



NORTHERN
IRELAND
HUMAN
RIGHTS
COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE 102nd COMMISSION MEETING

**HELD ON MONDAY 15 DECEMBER 2008 AT THE
NORTHERN IRELAND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
TEMPLE COURT, 39 NORTH STREET, BELFAST, BT1 1NA**

Present: Monica McWilliams, Chief Commissioner
Jonathan Bell
Tom Duncan
Colin Harvey
Ann Hope
Colm Larkin
Eamonn O'Neill
Geraldine Rice
Daphne Trimble

In attendance: Peter O'Neill, Chief Executive
Nazia Latif, Head of Investigations, Policy and Research
Virginia McVea, Head of Legal Services
David Russell, Head of Communications and Education
Lorraine Hamill, Finance Supervisor (minute taker)

Apologies: Alan Henry

1. Minutes of Commission meetings

- 1.1 The minutes of the 100th Commission meeting held on 15 September 2008 were agreed as an accurate record.
- 1.2 The minutes of the 101st Commission meeting held on 17 November 2008 were agreed, subject to a minor amendment.

- 1.3 The minutes of the special Commission meeting held on 29 November 2008 were agreed, subject to a minor amendment.

2. Matters arising

- 2.1 There were no matters arising.

3. Report from the Chief Commissioner (HRC 102.2)

- 3.1 Commissioners noted the Chief Commissioner's report.

4. Reports from Commissioners

- 4.1 Commissioners reported on their recent activities.

5. Minutes of committee and working group meetings (HRC 102.3)

- 5.1 Commissioners noted the minutes of the following meetings:
 - Audit and Risk Management Committee – meeting held on 11 June 2008
 - Equality Committee – meeting held on 26 June 2008
 - Legal Committee – meeting held on 19 August 2008
 - Policy Committee – meeting held on 18 August 2008

6. Chief Executive's report (HRC 102.4)

- 6.1 The Chief Executive reported on recent activities and corporate governance issues that arose during work on the Bill of Rights.
- 6.2 Commissioners were asked to respond to these issues at the next Commission meeting, which is scheduled for 19 January 2009.

7. Team reports

- 7.1 The agenda item was deferred until the next Commission meeting.

8. Review of the Commission's involvement in E (a child) (AP) (Appellant) (Northern Ireland) [2008] UKHL 66 – update

- 8.1 The Head of Legal Services gave an update on the current position with the 'E' case, which concerns the policing of civil disturbances that occurred outside the Holy Cross primary school in 2001.
- 8.2 A detailed report will be provided at the next Commission meeting.

9. Review of the effectiveness of committees and working groups (HRC102.6)

- 9.1 The agenda item was deferred until the next Commission meeting.

10. Strategic Plan 2009–12 (HRC102.7)

- 10.1 The agenda item was deferred until the next Commission meeting.

11. Report on progress against Business Plan 2008-09 (HRC102.8)

- 11.1 The agenda item was deferred until the next Commission meeting.

12. Freedom of Information – Revised Publication Scheme (HRC102.9)

- 12.1 The Commissioners formally adopted a draft revised Publications Scheme, which is based on a model produced by the Information Commissioner.

13. Any other business

- 13.1 Commissioners approved the closure of the Commission's office on 24 December 2008 in line with the Civil Service and other public bodies.
- 13.2 As this was their last meeting in their temporary roles, Commissioners expressed their appreciation to the Head of Investigations, Policy and Research and the Head of Legal Services for their contribution to the work of the organisation during the past year.

14. Dates for meetings to December 2009 (HRC102.10)

- 14.1 The dates of Commission and Policy Committee meeting for the next 12 months were agreed as follows:

19 January 2009 (Commission)
16 February 2009 (Policy Committee)
9 March 2009 (Commission) – location to be agreed
6 April 2009 (Policy Committee)
11 May 2009 (Commission)
8 June 2009 (Policy Committee)
6 July 2009 (Commission)
17 August 2009 (Policy Committee)
21 September 2009 (Commission) – location to be agreed
19 October 2009 (Policy Committee)
16 November 2009 (Commission)
14 December 2009 (Policy Committee)

The meeting closed at 4.05 pm.

Approved: _____

Date: 19 January 2009