



10 June 2020
Convened electronically via Zoom

Present

Judith Thompson (JT)
Andrew Sloan (AS)
Alana Fisher (AF)
Holly Taylor (HT)
Leah McDonnell (LMD)
Nicky Cahill (NC)
Sheila Davidson (SD)

Paul Crawford
Paul Gallagher
Mary Moreland
Niall O Murchu
Lesley Veronica
Kathryn Johnston
Sam Wilson
Minty Thompson
Alan Brecknell
Emmett McConomy

Apologies

Mina Jadeja
Paul McCormac
Donal Dunn

Outline of Meeting

JT welcomed Forum members and noted apologies.

Update on the Victims Payment Scheme

JT provided an overview on the Victims Payment Scheme, and any subsequent updates which occurred since the previous Forum meeting.

There was discussion surrounding political engagement regarding the Victims Payment Scheme, both in Stormont and Westminster. In addition, feedback was provided on the Open Letter which was sent to the Prime Minister Boris Johnson, and JT provided thanks to Forum for their input and participation.

JT provided an update on meetings and points of contact which has taken place since, and provided positive feedback on the Shadow Secretary of State's speech in the House of Commons on the Victims Payment Scheme.

There was discussion regarding the media, and the Forum's contribution to future media events.

There was discussion regarding the draft guidelines and legislation of the Victims Payment Scheme. Particular emphasis was given to the importance of immediate implementation of the Scheme, and the requirement of clarity from government.

JT highlighted upcoming engagements, including the appearance in front of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee.

Update on Legacy proposals

There was discussion on the last minute changes of Westminster's position on legacy and the effect which this has had on victims and survivors, which led to a discussion on the necessity of cross governmental cooperation on this area.

Additionally, further conversation was centred upon legacy proposals and the Stormont House Agreement, noting that the Forum should champion the Stormont House Agreement.

The Forum expressed frustration at the lack of government progress and lack of draft guidelines.

Meeting closed.