

**THE HERITAGE COUNCIL
REPORT ON THE NINTH MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE RESTITUTION AND
REPATRIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**MEMBERS ROOM, ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY, 19 DAWSON STREET, DUBLIN
2:30pm, 2nd April 2026**

PRESENT

Sir Donnell Deeny – **Chairperson**
Conor Falvey – (joined for Item 2 only)
Mr Seán Kirwan
Dr Phil Mullen – (online)
Professor Mary O’Dowd
Dr Patricia O’Hare - (online)
Professor Jane Ohlmeyer
Mr Oliver Sears
Ms Lynn Scarff
Ms Chanté St Clair Inglis (online)
Ms Virginia Teehan

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms Lisa Shortall
Ms Anne Barcoe

1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed the committee to the meeting. Apologies were received from the following members:

Ms Sinéad Copeland
Ms Orlaith Lochrin
Mr Justice Naidoo
Dr Audrey Whitty

2. WORDS OF THANKS

Conor Falvey, Assistant Secretary, Department of Culture, Communications and Sport joined the meeting online to thank the Chair, committee and Heritage Council for their work.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING ON 3rd November 2025

Agreed: The minutes were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

5. SECRETARY’S REPORT

Virginia Teehan provided a summary of the Secretary’s Report.

Ninth meeting of Advisory Committee on the Restitution and Repatriation of Cultural Heritage, 2nd April 2026

6. FINAL REPORT

6a. Cover Note to final report

The committee members reviewed the documentation and considered the proposed amendments to the final draft report.

6b. Summary of Key points raised by Committee

The committee reviewed and noted the summary of comments on the final report that required material changes to the text and follow-up actions.

6c. Version 13, including comments from all committee members

The Chairman went through every section of the report and the committee discussed and agreed all final comments and edits.

6d. Version 11, Including comments from Oliver Sears and WJRO

The Chairman reviewed the relevant comments in this version and the committee discussed and agreed the final comments as presented.

7. FINAL REPORT FROM WORKING GROUP 1: GUIDELINES

The Guidelines were discussed and the Chairman thanked all for their work in preparing them.

8. CONCLUDING REMARKS FROM CHAIR

The Chair thanked the committee for their excellent work and commitment since the committee first met to begin this work in Dec 2023.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

Signed: Approved by the Chairman via email

Date: 8th May 2026