



**191st COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY 24 APRIL 2017 AT 10:00 am
IN THE OFFICE OF
THE NORTHERN IRELAND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION,
TEMPLE COURT, 39 NORTH STREET, BELFAST, BT1 1NA**

Present: Les Allamby, Chief Commissioner
John Corey
Milton Kerr
Grainia Long from
Alan McBride
Paul Yam
Christine Collins

Apologies: Grainia Long
Marion Reynolds

In Attendance: David Russell, Chief Executive
Rebecca Magee, Personal Assistant (Agenda Items 1-6)
Lorraine Hamill, Finance & Administration Manager (Agenda item 7)
Colin Caughey, Policy Worker (Agenda items 1-5, 7-14)
Barbara Smith, General Administrator (Agenda items 7-14)
Rhyannon Blythe (Agenda Item 11)

1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest

- 1.1 Commissioners Long and Reynolds sent their apologies for the meeting.
- 1.2 There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes and closed minutes (HRC191.1)

2.1 The draft minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2017 were approved following minor amendments.

Action: Minutes of the 190th Commission meeting to be uploaded onto the website.

2.2 The closed minutes of the 27 March 2017 were approved.

3. Matters arising

3.1 A date of 4 May 2017 has been set for Commissioners to meet to discuss an induction process for the new Commissioners (paragraph 3.3 of the minutes of the previous meeting refers).

4. Chief Commissioner Report (HRC191.2)

4.1 The Chief Commissioner reported on meetings and events he had attended since the last meeting. These included:

- speech to Princes Trust – Launch of young Ambassadors project
- joint roundtable with Equality Commission on equality, human rights and faith issues convened by US Consulate
- speech to inaugural conference of NI Council for Racial Equality on human rights implications of Brexit and a Bill of Rights
- visit to Woodlands
- speech on Being Gay in Africa – the human rights situation to the Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa in the Oireachtas. Speech given in role as chair of Commonwealth Forum of NHRIs

5. Commissioner Report

5.1 Commissioner McBride reported on an event he attended hosted by Tommy Sands in Rosstrevor which included a debate on faith.

6. Recruitment and External funding update

6.1 This item was dealt with under a closed minute.

7. Finance Report (HRC191.3)

7.1 Commissioners were updated on the finance report which included the end of year spend. Commissioners were informed that the Accounts for 2016-17 would be presented to the Audit and Risk Management Committee and then shared with Commissioners.

Action: Final Accounts for 2016-17 to be shared with Commissioners.

8. Quarterly report against the Business Plan (HRC191.4)

8.1 Commissioners agreed the content of the proposed Quarterly report for 2017/2018 against the Business Plan. The first report will be present at the August meeting.

9. Investigations chapter (HRC191.5)

9.1 Commissioners were updated on progress including a report on the completion of the fieldwork and economic analysis.

9.2 Commissioners discussed the introductory chapter and the content was agreed subject to minor structural amendments. Commissioners agreed the timetable that the investigation should be completed and signed off in August before the term of current Commissioners concludes.

10. Annual Statement chapter (HRC191.6)

10.1 Commissioners discussed the annual statement updates on the Right to Liberty and Security and Right to Fair Trial.

10.2 Commissioners agreed with the position updates.

11. Legal update (HRC191.7)

11.1 Commissioners were given an update on the Termination of Pregnancy case where judgement is still awaited.

11.2 Commissioners were given an update on JR76 which included the written intervention made by the Commission (item 12.0 of the previous minutes refers) namely that the case is due to be heard at the end of May 2017.

12. Communications report (HRC191.8)

12.1 Commissioners were presented with the new promotional materials.

12.2 Commissioners noted the Communications report.

12.3 Commissioners were updated on events listed within the report and were pleased to see the increasing number of social media interactions.

13. Information paper (HRC191.9)

13.1 Commissioners noted the Information paper on UNCRPD.

14. AOB

14.1 Commissioners confirmed the date of 4 May 2017 for the Periodic Reflection/Induction and discussion on the final appraisal process for 2016/2017 appraisals.