

SECTARIANISM LEGAL DEFINITION GROUP – MINUTES

Meeting:	Sectarianism Legal Definition Group
Meeting number:	Six
Date:	3 August 2018
Time:	10.00 – 16:00
Venue:	Caledonian University, Glasgow
Group Members (In Attendance)	Duncan Morrow (Chair)
	Margaret Lynch
	Andrew Tickell
Apologies	Alison Logan
	Ian Galloway
	Michael Rosie
Secretariat	David Bell, Scottish Government (Official support)
	David Ross, Scottish Government (Official support)

Item 1 – Welcome, introductions and apologies

1.1 The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Item 2 – Minutes from meeting five

2.1 The minutes of meeting five were reviewed and agreed.

2.2 The group noted that James Dornan MSP’s cross-party working group on tackling sectarianism had met prior to summer recess and that it was understood that this group would be formalised by the Scottish Parliament after recess.

Item 3 – Comments and thoughts on the draft report – agreeing the final text

3.1 The group discussed the working draft of the final report.

3.2 It was agreed that progress had been made but the report was not yet complete and required adjustments to the sections that had been included.

3.3 The group discussed whether the report should be shared with critical friends when it was closer to being finalised.

Action: Secretariat to share draft report with critical friends should it be felt necessary and time allows.

Item 4 – Finalising the draft final report

4.1 The group examined the draft final report and agreed the broad conclusions and recommendations that they wished to include.

4.2 There was particular discussion about the breadth of the term “sectarianism” and whether this should be expanded beyond the Catholic/Protestant tensions. The group felt that the focus on intra-Christian tensions should be retained, however, consultation on their report should ask about tensions in other communities and the extension of the definition should be based on evidence gathered by this means.

Action: Group members agreed to send some more text to the group Chair who would pull it together and circulate a draft to members.

Item 5 – Plans for submitting the final draft to the Scottish Government

5.1 The group agreed that they would allow two weeks for comments on the report from fellow group members, with the final report to be submitted to secretariat by 17 August 2018.

Action: Group Chair to send final report to Scottish Government Secretariat on 17 August 2018.

Item 6 – AOB

6.1 There was no other business.

Group Secretariat
14 August 2018