

Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Bill

Former Boys and Girls Abused in Quarriers Homes

We would wish the relevant Scottish Health & Sport and Justice committees overseeing these issues to give serious consideration to the following in their deliberations and oversight.

"Inquiry into Historical Institutional Abuse (Northern Ireland) Act 2013"

As an example of a best practice model and legislation in dealing with some of these historical abuse issues such as Acknowledgement and Investigation models running parallel in one process. These are the Northern Ireland processes which we referred to briefly in our oral evidence.

Regarding the FBGA quote used by Scottish Officials in the SPICE briefing report page 24, we wish to clarify this was our groups response specifically to the NCF consultation questionnaire.

FBGA have always made our position clear in all our dealings with Scottish Officials as we previously stated there is a role for a confidential model, but this is only one element which may be satisfactory for some and may have a therapeutic benefit if it meets the expectations and needs of those it is intended for.

FBGA members and other Scottish victims-survivors are seeking equitable resolutions that includes other elements of justice, redress, reparation and remedies.

This Northern Ireland legislation was recently enacted in 2013 which includes an acknowledgement forum model and separately an investigation model in the same legislation but operating as two separate models, running parallel alongside each other oversee by a Former High Court Judge, Sir Anthony Hart.

We note also one of the commissioners for the Northern Ireland process is the former Chair of Time To Be Heard, Tom Shaw, has given his support to these particular models in these processes.

Please see details of the relevant Northern Ireland legislation and terms of reference.

"Inquiry into Historical Institutional Abuse (Northern Ireland) Act 2013"

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2013/2/enacted>

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2013/2/pdfs/nia_20130002_en.pdf

Terms of Reference for this particular process detailing the acknowledgement forum and the Inquiry-investigation part of the historical institutional abuse (Northern Ireland) processes within the same legislation operating parallel alongside each other.

<http://www.hiainquiry.org/index/documentation/terms-of-reference.htm>

Joanne, would you kindly also ensure that this is circulated to the Justice Committee Convenor and the committee members and clarify that for FBGA.

Jennie Bristow
Secretary
Former Boys and Girls Abused in Quarriers Homes

22 April 2013