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KENOVA

Record of meeting

AUTHOR	Sharon Dutton		
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TITLE	Operation Kenova Governance Board held 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2024		
SUMMARY	Record of discussions and recommendations made by the Board		
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**Minutes of Meeting held in Belfast**

**24th July 2024**

**Present**

Sir Iain Livingstone – IL (Chair)  
Bertha McDougall – BM  
Monica McWilliams – MMW  
Rev. Harold Good – HG  
Tony Fuller – TF  
Liam O'Brien - LO  
Russ Walker – RW  
James Redmond – JR  
Phil Wells – PW (via Video Link)

**Minutes**

Sharon Dutton

**Apologies**

Fr. Martin Magill – MM

**Agenda**

1. Introduction / Declaration of Interest
2. Minutes of previous meeting and June Update
3. Sensitive Issue Re Disclosure
4. Resources – Personnel and Finance
5. Operational Updates
  - I. Kenova
  - II. Mizzenmast
  - III. Turma
6. Operation Denton Update and Transitional Agreements
7. Demobilisation Planning
8. Issues Register
9. AOB / Date of Next Meeting



## 1. Introduction / Declaration of Interests

**IL** Welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Jim Redmond to the board members. Advised that Phil Wells would be joining the meeting via Teams at 2pm to provide an update re finance.

**MMW** advised that she is a Commissioner with the IRC.

## 2. Minutes of previous meeting and June update

Approved other than a request by **MMW** to reword a sentence in the update document.

## 3. Sensitive Issues Re late disclosed material

**IL** Explained concerns regarding late disclosure of material relevant to our inquiry. The confidentiality of this was reiterated as it is not yet in the public domain. The late disclosure will also be included in the Kenova final report. The DPPNI has already been made aware.

The governance board members fully endorsed Kenova's intention to bring the matter into the public domain.

## 4. Resources – Personnel and Finance

**IL** welcomed **PW** to the meeting at 2pm and introduced him to the governance group members

**PW** discussed the outrun finance report 2023-2024, acknowledging some grammatical errors that will be rectified.

**MMW** queried expenditure regarding credit cards.

**PW** explained that this was a misleading descriptor and would be changed.

**PW** discussed our proposed request for funding for a further six months to March 2025. This will be subject to a written application in the coming weeks by Sir Iain to CC Boutcher.

**PW** left the meeting

## 5. Operational Updates

### Kenova

**TF** advised that the structure of the final report was complete. This would include a summary of each of our cases (Turma, Mizzenmast and Denton). Also a review of the 10 recommendations from the interim report and any progress made. Because of the potential mosaic effect, family cases included in the final report would need to be generic and anonymised. Statistics would also be included.

**HG** commented that we should focus on 'outcome as opposed to output' as it was not about the number of prosecutions but the victims.

**TF** is keen to debrief with staff and others to ensure that lessons are learnt from the inquiry. This would also be of interest to the College of Policing.

**TF** family reports, each consisting of 50-60 pages, are almost complete and going for security checking.

### Mizzenmast

**JR** explained how Op Kenova had been asked by PSNI to investigate the shooting of Jean Smyth-Campbell following the McQuillan judgement as a result of a Judicial Review in 2019.



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**JR** provided a detailed account of the background to the murder and our investigation and how the family and their legal representative disagree with the enquiry conclusions. They still believe Jean was shot by the Army and not the Provisional IRA.

The Mizzenmast report is to be submitted to CC Boutcher, PSNI and the PSNI will decide whether to publish or not.

### **Turma**

**IL** confirmed that we are hoping for a positive decision from the DPPNI within weeks.

### **6. Op Denton Update**

**LO** provided a detailed account of the current position of the Denton report and how it was hoped to be completed by the end of 2024. 120 cases, involving 185 victims (including Dublin and Monaghan) were initially reviewed.

He explained how accounts were still being taken from families and witnesses and material gathering still taking place. Security checking would also need to be carried out.

A discussion then took place regarding publication dates.

### **7. Demobilisation Planning**

**IL** explained how we would be leaving 10VS at the end of October and the remaining staff (approximately 16-17) would work from a small office in Putney. Hard copy statements and exhibits have already been transferred to Seapark for archiving. MoD, MI5 and AGS material will be returned and retained by them. Nothing will be handed over to ICRIR.

Our challenge will be to retain a core group of staff to deal with any new material, keep families informed and ultimately close everything down in a structured and disciplined manner.

### **8. Issues Register**

Contents agreed other than the section for stakeholder engagement should be changed from green to amber.

### **9. AOB / Date of Next Meeting**

**IL** thanked everyone for their contribution to the meeting. A date of 6<sup>th</sup> November was pencilled in for the next meeting in Belfast with written interim updates