



Statement on Behalf of Marie Arbuckle

We act on behalf of Marie Arbuckle advocate for victims and survivors of Mother and Baby and other Institutions.

We welcome the recent call by the Truth Recovery Independent Panel urging The Executive to move swiftly to appoint a Chair for the Public Inquiry and the appointment of those with lived experience of the institutions to the Inquiry.

Equally we share their concerns at the exclusion of women and their children admitted to workhouses pre -1948 together with the decision to limit posthumous awards to families of people who died after Sept 11 2011.

As the legislation goes through the next stages before it becomes law we have been instructed by Marie Arbuckle, a lead advocate for survivors ,to issue formal legal correspondence to OFMDFM.

Speaking today, Solicitor Aine Rice from KRW LAW Historic Abuse and Redress Team, said,

“Marie was a resident in Foster Care and Children’s Homes. Her son was born in a Mother and Baby Home before being adopted. We’ve been instructed to flag up some serious misgivings she has around a number of the current proposals. There are three key areas of concern relating to the effective commencement date for posthumous claims; the exclusion of workhouses and the lack of certainty around the inclusion of victims and survivors of the Foster Care Home system. The preliminary correspondence issued today requires an immediate response as time is running out for so many victims”

Speaking after the communication was sent Marie Arbuckle said,

“The likely exclusion of a large number of survivors is insensitive and flies in the face of all the good work undertaken by so many people to get to this point. It’s a slap in the face to myself and others who suffered a lot. I didn’t fight all this way to get a soft landing like this. I’m not happy about it and if needs be I’ll have to look at a legal case to try and force a U- turn on what’s coming down the tracks”

Ends