

**Minutes of the Plenary Meeting held on Thursday 24 February 2011,
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 Peter Cush
Mr Donal Flanagan OBE
Mr John Gordon
Mrs Ruth Laird
Her Honour Judge Loughran
Professor John Morison
Dr Raymond Mullan OBE
Professor Nichola Rooney
The Honourable Mr Justice Weatherup

In Attendance: Mr Edward Gorringe (Chief Executive)
Ms Adeline Frew
Mr Tim Horgan
Miss Catherine Woods

Apologies

District Judge (Magistrates' Courts) Amanda Henderson

Minutes of the Last Meeting

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2010 were agreed by the Commissioners.
2. The Commission confirmed there were no conflicts of interest before proceeding with the meeting.

Update on Appointments and Re-appointments and Terms of Conditions Policy

3. The progress in respect of Re-appointments and impact of recent developments concerning the determination of Terms and Conditions for Appointment paper at C/1/11 was noted by the Commissioners.
4. The Commissioners agreed to the setting up of a Sub Committee to look at the issues surrounding Re-appointments and Terms of Conditions. The chair of the Policy Committee is to appoint the Sub Committee, which is to report to the Policy Committee. It was agreed to proceed in line with the existing policy in the interim.

Appointments and Re-appointments for consideration

5. The Commissioners considered the paper at C/2/11 and approved the Re-appointment of the Deputy County Court Judge.

On Board Guidance

6. It was noted that the Commissioners received On Board training on 24 February 2011. The Commissioners asked if NIJAC is over-governed and if there is scope to re-allocate funds to our core business. A paper on whether a NDPB of our size should produce accounts and have them laid was requested for the next Plenary meeting. The paper should include the advantages and disadvantages of Governance and Accounting for the Commission and should consider the concept of our independence.

Draft Corporate Plan

7. The Commissioners approved the Draft Corporate Plan subject to any small amendments.

Appointment of Retiring Judiciary to Fee Paid Office

8. The Commissioners discussed the paper at C/8/11 and asked for clarification on the retirement ages contained in the paper.
9. The Commissioners approved the paper subject to the above and the inclusion of the Tribunals.

To Note

Report to the Business Committee

10. The report which had been before the Business Committee on 25 January 2011 was considered and approved by the Commissioners.

Update on Procurement of Services following Devolution

- 11. Duly noted by the Commissioners. The financial impact of using the CPD contract for accommodation and travel was discussed and it was agreed that staff would carry out a comparison between these costs and what is available by searching on line.

Declaration of Appointment

- 12. The Commissioners noted the Declaration of Appointment paper at C/7/11.

Updates, Signed Minutes from Committees and Appointments and Reappointments Schedules

- 13. Duly noted by the Commissioners.

Any Other Business

- 14. The Commissioners agreed to hold an Away Day in the autumn to review existing and new policies.

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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