that this issue has received. It was clarified and agreed that although Forum members are free to speak as individuals, their role as Forum members will be focused upon by the press. With this in mind, it would be beneficial for all Forum members to consider the effect their engagements with the press may have on Forum colleagues and Forum discussions.

Forum members are also asked to consider carefully the impact of their use of social media on Forum colleagues and the Forum as a whole.

Chair of the Forum

The Forum was presented with 3 options for the selection of the Chair. It was agreed that the Commission would retain the Chair permanently. This was proposed by E McDowell, seconded by E Glenholmes and agreed unanimously.

Maze – Long Kesh (MLK)

A McNamee briefed the Forum on the proposal by the Maze Long Kesh Development Corporation. After discussion, it was agreed that victims and survivors should be part of this project and inform the working group reflecting the experiences of victims and survivors.

AP5: Members requested further information on the Board of the MLK Development Corporation.

AP6: Request presentation from MLK on project and invite Chair to meet with the Forum.

Associate Member and Facilitator of Building for the future Working Group

Kathryn updated the Forum on the recruitment of a new Associate Member. K Stone is currently awaiting a response from an individual as directed by the Steering Committee and will inform the members when the position is filled.

AOB

T McCann informed the members of two invites to the following events;

- AFTERMATH event 24/11/12
- Invitation from NIHRRC to meet with Priscilla Hayner ICTJ, New York on 5/12/12. Members requested further information on this event.

AP7: T McCann to forward further detail on this event and profile of Ms Hayner.

It was agreed that all members of the Forum would attend the Attorney General's presentation on the 13th December and hold the Forum meeting after this event.

A press release will be drafted by the Commission for issue after the meeting with the Attorney General.

AP8: Secretariat to draft Press Release for 13th December.

It has been requested that all papers from each working group are circulated to all members for their information.

AP8: T McCann to circulate working groups papers and materials around all members.