

Meeting of the Expert Advisory Group on Commemorations

Tuesday, 27th March 2018, 1.15 pm
Room 301, Department of the Taoiseach
Minutes

Attendees:

Dr Maurice Manning (*Chair*)
Dr Martin Mansergh (*Vice Chair*)
Dr Sandra Collins
Professor Mary Daly
Mr Gabriel Doherty
Professor Patrick Geoghegan
Ms Sinead McCoole
Mr Jerry Kelleher *D/Taoiseach*
Mr Feargal Ó Coigligh *D/CHG*
Mr Kevin Lonergan *D/CHG*
Ms Orlaith Lochrin *D/CHG*
Mr Rónán Whelan *D/CHG*

Apologies:

Mr Francis Devine
Professor Diarmaid Ferriter
Dr Mary Harris
Dr. Leeann Lane
Comdt. Stephen MacEoin
Professor Eunan O'Halpin
Dr Éamon Phoenix

Key Points:

The minutes of the previous meeting (20th February) were agreed and there were no issues arising. Further consideration will be given to the matter of Defence Forces participation in commemorations over the remainder of the Decade of Centenaries.

The Wexford commemoration to mark the centenary of the death of John Redmond, postponed from 4th March due to the adverse weather conditions, is now expected to take place on Sunday, 15th April. Further details will be provided to the Group, when confirmed.

The Chair expressed his sincere appreciation to all of those who made submissions under the Decade of Centenaries public consultation process. The Advisory Group considered each of the 73 submissions at this meeting and these proposals and observations will feed into the deliberations of the Advisory Group.

The Advisory Group agreed that it would be appropriate for the local authorities and the National Cultural Institutions to have a significant role in the State commemorative programme over the remainder of the Decade. It was also suggested that the National Cultural Institutions and local authorities could collaborate to support engagement at local and county level through the loan of materials and travelling exhibitions.

The Advisory Group considered further the nature of the guidance that it will provide to inform the State's approach to commemorations over the remainder of the Decade and expects to reach a conclusion on its deliberations shortly.

No issues were raised under A.O.B.

It was provisionally agreed that the next meeting of the Advisory Group will take place on Monday, 23rd April, at 1.15 pm.

Ends.