

## **Meeting of the Expert Advisory Group on Commemorations**

Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017, from 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm  
Room 303, Department of the Taoiseach

### **Minutes**

#### **Attendees:**

Dr Maurice Manning (Chair)  
Dr Martin Mansergh (Vice Chair)  
Dr. Sandra Collins  
Professor Mary Daly  
Mr Francis Devine  
Mr Gabriel Doherty  
Ms Miriam Dollard (D/Taoiseach)  
Dr Mary Harris  
Mr Jerry Kelleher (D/Taoiseach)  
Dr. Leeann Lane  
Ms Orlaith Lochrin (D/AHRRGA)  
Ms Sinead McCooile  
Mr Feargal Ó Coigligh (D/AHRRGA)

#### **Apologies:**

Professor Diarmaid Ferriter  
Comdt. Stephen MacEoin  
Mr John Concannon (D/AHRRGA)  
Mr Kevin Lonergan (D/AHRRGA)  
Professor Eunan O'Halpin  
Dr Éamon Phoenix

#### **Key Points:**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and there were no issues arising.

The draft Second Statement of Principles document was considered in detail. It was noted that good progress has been made. It was agreed that any further amendments would be provided to the Secretary before the next meeting.

It was noted that the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs has given a commitment to re-establishing the Oireachtas All-Party Consultation Group on Commemorations and this was welcomed by the Expert Advisory Group.

The various options around the format for commemorative events were noted; ranging from State ceremonial events, State events, official events and community events, which take place with State support. It was agreed that the key agenda item for the next meeting will be to identify events where commemoration by the State may be appropriate. To assist in these discussions, an indicative list of key historical events from 1917 – 1923 will be circulated to the group.

Professor Eunan O'Halpin will update the group in relation to material held in the British National Archives in Kew.

It was noted that Mr John Bruton has made representations to the Chair concerning recognition by the State to mark the contribution of John Redmond to Irish politics. The Chair invited Mr Bruton to submit any proposals in this regard for consideration.

The critical issues that would arise in relation to the early publication of the 1926 Census records were briefly discussed by the group. It was agreed that this matter would be considered further and that representatives from the CSO and the National Archives would be invited to a future meeting of the group to give their views.

It was noted that the Department is currently working with the National Cultural Institutions on their capital development plans and that a programme of capital investment is expected to be announced later this year.

It was proposed that the next meeting of the group will take place on 6<sup>th</sup> March.

*Ends.*