



20 August 2020
Convened electronically via Zoom

Present:

Forum Members

Mina Jadeja
Kathryn Johnston
Mary Moreland
Emmett McConomy
Paul McCormac
Lesley Veronia
Sam Wilson
Paul Crawford
Paul Gallagher
Alan Brecknell
Minty Thompson

Commissioner

Judith Thompson (JT)

Staff

Andrew Sloan (AS)
Neil Foster (NF)
Holly Taylor (HT)
Nicky Cahill (NC)

Apologies

Donal Dunn
Niall O Murchu
Paul Crawford

Outline of Meeting

JT welcomed Forum members and noted apologies.

JT outlined that this will be her last Forum meeting as Commissioner, and Nicky Cahill's last Forum meeting as a staff member. JT provided sincere thanks and appreciation to the Forum for their work over the past number of years, and to NC for her efforts and work on the replenishment of the Forum to date.

JT advised that Forum Member's feedback had been taken on board in relation to the letters to be issued to the First and deputy First Minister from the Forum, and that these will now be issued.

Action Point: Forum letter to First and deputy First Minister to be issued.

JT asked Forum Members to review the notes of previous Forum meetings.

Action Point: Forum to advise of HT if there are any changes required to notes.

Update on Victims Payment Scheme

There was discussion regarding the Victims Payment Scheme, and the Secretary of State's draft guidance. Members were advised of a planned engagement with representatives of the Northern Ireland Office.

Action Point: Forum members wishing to attend engagement with Northern Ireland Office to advise HT.

There was discussion regarding current obstacles to the Victims Payment Scheme, and the eligibility criteria as per the draft guidelines.

Role of the Forum and position of the Commission

JT highlighted the ending of her tenure as Commissioner, and AS advised of the position of the Commission in the absence of a Commissioner.

There was discussion regarding the positioning of the Forum, and the role of the Forum in the media.

The Forum provided their sincere thanks and appreciation to JT and NC for their work and dedication in their respective roles.

Meeting closed.

Action Points

1. Forum letter to First and deputy First Minister to be issued..
2. Forum to advise of HT if there are any changes required to notes.
3. Forum members wishing to attend engagement with Northern Ireland Office to advise HT.