

**Minutes of the Plenary Meeting held on Thursday 14 October 2010,  
Ground Floor Boardroom, Headline Building, Victoria Street, Belfast.**

**Present:** The Right Honourable Sir Declan Morgan, the Lord Chief  
Justice of Northern Ireland (Chairman)  
Mrs Sinead Burns  
The Right Honourable Lord Justice Coghlin  
Mr Donal Flanagan OBE  
Mr John Gordon  
District Judge (Magistrates' Court) Amanda Henderson  
Mrs Ruth Laird  
Her Honour Judge Loughran  
Professor John Morison  
Dr Raymond Mullan OBE  
Dr Nichola Rooney  
The Honourable Mr Justice Weatherup

**In Attendance:** Mrs Helen Anderson  
Ms Adeline Frew  
Mr Tim Horgan  
Mr Andrew Millar  
Miss Catherine Woods

**Apologies**

Mr Peter Cush

### **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2010 were agreed by the Commissioners.
2. The Commission confirmed there were no conflicts of interest before proceeding with the meeting.

### **Matters Arising**

3. Annual Report and Accounts Update. It was noted that the Annual Report and Accounts 2009/10 would be laid in Parliament on 17 November 2010.

### **Updated Complaints Procedure**

4. The Commissioners discussed and approved the Updated Complaints Procedure contained in paper C18/10.
5. Complaints training was considered by the Commission; it was agreed that training would be undertaken if required by an individual serving on any Complaints Committee.
6. Co-opting external members for investigation of complaints was discussed. This is permissible under the legislation and would assist in certain circumstances e.g. limited resources and time constraints.

### **Character Issues**

7. The Commissioners discussed and approved Option 1 and Appendix 2 of paper C17/10 on the Character and Suitability Pre-Appointment Screening Policy and Procedure for Judicial Office.

**Ombudsman Report**

- 8. The Ombudsman report which was circulated to Commissioners at an earlier date was noted.

**To Note**

**Report to the Business Committee**

- 9. The report which had been before the Business Committee on 21 September 2010 was considered and approved by the Commissioners.

**Updates, Signed Minutes from Committees and Appointments and Reappointments Schedules**

- 10. Duly noted by the Commissioners.

**Any Other Business**

- 11. None.

**Signed**

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**The Right Honourable Sir Declan Morgan, the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, Chairman of the Northern Ireland Judicial Appointments Commission**

**Dated**

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