

Summary of Board meeting - 25 April 2024

The Board met in virtually, with an agenda that focused on the Commission's readiness for commencement of operations.

Board members received an update on the consultation regarding the Commission's trauma and resiliency informed model (TRIM), noting the positive responses received, and encouraged more outreach with victims and survivor groups as well as individuals impacted by the Troubles/Conflict to facilitate as many responses to the consultations as possible. The Board was advised that the responses and further meetings with interested organisations would inform completing of the new strategy which would be published alongside the consultation response document.

The Board received an update on initial operating capability, the planned testing of initial readiness and staffing plans for 1 May onwards. They were advised of the status of agreements with policing oversight bodies in Northern Ireland and in Great Britain and a memoranda of understanding with Crown Prosecution Service and discussions with the Public Prosecution Service of Northern Ireland. The Board were also updated on recent publications, including the Annual Work Plan.

The Board reflected on the Enhanced Inquisitorial Proceedings mechanism that had been published by the Commission that day. The Board welcomed the ambition for those whose inquests were at an advanced stage but not able to complete to receive a similar level of involvement for families and others that they might expect at a coroner's inquest. The Board noted that these Proceedings could also be available in other investigations where the criteria were met. They further noted that safeguarding provisions applied to all interested parties and considered the elements of the TRIM model which were evident throughout the process.

On governance, the Board agreed changes to the terms of reference of the Investigative Oversight Committee, which had been discussed at the recent inaugural meeting of the Committee.

The Commissioners noted that clarity had been received on the Commission's budget for 24/25, meaning the Commission could be confident in ability to draw down the resources it needs to fund its demand-led work, including its investigations, through Annually Managed Expenditure (AME).