**3 December 2021**

**SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING**

**Held in Dunsilly Hotel, 20 Dunsilly Road, Antrim, BT41 2JH**

**Present:** Alyson Kilpatrick, Chief Commissioner

Helen Henderson

Jonathan Kearney

David A Lavery CB

Eddie Rooney

Stephen White

**In attendance:** David Russell, Chief Executive

Lorraine Hamill, Director (Finance, Personnel and Corporate Affairs)

Claire Martin, Director (Engagement and Communications)

Rhyannon Blythe, Director (Legal, Research and Investigations, and Advice to Government)

Éilis Haughey, Director of Human Rights after EU Withdrawal

Rebecca Magee, Personal Assistant

1. **Human Rights, Drug Addiction and Substance Misuse in Northern Ireland – Project Plan proposal**
   1. Commissioners discussed the Human Rights, Drug Addiction and Substance Misuse in Northern Ireland – Project Plan proposal.
   2. Following discussion Commissioners agreed that the proposal was to remain narrow in scope but highlight any possible areas that require further focus and that the scoping paper is presented before a decision is made on taking this work forward.

**Action: Scoping paper to be presented once initial research is done before a decision to continue further is made.**

1. **Legal challenge following Reproductive and Sexual Education (RSE) Investigation notification letter**
   1. The Director (Legal, Research and Investigations, and Advice to Government) provided background to Commissioners on a legal challenge following receipt of a notification letter sent in regards to the Reproductive and Sexual Education (RSE) Investigation.
   2. Commissioners discussed the legal challenge and agreed to seek Senior Counsel’s opinion.

**Action: Senior Counsel’s opinion to be sought in regards to the legal challenge.**