



Summary of Board meeting – 31 January 2024

The Board were provided with an update on the approach to the appointment of a Chief Executive Officer and Commissioner.

Members considered further proposals for how a trauma-informed approach would be embedded across the Commission. This was both about having the right expertise and ensuring that everyone in the Commission, irrespective of the role had the right things in mind to make a positive difference. The Board discussed the importance of demonstrating what was being done and wanted tangible steps as well as ambitions. The need for continuous learning from feedback was underlined. They agreed that a public document should set out in more detail what the Commission was doing, as well as areas for consultation to gain input to future work.

The Board discussed the forthcoming commencement of operations from the summer and the matters upon which external assurance should be sought to ensure the Commission was prepared to begin its work. The Board specifically discussed the requirements of s75 of the NI Act 1998 and the good practice already being reflected in the recruitment of Commission staff, to help ensure the growth of an inclusive organisation.

An update was provided about the approach of the Commission to listening to and informing different groups and communities across Northern Ireland and Great Britain. Sensitive and timely messages to those who have cases under consideration in current processes would need to be planned and given thorough attention. The need for a UK wide approach, rather than solely in Northern Ireland was agreed.

The Board reviewed further proposals regarding how the Commission would handle complaints and agreed an approach to administrative complaints, in addition to the consideration it had given to case handling and use of police power complaints at its previous meeting.