



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**TUESDAY 7TH MAY 2013, ROOM 29, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS,
BALLYMISCAW, STORMONT**

- Present: Mr Pat Sheehan (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Roy Beggs
Mr Gregory Campbell
Mr Paul Givan
Mr Simon Hamilton
Mr Raymond McCartney
Mr Conall McDevitt
Mr Seán Rogers
Ms Caitríona Ruane
- Apologies: Mr Stewart Dickson
Mr Stephen Moutray
- In Attendance: Mr John Simmons (Assembly Clerk)
Ms Ursula McCanny (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Joseph Westland (Clerical Supervisor)
- Dr Robin Wilson Platform for Change
Ms Eileen Cairnduff Platform for Change

The meeting opened at 10.04 am in public session.

1. Apologies

Apologies are detailed above.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 23rd April 2013.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

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

The Deputy Chairperson reminded the Committee that the purpose of this agenda item was for the Committee to consider oral evidence on its Review of d'Hondt, community designation and provisions for opposition.

The Deputy Chairperson invited Dr Robin Wilson and Ms Eileen Cairnduff from Platform for Change to join the meeting.

Dr Robin Wilson and Ms Eileen Cairnduff joined the meeting at 10.05 am.

Dr Robin Wilson briefed the Committee on the Platform for Change submission to the Committee's Review.

This was followed by a question and answer session.

Mr Roy Beggs joined the meeting at 10.08 am.

Ms Cairtriona Ruane joined the meeting at 10.09 am.

Mr Paul Givan left the meeting at 10.12 am.

Mr Gregory Campbell joined the meeting at 10.12 am.

Mr Raymond McCartney joined the meeting at 10.16 am.

The Deputy Chairperson thanked Dr Wilson and Ms Cairnduff for their oral evidence to the Committee.

Dr Wilson and Ms Cairnduff left the meeting at 10.26 am.

Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Conall McDevitt and Mr Séan Rogers left the meeting at 10.26 am.

The Deputy Chairperson advised Members that a response to the Committee's Call for Evidence Paper was received from the Green Party in NI.

The Deputy Chairperson advised Members that responses have still not been received from all political parties represented in the Assembly, and requested that Members whose parties have not responded make an effort to ensure that a response is sent to the Call for Evidence.

The Deputy Chairperson advised Members that, as agreed at the meeting of 23rd April 2013, a memo was sent to the Committee on Procedures stating that it would be appropriate for the AER Committee to consider the issue as part of the current Review, and a response dated 29th April was received from the Committee

on Procedures, stating that “it is content for AERC to take this matter forward as part of its Review.”

The Deputy Chairperson advised Members that Assembly Research and Information Service provided the information requested at the previous meeting, regarding all Petitions of Concern submitted to date, contextualised to take account of periods when the Assembly was suspended.

Agreed: To move into closed session.

The Committee moved into closed session at 10.28 am.

Agreed: To hear the briefing from the Assembly Legal Service representative at the Committee’s next meeting, on 21st May 2013.

The Committee moved into open session at 10.32 am.

5. Any Other Business

There were no other items of business.

6. Date, Time and Place of next Meeting

The next meeting of the Assembly and Executive Review Committee will be held on Tuesday 21st May 2013, at 11.00 am in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.

The Deputy Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 10.32 am.

**Mr Stephen Moutray
Chairperson
Assembly and Executive Review Committee**

