



**Minutes of the VSS Board Meeting No 64**  
**Titanic Suites, Adelaide Street, Belfast**  
**Board Meeting Type: Strategic Session**  
**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 10:00am**

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**Board Members Present:**

Oliver Wilkinson (OW)	Board Member (Chair)
Patricia Haren (PH)	Board Member
Bertha McDougall (BMcD)	Board Member
Richard Solomon (RS)	Board Member
Stephen McIlveen (SMcI)	Board Member

**VSS Officers in Attendance:**

Margaret Bateson (MB)	Chief Executive
Andrew Walker (AW)	Head of Health & Wellbeing
Tara Lewsley (TL)	Head of Corporate Services

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**Apologies**

Apologies were received from Beverley Clarke (Board Member).

**A Commissioner for Victims and Survivors**

A presentation was made to the VSS Board by Judith Thompson (JT), Commissioner for Victims and Survivors, accompanied by Andrew Sloan (AS), CVS CEO.

Topics covered included an update on the Commissioner's policy advice on the extension to the strategy for victims and survivors and programmes funding, as well as the CVS response to the victims payment scheme consultation. Following the presentation and discussion, JT and AS left the meeting.

## **B Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 were approved.

## **C CEO Reporting by Exception**

MB confirmed to the Board that her last day in the office will be Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019 on annual leave up to and including 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020, with her unpaid study leave commencing on 2nd January 2020 and finishing Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020. An SMT plan has been previously agreed by the Board but will be updated with further detail and handover notes prior to departure.

MB advised that she had received correspondence from the Department of Health yesterday which confirmed the arrangements for the involvement of the Community and Voluntary funded organisations within the assessment and referral process of the Regional Trauma Network. Next steps would be reported at the next Board meeting.

## **D Strategic Session – Post 2019 Strategy & Strategic Priorities**

MB presented a paper to the Board outlining learning in relation to the VSS Service Delivery Model in respect of Health and Wellbeing Services to Victims of Historical Institutional Abuse (HIA).

The VSS Board agreed that discussions should be progressed with TEO and others to ensure this learning is taken into account.

## **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019.