



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

DRAFT MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**TUESDAY 9TH APRIL 2013, ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS,
BALLYMISCAW, STORMONT**

- Present: Mr Pat Sheehan (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Gregory Campbell
Mr Simon Hamilton
Mr Raymond McCartney
Mr Conall McDevitt
Mr Seán Rogers
Ms Caitríona Ruane
- Apologies: Mr Stephen Moutray
Mr Stewart Dickson
- In Attendance: Mr John Simmons (Assembly Clerk)
Ms Ursula McCanny (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Ms Andrienne Magee (Clerical Officer)
Mr Jonathan Watson (Clerical Supervisor)

The meeting opened at 10.12 am in public session.

The Deputy Chairperson welcomed Mr Rogers as a Committee member.

1. Apologies

Apologies are detailed above.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 19th March 2013.

Mr Gregory Campbell joined the meeting at 10.13am.

3. Matters Arising

The Committee noted Section 3 of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee Report on the Draft Northern Ireland (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill which was published on 20th March 2013.

The Committee noted a letter which was issued by a senior member of Assembly Secretariat staff in response to correspondence from a member of the public on the subject of the publication of Assembly adverts in provincial newspapers.

4. D'Hondt, Community Designation and Provisions for Opposition

The Chairperson advised the Committee that, due to unforeseen circumstances, the scheduled evidence session with Professor Galligan of QUB has had to be postponed until 23rd April 2013.

The Chairperson referred the Committee to copies of all responses received to date in respect of the Call for Evidence paper and noted that several political parties had not yet provided a response.

Agreed. The Committee agreed that the Chairperson should write to the leaders of the political parties and independent Members of the Assembly who had not yet responded to the Call for Evidence Paper, requesting that they provide a response as soon as possible.

The Committee noted that, in its submission, Platform for Change requested the opportunity to present to the Assembly and Executive Review Committee.

Agreed. The Committee agreed that Platform for Change should be invited to give oral evidence as part of the current Review.

5. Forward Work Programme

The Chairperson advised the Committee that the purpose of this Agenda item was to note the upcoming Committee visit to the Scottish Parliament as part of the Review and to also the Committee meetings scheduled for April and May 2013.

The Committee noted that Professor Yvonne Galligan's evidence session would now take place on 23rd April 2013.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that they were content with the draft Forward Work Programme, as amended.

The Chairperson referred the Committee to the draft itinerary for the visit to the Scottish Parliament on Wednesday 17th April 2013.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that they were content with the draft itinerary for the visit.

The Chairperson advised the Committee that a briefing folder for the visit would be provided in advance of the trip.

The Chairperson advised the Committee that the Consideration Stage of the Welfare Reform Bill had been listed on the draft Order Paper for Tuesday 16th April 2013. He further noted that, should the debate take place on Tuesday 16th April, there was a possibility that the business could be suspended at 8.00pm to be resumed on the morning of Wednesday 17th April 2013.

Agreed: Members agreed that, should the Welfare Reform debated take place on 16th April 2013 and continue onto the 17th April, the visit to Edinburgh would be rescheduled for Wednesday 15th May 2013.

6. Any Other Business

There were no other items of business.

7. Date, Time and Place of next Meeting

The next meeting of the Assembly and Executive Review Committee will be held on Tuesday 23rd April 2013, at 10.00 am in Room 21, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 10.19 am.

**Mr Pat Sheehan
Deputy Chairperson
Assembly and Executive Review Committee**