

TITLE/ORGANISATION	Compliance and Assurance Group – Virtual meeting	
DATE/TIME:	11 May 2023 – 10am	
List of Attendees:	Karen Pearson Jane Holmes Maria Hannon Hannah Murphy	Jayne Byrne Emer Morelli NR NR
Apologies:	NR Chris McNabb	

#### 1. Introduction

Jane opened the meeting and noted that due to other commitments it was important that the meeting ends no later than 10.45am this morning.

## 2. Matters Arising

## Note of Last Meeting

Group are content with the note of the last meeting, and it is now agreed.

## Update on Ongoing Action Points

Jane to share note with TUS on the redaction of Junior Staff Names, delayed to other operational priorities.

Emer- £14.5m for Brexit was this ring-fenced? Module 1 issue.

DoH- Maria to speak with Geraldine about out-of-hours support.

#### 3. Updates on:

## Engagement with the Inquiry Team

TEO Module 1 statement has been submitted and it is anticipated that this will be released to Core Participants perhaps as early as this week.

Other Departments are working to finalise their statements.

Module 2C- new solicitor taking a different approach and engagement to resolve any questions or issues is on-going.

## **HOCS Reference Group**

Resourcing to be considered over a 5-year period in terms of funding for a possible case to made to Treasury.

## Cabinet Office/Devolved Assembly Engagement

Directors meeting due next week, all have been busy with Module 1 statements.

Emer- interactions are occurring and Emer will email Jane to outline these discussions so that the Cabinet Office meeting can be updated.

CO- Section 21 notice in relation to WhatsApp messages- all messages to be provided in a non-redacted form regardless of whether they contain personal information. If released these messages may attract significant media attention.

Noted that WhatsApp messages from Former Ministers phones have been wiped as the phones have been returned to a factory reset position. Maria is discussing this issue so that we can inform the Inquiry that all reasonable steps have been taken in relation to this information.

CO- being investigated by the Information Commissioner for the Government use of WhatsApp messages for official business.

The NICS position in relation the use of WhatsApp is being investigated.

# 4. Risk Register

Risk Register has been updated, resourcing and finance are both now red. Aim is to take action to move these issues from red to amber. The group has been asked to consider the Risk Register and share any comments.

# 5. Former Ministers Positions (T&S Expenses)

UK Inquiry will cover Former Ministers expenses as they are dealing with these individual directly. This will cover all Departments, although not currently Robin Swann as he is covered within the DoH.

Discussed costs for remote attendance, confirmed NICS will not cover these costs unless the person is a Core Participant.

- 6. Finance Position Update
- 7. NICS Staff and Witness Support
- 8. Legal Update

Legal Support Issues

Update on DA Legal Cell Meetings

- 9. Module 1 Reflection (Disclosure and Lessons Learned)
- 10. Future Modules

Procurement Module

11. Any Other Business

Date of next meeting: 18 May 2023.