

### 6 May 2025

276th COMMISSION MEETING
Held in the Commission's Offices,
Alfred House, 19-21 Alfred Street, Belfast, BT2 8ED

**Present:** Alyson Kilpatrick

Helen Henderson Mairead Holder Jonathan Kearney Justin Kouame David Lavery Stephen White

In attendance: David Russell, Chief Executive

Colin Caughey, Director (Advice to Government, Research, Investigations, and International Treaties) Lorraine Hamill, Director (Finance, Personnel and

Corporate Affairs)

Claire Martin, Director (Engagement and

Communications)

Jhoanna Sto Domingo (Personal Secretary to the Chief

Commissioner)

Darren Veighey (Administrative Officer)

**Apologies:** Eilis Haughey, Director (Human Rights after EU

Withdrawal)

#### 1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest

- 1.1 There was one apology received from the Director (Human Rights after EU Withdrawal).
- 1.2 There were no declarations of interest.

# 2. Draft minutes of the 275<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting and matters arising.

2.1 The minutes of the 275<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting were agreed. Action: Minutes of the 275th Commission meeting to be uploaded to the Commission's website.

### 3. Chief Commissioner's Report

- 3.1 The Chief Commissioner's Report was noted for the record.
- 3.2 The Chief Commissioner's Report detailed events, meetings and conferences which she had attended.

### 4. Commissioner's Reports

4.1 There was nothing to report.

## 5. Report from Chief Executive

5.1 The Chief Executive was cognisant that the Commission's Business Plan needed to be signed off. However, he was hesitant for this to happen given that a finalised budget had not yet been confirmed for 2025-26 and the working assumptions may require amendment in light of the UK Government Spending Review.

As the Chief Commissioner and Chief Executive were due to meet with the Northern Ireland Office in the coming weeks, it was agreed to delay approval of the Business Plan. However, it was noted that the Commission could not hold off for much longer and that the Business Plan should be revisited at the next meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 27 May 2025.

Action: Business Plan to be kept under review and agreed at as soon as possible following the UK Government Spending Review.

# 6. Finance report from Director of Finance, Personnel and Corporate Services.

6.1 The Director presented an overview of the finance reports for Core and the Dedicated Mechanism for the year-end March 2025. It was noted that as the Annual Report and Accounts

- for 2024-25 were still being prepared that the figures may be subject to change.
- 6.2 The figures within the finance reports were currently showing an overspend in Core and an underspend in Dedicated Mechanism.

# 7. KPI Report (Quarter 4 – March 2025)

- 7.1 The Directors gave an overview of the KPIs for their respective areas.
- 7.2 It was noted that the Engagement and Communications team are continuing to monitor adverse/offensive comments received on social media channels. These remarks are usually generated in relation to topics which have been boosted to create a larger audience for the Commission.
- 7.3 Commissioners noted that the application to intervene in the LT case had been accepted.
- 7.6 It was reported that all staff had completed the mandatory Civil Service training.
- 7.7 Commissioners were encouraged to undertake training which they felt relevant and beneficial for their respective roles.

#### 8. Any other Business

8.1 It was agreed that Application for Assistance (Dillon & Others) would be amended at paragraph 12.

# Action: Paragraph 12 of Application for Assistance to be amended.

- 8.2 The Chief Executive advised Commissioners of the Environmental Research Launch taking place on 24 June 2025.
- 8.3 The next meeting was arranged for Tuesday 27 May 2025 at 10am.
- 8.4 There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.30am.