

Disclosures Tribunal

Notice

The Disclosures Tribunal will sit in public on Thursday, the 11th April 2019, at 11 am at Georges Hall, Dublin Castle, when Mr Justice Ryan will introduce the remaining term of reference [p], in respect of which he is the chairperson, following the investigations and reports into terms [a] to [o] by Mr Justice Charleton.

Term [p] is as follows: –

[p] To consider any other complaints by a member of the Garda Síochána who has made a protected disclosure prior to 16th February, 2017 alleging wrong-doing within the Garda Síochána where, following the making of the Protected Disclosure, the Garda making the said Protected Disclosure was targeted or discredited with the knowledge or acquiescence of senior members of the Garda Síochána.

The Chairperson will make a brief statement referring to the interpretation of term of reference [p] and the procedures that the tribunal intends to follow which appear below. He will also indicate in broad terms how the tribunal is going to deal with its caseload.

The tribunal is anxious to proceed as expeditiously as possible, bearing in mind the importance and urgency of the issues but it is imperative not only to respect fair procedures but also to be sure that all appropriate preparatory inquiries have been made. The measures outlined in the scheme of procedures are designed to ensure that participants in the tribunal's work are afforded all necessary facilities.

The present position is that the tribunal's legal team is preparing for the first case that will be the subject of a public hearing. The hearing date of the first case will be announced as soon as possible after the 11th April 2019. The tribunal will seek confirmation from representatives from all interested parties as to their progress in preparation for early evidential hearings, with a view to scheduling these hearings with all reasonable expedition.

Other persons who have made complaints to the tribunal are being notified of this first public sitting but there is no obligation on them to attend although they are of course most welcome to do so. This is not an occasion for applications for legal representation. The tribunal intends to deal with that question by correspondence as far as possible. If it becomes necessary to have a hearing in public that will be arranged in due course with a specific agenda. Anybody seeking legal representation in respect of any part of the tribunal's work should write to the tribunal setting out the reasons why representation is sought and the nature of the representation requested no later than the close of business on Friday the 5th April 2019.

Any queries in regard to the hearing or otherwise should be sent in writing to the registrar to the tribunal, Mr. Peter Kavanagh or to the tribunal's solicitor Mr. John Davis.