



NORTHERN
IRELAND
HUMAN
RIGHTS
COMMISSION

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING

**HELD ON TUESDAY 26 MAY 2009 AT 12:00PM
AT THE NORTHERN IRELAND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION,
TEMPLE COURT, 39 NORTH ST, BELFAST, BT1 1NA**

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

In attendance: Peter O'Neill, Chief Executive
Don Leeson, Head of Corporate Services
Ciarán Ó Maoláin, Head of Legal Services, Policy and
Research
David Russell, Head of Communications and Education

A special Commission meeting was convened to consider the implications of the NIO's decision on the Commission's budget for 2009–10 and beyond.

NIO decision on the Commission’s budget for 2009–10 and beyond – consideration of impacts

- 1. Commissioners noted that the NIO has approved the Commission’s budget allocation for 2009–10, as set out in the draft Business Plan, which was agreed in principle at the last Commission meeting. However, authority from the NIO for the Commission to receive additional funding from The Atlantic Philanthropies for further work on the Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland remains pending, which in turn may affect budget allocations.
- 2. Commissioners noted feedback from the NIO that no additional funding will be made available to fund the outcome of the Commission’s job evaluation exercise of staff posts.
- 3. Commissioners considered the projected additional employment costs, which are likely to be incurred if those posts assessed to be weighted at a higher grade by the job evaluation exercise are regraded. Commissioners noted that the evaluation of a number of posts is not yet complete and, therefore, the projected costs are provisional at this stage.
- 4. It was agreed that the Management Team will consider where efficiency savings might be found in order to fund the regrading of posts from a date to be agreed once the job evaluation exercise has been completed. It is the intention to have the process completed by the Commission by the commencement of the next financial year, at the latest.
- 5. Commissioners noted that NIO approval of the business case to regrade posts is still required. At this point, the Commission will again make the case for additional funding from the NIO.

The meeting closed at 1.40 pm.

Approved: _____
Date: 6 July 2009