



**7 August 2020**  
**Convened electronically via Zoom**

**Present:**

**Forum Members**

Mina Jadeja  
Kathryn Johnston  
Mary Moreland  
Emmett McConomy  
Paul McCormac  
Lesley Veronia  
Sam Wilson

**Commissioner**

Judith Thompson (JT)

**Staff**

Andrew Sloan (AS)  
Alana Fisher (AF)  
Holly Taylor (HT)  
Nicky Cahill (NC)  
Peter Mann (PM)  
Orla Drummond (OD)  
Sheila Davidson (SD)

**Apologies**

Alan Brecknell  
Minty Thompson  
Donal Dunn  
Niall O Murchu  
Paul Crawford  
Paul Gallagher

## **Outline of Meeting**

JT welcomed Forum members and noted apologies.

JT advised of the end of her tenure as Commissioner. There was discussion regarding the dissatisfaction of this decision, and the impact which this will have upon the Forum and the interests of victims and survivors.

There was discussion of correspondence to be issued to the Executive Office regarding this decision, and the potential of engagement with the Executive on behalf of the Forum.

### Engagement with the Victims and Survivors Service

JT welcomed VSS Chief Executive Margaret Bateson and Board Members Richard Solomon, Beverly Clarke, Bertha McDougall and Elaine Murphy for a session focused upon the impact of Covid-19 on the Victims and Survivors Service.

Chief Executive Margaret Bateson delivered a presentation which highlighted the support and assistance undertaken for victims and survivors, and the impact of Covid-19 upon services offered.

There was following discussion regarding services provided from a “gender lens” perspective. It was agreed that there would be Forum representation on the VSS Gender Working Group and that those that were interested should advise HT.

**Action Point: Forum Members to express interest on sitting on the VSS Gender Working Group to CVS.**

There was discussion regarding service provision, and the benefit of online usage.

JT provided thanks to VSS Staff and board members.

### PEACE IV Needs Review Research Project

JT provided a welcome and introduction to Orla Drummond as a new Commission staff member who will be the lead researcher on the PEACE IV Needs Review Project.

OD delivered a presentation to the Forum and provided an overview of the project.

**Action Point: OD to speak with Forum members regarding feedback on the Needs Review Project.**

**Action Point: CVS to circulate the Comprehensive Needs Assessment Report.**

JT provided thanks to OD for delivering the session.

### Management of Forum

JT opened the session focused upon the discussion of management of the Forum.

There was discussion regarding the role of the media and perceptions of victims and survivors. This was followed by conversation regarding the role of the Forum, and the importance of moving forward collectively and visibly.

There was discussion regarding the possibility of meetings being resumed in person, and how this could be arranged in future taking account of government guidance.

### Other

**Action Point – Forum members to advise CVS if they wish to be interviewed for RSM Strategy Evaluation.**

Meeting closed.

### Action Points

1. Forum Members to express interest on sitting on the VSS Gender Working Group to CVS.
2. OD to speak with Forum members regarding feedback on the Needs Review Project.
3. CVS to circulate the Comprehensive Needs Assessment Report.
4. Forum members to advise CVS if they wish to be interviewed for RSM Strategy Evaluation.