



16 October 2019
The Hilton Hotel, Templepatrick

Present

Judith Thompson (JT)
Andrew Sloan (AS)
Alana Fisher (AF)
Holly Taylor (HT)
Stephen Moore (SM)

Jan Crawford
Paul Crawford
Donal Dunn
Paul Gallagher

Niall O Murchu
Lesley Veronica
Mina Jadeja
Kathryn Johnston

Sam Wilson
Alan Brecknell
Emmett McConomy

Apologies

Mary Moreland
Paul McCormac
Minty Thompson

Don Mackay

Outline of Meeting

JT welcomed Forum members and noted apologies.

The Forum were informed that Hazel Deeney, Robert McClenaghan, Denise Mullen and Jan Crawford have completed their tenure on the Forum, and JT expressed her thanks and well wishes for their contributions. JT further outlined her reappointment as Commissioner, and provided an update on meetings which had taken place to assist the objectives of the Commission and welcomed Holly Taylor as the Commission's recently appointed Engagement Support Officer.

The Forum further noted the availability of trauma services from police forces in England following a recent attack in Manchester and it was suggested that this would be a beneficial approach to traumatic instances UK wide which would be a point to raise with the new Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

Action Point: CVS to organise a meeting between the Forum and the new Chief Constable.

The Forum discussed the media coverage surrounding the Victims and Survivors Payment Arrangement (progressed through Westminster as a Victims' Payment), and the remit of the Commission in this advice and reiterated their support for the payment scheme itself and the Commissioner.

Action Point: The Forum will support the Commissioner with acknowledging these clarifications upon future media coverage.

Engagement with Ulster University

Brandon Hamber and Maire Braniff, researchers from Ulster University, delivered a presentation to the Forum on advocacy support services to victims and survivors to inform their Peace IV funded research project as tendered by the Commission.

The Forum members engaged in a Q&A session, discussing the research methods and approach which had been taken to develop this project, the scope and case study selection method for this research and the approach to engagement with victims' services for purposes of collaboration upon the project.

The Forum members and the researchers continued discussion relating to relationship building, advocacy and legacy.

Action Point: CVS to circulate presentation to the Victims and Survivors Forum.

Action point: CVS to ascertain if a draft literature review can be sent to the Forum.

Action Point: CVS to ascertain the possibility of facilitating a focus group session between interested Forum members and Ulster University.

Action Point: CVS research team to liaise with Ulster University research team and CVS C&E team to take this forward

Engagement with Victims and Survivors Service Board

Aongus O'Keeffe from the Victims and Survivors Service presented a Gender Lens paper developed by VSS, providing the strategic global and local contexts informing this work, before outlining VSS' ongoing actions and future plans to bring a gender lens to all the support and services it provides. Finally some statistics on the gender breakdown on the uptake of VSS support and services were provided.'

Aongus outlined that the VSS would like to form a gender working group to further explore the different experiences and develop a gender-lens approach to service

provision'. Lesley Veronica expressed interest in representing the Forum on this working group.

Action Point: CVS and VSS will work collaboratively in this gender focused work, engaging VSF members

Meeting closed.

Agreed Actions

- 1. CVS to organise a meeting between the Forum and the new Chief Constable.**
- 2. The Forum will support the Commissioner with acknowledging these clarifications upon future media coverage.**
- 3. CVS to circulate presentation to the Victims and Survivors Forum.**
- 4. CVS to ascertain if a draft literature review can be sent to VSF.**
- 5. CVS to ascertain the possibility of facilitating a focus group session between the Forum and Ulster University.**