



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

**AD-HOC COMMITTEE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND PUBLIC SERVICES
OMBUDSPERSON BILL**

**TUESDAY 26 MAY 2015, 10.30 AM ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS,
BALLYMISCAW, STORMONT**

Present: Lord Morrow (Chairperson)
Mr Cathal Boylan
Mr David Hilditch
Ms Maeve McLaughlin
Mr Gary Middleton
Mr Jim Wells

In Attendance: Ms Claire McCanny (Senior Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Ms Kate McCullough (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Jim Nulty (Clerical Supervisor)

The meeting opened at 10.36 am in public session.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19 May 2015.

3. Matters Arising

Mr Gary Middleton joined the meeting at 10.40am

The Committee noted the list of Deputies for the NIPSO Ad Hoc Committee.

The Committee considered the four reservations made by Mr. McAllister MLA during the Second Stage debate on the Ombudsperson's Bill and the evidence provided by the Ombudsman to the Committee on 19 May 2015 in response to these four reservations.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content with the evidence provided by the Ombudsman and that further clarification and consideration of the matters raised was not required at this time.

4. NIPSO Bill – Briefing by the Bill Office

The Committee agreed to move into closed session at 10.44am

The Committee received a briefing by Ms Casey from the Bill Office on the progression of the Bill and provided guidance to Members on the procedures for making amendments to the Ombudsperson Bill.

The Bill Office left the meeting at 10.55am

The Committee moved into open session at 10.56am

5. NIPSO Bill – Briefing by the Bill Team for the Public Services Ombudsperson Bill

Members received a briefing from Mr. Alyn Hicks and Mr. Jonathan McMillen from the Bill Team for the Public Services Ombudsperson Bill

Key issues discussed were each of the OFMdFM Committee Amendments to the Bill.

The Bill Team left the meeting at 11.04am

6. Correspondence

The Committee considered the Delegated Powers Memorandum for the Bill.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward the Delegated Powers Memorandum to the Examiner of Statutory Rules for consideration.

The Committee considered correspondence from Ms Claire Sugden MLA in respect of a constituent's response to the Committee's Call for Evidence on the Ombudsperson's Bill.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite the individual to present their response at the Committee's Call for Evidence event on 28 May 2015.

7. Forward Work Programme

Agreed: The Committee agreed the updated Forward Work Programme

8. Any Other Business

Members were reminded of the Call for Evidence stakeholder event on Thursday 28 May 2015 in the Long Gallery.

9. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be 2 June 2015 at 10.30am in Room 21.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 11.07am

LORD MORROW

Chairperson to the Ad Hoc Committee of the NIPSO Bill