

## PERMANENT SECRETARY GROUP MEETING

### Minutes of meeting on Friday 17 June 2016, 8.45 am

1. **Present:** Malcolm McKibbin (Chair)  
Richard Pengelly  
Paul Sweeney  
Leo O'Reilly  
Nick Perry  
Andrew McCormick  
Peter May  
Noel Lavery  
Brenda King  
Hugh Widdis  
  
**Apologies:** David Sterling  
Mark Browne  
Neill Jackson  
  
**In attendance:** Stephen Grimson  
Colin Sullivan  
Christopher Graham, Information Commissioner (Item 5)  
Ken McDonald, Assistant Commissioner (Item 5)  
Kellie Sprott (Secretariat)

2. **Minutes of 10 June 2016 Meeting**  
The minutes of 10 June 2016 were cleared.

3. **Matters Arising- verbal**  
PfG meeting with Universities  
Peter is scheduling a meeting with the NI Universities to discuss the PfG framework.

HOCS note to departments re: legislative programme  
Action complete, the note has issued.

PfG – grouping indicators and assigning ownership  
Action complete, Peter May has drafted a paper clarifying how the outcomes based PfG approach will work.

PfG – Engagement Paper  
Action complete, Peter has drafted a paper for today's PfG meeting.

NICS of the Future – implementation teams  
All NICS of the Future implementation teams will meet before the end of June.

4. **Executive and Assembly Update**  
Malcolm McKibbin provided an update on Executive and Assembly business. He informed PSG that the next Executive meeting would take place on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June. Malcolm also provided an update on Programme for Government.

PSG took the opportunity to congratulate Malcolm on his award of Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

5. **Visit by Christopher Graham, Information Commissioner and Ken McDonald, Assistant Information Commissioner**

Malcolm McKibbin welcomed Christopher and Ken to the meeting. Christopher was in attendance prior to his retirement as Information Commissioner. Christopher advised PSG that his successor, Elizabeth Denham, would take up post on the 18<sup>th</sup> July. He also spoke about proposed changes to the Data Protection Framework and the ICO's continued monitoring of compliance with the FOI Act.

PSG thanked Christopher and Ken for their attendance and wished Christopher well in his retirement.

6. **NICS Live 2017**

Colin Sullivan updated PSG on the preparations for NICS Live 2017. He discussed the following:

- timing;
- location;
- themes/topics;
- governance and Ministerial Endorsement.

PSG noted the progress to date and agreed that the event should take place on the 24<sup>th</sup> May in the Waterfront Hall. PSG discussed potential themes with a view to progressing further at a later date. Steering group nominations from each department will be sent to Colin Sullivan by 30 June 2016.

**Action: PSG**

PSG took the opportunity to congratulate DFP for the success of the NICS Awards 2016.

7. **Tour de Table**

OLC

Brenda King reported that OLC had invited officials from the UK Parliament to demonstrate proposals for new bill management software which would increase efficiency in the end-to-end legislative process. Officials from the Assembly and the Dail attended, along with First Parliamentary Counsel from Dublin.

DoH

Richard Pengelly sought PSG's approval for a temporary promotion at G3 level to backfill a vacancy until the autumn. PSG agreed.

Richard also updated PSG on the progress of Professor Rafael Bengoa's report into the Northern Ireland Health Service.

DoJ

Nick Perry thanked relevant departments for their contribution to the action plan for the report on ending paramilitarism.

HOCS

Malcolm encouraged departments to continue working with DoJ on the action plan for the report on ending paramilitarism. He also updated PSG on his visit to China and asked departments to support the Bureau in Beijing as much as possible with any potential future visits.

Malcolm advised PSG that Katrina Godfrey would join TEO from DE on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2016 and take up post as Director of Programme for Government and NICS of the Future.