

# **TRANSPARENCY IMPLEMENTATION GROUP**

## **MEDIA REPORTING SUB-GROUP**

**4 October 2022 (at 4.45pm)**

### **Attendees:**

Mrs Justice Lieven (Chair)

Jack Harrison (Secretary)

DJ Adem Muzaffer

Lisa Harker

Dr Julie Doughty

Guy Vassall-Adams KC

Rachel Anderton

Angela Frazer-Wicks (Family Rights Group)

Olive Craig (Rights of Women)

Lucy Reed (Barrister)

Sian Harrison (PA Media)

MoJ Policy

MoJ Legal

Judicial Private Office

HMCTS Operational

DfE Policy

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Natalie Byrom, Charles Hale KC and HMCTS Legal Adviser.

### **2. Introduction**

The city-based pilot areas would be Cardiff and Leeds – the plan was to commence them in November; the rural location was still to be confirmed. Mrs Justice Lieven and Jack Harrison would visit the locations and speak to judges and staff about the proposals.

Media training would be done remotely.

**Action: Sian Harrison to liaise with Jack Harrison to determine the best way to get a broad group of media to attend the media training.**

A guide for families and litigants in person would be circulated to the group for feedback.

Funding for evaluating the pilot was still under discussion; Mrs Justice Lieven wished to consider practicalities of running the pilots alongside exploring the evaluation, potentially via a small Evaluation Sub-group.

**Action: group members to e-mail Mrs Justice Lieven and Jack Harrison if they wished to join the Evaluation Sub-group.**

Liaison Judges would be appointed in the pilot courts to act as the first points of contact; two barristers would support the pilots and training.

### **3. General discussion**

The following points were made/discussed:

- The pilot's draft guidance, transparency order, scheme of training and training slides had been circulated to group members for information/comment, after which they would be signed off by the President of the Family Division. If they were to be distributed beyond the group for comments prior to then, this would be on the understanding that they were draft documents. The final documents would be published on the TIG Website.
- That the evaluation process would include how the transparency orders impacted on discussions between parties and journalists.
- That the materials for parents would include a clear explanation of what the law currently permitted them to do when communicating with journalists and bloggers.
- That training – which would take place after receiving the feedback from the judges at Cardiff and Leeds - would encompass lawyers, local authorities and Cafcass; each would have their own training materials.
- DfE Policy raised concerns about the naming of professionals during the pilots.

**Action: group members to consider the pilot's draft guidance, transparency order, scheme of training and training slides, and feedback to the Chair within two weeks.**

**Action: the Pilot's draft guidance to be sent to the Media Engagement Sub-group, for comments, prior to sign-off by the Media Reporting Sub-group.**

**Action: Concerns about the naming of professionals, during the pilots, to be documented and sent to the Judicial Private Office**

### **4. Date of the next meeting**

25 October, at 4.45pm, via MS Teams.