



**Northern Ireland  
Assembly**

## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

THURSDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2020, THE SENATE CHAMBER,  
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present: Mr William Humphrey MLA (Chairperson)  
Mr Roy Beggs MLA (Deputy Chairperson)  
Mr Cathal Boylan MLA  
Ms Órlaithí Flynn MLA  
Mr Harry Harvey MLA  
Mr David Hilditch MLA  
Mr Andrew Muir MLA  
Mr Maolíosa McHugh MLA  
Mr Matthew O'Toole MLA

Apologies: None

In Attendance: Ms Lucia Wilson, Assembly Clerk  
Ms Gillian Barker, Assistant Assembly Clerk  
Ms Karen Barry, Clerical Supervisor  
Mr Darren Weir, Clerical Officer

*The meeting moved into open session 2.05 pm*

#### **1. Apologies**

None

#### **2. Minutes of meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

The draft minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were agreed.

#### **3. Declaration of Members' Interests**

- Mr Andrew Muir MLA, declared that he was a former employee of Translink, and specifically in relation to the Major Capital Projects, that his step father is a quality

manager for the A6 Dungiven by-pass. Also a former Mayor of North Down and former Councillor on Ards & North Down Borough Council.

- Mr Maolíosa McHugh MLA declared he was a Trustee of Naomh Eoghain Caisleán na Deirge, Gaelic Athletic Association.

#### **4. Matters Arising**

**None**

#### **5. Correspondence**

The Committee noted correspondence dated 22 September 2020 from the Health Committee regarding their evidence session on 21 May 2020 on Addiction Services.

*The meeting moved into public session at 2.08 pm*

#### **6. Evidence on NIAO Reports on the LandWeb Project and Digital Transformation.**

*Ms Sue Gray AO, Department of Finance (DOF); Mr Paul Duffy Deputy Secretary, DoF, joined the meeting; and Mr Ian Snowden, Chief Executive, Land and Property Services, joined the meeting remotely. Also in attendance were Mr Kieran Donnelly, C&AG and remotely, Mr Stuart Stevenson Treasury Officer of Accounts, DOF.*

The departmental officials briefed the Committee on ‘NIAO Reports on the LandWeb Project and Digital Transformation’, followed by a question and answer session.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department of Finance on a range of issues which arose from the evidence session.

*Mr Matthew O’Toole joined the meeting at 2.11pm*

*Mr Andrew Muir MLA left the meeting at 2.31 pm*

*Mr Andrew Muir MLA re-joined the meeting at 2.34 pm*

*Ms Órlaithí Flynn MLA left the meeting at 3.33pm*

*Ms Órlaithí Flynn MLA re-joined the meeting at 3.37 pm*

*The meeting was suspended at 3.45 pm*

*The meeting resumed and moved into closed session at 3.54 pm*

#### **7. Inquiry into LandWeb Project and Digital Transformation.**

*Mr Kieran Donnelly CB, Comptroller and Auditor General; and Mr Rodney Allen, Director, joined the meeting. Ms Clare Doran and Ms Christine Burns Audit Managers joined the meeting remotely.*

*Chairperson, Mr William Humphrey MLA left the meeting 4.15 pm  
Deputy Chairperson, Mr Roy Beggs MLA took the chair for the remainder of the meeting.*

The Committee discussed the evidence it had taken from the departmental officials regarding the ‘NIAO Reports on the LandWeb Project and Digital Transformation’, with the Audit Office Officials.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department of Finance to request further Information.

*The meeting moved into Closed Session at 4.34 pm*

## **8. Draft Forward Work Programme**

The Clerk briefed the Committee on the current draft forward work programme.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed the draft forward work programme and to publish it on the website.

## **9. Any Other Business**

None

## **10. Date, time and place of next meeting**

The next committee meeting will be held, on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 at 2.00 pm in the Senate Chamber.

*The meeting was adjourned at 4.41 pm*

**Mr William Humphrey**  
**Chairperson**  
**Public Accounts Committee**  
**24 September 2020**