



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

Assembly and Executive Review Committee

# OFFICIAL REPORT (Hansard)

Northern Ireland Act 1998: Review of Parts  
III and IV

13 November 2012

# NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY

## Assembly and Executive Review Committee

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**Members present for all or part of the proceedings:**

Mr Stephen Moutray (Chairperson)

Mr Roy Beggs

Mr Stewart Dickson

Mr Simon Hamilton

Mr Raymond McCartney

Mr Conall McDevitt

Ms Caitríona Ruane

**The Chairperson:** We will move to agenda item 4, the review of Parts III and IV of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, in the context of reviewing the size of the Assembly and the number of Departments.

I would advise members that the purpose of this agenda item is to consider issues under part two of the Committee's review, which deals with the number of government Departments.

Members will recall that on 23 October, the Committee agreed to write to the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister to request information on costs, savings and the impact on employment from any restructuring of the Northern Ireland departments. A copy of this letter is included at Tab 2 of members' packs. To date, no response has been received other than an acknowledgement of the letter.

Are members content that we now proceed in closed session?

*Members indicated assent.*